



@fterschool advisor - November 15, 2012

Announcements from the Center

2012 Afterschool Conference the Largest in AzCASE History!



Participants in Dr Gale Gorke's special needs workshop gained an understanding of how to help all youth be successful in afterschool.

With **over 700 people** registered, the 2012 Arizona Statewide Afterschool Conference was the largest in the event's 20 year history. The health-focused conference, with the theme Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Youth Afterschool, attracted administrators and line staff from around the state to the Phoenix Convention Center for a jam-packed day of professional development. The growth of the conference is a clear sign of the expansion of the afterschool field in the state, as well as the commitment of Arizona programs to quality youth development and dedication to the mentoring and development of their staff.

Normandie Nigh, CEO of a World Fit for Kids, delivered an energetic keynote address. She fired up the crowd with a dance session to "Gangnam Style" before discussing the severity of America's childhood obesity epidemic and highlighting afterschool's crucial role in helping prepare kids for a healthier future.

This year's 36 professional development workshops offered an increased ability for attendees to select workshops that fit their unique needs. Presenters, drawn from the **Department of Education**, the **Department of Health**, **Arizona 4-H**, and other organizations from across the state, tailored their offerings to the unique needs of the afterschool audience.

Administrative track workshops featured sessions on parent and family engagement from **Expect More Arizona** and the **Arizona PTA**, intentional afterschool program design and implementation from **Dr Gale**

Gorke, tapping into social media, and more.

Junior high track workshops allowed attendees to explore how to start and maintain a successful middle school program with **Gilbert's The Zone** and **Tempe's Middle Kid Zone**, ways to integrate math and science into program offerings from **ASU PRIME Center's Mary Cavanaugh** and **Peoria's Jennifer Cheesman**, and tips to empower girls, among other topics.

The **general track workshops** provided a wide array of choices. **Diana Brown** offered strategies to improve behavior management skills, **Sandy Slade** and **Normandie Nigh** showed fun ways to integrate fitness into programs, and **Dr Gale Gorke** focused on ways to make afterschool accessible for everyone in her sessions on special needs students in afterschool and handling culture and diversity in afterschool. Other sessions ranged from arts integration and literacy strategies to nutrition standards, professionalism in afterschool, and yoga, allowing participants to leave with practical strategies they could put to use immediately to improve quality at their site.

Conference attendees also had an opportunity to mingle with 22 exhibitors between sessions, including **STEMfinity, Renaissance Learning, Kaplan, First Flight Education, Arts Integration Solutions, Girl Scouts**, and more. The time offers programs a chance to find their next great vendor and to continue to increase the variety of offerings to Arizona's youth afterschool.

New this year was the addition of the **Awards of Excellence Luncheon**, recognizing exceptional programs, professionals, and leaders in Arizona afterschool. The growth of the conference this year and the success of the event is a testament to what Phoenix Mayor **Greg Stanton**, recipient of the 2012 Afterschool Champion award, said in his acceptance speech: **afterschool professionals are key to education**. We are impressed with the dedication to professional development around the state, excited for another great year of quality afterschool in Arizona, and look forward to seeing you at next year's conference!

Congratulations to the 2012 Awards of Excellence Winners!

At the 2012 Awards of Excellence, AzCASE honored outstanding afterschool professionals, programs, and leaders in front of 700 of their peers at the Arizona Statewide Afterschool Conference. Honorees were nominated by peers in the afterschool field, and the finalists and winners were selected by a panel of judges from the largest pool in AzCASE history. We are proud to announce the winners of the three awards categories, and congratulate all nominees on their commitment to Arizona's youth!



Dianna Butler
Havasu for Youth
Jane Romatzke Leadership Award

During her three years as Executive Director of Havasu for Youth, Dianna Butler has become the voice for youth and afterschool in Lake Havasu City. With a tight budget and limited resources, Butler has tirelessly reached out to city government, River Cities United Way, the business community and school leadership to create opportunities for youth. She leads the organization in providing quality afterschool programming, peer tutoring, scholarships for low-income youth to participate in sports and enrichment activities, and workshops for junior high students.



Lisa Kluge
Ira. A Muphy All-Stars, Peoria
Outstanding Afterschool Professional

Lisa Kluge's before-and-afterschool programs offer academic intervention and enrichment classes for theater, leadership, photography, science, art, dance, cheer, biking and fitness. She has created all-star student programs to recognize students who have shown the highest level of academic achievement and leadership development groups for middle schoolers who write grants and secure funding for school-improvement projects.



