



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Youth Enrichment's Academic Achievement Program Positive Results**

**May 30, 2018 (Greeley, CO)** – The City of Greeley's Youth Enrichment Program at both the Rodarte Community Center and Anna Gimmestad sites partnered with area schools this year to boost student academic achievement. Areas of focus were literacy, math, attendance and improving behavior. Youth Enrichment partnered with Billie Martinez, New Hope Academy, Chappelow, Ann K. Heiman and Dos Rios Elementary schools in Weld County School District 6 and collaborated to offer an After School Program where students can get help with homework and enjoy extracurricular activities. The goal was to not only assist with the improvement of overall test scores throughout the school year, but to also help reduce summer learning loss through camouflage learning and activities during out of school time.

The After School Program at both the Rodarte Community Center and Anna Gimmestad Park promotes a safe learning environment that provides tutoring, homework help and assistance with reading by Elementary Education students that are attending the University of Northern Colorado. Each program participant completes a half hour of homework, tutoring or reading upon arrival. Afterwards they participate in youth enriching activities provided by community partners like High Plains Library District, Weld County Extension STEM, UNC String Project, SAVA Speak Up!/START Program and area Boy Scouts.

Overall, the students that attended the After School Program at the Rodarte Community Center saw an increase in literacy scores and a huge decline in behavior incidents. In the literacy category, there was an increase over the sample population of nearly 10% above benchmark score between the sample population (29.23%) and those enrolled in the Rodarte Community Center's (39.02%) After School Program. In addition, behavior incidents dropped from 355 in the sample population to only 22 for Rodarte students. Greeley-Evans School District 6 students participate in the DIBELS (elementary literacy) testing twice a year, in the beginning of the school year to determine benchmark scores and then again in the spring to measure improvement.

As both the Rodarte Community Center and Anna Gimmestad sites begin their Fun in the Sun (FITS) summer camp program, students will continue to build on the foundation established this school year. Weekly themes have been established for the program throughout the summer incorporating science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) curriculum. For more information about the After School Program or Fun in the Sun camp, please visit [RodarteCC.com](http://RodarteCC.com) or call 970-350-9430.

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