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**Pennsylvania Parent Information and Resource Center
Online Lunchtime Learning Series**


**Afterschool Partnering with Parents
and Schools to Support Student Success**

Presenter:
Kacy Conley, Director of the Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool
Youth Development Network (PSAYDN)


**Wednesday, September 28, 2011
12:05 p.m. to 12:40 p.m. (Eastern Time)**

 Center for Schools & Communities Online Learning

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**Lunchtime
Learning
Series**

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Moderator for Today's Session



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Housekeeping Notes

- **Question & Answer Opportunities**
We encourage you to ask questions using the text messaging (Chat) feature.
- **Recording of Session and Slides**
A link to the recording of today's session as well as the PowerPoint presentation (in PDF format) will be available within 3 days. You are welcome to view the recording and the PowerPoint at your leisure.

<http://www.center-school.org/pa-pirc>
- **Online Evaluation**
A brief online evaluation will be presented at the conclusion of today's session. Your feedback is important to us. Please take a few minutes to complete the evaluation.

Participant Information

- **Using the text messaging (Chat) feature, please provide the following information:**
 - The full name of all participants who are joining us but did NOT register for today's session. If available, please also provide their email addresses.

Example: Caroline Allen – callen@csc.csiu.org

Lunchtime Learning Series

- Support parents to:
 - Guide children's educational path
 - At home
 - In school
 - In the community
 - Participate in education partnerships
 - Advocate successfully for all children

Presenter for Today's Session



Kacy Conley

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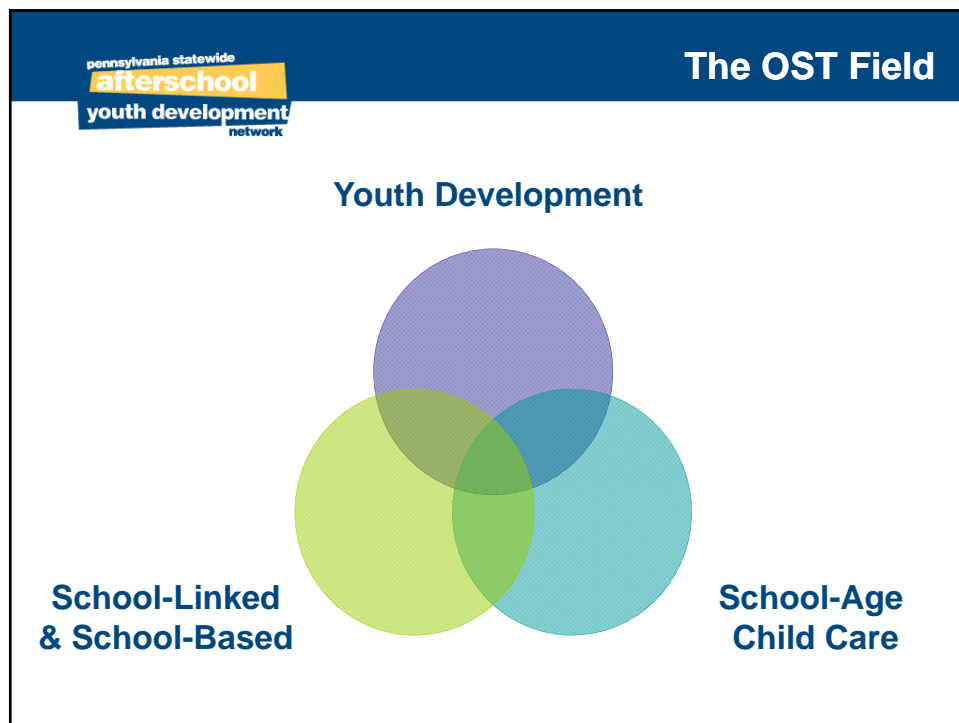
Afterschool Partnering with Parents and Schools to Support Student Success

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What is Out-of-School Time?

- Out-of-School Time (OST) programs are defined as activities for students outside of regular school hours — before and/or after school, on weekends, or during the summer.
- OST programs may be offered and/or funded by schools or by non-school providers. Collectively, these programs also are sometimes called extended-day learning opportunities.
- OST/extended-day models vary greatly, from simple day-care centers for school age children to sophisticated school-community partnerships and highly focused academic enrichment programs.





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Why OST Matters – Continued

- Nearly 80% of a child's time is spent out of school
- 1.4 million school-age children and youth in Pennsylvania have working parents
- 26% of Pennsylvania's K-12 youth are responsible for taking care of themselves. These children spend an average of more than 7 hours per week unsupervised after school.

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Why OST Matters – Continued

- Keep kids and neighborhoods safe
- Accelerates student learning – prepares future workforce and leaders
- Supports working families

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Why OST Keeps Kids Safe

- Provide a safe environment where kids can engage in fun and constructive activities.
- 3x less likely to use drugs, become teen parents, or become victims or perpetrators of crime
- U.S. Department of Juvenile Justice
- Meaningful relationships with peers, caring adults, schools, communities

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Working Parents Need Help

- 87% of working mothers say the Out-of-School Time hours are when they are most concerned about their child's safety, and this "Out-of-School Time stress" can lead to distraction that causes lower productivity, high turnover and absenteeism.
- Decreased productivity related to parental concerns about after school care costs businesses up to \$300 billion per year nationwide.
- Families below the poverty level spend an average of 23% of their monthly earnings on childcare.

