
AFTER-SCHOOL STUDY SESSIONS

Kaiserslautern American Middle School and High School

Kaiserslautern, Germany

In both the middle and high schools, students were struggling with their schoolwork, athletes needed assistance in maintaining their grade point averages for player eligibility, and the number of students earning D's and F's was on the rise. In the past, Kaiserslautern offered tutoring programs during the school day that were somewhat successful but ultimately not feasible because of block scheduling. To solve these challenges, an After-School Study Session program was started in October.

Kaiserslautern's Action Team for Partnerships first wrote a proposal for the program. After the middle and high school principals accepted the proposal, team members developed release forms for student participation. Next, they advertised the After-School Study Sessions in parent newsletters, the daily school bulletin, the Commander's bulletin, local newspapers, and on the radio. The Action Team contacted the military support units, community members, and teachers to solicit support and volunteers.

The first After-School Study Session took place in October with about 20 volunteers and students participating. During the war, the volunteers from the military were deployed, and honors students took their place. Participants felt that the extra help from the volunteers during the study sessions improved their academic success. The number

of homework assignments turned in on a regular basis increased and behavioral problems decreased slightly. One seventh-grade student said, "My grades have gone up and now I am not grounded." A high school junior stated, "I have learned so much more about geometry and Algebra II. I feel I am better prepared for next year." Parents were equally supportive and grateful for the additional help their students received at the After-School Study Sessions.

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