



**PEWAUKEE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Being 4 Today!

## Transforming the Experience of 4-Year-Old Kindergarten

Pewaukee School District



# Hello!



Dr. Mike Cady  
Superintendent  
 @michaelcady



Brian Kammers  
PSD Board President



Dr. Danielle Bosanec  
Chief Academic Officer  
 @dkbosanec



Steve Dankert  
PSD Board Treasurer



Robin Wilson  
Director of Learning & Academic Coaching



# Who We Are



- Serving 3000 Students
- About 400 Faculty & Staff
- 4 Schools on a Unique Single Campus Setting
- Utilize the Baldrige Framework for Performance Excellence for continuous improvement
- Demographics:
  - 14.2% Special Education
  - 12.9% Low Socioeconomic Status
  - 21.3% Non-White (8% Asian-primarily India)



# Learning Objectives

- Understand research of immersive early learning education model
- Demonstrate how an immersive model is fiscally possible and sustainable
- Identify the instructional opportunities and challenges with an immersive model
- Understand the learning outcomes for students compared to traditional early learning programming



# Long Range Planning



**PEWAUKEE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



## Two Primary Planning Strategies:

- Strategic Planning
  - 3 years
  - Annual Plan, Do, Study, Act process
- Master Facility Plan
  - Long Term Capital Projects Plan- 10 year projection
  - Referendums
- Both processes allow for decisions to be made that are aligned to district mission & are fiscally responsible

# Research

“Children need to explore in literacy-rich classrooms that are **joyful**, busy places where they, through **play**, **develop relationships**, **explore and learn.**”

~ Fountas & Pinnell

“During the primary years, real world experiences are the most important things schools provide. As we all know, children learn by doing. They remember what they have personally experienced. In addition, concept development is optimized through **active, explorative experiences.**”

~ Nabors, Edwards, Murray, 2009

“Children learn vocabulary best when words are presented in a **meaningful context or theme.**”

~ Harris, Golinkoff & Hirsh-Pasek, 2011

# Research

<b>High reading ability</b> <b>Low knowledge of baseball</b>	<b>High reading ability</b> <b>High knowledge of baseball</b>
<b>Low reading ability</b> <b>Low knowledge of baseball</b>	<b>Low reading ability</b> <b>High knowledge of baseball</b>

