



800 Oak Avenue Wyoming OH 45215 (513) 821-2428



## **WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WYOMING YOUTH SERVICES AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (ASP)**

### **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ASP?**

1. To Tutor students in organizational strategies to help them to achieve and reach their full potential.
2. To help students complete daily homework assignments so that skills are reinforced and grades are improved.
3. To model and teach positive social skills and behaviors, including the prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, so that students enter High School with safe and healthy living habits.
4. To provide students extra help with academics and to offer enrichment experiences to improve their school performance and social skills.

### **WHY WAS MY CHILD CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE?**

Your child was chosen to participate by the Wyoming Middle School staff because they believed the program could help your child succeed.

### **WHERE IS THE PROGRAM HELD?**

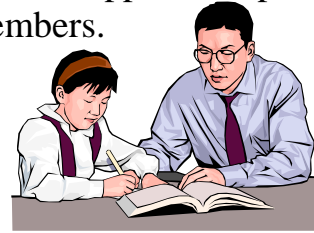
We meet in the basement of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church at the corner of Burns and Wyoming Avenues.

### **WHEN IS THE PROGRAM IN SESSION?**

The program takes place every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3:10 to 5:00 and from 3:10 to 4:30 on Wednesday on the days school is in session. Seventh and 8<sup>th</sup> graders may leave at 4:45 on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Periodically, there may be dates when a session must be canceled. When this happens, we will give you as much notice as possible. We follow the school calendar so when school is closed, the program does not meet. We also follow the school for weather emergencies. If the school closes or has an early dismissal due to bad weather, we will also be closed. In your Parent Packet you will find a program calendar. Please keep this handy so that you are up to date with days the program is not in session. Apart from school holidays or weather closures, we will be in session. The program ends in the spring on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Staff will be available, by appointment, the following week to help students complete any outstanding homework assignments or other school projects.

## **WHAT IS THE COST?**

There is no cost to you. The program is sponsored by Wyoming Youth Services. The Presbyterian Church of Wyoming donates the space and snacks and supplies are purchased by Wyoming Youth Services Bureau or donated by community members.



## **WHO WILL WORK WITH MY CHILD?**

Kathy Criddle, the ASP Coordinator, oversees the program and the three ASP staff members who will work directly with your child. There will also be community members, college students, and high school students who are volunteering their time to work with your child. All volunteers have participated in training to learn how to best help your child – and all adult staff and adult volunteers have undergone thorough background checks so that we can provide a safe atmosphere for your child.

## **WHAT WILL MY CHILD DO DURING THEIR TIME AT ASP?**

On a typical day, your child will walk from the Wyoming Middle School to the Wyoming Presbyterian Church and enter the building through the side door. From 3:10 until 3:30 they will sign in, receive a snack and socialize. The snack might be fruit, pretzels or a bag snack such as chex mix. They will also be given a drink. From 3:30 until 4:30 your child will organize his or her work, complete written homework, and study for tests. Once homework is completed your child may read or work quietly on work provided by staff. The children will then have a choice to go outside to play at the Middle School playground or remain inside to socialize or play board games. On the last Thursday of the month we will celebrate birthdays, and every Thursday students exchange reward points they have earned for prizes. We will also have celebrations (see calendar) including a Halloween Party, Winter Break Party, and End of Year Party.

## **HOW WILL MY CHILD BE MOTIVATED TO DO THEIR BEST?**

We have developed a reward system to motivate students. They will earn points for being prepared, working hard and turning in their work at school. Students will be able to exchange these points for prizes. We will also provide a positive atmosphere and recognize your child for their good efforts.

## **WHAT ARE THE RULES AND BEHAVIOR CONSEQUENCES?**

The most important rule is – **RESPECT**. We will discuss with the students that that word extends to people, places and things. Children will be given a warning for any inappropriate behavior. If they choose not to stop the behavior, they will “take five” and sit away from the group. If they choose to continue the behavior even after a “warning” and a “take five,” you will be called and your child will be sent home. Before the student reenters the program, the coordinator and the parent will hold a phone conference or a meeting to discuss strategies to help the child become more successful. To avoid distractions and to make sure students are

working on homework, students may not use their cell phones during the program. If there is an emergency you can contact staff on the program's cell phone (406.2150).

### **WHAT IF MY CHILD IS SICK OR WILL BE ABSENT FROM THE PROGRAM?**

We receive the daily attendance reports and will know if students do not come to school due to illness or other reasons. However, if your child leaves school early or was present at school but will not come to the program for any reason, please call and let us know. To ensure the safety of all children in the program, we will call you if your child doesn't arrive as expected. By letting us know in advance if your son or daughter won't be attending, it cuts down on the time we spend calling parents and allows us to focus our efforts on working with the children.

### **HOW WILL I KNOW HOW MY CHILD IS DOING IN ASP?**

Kathy Criddle, the ASP coordinator, will contact you by phone, email or note at regular intervals to let you know how your child is doing in the program. Your input is welcome and encouraged. You may call Kathy at Wyoming Youth Services Bureau (821-2428) or email [Kathy@wyomingyouthservices.com](mailto:Kathy@wyomingyouthservices.com) with questions or concerns. The cell phone number at the program is 406-2150.

### **HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE ASP PROGRAM?**

Please discuss with your child the purposes of ASP and the behavior expectations. Although socializing is important and will be a part of the program, our primary focus will be on academics and organization. Although your child will complete some of their homework at ASP, they may have a little more to finish up at home. Please check their assignment notebook. We will try to indicate what still needs to be completed. You can stop by ASP any time you like to visit us or you might want to provide one of the snacks or some materials for the program to use.

