

The creation and evolution of the **PROMISE** and **EXCEL** programs at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

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Presentation Outline

PROMISE Program

- History
- Current programs
- Challenges for the future

EXCEL Program

- Purpose
- Current program
- Plans for the future



Providing Opportunities for Mathematics and Science Enrichment (PROMISE)

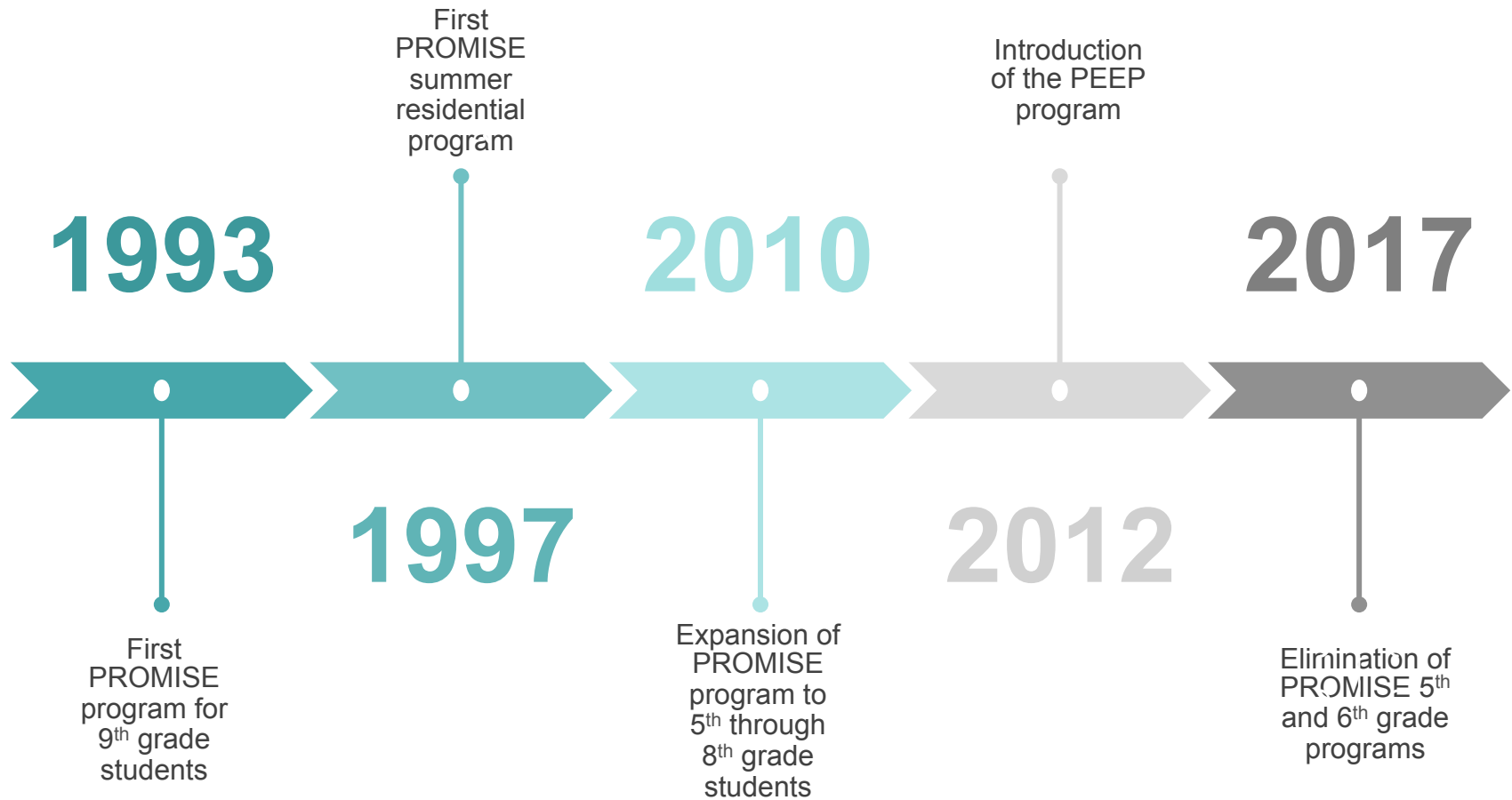
Serving culturally, linguistically and economically disadvantaged (CLED) students who have talent and interest in mathematics and science is a high priority of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy. We believe that we must actively recruit from all regions of the state of Illinois. In addition, we believe we must address the challenges of CLED students through contact and intervention in the form of academic enrichment programming early in students' educational experience. The Academy continues to create and develop a culturally rich and inclusive environment that affirms and celebrates individual differences.



