

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE HELD AT 3:30 P.M., MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2022 AT THE NOBLE CENTER FOR PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, 1125 WEST LAKE AVENUE, PEORIA, ILLINOIS.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Trustee and Chair Alexander Sierra and Executive Director Emily Cahill

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Trustee and Vice Chair Kyle Bright

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Trustees Joyce Harant and Laurie Covington (in at 3:52 pm)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Emily Cahill, Brent Wheeler, Kevin Davis, Susie Ingram (v), Scott Loftus, and Alicia Woodworth

Note: (v) = attended virtually

**OTHERS PRESENT:** None

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Trustee Sierra presided and called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. MINUTES**

**3.A. Approval of August 8, 2022 Programming Committee Meeting Minutes**

Executive Director Cahill MOVED TO APPROVE the minutes of the August 8, 2022 Programming Committee Meeting Minutes. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried on a unanimous aye of those present.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**4.A. Environmental Programming Overview**

Susie Ingram, Naturalist at Forest Park Nature Center (FPNC), gave an overview of the kinds of programming offered at FPNC. This time of year, many groups, i.e. scouts and school groups, enjoy FPNC, Sommer Farm, and other environmental locations due to the beauty of the fall colors. Programming offered includes nature and environmental aspects and are offered in correlation with Illinois Next Generation Science Standards. Public-facing programming (patrons not belonging to a group) are offered that include public hikes and hot dogs and hayrack riding with friends at Sommer Farm. Groups from Peoria Academy of Sciences such as the Peoria Audubon Society offer programming at FPNC to engage anyone interested in learning more about the natural world. Volunteer ecological restoration work occurs year-round, letting the community have an impact.

Environmental Interpretive Services (EIS) meets weekly to coordinate their efforts and to help and support each other. During the Covid-related shutdowns, the District's natural areas saw increased patronage, especially by younger patrons, and the increased patronage is still being realized post-Covid.

Emily Cahill stated that EIS is an interesting hybrid between parks and programming as a lot of their services are available for free. Guided hikes and specific programming do have a fee. Trustee Sierra asked where is the opportunity for policy and advocacy to support the environmental work that goes through this committee? Emily Cahill stated that she believes in this case, it's telling the story better. Using connections to reach out to networks to communicate the impact of the environmental work done at the District and also the work that ties to that discussed in the Planning Committee i.e. the sustainability plan. Thinking about how do we make that more engaging and expand the story to different audiences to get more people involved in this area.

Trustee Harant suggested video interviewing volunteers asking them why they do what they do and have volunteers present to area service organizations. This may prove to be very motivating for others.

Trustee Sierra asked Susie Ingram in a year, how many patrons visit FPNC and how many live in the PPD district? She stated it is estimated at 100,000 visits annually with approximately 50% - 60% living in the PPD district. Trustee Sierra asked of that 50% - 60%, how many are from 61603 and 61605 zip codes? Susie stated that data is not tracked as patrons do not check in. Trustee Sierra stated he has always been concerned about the accessibility of PPD locations. The CityLink bus routes are not very conducive to FPNC visits so how often do PPD summer camps visit FPNC or Sommer Farm? Scott Loftus stated that the biggest issue is the cost of buses for campers. At Lakeview and RiverPlex, there are 50-60 campers which requires two buses. Two buses would cost approximately \$600 per day. That wouldn't always be an issue but the District is also busing camp kids to Gwynn Family Aquatic Center. In order to save on transportation costs, EIS staff bring programming to the camps for kids to participate in. Trustee Sierra stated he would like to explore how the District could provide transportation for summer campers to FPNC and Sommer Farm. Also, in a year, he would like a report on how the District increased experiences and visits from 61603 and 61605 patrons, including summer campers. Emily Cahill stated that one of the things that the District has talked about at length is the idea of doing fewer things bigger and better. She would like everyone to think about how to manage the inventory of opportunities for participation, especially when there are beautiful spaces like FPNC. Increasing the number of visitors each year may not be realistic to do and always do it well.

