

Location: Willard Middle School

1. How is the afterschool program aligned with the school day?

The program specialist is a part of the school governance committee and maintains a correspondence with both the principal and vice principal. Regular school day teachers run our Gardening, GSA, and Math Works programs. After school staff members run a grade level Academic Support Hour and are encouraged to visit teachers classrooms before the program to stay updated with homework and other student needs.

2. What differentiates the afterschool program from the school day?

The afterschool staff is able to connect with students on a level that is much different from the regular school day. Staff members are able to create a bond with students because we are not confined to a traditional classroom setting. Students are also exposed to different types of classes ranging from physical activities to Coding, Engineering, Hip-Hop Dance, Emceeing, Skateboarding, and more. Our enrichment classes are popular to students that are interested in these areas, and spark a new interest in kids that aren't familiar.

3. If there is a BEARS program at your site, how are the two programs blended?

Our site only holds a LEARNS program

4. What are your site's goals for the year?

This year we are focusing on staff development through the following goals: 1. Collaborating with other schools to share and brainstorm successful enrichment activities. 2. Using staff meetings to help facilitate conversation between afterschool and the teaching staff. 3. Developing and delivering new ways to increase the effectiveness of the academic support hour.