

Sample Summer Reading Letter to Legislators

Dear _____:

Like all Pennsylvanians concerned about education I was troubled by our country's ranking of 17th among 60 countries on the latest Program for International Student Assessment.

In reading literacy, 15-year-old American students ranked 14th.

Research suggests year round school could benefit students in our K-12 system; but, there is significant resistance to this.

However, there is a way to extend the learning year without extending the school year.

That is simply to keep children reading over the summer.

Reading as few as eight self-selected books during the break between school years helps students retain what they have learned and can reduce the need for the expensive "re-teaching" that consumes as much as 20% of the new school year.

In Pennsylvania a high-quality, free summer reading program is offered by the state's public library system.

Please help us recruit more summer readers by putting this poster on the bulletin board in your local office and by joining our word of mouth marketing team as you discuss education with your constituents.

Thank you!

Sincerely,