

Program Goals and Outcomes

Statements and Goal Descriptions:

Academic Enrichment- The goal of academic enrichment is to provide curricula that increase a student's readiness to explore and engage in core educational concepts.

- *College readiness* – Through enriching curricula that complements and supports their school-day course work, students will gain the skills to prepare for college. Students will demonstrate the ability to express informed opinions, work on time management skills and practice leadership development and self-reliance. Furthermore, students will develop awareness of careers they aspire to pursue in the future.
- *Language Arts*– Students will demonstrate the ability to express clear and concise thoughts, think creatively and show an appreciation for reading, writing and verbal communication.
- *Research Readiness*- Students will be able to research material effectively from reliable and creditable sources.
- *Environmental Literacy* – Students increase awareness of surroundings and ask the questions “How does my living environment affect my community?” and “How can we work towards environmental sustainability on a local level?”
- *STEM Literacy* – Science, technology, engineering and math are integrated in our academic enrichment programming to provide students with activities and learning tools that will spark creativity and academic readiness.

Social and Emotional Health - The goal of social and emotional health is prepare students for the changes that occur in key developmental years. Students will acquire a set of skills that prepare them mentally, psychically and emotionally for challenging ventures in life.

- *Sexual and Reproductive Health* – The goal of this subset is to provide students with a clear and concise understanding of sexual health and the emotions that follow. Students will learn the anatomy of the body in relation to puberty. Through small group workshops, students will learn about healthy decision-making regarding sex. Furthermore, a vast array of resources regarding these topics will be available to youth.
- *Self-Advocacy* – This subset promotes the development of positive self-image and self-respect. Students will be given the tools needed to express themselves truthfully and assertively. Students will be provided the resources they need to stand up for themselves and their beliefs. Students will gain a positive view of their future.
- *Health and Wellness*- This subset promotes positive approaches to healthy living, including healthy eating, positive decision-making and long-term and short-term goal-setting.

- *Cultural Enrichment*– Participants will increase awareness of the cultures within and outside their community. The aim of this subset is to increase open-mindedness to celebrate our cultural, racial and ethnic backgrounds rather than creating any stereotypes and biases. Overall, our programming will improve participants’ sense of the cultural inflections of their community.

Youth Leadership- The goal Y.L is to empower students to become leaders in their community. Through leadership-building activities, students will have a chance to positively express themselves and discover their unique voice and leadership style.

- *Service Learning*- In exploring community issues, students advocate for specific community issues that need attention. Through the course of identifying their issue, students coordinate an action or service needed to bring awareness and/or a solution to the issue. Through the planning process, students acquire the ability to identify an issue, research the topic, spread awareness and unite community members.
- *YL Health and Wellness* – Students will be able to assess their own needs, think critically and make healthy decisions.
- *Work Readiness/Professional Development* – Students learn leadership and responsibility through a variety of trainings and workshops on peer mediation, time management, teen leader positions and investment/savings.
- *Self-Advocacy* – Through an extensive curriculum and enriching activities, students will be able to utilize skills in public speaking, outreach and facilitation. Students articulate themselves truthfully and honestly in front of their peers, community members, school partners and other community stakeholders.

Civic Engagement- Students participate in their community through democratic processes such as voting, community organizing, policy formation, participation in civic organizations and volunteering.

- *Partnerships* – Students partner with community members of all ages to bring about awareness about specific community issues and create solidarity.
- *Advocacy and Service Learning* –Students gain the skills necessary to speak up for what they believe. Students will be ready to speak on behalf of community members and for people whose voices cannot be heard. Through this process student will learn the value of civic engagement and provide positive services to the community.
- *Community Partnerships* – Students advocate for issues relevant to community needs and responses. Students gain support from community members and create solidarity for recognized.
- *Cultural Enrichment* – Our curriculum provides students with the means to understand different cultural values and form partnerships with cultural organizations.