



**NEWS RELEASE**

For more information contact Betty VanDeventer at [betty.vandeventer@nebraska.gov](mailto:betty.vandeventer@nebraska.gov) or 402.471.4537

## **STATE ED BOARD ANNOUNCES GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS**

Afterschool and expanded learning opportunities will soon be available at four new sites in the Nebraska communities of Bayard, Cedar Bluffs, O'Neill and Wood River.

Federal grant funds are awarded to support community learning centers serving students attending schools with high needs. During non-school hours, these programs offer hands-on learning and activities to meet student needs. The State Board of Education approved grants for the following new programs:

- Bayard Public Schools received a \$69,320 federal grant for a program at Bayard Elementary School.
- Cedar Bluffs Public Schools received an \$83,250 federal grant for a program at Cedar Bluffs Elementary School.
- O'Neill Public Schools received a \$50,000 federal grant for a program at O'Neill Secondary School.
- Wood River Rural Schools received a \$60,550 federal grant for a program at Wood River Elementary School.

In addition, nine quality programs at 17 schools across the state will continue to receive federal grants for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center programs. These grants are available for five years. The programs are:

- Achievers Consortium's programs at Crawford Elementary School in Crawford, Gordon Elementary School in Gordon and Rushville Elementary School in Rushville received a \$94,500 federal grant.
- Chadron Public Schools' program at Chadron Intermediate School received a \$50,050 federal grant.
- Collective for Youth's program in Omaha at Monroe Middle School received a \$50,000 federal grant.
- Crete Public Schools' program at Crete Elementary School received a \$68,250 federal grant.

- Garden County Schools' program at Garden County Elementary School received a \$50,000 federal grant.
- Kearney Public Schools' programs at Northeast Elementary School and Sunrise Middle School received a \$90,057 federal grant.
- Lincoln Public Schools' programs at Arnold Elementary School, McPhee Elementary School, Norwood Park Elementary School and Dawes Middle School received a \$140,940 federal grant.
- Lincoln Public Schools' programs at Calvert Elementary School, Park Middle School and North Star High School received a \$143,985 federal grant.
- Minatare Public Schools' program at Minatare Elementary School received a \$50,000 federal grant.

The primary goals of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers are improved student learning, increased social benefits and positive behavioral changes as well as increased family and community engagement in Nebraska schools.

Over the past 12 years, the Nebraska Department of Education has awarded federal grants for students at more than 100 different sites in over 25 Nebraska communities. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers program is funded under Title IV, Part B, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.