

# TAKE ACTION FROM HOME ON SOCIAL MEDIA

It's easy (and effective!) to take the Afterschool for All Challenge home by urging community members to advocate using social media. By tagging tweets with your representatives' handles, you'll make sure that they or their staff see the message, continuing the call to action that you issued while in Washington, D.C. Use these resources yourself and distribute them to afterschool supporters back home to rally them to join the fight to save 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

A note about lobbying: If your program is fully funded by a federal grant, make sure you do not share these social media posts while at work! Encouraging members of Congress to preserve federal funding for afterschool while you're on the clock would be considered lobbying.

### **TWITTER**

As you learned at the Challenge, it's important to members of Congress to see how the decisions they're making will affect their home states. Our <u>America After 3PM dashboard</u> provides a wealth of state-specific data—substitute your state's abbreviation for "XX" and the relevant numbers for "##" in the highlighted areas and in moments you'll have a compelling message that will grab your representatives' attention. Find their handles on our website.

Feel free to copy these tweets, but we also encourage you to share photos or stories from your program! The data speaks volumes, but personal accounts hit home.

- @InsertRepHandle, here's how many XX kids would lose afterschool programs under the #TrumpBudget: http://afterschoolalliance.org/budgetcutmap #AfterschoolWorks
- .@InsertRepHandle, don't let the White House take afterschool programs away from thousands of XX kids.
  - #AfterschoolWorks
- ###,000+ XX kids waiting to get into an afterschool program are counting on you to stop afterschool cuts, @InsertRepHandle #AfterschoolWorks
- Parents of ###,000+ XX kids count on afterschool programs each day. @InsertRepHandle, don't cut our afterschool! #AfterschoolWorks

**In a hurry?** Take action in moments by visiting our <u>Action Center</u>, where you can email Congress or post on Twitter from one central hub.

#### **FACEBOOK**

Just like on Twitter, if you're tagging your representatives' Facebook pages in your posts or posting on their walls, it's critical to show them the effect afterschool programs have on their state. Visit the <a href="Maintain: America After 3PM dashboard">America After 3PM dashboard</a> to find data for your home state, then drop the information into the highlighted areas in these sample posts to send a message that will resonate with your representatives as well as your local friends and family.

When you post on Facebook, consider including photos or anecdotes from your program. The data speaks volumes, but personal accounts hit home.

- Just ## percent of [STATE NAME]'s children are enrolled in an afterschool program—another ## percent are waiting for a chance to enroll. Join me to tell Congress we can't afford to lose funding for afterschool: http://3to6.co/challenge18
- Afterschool participation is higher than ever, but ##% of [STATE NAME] kids are still waiting
  to get into a program. Tell Congress to invest in afterschool programs to help every student
  succeed! http://3to6.co/challenge18
- Almost two million kids could lose their afterschool programs under the president's budget proposal. Please join me to speak up for them and ask Congress to save afterschool: http://3to6.co/challenge18
- A 2017 poll found that 8 in 10 Americans think cutting afterschool funding is a bad idea. I'm one of them! Are you with us? Tell your reps in Congress: http://3to6.co/challenge18

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#### **INSTAGRAM**

**Instagram is a great place to show off your support for afterschool.** Join the conversation by writing the biggest reason you support afterschool on a whiteboard or a piece of paper and posing for a photo with your message! Many members of Congress now have a presence on Instagram, so be sure to search for your representatives before you post and tag them if they have an account.

- Not sure what to write? Here are some of the biggest reasons to support afterschool:
  - Afterschool programs keep kids safe
  - Afterschool programs inspire learning
  - Afterschool programs give parents peace of mind
- **How to caption your photo:** #AfterschoolWorks because [insert your reason here]. America's working families can't afford to lose afterschool.

## WANT TO DO MORE?

**Be sure to take a look at our 2018 Digital Action Toolkit** in our <u>Action Center</u> for all the resources, news coverage, and social media tips you need to be an afterschool advocate and fight the 2019 budget cuts!