

CASE STUDY

San Francisco Unified School District



3.3 Months of Reading Growth in Just Five Weeks

DISTRICT PROFILE

District

San Francisco Unified School District

Partnership Type

Summer Literacy

Demographics

49,000 students

- Hispanic or Latino: ~32% to 37%
- Asian: ~30% to 35%
- White: ~13% to 14%
- African American: ~6% to 8%
- Filipino: ~3%
- Multi-Racial: ~8%
- Pacific Islander/Native American: <1%

26% multilingual learners

55.6% low income students

13% students with disabilities

"The one-on-one support with scholars, collaboration with families, and amazing teamwork with Springboard Collaborative has been an enriching experience, and I am proud to be a part of these scholars' reading journey."

**-MIA, A SPRINGBOARD
SFUSD TEACHER**

CHALLENGE

After a year of uncertainty in the classroom due to COVID-19 virtual learning constraints, San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) wanted to welcome back families and students in their K-3rd grade classes to in-person instruction.

SOLUTION

As a longtime Springboard partner, SFUSD continued to work with Springboard for several reasons. One is our development of children as readers by replacing unfinished learning with significant and sustained reading gains. Our students complete programming with better reading habits and increased literacy skills, while our families feel more equipped with the tools they need to support their child's literacy development.

Second is our commitment toward building capacity for teachers and staff by providing them with pre-program professional development. Springboard Collaborative believes that student reading growth is only possible with teacher growth and reflection. We guide teachers step by step through our Family Educator Learning Accelerator (FELA) methodology, which encourages teachers and families to team up to help students reach learning goals. We also develop the leadership pipeline by supporting teacher-leaders through a management training program.

Upon consultation with the Springboard team, SFUSD chose our 5-week Summer Literacy offering which includes daily literacy instruction for students, weekly workshops training parents to teach reading at home, a rigorous coaching cycle for teachers, and an incentive structure that awards learning tools to families proportional to student reading gains.

The program kicked off with teachers leading a virtual or in-person team-building huddle with each individual family to build buy-in and lay the foundation for a strong relationship. This also helps teachers lead weekly family workshops, where students and



PARTICIPANT PRAISE

**"I like Springboard because we learn, and we play and have fun.
I like my teacher and books."**

– AMILIANA, SPRINGBOARD STUDENT

families learn alongside one another, providing the skills and resources necessary for families to support reading at home.

Participating students saw their learning accelerated because they are both receiving direct literacy instruction from their teacher while also receiving reading coaching support from their families. Furthermore, families became equipped with the tools they need to support their child's literacy development. Springboard's program team conducted pre-program professional development to ensure teachers and leaders were set up for success.

These competencies form the basis for a sustainable partnership in which teachers shared instructional strategies with parents in exchange for the commitment that families will practice these strategies at home. This created enormous leverage: For every hour that a teacher leads a family workshop, families deliver ~25 hours of tutoring at home.

PLANNING

As part of our Summer Literacy offering, Springboard managed the majority of planning and implementation. During this time student enrollment campaigns were planned and program materials were also **translated into Spanish and Chinese** to be inclusive of SFUSD's multilingual family population.

IMPLEMENTATION

During implementation, teachers were given the opportunity to participate in Springboard's professional development, with an emphasis on family engagement and assessment training.

Once programming started, SFUSD students received instructional time from **8:30 am–**

12:30 pm five days a week. Our curriculum centered on Reading Readiness and phonics, writing, small group instruction, read alouds, and shared reading. Family workshops, which allow families to learn and practice reading tips in real time with their child, took place on Tuesdays virtually, with make-up sessions on Wednesdays or Thursdays. Through these workshops, families learned how to read with their child purposefully and ask questions to support their child before, during, and after reading. The workshops also served as a time for educators and families to easily check in about reading goals and student progress.

"The one-on-one support with scholars, collaboration with families, and amazing teamwork with Springboard Collaborative (Site Support as SF Springboard Team) has been an enriching experience, and I am proud to be a part of these scholars' reading journey."

–MIA, SPRINGBOARD TEACHER

RESULTS

Students who participated in the program achieved **3.3 months of reading growth in just five weeks**. In addition, students averaged **80% in-person attendance** throughout the program, and one of SFUSD's family workshops earned a 90% attendance rate (our highest attended virtual family workshop ever in our partnership with SFUSD!).



"Thank you for everything you have done this summer helping to inspire him to read. It has been great to watch his confidence and desire to read grow. The program has helped to create a rhythm in our household to read daily."

-YARROW, SPRINGBOARD FAMILY MEMBER

Springboard Collaborative offers a proven, research-based solution for accelerating literacy outcomes while building lasting capacity within school districts.

Partner with Springboard to rewrite the story of early literacy in your community and empower all students to reach their full potential.
www.springboardcollaborative.org

