

READY, SET, READ!

PROGRAM REPORT

2016-2017



GET ACTIVE!

CHANGE THE GAME!



Husky Sport  
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# READY, SET, READ! PROGRAM REPORT



## 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Direct Engagement        | 3 |
| Wish School Stakeholders | 4 |
| UConn Stakeholders       | 5 |
| Professional Development | 6 |
| Evaluations              | 7 |
| Key Takeaways            | 8 |
| Looking Ahead            | 9 |

*Get Active!  
Change the Game!*

## Program Overview

This year, Ready, Set, Read! focused its efforts on Kindergarten, first, and second grade students at Fred. D. Wish Elementary School. Weekly, during every Read Monday, Husky Sport Program Leaders and UConn student volunteers engaged students in reading and activities around the themes of nutrition, physical activity, and life skills. All lessons include a dynamic read aloud, a literary focus, and a fun activity with the aim to encourage a passion for reading.

## DIRECT ENGAGEMENT

One strength of the Ready, Set, Read! Program is the consistent opportunity for literacy comprehension and development for Wish School students. Each week, Husky Sport Program Leaders and UConn undergraduate volunteers engage students (from kindergarten through second grade) in a lesson plan centered on one of Husky Sport's foundational pillars: Nutrition, Physical Activity, Academic Enrichment or Life Skills.

|            |  |                              |
|------------|--|------------------------------|
| Cycle<br>1 | My Plate, Soccer<br>& Relationship Building          | 8 Program Leaders            |
| Cycle<br>2 | Fruit, Track and Field<br>& Responsibility           | 9 Classes                    |
| Cycle<br>3 | Vegetables, Volleyball<br>& Respect                  | 25 Lesson Plans              |
| Cycle<br>4 | Protein, Basketball,<br>& Be There - Be Ready        | 50 Lunch Bunch<br>Incentives |
| Cycle<br>5 | Grains, Dancing<br>& Follow Directions               | 125+ Books Read              |
| Cycle<br>6 | Dairy, Baseball/Softball<br>& Hands and Feet to Self | 200 Students                 |
| Cycle<br>7 | Sugar, Jump rope &<br>Teamwork                       |                              |

## STAKEHOLDERS: WISH SCHOOL

Student learning is at the center of all Ready, Set, Read! activities. With each lesson plan, Husky Sport hopes to engage students in a dynamic read aloud, an interactive game, and/or an activity centered on a life skill, physical activity or nutritional concept.



While participating in RSR! students receive PBIS Golden Tickets when they showcase one of the Wish School core values. These core values, known as the High Five Rules are:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Hands and Feet to Self
- Be There Be Ready
- Follow Directions

When a student has their golden ticket picked from the raffle, the prize is a special Lunch Bunch in our Husky Sport reading corner.



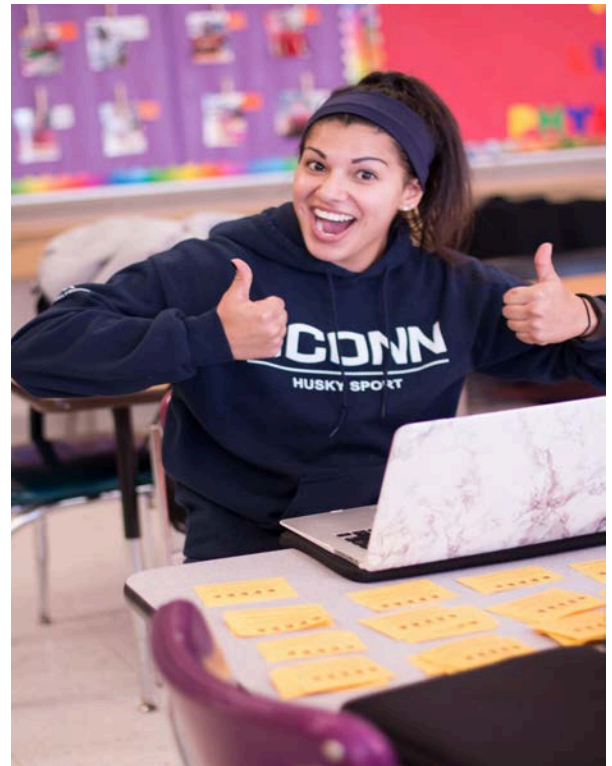
Classroom teachers are an integral part of the Ready, Set, Read! Program. In order to better support student learning, Program Leaders engage in conversations with classroom teachers around literacy concepts and classroom management. Classroom teachers are also encouraged to participate in the RSR! Program alongside their students and UConn staff to help reinforce key concepts and strengthen relationships with students.





## STAKEHOLDERS: UCONN

Program Leaders (PLs) collaborate in groups of three to design 3-4 week cycle lesson plans for students to participate in. PLs are in charge of researching and choosing an age appropriate, culturally appropriate, and engaging children's book to help students make connections to cycle themes. As a larger group, PLs participate in professional development to strengthen their skills in topics like classroom management, dynamic read-aloud practices, literacy skills building, and ELL development.