**The PRIME Center
Arizona State University
*Outstanding Afterschool Program***

The PRIME Center reflects ASU's commitment to fostering innovation through The Prime the Pipeline Project for high school students and Club STEM for middle school students throughout the Phoenix metropolitan area. Prime the Pipeline students have shown increased academic performance and several have become Club STEM mentors. Students in Club STEM have designed video games, shot their own movies, built and tested sumo robots and more.



**Mayor Greg Stanton
City of Phoenix
*2012 Afterschool Champion***

Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton was honored as the 2012 Afterschool Champion Award for his advocacy and support for quality afterschool programs as a critical component of a child's overall development. Having started an afterschool program as an undergrad, Stanton understands the important role they can play in children's lives. He recently helped restore funding to nine previously closed afterschool sites in Phoenix and he has been a primary force in the effort to convene a statewide mayoral educational roundtable to advocate for quality education that includes out-of-school time programs.

Afterschool Standards Committee Kicks Off Process

In an effort that mirrors work being done in over 30 other states, the Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence and the Valley of the Sun United Way are partnering to lead a statewide effort to develop afterschool quality standards. These standards are intended to be a framework for programs, allowing them to draw more fully on best practices in youth development and better align their policies, practices and procedures.

The Standards Committee, comprised of policy makers, afterschool providers, funders, and other stake holders from across the state, held its inaugural meeting last Wednesday. The meeting marks the beginning of a three year, multi-step process that will result in a comprehensive quality improvement system to meet the needs of Arizona's afterschool community. Standards, which are being written now and will be vetted around the state in the spring, are the first component. Years two and three of the process will focus on creating an assessment tool for programs to use in measuring performance and progress, as well as the creation of a comprehensive, sustainable training system to allow all programs and staff to continue to increase quality. The sum of the three components will result in the complete Quality Improvement System, a key to raising the bar for quality and unlocking the true potential of what is possible in Arizona's expanding afterschool field.

Read on for an explanation of why standards are a crucial next step for afterschool in Arizona.

Why Standards?

Quality standards stem from the expressed need of youth programs across the state to provide a framework for what quality afterschool programming looks like in order to identify areas for opportunity and areas needing improvement.

We know that high quality programs result in better outcomes for our youth. Therefore, in support of unlicensed and licensed programs and in celebration of the diversity of programming in afterschool, the standards provide a measurable and achievable framework of quality for providers, parents, funders and policymakers.

The standards are also a means for the Arizona youth development community to better understand how to express and demonstrate the value of quality afterschool programming, and for funders to hold providers accountable to quality.

The standards we are developing should be designed to help after school programs maximize the use of out of school time to enhance positive youth development in ways that have lasting impact. Quality standards are a framework that supports effective youth engagement and alignment to learning, as well as promotes positive social, emotional, cognitive and civic skills.

For more information regarding the Standards Committee and the quality improvement system, please contact Melanie McClintock at mmclintock@azafterschool.org or at 602.496.3307.

To see the full list of Standards Committee members, click [here>>](#)

Focus on Health

Afterschool programs play a key role in the health and well-being of youth through activities that encourage healthy behaviors, an environment that includes a healthy snack or meal, and opportunities for physical activity. This section features new topics, resources, curriculum ideas and activities to help you ensure youth are fit, healthy, and ready to learn. [See a complete list of our afterschool health resources here>>](#)

Wash up to keep colds away!



As the weather turns to fall and temperatures start to dip across the state, so too begins cold and flu season. Schools and child care centers can be a hot bed of germs, but there are a few easy ways to help kids - and staff! - stay healthy this fall.

1. **Get a flu shot!** The Centers for Disease Control recommend that everyone over the age of six months be vaccinated against the flu each year. Encourage parents, families and staff to get vaccinated. You can use the [Flu Vaccine Finder](#) at Flu.gov to find vaccination locations in your area.
2. **Wash up!** Hand washing is key to keeping healthy during cold and flu season. Make sure kids are doing it right: warm water, soap, rub for 20 seconds, then rinse and dry. Get reminder posters to put up near sinks [here](#) or use [videos and games](#) to get the point across in a fun way. An easy alternative is to pass around the hand sanitizer frequently.
3. **Keep germs to yourself!** The CDC recommends staying home while contagious, but odds are there will be sick kids at your site. Emphasize the importance covering your cough to stop the spread of germs. [Post reminders](#) around your site to make sure it actually happens!

