
Program Overview

The Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS), in partnership with Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD), created the Youth Entrepreneurship Education (YEE) continuum model in Northeast Ohio, an initiative launched in 2013 with leadership funding from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation. WRHS serves over 10,000 students annually through YEE experiences.

This project reached 91% of CMSD schools and includes over 5,600 CMSD students in grades 4, 5 and 6. In addition, WRHS provides YEE field experiences to students in 74 public and private schools from fourteen counties in Ohio and Pennsylvania. WRHS also provides professional development opportunities for over 500 NEO educators annually.

Thanks to generous support from BDM this program is available at no cost to all CMSD schools—including admission and transportation. Educators just need to call to book their program. We take care of the rest!

Community Feature

“I wish all PD [professional developments] and field experiences were as useful as this for teachers and students respectively.”
Paul L. Dunbar, teacher

“I have an active group and the entire program seemed to hold their interest. They enjoyed walking through but seemed actively involved in the poster making, especially since they had a role.”
Marion C. Seltzer, teacher

Multicultural Framework

WRHS created a YEE multicultural framework using the Sheltered Instructional Observation Protocol method, which is relatable to English Language Learners & students with exceptionalities. The strategies are implemented into the classroom curriculum, onsite materials, and museum educator delivery methods that align with original objectives of YEE continuum. The multicultural framework was developed in collaboration with the CMSD Multilingual Multicultural Department.

Evaluation & Assessment

WRHS obtained the professional services of the Public Service Institute at Lorain County Community College (LCCC) to provide a third party evaluation of the WRHS Youth Entrepreneurship Education (YEE) continuum.

This Program Works

WRHS has effectively designed a curriculum to prepare upper elementary students to demonstrate mastery of important portions of Social Studies learning objectives.

Entrepreneurship Excites

Students began a process of energizing themselves either to become entrepreneur or to appreciate the contributions to community welfare made by entrepreneurs.

Significant Improvement Pre to Post

Strong evidence shows statistically significant improvement on average scores between the two testing occasions.

500+
Teachers
Served

14,000
CMSD
Students
Served

9,200
Students from
Other Schools
Served

Professional Development Opportunities

After School Sessions
Held at WRHS

On-The-Spot Orientation
at School

YEE Professional
Learning Road Trip

Principal's Roundtable

The Blue Institute

YEE Field Experiences

Roots of Entrepreneurship
in Northeast Ohio
at Hale Farm & Village

Setting the World in Motion
at Cleveland History Center

REvolution
at Cleveland History Center

Entrepreneurs in Communities
at the Cleveland History Center

Experiences are available both in person or virtually online

"The YEE program really benefits our students because it fits in our place-based learning strategy where students are using the community as part of their learning lab, and because it is so carefully aligned with our 4th, 5th and 6th grade social study standards. And so it's aligned to what our teachers are expected to be teaching and what our students are supposed to be learning."

"I think this particular partnership is a model of what I hope for our kids in our community. You know, our reform plan is called the Cleveland Plan, not the Cleveland School District Plan, but the Cleveland Plan and that means everybody's engaged. And so this partnership really is an 'everybody engage partnership' and why I think it's so successful."

Eric Gordon
CEO, Cleveland Metropolitan School District



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