

21st-Century Community Learning Centers Afterschool Program Participating Student Impact

New Jersey 21st Century Community Learning Centers Soaring Belong Expectations

Cultivating Curiosity and Community Beyond the Classroom!

The North Plainfield School District's commitment to student success extends far beyond the classroom, and our Free 21st Century Program is far more than just after-school care. The program is a vibrant extension of learning that builds a stronger school community, provides meaningful support to working families, and ignites an enrichment mindset built on interactive engagement.

By securing the 21st-Century Community Learning Centers grant, we're providing a safe, engaging, and high-quality alternative to traditional after-school options. Our program's **STEM theme** offers exciting, hands-on learning that is designed to spark curiosity, awaken critical thinking, and fuel future goals.

Experience the Impact!



21st-Century Students Outperform Their Peers!

21st-Century students are excelling! Based on the initial Spring 2025 NJSLA assessments, students in Grades 3-6 participating in the 21st-Century Program outperformed their peers by 4% in both English Language Arts and Math.

Our program is building critical life skills: **75% of students reported that they believe** participating in the program has helped them to problem solve and make better decisions.

21st Century families enjoy incredible savings!



Imagine saving over \$3,000 annually on after-school childcare! While typical programs cost between \$100-\$300 per week, our program is FREE. Participation in the summer sessions maximizes savings and provides your child with a high-quality, engaging after-school experience.

"The program is beneficial for all parents who work...children have the opportunity for learning instead of being stuck in front of a screen."

Highe

Reclaim Your Evenings: Experience fewer homework battles!



This isn't a dream—it's the reality for **92% of 21st-Century students who report being able to complete their homework** as part of the program. The after-school schedule
empowers students to complete their homework on-site, allowing them to leave ready to relax
and enjoy more family time. Additionally, **92% of parents report that the program has supported their child's social development and behavior.**

Learning Comes Alive for 21st-Century Students!



Students experience an adventure in learning. Students are immersed in a comprehensive environment packed with hands-on STEM experiments, fun STEM-related group games, movement through dance, youth sports, cooking, and social-emotional learning to support friendship building and self-esteem.

LIBERTY

Adventure Awaits: Exploration Beyond the Classroom!

Thanks to our amazing partners, students have the chance to explore incredible places, including the Liberty Science Center, RVCC Planetarium, and the Turtle Back Zoo.

Afterschool Programming Builds New Connections and Sparks New Friendships!



Perhaps the greatest success, 84% of participants report having met new friends in the program, and 77% of participants report that the 21st-Century Program has made them feel better about themselves. Always a foundational element of our work, and the most important piece of enrichment, 21st-Century students have opportunities to create new connections, build a deeper sense of community, and develop a stronger sense of self.







