



Framework for Creating K-12 and Higher Education Partnerships for Successful Student Transitions



SAIL

Summer Academy for Incoming Learners





Transition

-Think about issues surrounding transition of students from

- grade to grade
- building to building



Image courtesy of Ambro | FreeDigitalPhotos.net





What is SAIL?

- Transition program for children moving from community education centers or home care to parochial, private or public school
- Two week program scheduled during Summer Learning Academy at Saucon Valley SD
- Organized academic, behavioral and social activities





Why SAIL?

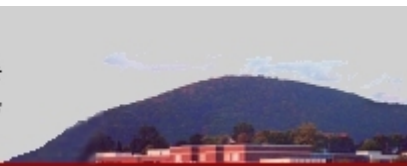
“...transition from preschool to formal schooling is widely acknowledged as a critical developmental milestone for children and families, with potentially significant implications for later school outcomes.”
(Eckert et al. 2008)

“...the kindergarten transition has been labeled a ‘sensitive period’ necessary for later school success.”
(Rimm-Kaufman and Pianta 2000).



Saucon Valley School District

*The mission of the Saucon Valley School District
is to ensure learning and inspire students
to succeed in life and contribute to society.*



July
21, 2014





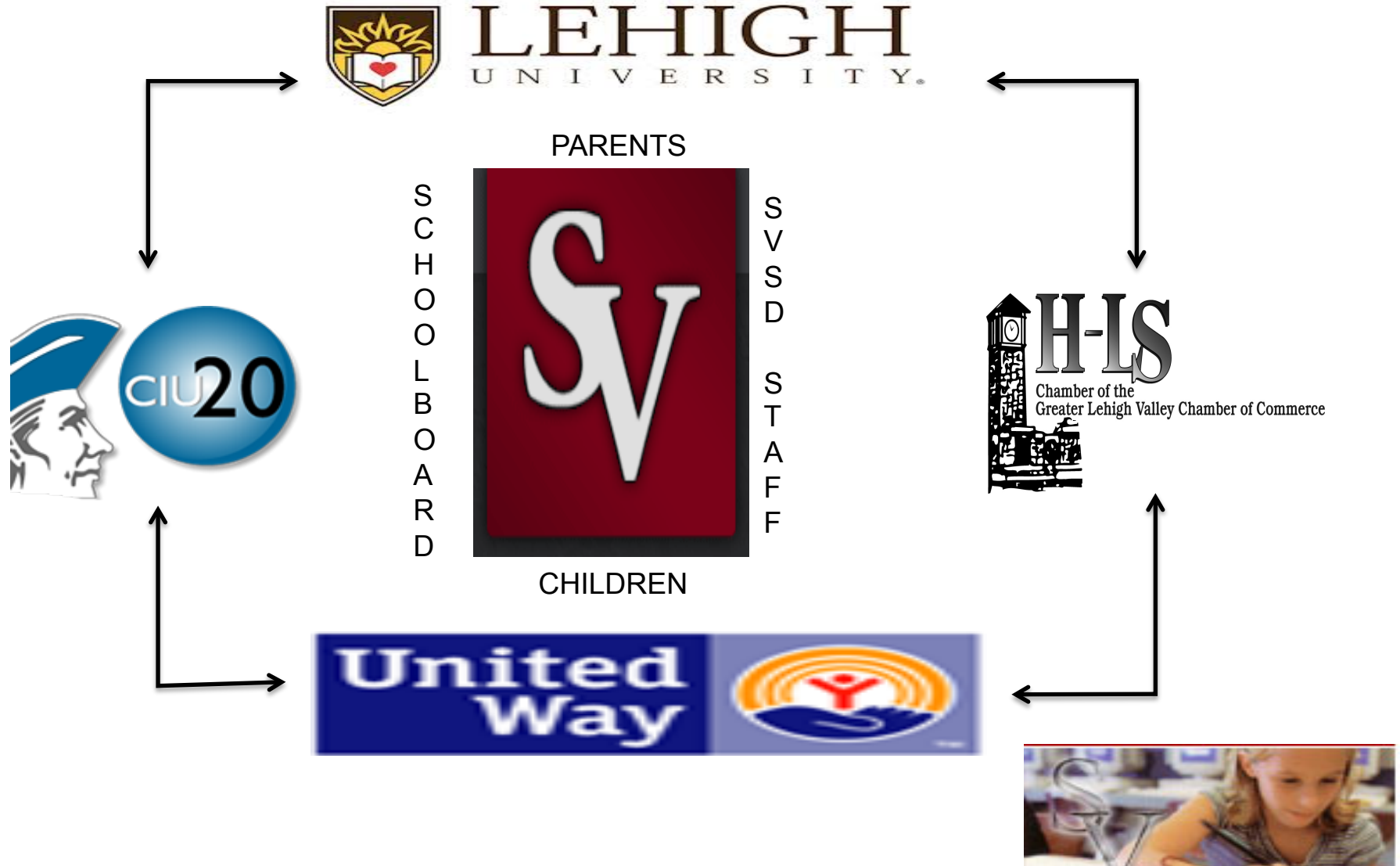
Who is involved in SAIL?