#### **4.B. Community Connections Update**

Trustee Sierra asked that this item be placed on today's agenda and asked how do we improve our collaboration model to free up time for staff? Where are there opportunities to collaborate with other organizations? How can this be formalized to be a standing agenda item for this committee? Scott Loftus stated that the biggest challenge is identifying what areas do you want to look at and what other organizations support it to collaborate with? Brent Wheeler stated that while collaboration is great, actually implementing can be a real challenge. Many times, collaborating doesn't save time but takes more time to do it well. Many organizations do not have the same mission and goals as the Park District's and they do have to align.

**5. PENDING BUSINESS**

**5.A. Pickleball Offerings Update**

Scott Loftus stated that per the direction of the Programming Committee, below is a schedule for pickleball in the Peoria Park District starting October 2022.

*Please see Attachments B and C.* At the request of the local players who attended the committee's August meeting, staff have been able to modify the District's current offerings as follows:

- Addition of year-round indoor court access at the RiverPlex Recreation and Wellness Center, with seasonal overlap of open play with Lakeview Recreation Center to help with potential over-crowding.
- Re-establishment of open gym hours at FRC in the evenings and on weekends to provide support for players who work during the day.
- Hours for all open gyms will increase from 2 hours to 2.5 hours per session.

Prior to October, indoor pickleball was not offered by the District. Scott Loftus coordinated the new schedule with local pickleball player and organizer, Kelly Eckert. It was determined that there was not a large need for indoor play in August or September. Trustee Harant stated she spoke with Kelly Eckert about this schedule where she indicated that community pickleball players were very happy about this schedule with the added hours. Trustee Harant thanked staff for this schedule and expressed her concern for the need for even more hours and opportunities for pickleball play as the sport has grown considerably in the community. Brent Wheeler stated that pickleball will be available for Silver Sneakers at the RiverPlex in the next 4-6 weeks.

**5.B. Scholarship Data Update**

Kevin Davis, Business Systems Supervisor, as was requested at the last Programming Committee meeting on 8.8.22, presented April 2022 thru July 2022 scholarship statistics. *Please see Attachment A.* Going forward, this information will be reported regularly to the committee.

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

**6.A. Review and Follow up on Fees and Charges**

Emily Cahill stated that earlier, the proposed programming fees and charges for the 2023 budget was distributed to the committee and asked if the committee had any questions, comments or concerns. Trustee Sierra stated he is waiting to render feedback until he sees what the actual 2023 proposed budget will be so he can compare the fees and charges 2022 vs. proposed 2023. Trustee Harant stated she wants to be sure that the fees and charges structure is fairly applied to all the different programs and offerings.

**6.B. Lakeview Recreation Center RFP Review**

Scott Loftus provided a quick update on the Lakeview Recreation Center RFP stating that an RFP for the space was developed and promoted. There were no responses. If anyone here today knows of someone who may be interested in leasing the very unique

space, please have them contact Scott. A copy of the lease was emailed to the committee so they may pass along to anyone that may be interested.

Trustee Sierra asked for the status of Peoria Grown. Emily Cahill stated that it is currently with legal counsel to develop the agreement. The District has worked with the Peoria Grown group to ensure they have what they need to go forward with their budget revisions. The District anticipates a January 2023 start.

Trustee Sierra stated that recently, a staff member approached him and expressed concern about the District spending \$13,000 on candy for events. As a result, he would like to know the financials associated with the District's October programming. Emily Cahill stated that \$13,000 probably is correct based on all the family-friendly District-wide events offered, including HowlZooWeen. Thousands of patrons attend HowlZooWeen and it is a revenue-over-expenses event so the District recovered the portion spent on candy. Brent Wheeler stated he is happy to provide the financial information to Trustee Sierra and asked what was the intent of the conversation he had with the staff person about the \$13,000? Trustee Sierra stated that it was a random conversation. The staff person had expressed concern that as had been discussed in a Board meeting, the District does not have funds for certain programming and services but yet has \$13,000 to spend on candy. Trustee Sierra stated the reason he is requesting the financials is to better equip him for future conversations.

