

# Annual Report 2014-2015



**A+**  
After School  
Program

Promoting Lifelong Learning & Uniting  
Schools, Families & Communities

# Mission

**P**romoting Lifelong Learning & Uniting Schools, Families and Communities

# Vision

**T**he A+ program will promote a safe environment where A+ students and staff are encouraged to learn, challenged to dream and express creativity, and inspired to explore their school, community and world.

Our goal is to help our **students achieve success** academically, socially and personally, through hands-on projects, real life experiences, interactive and varied learning opportunities, and through **Positive Adult and Peer Relationships.**



# A+ Leadership

## Oversight Committee

**Jeff Kasuboski**

District Administrator

**Ann Fajfer**

Riverview Principal

**Cindy Reilly**

WASD CFO

**Clyde Simonson**

Redgranite Principal

**Deb Premo**

Parkside Principal

## A+ Coordinators

**Kendra Knutson**

Program Coordinator

**Abby Weiland**

Riverview Site Coordinator

**Michele Heuer**

Redgranite Site Coordinator

**Tammi Reimer**

Parkside Site Coordinator



# Overview



## Locations

A+ After School currently serves three schools in the Wautoma Area School District: Parkside (4-8 grade), Redgranite (K-5 grade), & Riverview (K-3 grade). The schools provide not only space for programming but a strong support system including financial, custodial, technical, and administrative support as well as general supplies and guidance. The positive relationship and support of the school district contributes immensely to the success of the program.

## Who We Serve

During the 2014-2015 school year an average of 223 children attended each day (383 were enrolled). 63% of participants were enrolled in free or reduced lunch, 23% were non-white, & 8% were special education students.

## Program Activities

A+ offers a variety of activities daily like; Homework Help, Academic Support, and Enrichment Activities in Academics (school subjects), Character & Youth Development, Recreation, Art, Career & Life Skills and STEM. A snack and 15-30 minutes of free time are offered each day for students to relax and refocus after the school day ends.

## Team Members

A+ consisted of over 39 paid part-time employees ranging from certified teachers and teacher's aides, to parents of participants, professional community members and high school students. 257 volunteer hours were provided by 29 community members!



# Program History

## History of A+:

In 2000, a group of community members, parents and school district staff recognized the need for an after school program to serve the Wautoma community. Their hard work to make this vision a reality was rewarded in 2001 when the district received a 21st Century CLC Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. This initial grant was used to provide after school programs at Parkside (The Community Learning Center), for 4-8<sup>th</sup> graders 4 days a week. In the beginning the program served just 30 kids per day but quickly grew to over 70 students per day. By the end of the 3-year grant period, this program had formed the foundation for what was to become the A+ Program.

Around 2004, the name A+ was created. The PLUS stood for: “Promoting Lifelong Learning and Uniting Schools and Communities”. In 2004 Riverview Elementary applied for and received a 5 year, \$500,000 grant, from the state 21CCLC program. Without funding for the other schools, Parkside and Redgranite programs were supported by the school district, the county and fundraisers for the next several years.

In 2008, the Reach the Peak Race Fundraiser started and funds raised were used for scholarships to help students in need attend A+. In 2008, Wautoma High School was awarded a 5 year 21CCLC grant, Riverview applied for and received a 5 year continuation grant in 2009, and Parkside received the 5 year 21CCLC grant in 2010. The school district

and Fund 80 continued to help support the Redgranite and Riverview A+ Programs during this time. In 2013, WHS was not selected for a continuation grant and the High School took on the task of offering academic support for its students after school 2 days a week. During the summer of 2013, the A+ program received a makeover, including a new logo, new leadership, and an updated website. In 2014, Riverview was awarded a 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle of funding for 5 additional years (\$50,000 per year).

Currently the A+ program is thriving, with nearly 390 students enrolled and over 220 on average attending each day. The Redgranite program continues to operate with support from SAGE, Title 1, Fund 80 and program fees. A+ programming has expanded over the years to not only include homework and enrichment but also tutoring, field trips, parent education, bashes and community service activities.

