

## **FALL 2006 UPDATE ON PHASE II OF THE EVALUATION OF THE CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND PHILADELPHIA PROGRAM**

**September 15, 2006**

The longitudinal evaluation of the CSFP scholarship program is concluding its second full year. This is a brief update on the results of the evaluation from year 2. The evaluation is being conducted by Dr. Alex Schuh of FRONTIER 21 Education Solutions. Since August 2004, the evaluation has been tracking 3 cohorts of CSFP scholarship recipients with the primary objective of understanding the program's impact on CSFP students' lives over the long term. The three cohorts of students are 2<sup>nd</sup> graders from school year 2004-05 (3<sup>rd</sup> graders in 2005-06), 5<sup>th</sup> graders from school year 2004-05 (6<sup>th</sup> graders in 2005-06), and 9<sup>th</sup> grade CSFP alumni from 2004-05 (10<sup>th</sup> graders in 2005-06).

The evaluation aims to: track the academic achievements and pathways of CSFP's scholarship recipients over the course of four years, provide CSFP with a database and a process for tracking students beyond the years of this study, and assess the needs of CSFP scholarship students and families for additional support services.

During the evaluation's second year, the evaluators continued the first year activities of tracking both elementary school and high school students' progress and participation in CSFP and other scholarship programs. This year, FRONTIER 21 was also asked to determine what types of schools students were attending when they completed the four year scholarship opportunity provided by CSFP. A brief overview of results from data collections from Year 2 are provided below.

### Findings In Year 2

#### **ALUMNI SURVEYS**

Phone surveys of CSFP alumni who left the program to enter high school in 2004 were conducted twice over the past year. Results from these surveys are provided below.

(NOTE: Results from 50 student respondents – summer 2006, 71 respondents fall 2005)

Average GPA= 3.0

Percent receiving scholarships= 40%

Percent in different school types: Charter (20%); Private/Sectarian (64%); Regular Public (14%); Job Corps (2%)

Percent in advanced/honors level classes= 20%

Percent in extra-curriculars= 65%

Percent returning to same school from previous year= 10%

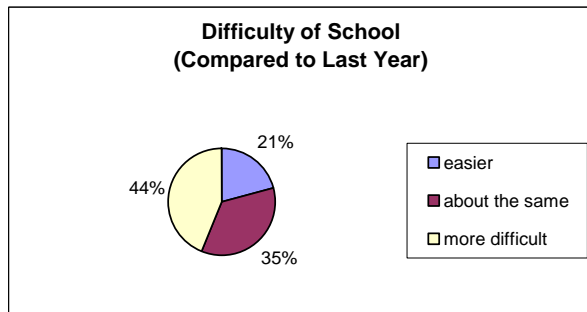
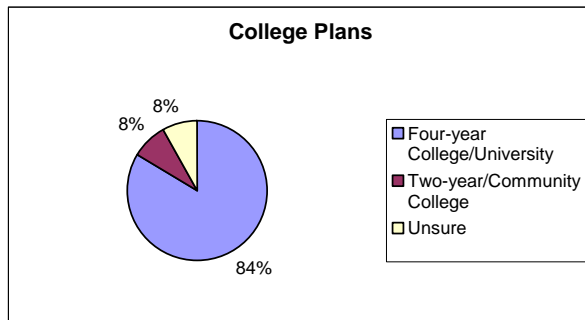
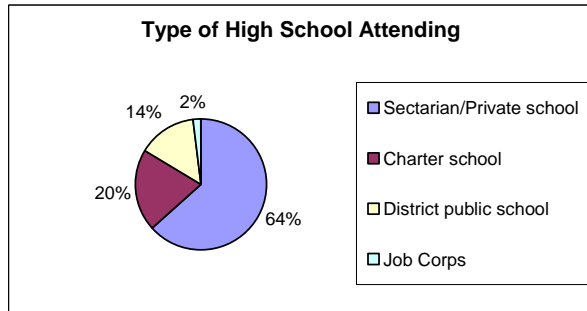
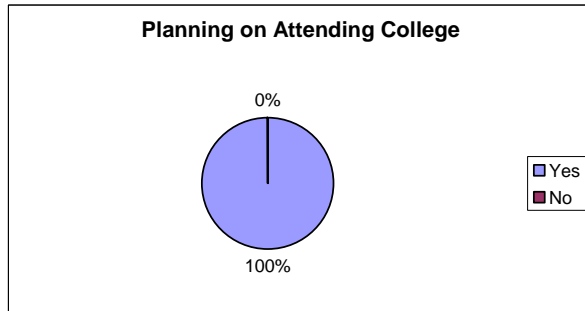
Percent remaining in school through Sophomore year= 98%

Percent earning GED in Sophomore year= 2%

Percent planning to attend college= 100%

Plans to attend college- 2 Year College= 8%; 4 Year College= 84%; Unsure= 8%

**Survey of High School Sophomore CSFP Alumni 2005-2006 School Year (N=71)**



**STUDENT PERFORMANCE DATA**

**Standardized Test Scores 2005 and 2006**

(From 334 students, 94 schools)

Test Area	GRADE 3 COHORT in 2006		GRADE 6 COHORT in 2006	
	% over 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 2005	% over 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 2006	% over 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 2005	% over 50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile 2006
Math	50	<b>55</b>	49	<b>49</b>
Reading	64	<b>63</b>	52	<b>54</b>
Language Use	47	<b>51</b>	49	<b>52</b>

[School District of Philadelphia 2006 –PSSA Math % Proficient and Advanced: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade = 59%; 6<sup>th</sup> Grade=40%)]

[School District of Philadelphia 2006 –PSSA Reading % Proficient and Advanced: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade = 42%; 6<sup>th</sup> Grade=36%)]

Average Daily Attendance – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Cohort (2005- 94%; 2006- 96%)

Average Daily Attendance – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Cohort (2005- 91%; 2006- 93.5%)

[School District of Philadelphia (2005) average daily attendance in elementary schools= 90%]

Attrition of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade cohort from CSFP program, Spring 2005 to Spring 2006 = 63 out of 421= 15%

**FOUR YEAR SCHOLARSHIP COMPLETERS' SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN POST-CSFP SCHOOL YEAR (Grade 8 and Below in 2006-07)\***

<b>Type of School Attending after CSFP Exit, 2006-07</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Private	250	84.7%
Charter	4	1.4%
Homeschool	3	1.0%
Public	6	2.0%
Unknown	32	10.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Private + Charter + Homeschool</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>87.1%</b>

\* Note: Does not include 25 9<sup>th</sup> graders exiting program in 2006.