**7. ACTION STEPS REVIEW**

None given at this time.

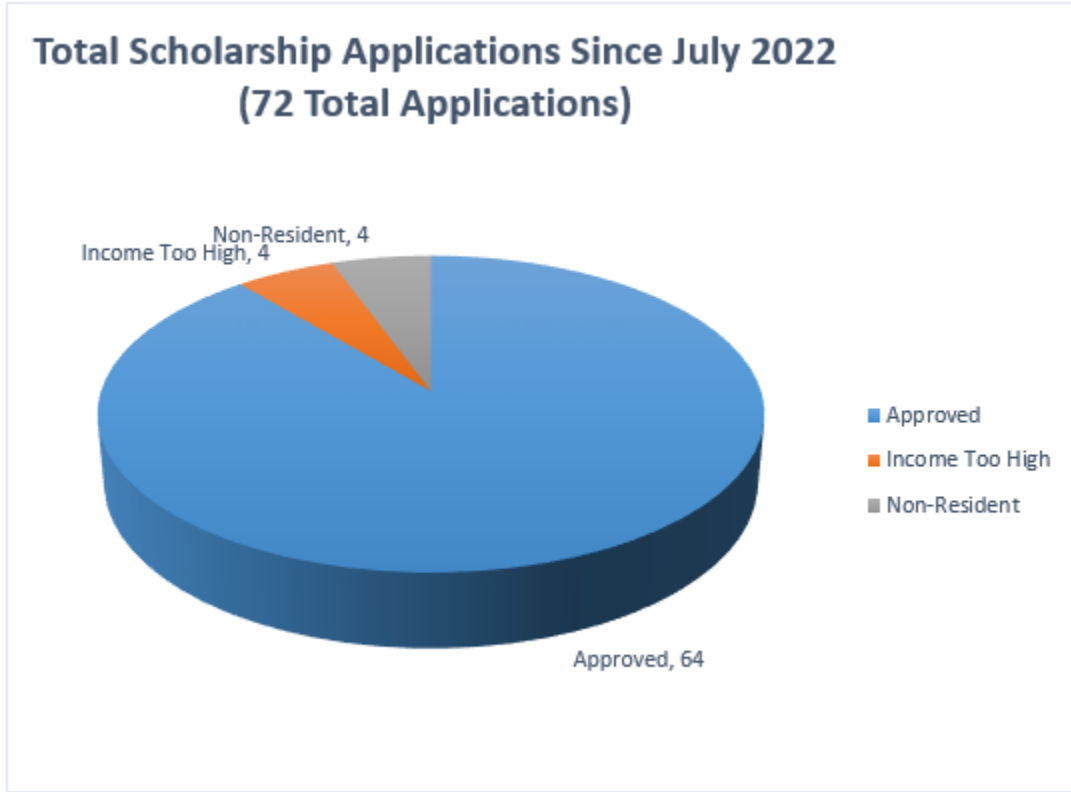
**8. ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:59 p.m., Executive Director Cahill MOVED TO ADJOURN. Motion seconded by Trustee Sierra and carried on a unanimous aye of those present.

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Respectfully Submitted by Alicia Woodworth  
Executive Assistant and Secretary to the Board

