



Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 7, 2024

TO: PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: NICK MEROLLA, RECREATION SUPERVISOR
DIEGO AGUILERA, RECREATION COORDINATOR
ISIAH CASTRO, RECREATION SPECIALIST

SUBJECT: REPORT ON 2023-2024 ELOP PROGRAMS

STATEMENT OF ISSUES:

Report on 2023-2024 ELOP Programs

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive the report on 2023-2024 ELOP Programs

DISCUSSION:

For the past two year, the Watsonville Parks and Community Services Department and Pajaro Valley Unified School District have partnered to provide Expanded Learning Opportunities Programs (ELOP) to Watsonville youth.

These programs include before school “Kinder Care” for TK Students at Starlight Elementary School, After School Enrichment at Ann Soldo, HA Hyde, MacQuiddy, Mintie White, and Watsonville Charter of the Arts elementary schools, and Camp WOW programming for all PVUSD youth grades TK-5th at our recreational sites. In addition to these programs, our two youth development sites, Environmental Science Workshop and the GHWR Youth Center, offer programming through ELOP.

Funding through the California Department of Education, secured by PVUSD, has allowed these programs to be accessible to participants at no cost. This funding not only allows our programs to reach more students, but also greatly impacts the quality of our programs. This summer we were able to provide swim lessons to all Camp WOW participants, ensuring each one of them felt more confident being in the water with the ability to swim to the edge of the pool. Because of this partnership and funding, participants were able to attend various field trips and explore life outside of Watsonville via charter buses. In previous years, our capacity for each trip was limited to the number of City vans available.

Below is statistical information of the impact each ELOP program has made since August 2023.

	Kinder Care	After School Enrichment	Camp WOW Summer Programming	Camp WOW Saturday Programming
Enrollment	11	500+	498	130
Educational Opportunities	186	1,496	103	12
Recreation Opportunities	204	1,111	455	16
Healthy Meals Provided	826	27,466	3,676	390

STRATEGIC PLAN:

ELOP Programs support the following Council priority of:

- 05-Community Engagement & Well-Being - Participants in these programs have been given the opportunity to participate in an array of activities from learning to cook healthy meals and snacks, express their creativity through various educational activities and participate in a number of different physical activities that in the long run will help prevent and treat a number of health conditions while having fun.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures for all ELOP Programs have been funded by PVUSD’s grant proceeds from the California Department of Education.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

None

ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):

None