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# EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AT-RISK YOUTH: RETHINKING SUMMER SCHOOL



A Forum with  
Wyoming Educators,  
Youth Service and  
21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant  
Project Coordinators, and  
Harris Cooper, Ph.D.,  
Duke University

Monday, July 28, 2003  
Riverton, Wyoming

*Sponsored by  
The Wyoming Department of Education  
Health & Safety Unit*

## FORUM OVERVIEW

On Monday, July 28, Dr. Cooper will present to interested Wyoming educators, community youth service and 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant project coordinators his research findings on summer loss, how it affects different types of students and subjects, and how summer school and extended learning can help close the achievement gap between socioeconomic groups. He will speak on the best practices from among 93 extended learning and summer programs he has analyzed, and discuss the importance of planning, professional development, goal-setting, program evaluation, student assessment, etc. Additionally, he has researched the effect of year-round calendars and will share this knowledge with forum attendees.

After breaking for lunch, forum participants will divide into three grade-level groups to work on designing what a successful summer program would look like at the elementary, middle/junior high, and high school levels. These groups will be able to draw on the guidance of Dr. Cooper as well as Keisha Edwards of the Northwest Regional Education Lab (NREL.)

This forum will serve as a basis from which a formal project team will design a summer school grant program that will be forwarded to Wyoming legislators for their consideration.

### • ACCOMMODATIONS

A block of rooms have been reserved at The Riverton Holiday Inn. YOU must call 1-877-857-4834 or 307-856-8100 by 7/15/03 to receive the special conference rate of \$49/night + tax. This rate is good for June 27 - 29 only and you must mention Code: WYA to receive this special rate.

Book early as rooms fill quickly during summer months.

## PRESENTERS

**DR. HARRIS COOPER**, professor and Chair of the College of Education at Duke University, received his Ph.D. in Social Psychology from the University of Connecticut, and has been a visiting scholar at Harvard University, Stanford University, the University of Oregon, and the Russell Sage Foundation. He is recognized as the nation's leading expert on homework, and his name is the one which surfaces when researching materials on extended learning opportunities, particularly summer school. He is the originator of the now familiar phrase, the "summer slide."

Dr. Cooper has appeared as a guest on NBC Dateline, the Oprah Winfrey Show, and other major television and radio news programs. He has authored or co-authored dozens of research papers on teacher expectations, class size, desegregation, corporal punishment, and summer school, including *Summer School: Research-based Recommendations for Policymakers*, as well as the book, *Making the Most of Summer School, The Effects of Summer Vacation on Achievement Test Scores*. He is a recipient of the American Educational Research Association's Interpretive Scholarship Award and Early Career Award for Programmatic Research.

**KEISHA EDWARDS** has worked extensively with Portland and other Oregon schools on their summer programs, and is a research specialist and facilitator for NREL.

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m** Welcome, Background & Introductions
- 9:15 a.m** Dr. Cooper  
The Effect of Summer Vacation on Student Learning
- Different Effects on Different Students
  - Different Effects on Different Subjects
- 10:00 a.m** BREAK
- 10:30 a.m** Dr. Cooper  
Extended Learning Opportunities and At-Risk Youth
- Closing the Achievement Gap
  - What do Effective Programs look like?
  - Defining an Effective Summer School Program
- 11:30 am** Dr. Cooper  
Alternative School Calendars and their Effect on Students
- 12:00 Noon** LUNCH
- 1:00 pm** Keisha Edwards/Dr. Cooper  
Define Goals of break-out groups  
Ground Rules/Organization  
Begin Groups
- 3:00 pm** Keisha Edwards/Dr. Cooper  
Wrap Up
- 3: 15 pm** Concluding Statements

## Registration Form For Rethinking Summer School July 28, 2003

Clearly print your name as you wish it to appear on your name badge. One registration per form.  
Form may be duplicated.

*Registration is FREE to all participants.  
However, you MUST register to insure proper headcounts for seating and food.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a UW employee, please list dept.  
\_\_\_\_\_

The University of Wyoming is committed to making this conference accessible to all individuals. If you have special needs and require accommodation to participate in this activity, please check here . If you require special dietary menus, please check here . You will be contacted by someone from the Conferences Office to discuss your special needs.

- Mail registration form to:  
UW Conferences & Institutes  
Rethinking Summer School  
P.O. Box 3972, Laramie, WY 82071-3972
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• **CREDIT OPTIONS** UW CEU's have been applied for.