Peoria Park District Scholarship Statistics  
 October 7, 2022



Mean Household Size: 2.12

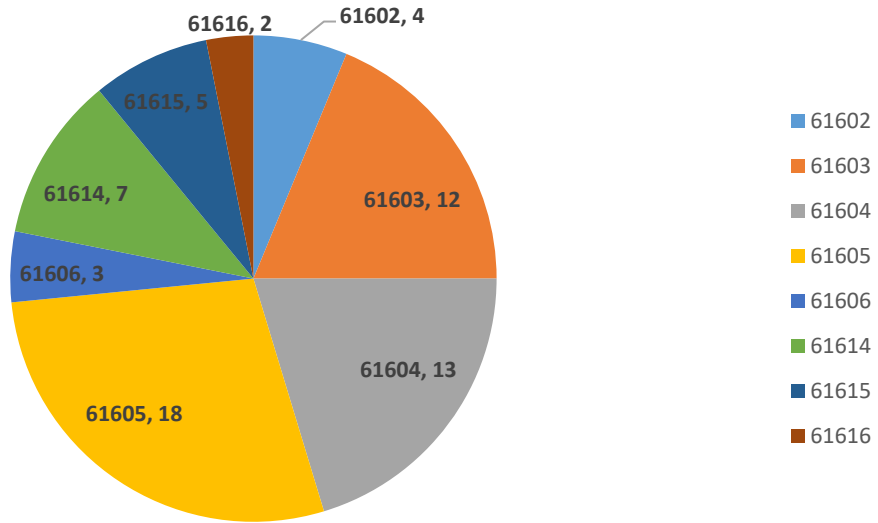
Mode Household Size: 1 (35 of 72 households)

Mean Household Income: \$16,201

**Approvals by Income Range:**

Income Range	Number of Approvals	Average HH Size
\$0 - \$10,000	13	1.25
\$10,001 - \$20,000	35	1.88
\$20,001 - \$30,000	10	2.6
\$30,001 - \$40,000	2	6.5
\$40,001 - \$50,000	2	5

Approved Scholarships by ZIP Code  
(64 Total)



Denial Details

Residency-Based Denials (4)

- Brimfield (61517) (2)
- Bartonville (61607) (2)

Income-Based Denials (4)

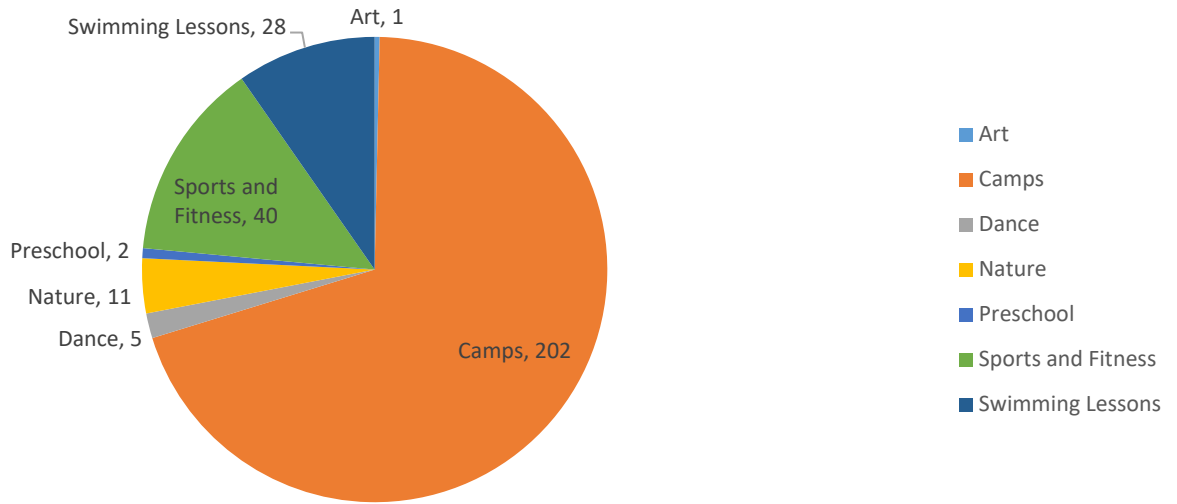
Zip Code	Household Size	Household Income	Approval/Denial
61615	1	\$ 37,757.04	Income Too High
61604	1	\$ 32,048.93	Income Too High
61605	1	\$ 21,673.20	Income Too High
61605	3	\$ 38,171.38	Income Too High

