



EXTENDED DAY, QUALITY AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS LEARN FROM EACH OTHER

Across the nation, school district officials, education policy makers, lawmakers and community leaders are considering extending the school day as a way to bolster students' academic performance, improve their science, math and technology learning, and better prepare them to compete in the global economy.

The push to extend the school day can be seen as an affirmation of many of the tenets of afterschool. In communities where leaders are considering lengthening the school day, advocates and afterschool providers are joining the discussions and, in many cases, helping ensure that the successful characteristics and components of quality afterschool programs, with their diverse and engaging activities, are incorporated into an extended day approach.

Extended day reforms are taking different forms from district to district, as officials grapple with such issues as cost, facilities, curriculum, transportation, concerns about over-programming children, and more. Some schools and districts have lengthened their days by as little as 15 minutes, others by as much as two hours. Some are adding days to the school calendar. In some districts, the reforms are focused on providing all-day kindergarten, while in others they are targeted toward low-performing schools. Some examples:

- Officials in Mesa, Arizona recently extended the junior high day by 15 minutes.

- In West Fresno, California, the school district has lengthened the 4th to 8th grade school day by an hour in the district's lowest performing schools.
- In Miami-Dade County, Florida, 39 of the district's lowest ranking schools have had their days lengthened by one hour, and their years extended by five days.
- In Massachusetts, the state house and senate are considering Governor Deval Patrick's proposal to increase funding for full-day kindergarten and double allocations for grants to support afterschool programs and extended learning time.
- In New Mexico, the state is providing funding to extend the school day by one hour in four districts for more than 2,000 children who failed achievement tests.
- New York City has extended the school day by 37.5 minutes on Mondays through Thursdays for teachers of underperforming students.
- In Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, officials have added 45 minutes a day and ten days a year to the district's lowest performing schools.
- In Conroe, Texas, all 28 elementary school districts will now offer full-day kindergarten, following up on a successful pilot program.

Governors and state legislatures in other states are considering extended day proposals. They include Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana,

Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Utah and Washington. In addition, officials in the District of Columbia are considering extended day measures, and New Mexico may expand its current program.

Some in the afterschool community worry that the energy behind extending the learning day could create challenges for afterschool programs, said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant – but she sees an opportunity in this debate. “The truth is that most extended day programs being considered look a lot like the afterschool programs, which have a track record of keeping kids safe and inspiring them to learn,” Grant said. “The challenge for afterschool providers and experts is to make sure that extended day programs incorporate the best elements of quality afterschool programs. That’s what will produce the best results for children.”

The critical question in extending the school day is how the added time will be used, Grant said, noting that many experts say that, if extending the day means more of the same delivered in the same way, the reform is likely to fail. Furthermore, recent research provides evidence that afterschool programs help students improve academically through hands on learning and enrichment activities like art, music, sports and science projects. In fact, even programs not specifically aimed at improving academics often lead to gains in achievement – proof that the afterschool approach to learning can yield in-school results by offering creative, innovative activities that engage, interest and motivate students.

“That’s why the extended day concept should be informed by what afterschool programs are doing,” Grant said. “For some time, strong afterschool programs have been doing exactly what the extended day initiatives are designed to do. Afterschool leaders figured out long ago that afterschool programs can be so much more than keeping an eye on kids until parents get home from work; they can be about reinforcing

classroom learning by creating engaging, challenging opportunities that expand children’s base of experience and knowledge. Afterschool is a successful structure and one that’s already in place in many districts.”

Research shows that in the U.S, there are more than 14 million unsupervised children in the hours after school each day. If done well, extended day approaches are one way to give more children access to safe, enriching and expanded learning environments in the hours after school, Grant added.

For those communities where extended day programs are being considered, it’s important to make sure that the afterschool approach to learning is incorporated into the vision of extended day, she said. This approach includes enrichment activities, and partnerships with community based organizations, colleges, museums and other community assets that help make learning come alive through application and hands on activities that give youth opportunities to connect with role models and mentors. Many students need some new context, new medium, or a practical problem to solve for motivation to stay connected to school and to graduate.

