

Reinforcing Learning through Quality Afterschool Programs

THOMAS AZZARELLA, DIRECTOR
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.

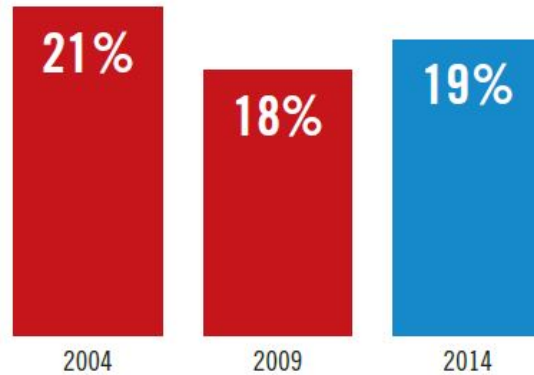
5,632 kids are in 21st Century Community Learning Centers

funded by the U.S. Department of Education's

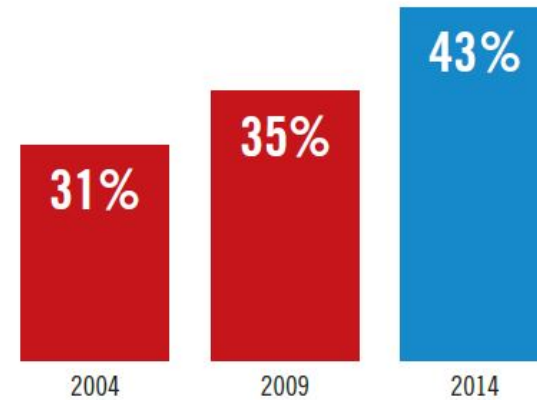
Participation vs Demand

OVERALL DEMAND FOR AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Afterschool Program Participation in Alaska



