



HIGHLANDS PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

COMMUNITY LEARNING HUBS

Remote Learning Classrooms for Highlands Hybrid Students



HUB LOCATIONS & ENROLLMENT

- Central Presbyterian Church, Tarentum – 10
Gr. K to 3
- Salvation Army, Brackenridge – 14
Gr. K to 4
- Deborah D. Booker Center, Natrona Heights – 14
Gr. K to 4
(formerly AFN North site)



PROGRAM DETAILS

FUNDING

- Approached by Jace Ransom, School Age Youth Manager, Allegheny County Department of Human Services on Sept. 21
- Submitted proposal and received Award Notice for \$50,000 on Sept. 25; Received add'l funding in January to continue through June
- Explored potential sites, hired certified teachers and learning aides, set up classrooms, partnered with school district for food services and accepted students through Oct. 9
- Opened for first week of remote learning on Oct. 12

STAFFING & GUIDELINES

- Program Coordinator, Four Site Managers: All professional teachers - three with Elementary Education certifications, two of which have special education certification, Six Learning Aides / Teacher Assistants
- Students must be in Hybrid Program at Highlands School District
- Must be in Grades K – 4
- Operate within COVID-19 guidelines: Mask wearing, social distance spacing, temperatures taken, frequent hand-washing, not sharing supplies or equipment
- Students utilize school-issued devices



DAILY ROUTINE

- Greet students, temperature check-ins, seating
- Breakfast time, check daily schedules, log in to morning Zooms
- Teachers rotate among Zoom meetings, assisting students in independent work and staying engaged
- Groups of students on breaks have guided activities, physical fitness breaks, book reading and crafts
- Students eat lunch at desks, finish afternoon class meetings
- Students get assistance in make-up work, participate in activities in gymnasiums or at the nearby playground
- Clean up and mitigation as students get picked up by parents



ACTIVITIES & OUTCOMES

Student Learning

- Career exploration: Veterinarian, Police Officer, Fire Department, Farmer
- Self Care: Child Specialist for self-calming & confidence building
- Civics: Elected officials, Veterans, First Responders
- Celebrations: Cultural recipe exchanges, holidays around the world and sharing family traditions
- 38% of students have IEPs
- 95% improved academically
- 90% improved attendance

Community Resources

- Parents have received FSP services
- Parents participated in a Parents & Caregivers Research Study, receiving services and compensation
- Parents have received instant IT support from district
- All students receive free breakfast and lunch
- All students receive free instructional support
- One student receives necessary socioemotional support through Foster Care
- 100% of parents said the Hubs allowed them to return to work schedules, with 90% of parents stating that they would not have been able to secure or fund childcare with a hybrid schedule

“ I wanted to reach out and thank you for running and operating- seamlessly may I add, the learning hub for the elementary students. Today was the first day a few of my students attended the hub and I could tell right away that your staff was prepared and well organized for the kiddos. Distance learning and teaching has been a tremendous task for my “little” kiddos and I, I truly appreciate all the help. Knowing that they have someone there to help them at all times makes life a bit easier for the students, their grown ups and myself. Your efforts are acknowledged and appreciated and I wanted to make sure you knew that!

- Highlands Kindergarten Teacher, Carly Hines ”

“Just wanted to tell you how much help you guys are with this online schooling! Such a stress relief and [my daughter] loves coming to ‘school’. Thank you!”
- HUB parent, 1st grader

“Just let me know what you need from the district, and we will make it happen. I am so excited that our students will have this amazing opportunity. Thank you both for your ongoing support!”

- Dr. Monique Mawhinney, Superintendent, Highlands School District



“ I WAS IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING MY SON EVALUATED FOR AN IEP. THE TEACHERS WERE SO HELPFUL WITH DAILY COMMUNICATION WITH ME SO I COULD PASS PROBLEMS TO THE DOCTORS. ”

- Parent, Grade 2 student

“It is awesome to have somewhere safe and funded for the children. A space they can still be active at some points during the day. Also to have staff that care about their schooling as well as about their overall well being.

– HUB parent, 1st grader ”

“I love how engaged the teachers are with the students.”

- Parent, Grade 3 student

“The Hubs provided a structured learning environment where they could stay more focused on participating in school work than they could at home.” – Parent, Grades K and 2 students



Let's thank some teachers!

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