AzCASE is celebrating Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week, April 24-28, to recognize, appreciate and advocate for those who work with young people during out-of-school hours.

We are joining the effort because research shows that Afterschool Professionals make a profound difference in the lives of young people. We encourage you to join us in thanking afterschool professionals!

Here are some ideas on how you to show your appreciation:

- Declare on social media: "Research shows that Afterschool professionals make a profound difference in the lives of young people. #heartofafterschool"

- Give a hand-written card from you and/or your child to the afterschool professionals you know.

- Send an email an afterschool professional's supervisor describing why that person is appreciated.

- Make healthy or non-food treats for the staff at your afterschool program. For more resources and information, check out www.heartofafterschool.com.
Help families discover the joy of summer!

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a McKinsey & Company study finds that students were on average four months behind in math and three months behind in reading by the start of the 2021-22 school year.

In response to this challenge, National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) created DiscoverSummer.org, an online resource that makes it easy for families to search for programs near them and provides tips on how to engage their children in fun summer learning. Powered by InPlay, DiscoverSummer’s search engine features over 50,000 out-of-school-time programs in all 50 U.S. states.

Please spread the word and encourage families to visit DiscoverSummer.org. Together, we can expand opportunity to ensure that all families, regardless of where they live, can discover the joy of summer!
Join the Youth Media Squad!

- **Build advocacy skills**
- **Help the community**
- **Meet new people**
- **Learn more about tech**

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**Media Power Youth** offers rich learning experiences about media and technology that help students, teachers, and communities use media creatively to advocate for the causes and people that matter most.

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We are seeking high school students who want to make a difference and share their perspectives on how best to support youth to join our board. Students entering 9-12th grade in the fall of 2023 are invited to apply. **Applications for the 2023/2024 term are due Sunday, April 30th.**

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To find out more and apply, scan the QR code or visit mediapoweryouth.org/join-the-squad

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Meetings are the 2nd Monday every month, 7-8:30pm EST (4-5:30pm PST) on Zoom First meeting May 8th!

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Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence