

THE PATHWAYS POST

June 15, 2010

Volume 2, Issue 8

Pathways Purchases Own Building, “Center for College Success”

Contributed by:
Milton Cockroft & Kelly Ramirez

Every year at Pathways brings more excitement and energy as we get to know our new students and families and watch our returning students change and grow. However, this year we experienced a different kind of excitement when we found out that our offer to purchase a building from the city of Milwaukee was accepted in April!

For the past three years, our College Prep Center has been located at three different schools because each year we outgrew the previous location. The Pathways staff decided that in order to be as effective as possible during our after-school workshops and to allow more space for our tutoring and mentoring programs, it was necessary to find a building that would be just for Pathways.



Above: KorbTredo Architects images of the Center for College Success

The search began and after many long months of viewing properties, our sights settled on the former Finney Library which is located at 4243 W. North Avenue. The site was ideal given its location at the intersection of several major bus lines and because it is pretty much in the center of Milwaukee which makes it accessible for all of our families.

Our dreams for the building grew from there! We aligned ourselves with KorbTredo Architects to design the interior space of the building. We also began talking to professors from Wisconsin Lutheran College about what we could do to beautify the green spaces around the outside of the building. With a plan in place, we sent our proposal to the city of Milwaukee. After several stressful weeks of waiting, we received a phone call letting us know they had accepted our offer.

The building will be named the Center for College Success, and we are thrilled to begin construction work in August in order to have the building ready for occupancy by November 2010. We are so excited to be able to open the doors of our state-of-the-art study facility to our 170 students in the fall!

The Center for College Success is being designed with the students in mind. We plan to include warm colors throughout the building and sleek furniture for our students to utilize. The “hub” of the building will be our computer lab which is going to have circular shaped walls! There will be four classrooms where our workshops

pathWAYS
TO college

will be held, and the walls will be able to separate to open into two large spaces if necessary. Our Learning Center will have computers, booths and tables and chairs for the high school students to come and study, work on projects or receive tutoring and mentoring. There is a special area designated for the Book Club which



“The Center for College Success is being designed with the students in mind...” - Kelly Ramirez

is going to be like nothing our students have seen before... but we can't give away all of the surprises!

The Parent Resource Center will be a kid-free zone designed with the parents and guardians of Pathways students in mind. Parents will be able to check out books on parenting and a variety of other topics and at the same time be able to relax and read in a quiet area. There will be computers for parents to utilize as well to complete work or homework, research information on high schools/colleges for their child or look for job opportunities online.

We still have a lot of work ahead of us, but the end result will be a warm and inviting space for our students and families to come to receive support and enjoy learning!

Study Skill of the Month: Educational Activities for the Summer

Summertime is here and students want to relax, be lazy and forget everything related to school. After a hard year of work, students deserve some rest from school responsibilities! However, this does not mean that kids should turn off their brains until the fall. It's easy for kids to be tempted to spend their summer days sitting in front of the computer or TV. Instead, kids should engage in educational activities in the summer to keep their minds sharp. This summer, Pathways



Value of the Month: Making Smart Summer Choices

For many, summertime is a time for leisure and freedom that isn't possible during the winter or school year. This freedom can be a blessing and a curse, depending on whether it is spent doing healthy, positive things or spent making poor, destructive choices. During the summer, more time is spent being social and out of the house. The people we choose to be around and the places we go can influence whether healthy or dangerous choices are made. This summer, Pathways students and families can help each other make smart choices, not unhealthy ones.

We can decide the paths of our summer by carefully choosing the people with whom we spend time. Surrounding ourselves by people

encourages students to find activities that are both fun *and* encourage learning.

But why would any kid voluntarily make himself *learn* over the summer? Learning keeps your mind sharp and "well-oiled", making it easier to return to school in the fall. Furthermore, students remember better what they learned the previous year resulting in higher grades and less stress. After all, who doesn't want to start the school year strong? **In the long run, keeping your mind active over the summer helps you become a stronger, more responsible student who is ready for high school and college.**

Staying academically challenged over summer does not necessarily mean doing worksheets and math problems. Educational activities can also be fun and emotionally rewarding. Find something that interests you and challenges you to learn at the same time. There is something educational and fun for everyone!

who support our health and well-being will only influence us to make positive, smart choices. However, it may be difficult to determine who those people are. For instance, some people are great to have fun with, but poor to trust. These people may put you in harm's way if the "fun" leads to trouble with the law or school. Avoiding the places where these people may be can prevent you from being tempted to follow. Remember, the people who sincerely care about you will put your health and wellness before fun and their own interests!

