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TEN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS AWARDED \$1.5 MILLION TO BOOST STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

BOISE – The State Department of Education has awarded \$1.5 million in grants to ten afterschool programs across Idaho to help boost academic support, cultural enrichment and community involvement.

The department awards funds through the federal Title IV-B program, known as 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC). The goals of 21st CCLC are to provide academic enrichment to reduce and eliminate achievement gaps, offer recreation and physical activity as well as social and cultural enrichment afterschool, and to give the families of students in afterschool programs more opportunities for literacy and educational development

Structured, high-quality afterschool programs are a key component in preventing gang activity, drug use and delinquent behavior. Idaho 21st CCLC afterschool programs have demonstrated tremendous success in cultivating academic success among low-performing students, according to Karen Hostetter, program coordinator.

The competitive grant awards for the 2015-2016 school year ranged from \$129,200 to \$190,000 and are renewable for up to five years. Awards are determined by a statewide review community and based on school and community needs, as well as the overall merit of the program proposed.

A total of \$1.5 million was awarded to the following sites across Idaho:

- Blackfoot School District \$129,200
- Cassia School District \$190,000
- City of Dubois \$161,380
- Coeur d'Alene School District \$152,000
- Emmett School District \$135,335
- Marsing School District \$152,000
- Nampa School District \$152,000
- Pocatello School District \$152,000
- University of Idaho, Latah County 4-H \$159,258
- Weiser School District \$152,000

For more information about the 21st CCLC grants, contact Karen Hostetter, program coordinator, at 208-332-6813.

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