STEP Update

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WAUWATOSA
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

STEP

Bridging Generations
Building Community

WAUWATOSA
RECREATION

Where We Left Off

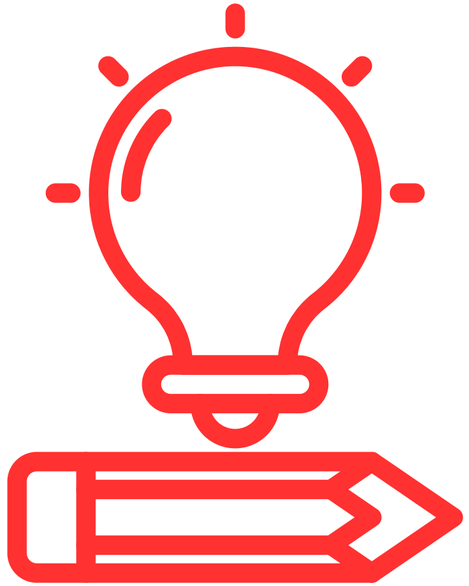
When I last spoke to the Commission, we shared our vision and our hopes for STEP. We also shared an idea that was just beginning to take shape, knowing there was a lot of work ahead of us. While the scope felt daunting at times, we were driven by what could be and the impact this program has the potential to make.

We Promoted

- TMJ4
- NAC Blast
- Library Flyer
- Tosa Times (District Newsletter)
- Senior Club Member Letters
- School Newsletters
- PTO Newsletters
- Presentations (MEPA, Hart Park Square, & More)
- Word of Mouth

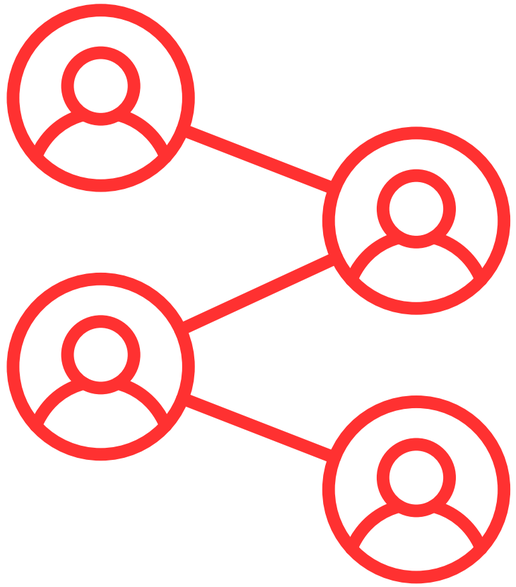
We Created

- Application Materials
- Onboarding Process
- Training Modules and Materials
- Placement & Scheduling System
- Communication Systems
- Compensation and Tracking Progress
- Partnership Structures
- Newsletters



We Connected

- When Applications Were Turned In
- One-On-One Onboarding Conversations (54)
- 2 Hour Training Sessions (5)
- School & Library Introductions
- Maintained ongoing communication
- First STEP Newsletter Went Out



We Celebrated

We Started The Work

Stats

School	Number Of Participants	% of Library Classes
Eisenhower	4	53%
Jefferson	5	54%
Lincoln	5	71%
Madison	6	100%
McKinley	7	55%

School	Number Of Participants	% of Library Classes
Roosevelt	6	47%
Underwood	6	64%
Washington	8	66%
Wilson	5	56%
Montessori	2	50%

- *As of 1/15. These will change as hours and volunteering time adjusts.*

Keeping The Momentum Going

- Surveys Will Be Going Out Mid March
- Monthly Coffee Sessions & Newsletters
- Interviewing Some Participants
- Starting To Formulate Ideas For Year 2
  - Connecting With PTAs & PTOs
  - Starting Conversations With Secondary Schools
  - Brainstorming Other Spaces

Thank You

This first year has been about building trust, systems, and relationships before expansion. However, none of this would have moved forward without people willing to say yes early, lean into something new, and help get the ball rolling.

Because of your commitment, students are being welcomed into libraries that feel warmer and more connected. Because of your time and presence, reading has become a shared experience that builds confidence, belonging, and joy. That impact is happening every day because our participants chose to show up.

What started as an idea by this commission is now happening in our schools, and that is because of the people who believed it could work and were willing to take the first step.

What Question Can We Answer