For more tips and resources, see the CDC's guide for schools and child care givers [here>>](#)

Health Funding Opportunities

Champions for Healthy Kids

Deadline: December 3

Through the Champions for Healthy Kids program, the General Mills Foundation will award 50 grants of \$10,000 to nonprofit organizations working to improve nutrition and physical fitness behaviors for youth. Programs should be focused towards youth ages 2-18, programs must incorporate physical education and nutrition education, and a registered dietician or registered dietetic technician must oversee the delivery of the nutrition education.

[More information>>](#)

APS Foundation Grants

Deadline: Rolling

Through Corporate Giving, APS supports nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) Internal Revenue Service tax exempt status through cash and/or in kind services. APS supports local communities in five strategic areas: health and human services, community development, education, arts and culture, and environment. Grants have been awarded to schools, recreation centers, sports programs, and many other community groups.

Award Amount: Award amounts vary

[More information>>](#)

The Wal-Mart Foundation

Deadline: Rolling

The Wal-Mart Foundation supports programs and initiatives addressing education, workforce development, economic sustainability, and health and wellness. For health and wellness in particular, the Foundation looks to promote healthy lifestyles and behaviors. Organizations that meet the eligibility requirements for this program can request an application at their local Wal-Mart or Sam's Club. Award Amount: \$250 - \$5,000

[More information>>](#)

SPARK Grants

[Grant Finder Tool](#) allows you to search for Grants by location and program of interest. Grants updated daily.

Arizona's Coordinated School Health Program

Provides current funding opportunities from their partnering organizations.

[View here>>](#)

Conferences, Trainings & Seminars

Sixth Annual Children's Obesity Conference

Thursday, December 6, 2012

Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix

Explore children's health through the lens of this year's theme, "Mental Health and Childhood Obesity: An Exploration of the Role of Bullying, Self Esteem and Health Among Children and Families."

[More information>>](#)

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Afterschool in the News

Fiscal Cliff Threat Means More Budget Worries

While ballots are still being counted this week in Arizona, the majority of election results across the country have been finalized, which means the focus will shift from campaigning to the work of governing. First up for Congress, back in session this week, is tackling the so called fiscal cliff. In addition to deciding whether to renew a slew of tax cuts set to expire at the end of the year, lawmakers also face automatic spending cuts to virtually all federal departments - including defense and education - unless a budget agreement is reached. The automatic cuts, also known as sequestration, were created this summer as a means of forcing action on budget issues. The Department of Education stands to lose 8.2 percent of its budget, which would have impacts on 21st Century and other programming across the country.

[Read more about the fiscal cliff and it's potential impact on schools here>>](#)

Prop 204 Defeat Poses Fiscal Challenge

On election day, Arizona voters defeated Proposition 204, which would have made the temporary 1 cent increase in sales tax introduced in 2010 permanent. The tax will now expire in May, resulting in the end of a \$1 billion a year funding stream for education and transportation. Governor Jan Brewer, who was in favor of the temporary sales tax increase but opposed making it permanent, says she will work on finding ways to make up that money in her budget proposal, to be released in January.

The tax won't expire until May 2013, but the impact is already beginning to be felt around the state. Tucson Unified School District, which is facing a \$17 million budget shortfall, is considering closing schools. Flowing Wells School District officials say that they could face p to a 10 percent cut to their budget, resulting in reduction in staffing and services.

