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New after-school program seeks community volunteers for fall

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BROOKINGS — Are you a community member who wants to enrich local children's lives? Do you have a skill or hobby to share? Brookings-Harbor School District invites you to participate in a new initiative to meet the after-school needs of middle school students in Brookings and Harbor.

The Azalea After-School Academy will provide enriching after-school experiences to middle-level students in the Brookings area with a focus on strengthening the student-school connection, developing skills for self-reliance, and promoting academic success. "With the help of community volunteers and trained teaching staff, this program will provide opportunities not currently available to our middle school students during the school day," Azalea Vice-Principal, Sean O'Malley, said. "It's a great opportunity to share life experiences and career pathways with kids and help prepare them for high school and beyond, while providing great after-school care options for local families."

Students and their families can choose from interest clubs, intramural sports, tutoring groups and various social-emotional supports offered after school. The academy program will be three days per week this fall: 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays; 2 to 3:20 p.m. Wednesdays; and 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays at Azalea Middle School.

The new program is in particular need of community volunteers to mentor club activities. The program is seeking at least 10 volunteers that can commit to 1-2 hours per week to lead fun, educational activities such as cooking, art, computer gaming, computer programming/coding, music, bike building and creative writing.

Interested volunteers should submit a proposal of their activity to Azalea Middle School Vice-Principal Sean O'Malley (seano@brookings.k12.or.us or [541-469-7427](tel:541-469-7427)) by September 2016 and must pass a background check. Proposal and Volunteer Clearance forms are available at Azalea Middle School.

"We establish a safe and supportive environment where we collaboratively develop confident, life-long learners and critical thinkers by promoting quality habits, values, skills and knowledge for their future endeavors."