

Project Title: After School Study and Enrichment program for Middle Schools

Total Budget Amount Requested: 75,000.

Short Project Summary: This project funds enhanced learning for 340 middle school students in VCUSD after school programs. At risk students will get tutoring. Artistic enrichment classes, Sports, & STEM (Science, Tech, engineering and math) Club projects would also be funded.

Full Names of all the Delegates: Laurene Mezzacappa

One e-mail address for the PB staff to send a confirmation that the proposal was received:

Detailed project description:

340 Middle School Students ages 11-13 will have access to and will potentially benefit from this proposal in ways that are listed below. This age group was targeted because this is the age when students are frequently no longer supervised at home after school. Finding themselves without adult supervision and with lots of free time middle school students are often faced with many new choices and if they make the wrong choices it could negatively impact the rest of their lives. This is a time when they most need to be in a safe, nurturing environment after school that offers them choices that will have a positive effect on their future. Positive choices that would be offered through this proposal are described below.

The intent of the After School Study and Enrichment Program for Middle School Project is to provide resources to existing Expanded Learning Programs at three Vallejo City Unified School District Middle Schools (Franklin, Hogan and Solano) to extend the academic, enrichment and sports offerings at these sites. These three components will run concurrently at each school as described below.

Project Description – Three Components

Academic Support

The Expanded Learning Program currently provides academic support to enrolled students through a dedicated homework time. Program staff are available to answer questions as needed. The After School Study and Enrichment Program for Middle Schools will strengthen the academic support through offering students at risk of failing one or more classes intensive intervention delivered by an educational service provider. The provider will conduct a pre-assessment and use that measure along with school benchmarks and teacher recommendations to group students in academically homogeneous groups of 6:1. The intervention is a of 36 hours in either English Language Arts or Mathematics delivered four times a week in one hour sessions. All programs are designed to maximize student participation, teacher-student relations, and peer-to-peer interaction by providing constant positive feedback in a motivational setting.

Academic Deliverables: At each of the three middle school sites, 24 students (72 across three schools) will receive 36 hours of intensive intervention in Language Arts or Math provided through a contract with an educational services provider. This instruction will occur in the fall of the implementation year so students are better prepared to succeed in their regular classes.

Arts and STEM Enrichment

VCUSD will contract with bay area artists to bring a variety of high interest clubs and courses to students. These artist residencies place a teaching artist into the program for a period of 6 to 16 sessions, offering students the chance to experience an art form close-up, hands-on and for an extended period. Residencies are geared toward forging deep connections and fostering creativity. The Enrichment component will also include STEM learning at the schools. Students will be able to learn the practical and enjoyable skill of coding. This class teaches students how to code websites and make their own mobile applications.

Enrichment Programming Deliverables:

At each of the three middle schools, Young Audiences of Northern California will provide arts programming. Courses typically serve approximately 15 students depending on the type of course. A course will typically meet for 6-16 hours. The budget allows for approximately three courses per school site. Schools will be able to choose from a variety of visual and performing arts such as circus arts, photography, Hip Hop dance, jazz dance, theater and drawing. These courses would run fall, winter and spring and would serve about 45 per site for a total of 145 students. The STEM program would serve 10 students at each site during ten sessions of an hour and a half (15 hours) with a total of 30 students benefitting from this programming. The enrichment portion will serve approximately 175 students.

Intramural Sports

The ExLP will contract with Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD) to provide a intramural sports programming at the three middle schools facilitated by trained coaches. Three sports will coincide with the fall, winter and spring seasons. We will offer flag-football, basketball and soccer.

Intramural Sports Deliverables:

GVRD will provide coaches to coach and supervise three sports seasons for eight weeks per season for approximately 20-40 students per sport, per school site. This component will serve approximately 270 students through the year.

Student Recruitment

Any student enrolled in the school is eligible to apply for the Expanded Learning Program (ExLP), and would be eligible to attend the clubs and classes made available through this project. The middle schools recruit students to enroll in the ExLP through a flyer/application distributed to all students in their orientation packet at the beginning of the year. During the school year additional advertising, such as phone calls home, assemblies and lunchtime events provide programs opportunities to recruit more students into the program. Priority enrollment is given to homeless and foster youth and students from low income homes as defined by meal program applications, typically 75%. Recruitment for the Academic Support portion of the project will be done through teacher referrals and analysis of grades and test scores. Flyers for the enrichment and sports classes will be created to encourage enrollment in these clubs. Attendance will be taken for each class or club. The district will verify the income of the participants through their meal program status to ensure that the requirement of the funding benefiting low to moderate income youth is met.