[Read more on Governor Brewer's reaction>>](#)

[Read more on school districts' reactions>>](#)

Job Opportunities

**HAVE AN AFTERSCHOOL JOB OPENING
TO POST IN OUR NEWSLETTER?**

[Post it here>>](#)

City of Tempe Kid Zone

Pre-school Lead Teacher (Tempe)
Kid Zone Specialty Instructor (Tempe)

[Read more>>](#)

FosterEd: Arizona

Manager (Pima County)

[Read more>>](#)

Kyrene Community Education

Program Coordinators (Tempe)
Program Specialists (Tempe)
Club Leaders (Tempe)

[Read more>>](#)

Balsz School District

Community Liaison (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Girl Scouts Arizona Cactus-Pine

Campaign Coordinator (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Arizona Partnership for Children

Program Director (Phoenix)

[Read more>>](#)

Association for Supportive Child Care

Training Specialist - Child Care Injury Prevention Program

[Read more>>](#)

[View the full list of available positions and descriptions on our website>>](#)

Funding Opportunities

***New opportunities in red**

Trico 2013 POWER Grants

Deadline: November 30, 2012

Tax-exempt organizations that provide food and basic needs programs to children living in Trico's service area are encouraged to apply. Organizations may apply for grants up to \$10,000. A total of \$40,000 will be given. Organizations do not have to be located in Trico's service area to be eligible; however, the organization must demonstrate that the funds will be used to assist a significant amount of children and youth in Trico's service area.

[More information>>](#)

Responsible Sports Grants

Deadline: November 31, 2012

Responsible Sports, a philanthropic program of insurance company Liberty Mutual, is accepting applications from youth sports organizations in the United States to participate in its Responsible Sports Community Grant program. Fifteen \$2500 grants, intended to help defray the costs of running a successful youth sports program, are available in 3 categories - large (100+ players) organization, small (under 100 players) organization and school/educational organizations.

[More information>>](#)

Laura Bush Foundation Grants

Deadline: December 1

The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries seeks to provide books and reading materials to the school libraries and students that most need them. The foundation provides grants of up to \$5,000 to help school libraries expand, update, and diversify their book collections. All LBF grants are made to individual schools rather than to school districts, county systems, private organizations, foundations, or other entities. Only schools where a minimum of 80 percent of the student body qualify for the free or reduced lunch program are eligible to apply, with preference given to schools with 90 percent or more free or reduced lunch. Funds are only available for library books and magazine/serial copies and subscriptions.

[More information>>](#)

Youth Garden Grants

Deadline: December 3, 2012

Sponsored by the Home Depot Garden Club, the National Gardening Association's Youth Garden Grants are awarded to schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. Schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, and inter-generational groups in the United States are eligible. Applicants must plan to garden with at least fifteen children between the ages of 3 and 18. Priority will be given to programs that emphasize integration of content standards, nutrition connections, environmental awareness, entrepreneurship, and social aspects of gardening such as leadership development,

team building, community support, or service-learning.

[More information>>](#)

Starbucks Youth Leadership Grants

Deadline: December 15

The Starbucks Foundation believes in developing young people to become extraordinary leaders, by investing in the leadership skills required for the changing global economy. At this time there are more than 1.2 billion 15 to 24 year olds, the largest global cohort of young people in history. Unfortunately, a growing number of these young people are disengaged and unemployed, often referred to as NEET (not engaged in employment, education, or training). The Starbucks Foundation is interested in supporting organizations that equip young people ages 15 to 24 years old in the areas of business savvy, social conscience, and collaborative communication.

[More information>>](#)

National Science Foundation STEM Grants Deadline: January 14, 2012

The Advancing Informal STEM Learning program invests in research and development of innovative and field advancing out of school STEM learning and emerging STEM learning environments.

[More information>>](#)

The Big Read Grants

Deadline: February 5, 2012

Encourage literacy in your community! Approximately 75 organizations in communities of varying sizes across the country will be selected to participate in The Big Read from September 2013 through June 2014. Community organizations participating in The Big Read develop and produce community-wide reading programs which encourage reading and participation by diverse audiences. Applicant organizations for The Big Read must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit; a division of state, local, or tribal government; or a tax-exempt public library.

[More information>>](#)

W.K. Kellogg Grants

Deadline: Rolling

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation is accepting proposals for new and innovative ideas aimed at helping vulnerable children succeed. Areas of interest include educated kids, healthy kids, secure families, racial equity, and civic engagement. Proposals are accepted throughout the year, and grants range in size.

[More information>>](#)

MLB Baseball Tomorrow Fund

Deadline: January 1 (letter of inquiry required ahead of time, needs a month of processing time)

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF) is a joint initiative between Major League Baseball (MLB) and the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA.) The fund awards grants to organizations involved in the operation of youth baseball and softball programs and facilities. The mission of BTF is to promote and enhance the growth of youth participation in baseball and softball throughout the world. BTF funds programs, fields, coaches training and uniforms, equipment and other selected program expenses. In addition, BTF provides educational support to grant recipients and applicants, to help organizations become self-sufficient and effective.

