Lapwai summer school impacts students

The Situation
Students in the Lapwai School District experience extreme poverty. Ninety percent of the students attending the after-school and summer programs receive free and reduced lunches. These figures exceed the 60% guideline for extreme poverty. Most of these students come from single parent homes.

Our Response
In 2004 UI Extension 4-H program coordinator began teaching three week-long sets of activities to kindergarten through sixth graders. Since 2004, 454 youth have experienced 4-H curriculum in the summer school program.

Examples of classes taught include Wellness in the Rockies, art, gardening, Lego® Robotics, aerospace, wildlife, sports, team building and entomology.

Program Outcomes
Students who participate in the summer school program have experienced a significant change in ISAT (Idaho scholastic aptitude test) scores. The math and reading scores have seen the most notable increases.

Additionally program participants and staff express their thoughts on the program:

“The emphasis on healthy living and lifestyles, the introduction to gardening and the craft projects that help them express their creativity all are valuable lessons. In addition to the learning that takes place through your program, our students are gaining the self-esteem so essential to helping them be successful.” — Candace Hoisington, Program Director, Lapwai summer school program

“The instructors have phenomenal attitudes with our students. They are well prepared and make the activities fun, informative, and interesting. They have become a valuable asset to our program.”

“The 4-H program gives students ideas to utilize throughout their lives.” Lapwai summer school program staff

“I like your veggies dips and your vegetables. Thank you very much. That was the best day of my life with you Miss Karee. You’re the greatest teacher in the whole school. Thank you! I like you Miss Karee. Bye, I will miss you.” Lapwai summer school program student

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Lapwai Elementary 2005-2006 ISAT Growth Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>7.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>8.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>6.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
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</tbody>
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