



The following information is also available on [www.psaydn.org](http://www.psaydn.org).

## Take Ten!

Welcome to *Take Ten!* - A monthly bulletin designed to keep you informed. We invite you to take 10 minutes a month to update yourself with what's going on in the network and the afterschool/youth development field.

## September/October 2008

### Contents

[The Spotlight!](#) [News](#) [Promising Practices-Proven Strategies](#)  
[Recommended Reading](#) [Upcoming Events](#) [Advocacy Corner](#)

---

## THE SPOTLIGHT!

**Celebrate the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual *Lights On Afterschool*** – On October 16<sup>th</sup>, join PSAYDN and more than one million afterschool supporters across the country to celebrate the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual *Lights on Afterschool*. Supporters and providers are encouraged to engage community leaders, policymakers, parents, children and youth and the media to get the word out—*afterschool programs: keep kids safe, inspire learning, and help working families!* For more information or to register your event for *Lights on Afterschool*, visit [www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org). For tips and tool on how to plan for this event, visit [www.psaydn.org](http://www.psaydn.org) and click on the webinar recording entitled Planning a Lights On Event: How to Engage your Policymaker and the Media.

## PSAYDN UPDATE

Stay informed – Here's what's going on.

**Clear Policies for Career Pathways** – Last year, Pennsylvania was selected as one of nine national sites to participate in the Clear Policies for Career Pathways Project, sponsored by the Forum for Youth Investment, National Institute of Out of School Time (NIOST) and the Next Generation Youth Work Coalition, to advance a workforce development system for the afterschool and youth development field. Since that time, PSAYDN and Steering Committee member, Pennsylvania Key, have partnered with stakeholders across the Commonwealth to heighten the visibility and increase awareness of workforce issues and their relation to high-quality youth programming. We are once again teaming up with NIOST to develop and implement a demonstration project to provide incentives for afterschool/youth development professionals to seek additional education and training and remain in the field. Working with the Pennsylvania Child Care Association and the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania, we hope to create innovative models to ensure a *stable, prepared, supported and committed workforce* for Pennsylvania's children and youth. To read a report of the Career Pathways Project Lessons Learned, visit [www.forumforyouthinvestment.org/files/Next%20Gen%20Lessons%20Learned%20Final.pdf](http://www.forumforyouthinvestment.org/files/Next%20Gen%20Lessons%20Learned%20Final.pdf). For more information about the Next Generation Youth Work Coalition, visit <http://nextgencoalition.org/?q=node/18>.

## PROMISING PRACTICES – PROVEN STRATEGIES

Learn about what is going on locally and nationally.

### Pennsylvania

The Erie School District's Creating Healthy Active Members Planning to Succeed (CHAMPS) Afterschool Enrichment Program is designed to serve as both a preventative and enrichment-based afterschool program for students in grades 3-10. It provides opportunities and experiences intended to help participating students lay the groundwork for a successful future, offering students a number of important services, including: academic enhancement - homework help, study skills, and computer work; personal development - recreational, life skills, health and fitness and arts and crafts; prevention of high-risk behaviors - refusal skills, mentoring, and community service; and enhanced family involvement - open houses, parent nights, and parent involvement programs. Now in its eighth year, CHAMPS provides an excellent example of building partnerships with key community stakeholders, ranging from businesses to higher education, to better serve their students and promote program sustainability. For example, CHAMPS has partnered with Gannon University to expose its participants to the importance of post-secondary education, as well as Erie Insurance to support much needed youth program services. CHAMPS annually serves nearly 1,000 students across the city of Erie. For more information about the CHAMPS program, please contact Lorri Bland at [lbland@eriesd.org](mailto:lbland@eriesd.org).

### Around the Country

The Afterschool Alliance and the Nellie Mae Education Foundation continued their *New England After 3* series with a new study on the state of afterschool in Maine. The study sought to answer critical questions on the purpose, scope, and availability of out-of-school time programming in the state. In developing *Spotlight on Maine*, the Afterschool Alliance worked with the Maine Afterschool Network, in cooperation with the Maine Principals' Association, to survey school principals in the state. Among the key findings include, strong support for afterschool and summer programs; a recognition on the importance for all children and youth to have access to quality, affordable summer programs; and an agreement that high-quality summer learning opportunities should focus on a balance of enrichment, recreational activities and academics. To read the full report, visit [http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/ME\\_Spotlight\\_Report.pdf](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/ME_Spotlight_Report.pdf).

## RECOMMENDED READING

Check-out these recent articles, research and reviews on afterschool and youth development issues.

