

Nestucca Valley SD 101J

Funded amount \$325,000

The Nestucca Valley School District 21st Century Community Learning Center provides two school-based sites to K-8 and high school students in a rural community facing high rates of poverty, housing insecurity, high ACEs, and limited access to enrichment activities and community spaces. Centered on social-emotional health, student voice, and hands-on innovative art and science projects (prioritizing the Art in STEAM), Nestucca partners with Sitka Center for Art and Ecology and Open Campus/Juntos to provide unique, culturally-responsive enrichment activities, and academic supports and recreation, for Nestucca Valley's academically and socially disadvantaged students. This program targets students with identified barriers to success including students at risk academically, students with poor attendance, homeless or highly mobile students, students experiencing poverty, non-native English speakers, and students with disabilities. In addition to monthly themes explored across disciplines, the center will also incorporate culturally inclusive programming, CTE, and an artist-in-residence workshop/activities series for participants featuring professional artists (writers, animators, painters, women in STEM, etc.) that introduce students to engaging, creative career pathways. The centers' expected outcomes include increases in the following areas: regular attendance, active student engagement, academic skill attainment, credit completion, career exposure, parental literacy and educational involvement, and strengthened school-family bonds.