[More information>>](#)

[Find more resources and funding opportunities on our website>>](#)

Awards, Contests & Fellowships

Veronica Awards for Direct Service Workers

Deadline: November 21

Veronica Awards of \$5000 are given to outstanding direct service workers who espouse the Superstar Foundation's mission of expanding the use of transformational relationships that are at the core of social service work. You can nominate a colleague, employee or yourself for a Veronica award at the Superstar Foundation's website.

[More information>>](#)

Early Childhood Child Care Teacher Awards

Deadline: December 3

The Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation/Children's Tylenol National Child Care Teacher Awards acknowledge the critical role of child care teachers in providing quality early care and education. Early childhood and preschool child care teachers from all 50 states and the District of Columbia and on U.S. Military bases and installations are eligible to apply for these awards. Applicants must be full-time child care teachers employed in a home, group, or center-based program for a minimum of three years and meet other eligibility guidelines. As part of the application process, teachers are asked to design an enhancement project for the children in their classroom or home, illustrating the educational, social, and emotional benefits from the project. Fifty selected teachers will each receive a \$1,000 grant; \$500 to create the project and \$500 for the teacher's personal use. Of the top ten recipients, one is selected to receive the Helene Marks Award, which includes an additional \$1,000 award.

[More information>>](#)

SODEXO Foundation STOP Hunger Scholarships

Deadline: December 5

The STOP Hunger program honors students working to build awareness and mobilize youth as catalysts for innovative solutions to ending hunger in U.S. communities in their lifetime. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in an accredited education institution in the United States and be able to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to hunger-alleviation activities in their community. Up to five students will be selected as national winners, with each receiving a \$5,000 scholarship and a \$5,000 grant for their anti-hunger charity of choice. In addition, scholarship recipients and two family members will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for the awards ceremony in June. The Sodexo Foundation also will recognize twenty regional honorees with a \$1,000 donation for their preferred hunger charity.

[More information>>](#)

Phoenix Outstanding Young Man & Young Woman of the Year Awards

Deadline: December 7

Do you know any outstanding high school students? The City of Phoenix is seeking exceptional students for its 27th Annual Outstanding Young Man and Young Woman of the Year Awards. One exceptional young man and young woman will be selected for recognition from each of the eight City Council districts. Of the 16 finalists, a deserving young man and young woman will be awarded the honor of Citywide Young Man/Young Woman of the Year, and will each receive an additional prize!

For more information, contact the Neighborhood Services Department at 602-534-4444 or

mailbox.youth@phoenix.gov

[More information>>](#)

Governor's Arts Awards

Deadline: December 14

Arizona Citizens for the Arts is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Governor's Arts Awards in the following categories; Artist, Arts in Education (Individual) Arts in Education (Organization), Business, Community and Individual. These awards recognize those who have made significant contributions to the arts in Arizona.

[More information>>](#)

Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Awards

Deadline: December 16

The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is seeking nominations for the 2013 Kennedy Center/Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Awards, a series of annual grants that recognize inspiring teachers in the United States.

To be eligible, nominees must be legal residents of the U.S. Nominations must be based on experience as a full-time classroom teacher in a K-12 school in the U.S. or as a college or university instructor in the U.S. Nominators must be at least 18 years of age and have been a student of the nominee. Nominations for teachers by peers, parents, relatives, or other individuals based on non-teacher-student interactions will not be reviewed.

[More information>>](#)

The Lexus Eco Challenge

Deadline: December 17 (air/climate)

Lexus and Scholastic have teamed up for the Lexus Eco Challenge, designed to inspire and empower middle and high school students to learn about the environment and take action to improve it. Middle and high school teams comprised of five to ten students and a teacher-advisor are invited to participate in one or both of the two initial challenges, each addressing different environmental elements - land/water and air/climate. For each of the challenges, teams define an environmental issue that is important to them, develop an action plan to address the issue, implement the plan, and report the results. The submission deadline for Challenge 2 (air/climate) is December 17, 2012. The program will award a total of \$500,000 in grants and scholarships.