Approval Guidelines for Reference

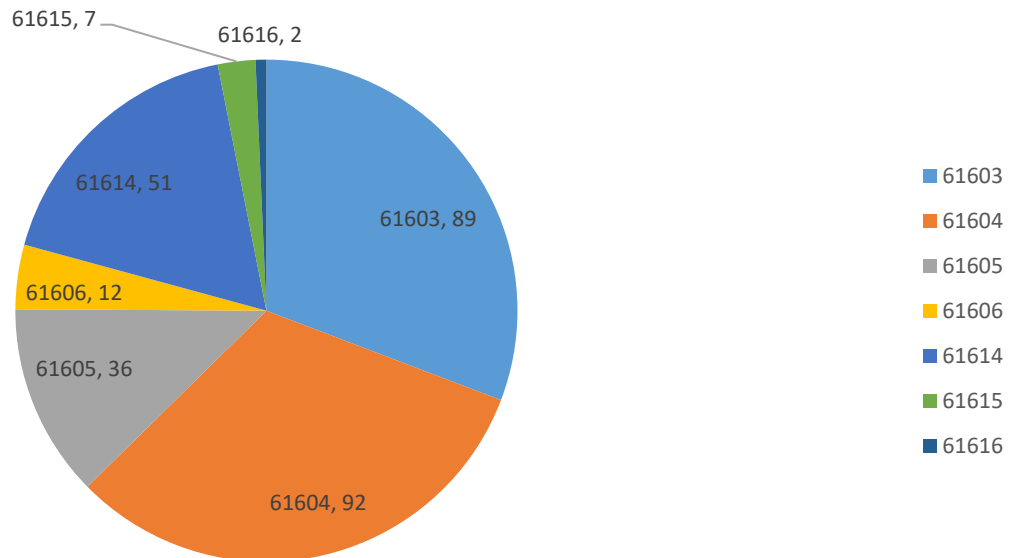
Persons in Household	Federal Poverty Guideline	Full Eligibility (125% of Fed Poverty Guideline)			
			75% Eligibility	50% eligibility	25% eligibility
1	\$ 13,590.00	\$ 16,987.50	\$ 17,987.50	\$ 18,987.50	\$ 19,987.50
2	\$ 18,310.00	\$ 22,887.50	\$ 24,887.50	\$ 26,887.50	\$ 28,887.50
3	\$ 23,030.00	\$ 28,787.50	\$ 31,787.50	\$ 34,787.50	\$ 37,787.50
4	\$ 27,750.00	\$ 34,687.50	\$ 38,687.50	\$ 42,687.50	\$ 46,687.50
5	\$ 32,470.00	\$ 40,587.50	\$ 45,587.50	\$ 50,587.50	\$ 55,587.50
6	\$ 37,190.00	\$ 46,487.50	\$ 52,487.50	\$ 58,487.50	\$ 64,487.50
7	\$ 41,910.00	\$ 52,387.50	\$ 59,387.50	\$ 66,387.50	\$ 73,387.50
8	\$ 46,630.00	\$ 58,287.50	\$ 66,287.50	\$ 74,287.50	\$ 82,287.50
Add \$4720 for each additional					
*source: US Department of Health and Human Services					

## Redemption Details

### Scholarship Enrollments by Program Type (2022 to Date)



### Scholarship Enrollments by ZIP Code (2022 to Date)



### Detailed Enrollment Breakdown by Individual Activity

(\*Multiple sections of each activity are consolidated into one line, i.e. multiple weeks of a specific camp, multiple sessions of Happy Feet Soccer, etc.)

