

**5 Days
Per
Week!**

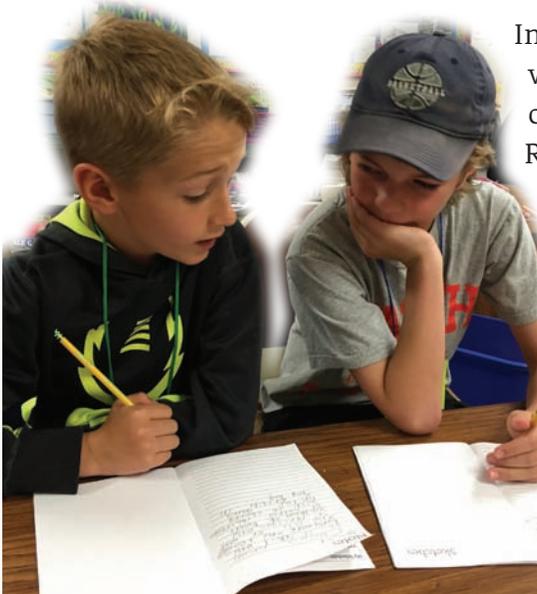
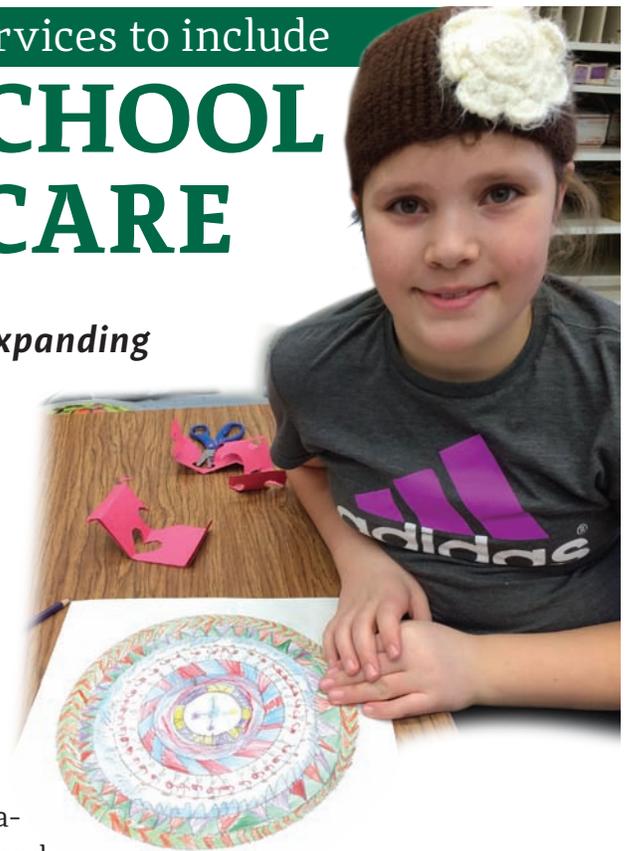
Cub Club expands services to include

AFTER-SCHOOL CHILDCARE

The Methow Valley School District is expanding Cub Club! Beginning in the fall of the 2016-17 school year, the Methow Valley School District will expand Cub Club to include after-school childcare services, Monday through Friday, for children in grades K – 6.

The decision to offer after-school childcare services is based upon a combination of research and feedback collected through the Early Childhood Education and Childcare Needs Assessment. Many parents and employers were quick to cite the lack of affordable, high quality after-school childcare for school-age children as a significant challenge. By offering childcare services, the Methow Valley School District is hoping to:

- Provide children with access to a safe, child-centered setting
- Reduce transitions for students and parents throughout the day
- Increase student participation in enriching, high-interest activities
- Support working families and employers



In addition to examining parent and community feedback, we looked at the research associated with after-school childcare and enrichment. According to the Harvard Family Research Project, “After-school programs are a powerful influence in the lives of young people. They offer safe spaces where youth receive personal attention, find academic support, form friendships, discover their passions, and develop new talents. Research confirms that high-quality after-school programs show positive outcomes for young people, including academic achievement, civic and social development, and reduced risk-taking behaviors.”



How much does it cost?

Participating families will be asked to pay a monthly fee based on a sliding-scale system. Fees collected will be used to cover the costs associated with staffing, supplies, transportation, and a healthy snack. Rates are:



- \$40 per month for families qualifying for free meal services
- \$60 per month for families qualifying for reduced-cost meal services
- \$100 per month for full-pay families

What time does it begin and end? It will begin at 3:15 p.m. and end at 5 p.m.

What is the ratio of students to each supervisor? 15 students per supervisor for children in grades K through 3. For grades 4 through 6, the ratio will be 20 students per supervisor.

Will transportation be provided? Yes. Transportation will be provided with two stops — the Winthrop Red Barn and the Twisp Community Center.

Does this replace the enriching activities currently being offered through Cub Club? No. Childcare services will be an addition to the current enrichment activities offered throughout the year.

What activities will be offered as part of the childcare program? Some examples include: strategy games, art projects, outdoor play, and homework.

If I sign my child up for childcare, can they participate in the Cub Club enrichment activities?

Yes. Parents whose children attend the childcare program may also sign them up to participate in the Cub Club enrichment activities that take place throughout the year. While many of the Cub Club enrichment activities are free, some require a fee. This fee would be in addition to the monthly childcare fee.

Are “drop-ins” allowed? Not at this time. As a starting place, we are prioritizing childcare for students needing regular services. Parents of participating students will be asked to pay a monthly fee (*see rates left*). We’ll assess our ability to allow for drop-ins after the first semester.

How do I enroll my child? Beginning Friday, June 3, enrollment information can be picked up at the Methow Valley Elementary School office. We will also post enrollment information on our district website.

Other questions? Please direct your questions to Katharine Bill, Early Childhood Education and Child-care coordinator at kbill@methow.org