- **After School Programs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Their Potential and What it Takes to Achieve It** – This research brief investigates the benefit of afterschool programs for children and youth in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. To read this brief, visit the Harvard Family Research Project webpage at [www.hfrp.org](http://www.hfrp.org) or click here <http://www.hfrp.org/publications-resources/browse-our-publications/after-school-programs-in-the-21st-century-their-potential-and-what-it-takes-to-achieve-it>.
- **Interest in Expanding Hours for Students to Master Academic, Social, and Workplace Skills Is Mounting** This article addresses the importance of expanded learning and afterschool opportunities as well as the growing national momentum to rethink time and learning. To read this article, visit the Education Week webpage at [www.edweek.org](http://www.edweek.org) or click here [http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/09/24/05narmain\\_ep.h28.html](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/09/24/05narmain_ep.h28.html).
- **Congress Has Opportunity To Improve Educational Resources for Homeless Children** – This policy brief on the federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth program analyzes a recent national report, summarizes data on Pennsylvania and five nearby states, and provides action steps that advocates can take to better support homeless children and youth. To read this brief visit the People's Emergency Center webpage at [www.pec-cares.org](http://www.pec-cares.org) or click here <http://www.pec-cares.org/clientfolders/pdf/EHCY%20Multi-State%20Analysis%20Policy%20brief-EHCY-CI-Policy-2008-09-25%20Final.pdf>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars; you don't want to miss these events.

- **10/8/08 Pennsylvania Recognizes October As Parent Involvement Month** – This press event is organized by the Pennsylvania Parent Information and Resource Center, its Advisory Board and the Pennsylvania Parent Teacher Association. It will be held in the Capitol Rotunda, Harrisburg at 10:00 a.m. For more information about the event, visit [www.psaydn.org](http://www.psaydn.org).
- **10/16/08 9th Annual Lights On Afterschool!** – This event is organized by the Afterschool Alliance and will be celebrated nationwide. For more information about the event or host an event, visit [http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights\\_on/index.cfm](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/lights_on/index.cfm).
- **10/19/08 2008 Early Childhood Education Summit: Keeping Pennsylvania's Promise to Children and Families: The Difference We Make!** – This event is co-sponsored by the Pennsylvania Child Care Association Office of Child Development & Early Learning, Pennsylvania Association of Federal Program Coordinators and the Pennsylvania Head Start Association. It will be held at the Penn State Conference Center located in State College, PA. For more information about the event or to register, please visit <http://www.earlychildhoodsummit.org/>.
- **10/26/08 – 10/28/08 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Service Institute: Across the World** – This event is organized by Youth Service America and will be held at the Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate located in Orlando, FL. For more information, visit <http://ysa.org/ProgramsServices/YouthServiceInstitute/tabid/181/Default.aspx>.
- **10/31/08 – 11/3/08 NAEHCY 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Making it Crystal Clear: A Commitment to Educating All Our Children and Youth** – This event is hosted by the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City located in Washington, DC. For more information, visit [http://www.naehcy.org/conf/conf\\_2008.html](http://www.naehcy.org/conf/conf_2008.html).
- **11/5/08 – 11/6/08 High School BOOST-er Summit** – This Summit is organized by the Rescue Social Change Group and will be held at the Bahia Resort Hotel located in San Diego, CA. For more information, visit <http://www.boostconference.org/booster/events.php>.

## ADVOCACY CORNER

Sustain Afterschool Funding by Getting Involved – Here's a tip to help steer you in the right direction.

**Share Your Success** – The annual *Lights On Afterschool* Celebration is a great opportunity to invite your State House or Senate member to attend your event. Thanks to the effective advocacy work of our partners at Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children, Afterschool is rising on the radar of the Pennsylvania House and Senate. In July, the House unanimously passed a resolution requiring the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to prepare a report on the afterschool needs of children and youth within the Commonwealth. When completed, this report should serve as a useful tool to help advance a debate on afterschool public policy and investments. Furthermore, the House Children and Youth Committee recently conducted a public hearing on the value of afterschool. The Committee members showed a real interest in our programs. Resolutions commemorating *Lights On Afterschool!* have been introduced in the Pennsylvania General Assembly as well. Asking your House and Senate member to attend your *Lights On* event is a great next step to elevate afterschool in the minds of our elected officials in Harrisburg. I ask that you please do so. For hints and suggestions for inviting and involving legislators in your *Lights On Afterschool* event, visit [www.psaydn.org](http://www.psaydn.org).

The **PSAYDN** is a collaborative effort among state, regional and local partners. Its purpose is to promote sustainable, high-quality out-of-school time youth development programs through advocacy and capacity building to enhance the welfare of Pennsylvania's children, youth and families.

To learn more about PSAYDN, please contact:

**Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network**

Phone: 717.763.1661

E-mail: [psaydn@csc.csiu.org](mailto:psaydn@csc.csiu.org)