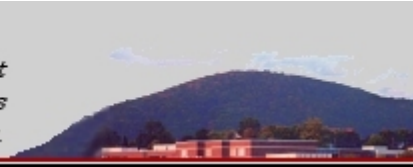
- Open to all children of Saucon Valley SD entering any Kindergarten in the fall of the upcoming school year
- Parents
- Saucon Valley Kindergarten Transition Community Partnership/Lehigh Valley United Way Children's Coalition (2011)
- Pre-service teachers and staff from Lehigh University
- Saucon Valley OT/PT, Speech and SD administrators





Involving Community Stakeholders in SAIL





SAIL: Participation

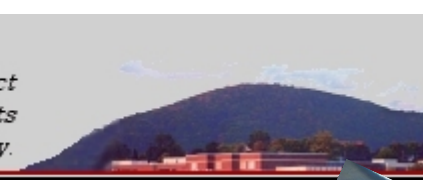
- 2016, 84 out of 135 enrolled students participated, 62% participation
- 2015, 70 out of 120 enrolled students participated, 58% participation
- 2014, 65 out of 109 enrolled students participated, 60% participation
- 2013, 57 out of 120 enrolled students participated, 48% participation
- 2012, 50 out of 123 enrolled students participated, 40% participation
- Increase of Lehigh University student teachers to provide 8:1 student to teacher ratio



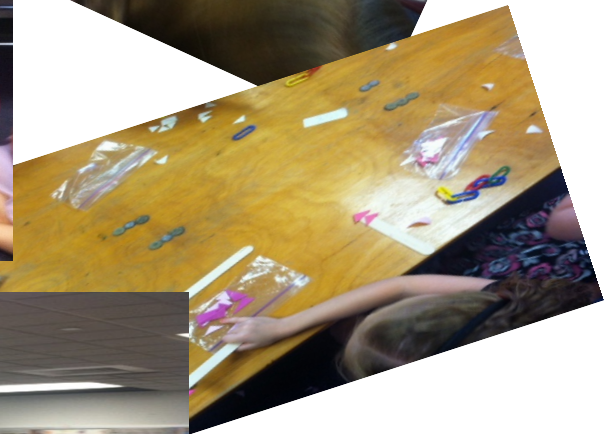
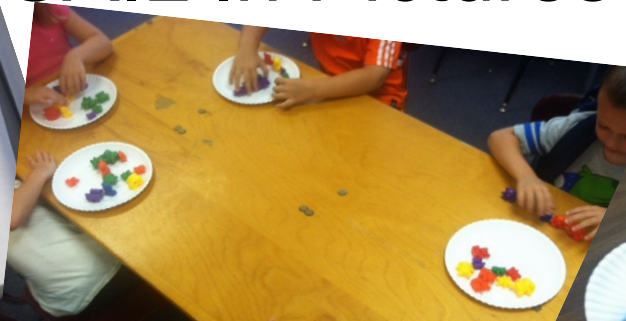
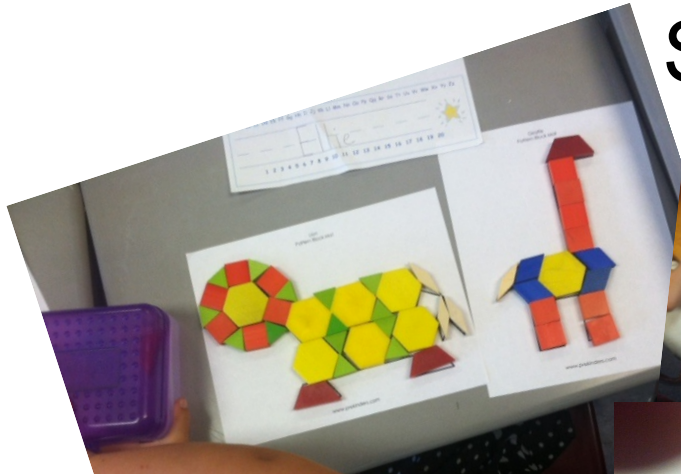