The recent *A New Day for Learning* report from school reform experts of the Time, Learning, and Afterschool Task Force, takes a similar view. “The current structure of the day we’ve established for American children in which learning experiences are fragmented and disjointed is obsolete,” says Christopher T. Cross, former Assistant Secretary of Education in the U.S. Department of Education and a member of the Task Force. “Every community across the nation needs to cast aside the notion that learning can occur only between 8 am and 3 pm and within the traditional school day.” And learning for these rapidly changing times requires many more school-community-family partnerships during the typical school day and afterschool – and in extended day efforts.



FUNDING NEWS

The Afterschool Alliance has numerous resources on its website to help afterschool providers, including tips on initiating new relationships with funders and businesses, and on identifying funding opportunities. *For more information, visit www.afterschoolalliance.org/funding_main.cfm.*

GRANTS/AWARDS AVAILABLE

Grants for Art Education

The National Endowment for the Arts is sponsoring Learning in the Arts grants to advance arts education for children and youth ages five through 18 in school or community-based settings. Grants of \$150,000 will be awarded to select programs. The application deadline is June 11. *For more information, visit <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP08/LITA.html>.*

Grants for Cultural and Linguistic Preservation Programs

The Genographic Legacy Fund, administered by the National Geographic Society with support from IBM and the Waitt Family Foundation, is sponsoring grants of up to \$100,000 for programs that encourage cultural, educational and linguistic preservation for indigenous communities. Projects should be designed and implemented by indigenous groups. The application deadline is June 15. *For more information, contact Danae Tuley at 202/857-7777 or visit https://www.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/legacy_fund.html.*

Grants for Educational Access, Health Promotion, and Girl Empowerment

The Mattel Children's Foundation is sponsoring grants of up to \$20,000 for organizations that serve low-income children younger than age 12. Programs should highlight increasing educational access, promoting physical and mental health, and fostering the empowerment of girls. The application deadline is June 15. *For more information, visit http://www.mattel.com/about_us/philanthropy/ci_mcf_philanthropy_grantmaking.asp.*

Grants for Supporting Children's Welfare

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is sponsoring grants of up to \$70,000 in support of programs that contribute to the emotional, mental, physical and spiritual welfare of children in a large geographic area. The application deadline is July 15. *For more information, visit <http://www.legion.org/cwf/docs/?section=grantseekers>.*

Grants for Computer Software

The Microsoft Corporation is offering grants for in-kind support to help programs create community-based technology and learning centers that help promote technology literacy. Programs must have computer hardware that is needed to run Microsoft software, and personnel capable of installing and maintaining requested software. Applications are accepted year round. *For more information, visit <http://www.microsoft.com/mscorp/citizenship/giving/apply>.*



CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Veteran Congressman Ralph Regula (R-OH), a longtime afterschool supporter and key appropriator who has been honored by the Afterschool Alliance in the past, will serve as the new Republican Co-Chair of the House Afterschool Caucus. Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-NY) remains the Caucus' Democratic Co-Chair.

"We are tremendously grateful to Representatives Lowey and Regula for their leadership and support for afterschool," said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. "We look forward to working with them to grow the afterschool budget so that all children and families have access to the afterschool programs they need." Congressman Regula is particularly interested in afterschool programs for older students, with an eye to reducing the dropout rate.

The House and Senate Afterschool Caucuses are growing, largely as a result of powerful advocacy by afterschool providers and supporters across the country. In recent weeks, new Caucus members include Representatives Michael Arcuri (D-NY), John Barrow (D-GA), Barbara Lee (D-CA), Doris Matsui (D-CA), Janice Schakowsky (D-IL) and Mike Simpson (R-ID) and Senators Bernard Sanders (I-VT) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).



SUPPORT FOR AFTERSCHOOL ADVANCES IN IA, KS, MT, WA

Afterschool supporters in four states are celebrating significant victories, having convinced policy makers to increase funding for programs. Advocates in Iowa, Kansas, Montana and Washington saw their outreach pay off, and as a result thousands of children will soon have safe, enriching activities available to them in the afternoons.

