



NEWS RELEASE  
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## **Nashville Mayor Karl Dean Joins Board of Afterschool Alliance**

### ***One of Two Big-City Mayors to Join Leading Afterschool Organization***

WASHINGTON, DC – The Afterschool Alliance today announced the appointment of Nashville Mayor Karl Dean to its board of directors. He is one of two big-city mayors joining the board, along with Betsy Price of Fort Worth, Texas.

Dean created the Nashville After Zone Alliance (NAZA), a network of afterschool providers for middle school students in Metro Nashville Schools. NAZA serves 650 middle-school students in programs that link targeted academic intervention with engaging enrichment activities. The NAZA model has doubled the number of at-risk students in afterschool by addressing both cost and transportation barriers. In addition, Dean has been a strong advocate of education reform in the public schools, maintaining full funding for the school system at a time when the deep national recession forced cutbacks in other departments.

“We’re thrilled to add the unique perspective of Mayor Dean to our board of directors,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “Mayors are among the strongest advocates for afterschool because they see first-hand the extraordinary difference that afterschool programs make in the lives of children, families, and communities, and are intimately familiar with the many and varied intersections between afterschool, school, business, families, crime reduction and community. Mayor Dean has been a particular champion of afterschool programs, through his creation and ongoing commitment to the Nashville After Zone Alliance. We’re looking forward to benefiting from his experience, commitment and wisdom.”

“I’m looking forward to working with the Afterschool Alliance as it advocates on behalf of afterschool programs, and the children, families and communities they serve,” said Dean. “In Nashville and Davidson County, afterschool is a lifesaver for many of our children. I’m proud of the work we’ve done to boost access to afterschool through the Nashville After Zone Alliance, and I look forward to continuing that work through my association with the Afterschool Alliance.”

In May 2009, Dean launched the Nashville After Zone Alliance in partnership with Metro Nashville Schools, acting on a recommendation of a task force called the Project for Student Success the previous year. Dean had convened the panel in 2007, shortly after his election, and it concluded that the city was “sorely lacking” in programs to meet the needs of middle and high school youth. NAZA is aimed squarely at the problem, serving middle school youth by way of a public-private partnership, including support from the Wallace Foundation.

Dean also formed the Education First Fund at the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee to attract private support for education reform initiatives. Contributors include individuals, foundations and faith-based organizations, and their donations have supported bringing two national teacher recruitment organizations – Teach for America and The New Teacher Project – to Nashville.

Additionally, by attracting private support for education, Dean created two innovative programs in the city's schools. Limitless Libraries is a collaborative program between Nashville Public Library and Metro Nashville Schools to deliver books and materials directly to school libraries. Music Makes Us is a comprehensive makeover of the music education program in the public schools that taps into the music and music business expertise in Music City. Curriculum includes new classes in composition, rock band and hip-hop performance, and a student-run record label has been established in a high school.

Dean is the sixth mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. He was elected in 2007 and re-elected in 2011. He remains committed to continued progress on his priorities of education, public safety and economic development.

Betsy Price is the 44th mayor of the City of Fort Worth, elected in June 2011. She has focused her administration's efforts on fiscal responsibility, on creating a stronger economy through public/private partnerships, and on strengthening neighborhoods through faith-based and citywide health engagement initiatives.

Dean and Price join a board that features leaders of education, industry and public policy: **Terry Peterson**, Afterschool Alliance Chairman, Director, Afterschool and Community Learning Resource Network, Charleston, South Carolina; **Lisa Lucheta**, Afterschool Alliance Vice-Chair, Principal, Torani Syrups and Flavors, San Francisco, California; **Reinaldo Llano**, Afterschool Alliance Treasurer, Director, Corporate Community Relations, Bright House Networks, Orlando, Florida; **Herb Sturz**, Afterschool Alliance Secretary, Trustee, Open Society Institute, New York, New York; **Jaemie Ballesteros Altman**, independent consultant, food and restaurant industry, San Francisco, California; The Honorable **David Cicilline**, Member of Congress, Providence, Rhode Island; **Barry Ford**, Director of Education, Advocacy & Public Affairs, United States Tennis Association, White Plains, New York; **Dr. Lucy Friedman**, President, The After-School Corporation, New York, New York; **Joan Higginbotham**, Director of Community Relations, Lowe's, Mooresville, North Carolina; **Kenneth C. Montague, Jr.**, former Secretary of Juvenile Justice, State of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland; **Gilbert Moreno**, Senior Relationship Manager, JP Morgan Chase, NA, Houston, Texas; **Mary Peavey**, President, Peavey Electronics Corporation, Meridian, Mississippi; **Diane Rogers**, Capstone National Partners, Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin; **Jean Margaret Smith**, Vice President of Public Affairs and Administration, Nickelodeon / MTVN Kids and Family Group, New York, New York; and **Stacey Gillis Weber**, active supporter of education causes, New York, New York.

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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](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).