

Up to the Minute News for After School Professionals

May 4, 2008

This information is compiled and provided by "After School Counts!" – a program of the Educational Council. Please share this information with colleagues who may find the information useful. "After School Counts!" is a collaborative effort of the City of Columbus Mayor's Office of Education, the Educational Council, and the United Way of Central Ohio, with additional support from the Hannah Dillard Legacy Fund of the Columbus Foundation, and enhances the capacity of staff to meet the academic and developmental needs of school-age children in Central Ohio's After School and OST programs. "After School Counts!" does not endorse any events, trainings, or resources included in this bulletin. It is offered for your information and thoughtful consideration for participation. To contact "After School Counts!" please call Heidi Yoakum at 292-8711, Juliana Ramirez or Amy Gordon at 247-4976, afterschoolcounts@edcouncil.org.

Newly added information is at the beginning of each section, and is noted with **asterisks******

Upcoming Trainings & Meetings

**** Central Ohio School Age Child Care Administrators Roundtable Meeting** – Friday, May 9, 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Educational Council/After School Counts, 1929 Kenny Road, Suite 300. Open to all executive directors and administrators. Free parking available. Contact: Becky Ciminillo, YMCA Columbus or Heidi Yoakum, 614-292-8711 or yoakum@edcouncil.org.

**** "National Treasures" Library of Congress workshops** – Sessions will sample the treasures of the Library of Congress! Make history live for your afterschool students by learning how to sample original documents such as photos, maps, manuscripts, sound files, sheet music, letters and so much more from the vaults of the world's largest library. Presenter : Sherrie Galloway, Library of Congress, Teacher in Residence- Educational Outreach. **Choose** a brief overview on Monday May 12 noon to 1:30 PM **or** a more in-depth session on Tuesday May 13 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM at the Educational Council, 1929 Kenny Road, Suite 300, Columbus, OH 43210. Feel free to bring your lunch. **Fee: FREE!!!!** if your site is in Franklin County, OH. (A \$25.00 fee will be assessed to programs outside of Franklin County. Please make checks payable to: Educational Council.) Appropriate for front line staff, administrators, program managers, and site directors. Certificate of completion will be provided. Register by May 7: contact Juliana Ramirez at (614) 247-4976 or email afterschoolcounts@edcouncil.org with name, organization, email address and day time phone number. Presented by After School Counts!

"Afterschool for All" Challenge in Washington, D.C. on May 13 and 14. The Afterschool Alliance will team with the National League of Cities to provide two days of workshops, speakers, advocacy opportunities and fun for hundreds of afterschool providers and leaders from around the country, and some of the parents and children they serve.

Upcoming OAN (Ohio After School Network) meeting are scheduled for the following dates in 2008:

- **May 14**
- August 6
- November 12

All meetings take place 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Vineyard Church in northeast Columbus. To register, contact Liz Nusken at lnusken@ocrra.org or 614-396-5959 X 310.

**** Summer 2008 Teacher Workshops at COSI, 333 West Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215**
www.cosi.org or 614.228.2674

June 16-17, 2008 ~ Inquiry Into Chemical & Physical Change

Grades 3-7 Two-Day Workshop

Identify and describe states of matter. Differentiate chemical and physical changes that are part of our daily lives. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90. Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/>

Ohio Academic Content Standards Physical Science 4.1-4, 6.1-4

June 18-19, 2008 ~ Inquiry Into Weather

Grades 2-7 Two-Day Workshop

Make and take weather instruments. Use process skills to predict the weather. Offered in partnership with Franklin County Metro Parks.

8am-4pm (both days), \$90. Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/> Ohio Academic Content Standards Earth Sciences 2.4-5, 4.1-6, 7.5-9

June 24-25, 2008 ~ Inquiry Into Chemical & Physical Changes in Cooking

Grades PreK-4 Two-Day Workshop

Identify and describe chemical and physical changes using kid-friendly foods and recipes. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90. Register:

<http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/>

Ohio Academic Content Standards Physical Science 4.1-4, 6.1-4

July 7-8, 2008 ~ Inquiry Into Electricity

Grades 5-9 Two-Day Workshop

Expand on the electricity curriculum by creating a circuit with an offset motor. Take what you learned and create a device that

scribbles. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90. Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/>

Ohio Academic Content Standards Physical Sciences 5.3-4, 6.7, 7.5, 9.15

July 10-11, 2008 ~ Inquiry Into Water

Grades 3-7 Two-Day Workshop

Explore the physical and chemical properties of water and understand water as a resource. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90.

Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/>

Ohio Academic Content Standards Earth Science 3.5, 4.2-3, 5.5-6, 7.1-4; Life Science 3.6, 5.4-6; Physical Science 4.1, 4.4-5, 7.1

The National Institute of Out-of-School Time (NIOST) has announced their Summer Seminar series:

July 14-15 *Advancing School, Afterschool and Community Partnerships*

July 14-15 *Quality Advisor Training*

July 16-17 *System Building*

July 16-17 *Afterschool Program Assessment System (APAS)*

Seminars take place in Boston. For more information go to <http://www.niost.org/sumsem08.html>.

** Summer 2008 Teacher Workshops at COSI, 333 West Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215
www.cosi.org or 614.228.2674

July 21-22, 2008 ~ Science & Literature

Grades PreK-3 Two-Day Workshop

Learn to use books, writing, and media to teach about science and math. Key topics include Pollution, Energy, The Sky, Math & Measurement, Habitats, Living & Non-Living Things. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90.

Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/> Ohio Academic Content Standards

Earth & Space Science K.2, 1.1, 1.3 Life Science 2.2-3, 2.6-7

July 28-29, 2008 ~ CSI: The Science Involved in Solving Crimes

Grades 9-12

Two-Day Workshop

Use cutting edge forensic science to solve a crime. View an autopsy with a forensic pathologist. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90. Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/> Ohio Academic Content Standards Science & Technology 9.1, 12.1-2; Scientific Inquiry 9.3, 10.4, 11.4-5, 12.1; Scientific Ways of Knowing 9.1-2, 9.9, 10.3-5, 10.7, 11.1, 11.11, 12.1; Life Science 10.27, 11.1

July 30-31, 2008 ~ Inquiry Into Biodiversity in a Prairie

Grades 3-8 Two-Day Workshop

Explore the interconnectedness of the prairie ecosystem using COSI's new prairie exhibit. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90. Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/> Ohio Academic Content Standards Earth Science 3.4-5, 7.8; Life Science 3.1-2, 3.6, 4.2, 4.5, 5.2-6, 6.8, 7.2-8, 8.3, 8.5

August 7-8, 2008 ~ Inquiry Into Force & Motion

Grades 1-8 Two-Day Workshop

Investigate a variety of ways to make things move and what causes them to change speed, direction, or stop. 8am-4pm (both days), \$90. Register: <http://www.cosi.org/educators/professional-development/> Ohio Academic Content Standards Physical Sciences 1.5-6, 3.1-4, 8.1-3

2008 "Off to a Great Start!" Conference -- this dynamic conference for Franklin County and Ohio after school professionals will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, **Aug. 20-21** (the third week of August). Stay tuned for details! ***If you have a dynamic, interactive workshop you'd like to present or are interested in displaying your resources*** or for info, contact "After School Counts!" Juliana Ramirez at 247-4976 or afterschoolcounts@edcouncil.org or Heidi Yoakum at 292-8711 or yoakum@edcouncil.org. **Please also note: nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 Hannah Dillard Awards – Recognizing Exemplary After School & Out of School Time (OST) Programs & their Partners. See information provided in next section.**

Franklin County: Stay tuned for upcoming professional development in science and math activities through After School Counts. After School Counts will provide professional development in integrated science and math for Franklin County programs. Contact Heidi Yoakum at 614-292-8711 or

yoakum@edcouncil.org with questions or interest.

Ohio Science and Math Initiative: a first statewide coordination meeting was held in March with the Ohio Afterschool Network; follow up is being planned. Stay tuned!

To include your upcoming afterschool trainings, please contact "After School Counts!" at 614-247-4976. We would love to list your afterschool related training information!