Choose carefully the people you are with and the places you hang around this summer, they will determine whether it is safe or if it is full of headaches!

Having trouble finding educational activities for the summer? Here are some great ideas to keep your mind sharp until the fall:

Read a book : Read up on a hobby or interest you have outside of school.

Go to the museum : Discovery World has many exciting exhibits, including an aquarium and Les Paul's House of Sound, where you can learn about the electric guitar and music.

Play educational games : Learn new vocabulary, do puzzles or quiz yourself on geography at www.freerice.com and www.sheppardsoftware.com.

Write : Keep a journal or compose poetry and lyrics for songs.

Practice a musical instrument : Playing music trains you to pay attention to detail and develop discipline skills.



**"Life is partly what we make it, and partly what it is made by the friends we choose."
-Tennessee Williams**

The Pathways Summer Program Is Just Around the Corner!

Summer Program Facts
Dates: July 12—23 (no Sat. or Sun.)
Times: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Where: Wisconsin Lutheran College

All of Pathways staff and children are eagerly awaiting the start of the Pathways Summer Program, which runs from July 12th to July 23rd (excluding the Saturday and Sunday) at Wisconsin Lutheran College. The Pathways Summer Program is a fun time for students to explore academics in a college setting with other Pathways students and college professors. For many, the summer program is their favorite component of the Pathways experience.

What Students Should Bring:

- Wear clothes for outdoor activities— clothes that you don't mind getting dirty
- Shoes that cover your toes
- Sunscreen
- No need to bring food— breakfast and lunch are provided!
- Pathways backpack
- Writing utensils and a notebook

Please do NOT bring electronics

What can students look forward to in the Pathways Summer Program? To begin, Pathways students arrive at Wisconsin Lutheran College in buses and then eat breakfast. Then, students are divided into small groups within their grade and assigned to a camp counselor. In these groups, students participate in sessions facilitated by Wisconsin Lutheran College professors and outside speakers. Some of these sessions include classes on marine biology, robotics, art, public speaking and writing. There is also athletic time where students can enjoy the summer weather. The two weeks include a field trip to a surprise location. There is something for every student to love about the summer program; it is an excellent time for students to learn, have fun and work with college instructors!

Please remember that the summer program is mandatory for all Pathways students. Attendance counts towards each student's running attendance for the year. If a student must be absent for any part of the program, please notify Kelly Ramirez at 414-443-8543.



Students in an acting and "improv" class (above) and working on art projects (below)

Pathways 8th Graders Graduate

Congratulations to all Pathways 8th graders for graduating onto high school! All of Pathways staff is very proud of the hard work that the 8th graders have put in both at Pathways and at school. Keep up the hard work on your journeys to college!

Some of the high schools that the 8th graders will be attending include:

- Wisconsin Lutheran
- Rufus King
- Dominican
- CEO Leadership Academy
- HOPE High
- St. Joan's Antida
- Milwaukee Lutheran
- Holy Redeemer



Promoting
Achievement
Through
Higher-
Learning
While
Advancing
Young
Scholars

Inside This Issue:

- Pathways acquires building for Fall
- Educational activities for the summer
- Information about Pathways Summer Program
- 8th Graders graduate

Pathways has an emergency number you can call that will provide information on CPC and Saturday event cancellations. Just call **414-443-8837**.

Upcoming Events:

July 12-23, 2010

Summer Program

ALL students at WLC; breakfast and lunch are provided.

DON'T FORGET...

August 7, 2010

Annual Summer Picnic

All Pathways to College students and families are invited.

View projects and artwork from the summer program, listen to evaluation results, picnic meal and games for the kids!

Questions about Pathways?

Contact our staff:

Milton Cockroft, Director 414-443-8729

Kelly Ramirez, Assistant Director 414-443-8543 Habla Español

Azure'De Williams, Coordinator K-5th grade 414-443-8784

Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief/Admin. Staff:

Kelly Ramirez

Head Layout Editor/Writer:

Mindy Kreuser