



# 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS AFTERSCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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## AGS STUDENTS CREATE BLANKETS FOR GREAT CAUSE

The "Bunny's Blanket Buddies Project" began last year after the passing of Hunter K. Braddee. Hunter's Mom, Mrs. Gibbs, is a teacher for the 21st CCLC Afterschool Program at AG South. AGS Site Coordinator Mrs. Williams started devoting afterschool time to blanket creation, and the students loved it.

"Afterschool is a good setting [to create blankets] because we are working on developing kids' academic skills and character as well, and we have extended time with these kids," Mrs. Williams said. The best part is that all the blankets are donated to pediatric patients at Uniontown Hospital.

Mrs. Williams said the blanket project has doubled in size in the past year and she hopes to expand to include UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh soon. "I think [the students] enjoy being able to do something for someone else," Mrs. Williams said.

## EXCITING CHANGES TO THIS YEAR'S SUMMER SCHOOL

While there are some important components to this year's summer school that will remain the same, there are also many changes. The most notable of which is that this year's 21st CCLC summer school will focus entirely on in-person instruction.

An equally important note is the switch in summer school location from Margaret Bell Miller Middle School to Waynesburg Central Elementary School for Central Greene School District 6th-8th graders. The main reasons for the switch are air conditioning, a larger outside recreation area, and easier access to food. Margaret Bell will still remain as the location for afterschool programming.

Summer school has also been extended to eight weeks. The program will begin on Monday, June 14 and conclude on Thursday, August 5. The program days are still Monday-Thursday, and the hours are 9am-12:30pm.

## NEW PROGRAM PARTNERS AIM TO MAKE IMMEDIATE IMPACT

Two new program partners are very welcome additions to 21st CCLC Afterschool Program instruction: The Greene County Drug & Alcohol Program and The Yoga Garden.

Greene County D&A's Tracie Sypin is providing prevention counseling to Margaret Bell Miller Middle School students, and The Yoga Garden's Courtney Singer is teaching Albert Gallatin middle schoolers how to do yoga. Mrs. Sypin and Mrs. Singer both joined afterschool programming in April.

It stands to reason that the afterschool program will benefit from the passion and knowledge brought by the instructors to these new partnerships.

"From the time I was little, I always wanted to be a teacher so naturally I pursued a degree in Education," Mrs. Sypin said. "Although the subject content that I teach now is different than what I had initially planned, seeing students learn new things and being able to help educate them is my favorite part."



ALLEIGH MOSAKO, CAMILA DAVILA MONROY, AND IAN ZIGLEAR (PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) PARTICIPATING IN A YOGA SESSION.

## SPELLING BEES PRODUCE HEALTHY COMPETITION

In Year 2 of the 21st CCLC Afterschool annual Spelling Bees, conducted in April, the competition ratcheted up. When the dust settled there were three first place finishers: Josh Stanton from AG North, Jace Plum at AG South, and Noah Willard (pictured holding his certificate) for Margaret Bell.

First place finishers had a choice between a 10-pack of Sharpies, 50-pack of colored pencils, or a Five Star notebook. Josh Stanton said he chose the notebook because he likes to write down his feelings and lyrics.

When asked if he was surprised to win the AGN Spelling Bee Stanton said, "No, because I am good at spelling." Stanton plans to compete in future Spelling Bees.

AGS Spelling Bee champ Jace Plum admitted he was surprised to win, "but pulled through because I studied." When asked about competing in future Spelling Bees Plum said, "I'd do it again because I like winning." The Spelling Bee will be an annual afterschool fixture every April.

### COMMENTS?

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