Grants, Funding Information, Awards, and Contests

**** If your program had significant snow removal costs (\$1,000 or more) for the March 7-9 snow storm event, read on regarding reimbursement:** Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security has received a federal declaration of emergency from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the March 7-9 winter storm event -- the record 20 inch snowfall that blanketed the area. This means reimbursement! Eligible applicants may have costs associated with snow removal reimbursed. This assistance is a 75% federal, 25% local cost share and applicants must have spent at least \$1,000 total in order to qualify for reimbursement. Please see website info at www.franklincountyohio.gov/emahs. Should you have any questions or if you feel as though you are eligible for reimbursement you will need to attend the **mandatory Applicant Briefing scheduled for this Thursday May 8th at 9AM**. You must register to attend this meeting. This type of declaration is mostly a financial record keeping type of event, so please send a fiscal representative if possible. Once the representative is determined, please email Jamie Stout jlstout@franklincountyohio.gov or contact Jamie at 614-794-0213 or 614-205-4176 to register for the briefing. This meeting is mandatory to receive reimbursement, so please contact Jamie as soon as possible if you are interested in reimbursement.

**** Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 Hannah Dillard Awards** – Recognizing Exemplary After School & Out of School Time (OST) Programs & their Partners. This year, four awards for excellent in OST programs and partners will be presented at the Hannah Dillard Awards Luncheon at the “Off to a Great Start” Conference. Winners will receive an award and \$250 to be used without restriction in the program being honored. Both locally developed and nationally developed programs in Central Ohio are eligible, but preference will be given to locally developed programs. Programs and partners may be nominated for excellence in any component of OST services, including, but not limited to, the following: 1) Exceptional, creative or innovative activities; 2) Effective evaluation methods; 3) Outstanding management practices; 4) Strong connections to the community, including community service; 5) Exemplary use of volunteers; 6) Effective outreach and engagement. Nominations are due on or before July 25, 2008. For complete eligibility and nomination process details, contact Juliana Ramirez at After School Counts: phone: 614-247-4976 or afterschoolcounts@edcouncil.org. The Hannah Dillard Awards are made possible by the family, friends, colleagues, and admirers of Hannah who want to honor and extend her legacy. The Hannah Dillard Legacy Fund Committee is working to support and strengthen Central Ohio After School and OST program staff. To make a contribution to the fund or to learn more about it, please contact: The Hannah Dillard Legacy Fund of the Columbus Foundation 1234 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43205, phone: 614.251.4000.

The WHO Foundation, a nonprofit charitable 501(c)(3) organization, was established in 1993 and born from the philosophy of Women Helping Others. The Who Foundation reaches out, on grass-roots level, to women and children whose needs have been neglected and are underserved. Since its inception, the Who Foundation has granted over \$4 million to over 325 charities in 35 states and Puerto Rico, touching the lives of more than 350,000 women and children in need. The W.H.O. Foundation’s afterschool grant program is beginning small, with grants of up to \$5,000. It may expand to larger grants in the future. The application form is available at: http://www.whofoundation.org/WHO_FundingMenu.htm.

The President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities is inviting nominations for the 2008 **Coming Up Taller Awards**, which recognize the accomplishments of exceptional arts and humanities afterschool programs. Finalists receive \$10,000, a plaque and an invitation to attend a leadership enhancement conference. For more information go to <http://www.cominguptaller.org/>.

Pathways Within Offers Book Donation Program for Small and Rural Communities

Deadline: October 15 and March 15, annually. The Pathways Within (<http://pwitr.org/>) Roads to Reading Initiative Bi-Annual Program donates books to literacy programs in small and rural low-income communities. <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10007859/pwitr> For additional RFPs in Education, visit: http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml

Do Something—Game Stop Youth Grants (Deadline: Rolling)

Do Something is accepting applications for its Game Stop Youth grants program. The purpose of this program is to support creative proposals for solving local problems in three areas: health, community building, and the environment. Applicants should address Do Something’s core principles: 1) measurable change; 2) community focus; 3) long-term problem solving action; 4) creativity; and 5) diversity.