PROMISE Program Goals

- Provide academic enrichment in STEM fields
- Improve the eligibility for academy acceptance
- Improve understanding/ appreciation of science and mathematics
- Increase the numbers of CLED students in pursuit of degrees and careers in STEM fields

PROMISE History



PROMISE Programs

- **Leading Students 2 Success (LS2S)**

School-year Saturday program for 7th and 8th graders

- **Summer Enrichment for Academics in Mathematics and Science (SEAMS)**

Residential summer program for students entering 9th grade in the fall.

- **Early Involvement Program (EIP)**

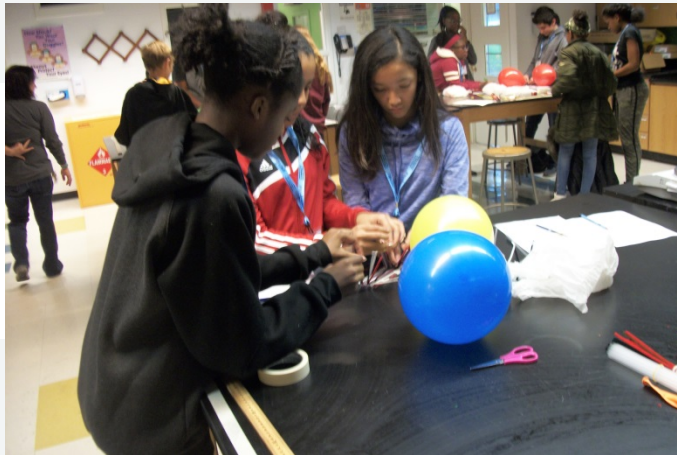
School-year Saturday program for 9th graders

- **PROMISE and EXCEL Extension Program (PEEP)**

School-year support program for IMSA students who were PROMISE and/or EXCEL participants

Leading Students to Success (LS2S)

- Program for high achieving 7th and 8th grade students with interest and aptitude in math and science
- Meets 12 Saturdays on the IMSA campus from October through January
- Students participate in math, science and humanities activities
- 7th grade students take part in leadership skill building activities
- 8th grade students receive SAT preparation instruction
- Some lessons led by IMSA student tutors



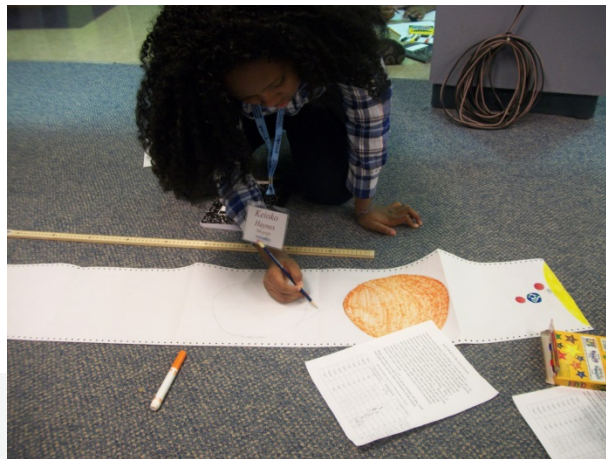
Summer Enrichment for Academics in Mathematics and Science (SEAMS)

- A 10-day residential summer program for rising high school freshmen.
- Students receive instruction in math, science, English and SAT preparation.
- Students also take part in leadership skill building and residential life programming