## Future of A+:

Parkside was awarded a 5-year 21st Century Community Learning Center Continuation Grant for 2015 - 2019 school years for a total of \$275,000 allowing programming to continue at Parkside School.

A+ will continue to seek out new community partners, strengthen the school day connection, and create opportunities for family education while making improving student academic achievement a priority.

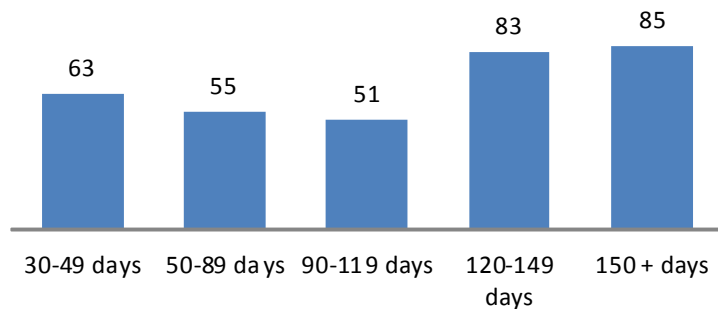


# Program Results

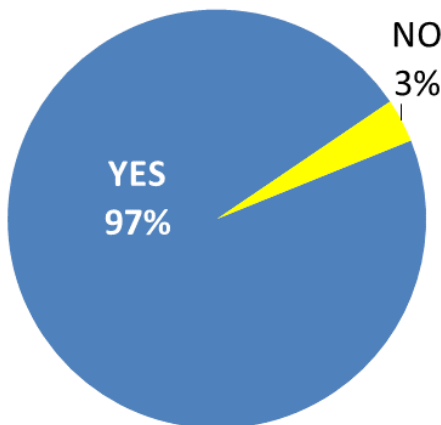
## ATTENDANCE:

39% of K-8 students in the Wautoma Area School District enrolled in the A+ Program for the 2014-15 school year. Of those, 88% were regular attendees (30+ days of attendance) with an average of 112 attendance days per regular attendee. Attendance of Regular Attendees increased 8 days from last year and 50% of RA attended more than 120 days!

## Number of Regular Students Attending: 30 day increments



## Are Parents Satisfied with the Program?



## PARENT SURVEYS: 40.5% return rate

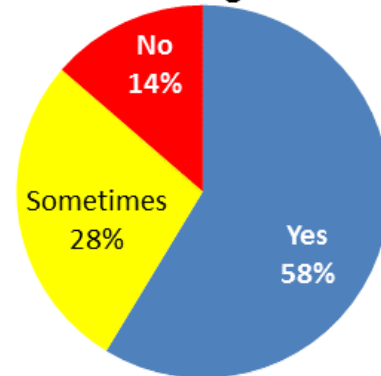
127 parents completed the Spring 2015 A+ Survey. 96% of parents felt the after school program reduced stress at home, 96% believe their child benefited from being in the program, and 95% were satisfied with the activities and programs offered.

## STUDENT SURVEYS:

### 69% return rate

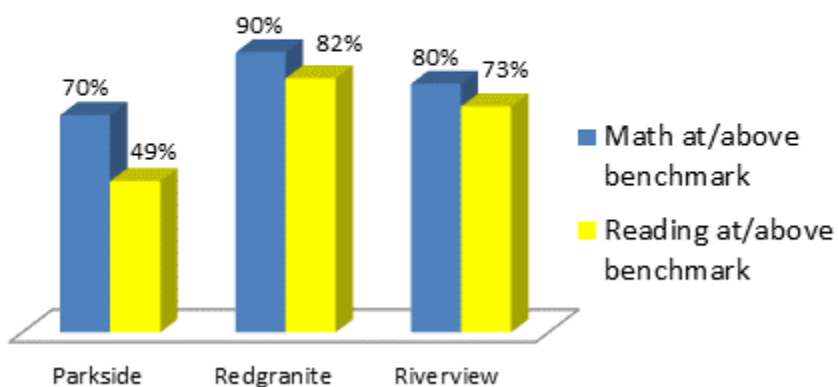
RG students reported that their favorite activities at A+ were outside, WOTM and computer lab. RV students liked outside, computer lab and getting hw done. PS students liked computer lab (especially mine craft), Outside, staff, hanging with friends, fun day Fridays and cool projects.