Afterschool programs in Iowa may get as much as \$3.5 million for the coming year. The Iowa Afterschool Alliance (IAA) reports that legislators designated \$1 million in grants for afterschool from the Healthy Iowans Tobacco Trust, the Department of Education, and the Standings bill. The IAA anticipates that a request for proposals will be released this summer. An additional \$2.5 million of new funding has been appropriated for supplemental education strategies, including afterschool programs, for schools to ensure that all students have equal educational opportunities. The funding increases are especially significant when compared to last year's afterschool allocation in the state, which was just \$150,000.

Middle school students in Kansas will now have more to do in the afternoon, thanks to the leadership of Senator Laura Kelly who spearheaded the effort to pass the Kansas Middle School Afterschool Activity Advancement Grant. It will provide \$400,000 of new state funds for the next school year. The new grants will support afterschool programs promoting physical activity, career and higher learning opportunities, and academic enhancement for students in grades six through eight during the school year.

Montana's state legislature dedicated \$250,000 in grants for prevention and afterschool programs working with at-risk youth. The legislation was championed by Representative Elsie Arntzen.

For the first time ever, Washington State has dedicated state funds for afterschool. The 2007 – 2009 biennial budget includes \$3 million in afterschool funding. The Washington Afterschool Network and School's Out Washington began their push for this much-needed funding in 2003 and the resulting legislation supports the four investment areas identified in 2004's state plan. Representative Joe McDermott and Senator Tracy Eide provided strong leadership to ensure this victory for afterschool and the state's children.

CALIFORNIA UPDATE

The After School Leadership Conference, sponsored by the San Diego County Office of Education's Region 9 Technical Assistance Center (RTAC), was held in Palm Springs in mid-May – and in just three years, the event has grown from a regional staff development opportunity to a national conference, this year hosting more than 1,300 participants from 27 states.

This year's Conference included a half-day pre-conference workshop focused on nutrition and physical activity, followed by more than 50 workshops covering a wide range of topics. More than 75 exhibitors shared information about products and services available to afterschool providers.

Keynote speakers included Clay Roberts from the Search Institute, Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant and Judy Nee, President and CEO of the National Afterschool Association. Featured performers included the motivational percussion group CREW, mariachi musicians from South Bay Union School District, the Mar Vista Middle School Jazz Band, Eveoke Dance Theater, and the artists and musicians from the Art Wars program at San Dieguito High School.

AFTERSCHOOL PROFILE:

AFTERSCHOOL ADVOCATE'S COMMITMENT BORN OF EXPERIENCE

In his role as Director of Community Relations for the Florida Group Office of Bright House Networks, Reinaldo Llano has helped lead the telecommunications firm to become a strong supporter of afterschool programs in the region. For Llano, it's a commitment born of personal experience.

Llano grew up in the Bronx, New York, raised by a single mother who had left her

native Puerto Rico at age seven. As a child, public assistance was his family's main source of income, and as the family strained to make ends meet, Reinaldo struggled to stay in school and away from trouble. He credits the afterschool program of ASPIRA of New York, a Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Services organization, with keeping him on track to graduate.

A 1994 high school internship at Time Warner turned out to be the foothold for what would become a rapid climb through company ranks and, in 2004, with a bachelor's degree from Hobart College and ten years of employment at Time Warner on his résumé, he made the move to Bright House Networks' Orlando, Florida office.

In 2006, with leadership from Llano, the company launched its Bright Kids Network, a comprehensive community outreach program providing funding and services to Florida Boys & Girls Clubs in Manatee, Hillsborough and Volusia Counties. The initiative will provide scholarships covering membership fees for youth from low-income and single-parent families, as well as funding for new programs. In all, the initiative represents a \$1 million commitment for Boys & Girls Clubs' afterschool programs over four years.

"Bright House Networks has traditionally been supportive of education through its cable in the classroom program," Llano says. "But we were looking to develop a signature focus – a significant and important contribution that the community would recognize as such. Afterschool just made sense for us because it complements our focus on youth. In fact, as afterschool programs seek support from corporate partners, it's really important that they think about whether and how afterschool fits for the company – how it fits with their product and their customers, as well as with their history in the community."

