



LEAPing to Success

Eldon R-1 Schools Learning Enriched Afterschool Program

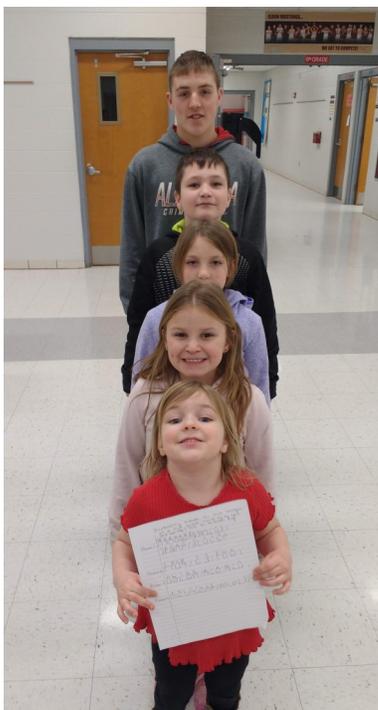
Afterschool for All Challenge 2019

Afterschool Works by providing a safe and healthy place for kids to assist working families and inspire learning.

The Learning Enriched Afterschool Program is a 21st Century Community Learning Center. Through federal funding, local school funding, and community partnerships, LEAP provides a safe and healthy location for students in grades Pre-K to 12th grade. Students receive homework help, extended math, reading, and science lessons, enrichment and community impact opportunities, and wellness and nutrition activities. LEAP starts at 3pm and ends at 5:45pm including dinner and transportation home. LEAP serves over 450 students each evening and over 850 different students through the year. While 85% of students served qualify for free or reduced lunch, LEAP serves a diverse population and promotes afterschool for all students. It is the goal of LEAP teachers and staff to engage students in their learning and help students set goals, identify areas of interest, and prepare for future careers.

Safe, Supervised & Healthy Afterschool Hours

With juvenile crime peaking during the hours of 3-8pm and many working parents on the job site until later in the evening, LEAP provides a safe location for kids. Parents are more effective employees when they are not concerned about where their student is afterschool. LEAP provides a nutritious snack & dinner, a much needed meal for many of our students. Students are also engaged in activities to grow their minds & bodies. Mustangs in Motion is a partnership between LEAP, PAVE AmeriCorps & Mustang Wellness, a grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health. This program allows students to explore athletics at no cost to parents, allowing access for students of all economic status.



Engaging Families:

Family engagement is a key component of LEAP. Throughout the year families are invited to participate in the program through family events like Thanksgiving Dinner, STEAM Nights, and the Bubble and Glow 5K fun run. In addition to family nights, LEAP provides a variety of adult education courses for family caretakers.

Inspiring Learning

When students are engaged in their learning, incredible gains can occur. LEAP not only supports the regular day homework help and reading, math, and science enrichment, but also allows student choice in a variety of programs. From robotics to cooking to Pokémon to animals to tea parties, LEAP engages students in learning while developing students to be leaders and encouraging personal responsibility for actions. Older students serve as mentors for younger students and even teach lessons. Students also volunteer in the community providing services like mulching plants, baking dog biscuits, ringing bells, and reading to the elderly.





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Impacting Communities:

LEAP students and teachers impact our community through a variety of service projects. From singing or reading to our elderly friends at local residence facilities to packing our weekend food packs for Eldon students to Good Deeds Middle School painting hydrants in the community., students help plan events, learn how to interact politely with the public and learn social norms they may not know. This key practice is one strategy for engaging students in poverty and empowering them to stop the cycle.

LEAP also partners with a variety of organizations in our community to mentor students, provide volunteers, and as a way to obtain funding for various LEAP projects, like when the FLL Robotics Team qualified for a trip to Houston to compete at the World FIRST Championship. The local investment is a key part of successful afterschool programs.



Developing Career Skills

Through a variety of learning experiences, students not only have fun at LEAP, but learn skills that will assist them throughout their education and in their future careers. LEAP provides opportunities for career exploration and applies academics to real world scenarios. Students are engaged in their choice of learning and take ownership of the program by providing suggestions and choices about programming they want to experience.

Helping Working Families—AM LEAP

Many of our parents work in surrounding towns. AM LEAP offers before school care for students starting an hour before the regular day starts. This time is used for homework time, coding, yoga, social skill development, chess club, and many other activities depending on the site. AM LEAP was a key part of our district's successful move to a later start time.