## Do Students Enjoy Attending A+?



# Program Results

## STAR Academic Results: A+ Regular Attendees



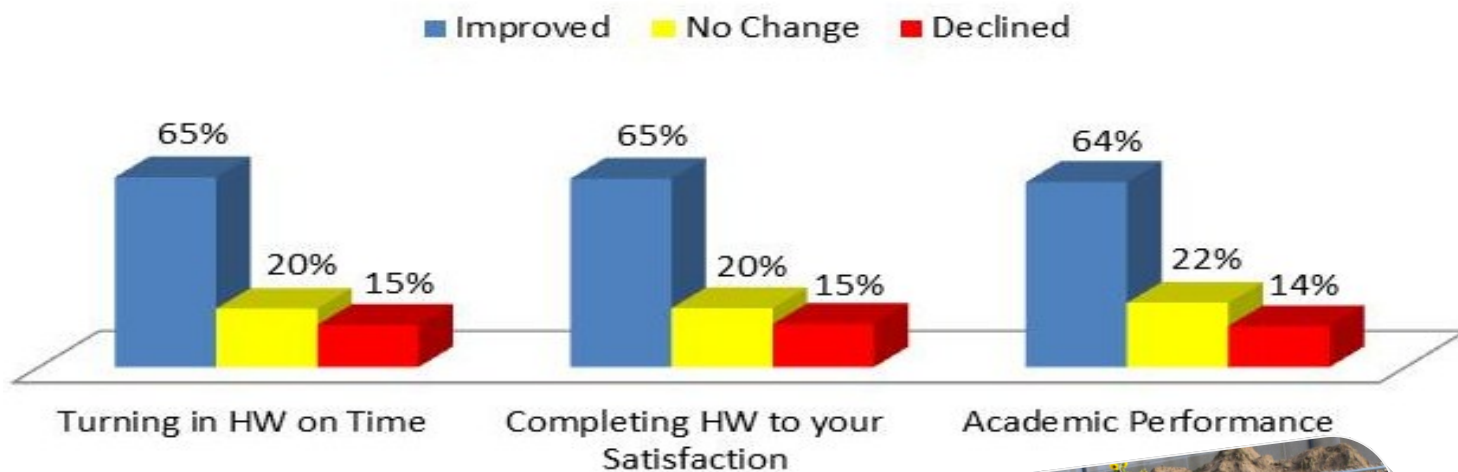
### ACADEMICS:

STAR test data was used to determine student growth this year. Our A+ goal is for at least 65% of A+ regular attendees to meet or exceed their personal growth goal in Reading & Math.

### TEACHER SURVEYS:

The 21st CCLC grant requires A+ to survey teachers in the Spring on 10 measures of student performance. Results shown are for regular attendees that warranted improvement.