At April's "Afterschool for All Challenge," Bright House Networks sponsored the participation of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida Youth of the Year, covering costs for high school senior Danielle

Morgan to spend two days in Washington, D.C. learning about advocacy and urging lawmakers to increase funding for afterschool programs. “She was phenomenal,” Llano said of Morgan. “She’s a very articulate girl with a 4.3 grade point average, who’s gotten a full scholarship to the University of South Florida. She was great in our meetings in congressional offices, and she was doing television interviews and having a great time.”

The visit to Washington was also Llano’s first experience on Capitol Hill. “It was a super experience,” he says, “because you really had the feeling you were making a difference by giving lawmakers and their staff information and perspective that would help shape their votes on funding for afterschool.”



AFTERSCHOOL STEM EDUCATION EXPANDS IN MA

Four innovative afterschool programs that focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) enrichment in Massachusetts will extend their reach as recipients of Massachusetts Education and Innovation Grants, sponsored by Microsoft Corp.’s U.S. Partners in Learning program. Each is receiving \$50,000 to \$150,000 to further develop high quality programs.

“There is a growing body of research documenting the importance of afterschool learning,” said Mary Cullinane, Director of U.S. Partners in Learning at Microsoft. “As a technology company, we recognize the need to find creative ways to teach science, technology, engineering and math to help students become successful in the 21st Century work force. These innovative programs have proved they can bring these critical disciplines to life.”

The winning programs are: After School Student Enterprise Teams, an entrepreneurship program for at-risk high

school students in Holyoke that teaches them real-world business skills and responsibility by running an ice cream business; the Watershed Academy afterschool program of the Cohasset Center for Student Coastal Research that provides hands-on STEM enrichment; the Quinsigamond Community College Foundation Inc., in Worcester, to provide afterschool and summer Advanced Robotics Intensive for 300 underserved students in grades six through 12; and Northeastern University’s Bootstrap program focused on math and technology, to integrate into the Citizen Schools’ afterschool network.



NEW GROUP TO MAKE EDUCATION A TOP ISSUE IN ‘08

A powerful new coalition will push to put education reform issues affecting students in kindergarten to 12th grade in the forefront of debate in the 2008 election season, with \$60 million to fund the effort. This new public awareness and action campaign, Strong American Schools, is sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation. It is the first campaign to spend so much to promote a single issue before a presidential election.

“Each year more than one million students drop out of high school. That’s one child every 29 seconds,” said Bill Gates, Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. “We all must demand that candidates and our leaders share their opinions and policies on how our country will offer young people Strong American Schools.”

Strong American Schools will urge candidates and the public to begin a conversation on broad education reform utilizing the tools of a presidential campaign, and will include grassroots activities in key presidential primary states and an E-campaign stemming from a powerful website, www.edin08.com. The campaign seeks to

initiate a dialogue among 2008 presidential candidates on how they will improve American schools and make education a top domestic priority. It does not endorse any candidate or specific legislation, but rather aims to draw the attention of candidates and the public to the issue and ensure that education reform is debated on a national scale.

One of the campaign's three priorities is to press for more time and support for learning. Its call to action stresses the "need to provide successful and struggling students alike more time for in-depth learning and greater personal attention." It is calling for more enrichment opportunities for children and youth, and for a longer school day or school year.

"We're calling on every American to support 'ED in '08,'" said Strong American Schools Chairman Roy Romer, former governor of Colorado and superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District. "Together we can make education a top priority for all presidential candidates in this election. If candidates aren't talking about education, they're not talking about the future."

To learn more about or join the ED in '08 campaign, go to www.edin08.com. To view Ed in '08's briefing on more time and learning, visit <http://www.edin08.com/uploadedFiles/more-time.pdf>.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

"Afterschool hours are a critical time for youth. That time can represent either an opportunity to learn and grow, through quality afterschool programs, or a time of risk to youth's health and safety... Learning should not end when the bell rings."

-- Representative David Wu (D-OR), *States News Service*, April 12, 2007

"The importance of afterschool programming cannot be overstated. It is vital to the academic, emotional and social development of a middle school child... It is the intangible and indefinable benefits I believe are the most important, especially in the middle school years. Afterschool programming offers students the chance to be part of a group. Finding one's identity and niche in middle school is probably the most difficult and daunting task a middle-schooler faces... It is always remarkable to see the friendships that develop in afterschool programs that would never happen during the normal course of the school day."