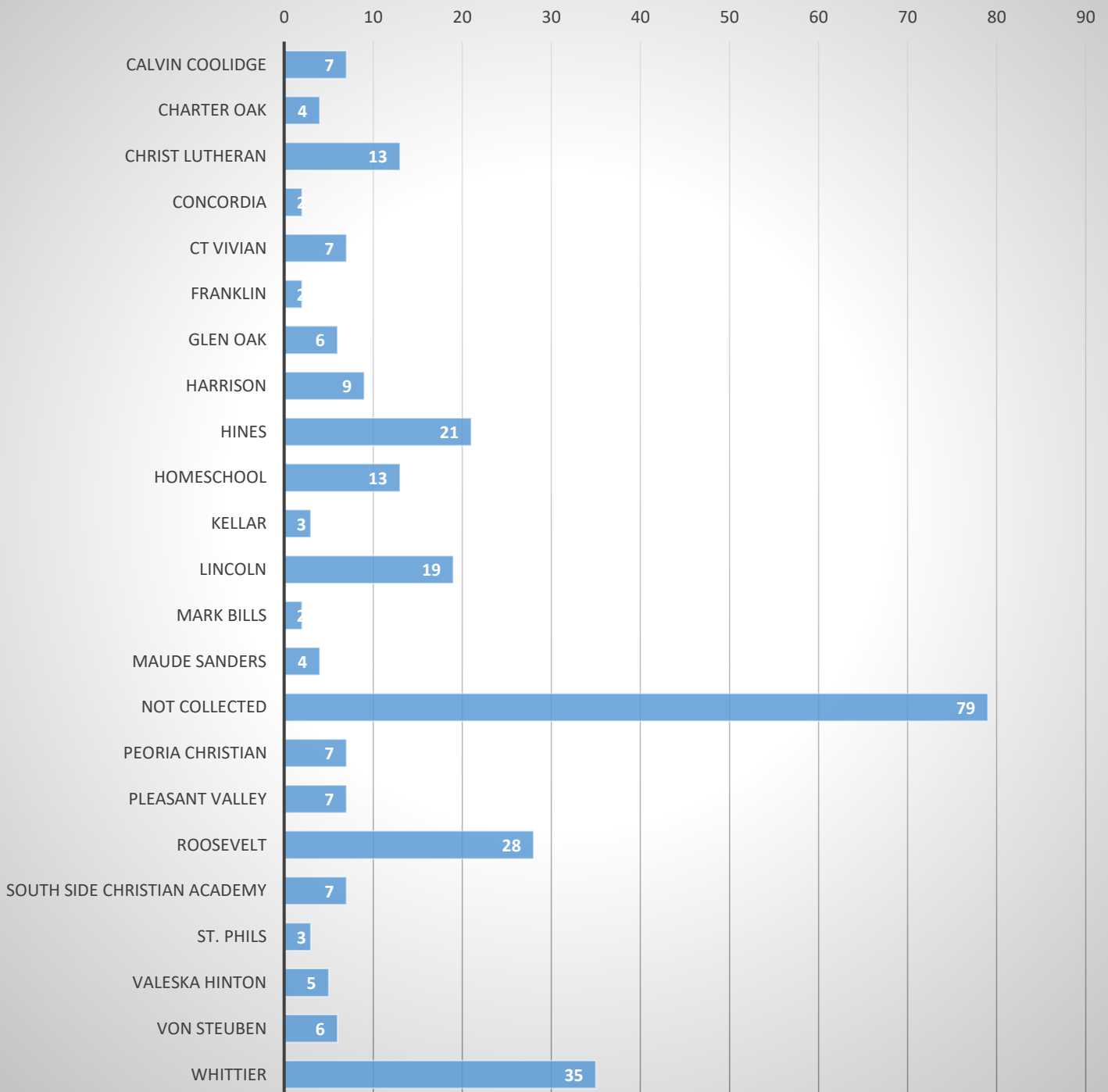
<b>Program Description</b>	<b>Scholarship Enrollments</b>
Proctor Summer Camp	148
Fall Break Camp	20
Discovery Swim	17
RiverPlex Summer Camp	13
Lakeview Summer Camp	12
Ancient Oaks Summer Camp	9
Happy Feet Soccer	8
Super Skates Skating Lessons	8
Beginner Tennis	7
Preschool Party	6
Exploration Swim	5
Nature Homeschool Classes	5
Swimming	4
Youth Soccer League	4
Coach Pitch	3
Tumbling	3
Hip Hop Dance	2
Journey Swim	2
Peoria PlayHouse Tot Time	2
Tee Ball	2
Young Ballers Basketball	2
Dungeons and Dragons	1
Hockey Prep	1
Intermediate Tennis	1
Middle School Boys Basketball	1
Pee Wee Tennis	1
PYHA Hockey Prep	1
Youth Basketball Skills Clinic	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>289</b>



## Enrollment Breakdown by School

\*Not all programs inquire as to the participant's school. The programs which most commonly request this information are camps and youth sports comprised of team play (i.e. tennis, golf lessons, etc. do not request this information, but soccer, coach pitch, etc., do request it.)