## Spring 2015 Teacher Survey Results: Academic

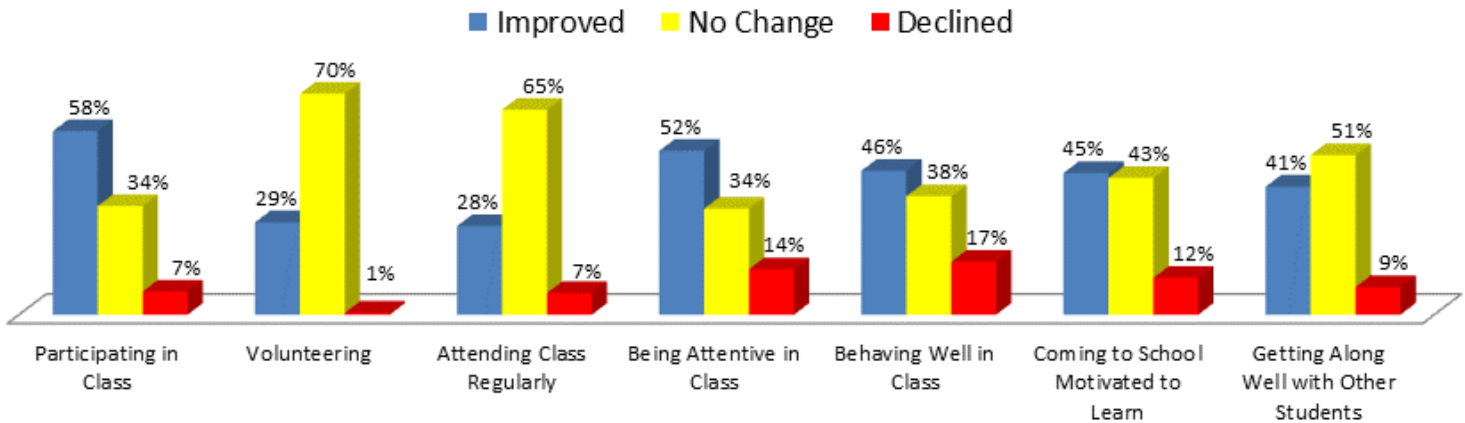


More teacher survey results on the next page.

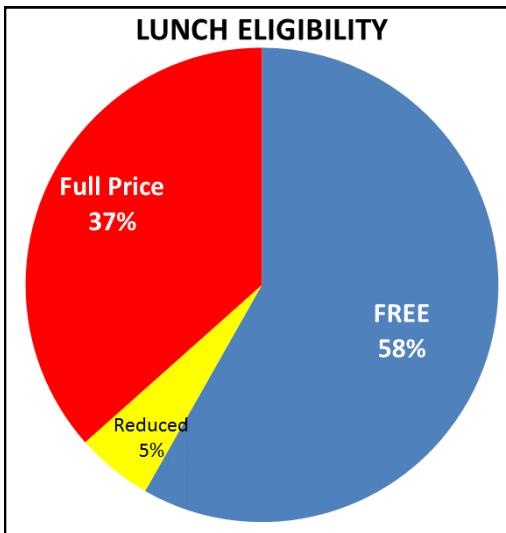


# Program Results

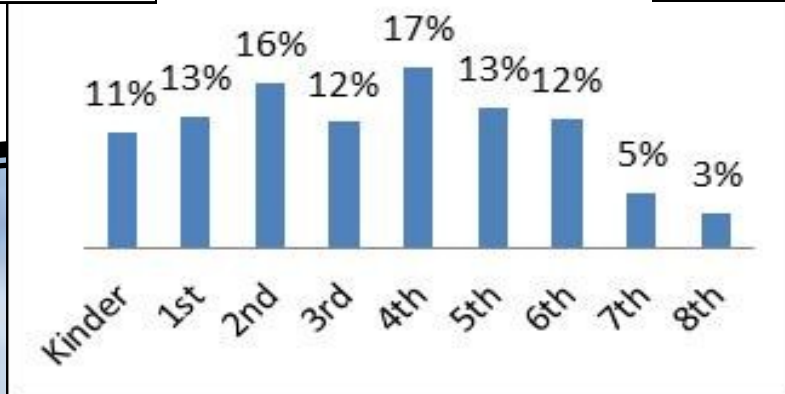
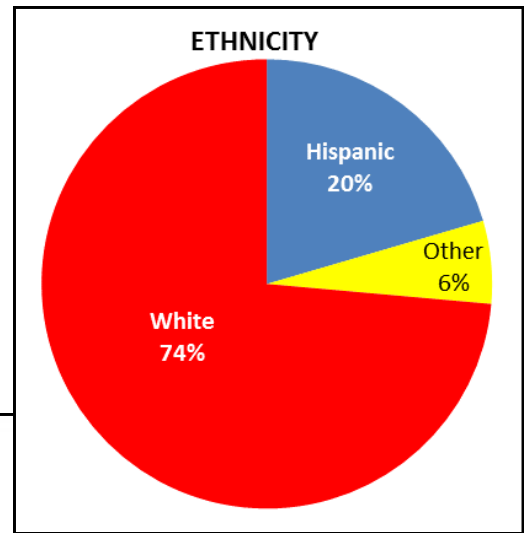
## Spring 2015 Teacher Survey Results: students that warranted improvement



## DEMOGRAPHICS OF A+ REGISTERED STUDENTS:



- 14% Limited English Proficiency
- 8% Special Education
- 51% male/49% female





# A+ Partners

The A+ After School program has been very fortunate to have the support of many organizations and community members over the past 14 years. The success of the program is directly related to the effort and time put in by the community!