-- Leonard Tyl Middle School Principal Thomas W. Giard III, *Norwich Bulletin*, April 19, 2007

"These 21st Century Community Learning Center programs provide afterschool activities that support student learning. Annual performance reports on Wisconsin community learning centers show increased grades, improved school attendance, and decreased behavior problems for youth who attend these afterschool programs... The academic support and family outreach that community learning centers provide is an important part of our New Wisconsin Promise to close the achievement gap and ensure a quality education for every child."

-- Wisconsin State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster, *US States News*, April 20, 2007



IN THE NEWS...

California – U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice visited students at the New Generation Center afterschool program that she founded 16 years ago when she was a professor at Stanford University. The program is in the Ravenswood City School District. According to the *Associated Press*, Rice visited with about 20 middle schoolers and answered their many questions. "You

can do anything you want,” Rice told the students. “Don’t let yourself be a statistic.”

Florida – Students at 16 schools throughout Orange County are experiencing the domino effect for improvement in math, memory and concentration, thanks to afterschool programs that promote domino clubs, reports the *Orlando Sentinel*. The county’s Citizen’s Commission for Children funds the program, and plans to expand it next year. “There are studies that show that kids who play regularly develop an almost photographic memory... These kids do better academically,” said William Almodovar, Vice President of the International Domino Federation. County Commissioner Mildred Fernandez said the game also bridges cultures as a traditional Latino pastime, and provides opportunities for intergenerational exchanges.

Louisiana – AmeriCorps will send 200 volunteers to the New Orleans metropolitan region as part of a new VISTA Summer of Service program to provide recreation and tutoring to area youth. The volunteers will serve approximately 4,000 children who are still dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. U.S. Attorney Jim Letten told the *Associated Press*, “[the volunteers are] going to save lives.”

Mississippi – Future engineers and scientists will be hard at work exploring the Gulf Coast’s diverse ecosystems, collecting data and conducting scientific research thanks to a new afterschool program for middle school youth in the Pascagoula School District. Project WetKids is sponsored by the University of Southern Mississippi, ChevronTexaco, Audubon Mississippi, Northrop Grumman Ship Systems, Mississippi Naturalists and the Stennis Space Center, and will provide youth with mentors from these organizations to help with their investigations. U.S. Senator Trent Lott said, “Project WetKids is an exciting opportunity for students along the Mississippi Gulf Coast to have hands-on research experience... This

partnership will be a valuable asset for our children as they prepare for their future.”

New Jersey – Youth from New Jersey After 3’s (NJA3) programs across the state stepped up at Seton Hall University for the first Annual Step Exhibition. The students spent three months practicing with Step Choreographer Jessica Morales (also known as Remo), recently featured on MTV’s “True Life: I’m Stepping.” Morales is considered one of the nation’s top step choreographers, after winning the national step championship in January. The step program is one part of NJA3’s Fit Kids Initiative, aimed at reducing childhood obesity and encouraging physical activity.

North Carolina – Partners-in-Out-of-School-Time (POST) recently announced a success for middle school programs in Mecklenburg County when County Manager Harry Jones included \$200,000 in the 2008 budget for funding afterschool programs in middle schools. Middle School Matters, a project of POST, seeks to establish a network of excellent afterschool programs serving approximately 100 students in each of the 34 Charlotte-Mecklenburg area middle schools by 2010. *For more information, visit <http://www.postcarolinas.org/page11437.cfm>.*

South Dakota – The *Argus Leader* reports that students at the Axtell Park YMCA afterschool program in Sioux Falls recently held a variety show with talent ranging from flute solos to high-speed jump rope demonstrations to hip hop dance. Sponsored by the students, the event served as a fundraiser for local community charities.

