

## **Heyer Elementary Community Learning Center Grant Statement of Need**

The City of Waukesha Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department (WPRF) desires to provide equitable access to afterschool activities at Heyer Elementary by applying for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The Community Learning Center Grant program would support, challenge, and develop students academically, physically, and socially. Heyer is a diverse Title1/ Improvement School, serving approximately 400 students from grades 4K through 5.

50.2% of families receive free/reduce lunch, 52.2% are Hispanic/Latino with 33.7% of students English as a second language learners. Socioeconomic status and language barriers result in inequities accessing resources needed for academic and social emotional success. Test scores from 2022 Forward, reflect a dire need for additional support with 70% of students performing below proficiency in English Language Arts (84.5% qualified free/reduce lunch) and 72.3% below proficiency in Math (85.5% qualify free/reduce).

Based on data derived from a needs assessment, two key needs of the target population will be addressed.

- 1) Academic support in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics and offering bilingual support services.
- 2) Reducing financial barriers to afterschool programming.

If funded the project will,

- 1) Offer students free extended school day learning opportunities in a safe, supportive environment.
- 2) Encourage students' effort to improve academic achievement and enhance physical, mental, and social wellbeing.
- 3) Assist bilingual students to develop English proficiency, reducing the learning gap between English Language Learners and their native English-Speaking peers.

**Grant Application Due by January 26, 2024.**

**Requested funds \$80,000 annually for five years = \$400,000**