## **2014-2015 Partners:**

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative ★ American Martial Arts Academy  
★ Animal Haven Zoo ★ Boy Scouts ★ Camp Lakotah ★ Christiano's  
Pizza ★ First National Bank ★ FVTC ★ Heartland House ★ Joe's  
Premium Pizza ★ Kaydee Music ★ La Clinica ★ Laura's School of Dance  
★ Lambeaul Lanes ★ Little Sprouts Day Care ★ Mt. Morris Park ★  
MILSCO ★ PEP Grant (Wautoma on the Move) ★ Preston Place ★  
Redgranite Library ★ Salvation Army ★ Shooter's Choice Archery ★ St.  
Joseph's Church ★ St. Vincent de Paul ★ Stoneridge Piggly Wiggly ★  
Thrivent Financial ★ UW-Extension ★ Waupaca Rosa Theater ★  
Waushara Country Club ★ Waushara EMS ★ Waushara County Health  
Department ★ Wautoma Area School District ★ Wautoma Area Women's  
Club ★ Wautoma Public Library ★ Plus Anonymous Supply Donations!!

## **2014-2015 Volunteers:**

Kyle Thompson, Sandy Adamson, Terah Johnson,  
Yvonne Fetherston, Mary Brooks, Karen  
Piechowski, Paula Pfaller, Dante Borland, Brandy  
Duket, Joan Mosling, Ashley Meyer, Donna Norlin,  
Melissa Gustin, Amy Vetrone, Gordon Ovans,  
Theresa Saucedo, Peter & Mary Braatz, Megan  
Kees, Lieah Van Gompel, Amber Cayer, Kim  
Cassidy, Justin Williams, William Kohl, Faith  
Hernandez, Dave Pepler, & Phillip Strelow.



# 2014-2015 Highlights



**Challenge Course**  
**Martial Arts**  
**Pizza Making**  
**Model Cars**  
**Rock Climbing**  
**Dance Lessons**  
**Walking on Eggs**  
**Science Experiments**



# 2014-2015 Highlights

## Field Trips



Parkside students spent an early release day at Camp Lakotah with hotdogs over the fire, archery, hiking, gaga pit and of course laser tag!



Redgranite students went bowling at Lambeaul Lanes in Redgranite during one of their early release days! Older students at Redgranite also were able to visit the WHS fitness center this year and try golfing at Waushara Country Club.

Riverview students visited Animal Haven Zoo in Weyauwega during the final early release day of the year. Parkside and Riverview students also saw a movie at Rosa Theater in Waupaca in February.



# Parkside

## **Parkside Grant Objective Results:**

### **Academic:**

**At least 65% of RA (regular attendees) will meet or exceed their targeted growth score (50 SGP) on the STAR Math & Reading/Early Literacy Assessment from Fall 2014 to Spring 2015.**

- *Math: 64.57% met or exceeded*
- *Reading/Early Literacy: 52.76% met or exceeded*

**65% of RA that warrant improvement in turning homework in on time, completing homework to the teacher's satisfaction, and academic performance will show improvement per the May Teacher Survey.**

- *57%, 62%, 58% respectively*

### **Behavior:**

**10% reduction in student behavior referrals of RA from 1st semester to 2nd semester.**

- *Behavior referrals increased 8% (57 1st semester to 62 second semester) however if we include RA who did not attend 2nd semester there is a 95% increase in behaviors. Of the 25 students with behaviors in 1st semester 8 (students here all year) decreased their behavior while only 3 students who stopped attending decreased their behaviors. 5 students who attended all year increased their behaviors vs. 7 students who stopped attending 2nd semester. Of the 30 RA that had behaviors during second semester, 9 had only 1 incident all year, and 9 were not enrolled in A+ during second semester.*

