



The following information is also available on 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.

March 2009

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THE SPOTLIGHT!

Education and The Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Afterschool programs have tremendous opportunities to benefit from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The bill not only provides additional dollars to initiatives that already support afterschool, but also creates unprecedented supports for children and families that can potentially support afterschool efforts. Furthermore, in several key areas, national and state agencies will be creating new policy that can have lasting effects on education and afterschool. Making good use of all of these opportunities to help keep kids safe, inspire them to learn and help working families requires strategic thinking and planning on the part of afterschool providers and advocates. For more information, see the [Afterschool Alliance Website’s Policy Page](#).

PSAYDN UPDATE

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

- **Rescheduling the Afterschool Regional Summit** – Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Afterschool/Youth Development Network, The Northeastern PA Regional Afterschool Summit formerly known as the Wyoming Valley Afterschool Summit planned for November 16 2008 has been scheduled for May 28, 2009. The Northeastern PA Summit will be at the Scranton Boys and Girls Club of Northeastern PA, and will connect community leaders, raise awareness on the importance on afterschool and youth development programs of Pennsylvania’s children, youth and families. To register for the Summit visit www.psaydn.org
- **Career Pathways Committee Meeting** – Through its Quality Committee, PSAYDN and its partners have continued to work to create a quality improvement and capacity building systems for afterschool programs. PSAYDN has developed a crosswalk tool that illustrates how the PSAYDN Quality *Guiding Principles* link to state and national quality standards such as Keystone STARS, the National

AfterSchool Association's Standards for Quality School-Age Care, and the National Youth Employment Coalition Quality Standards for Youth Programs, to name a few.

Through a pilot project, PSAYDN is exploring how the T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Early Childhood[®] PENNSYLVANIA Scholarship Program can be expanded to provide scholarship support to staff from regulated school-age child care and self-regulated youth work programs. The Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA) administers T.E.A.C.H. in Pennsylvania, working with providers, colleges and employers to offer scholarship programs and support systems that improve the education and compensation of child care and youth work professionals. PSAYDN is working closely with PACCA to coordinate this effort.

The PSAYDN Quality Committee/Career Pathways Work Group will meet on April 23 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Center for Schools and Communities at 275 Grandview Avenue, Suite 200 Camp Hill. A subcommittee of the Career Pathways Work Group is working throughout March to plan for the April meeting and to develop a draft work plan that will be reviewed and finalized at the meeting.

PROMISING PRACTICES – PROVEN STRATEGIES

Learn about what is going on locally and nationally.

Pennsylvania

- The Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, Inc.(OIC) held a informative event March 4, 2009, which discussed healthy relationship education and awareness. The event, *Live Your Life Youth Summit*, was free to high school youth and included workshops, give-aways, dinner and the “live your life” program. The Youth Summit was held at the Student Activities Center at Temple University.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Education in partnership with the Center for Schools and Communities was pleased to present the 2009 Extra Learning Opportunities Conference, Promising Practices-Proven Strategies: Afterschool Programs Working Together for Pennsylvania's Youth which was held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in Harrisburg March 4–6, 2009. The conference focused on key elements of high-quality extra learning opportunities, and on developing systems that support and promote collaboration and youth success including academic achievement and community and family involvement. These key elements provided the backdrop for participants to learn about the development, implementation and sustainability of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by schools, youth, parents and the community at-large. All who work on behalf of children and youth in out-of-school time programs are encouraged to attend: stay tuned for information regarding the 2010 ELO Conference.

Around the Country

- Participating in after-school programs can help middle school students navigate the tough transitions from elementary school into middle school, and middle school into high school. In order to work for middle school students, however, after-school programs must provide continued access to high-quality learning opportunities that are directed toward their specific developmental needs. Building on the success of current programs, the after-school system in Baltimore, MD, exploring ways that every middle school can provide high-quality after-school opportunities to its students. Baltimore's After School Strategy is focused on expanding two already operational initiatives, BOOST and A-Teams. This best practice research suggests common components of effective after-school programs for the middle school youth. To read about these programs and best practices happening in Baltimore, MD, [click here](#).