## Baseball Study

~Recht & Leslie

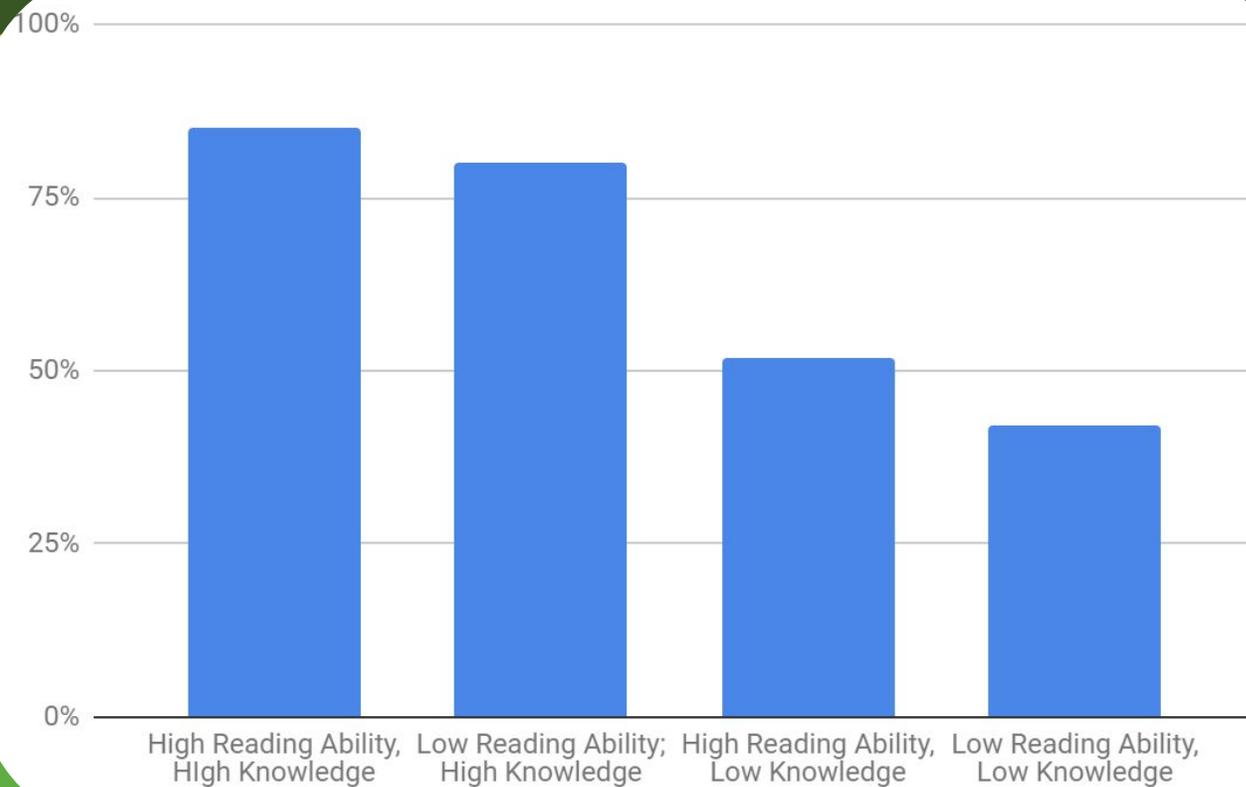
How much difference does background knowledge make?

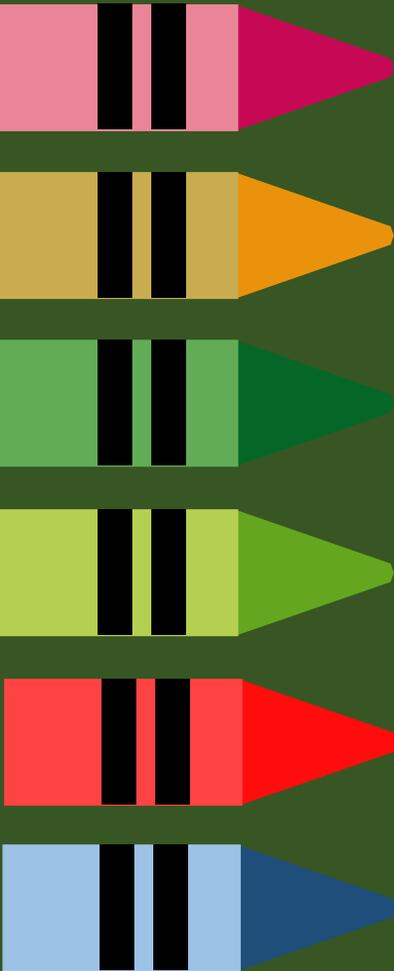
# Take a Poll!

[PollEv.com/daniellebosanec208](https://www.poll-ev.com/daniellebosanec208)

## Baseball Study

~Recht & Leslie





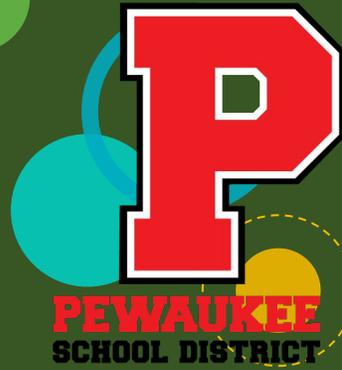
	PLAN	CREATE	IMPLEMENT
 OCEAN AND POLAR REGIONS			
 JOURNEY IN TIME			
 FARM TO TABLE			
 CONSTRUCTION AND CITY/RURAL			
 SPACE AND WEATHER			
 TRAVEL AND NURSERY RHYMES			