SAIL: Data

- Kindergarten Screening (May) Changed for 2016!
 - > PDE Kindergarten Entry Inventory (KEI)
 - > Informal Screening
- Create spreadsheets
- Filter data to create Focus Groups and Classes based on areas of weakness/strength
- Send data to university professor
- Pre-service teachers will analyze data and create lesson plans
- Create accounts in Performance Tracker for pre-service teachers



SAIL In Pictures





SAIL: Communication



Notes home



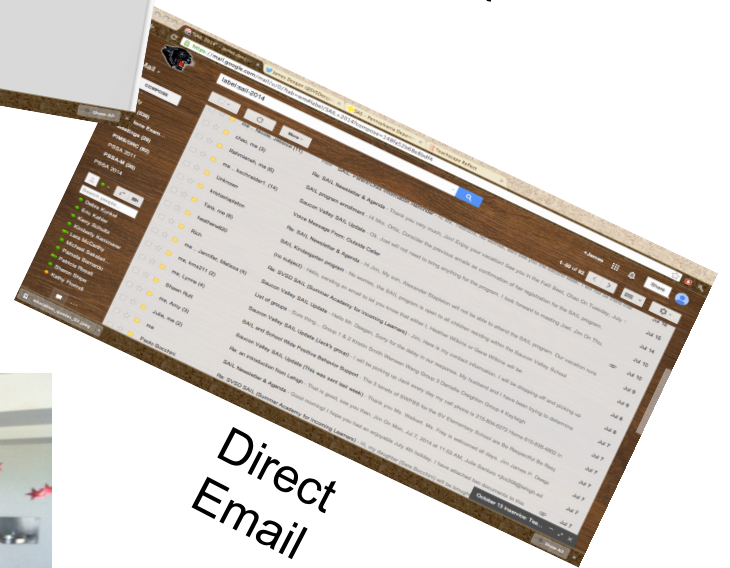
Social Media



Email Blast Campaign



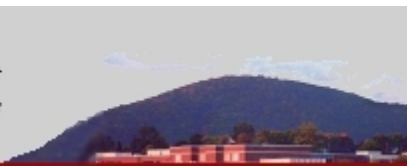
Newsletter




Direct Email

Check-in/
Check-out





SAIL Data: Parent/Student/Teacher Feedback

 SAIL Parent and Student Feedback

Thank you again for bringing your child to the SAIL program. Now that your child has been in Kindergarten for the past few weeks, I ask that you let us know how you see the SAIL program as a benefit for this transition.

Please take a few minutes to provide feedback regarding the SAIL (Summer Academy for Incoming Learners) program. Your feedback is important to the continuation and structure of the SAIL program. Please sit with your child, ask them the questions and provide their feedback as well.

Thank you,
Jim Deegan
* Required

Interaction with Peers *
I worked with other children in the class.

1 2 3 4 5

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Develop Friendships *
I met children I didn't know, and I then became friends with them.

1 2 3 4 5

Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree





SAIL Data: Parent/Student/Teacher Feedback

- “I was happy to have this program for my daughter to participate in. Although she reported still feeling afraid of first day of kindergarten, I know that was much better than it would have been without SAIL. “

- Parent

- “I think it's a great program. My child had a hard time the first day with crying and me leaving. By the second day she ran in! And now everyday she goes to kindergarten without any problems.”

- Parent

- “Please continue to do this program every year! It helped my youngest get excited about going to school and let her see what it was all about. I will tell parents with future kindergarteners what a great experience it is! Thanks for all of the hard work you put in, it is very appreciated.”

