Service-Learning at Woodward Magnet School

The Mary Jane Underwood Stryker Institute for Service-Learning

“Being a classroom assistant is a chance to get off campus and have a positive impact on the Kalamazoo community. I like seeing how the children improve over the quarter, and seeing their faces light up when they get something right!”
Alex Henne, Classroom Assistant, K ‘12

Service-Learning Programs at Woodward

PALS After School Program
• Tuesdays and Thursdays after school
• K tutors are paired with one or two Woodward students to build literacy skills and to be positive role models

Classroom Literacy and Math Tutoring
• K students work in K-5 classes with students on a variety of skills and subjects to increase academic performance

Program Goal: To provide Woodward students with fun, structured activities that enhance their learning experience while giving program participants mentorship opportunities as well as a chance to pursue social justice within the Kalamazoo community. Our programs at Woodward help to raise academic achievement by creating a positive environment that builds community, fosters leadership, promotes environmental and health awareness, and encourages civic engagement.

Did you know that over 50 K students volunteer at Woodward every quarter? They work in 17 different classrooms, with after school programs, and in enrichment programs, making a positive impact on over 380 students at Woodward!

The Woodward Service-Learning Program is funded by the Underwood Stryker Endowment and the Marilyn LaPlante Endowment.
Poster Created by Civic Engagement Scholars Jillian Belsler, K’10 and Ariel Schnee, K’12.

Woodward is a magnet school with a focus on Environmental Sustainability. Their curriculum focuses on environment, energy, natural resources, and agriscience. Woodward students learn to understand environmental responsibility: our actions affect the world. In addition to working in PALS and in classrooms, K students also work as Garden Assistants in Woodward’s Roots of Knowledge Garden, and as Recess Helpers. Additionally, various service-learning courses work at Woodward each year.