



# BSS Afterschool Program: Fall Newsletter

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM STUDENTS MAKING TACO DIP

IN THIS ISSUE: PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

## Daily Schedule and Enrichment

We're very pleased to welcome you to the premiere issue of the BSS Afterschool Program Newsletter! We've been up to a lot these last few months, and we wanted to share with you some of the exciting lessons and activities your kids have been up to!

Every day, the students get homework help and literacy or math intervention for an hour, followed by an enrichment activity that varies day to day. They end the program each day with a hot meal.

One of the most common enrichment activities, and a favorite among the students, is cooking. They spent the majority of October getting an introduction to the kitchen, which included kitchen safety and guidelines for cooking. Their first

recipe, taco dip, was a huge hit! During this lesson, the students were taught hospitality skills as they learned how to make their table an inviting place to eat.



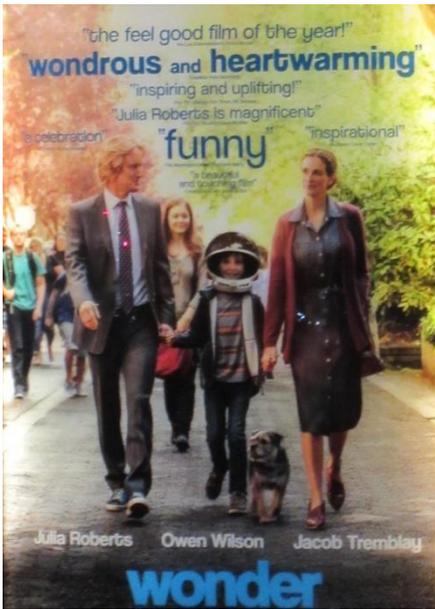
## Attendance and Behavior Rewards

Each month, the students can work toward an attendance and behavior award such as a field trip. On October 19<sup>th</sup>, all of the students in the program were treated to bowling at Suburban Lanes as an incentive to work toward the monthly reward.



At the end of November, the students had their first attendance and behavior reward. Students and staff were treated to the movie *Wonder* in Mansfield!





The movie *Wonder* is based on the novel of the same name and is about a fifth grade student named August who looks different than other kids and is adjusting to a mainstream education for the first time. Both students and staff enjoyed the movie and its powerful message.



## Family Engagement



Our first family engagement night was on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Staff, students, and family gathered at the



beginning of the night to get to know each other before splitting up into groups to go to three different stations.

The first station was the Scholastic Book Fair in the Secondary School Library. Each student who attended was given a voucher for \$15 to spend on books.

During the second session, Mrs. Constantine talked to the students and their families about the channels of support that are offered by the school district and the community. They also had the opportunity to take home a free pair of shoes that were generously donated by community members.

At the last station, the families made a healthy treat, banana peanut butter spirals, to eat together.

## Peer Mentoring

We are pleased to share that our Peer Mentoring Program at the secondary school has started. This is a brand new program that pairs high school sophomores and juniors with sixth and seventh grade students. The pairs meet for a minimum of thirty minutes during the Afterschool Program at least three times a

month, and the students work on homework, make crafts, play games, and do other fun activities together. It is our hope that this program will positively impact both the high school students and the middle school students academically, emotionally, and socially.



Our first mentoring session took place the last week of November. During their first session, mentors and mentees used plastic cups to create Christmas ornaments to be hung on the Christmas tree at City Hall.





Both the high school students and the middle school students are really enjoying the new program and can't wait for their next mentoring session.

The mentoring program is off to a great start, and we hope to open it up to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and seniors next school year.

## Low-Volk Park



On November 16<sup>th</sup>, all students participating in the Afterschool Program were able to go on a field trip to Low-Volk Park where they learned about salamanders. The Crawford Park District's program coordinator Josh Dyer talked about salamanders' natural habitat and explained which salamanders are native to Ohio.



Students then had the chance to look for salamanders in the woods and watch Dyer release salamanders into the wild. Some students were even courageous enough to hold the amphibians!



## Leadership with Steve Mohr

As part of a new leadership program offered to our middle school students this school year, Mr. Steve Mohr teaches students in the Afterschool Program weekly about leadership skills from the YouthMax curriculum.



Mohr and the students have been working on the seven traits YouthMax leaders have in common. YouthMax leaders lead themselves, add value to others, make great choices, get things done, are

accountable, take ownership, and are positive.

## Credit Recovery, Tutoring, and Study Tables

The BSS Afterschool Program also offers credit recovery as well as tutoring and study tables for high school students. Credit recovery is open to high school students who are credit deficient and is offered after school Monday-Thursday. In addition, before school tutoring and study tables are offered to high school students in extracurricular activities who are on academic probation or who are ineligible.

## Upcoming Events

- Attendance & Behavior Reward-Bowling at Suburban Lanes December 14, 2017
- Life skills for high school students with the Crawford Success Center's operations manager, Amanda Sheets. January 4, 2018 3:00-4:30
- Family Basketball Game January 20, 2018 at 12:00 Bucyrus JV & Varsity Girls against Seneca East
- Family Basketball Game February 16, 2018 at 6:00 Bucyrus JV & Varsity Boys against Buckeye Central