

21st Century Learning After-School & Summer Programs:

Bemidji is fortunate to receive the 21st Century Grant. We combine this grant with alternative Targeted Services funding, Indian Education funds, and Title I to provide a comprehensive program that includes: math and reading interventions, activities, field trips, transportation, and snacks. Six elementaries, the middle school, and the high school offer after-school programming. The summer program for grades 1-8 is located at Bemidji Middle School and at Bemidji High School for grades 9-12 four days per week for six weeks.

Classroom teachers refer students needing math and/or reading assistance. Every student has a Continual Learning Plan (CLP), and we measure growth with NWEA MAP assessments. The program is successful because we have dedicated staff who continue to be part of the program each year. Staff and student turnover are minimal.

The after-school curriculum is an extension of the curriculum used during the school day. Licensed classroom teachers provide the after-school instruction, and they have access to all current curriculum materials. The after-school program allows teachers to try new instructional techniques and focus on small group and individual instruction. It is important that the intervention provided during the after-school and summer aligns with the state Academic Standards and provides instruction that will improve student math and reading growth and proficiency. For the summer program, we select various and different materials that are aligned with the state standards but offer more hands-on, real life opportunities.