<<http://www.healthinschools.org/grants/ops973.asp>> (SOURCE: Center for Health and Health Care in Schools)

Early Childhood

Grant: Early Childhood Care and Education Grants - Direct service support to organizations throughout the contiguous United States, with a priority for projects operated by experienced, community-based programs serving children in low-income, major urban areas, where families struggle to find affordable, high-quality early education and care. Grants pay for tuition subsidies, small renovations, equipment upgrades, playground construction and staff development.

Funder: Rosie’s For All Kids Foundation.

Eligibility: Nonprofits.

Deadline: Open for letters of intent.

Amount: \$15,000-\$30,000.

Contact: www.forallkids.org (click Early Education)

Juvenile Justice

Grant: State Justice Institute - Funds state and local courts, nonprofits and others to improve the quality of justice, including juvenile justice, in the United States.

Funder: State Justice Institute.

Eligibility: State and local courts and national nonprofits.

Deadline: Most grant categories have rolling deadlines.

Amount: \$2 million to \$4.5 million.

Contact: www.statejustice.org

Recreation

Grant: Baseball Tomorrow Fund - To expand youth participation in baseball and softball by funding programs, fields, coaches, training and the purchase of uniforms and equipment to encourage and maintain youth participation in the game. The funds may finance a new program, expand or improve an existing program, undertake a new collaborative effort or obtain facilities or equipment.

Funder: Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association.

Eligibility: Urban and rural nonprofits.

Deadline: Open.

Amount: Up to 30 grants per year totaling more than \$1.5 million. The average grant is \$51,000.

Contact: http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/official_info/community/btf.jsp?content=grant_process

For children- and youth-led projects that promote understanding of environmental issues

Funder: The Captain Planet Foundation.

Eligibility: Schools and nonprofits.

Deadline: June 30, Sept. 30, Dec. 31 and March 31.

Amount: \$250 to \$2,500.

Contact: www.captainplanetfdn.org/grants.html

RGK Foundation - Grants for community, education and health projects, including human services, community improvement, abuse prevention and youth development/educational enrichment programs.

Funder: RGK Foundation.

Eligibility: Nonprofits must first submit letters of inquiry.

Deadline: Open.

Amount: Under \$25,000 each.

Contact: www.rgkfoundation.org

Resources and Information:

** If you're in need of free summer labor and are willing to provide an employment site, the Columbus Urban League Career Development Services department will be participating in the 2008 Summer Youth Employment Program with the Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation (COWIC). The program will serve 145 youth ages 14-18 that need summer placement opportunities. The summer employment program will run for six weeks, beginning on June 23, 2008 thru August 1, 2008. If your organization is interested in partnering with the Columbus Urban League to support learning rich work experiences for our community's youth or if you have additional questions, **please contact Ms. Terrise Lyle-Brown today at (614) 257-6300 ext 106 and or by email at TLyle-Brown@cul.org. www.cul.org "Empowering Communities. Changing Lives."**

** Supporting Student Success Project (S3) Initiative – May 2008 update

About S3 - recently, OSU, ODE, OAN and Voices for Ohio's Children developed the following information to clarify the guiding outline for the S3 project.

Guiding mission of S3 Project: The Guiding Mission of the Supporting Student Success Project (S3) is to study, integrate and build collaboration and buy-in for a well-researched and well-informed policy agenda that will maximize funding for and expand access to summer and afterschool programs.

Major components of the S3 Project include: Developing and conducting a case study conducted by The Ohio

State University (OSU) in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to analyze two Akron extended learning opportunities: Akron Afterschool and Perkins Middle School, as well as the broader context of capacity of these areas that lead to student success.

- Convening a team of key decision makers and stakeholders in order to guide the work of the S3 project mission, case study results, and 'next steps' toward implementation of the policy agenda.