Demand for Afterschool Programs in Alaska

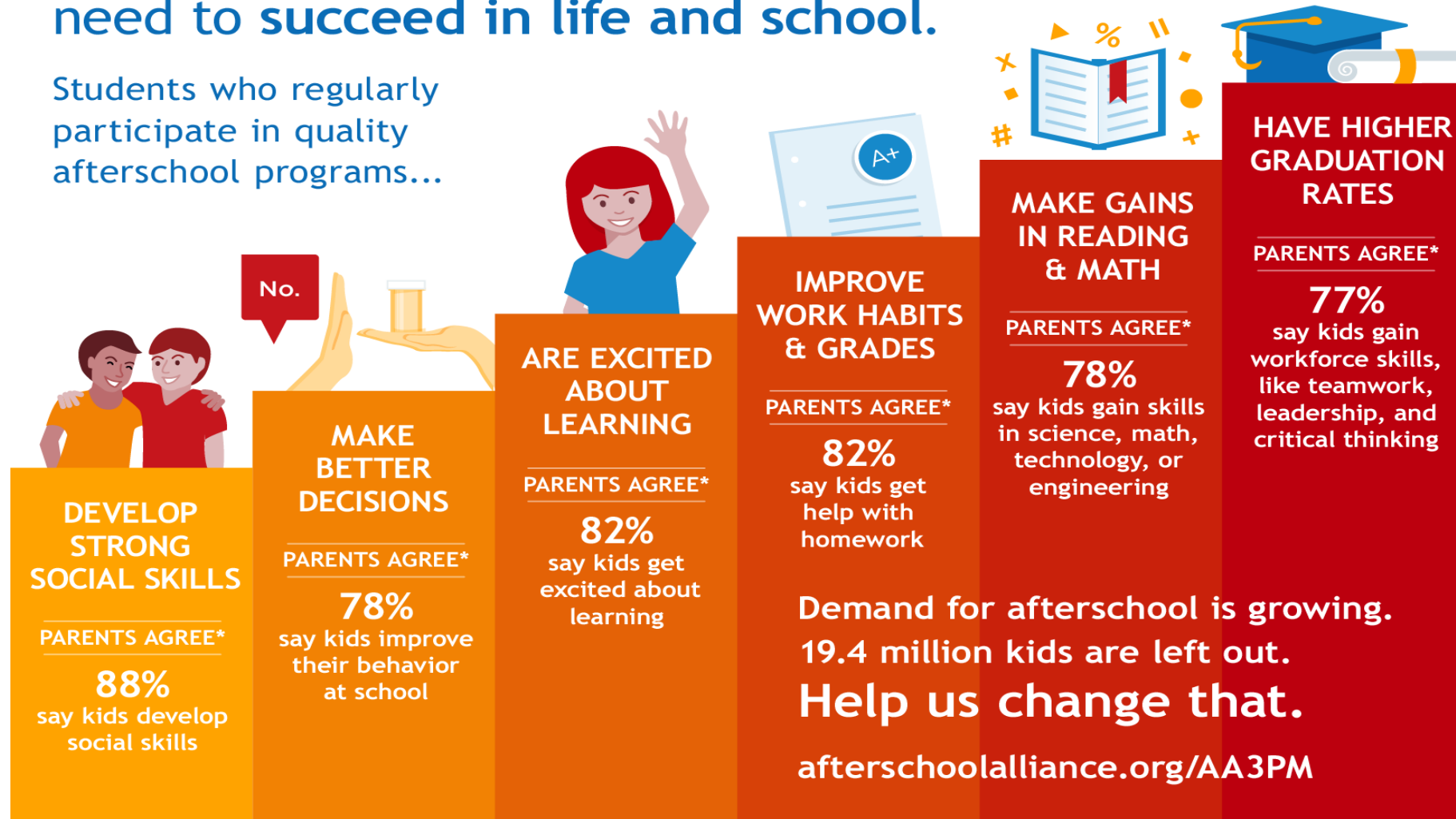


24%
of children are
unsupervised after
school in 2014 for
an average of 7.82
hours per week.

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...



*Among parents with kids in afterschool programs

Sources:

<http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM>

http://researchgate.net/publication/42346373_A_Meta-Analysis_of_After-School_Programs_That_Seek_to_Promote_Personal_and_Social_Skills_in_Children_and_Adolescents

http://educarefoundation.com/wp-edudent/uploads/EduCare-Foundation_HS_2010-2011.pdf

<http://ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Students-and-Families-Great-Schools/Educational-Programming/21stCCLCs/RI21stCCLC-Impact-Report-2011-12.pdf>

<http://policystudies.com/studies/?id=32>

http://expandinglearning.org/research/vandell/resources/AERA_Promising_Programs_FINAL.pdf

www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=3546&menu_id=814

www.k12.wa.us/21stCenturyLearning/pubdocs/14-1167WA21CCLCFinalYear2Report-ed.pdf

What do parents think?

Parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program



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

Parents satisfied with the quality of care in their child's afterschool program



Parents satisfied with the safe environment of their child's afterschool program



SUPPORTING STUDENTS' SUCCESS

Consistent participation in afterschool programs leads to improved:



Behavior



Academics



Attendance

Parents say their afterschool programs provide opportunities that help their children succeed.



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



Learn more at www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM

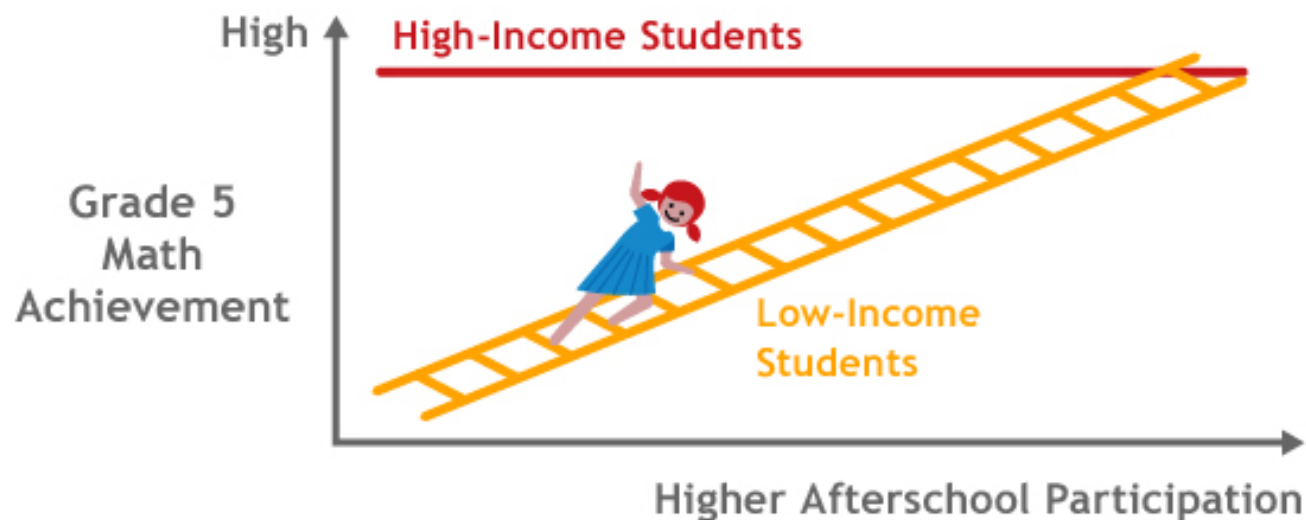
<http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM>

<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.



Learn more at www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM

cepa.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/reardon%20whither%20opportunity%20-%20chapter%205.pdf
<http://expandinglearning.org/research/vandell>

Reinforces Learning



Strengthen Social-Emotional Skills



Career Exploration



SUMMER LEARNING MATTERS

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>

http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/resmgr/press_releases/nsla_summer_release_130528_f.pdf

http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.summerlearning.org/resource/resmgr/Publications/Impact_on_Teaching_and_Learn.pdf

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 identify 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.



for supporting kids afterschool !

Thomas Azzarella

Alaska Afterschool Network

(907) 248-7371

tazzarella@akafterschool.org

www.akafterschool.org