RECOMMENDED READING

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

Financial Strategies to Support Citywide Systems of Out-of-School Time Programs: This strategy guide discusses the benefits of Out-of-School Time Programs and their need for stable streams of funding and investment from numerous sources such as municipalities and other community stakeholders. The increasing need for innovative financing has become more relevant as rough economic times force cities to think systemically and strategically about supporting the out-of-school options available in their communities. To read the complete Financial Strategy Guide to Support Citywide Systems of Out-of-School Time Programs, [click here](#).

The Benefits of Expanded Learning Opportunities for Older Youth: *The Benefits of Expanded Learning Opportunities for Older Youth* identifies and describes Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs) that improve academic performance, college and career preparation, social and emotional development, and health and wellness outcomes for underserved youth. The March 2009 publication is an easy-to-read guide designed to help national, state and local policymakers and practitioners better understand the wide array of benefits ELOs provide and the programmatic and structural elements of successful ELOs. To order a copy of the report, please send your complete contact information to aypf@aypf.org and include *The Benefits of ELOs* in the subject line. The complete report will also be available online at www.aypf.org

Afterschool Academies: Guidebook for Action - Professional Development for Afterschool

Educators: This guide is designed to help afterschool leaders develop and launch their own intensive, cross-program, multi-site training institutes to address the fundamentals of afterschool education. To view this guide, [click here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- **4/20/09 Calling all Afterschool artists** – The Afterschool Alliance is now accepting artwork submissions for their 2009 *Lights on Afterschool* Poster. The winning student image will be printed on 50,000 posters and sent to afterschool programs from coast to coast for their *Lights on Afterschool* celebration this October 22, and will be featured all year on the Afterschool Alliance Website. The name of the winning student's afterschool program will be featured on the poster. **Submissions are due by April 20, 2009.** For more information, rules and to see last year's winning entry, [click here](#).
- **4/22/09 - 4/29/09 Best of Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Conference** – Experience a blend of networking, teambuilding opportunities and exceptional workshop presenters at one of the nation's largest and most recognized conferences for out-of-school time professionals. The conference will be held in Palm Springs, CA. For more information on this event, [click here](#).
- **4/27/09 (1:00 PM- 4:00 PM) Pre-conference Workshop**- Childcare Services Association is offering a workshop by Holly Elissa Bruno, renowned author, teacher and keynote speaker in early childhood education leadership. The workshop is being held in conjunction with the 9th Annual T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood and Child Care Wages National Conference. It will be held at the William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. To register or for more information on this conference go to www.childcareservices.org.

- **4/27/09 - 4/28/09 Afterschool for All Challenge** – For the eighth year, the afterschool community's only advocacy focused conference, *Afterschool for All Challenge*, being held at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C., will feature a day of training and networking followed by a day of visits with Congressional offices. Join hundreds of afterschool stakeholders by taking a look at the role of afterschool programs in the changing education landscape and assert the importance of afterschool to our federal policy makers. [Register now!](#)
- **5/28/09 Northeastern PA Afterschool Regional Summit** – Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Afterschool/Youth Development Network, the Northeastern PA Afterschool Summit will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2009. The Summit will be at the Scranton Boys and Girls Club of Northeastern PA, and will connect community leaders, raise awareness on the importance on afterschool and youth development programs of Pennsylvania's children, youth and families. To register for the Summit visit www.psaydn.org

ADVOCACY CORNER

Sustain afterschool funding by getting involved – Here's a tip to help steer you in the right direction.

The Pennsylvania School Funding Campaign: Successful Schools...Successful Children...Successful Communities – There's no more important investment of public funds than in the education of our children. And, the state has no greater responsibility than to assure that every child has a high quality public education. But Pennsylvania ranks near the bottom in the nation for state spending on in the nation for state spending on public education and is over-reliant on local property taxes as a funding source. The end result is that a child's education experience varies greatly simply because of where he or she lives. That's not reasonable and the time has come to make a change. **Join the Pennsylvania School Funding Campaign Today!** [Click here to help ensure an adequate and equitable education for every child in Pennsylvania!](#)

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:

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