

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



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.

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



The Woodward Service-Learning Program is funded by the Underwood Stryker Endowment and the Marilyn LaPlante Endowment.

Poster Created by Civic Engagement Scholars Jillian Belstler, K'10 and Ariel Schnee, K'12.

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!

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.