Presentation to State School Board -- From Liz Nusken, OAN: Monday, April 7th Mary Lou Rush, Desiree Bolden and Liz Nusken presented information on Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs) and an update on the S3 project to the Achievement Committee of the State Board of Education. Dr. Zelman provided additional insights into the importance of "seamless learning opportunities" throughout the full day and the year. The Board asked questions about parents' perspectives and outcomes from nontraditional school schedules. The plan is to return in the fall to present to the State Board of Education the results of the S3 research, findings and recommendations. See presentation documents at <http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/s32008.htm>.

Dates to Remember: The S3 Leadership Team is looking forward to discussing the progress we've made on the goals of S3 with Heather Chikoore from NCSL, a current funder, on **Wednesday, May 7th from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Look for next month's update to have a full report on the outcome of the call!

Project Update from Ohio State University on resource Scan/Case Study: In May, Ohio State University researchers Rebecca Wade-Mdivanian and Dawn Anderson-Butcher will begin the resource scan and case study components of the S3 initiative. Much work will be done in Akron at Akron Afterschool and Perkins Middle School's programs. In addition, resources in Greene County's Family and Children's First Council and Cincinnati afterschool programs will also be studied. All parties cooperated with OSU to work their Internal Board of Review process. For a summary report on the OSU IBR, a PDF document prepared by Rebecca can be found at <http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/s32008.htm>.

Thanks to Representative Sykes, S3 Leadership Team Member: Carrie Baker and Liz Nusken met with Representative Vernon Sykes on April 24th to re-connect with him on the S3 Project. Representative Sykes has continued to champion the S3 project both in his district and statewide. Rep. Sykes had a good conversation with Representative Arlene Setzer, Chair of the Ohio House Education Committee, about his resolution. We're planning that, with the new timeframe of the S3 project, the resolution will be tied to releasing results of the project in September. Carrie and Liz will be drafting a letter to Representative Sykes and Setzer thanking them for their consideration and leadership on behalf of afterschool programs. To read the resolution, go to <http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/s32008.htm>

Please fill out and return the S3 Leadership team Sign Up Form today! To better keep track of and formalize the time determined relationship of the S3 advisory team, a Sign Up form is attached. We will work toward face-to face meetings in June and August/September for the leadership and advisory team. Voices contract staff, Carrie Baker will send monthly updates such as this to all Team members as well as call meetings via email. The S3 Sign Up Form can be found at <http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/s32008.htm>.

In addition to this email update, all documents and information are available at <http://www.ohioafterschoolnetwork.org/S3.htm>. For questions, additions or comments, please contact Voices for Ohio's Children/Ohio Afterschool Network contract staff support Carrie Baker at 614-441-2323 or carrie@landermanmanagement.com.

The National High School Center recently released *Approaches to Dropout Prevention: Heeding Early Warning Signs with Appropriate Interventions*. This document describes current research regarding early predictors that we should be tracking related to identifying youth who are likely to drop out or fail to graduate in four years. It

also describes some suggestions for tracking these early warning signs and appropriately intervening to help youth get back on track, www.betterhighschools.org.

The Rand Corporation's study *Current-Generation Youth Programs; What Works, What Doesn't and at What Cost* can be downloaded for free at http://rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/OP215/.

Education Week feature *Technology Counts 2008 – STEM: The Push to Improve Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics* with state specific data. Access to this is free through April 7. <http://www.edweek.org/ew/toc/2008/03/27/index.html>.

Asian American Community Services encourages your community's youth to join the **Life Skills (TNT) Workshop** (ages 10-15). The workshop is taught in 5 Sessions. Students will receive a 10-hour Community Service Certificate & Course Completion Certificate. We encourage you to discuss the program with the parents and children of your organization and community. The Life Skills Training course offers participants (youths ages 10-15) a rich experience with lessons in: Self-confidence, Positive thinking, Effective communication, Assertiveness & refusal skills, Advertising & media influence on culture, Coping with peer pressure. This free workshop is conducted by Asian American Community Services (AACS) and is funded by the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation. For additional information, or to arrange a workshop, please contact: Gothai Jayaraj (614) 220-4023 ext. 226 or Shoma Smith (614) 220-4023 ext. 242. www.aacsohio.org
Email: ssmith@aacsohio.org