**RA will have a 95% attendance rate in school.**

- *73% of RA had a school attendance rate of 95% or higher)*

**100 students or more will regularly attend the PS A+ Program.**

- *130 students attended 30 or more days.*

### **Parent/Family Engagement:**

**PS A+ will offer at least 4 family/parent events that focus on educating parents.**

- *PS offered QPR (2 classes), Money Smarts (2 sessions), ESL (12 classes), Love & Logic Book Club (7 classes).*

**At least 100 family members will attend 1 or more CLC family offerings.**

- *40 parents attended family events including classes, field trips, and special events.*

**90% of parents will report overall program satisfaction in Spring 2015.**

- *93% of PS parents reported they were satisfied (30.5% return rate)*

**70% of students will report they enjoy attending the A+ program.**

- *14% almost always enjoy it, 53% sometimes enjoy it (40% return rate)*



# Parkside

## **Parkside Comments:**

*“Students seemed to be much more engaged this year. Students were so into the enrichment activities that they didn't realize they were learning. I heard over and over from students what cool things they did in the A+ program and students who rarely came to school with their homework done were now getting it done. There was good communication between the teachers and the A+ staff and super positive and caring leadership.*

*~ Rebecca Umbreit, Special Education Teacher, 4th Grade*

*“The A+ Program was a positive extension of the school day for many students at Parkside School. The A+ Program staff built positive relationships with students, and students enjoyed attending the program for academic enrichment and social interactions with other students.”*

*~ Deb Premo, Parkside Principal*

## **Comments from Anonymous Parent Surveys May 2015:**

*“The A+ Program has benefitted my son's grades dramatically! Love the A+ Program!”*

*“We are very sad that A+ will not continue in the future as it currently does. We would be willing to pay for them to attend but not the \$1,000.00 proposed. We hope the state can find a resolution & help fund this program.”*

*“Great job working with kids and families to promote positive lifestyle choices and critical thinking skills.”*

*“I appreciate that my children can get homework done before evening. My daughter likes the staff & has fun.”*



# Riverview

## **Riverview Grant Objective Results for 2014-2015:**

### Academic:

**At least 65% of RA (regular attendees) will be at/above benchmark in Math, Reading/Early Literacy, based on STAR tests in Spring 2015.**

- *Math: 72.87% at/above benchmark*
- *Reading/Early Literacy: 80.2% at/above benchmark*

**80% of A+ RA will meet/exceed their targeted scores on Guided Reading assessments by Spring 2015: 78.9% met/exceeded their guided reading targeted scores**

**At least 75% of RA will have teacher reported improvements on homework completion and class participation: 61% and 49% respectively of the students that needed to improve.**

**At least 75% of RA will show improvement on the 10 indicators of acceptable school functioning per the PPICS Teacher Survey: 44% of students showed improvement on average across all 10 indicators.**

### Behavior:

**70% or more of RA will have teacher reported improvements on student behavior: 38% of those that needed to improve in student behavior had teacher reported improvements.**

**70% or more of RA will have no discipline referrals during the school day: 86% had no referrals!**

### Attendance:

**170 students or more will attend the CLC: 141 students attended this school year.**

**135 students or more will regularly attend (30+ days) the A+ Program: 131 students were regular attendees**

**RA will have at least a 96% attendance rate in school: 95.1% of RV A+ RA met this objective**

### Parent Engagement:

**100 family members or more will attend 2 or more CLC family engagement offerings: 40 family members attended 2+ times, while another 56 family members attended 1 event or class.**

**90% of family members who participated in the CLC will report that services satisfactorily met their family's specific needs: 100% of parents agreed**

**90% of more adult members who participate in literacy-related activities will report improved ability to address the literacy needs of their family: 5 parents completing surveys - all agree! (ESL Class Spring 2015)**