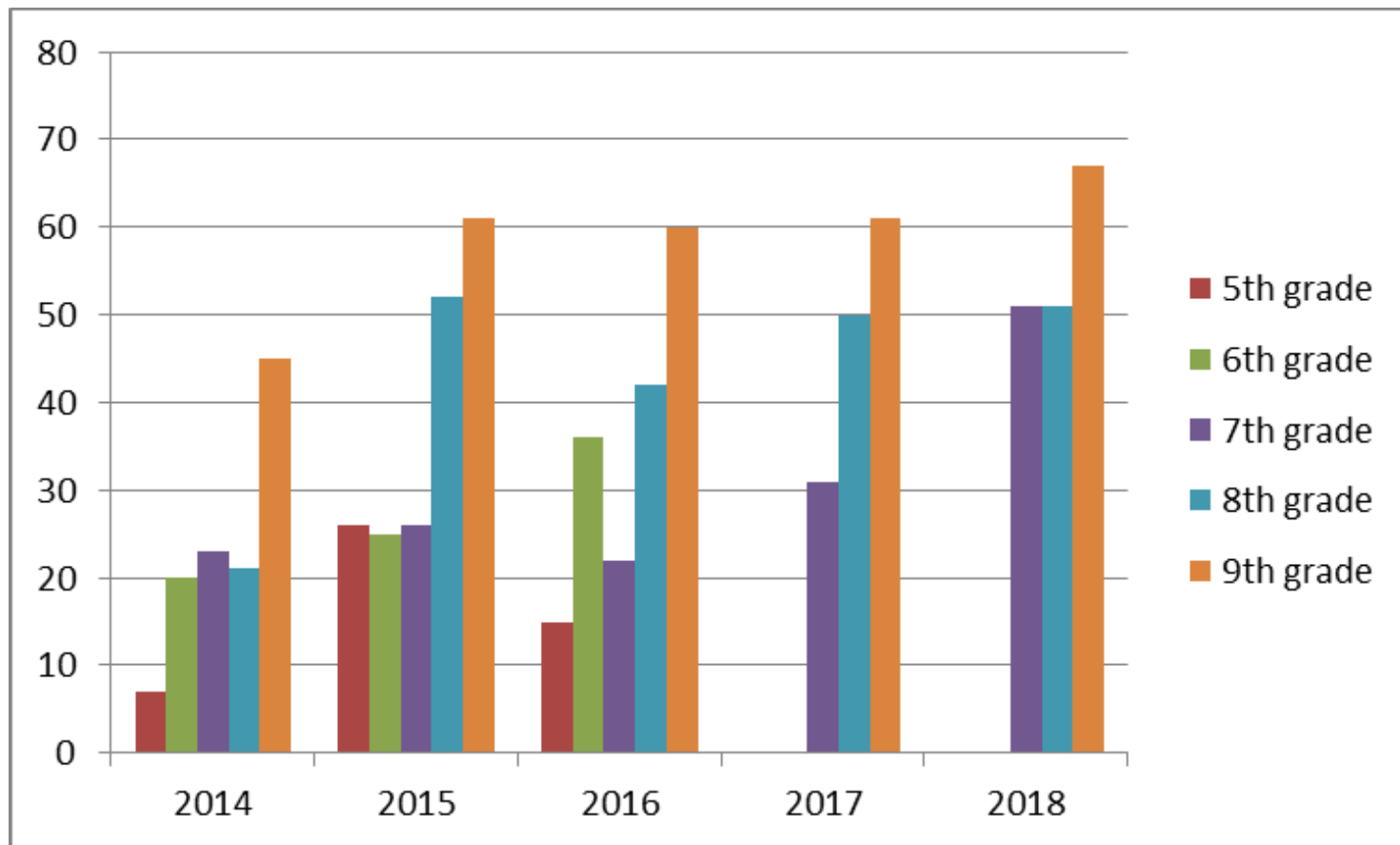


Early Involvement Program (EIP)

- Program for 9th grade students
- Meets concurrently with LS2S program
- Students participate in math, science and humanities activities taught by IMSA faculty



PROMISE Participation Data



PROMISE STEM Pipeline

LS2S

STEM
Interest
&
Exposure

SEAMS

EIP

IMSA
Student
(PEEP)

STEM
Major in
College

STEM
Career



IMSA PROMISE RECEIVES 2018 INSPIRING PROGRAMS IN STEM AWARD



IMSA'S PROMISE OF EQUITY & EXCELLENCE IN STEM EDUCATION

IMSA's PROMISE Programs serve students in grades 7th through 9th with academic enrichment at low or no cost while encouraging future admission to its tuition-free residential Academy for 10th through 12th graders.