Contract Vendor Requirements

All contract vendors must provide the following to work in the district:

All staff that will work with students must have:

Current (within last 60 days) negative TB test

Department of Justice Clearance

Insurance Coverage at the following level: Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability (\$1,000,000), Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability Insurance (\$1,000,000), and Professional Liability (\$1,000,000).

What type of project? This is a program/Services project.

Why is this project needed?

This project is needed for many reasons. First and foremost because a large percentage of students in the after school Expanded Learning Program are at risk of failing one or more classes and because many have no quiet place to do school work and have no assistance they are in need of additional academic support. Since at VCUSD middle schools. 75% of our youth live under the stress of urban poverty where resources are not available for fee based enrichment and sports programs this proposal is needed to fill the gap that was left when enrichment and sports programs were dropped from the regular school day. Because enrichment classes like visual and performing Arts and STEM classes provide an outlet for appropriate self expression, and creativity and give students a chance to explore activities they might be good at (students may even discover career possibilities) they build self esteem. Therefore these currently unavailable programs are still needed because they are an important part of healthy youth development.

How will the project address or solve this need and/or problem? The project will provide supervised after school programs to improve academic performance, health and exposure to activities otherwise unavailable. Through the use of additional funds provided through Participatory Budget, VCUSD Expanded Learning Programs will contract with an educational services company or with local teachers to deliver evidence based academic intervention services to students identified as at risk of failing either language arts or math classes. VCUSD will also contract with providers to deliver the enrichment and sports programming. Through this funding the program will be able to offer effective small group tutoring and enrichment and sports programs. These interventions may make the difference between a student that stays in school until they graduate successful and one that becomes a drop out statistic.

Describe in detail how residents, visitors, groups, communities, geographic areas, or the City of Vallejo will benefit from this project? All middle schools will be involved in the after school enrichment program thereby benefiting the entire city. The city also benefits as students are more successful and have less unsupervised time. There are studies suggesting that for every dollar spent on after school programs that the community has a financial benefit of anywhere from 3-9 dollars. So the investment of 75,000 will represent a value from \$225 to 675,000 to the community of Vallejo. Youth.gov outlines the things after-school programs can improve such as Classroom Behavior, Drug Use, Physical Activity, Dietary

Habits. Through the use of additional funds provided through Participatory Budget, VCUSD Expanded Learning Programs will contract with an educational services company or with local teachers to deliver evidence based academic intervention services to students identified as at risk of failing either language arts or math classes. VCUSD will also contract with providers to deliver the enrichment and sports programming. This investment in Vallejo youth will impact the participants academic, physical and socio-emotional health in a positive way that will carry on into their future. When our youth thrive everyone benefits.

Describe the potential challenges and/or obstacles for this project. Maintaining student interest in the academic or study portion of the program is always a challenge. Because we are expanding on an existing program most obstacles have already been addressed. One challenge might be in our ability to identify and vet quality vendors to deliver enrichment programming beyond the current list. We have experience in this endeavor but it is always a challenge when we are looking to expand.

Who will implement the project? VCUSD/Carole Lewis as lead.

Where will the project be implemented? All three middle schools in the VCUSD school district

Upload an itemized budget- Budget proposal will be submitted as an attachment.

Describe the project timeline/schedule. The programs will run from the Fall through the Spring.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGET CYCLE 6

Middle School Success

	VCUSD Contribution	PB Request	VCUSD Contribution	PB Request	Project Total
	Per Site	Per Class	Multiple Sites	Multiple Sites	
Administration and Management	\$ 3,500.00		\$ 10,500.00		
Contract with educational service company	\$ 1,967.00	\$ 13,824.00	\$ 5,901.00	\$ 41,472.00	
VCUSD Facilities for Academics (\$25.00/hr)	\$ 2,700.00		\$ 8,100.00		
Contracts for Enrichment Clubs		\$ 5,516.00		\$ 16,548.00	
VCUSD Facilities for Clubs (\$25.00/hr)	\$ 3,300.00		\$ 9,900.00		
Contract for Sports Program		\$ 5,660.00		\$ 16,980.00	
VCUSD Facilities for sports (\$25/hr)	\$ 1,575.00		\$ 4,725.00		
Bus Transportation	\$ 675.00		\$ 2,025.00		
Total	\$ 13,717.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 41,151.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$116,151.00

Total Cost	VCUSD Contribution	PB Request	VCUSD Contribution	PB Request	Project Total
		\$13,717.00	\$25,000.00	\$41,151.00	\$75,000.00

Total Cost of VCUSD Contribution	
Middle School Success	\$41,151.00
Total Cost of PB Request	
Middle School Success	\$75,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$116,151.00
% SHARE OF VCUSD	35.43%
% REQUESTED OF PB	64.57%