

21st Century Community Learning Centers (21CCLC), Cohort 8 Grant Summary

Grant Overview: The purpose of the 21CCLC Cohort 8 program is to establish or expand community learning centers that provide students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools with academic enrichment opportunities by Expanding Learning Opportunities (ELO) during non-school hours along with activities designed to complement the students' regular academic program. Community learning centers must also offer families of these students literacy and related educational development. Centers, which can be located in elementary or secondary schools or other similarly accessible facilities, provide a range of high-quality services to support student learning and development, including tutoring and mentoring, homework help, academic enrichment (such as hands-on science or technology programs), and community service opportunities, as well as music, arts, sports and cultural activities. At the same time, centers help working parents by providing a safe environment for students during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session.

District administration proposes an application for funding to address the following Pennsylvania funding priority: preference will be given to qualified applicants with demonstrated previous experience and success in providing services to elementary, middle, and high school students in grades 2-12 and who propose offering STEM/STEAM services exclusively to students from eligible elementary, middle schools, and high schools in grades 2-12. Programs that integrate the proposed afterschool programming with existing research-based programs and that demonstrate effective utilization of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and have previous experience and success in providing STEM or STEAM, the addition of Arts education to STEM services, and in raising the awareness and understanding of students about STEM/STEAM activities by infusing STEM/STEAM into expanded learning opportunities, after school and summer programming and that meet the above criteria, could be eligible for up to ten extra priority points based upon the quality of their proposal.

The district proposal will establish an after school STEAM program for grades 6-8. The program will be similar in location, timing, and administration to the current 21CCLC Cohort 7 program for grades 2-5.

Amount of Award: \$193,400 per year for up to three years. Total of \$580,200.

Due Date/Notification of Award: Due August 5, 2015. Notification in September/October 2015.

Alternatives if not Awarded: None.

WCSD Resources Required: Space for programming to occur.

Administrative Recommendation: That the administration collaborate with community partners to develop a project for submission to the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant, Cohort 8, offering an after school STEAM program for students in grades 6-8 in the following schools: Sheffield Elementary, Sugar Grove Elementary, Youngsville Elementary Middle, Warren Area Elementary Center, and Tidioute Community Charter School.