SEEKING YOUNG ENVIRONMENTAL HEROES FOR \$2,000 BARRON PRIZE

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes seeks nominations for its 2008 awards. The Barron Prize honors young people ages 8 to 18 who have made a significant positive difference to people and our planet. Each year, ten national winners each receive \$2,000 to support their service work or higher education. Half of each year's winners are chosen for their work to protect the environment. Nomination deadline is April 30. For more information and to nominate, visit <http://www.barronprize.org/>

Research in the out-of-school time field confirms that there is a strong connection between professional development for staff and positive outcomes for youth. "Promising Practices in Out-of-School Time Professional Development" was recently produced by the Out-of-School Time Resource Center (OSTRC). The document broadly defines OST professional development and summarizes promising practices in its design, implementation, and evaluation. The accompanying annotated bibliography describes 44 references which provide additional information on the topic. To access these documents, go to www.sp2.upenn.edu/ostrc/pdf/PPID.pdf and www.sp2.upenn.edu/ostrc/pdf/PPID_biblio.pdf.

Check out www.freecycle.org "Our mission is to build a worldwide gifting movement that reduces waste, saves precious resources & eases the burden on our landfills while enabling our members to benefit from the strength of a larger community."

Have you asked yourself when is informal data gathering enough? Child Trends has just issued parts 5 and 6 of their series on practical evaluation methods. **Random Assignment Evaluation Studies** and **Quasi-Experimental Evaluations**. Resources, references, and case examples are included. (*January 2008, sponsored by Atlantic Philanthropies.*)

Based on the best-selling book *Grossology*, this live interactive program examines the "impolite" science of the human body. *Grossology LIVE!* is written to align with both the National Health and Science Content Standards. Four programs are currently being offered with an additional two launching. *Grossology LIVE!* is perfect for families, field trips, school groups, scout troops, youth outings and birthday parties. Programs are held daily Monday through Saturday. Sunday programs can be arranged by special request. For more information, contact [Community Education](#) at Nationwide Children's Hospital at (614) 722-4949.

The Afterschool Alliance has numerous resources on its website for afterschool providers, including tips for initiating relationships with funders and businesses, and for identifying funding opportunities. To learn more, visit the [Afterschool Alliance Funding page](#).

The 9th annual *Lights On Afterschool* will be held October 16, 2008. Check www.afterschoolalliance.org regularly for updates and information!

It's International Polar Year! Teachers' Domain is pleased to announce our new [Polar Sciences Special Collection](#), which is funded by the National Science Foundation, and offers 20 new resources about the Arctic and the Antarctic, plus resources from our existing collections, a lesson plan, and our newest feature, a student activity.

Recently, President Bush released his Fiscal Year 2009 budget proposal, asking Congress to cut funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLCs) from the current \$1.1 billion level to just \$800 million next year. If Congress agrees, 300,000 students would lose access to afterschool programs next year. The *No Child Left Behind Act* authorized \$2.5 billion for 21st CCLC in Fiscal Year 2007. Claiming that there has been little improvement in key academic outcomes for afterschool since 2004, the White House also recommended transforming 21st CCLCs into an afterschool and summer school scholarship program, renamed 21st Century Learning Opportunities. The goal, according to the budget document, is "to give parents greater choices in the selection of extended-learning opportunities for their children. This proposal is a serious mistake that would be disastrous for afterschool programs receiving federal funds - and for America's children and families," Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant said. "It has two fatal flaws. First, the proposal unwisely cuts funding by 27 percent from this year's level, denying afterschool programs to hundreds of thousands of children who urgently need them. Second, it converts the very successful 21st CCLC initiative to a risky and unwise voucher program. The President's Fiscal Year 2009 budget proposal is going to require substantial modifications by the Congress," Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) said. "The proposed budget for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies is nearly \$3.8 billion below FY08 levels. This is totally insufficient for vital health and education programs, including... 21st Century Community Learning Centers and mentoring initiatives. For more info on local response, contact Liz Nusken at Ohio Afterschool Network, lnusken@occrra.org or 614-396-5959 X 310.