IMSA is committed to the active recruitment of students, faculty and staff with diverse backgrounds and different viewpoints. Apply at imsa.edu.

PROMISE questions to consider

- Should we accept 5th and 6th grade students again?
- Do we consider younger students?
- Is our promotion process the most effective?

EXCEL

- A bridging program designed for incoming sophomores.
- Provides content and helps generate skills necessary for success at IMSA that some students have not been exposed to in under resourced schools.
- Students receive instruction in Math, Science and English
- Residential Life Counselors provide programming to help students adjust to living at IMSA



By the Numbers...

Graduation Year	Number of EXCEL students	Graduation Rate*	Average SAT math score**	Average SAT RW score***
2013	43	72.1%	546.5	520.9
2014	41	78.0%	558.3	530.7
2015	47	77.8%	559.8	537.9
2016	43	75.6%	544.7	546.7
2017	41	90.0%	573.2	562.4
2018	41	75.0%	542.2	527.8

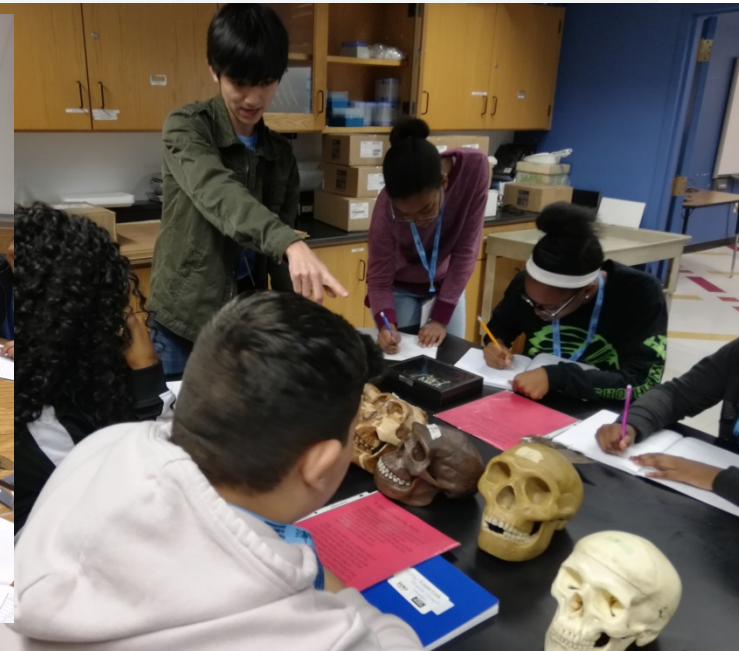
*Average yearly graduation rate is 85%.

**Average IMSA applicant SAT math is 675.

***Average IMSA applicant SAT RW score is 608.

Tutors: The Heart of PROMISE and EXCEL

- Current IMSA students who assist PROMISE and EXCEL students.
- Provide academic, social and emotional support to program participants.
- Live with students during summer residential programs.
- Provide feedback about students for evaluations
- Develop and/or enhance leadership skills
- Earn service hours needed for graduation
- Given opportunities to lead activities



Success Stories

PROMISE

- 45% of ninth grade PROMISE participants were admitted to IMSA.
- One in six students in IMSA's admitted Class of 2021 previously participated in PROMISE.

EXCEL

- All four Class of 2018 Commencement Speakers were EXCEL students.
- An EXCEL student received a Questbridge scholarship to Amherst College.

Looking to the Future

- Advocate Program
- PROMISE EXCEL Extension Program (PEEP)
- EXCEL 2

