

A Partnership **FOR A STRONGER BATTLE CREEK**

Grand Valley State University, W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Battle Creek Public Schools Widen the Region's Access to Education

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation has awarded Grand Valley State University (GVSU) a five-year \$15.5 million grant to help build a brighter economic and educational future for families in Battle Creek.

The university will work in partnership with Battle Creek Public Schools (BCPS) to help prepare middle and high school students for careers in high-demand jobs, while also offering public school teachers additional supports and creating pathways for classroom assistants to become certified teachers.

The university will also open an outreach center this summer in downtown Battle Creek, enabling the entire community to learn about their resources and programming in Battle Creek and Grand Rapids. This marks the beginning of a strong partnership and vision to increase access to higher education options and support the community's commitment to increase jobs, talent and bring a culture of vitality to Battle Creek.

Battle Creek is a community on the rise, as leaders throughout the city are working to ensure our children and families thrive.

BETTER JOBS AND A BETTER FUTURE FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Through this partnership, GVSU will help students in Battle Creek Public Schools grow and succeed academically and create pathways to career opportunities. This will result in a better economic future for the students and for Battle Creek.

There is no question that jobs in science, technology and health care are not only among the most highly-compensated jobs, but these industries will continue to grow and will need more skilled workers. This partnership will provide students with hands-on experience in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and health care fields to ensure they are career, college or community ready for these opportunities.

Middle and high school students enrolled at BCPS will be able to attend STEM-focused summer camps where they will get hands-on experience in health, engineering and science fields. Campers will receive valuable and highly-coveted exposure to a range of jobs available, and these programs will help encourage and position them to pursue these careers. While in high school, students will be able to enroll in university classes in education and health sciences and take them onsite at BCCHS, enabling them to get a head start in their pathways to college and career.

In addition, there are GVSU Signature Camps for young girls to explore math and sciences, helping to address the lack of gender equity in these fields.



HELPING TEACHERS HELP OUR KIDS

Battle Creek Public School teachers are among the most dedicated, hard-working educators in Michigan. We must continue to invest in and retain public school teachers in this community, while also attracting more talent to Battle Creek to meet educational hiring needs.

GVSU's College of Education will offer targeted professional development opportunities to BCPS teachers through new teacher mentoring and various programs to support curriculum development and instructional practices. Additionally, classroom assistants will receive support to become certified public school teachers and pipeline programs will be established to bring more educators to Battle Creek.

New Programs and Opportunities

Recruiting, Nurturing and Supporting BCPS Educators



Professional Development and Project-Based Learning

Professional development to help enhance teaching techniques, support classroom engagement, and boost students' critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.



Student Teacher Pipeline Program

GVSU College of Education students will be placed at BCPS to complete their student teaching semester, helping young educators get a strong start in the district.



New Teacher Mentoring Program

Intensive, customized supports for first-year teachers to help them succeed and stay with the district.



Paraprofessional Pathway Program

A program to identify passionate BCPS staff who want to become teachers and help them achieve their goals.

Preparing BCPS Students for a Career in Education



Teaching Education Camp

In the summer before senior year, students interested in teaching will work with children and explore the teaching career path.



Dual Enrollment Education Program

Qualified BCPS seniors can earn college credit and explore the fundamentals of teaching, onsite at BCCHS.

Preparing BCPS Students for a Career in Health



sHaPe Camp

Middle school students will get engaging, hands-on exposure to health professions like physical therapy, lab science and sports medicine.



Freshman Health Career Exploration Fair

The fair will introduce all BCPS freshmen to the range of exciting and high-paying jobs available in health, and will encourage students to explore health sciences careers and majors.



Dual Enrollment Allied Health Program

Qualified BCPS juniors and seniors can earn college credit and build the base of skills they need to pursue health education and careers, onsite at BCCHS.

Preparing BCPS Students for a Career in STEM



New Integrated Curriculum for Battle Creek STEM Innovation Center

GVSU's Regional Math and Science Center and the College of Education are helping co-design a curriculum for the new school, to help encourage middle schoolers to pursue careers in science and engineering.



STEPS Camp for Girls

Hands-on and high-tech engineering camp where seventh-grade girls will get to build and fly radio-controlled model airplanes.