Reinforcing Learning through Quality Afterschool Programs

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Alaska Afterschool Network

Support
Strength
Advocate
What is afterschool?

- It’s a regularly occurring activity
- Occurs outside of the regular school day
- Involves a group of students
- Connects youth to a supportive adult
- Helps builds skills for life
Evolution of Afterschool

SAFE PLACES

LEARNING PLACES
Afterschool is focused on Learning

1. Learning is ACTIVE
2. Learning is COLLABRATIVE
3. Learning is MEANINGFUL
4. Learning supports MASTERY
5. Learning expands HORIZONS
Afterschool in Alaska

America After 3PM revealed that 25,631 children (19%) in Alaska participate in an afterschool program, yet 45,365 children (43%) would be enrolled in a program if one were available to them. 5,632 kids are in 21st Century Community Learning Centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education's...
Participation vs Demand

OVERALL DEMAND FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Afterschool Program Participation in Alaska

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demand for Afterschool Programs in Alaska

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Demand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>43%</td>
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24% of children are unsupervised after school in 2014 for an average of 7.82 hours per week.

On average, children spend **6.1 hours** and **3.55 days** per week in an afterschool program.
Afterschool provides the building blocks kids need to succeed in life and school.

Students who regularly participate in quality afterschool programs...

- **Develop Strong Social Skills**
  - Parents agree* 88% say kids develop social skills

- **Make Better Decisions**
  - Parents agree* 78% say kids improve their behavior at school

- **Are Excited About Learning**
  - Parents agree* 82% say kids get excited about learning

- **Improve Work Habits & Grades**
  - Parents agree* 82% say kids get help with homework

- **Make Gains in Reading & Math**
  - Parents agree* 78% say kids gain skills in science, math, technology, or engineering

**Have Higher Graduation Rates**

- 77% say kids gain workforce skills, like teamwork, leadership, and critical thinking

Demand for afterschool is growing. 19.4 million kids are left out. Help us change that.
afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM

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*Among parents with kids in afterschool programs

Sources:
http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM
www.researchgate.net/publication/42346373_A_Meta-Analysis_of_After-School_Programs_That_Sek_to_Promote_Personal_and_Social_Skills_in_Children_and_Adolescents
www.policystudies.com/studies/?Id=32
http://expandinglearning.org/research/andell/resources/AERA_Promising_Programs_FINAL.pdf
www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=3546&menu_id=814
### What do parents think?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parents satisfied with their child’s afterschool program</th>
<th>Parents satisfied with the quality of care in their child’s afterschool program</th>
<th>Parents satisfied with the safe environment of their child’s afterschool program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014: 91%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009: 95%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2004: 58%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2014, 91% of Alaska’s parents are satisfied with their child’s afterschool program, compared to 95% in 2009 and 58% in 2004.
SUPPORTING STUDENTS’ SUCCESS

Consistent participation in afterschool programs leads to improved:

- **Behavior**
  - Parents say their afterschool programs provide opportunities that help their children succeed.
- **Academics**
  - **77%** say they offer homework assistance
  - **72%** say they offer reading or writing opportunities
  - **69%** say they offer opportunities to learn science, technology, engineering, and math
- **Attendance**

Learn more at www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM
http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM
http://expandinglearning.org/research/vandell
CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

The academic achievement gap between students from lower- and higher-income families has grown by 40% in 30 years.

Consistent participation in high-quality afterschool programs can help eliminate the achievement gap.

High

Grade 5 Math Achievement

High-Income Students

Low-Income Students

Higher Afterschool Participation

Learn more at www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM
cepa.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/rearden%20withen%20opportunity%20chapter%205.pdf
http://expandinglearning.org/research/vandell
Reinforces Learning
Strengthen Social-Emotional Skills
Career Exploration
During the summer, students lose 2 months of math skills.

Low-income students also lose 2+ months in reading achievement.

9 in 10 teachers* spend at least 3 weeks re-teaching lessons at the start of the school year.

Learn more at www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM

*surveyed by the National Summer Learning Association

Sources: http://rer.sagepub.com/content/66/3/227.abstract
What Can School Districts Do?

- Provide dedicated funds to support afterschool programs
- Share resources
  - Space
  - Professional development
  - Transportation
- Partner with community based afterschool providers
- Allow programs to recruit in schools
- Waive or reduce rental fees
- Help identity students and families in need
- Share data
Public Support

78% of Alaska parents support public funding for afterschool programs, while just 17% report receiving government assistance with the cost of afterschool.
Thank you for supporting kids afterschool!

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