New after-school programs coming to Canton City Schools

By Kelli Weir Repository staff writer
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The Ohio Department of Education has awarded the Canton City School District three grants totaling $2.55 million over five years to fund after-school programs at 11 of its schools.

New after-school programs designed to help students prepare for college and a career will be coming next month to 11 schools in the Canton City School District.

The Ohio Department of Education has awarded Canton City Schools three grants totaling $2.55 million over five years that will fund new after-school programs at Allen, Belden, Cedar, Gibbs, McGregor, Schreiber and Stone elementary schools, Lehman and Souers middle schools and Timken Early College and McKinley high schools.

The state also agreed to continue funding Canton City's existing Brighter Tomorrow after-school programs at Harter, Worley, Mason and Clarendon elementary schools and at Crenshaw, Harford and Summit middle schools.

Shana Smith, after-school program coordinator, said the grants will allow the district to expand its partnerships with the Stark County District Library, Stark Education Partnership and Walsh University to provide college and career readiness experiences, including paid internship opportunities at the district’s middle school and high school programs.

She said the grants also will allow the district to continue strengthening its parent involvement efforts, which includes off-site field trips, as well as provide training opportunities for staff.

The new after-school programs are set to begin in late September.

The grants were awarded through the competitive 21st Century Community Learning Center grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The Ohio Department of Education allocated $44.3 million in grants to 107 new programs and 135 continuing programs.

Reach Kelli at 330-580-8339 or kelli.weir@cantonrep.com. On Twitter: @kweirREP