

The Ludlow AfterSchool Program Report 2006-2007

The Ludlow AfterSchool Program (LASP) is in its third year in the district. The program is funded primarily by a 21st Century Community Learning Center (CCLC) grant. The 21st CCLC Program is a key component of President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act. It is an opportunity after the school day has ended for students to continue to learn new skills and discover new abilities, as well as provide support students with learning and making healthy life choices. We are in the third year of a five-year grant that provides funding for the 6-8 grade program in Ludlow and the K-6 grade program in Mt. Holly. In addition, we received assistance from the Black River Area Community Coalition in the form of a donation, plus in-kind donations of their time and effort.

Some of our achievements this year:

-- The Program received a Community Dollars grant from our local Ludlow Chittenden Bank branch. By successfully promoting Chittenden's Socially Responsible Banking program, the branch staff received Community Dollars to invest in local non-profit organizations of their choice. Chittenden's Ludlow branch chose the AfterSchool Program to receive the award in recognition of their contribution to the community.

-- The Program won a state SPARK's grant (Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids). This included \$800 worth of sports equipment, plus money for one person's salary to run the program. The SPARK curriculum is designed to

-- Received funding from the 21st CCLC to expand in Mt. Holly Elementary School from 4-6 to K-6.

Our goals for next year are to incorporate the Ludlow Elementary School After School Program into the LASP. Plus find funds for continuing sustainability as our state funds start to be reduced in years 4-5 of the grant. We are also exploring the possibility of combining offerings with the Town Recreation Department and Fletcher Memorial Library to complete a comprehensive offering of afterschool opportunities to students in the community.

About the Program:

Students meet Monday through Thursday from 2:15 until 5 p.m. Transportation home for Ludlow students is provided by the Ludlow Municipal Bus Service. The bus also drops Mt. Holly students off at Harry's.

The AfterSchool Program is staffed by school faculty for the Homework Club and school faculty and community members for the Activities. Students are supervised throughout the entire program.

Most of the activities are also located on site at the high school and elementary schools. A few activities are located offsite at community businesses.

Because of state funding we are required to report academic information. In both years of the program, we saw a significant increase in grades for participating students from the start to end of the program. Our goal for this year is to keep students at a consistent performing rate and to reduce the numbers in the F-B-Gone program for failing students. It is also our goal to provide a safe environment for students during a time where they can be susceptible to high-risk behaviors.

The program has a website which provides current information about the program, schedule, and updates. In addition there are forms for parents to download for sign up and information for community members and business on how they can become involved. The website is at www.ludlowafterschool.org.

Descriptions of some of the activities offered:

Activity Room - Offered every day throughout the year. A room is set aside for less formal activities, such as one-time events, or board and card games, art projects, etc.

Art Club, Art of Poetry, Cooking for Kids, Winter Sports, Digital Photography, Fun with Science, Indoor/Outdoor Sports, International Flavors - Students will learn to cook meals from different cultures, Kayaking, Knitting, Crocheting, Pizza-making, Potions and Lotions – Students make homemade beauty items such as soaps, lotions, conditioners, etc., Swimming at Jackson Gore, Video Production and Website Design

For more information:

Parents and community members can learn more about the program by visiting the website (www.ludlowafterschool.org) or contacting the program by calling 802.228.4652 or writing to Ludlow AfterSchool Program, 43 Main Street, Ludlow, VT 05149, or emailing pipkinj@brhsms.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Pipkin
Program Director