**90% or more of participating adult family members will agree that the program involves families in program feedback, decision-making, and/or planning: 93% of parents completing the May 2015 surveys agreed.**



# Riverview

## Riverview Comments:

*"The A+ program at Riverview provides my students (both struggling and excelling) extra practice in social and academic skills. Thanks for all you guys do!"*

*~ Julie Smith, Kindergarten Teacher, Riverview Elementary*



*"I feel our A+ Program is extremely helpful. The students from my class that go to A+ complete their homework on a more regular basis. They also enjoy going to A+."*

*~ David Woyak, 3rd Grade Teacher, Riverview Elementary*

## Comments from anonymous Parent Surveys May 2015:

*"The A+ program provides wonderful opportunities for children after the school day. I hope that federal funding does not go away needed to support these types of programs."*

*"Great field trips, thanks for getting homework done for working families."*

*"Thank you for the work you put in I hope the program continues in the future."*

*"A lot of parents work until 5pm and this program allows our kids to do something productive rather than just sit in day care :)"*

*"It's a safe place for the kids to go. I don't have to worry about where he is."*



# Redgranite

## Redgranite Comments:

“I would like to convey my appreciation for the After School Program (A+), and the need for it here at Redgranite Elementary. This school year I had 12 of my 17 students attending the A+ program. Three of those students were in the LLI program during the school day. This was a tough group of kids this year, but because of the collaboration and help from A+ and Mrs. Heuer the gains made were tremendous: both academically and behaviorally. Our A+ program is an asset to our school, and one of the reasons this is such an amazing place for our students to learn and grow.”  
~ Caitlin Reinke, 2nd Grade Teacher, Redgranite Elementary

“My husband and I would just like to say how much we appreciate the A+ Afterschool program you offer at Redgranite Elementary. After school programs can teach kids lots of things. They can play sports, they can do activities that teach them teamwork, positive social skills, friendship, math skills, reading skills, you can do your homework there, etc. It really can help them get ahead. Its much better than going home alone to the TV or video games. Afterschool programs keep kids safe, inspire learning and help working families. We are just so happy that our child gets this opportunity.

Thanks Again,

Carrie and Troy Zernzach”



## Comments from the May 2015 Anonymous Parent Survey:

“Awesome staff at RG for A+! Keep up the great work that A+ does for RG school Children. My 5th grader took Archery when it was offered and fell in love with the sport. If it wasn't or A+ she wouldn't know much about this sport and she saved her birthday money to purchase a bow to continue archery in her life.”

“Thank you - Mrs. Michele is a godsend for our child, we know he wouldn't be as advanced with his development if she wasn't involved.”

“Miss Michele does a great job making sure she works with our kids and the teachers. We love miss Paula's exercise classes too.”

“Thank you for having such positive attitudes and sharing this with my son.”



# A+ Financial Information

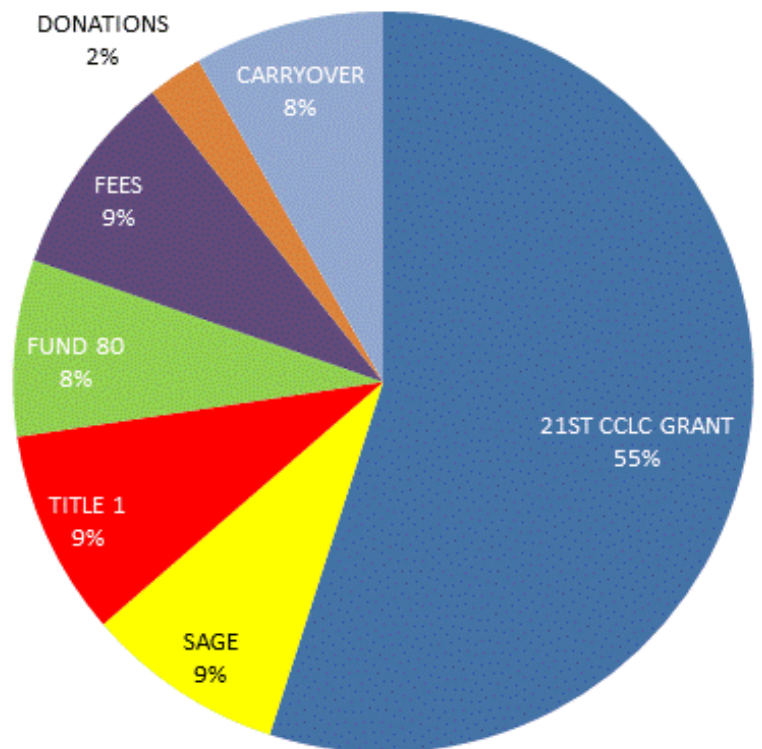
## AVAILABLE FUNDS:

