



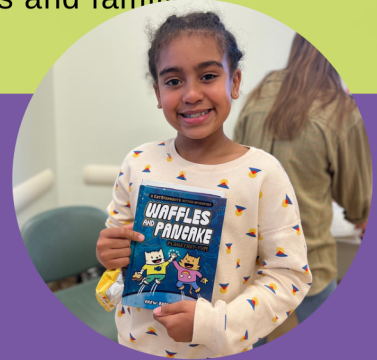
2022-2023

PROGRAM RESULTS

Aspire continues to be the only program that provides targeted academic support at no cost to historically underserved 3rd through 8th-grade students in South Arlington every school day and over the critical summer months. In order to meet the growing need for no-cost, high-quality out-of-school-time academic support, Aspire has grown our team and accelerated our AmeriCorps recruitment efforts. **These investments allowed us to serve 50% more students than just a year ago while maintaining the highly individualized support our students deserve and that we have proven works.** Aspire also transitioned our middle school pilot program into a permanent classroom in response to the evolving needs of our students and families.

Students started the year behind.

85% of our students were testing two or more grade levels behind in reading in the fall of 2022. This is compared to pre-pandemic 2018-19 data, where only 49% of students started our programs in the fall below grade level in reading.



Aspire's Programs Work!
Nearly twice as many students ended the year on grade level in reading compared to the start of the program year.

YEAR-END RESULTS SUMMARY

Aspire students across all three program sites made significant academic gains last year. We served **152 3rd - through 8th-grade students daily afterschool** and an additional **108 students during our largest six-week summer learning camp.** A bright spot in our outcomes is that of students who qualify for special services at school (IEP), **80% improved their reading levels.**

67%

of students improved their reading level

75%

of students improved their math level

188

parents attended 7 workshops and events

86%

of students identified as ELL/HILT (students learning English), improved their math level.

Mixed Race

12%

Asian

6%

Black

34%

Latinx

47%

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Aspire students reflect the diverse cultures of the Arlington community. **78% of students speak one of 13 different languages other than English at home.**

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS!



ENHANCED TESTING LEADS TO BETTER OUTCOMES

While math support has been a key component of our daily afterschool program, this is the first completed program year where Aspire is able to report on math outcomes with impressive results. By utilizing iReady for internal testing, we are able to see how students are doing in each subject area of reading and adjust curriculum and support accordingly. **73% of our students ended the year testing on grade level or above in phonics, and 94% of students tested on grade level when using high-frequency words.**

ROBUST STEAM & PROJECT BASED LEARNING

To prepare students for 21st-century careers, students participate in activities exposing them to science, technology, and business topics. Students studied volcanoes, oceans, climate change, and sustainability. Our middle school students created their own bi-weekly news broadcast, learning important research, writing, video editing, and storytelling skills. Our Virginia Gardens students studied geometry by creating their own 3D tiny cities. Students also worked in teams for our annual science fair.



VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Aspire continues to provide high-intensity, 1:1 support to students with the help of our volunteer program. Volunteers provide additional individualized reading, math, and homework support to students with the greatest learning needs and where English is not their first language. Volunteers provided **736 hours** of direct service to our students this year. **Aspire launched our new high school volunteer program, with over 50% of our high school volunteers comprised of former Aspire students.**

MEETING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

While metrics on student achievement are important, the value of having a safe, joyful place for our students to learn and grow into all they aspire to be cannot be underestimated. To meet the rise in social-emotional needs of our students, we deliver daily lessons to students, and professional development opportunities to help our AmeriCorps team learn how to best support the needs of our students. Aspire provides important opportunities for students to make friends, build a sense of self, try new things, and feel connected to their community.

