The primary goal of the Technology & Study Skills Program is “to provide activities that will reinforce and instill skills in the areas of technology and general study skills.”

This program is a two week, three hours a day, summer program geared toward entering eighth graders.

Some of this year’s technology activities included designing blogs, using digital resources, and creating presentations using technology. In the area of study skills, students practiced note taking and problem-solving strategies.

This year there were 26 eighth grade participants.

Evaluation Results

- Attendance - The participants came from sixteen different schools (15 JCPS, 1 non-JCPS). The average number of days in attendance was 9 per participant with 14 students in attendance all 10 days.

- Knowledge Growth – There were 23 participants that had both a pre-test and a post-test. The average score on the pre-test was 63% and the average on the post-test 90%. Ninety-six percent of the participants’ scores increased.

- Survey Feedback - The statements that were rated the highest (most “agree” or “strongly agree”) were:
  - I learned a lot during this program (86%),
  - My instructors were helpful (86%),
  - I am more confident of my technology abilities (82%)
  - I am more confident in my study skills and class preparation abilities (77%), and
  - I would recommend this program to other students my age (77%)

- Perceived Growth - The greatest perceived growth by the participants was in:
  - “My ability to create a blog”,
  - “My knowledge of using blogs”,
  - “My ability to use digital resources”, and
  - “My ability create a presentation”.

All of these statements, and three others, were statistically significant (p<.001).

When examining the data, the Lincoln Foundation’s Technology & Study Skills Program had very positive results for 2013.

Primary Goal: At least 80% of the scholars will indicate an increase on the post-test as compared to the pre-test.

Outcome: This goal was achieved with twenty-two of the twenty-three students (96%) making gains on the post-test, which exceeds the goal of 80%.

Other significant outcomes include:
- 81% of the participants were in attendance at least 9 of the 10 days,
- All areas addressed (knowledge of blogs, creating a blog, using digital resources, creating a presentation, communicating to groups, working with others, researching and using information, and thinking critically, solving problems, and making decisions) during the program showed significant student reported growth and interest,
- The students consistently reported their favorite part of the program was the technology, while the part they liked the least varied from the room being cold, too early, and having to take notes/do study skills.
- Overall, the students were very positive about the program.
- One recommendation is to continue to ensure that a high percentage of students complete both the pre- and post-tests. This went up significantly from previous year (2012 – 46% to 2013 – 88%).