Using the NCES International Databases for Research and Policy Discussion

Wednesday, May 21, through Friday, May 23, 2008, Washington, DC

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, will sponsor a 2½-day seminar on the use of NCES International Databases: the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), and the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS). This seminar is open to advanced graduate students and faculty members from colleges and universities nationwide, and to researchers, education practitioners, and policy analysts from state and local education agencies and professional associations. There is no fee to attend this seminar. NCES will provide training materials as well as computers for hands-on practice. NCES will also pay for transportation, hotel accommodations, and a fixed per diem for meals and incidental expenses during the training seminar. All applications should be received no later than April 4, 2008. Applications will be reviewed and selected candidates will be informed by April 14, 2008. For more information or to complete an application, go to: <http://ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/conferences/?id=309&cid=2>

Spellings announces new online data tool -- Education Secretary Margaret Spellings has unveiled the "National Dashboard," an online mapping tool that allows the public to view Education Department data about state progress on various indicators, including graduation rates, reading proficiency, and participation in supplemental tutoring. Information about 21 states plus the District of Columbia is available, with more states to be added. The full data map is available [online](#).

Demystification of preteens? The Preteen Alliance sponsored a presentation on *Important Questions on the Minds of Preteens*. Highlights included tips on ways to improve preteen-adult communication (e.g., as some preteens shy away from face-to-face conversations, instead, try side-to-side). The Preteen Alliance is an initiative of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health and while focused on two California counties, much of the [information, ideas and tips](#) on the special needs of youth 9 - 13 are helpful to everyone.

Free educational resources from the 'First Energy' company:

http://www.firstenergycorp.com/community/Education/Louie_s_Electric_Safety_Universe.html

How to make a "Bird Seed Feeder" featured in 'The WildOhio' e-newsletter. Log on to: www.dnr.state.oh.us/tabid/19609/Default.aspx

"MRSA in Early Childhood Settings – Separating Fact From Fiction" Tap into information from this previously held conference call that will dispel the myths of MRSA (Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus). Learn about the origins, symptoms and spread of MRSA from experts in the field. Materials from this conference call are available at: <http://www.build-ohio.org/publication.html>.

Do afterschool programs for middle-graders matter? You won't be surprised - but a new report documents positive outcomes in NYC. Download the full report from The After School Corporation. The After-School Programs and High School Success: Analysis of Post-Program Educational Patterns of Former Middle Grades TASC Participants. Access the complete article at: <http://www.tascorp.org/content/document/detail/1758>

How important are **appropriate expectations** and evaluations of afterschool programs? An issue brief [One Size Doesn't Fit All](#) might have just the facts you're looking for in planning upcoming strategies. There is also data which could be useful in preparing **2008 grant requests**. From Philadelphia Safe and Sound, <http://www.philasafesound.org/Afterschool%20Brief.pdf>

Find useful resources and afterschool activities at: <http://scifun.chem.wisc.edu/HOMEEXPTS/HOMEEXPTS.HTML> and www.usmint.gov

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has information about how new technology such as cell phones, PDAs and the internet are impacting youth violence. To read their article and get links to research and resources, go to: http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/electronic_aggression.htm.

GroundWork Group is the collaborative and empowering community solution that enhances the capacity of nonprofits to achieve their missions through information management and technology. Visit <http://www.groundworkgroup.com> for more information on GroundWork Group

The Waste Not Center is the *signature* program of Keep Franklin County Beautiful (KFCB). The Center receives donations from businesses of supplies that would otherwise be discarded and makes them available to teachers, artists and others for various types of projects. The Center accomplishes the dual objectives of enabling teachers to obtain materials for their work that would otherwise be unaffordable and reducing the burden on local solid waste disposal systems. More information on this great resource is available at: <http://www.kfcb.org/wnc.php>

Free Storytelling Lesson Plans

Celebrate diversity in your classroom now and throughout the year with free, standards-based lesson plans that introduce children to the tradition of storytelling. With special resources surrounding Hispanic Heritage, Black History, and Asian-Pacific Awareness, Scholastic's Dream in Color site encourages students to explore their own unique cultural identities.

