

HI-DEF:

Helping Individuals Design Extraordinary Futures



Lake Ridge New Tech Middle School is Making it Happen!



WE ARE an urban school of approximately 430 students within a district of nearly 2,000 students in Calumet Township, Gary, Indiana. We serve students from Gary, Merrillville, and Griffith, Indiana.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES are diverse in comparison to our city and our general community. Our school demographics include students who are 45% White, 25% Hispanic, 20% African-American, and 10% Multiracial.

OUR TEACHERS are proud of our school and look forward to coming to work. We have 30 teachers, 12 instructional aides, and multiple community partners who aide in making our afterschool program a success.

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE Hi-Def is an afterschool program. Over the course of the year, nearly 150 students sign up to participate in a 3-hour program that provides dinner, an hour of tutoring/enrichment, and an hour of a fun activity or club. The purpose is to present students with a balance of academic and social activities while giving them a place to go in those critical hours after school when parents are working. Students are able to get homework help, targeted skills practice, and enrichment activities to keep them stay ahead of their class. We track students' formative assessment scores during the school day so that additional help can be offered during this extended day program. Our goal is to see 'more than average' growth from participants versus non-participants. We have over 25 fun activities or clubs over the course of the year including cooking club, dance club, archery, creative writing, foreign language clubs, and our now renowned Photography Club. In addition, workshops and classes are conducted specifically for parents to also be involved with their kids and participate alongside them.

OUR STEPS

HI-DEF is funded through the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant and School Improvement Grant.

IN OUR OWN WORDS

"I've never known a program like this before...this is such a great experience for our kids to get to know each other and their teachers outside of the classroom." – K. Mantta, Teacher

"Hi-Def is cool and fun...it gave me something to do" –Ariana, Student

"Another educational step to success" - Miranda, Student

"It was a creative experience where you can be you and not be judged." – Lexi, Student

For more information about our school or corporation, email us at tivey@lakeridgeschools.net or visit our website at www.lakeridge.k12.in.us