

Sanford Middle School

Community Education

2016-2017 Year In Review



Program Highlights

We had **550 students** attend five or more days of afterschool programming and **245** of those students participated in the program **30 days** or more. When students participate for 30 days or more, research shows that a youth program has a significant positive impact on child/teen development. Sanford Food Service staff operated our **hot dinner program** and provided healthy meals to an average of **190 students** each night. Almost 200 students were surveyed TWICE this year, allowing for a youth-driven and student-informed array of activities and classes – around **50 unique classes to choose from** each session!



Leadership and Responsibility

Sanford's 16-member Service Learning Group joined forces with over 200 peers to celebrate National Youth Service Day in May. Together they created multi-media messages about early literacy, food insecurity, community building and environmentalism.



The 15 students of our GSA (Gender & Sexuality Alliance) delivered school-wide advisory lessons to educate the faculty and student body on the motives and purpose behind the National Day of Silence, then led peers in observance of the day.



A representative group of **6 Sanford students** joined 150 MCE participants for Youth Day at the Capitol in March. They had a meeting with representative Patricia Torres Rey and were a part of democracy in action.

Communication and Self Expression



8 members of Sanford's Feminist Club met all year long under the leadership of two Sanford alumni and Feminist Club co-founders, then completed a 6-week partnership with two teaching artists from the History Theatre. They produced a performance piece demonstrating their perspective on feminist movements of the past and present.

40 students practiced the art of debate and earned the status of **city-wide champions** for the 2nd year in a row!

Sanford Theater produced **3 plays** this year: *High School Musical*, *Xanadu*, and *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. These productions engaged nearly **100 actors, 20 set designers and artists, 20 costume and hair/make-up designers, and 20 tech crew members**.

8 students each completed a large-scale paper mache puppet representing winter spirits this fall, and an enclosed stick-puppet 'peep show' this winter. They took their puppets to Howe elementary to **share them with younger students** this winter.



Skills Acquisition and Problem Solving

Students took advantage of the **opportunity to try new things** and came away with **new skills**: television production and news casting, piano playing, being in a rock band, hula hooping, metal casting, soccer, jewelry making, knitting and much more!



22 young mechanics apprenticed with a local expert and built their own bikes from up-cycled parts! Consistent participants earned the reward of taking home their **custom-built bike** along with a helmet and U-lock to keep.

Sanford's chess program grew from 8 Students to a **team of 20** this year! Chess masters tested their skills by participating in 5 Chess Tournaments and taking home the title of **1st place** in Minneapolis and **6th place** in the state.



10 aspiring journalists approached the coordinator this winter with a proposal to start a print newsletter entitled Hawk News, and they did! In its first season it **published 3 issues** and the Sanford readership await next year's volume eagerly.

Social and Cross-Cultural Skills

Our year-round soccer program engaged over 70 students representing all racial/ethnic demographics at Sanford. Through the leadership of coaches Elate and Daza, players learned and reflected on the value of communication and cooperation. Several players in the fall were on Sanford's soccer team and took home the **district's 1st place trophy**.

CDF American Indian Freedom School, now in its second year at Sanford, engaged **6 students** at 30 or more days of attendance in culturally relevant literacy support and community building.



Five 8th grade student leaders attended the Latino Youth Leadership Conference and explored what it **means to be Latino in 2017**.

Minneapolis YWCA facilitated 3 different age-specific groups for Sanford girls, supporting 25 girls in timely exploration of relationships, careers, and sisterhood.

Student Voice & Ideas

Students are the core of our program and activities! Youth Voice informs our class offerings, our discipline policy and procedures, and our special events/field trips.

Through the Survey of Academic and Youth Outcomes (SAYO) we found:

- **95%** of students said they can always find things that they like to do here
- **92%** of students identified an adult here who they will listen to and respect
- **87%** of students reported that kids here are friendly with each other and **90%** reported that they have a lot of good friends here
- **97%** of students said they will graduate from high school while **96%** said they will go to college



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