Tennessee – Newberry Elementary School students in Fox Meadows may soon greet each other with *namaste* after completing a successful afterschool yoga program, according to the *Commercial Appeal*. Midtown Yoga has been teaching yoga to afterschool students as a pilot program to help the youngsters achieve balance and focus

their energy on positive things. Principal Yolanda Williamson said the program has received rave reviews: “Everybody has loved it, including the parents. They’ve said ‘My child is so much calmer.’” The children learn concentration techniques that help them during test taking and receive fitness benefits as well. *For more information, visit <http://www.midtownyoga.com/>.*

Utah – Patrons of the Kearns public library in Salt Lake County are thrilled with a new afterschool program at nearby Kearns Junior High which has given students a safe place to go afterschool, keeping them busy and preventing rowdiness in the library. The program, which started in the fall, has earned praise from students, library patrons and even Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon. Salt Lake County Deputy Director of Human Services Kelly Colopy told the *Salt Lake Tribune* that a recent study found that 88 percent of students in the program had better grades and 76 percent had fewer disciplinary reports. The *Tribune* also notes that gang activity is a concern in the area, and the program is a welcome community asset.



AFTERSCHOOL’S IMPACT ON CRIME & SAFETY

The Afterschool Alliance recently released a new issue brief examining the relationship between afterschool programs and community safety, “Afterschool Programs: Keeping Kids – and Communities – Safe.” Many communities around the nation have been reporting increases in crime and more juvenile involvement in violent crime. The new issue brief provides data on the role of afterschool programs in stemming youth crime, cites law enforcement sources and provides information on innovative programs that municipal governments are embracing to create safer, stronger

communities. *The new brief is available on the Alliance’s website at http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/issue_briefs/issue_CrimeIB_27.pdf.*

AFTERSCHOOL FOR ALL: PROJECT 2010


Afterschool for All: Project 2010 totals more than 13,000 partners. Recently, the *Project* launched “14 for 14,” an effort to grow to 14,000 partners in recognition of the 14.3 million children in America who have nowhere to go after school. The shortage in quality, affordable afterschool programs means that these children are missing precious opportunities to learn, gain new skills and develop positive relationships with caring adults.

Thanks to dedicated partners, *Afterschool for All: Project 2010* is near to reaching its goal in the “14 for 14” campaign. To find out how to support afterschool, please contact Marie Coichy, Manager of *Afterschool for All: Project 2010*, at mcoichy@afterschoolalliance.org or at 212/548-0309.

Have you visited the *Afterschool for All: Project 2010* website lately? Don’t forget to go to the site for a tally of new partners and to see who in your region has pledged support for afterschool for all youth. *Visit www.afterschool2010.org.*



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

 **July 9 - 13, 2007**

The National Institute on Out-of-School Time will sponsor its annual Summer Seminars at the John Hancock Conference Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Seminars include Links to Learning for Middle School; Organizational Development Tools for

Strategic Thinking and Planning; Intensive Seminar for System Builders; and Learning How to Use SAYO: The Survey of Afterschool Youth Outcomes. *For more information, go to* <http://www.niost.org/training/sumsem07.html>.

 **July 17 – 19, 2007**

The U.S. Department of Education and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, in conjunction with the National Partnership for Quality Afterschool Learning at SEDL, will sponsor the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) 2007 Summer Institute in Miami, FL. 21st CCLC grantees and other practitioners will explore innovative ideas for serving youth, including academics enhancement, English-language learning, afterschool and students with disabilities, STEM and arts enrichment afterschool, sustainability, and numerous other topics. *For more information, visit* <http://www.sei2003.com/21stcentury/>.

 **October 18, 2007**

The 2007 *Lights On Afterschool* will take place with rallies at afterschool programs across the country. Sponsored by the Afterschool Alliance, *Lights On Afterschool* is the only nationwide event celebrating afterschool programs. *For more information, visit* http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/index.cfm.

 **October 20, 2007**

The Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence will host the 2007 Afterschool Conference in Mesa. The conference will feature more than 30 workshops, including site management, physical activities, behavior management and discipline, public policy and advocacy and program evaluation. *For more information, call 602/ 279-7100 or visit* www.azafterschool.org.

** And mark your calendars now for the 2008 “Afterschool for All Challenge,” May 13 and 14th in Washington, D.C.!

More information on upcoming conferences and events is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org/states/calendar_main.cfm.

The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.

The Alliance is proud to count among its founding partners the Mott Foundation, U.S. Department of Education, JCPenney Afterschool Fund, Open Society Institute/The After-School Corporation, the Entertainment Industry Foundation and the Creative Artists Agency Foundation.

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