PEWAUKEE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Experiences



- 1- Farm to Table
- 2- Wonderful, Amazing Me



- 1- Journey in Time
- 2- Zoo



- 1- Construction
- 2- City & Rural



- 1- Let's Get Going
- 2- Storyland



- 1- Ocean
- 2- Polar Regions



- 1- Space
- 2- Our World

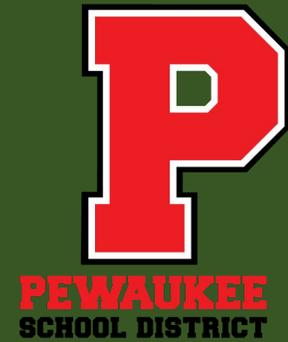
# Making It Happen



**PEWAUKEE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Physically



# Fiscally

- District Construction: \$175,000
- Teaching & Learning Budget: \$15,000
- School Budget: \$15,000



**\$205,000**



# Board Role

- March 23, 2020 Board Learning Session
- Utilization of referendum funds towards program
- Support & advocacy of program
- Review of results



# Academics



- Strong emphasis on phonemic awareness
- Criteria for activities
- Learning through play
- Student voice & choice

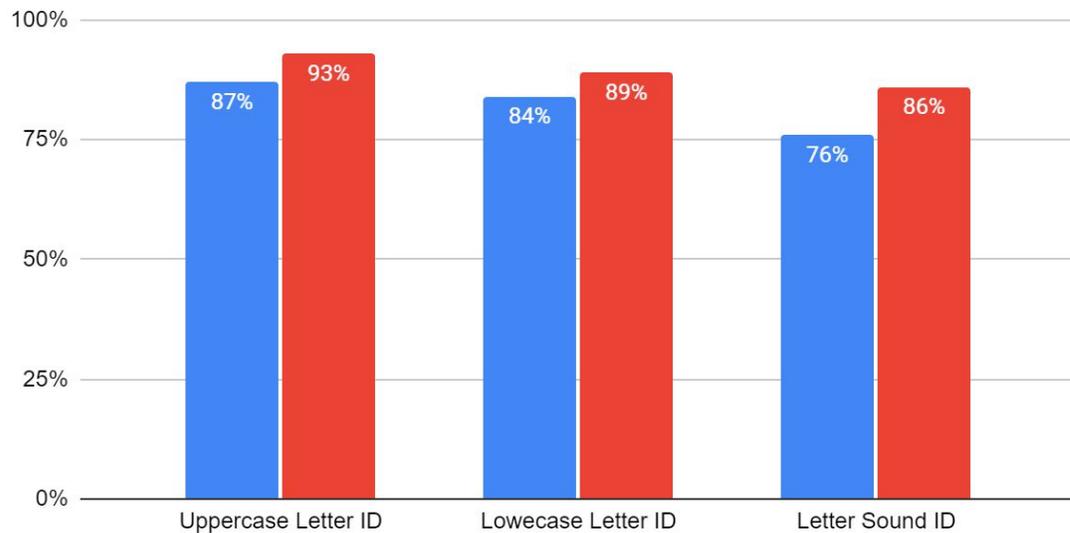


# Results



## 4K Literacy

2019-20 2020-21



### *In Year 1 . . .*

- 6% increase in uppercase letter identification
  - 5% increase in lowercase letter identification
  - 10% increase in letter sound identification
- . . . and all of this while wearing masks and managing health pandemic*

### *Since then. . .*

- 5K teachers reporting increased independence, initiative, and academic achievement

# Bringing the Concept Home

- Taking a look at standards
- Moving the alphabet
- All hands on deck!
- Versatile items
- The power of imagination





**PEWAUKEE**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT**

THANK YOU!

