

Grantee Name:

Heartland Lakes Community School

Grant Award Number:

S282B230017

ALN:

84.282B – Opening a New Charter School

State:

Minnesota

Project Duration:

5 Years

Year 1 Funding:

\$357,183

Total Expected Funding:

\$1,349,884

Grantee Address:

31795 County Highway 50
Park Rapids, Minnesota
56470

Project Director Name:

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Heartland Lakes Community School

Heartland Lakes Community School New Charter School Development

Heartland Lakes Community School (HLCS) is a new charter school scheduled to open in the rural, northern community of Park Rapids, Minnesota in the fall of 2024. HLCS will open to 85 students in grades kindergarten through 6th grade in the first year and expand to serving 160 students in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade by the fifth year.

The goal of the school will be to create a learning community that expands opportunities for all students and to create a place where students experience safety and belonging, where their curiosity is ignited through expeditionary learning, and where they learn to be stewards of the land and resources through access to the natural world.

In addition, HLCS will use the Community School Model to create a learning community that enriches the lives of students and their families and addresses both academic and other needs. This model aligns well with the competitive preference priority of Promoting High-Quality Educator- and Community-Centered Charter Schools to Support Underserved Students.

The following **project objectives** will be addressed in the project proposal:

1. HLCS will meet our enrollment goals for each year of the project;
2. HLCS students will demonstrate proficiency in state assessment testing in ELA and mathematics;
3. HLCS will create a learning community where families and students report feeling a sense of belonging, as measured by the Sense of Belonging Scale (or similar measure);
4. HLCS will establish partnerships with local providers, nonprofits, and service agencies to implement the Community Schools Model and address the full needs of each community member; and
5. All HLCS instructional Staff will participate in yearly professional development.

The proposed **project outcomes** include holding monthly community events; training all school staff in a variety of relevant topics; purchasing supplies, equipment, and curriculum; seeing academic growth in our students; retaining both staff and teachers; outperforming neighboring districts in state assessment tests; and establishing community partnerships to serve students and their families.

Competition Priorities Addressed: Competitive Preference Priority – Promoting High-Quality Educator-and Community-Centered Charter Schools to Support Underserved Students.