



Community Education

- It has been a very interesting summer with all of the rain, it has definitely been a challenge for outside programming. With that said, I want to say thank you to all of our instructors for being extremely creative in making sure that our kids are getting chances to participate and be active. Whether it has meant playing T-Ball and Toss Ball inside, or trying to reschedule on nights that fit everyone's busy summer schedules our instructors have been stellar, and have not let a little weather deter what matters, having loads of fun just being a kid!
- I would like to highlight the success of the summer production of the play Hansel and Gretel. The play was produced and directed by the Storybook Theater Company. As you may recall the former group that we used to use Prairie Fire Theater Company went out of business due to a lack of bookings during COVID. This led to the cancellation of summer theater for last year. So when the opportunity arose this year to have a chance to bring summer theater back we were very excited. We had over 150 people attend the two performances.
- Work has already begun on the 2024 Fall Brochure, which will be out the second week in September. I am excited to be offering some new classes once again this fall. As always we are always looking to expand our program to include new educational experiences for all ages. If you would like to share your talents or know of someone who would be willing to share his or her talents please contact the LPGE Community Education Office at our new number 320-357-3695

21CCLC

- On June 25th our 21st Century program had a formal visit from the Minnesota Department of Education. This visit is intended to be a way for the Department Staff to audit for high-quality programming, fiscal responsibility, and community involvement. The representative that visited our program was very impressed with all of the services that the grant provides our students and community. Thank you to all of our staff, students, and community members who volunteered to help us with this very important day! The following is an email that was received from Kate following her visit:

Hello Alyssa, Brad, and 21CCLC team,

I wanted to write to thank you for welcoming me into your program in Long Prairie on Tuesday. I am so happy I got to visit the elementary school, high school, and Chamber of Commerce to learn about all the elements of your program and how they weave together to really support the youth and families in your community. Your program is an excellent example of 21CCLC funding in use for not only high-quality programming, but for also connecting and integrating the community and local partnerships. Wow!

I am so happy I got to visit.

Thank you!

Kate Gray (She/Her)

21CCLC Expanded Learning Opportunities Specialist

- Thunder Summer Academy is currently in session and we have a record number of students signed up and attending. There are 184 students signed up in the program, and we have averaged between 135-and 160 students that are attending daily. We still have one week remaining in August. Summer Academy runs Monday-Thursday from 7:30 am until 12:30 pm.. This year again we are offering social-emotional learning time into each day's schedule. The Academy's programming focuses on reading, math, and science. Another fun thing about TSA is the chance to learn about things outside of our school. On June 27th all of the students were able to take a trip to the Camp Ripley Minnesota Military Museum and learn about the rich history of the Minnesota's Military. This year we are also very fortunate to bring to our school two very cool programs, The National Eagle Center, and Science Made. The National Eagle Center program focuses on the ecology, biology and natural history of eagles in Minnesota and the United States. The museum will be visiting us on Thursday, July 11th. Science Made will be making a presentation on geology and rock formations that are found throughout our region and how that has played a part in agriculture, business, and recreation.
- Alyssa Scheve and I have completed the financial and program updates for next year's 21st Century Grant. This process is meant to help you evaluate the success of the grant, and how it is meeting the educational and financial needs of the community and school. This information will be reviewed and edited by the administrators of the grant, the Minnesota Department of Education, and the Federal Government. The finding will be shared with our Stakeholders Group and modifications will be made if necessary. Next year's grant will once again bring programs and funding to our school and community of over \$364,000.
- As a reminder we have a number of student classes happening in August this year. Many of these classes are full, but we do have the option to add classes if needed. If you know of any students looking for something educational have them check out our online store located on the LPGE Website.

Federal Programs

- Throughout May and June I have been working on the Title Application and Budget for next year's school year. This year's application timeline was moved up making June 30th the deadline instead of August 30. This process has a narrative that includes our goals and programming that our school district is going to use to reach our achievement goals. The other major component of the Title Application is the budget of funds received. The narrative must match the funds that are being spent to prove that we are spending funds only on our programming goals. These goals have been developed by parent involvement, student achievement data, and needs assessment review. The entire application was submitted and we are waiting on final approval from the Minnesota Department of Education.