UConn Volunteers are an essential piece in the implementation of the Ready, Set, Read! Program. With the support of undergraduate students, program leaders are able to divide and engage during each lesson. During their visit to Hartford, volunteers assist in team building activities, encourage PBIS modeled behavior, and promote Husky Sport's four foundational pillars. UConn volunteers are encouraged to "Lock In" to a shift to build strong relationships with students in RSR!

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Each year Husky Sport Program Leaders participate in professional development to enhance their delivery of fun and engaging literacy skill building activities. Each month a professional development session is centered on a topic that related to delivering lessons, examining best practices, diversity in literacy, and analyzing the large educational system. Below are the topics RSR! Program leaders examining during this school year:

### October:

*Examining the differences between Achievement Gap and Opportunity Gap*

### November:

*Best Practices in Literacy Delivery*

### January:

*Lesson Planning Workshop*

### February:

*Developing curriculum for English Language Learners*

### March:

*Developing curriculum for English Language Learners*

### April:

*Year Review and Best Practices*

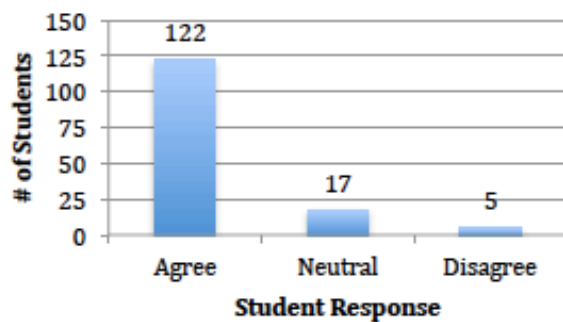


# EVALUATION

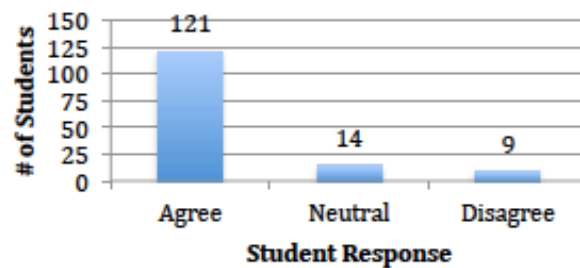
This year RSR! evaluations included an interactive survey. Utilizing the successes of previous academic year's efforts, students were engaged in the survey in an active way in order to gather input around literacy and Husky Sport's involvement with RSR! Here is what our approach looked like:

- # of students from kindergarten to second grade participated in the Ready, Set, Read! evaluations.
- Students rotated through four physically active obstacle course stations to answer a total of 15 evaluation questions.
- Using stickers, students answered each question by selecting

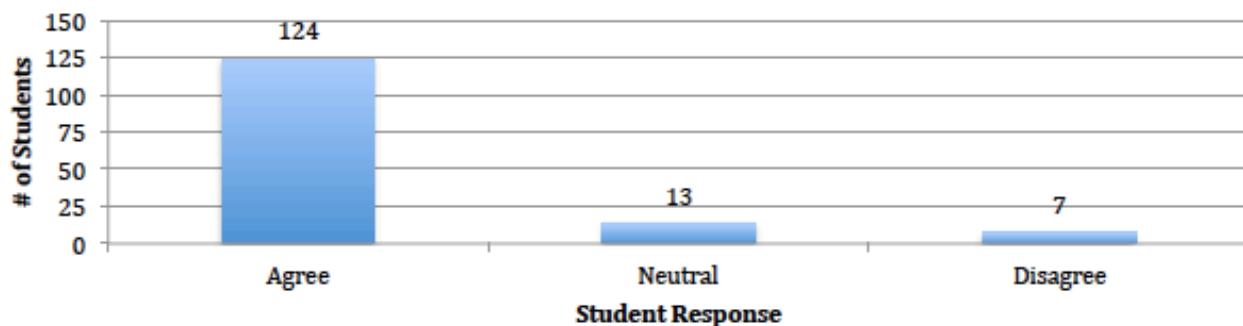
**It is very important to me to be a good reader**



**I enjoy when Husky Sport people write me Golden Tickets**



**I like when Husky Sport reads with me**





## KEY TAKEAWAYS

While reviewing the 2016-2017 Ready, Set, Read! program year, there were three essential areas in which Husky Sport stakeholders believed the program flourished:

### **Lesson plans:**

1. Creating to be fun and engaging.
2. Incorporation of culturally relevant books.

### **Professional development:**

1. Continuous discussion of choosing age and cultural appropriate books
2. Meeting with Wish School staff to learn about best practices proved to be beneficial for staff and students

### **Programming:**

1. Hands on learning during tasting week
2. Active physical engagement during RSR! Lessons and evaluations





## LOOKING AHEAD

### **Three Goals for 2017-2018**

In thinking towards the future of the Ready, Set, Read! Program there are three areas that have emerged as Husky Sport's goals. The following goals will provide guidance and structure through the implementation of the program in the coming year:

1. Creating more opportunities for program staff to participate in conversations around best practices for literacy and education
2. Being intentional in the selection of diverse books that deliver the intended message and help students connect to their lives
3. Developing fun and engaging lesson plans that help students understanding and embrace our foundational pillars and school-wide core values