### Scholarship Enrollments by School (2022 to Date)





## PLEASURE DRIVEWAY & PARK DISTRICT OF PEORIA

# PEORIA PARK DISTRICT

1125 W. Lake Avenue, Peoria, IL 61614 • P: 309.682.1200 • F: 309.686.3352 •  
[www.PeoriaParks.org](http://www.PeoriaParks.org)

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#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

EMILY G. CAHILL

DATE: August 25, 2022

TO: Programming Committee Members

FROM: Scott Loftus, Superintendent of Recreation

SUBJECT: Indoor Pickleball Offerings in the Peoria Park District

Per the direction of the Programming Committee, attached is a proposed schedule for pickleball in the Peoria Park District beginning in October 2022.

At the request of the local players who attended the committee's August meeting, staff have been able to modify the District's current offerings as follows:

- Addition of year-round indoor court access at the RiverPlex Recreation and Wellness Center, with seasonal overlap of open play with Lakeview Recreation Center to help with potential over-crowding.
- Re-establishment of open gym hours at FRC in the evenings and on weekends to provide support for players who work during the day.
- Hours for all open gyms will increase from 2 hours to 2.5 hours per session.

As part of the budgeting process, staff will review the viability of offering Silver Sneaker access for RiverPlex open gyms to help reduce costs of indoor play for eligible seniors.

Following is the pickleball open gym calendar that will begin this fall.

**Peoria Park District Pickleball Indoor Schedule:**

**Location: RiverPlex Recreation and Wellness Center**

**Number of Courts: 4**

**Season: Year-round**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	

Total Hours of Open Gym at RiverPlex beginning October 2022: 12.5 hours per week  
(Current hours = 0 per week)

**Location: Lakeview Recreation Center**

**Number of Courts: 4**

**Season: October to May**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	9-11:30am	

Total Hours of Open Gym at RiverPlex: 12.5 hours per week  
(Current hours =10 per week)

**Location: Franciscan Recreation Center**

**Number of Courts: 3**

**Season: November to April (due to heat in gymnasium)**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		5-7:30pm		5-7:30pm		8:30-11am

Total Hours of Open Gym at RiverPlex: 7.5 hours per week  
(Current hours =0 per week)

**Net Impact of changes: New schedule = 32.5 hours per week/11 courts**

**Current Schedule: 10 hours per week/4 courts**

## Peoria Park District Pickleball Indoor Offerings

### Open Gyms:

- Fees: \$40 punch card for 10 visits or \$5 per visit
- New Schedule
  - Lakeview Recreation Center (4 courts)
    - Monday through Friday
    - 9 – 11:30am
    - October through May
  - RiverPlex Recreation and Wellness Center (4 courts)
    - Monday through Friday
    - 9 – 11:30am
    - Year-round
  - Franciscan Recreation Center (3 courts)
    - Tuesday/Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings
    - 5-7:30pm / 8:30-11am
    - November through April

The table below shows the visits per month over a 12-month period. It’s not a surprise that the number of visits are low or none during the warmer months since most players would utilize our outdoor courts at Glen Oak Park (8 courts) or Charter Oak Park (4 courts). Based on this table, here is a breakdown of the numbers.

- 1,712 total participants
- 274 daily drop-ins (\$5 per visit)
- 1,438 punch card uses
- 94 unique pickleball players used a punch card
- 65 residents / 29 non-residents
- The average punch card user spent \$61 per year
- The average attendance per day was 13.7 users

AVERAGE VISITS PER MONTH	
Month	# of visits
<b>2021</b>	
Oct	39
Nov	178
Dec	180
<b>2022</b>	
Jan	237
Feb	256
Mar	214
Apr	335
May	132
Jun	54
Jul	87
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1712</b>