



## **About 100 Woodstock elementary school students spent part of summer taking enrichment classes**

Now in its second year, Woodstock Community Unit School District 200 offered enrichment classes this summer where elementary school students learned new skills and got excited about and prepared for a new school year.

District 200 has traditionally offered jumpstart summer school for students who needed an extra boost to perform at grade level in reading and math, but two years ago administrators decided to offer new programming for students looking for some fun summer learning opportunities.

“It gets them back into the routine of getting up and ready to learn. I know from raising my own kids that summer can be tough for routines,” said Jennifer Malecke, principal for District 200’s summer school program. “And it’s fun. They’re really enjoying it. They got to pick the classes they wanted, and that helps them stay motivated.”

Students were able to choose from Spanish, STEM, art, coding and dance classes, which were newly added this year. STEM students built tracks to race marbles, constructed boats to learn about buoyancy and participated in many other fun projects.

The curriculum for each class was developed by District 200 teachers. Classes this summer were held from July 22 through Aug. 1 at Mary Endres Elementary School. About 100 students from first through fifth grade participated in this summer’s classes.

Keely Krueger, assistant superintendent for early childhood and elementary education, said parents appreciate having a fun summer learning opportunity and that educators will continue working toward keeping the course offerings engaging so repeat students will have new experiences each summer.

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