

North Dakota AFTERSCHOOL Update

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Josh Sharp

Program Administrator

21st Century Community Learning
Centers

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 201
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

Phone: (701) 328-2285

Fax: (701) 328-0203

Email: jesharp@nd.gov



Community Schools

By: Becky Mueller, Afterschool Partnership Coordinator
South East Education Cooperative

A few months ago, my South East Education Cooperative (SEEC) co-workers and I participated in a Community School webinar. Most recently, the North Dakota Afterschool Partnership team of Senator Kyle Davison, Assistant State Superintendent Laurie Matzke, 21st CCLC Project Director, Lori Zahradka, SEEC Director of Students Services, Amy Walters and I again, learned more about Community Schools as we attended the C.S. Mott Foundation Afterschool Network meeting in Detroit, Michigan.

Did you know?

- Community schools provide a host of opportunities and supports that can give students and parents tools they need to learn and grow while schools and communities connect, collaborate, and create
- Community schools utilize innovative approaches that expand learning opportunities before, during, and after school, during the summer and/or by extending the school day and year

A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development, and community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities. Community schools offer a personalized curriculum that emphasizes real-world learning and community problem-solving. Schools become centers of the community and are open to everyone all day, every day, evenings, and weekends.

Community Schools, continued

A community school coordinator works hand-in-hand with the principal, and is a member of the school leadership team. The coordinator is responsible for building relationships with school staff and community partners; engaging the families and community residents, and coordinating an efficient delivery of supports to students both inside and outside of the classroom, all day, every day. Data on academic and non-academic factors drive the work for a community school.

Using public schools as hubs, community schools bring together many partners to offer a range of supports and opportunities to children, youth, families and communities. Partners work to achieve these results: Children are ready to enter school; students attend school consistently; students are actively involved in learning and their community; families are increasingly involved with their children's education; schools are engaged with families and communities; students succeed academically; students are healthy - physically, socially, and emotionally; students live and learn in a safe, supportive, and stable environment; and communities are desirable places to live.

For more information on Community Schools, visit the [National Center for Community Schools](#).

Source: Coalition for Community Schools

Afterschool Network

Senator Kyle Davison, Assistant State Superintendent Laurie Matzke, Director of Student Services-SEEC Amy Walters, North Dakota Afterschool Partnership Lead Becky Mueller, White-Riley-Peterson Policy, and Lori Zahradka attended the 2016 Statewide Afterschool Networks meeting in Detroit, Michigan, April 18–21, 2016. The 2016 network meeting brought together leaders from all 50 states to highlight the continuing impact of the networks and to consider how innovative policies and partnerships can help create intentional and meaningful bridges to lifelong learning. This meeting also featured a strong emphasis on knowledge building and action planning, and workshops preparing network teams to work toward building capacity and designing powerful new strategies to strengthen afterschool systems in their states. Key areas of focus at this year's meeting included policy and partnerships; quality, research and data; sustainability and network development; and broadening engagement for student success.



“Death to the Drama Club”

The Devils Lake 21st CCLC program offers unique opportunities for students to take part in enrichment activities. Below is an article from the Devils Lake Journal talking about the afterschool drama club.

The play is comedy about a principal (Mrs. Grackle) that wants to cut the Drama Club because the school board members want to make budget cuts (and it doesn't help that she dislikes Miss Goldberg, the Drama Club teacher).

The school board decided to give the drama club one chance to save their club, but they only had one week to prepare and they had no money for royalties, costumes or a set to perform the Wizard of Oz. So what in the world did they do to save their club? The play was performed for the public on Thursday, March 10, 2016, at 7 p.m.

There were 43 students who worked very hard in preparation to perform this comedy that had audience members of all ages laughing. The play was directed by Leslie Elfman and assisted by Ashley Koester. Drama Club is supported by the local 21st CCLC grant.



Afterschool School Welding Club

Nine Grafton students in grades 5-8 are enrolled in the Afterschool Welding Club. Beginning in January, Mr. Bryan Stastny, welding instructor at North Valley Career-Tech Center, has met with the students each Tuesday and Thursday in his classroom to give the students the opportunity to learn about welding safety, identifying equipment, basic welding terms and welding. The project students are currently working on is making a decorative item by designing a pattern and welding horseshoes. North Dakota Skills USA State Officers, Aidan Heidt and Rylan Heidt, volunteer their time to help these middle school students explore the world of welding.



North Dakota State Program Administrator Updates

21st CCLC Grant Competition

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) 21st CCLC office is currently accepting applications for the 21st CCLC grant. The grant competition will close May 13, 2016. All [competition information](#) is posted on the NDDPI 21st CCLC website.

Tydings Waiver

On April 5, 2016 the NDDPI 21st CCLC office notified the public about an opportunity to apply for a tydings waiver to access funds that had previously been returned to the USDE. The press release stated NDDPI would take public comments on the waiver until April 22, 2016. After reviewing the comments, the NDDPI will move forward with applying for the tydings waiver. Information on the [tydings waiver](#) can be found on the NDDPI 21st CCLC website.

APR

This was the first year of a new APR system. There were some issues with the tool, but North Dakota sub-grantees were able to get all the information entered. The NDDPI office was able to certify the information entered. The USDE has announced a tentative timeline for entering the 15-16 APR data.

- Summer 2015 – April 30, 2016 – May 31, 2016
- Fall 2015 – June 1, 2016 – July 15, 2016
- Spring 2016 – July 16, 2016 – October 31, 2016

Afterschool Network

Afterschool professionals met for the first annual afterschool summit in Bismarck. Over 100 afterschool stakeholders participated in the conference. At the conclusion of the conference, the afterschool network team was told they would be invited to apply for an afterschool network grant. The afterschool network team is in the process of writing this grant.

Things to Look Watch:

- ESSA Updates
- Afterschool Network
- Tydings Wavier
- Summer Institute – Phoenix, AR July 19-21, 2016 – Registration information coming soon

21st CCLC Upcoming Conference

21st CCLC Summer Conference– West Fargo, ND
August 2-3, 2016

Out-of-school time providers, this is for you! Attend and experience a variety of professional learning opportunities to enhance quality in afterschool. From inspirational speakers to STEAM learning staff retention, this conference offers learning experiences for coordinators, teachers, leaders, and aides.

21st Century Community Learning Centers
SUMMER CONFERENCE

August 2-3, 2016
Avalon West, Fargo

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Watch for
INFORMATION & REGISTRATION
updates on www.ndseec.com.

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