

## **Attribute 5.1 Partners Support Instruction**

Partnerships will be vital to sustain our STEM initiative. The key to establishing and building such relationships is to provide as many touch points as possible between the school and its community partners. Mentoring and mutually beneficial exchanges also provide opportunities for our students to experience STEM-related careers and to personally reap the rewards of volunteerism and service learning.

### **COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS...**

- Community Speakers

Example: Tennessee Technical University and Mix 104.1 Radio

Our CTE Engineering teacher works with TTU to bring university engineering students to his classroom for demonstrations and simulations of engineering in real-world situations. This connectivity to a post-secondary institution permits students to obtain a greater understanding of career exploration and its possibilities in the field of engineering. Our local radio station visits with our communication students to stimulate interest in all aspects of radio. These scheduled events were cancelled this year due to Covid but will be rescheduled as soon as we are able.

- BOYS & GIRLS CLUB and YMCA Aftercare

For many of our latch-key students, having a safe place to go after school is so important. The Boys and Girls Club/YMCA Aftercare programs in our community offers snacks, tutoring, crafts, and games that encourage a sense of belonging. Their Mission is simple, to help put young people on the path to great futures. Their vision is to provide a safe and encouraging place to go during out-of-school time. With a warm and caring staff, they create a positive learning environment to encourage Academic Success; Good Character and Citizenship, and lessons on Healthy Lifestyles, fostering creativity and imagination. Both tutoring programs provide student support in our 1 to 1 device initiative with access to the internet that these students may not have at home.

- LeadWorthy (Capturing Kids Hearts Curriculum)

Our CMS students experience a "Leadworthy Moment" a mini-lesson weekly which helps to develop critical, life-changing skills, such as taking personal responsibility, expressing themselves well and making good decisions when problems arise. Powered by the Flippin Group, this research-based curriculum includes topics very relevant to the needs of our 21st century students. To foster a sense of community within our student body we have weekly "LeadWorthy Moments" where quotes (frequently from industry/business leaders) are discussed and students answer discussion questions based on reflecting how such sentiments affect how they deal with one another and look to their own promising futures. [LeadWorthy Moments](#) provide short exercises designed to help incorporate character-based education into our classrooms.

- 100 Black Men of Bradley County

This organization has been meeting with our students of color since 2001, every Friday morning. Groups vary from 20 to 30 students who they take on field trips and if the student stays with the organization throughout their secondary school experience, they receive a free laptop and help with tuition to college. Such a framework of successful

community business leaders modeling behaviors of achievement, is essential for all students, especially youth of color, who traditionally have been marginalized in learning standards, school policies, and classroom practices. With guest speakers ranging from Bankers to C.E.O.s of certain local organizations, our students are inspired.

- Reality Check by Junior Achievement of the Ocoee Region

All of our 8th grade students experienced what it is like to be 25 years old and budget monthly expenses during the Real Life Simulation “Reality Check” sponsored by Junior Achievement and the Cleveland/Bradley County Chamber of Commerce. This event brings together students and community volunteers. In the 2019/2020 school year, JA hosted 409 CMS students during Reality Check and JA Economics for Success. The volunteers spent 2,863 contact hours with our 8th graders in the theater.

- Community Grant Providers & Museum Center at 5IVE Points

Nothing great happens when you do it alone. Over the years we have had a motivated and dedicated group of individuals that collaborate with our teachers to identify what matters and how to make it happen with the support of community funds provided by generous business partners or extensive exhibits and guest speakers. Inspired and assisted by grants our school has been able to provide yearly musicals, create mosaics of lasting beauty, enjoy lively storytellers and grow an online collection for the district's digital library and add a STEM mobile lab. The Allied Arts Council and the Bradley Cleveland Public Education Foundation have helped teachers to shape the future of their communities by enhancing the classroom experience. The Museum at 5ive Points offers the Story of our Region, its artifacts and exhibits have helped bring history to life for our students. The collective wisdom of our community donors and docents have been a mainstay for enriching activities that make the school experience memorable and effective. Their support creates a shared sense of belonging and has ultimately strengthened the social, cultural vibrancy of our school.

- PTO: Family and Community Engagement

Cleveland Middle School has an active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) that is invested in the academic achievement of the students, the school's culture, and climate. It provides mini-grants to faculty for instruction providing an opportunity for teachers to create STEM lessons and purchase needed materials.