- Parent





SAIL Data: Parent/Student/Teacher Feedback

- “Thank you so much for this opportunity. I think it is wonderful that the school offers this program and for it to be free of charge is a wonderful and generous thing you all are doing for the children and families.”

- Parent

- “The children are transitioning very nicely”

- Saucon Valley Extended Day Kindergarten Teacher

- “I thought the sail program was fantastic! We feel very lucky to be a part of this district! Thank you for this great program!”

- Parent

- “I thought it was a great experience for my daughter. She was very comfortable moving into kindergarten since she was able to spend the time in the building at SAIL camp.”

- Parent





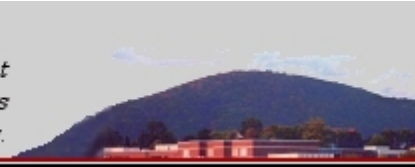
How do we proceed?

Next Steps: Broaden Community Involvement

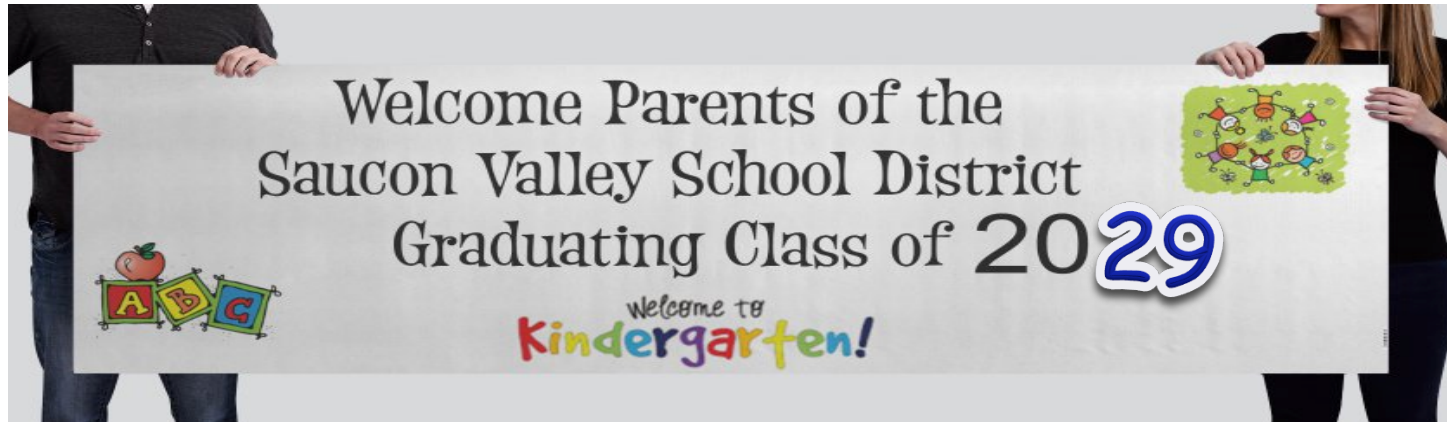
“...family involvement in transition is considered important for positive child outcomes.”

(Rimm-Kaufman and Pianta 2000)

- Continued IU 20 offered professional development with Early Childhood focus for:
 - Community education centers
 - Parents/Grandparents providing home care
- Lehigh University Advisory Board for Teacher Preparation Programs



Where does Saucon Valley Go From Here?



**Full Day
Kindergarten
Started
September 2016!**





If your district wanted to adopt a program like SAIL:

- What may be the components that are easier to implement?
- What strengths/resources do you have?
- What may be the potential barriers?
- What are possible solutions to those barriers?



Saucon Valley School District

*The mission of the Saucon Valley School District
is to ensure learning and inspire students
to succeed in life and contribute to society.*



September
12, 2014





Thank you:
**Lehigh University Students and
College of Education Staff**
Mrs. Carla Kologie
Dr. Brook Sawyer
Dr. Lynn Columba
Dr. Julie Santoro
Saucon Valley SD Custodial Staff
Mrs. Cindy Motter
Mrs. Theresa McDermott
Dr. Shawn Rutt





Questions ?

lbs211@lehigh.edu

shawn.rutt@svpanthers.org

james.deegan@svpanthers.org