HERE'S HOW: Visit www.scholastic.com/dreamincolor

Low-Income Children Need Summer Learning – A study released this spring found that the difference in children's academic success can be explained, in part, by their summer activities. The study concludes that 2/3rds of the achievement gap between lower- and higher-income youth can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities, <http://www.asanet.org/galleries/default-file/April07ASRFeature.pdf>.

Sustained Supports for Children Pay Big Dividends – While disadvantaged students benefit from high-quality preschool programs, the benefits are multiplied when students have tutoring and mentoring through their elementary and high school years, according to a report published by the University of Chicago, <http://www-news.uchicago.edu/releases/06/061115.heckman.shtml>.

Visit www.nationwidechildrens.org to sign-up for the health e-Hints newsletter.

www.americaonthemove.org -- Welcome to America On the Move- a national movement that encourages everyone to take steps towards a healthier way of life.

Visit www.mypyramid.gov for health and nutrition information to use in your program and to download the food pyramid.

FINDING U.S. CENSUS DATA FOR GRANT WRITING AND COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The U.S. Census Bureau is the leading source of quality data about our nation's people and economy. Census produced a tool kit for faith-based and community organizations to assist with obtaining Census information for grant writing and community needs assessment. Census data drives key elements of grant applications and grant proposals are strengthened by good supportive data, which demonstrates a need within a community. The Census tool kit is a simple, easy to use resource. To access the tool kit, visit www.census.gov/field/www/faith/ <[http://www.census](http://www.census.gov/field/www/faith/)

Quality Time After School: What Instructors Can Do to Enhance Learning (Public/Private Ventures) -- Improving the quality of out-of-school time activities and creating effective learning environments is of keen interest to practitioners, funders and policymakers. Funded by The William Penn Foundation, *Quality Time After School* identifies characteristics of after-school activities that are linked to youth engagement and learning across a rich diversity of out-of-school-time activity areas. Drawing from surveys and interviews with more than 400 participants and instructors from five Philadelphia-based Beacon Centers, the report's findings highlight the importance of two features of high-quality activities: good group management and positive adult support of learning. Building on analyses of over 50 detailed activity observations, as well as key lessons from past research, the report also suggests a road map for program operators and policymakers to create engaging learning environments in after-school programs. www.ppv.org

NEW STUDY: EVEN PROGRAMS NOT AIMED AT ACADEMICS IMPROVE ACHIEVEMENT

A new study by the Chapin Hall Center for Children, a research center at the University of Chicago, finds that youth in Chicago's After School Matters program have better class attendance, lower course failures and higher graduation rates. An issue brief on the study is available from Chapin Hall's website at http://www.chapinhall.org/content_director.aspx?arid=1444&afid=335&dt=1.

Resource Center (Safe and Drug-Free Schools Consortium) – lends videos/DVD's and books on prevention topics. Check out bullying resources, drug prevention information and more. Services are available to anyone serving children and youth in any of the 16 public school districts in Franklin County and Diocesan schools. Visit www.edcouncil.org or call Karen Gebhart at 292-8717 or come visit us at 1929 Kenny Road, Suite 300.

Websites related to after school programs and activities-

Afterschool Pro- <http://www.afterschoolpro.net/>

After School Alliance - www.afterschoolalliance.org

The Forum for Youth Investment - www.forumforyouthinvestment.org

Foundations, Inc. - www.foundationinc.org

The National After School Association - www.naaweb.org

National Collaboration for Youth - www.collab4youth.org

National Institute on Out-of-School Time - www.niost.org

The Out-of-School-Time Learning and Development Project - www.gse.harvard.edu

Promising Practices in After School - www.afterschool.org

School-Age Notes - www.schoolagenotes.com

Corporate Voices Working Families Business to Business Afterschool Toolkit

Corporate Voices Working Families has created a great toolkit that should help you approach business leaders in your community to understand the value of afterschool and why they should support it.

http://cvworkingfamilies.org/downloads/After_school_booklet%20B2B.pdf?CFID=17914383&CFTOKEN=85935092