[More information>>](#)

Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

Deadline: January 15

Know a youth, an adult, or an organization that has gone above and beyond in service to others? The Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism is accepting nominations for the 12th Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards. Nomination forms will be accepted through January 15, 2013, with the award recipient announcement made in March 2013. Those selected as this year's recipients of the Governor's Volunteer Service Award will be honored at a special reception in April 2013.

[More information>>](#)

Arizona Rubik's Tournament

Competition: March 2, ASU West Campus

Introduce kids to a classic puzzle, the Rubik's cube! The tournament will consist of teams of eight students in grades K-12 plus a teacher/coach, divided into elementary, middle school, and high school divisions. The teams will be competing to collectively solve 25 Rubik's Cubes.

[More information>>](#)

Trainings & Conferences

Arizona SciTech Festival Opens Call for Events

Deadline: November 17

Through a partnership formed between Arizona Science Center, Arizona State University, Arizona Technology Council Foundation and the Arizona Commerce Authority, the Arizona SciTech Festival is gearing up for its second annual event designed to excite and inform Arizonans of all ages about how science, technology and innovation affects their everyday lives and will expand their economic future. After a successful Festival kick-off conference that brought together over 375 partners in industry, education, research, entrepreneurship, community, arts and culture, now is the time for all Arizonans to submit their ideas for events for the 2013 festivities.

[Learn more and suggest an event>>](#)

How Kids Learn II

January 9, 2013, San Francisco

On January 9, 2013, the Learning in Afterschool & Summer project and Temescal Associates will hold a TED-like conference in the Bay Area entitled How Kids Learn II. The purpose of the conference is to inform and energize OST program leaders, educators, afterschool stakeholders, and policymakers about our current knowledge on how children learn, and to share innovative approaches to promoting learning outside of the classroom.

Registration is open now, and space is limited.

[More information>>](#)

Best of Out of School Time Conference

May 1-4, 2013, Palm Springs, CA

BOOST invites you to join the nation's largest, most recognized and comprehensive conference for after school and out-of-school time professionals. Set in a retreat-like atmosphere, this conference promises to rejuvenate your passion and boost your direction for quality programming.

[More information>>](#)

Community Events

7th Annual American Indian Heritage Festival

November 17, 10:00 am -3:00 pm

Desert Valley Rock Art Center, Phoenix

Take this opportunity to experience the music, art, culture, food, traditions, and innovations of Arizona's American Indians. The festival will feature musical performances, art demonstrations, film screenings, hands-on arts and crafts for kids, and more.

[More information>>](#)

Mariposa Monarca Exhibit

Daily through Nov. 25

Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix

Mariposa Monarca, a live monarch butterfly exhibit, returns this fall to the Desert Botanical Garden. This exciting exhibit features hundreds of live monarch butterflies in a beautiful and lush habitat. Visitors will learn about conservation efforts and how scientists discover certain "migration mysteries" by tagging monarchs to track their migratory patterns. Guests can view these delicate creatures in the Marshall Butterfly Pavilion daily through November 25, 2012. Admission to the Marshall Butterfly Pavilion is free for Members and children under 3. \$3.50 for the general public with paid Garden admission.

[More information>>](#)

Resources, Research & Reports

Building Citywide Systems for Quality

While an increasing number of afterschool providers have made quality improvement a priority, addressing quality in a systemic way is complicated: It requires research, planning, building consensus, developing resources, managing new processes and sometimes redefining old relationships. Building Citywide Systems for Quality is a how-to guide designed to support the development of quality improvement systems (QIS) in afterschool settings at the city-level, and complements the work occurring with the standards process at the state level.

[Read the full guide>>](#)

Achieving, Connecting, Thriving: Afterschool & Summer Learning in Collaboration With Schools

In a new paper from an upcoming compendium on the potential of expanded learning opportunities, the superintendent of Boston Public Schools joins the afterschool community in highlighting the importance of afterschool in improving educational outcomes. A key piece of the puzzle, according to the authors, is connecting the learning going on in classrooms with the learning occurring in afterschool and summer programs. Recommendations include setting goals that allow school and community partners to play to their strengths, and building data systems that not only catalog opportunities but also allow sharing of information.

They write, "To develop our students to their full potential, we must harness talent and resources from across multiple sectors-from schools and community organizations to businesses and institutions of higher education."

[See more Science 360 video series here>>](#)



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