

Lansing Youth Services Town Board Report May 2025

Robust Robots: Robust Robots finished strong with all students creating patterns for the Ozobots to follow. Two students were very intent on creating a “dance” for their Ozobots, including special moves like super speed mode, slow motion, zigzagging to another part of the course, and the tornado. The large, multi-board track was used heavily and students loved trying to “trick” the Ozobot by using color patterns that were foreign to the robot, usually just bypassing the command. A lot of fun was had trying to create new commands. Youth created a Spheros challenge with a long preprogrammed path to the front of the school through three hallways. Make it Monday’s is up next where students will plan and work within a budget for the next weeks activities. 9 youth served.

Outdoor Adventure: Students in Outdoor Adventure finished out the final days enjoying watching the fish run up Salmon Creek to spawn. All of the fish seemed to be White Suckers and two students were still able to catch some, 7 in total. Another very popular activity was finding fossils. The Trilobite deposit has produced some of the largest examples I have seen outside of a museum, so lots of careful excavation was completed. Spring has also brought the arrival of new life, and the group was able to follow raccoon and mink tracks along the shore, trying to figure out what those animals were up to, which seemed to be looking for the same fish as the students. Up next is Outdoor Adventure- Base Camp. As the camping season is approaching, skills to set up a campsite, set a tarp for shelter, how to hang a bear bag, different ways to make fire, and how to safely use knives. 12 youth served.

Gaming Creation: This group of game creators were very thoughtful and intentional with their games and game pieces. Each group had different game pieces or boards they wanted to have 3-D printed. All of the printing was completed by our youth employee and students were extremely happy with the results. The detail in the game pieces is quite impressive and the cube for 3-D Chess came out great. One favorite was the “Girl Scouts” game, as most of the places to land all had positive aspects to them, rather than “return to start” or “lose a turn”, there was “move ahead”, or “pick another number” or my favorite- “congratulations! You get a box of cookies of your choice”. Most of the students are wanting to return to either continue making their games or participate in the next program which is Game On. 10 youth served.

Iron Chef- Outdoor Edition: Participants in this program had quite the battle with the weather which kept the group indoors most of the time. However, this group was very flexible and didn’t mind cooking recipes indoors that they can transfer to outdoors over a fire at another time. The group made pizzas, along with campfire nachos, both of which satisfied lots of hunger. The final day was back over a campfire at Salmon Creek where campfire apple pie was requested, this time allowing more time for cooking and a lot of whipped cream! Up next is Science on the Shore, where students will head to Myers Park each day to observe native and invasive species, document as many of those they can, create a guidebook for Myers Point, perform water quality testing, and get in a nice hike to and from the park each day. 12 youth served.

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Youth Employment: The youth employees have been busy all around, working with the high school library, the Lansing Public Library, and as Lansing Youth Services Assistants. The high school library assistant has been busier than normal helping them prepare for summer and the next school year, and he is eager to work as much as he can before he heads off to college. At the Lansing Public Library several youth are transitioning seniors and staff are working on filling those positions. One youth has started already and is working as an apprentice to learn the ropes, and another has just applied. Our Lansing Youth Services Assistants were critical in making the Gaming Creation program a success with their 3-D printing experience and our new Assistant is growing daily. He responds well to direction and advice and is also very eager to work as many hours as he can. 12 youth served.