21st CCLC Grant* . . . . .	\$158,083
SAGE Fund . . . . .	\$25,003
Title 1 Funding . . . . .	\$25,797
Fund 80 . . . . .	\$22,152
Program Fees . . . . .	\$25,726
General Carryover . . . . .	\$23,926
Donations . . . . .	\$6,910
<b>Total Program Funding . . . . .</b>	<b>\$287,587</b>

\*21st CCLC Grant funds include \$8,023 carryover from last years PS grant.

Next year Grant funding will drop to \$125,000 from \$150,000.

\*In-Kind Support provided by the school district was approximately \$85,000 (utilities, custodial services, storage, office supplies, copier use & paper, administrative services, transportation, insurance, etc.)



## PROGRAM EXPENSES:

Employee Salaries . . . . .	\$181,884
Employee Fringes . . . . .	\$72,708
Purchased Services . . . . .	\$6,711
Supplies . . . . .	\$6,939
<b>Total Program Expenses . . . . .</b>	<b>\$268,241</b>

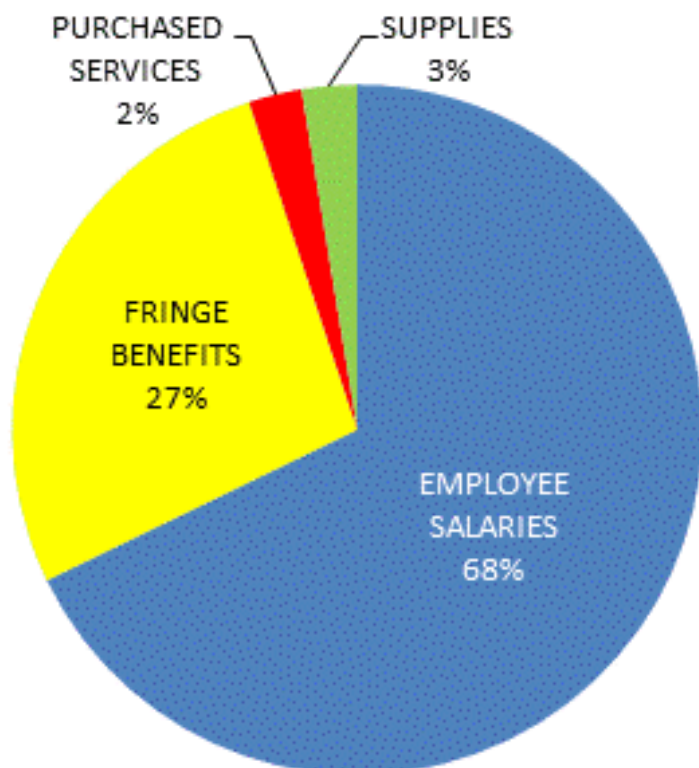
### Interesting Facts:

\*2014-15 Program Fees:\$25/quarter, \$100/year

\*Cost to participants: \$.57/day or \$.23/hour (2.5 hours per day)

\*It cost A+ \$6.87 per student per day (based on average attendance during the 2014-2015 school year)

\*\$6,810 in scholarship funds, provided by the Reach the Peak Race Fundraiser (sponsored by Thrivent Financial & Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative) was provided for 130 students to enroll in A+ this past year.



## *A+ After School Program*

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### *Program Coordinator*

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