

# The STEALTH Scoop

See how #AfterschoolWorks in the Wichita Public Schools!



## Navigating Change - a brief message from the Program Manager

This has been a hard year.

I think that may be the understatement of a lifetime. Navigating the unknown of a global pandemic, school closures, stay-at-home orders and the complete 180 of our daily lives has been a challenge to say the least. Thrown in the fact that in the midst of trying to manage that change in our own personal lives - that we have all had to manage the responsibilities of our jobs and the balance of that on top of everything else. Life stopped - but it didn't really. All of the regular challenges of life were suddenly amplified and even the smallest issue - was monumental.

As we move forward, I can only imagine that we will have even more change to navigate through - so please first and foremost take care of yourself. Then, lean on us to help you with the work. We know you've got the world on your shoulders - and our job is to help ease that burden.

All this being said, more change is coming our way. Site coordinators - check your emails from me to learn more about the expectation for virtual programming and ideas to (hopefully) ease the burden of this change in the event that we have to change our learning model at any point going forward. Our grant requirements are still in place - and though we know it will look different - we need to remember that we provide a vital, essential service to students and their working parents.

I know that 'thank you' isn't enough - but I say that because I'm not sure I have the appropriate words to convey the proper amount of gratitude to each and every one of you for the ways you constantly and consistently step up to the plate for kids. I appreciate each and every one of you and the effort you put forward every single day.



-- Jennifer

## On-Demand Professional Development - STEALTH Snippets

Scheduling our STEALTH Professional Development has been a challenge this year in particular. To ensure you have the most relevant program updates and professional development from us - we're introducing **STEALTH Snippets**. These videos will be pre-recorded professional development topics for you to watch on-demand at your convenience. They won't be long - they're just meant to provide a "snippet" or snapshot of information that will be helpful to your program. The trainings are geared to site coordinators and principals.



We will still leave the option open to meet live as needed in order to ensure business is taken care of, but this will be a way for us to have some ongoing professional development in the midst of the pandemic.

The links for the videos will be shared to **site coordinators and principals** in Teams and through email - each site coordinator and/or principal can forward and share to the appropriate staff at their site as needed. Each episode will focus on one main topic, and will include any other time sensitive updates that site coordinators, staff and principals need to be aware of.

### STEALTH Snippet Schedule:

- **December 4:** Advisory Boards - Formation & Best Practices
- **January 8:** Family Engagement during COVID-19
- **February 5:** Planning for Sustainability
- **March 5:** Evaluations & Survey Expectations
- **April 9:** Planning for 2021-2022 - Things to Consider
- **May :** No recorded session - will plan live session for year end wrap-up and summer plan time information.

Sometime in February - we'll drop a separate "Summer Planning Snippet" for those of you who have summer program. Date & specific content will be shared soon.



## #ItHappensInAfterschool Social Media Campaign

If you follow STEALTH on social media, you've probably noticed that there's been a campaign this month with the hashtag #ItHappensInAfterschool. The campaign represents our participation (though belated) in the Afterschool Alliance's national Lights On for Afterschool campaign. Lights On for Afterschool highlights the importance of providing meaningful afterschool enrichment opportunities for families across the country. Follow along of Facebook & Twitter @WPSSTEALTH to see how #AfterschoolWorks for WPS students!



### Budget Information

For site coordinators & principals: Carryover or Current Year funds - not sure what you have to spend? Kim has been working hard to make sure your budgets are current and up-to-date. We'll be setting meetings with each of you individually very soon to make sure you've got the information you need to plan and prepare.

In the meantime, if you have questions regarding your budgets before the meeting - please reach out to Kim at [kcannady@usd259.net](mailto:kcannady@usd259.net).



### Connect with STEALTH!

Facebook    @WPSSTEALTH

Jennifer Hartman serves as the 21st Century Program Manager in the Wichita Public Schools. Please contact her with any questions, concerns or program inquiries at the contact information provided. Be sure to follow STEALTH on Facebook & Twitter - @WPSSTEALTH!

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## About STEALTH Afterschool

**We love all things science, technology, engineering, arts, leadership, tutoring and health & wellness!**

STEALTH is dedicated to offering academic assistance and enrichment activities in an afterschool setting. Students explore STEM, Fine Arts, Service Learning and Health & Wellness enrichment activities in an engaging environment that gets them excited to learn! STEALTH students improve their math, reading and science skills through structured and engaging grade level tutoring and homework sessions.



STEALTH is funded by the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant. The purpose of these grants are to establish community learning centers that provide students with academic enrichment activities designed to supplement the student's regular classroom academic program during out-of-school hours.