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Challenges that Pennsylvania Schools and Communities Face

OST has the ability to address some of these pressing issues

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Challenges

- Closing the Achievement Gap
- Schools in Need of Improvement
- Reducing Chronic Absence and Truancy
- School and Student Safety
- High School Reform/Redesign
- 21st Century Skills
- Global Competitiveness

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Research shows that quality Out-of-School Time programs improve student grades and test performance, increase school attendance, improve homework completion and quality, and reduce grade retention.

Afterschool Alliance and
Harvard Family Research Project, 2004.

A photograph of a lightbulb-shaped cake. The top part of the cake is yellow and has the words "Lights On Afterschool!" written in black marker. Below that, the year "2009" is also written in black marker. The bottom part of the cake is green and black, representing the base of a lightbulb. The cake is sitting in a white box.

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Closing the Achievement Gap

Out-of-School Time can:

- Offer opportunities that close the gap that persists between affluent and poor students
- Support AYP through curriculum and standards based programming
- Offer summer enrichment programs
- Supplemental Education Services at Out-of-School Time programs (and/or a combination)

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Schools in Need of Improvement

Out-of-School Time programs can provide:

- Engaging Project Based Learning to support meeting AYP goals
- Tutoring (SES)
- Academic content in a different way for more time on task and individual attention
- Improved attendance
- English Language Learners – acquisition and practice

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Reducing Chronic Absenteeism

OST staff can work with parents and school staff to:

- Create a culture of good attendance in the program and in the school
- Talk with parents and students about the importance of attendance
- Suggest and support ways to help parents, families, and students help each other
- Monitor school attendance data for program participants and reach out when students are chronically absent
- Help schools identify barriers to good attendance and potential solutions

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School and Student Safety

Out-of-School Time can:

- Provide an alternative to gangs and violence
- Counteract bullying and harassment
- Ameliorate disruptive classroom behaviors
- Support injury prevention via increased supervision

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High School Reform/Redesign

- Out-of-School Time programs have a proven record of increasing graduation rates
- Out-of-School Time supports successful transitions with age appropriate, relevant programming that involves the student in planning
- Academic supports/Experiential Learning
- Service Learning and internships
- Positive Youth Development

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21st Century Skills

Out-of-School Time offers opportunities for all the things employers say new employees need:

- Problem solving through project based learning opportunities
- Community service
- Activities that focus on communication skills
- Activities that develop interpersonal and team building skills
- Programs that integrate the use of technology
- Mastery of content and skills together


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Global Competitiveness

- Student innovation and creativity opportunities
- Computer literacy
- Language acquisition
- Work place internships
- All the 21st Century skills and transition support items


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What Works



Key factors

Research and evaluation point to three primary, interrelated factors that are critical for OST's to create positive outcomes for children and youth:

- Access to and sustained participation in the program
- Quality programming, particularly
 - Appropriate supervision and structure
 - A well-prepared staff
 - Intentional programming
- Partnerships with families, other community organizations and schools.


Characteristics

- Low staff to student ratio 1/10-1/15
- Academic Staff are generally highly qualified and experienced:
 - Bachelor and Master Degrees
 - 3-5 years of experience
- Enrichment Staff –
Content Expertise/Youth Development Competency
- Strong Leadership:
 - Empower staff members
 - Share sense of mission
 - Maintain low staff turnover


Characteristics – Continued


- Clear goals and program and content aligned to meet goals
- Established relationship with day school and linkage to standards *but is different from the regular day*
- Maintain some form of evaluative structures
- Staff keep students motivated, engaged and maintain high expectations

National Partnership for Quality Out-of-School Time Learning


Program Components – Continued

Academics

- Research-based curricula
- Reinforce rather than repeat the school day/school year by utilizing varied learning modalities, building and expanding on skills from classroom curriculum
- Emphasize interaction and intentional engagement = making learning fun
- Choose content (literacy, numeracy, science, etc.) based on needs of students and schools
- Staff Student Ratio 1:10 for academic component


Program Components – Continued

Homework Help/Tutoring

- Dedicated time for homework completion
- Support and supervision by staff
- Students with greatest needs can be targeted for small group or one-on-one instruction


Program Components – Continued

Enrichment

- Offer hands-on activities for youth to develop interests and talents
- Focused skill-based activities such as:
 - Chess
 - Debate
 - Arts
 - Robotics leagues
 - Project based learning
 - Media
 - Leadership
 - Career
 - Preparation/training
 - Mentorship

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Program Components – Continued

Recreation and Nutrition

- Organize and supervise play, sports and physical activity
- Facilitate positive peer interactions
- Access to healthy meals and snacks

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Program Components – Continued

Parent and Family Engagement

- Host events that demonstrate and celebrate students' success
- Provide direct services (classes/workshops) for parents and family members
- Utilize parents/family members as volunteers
- Organize to advocate for increased resources and opportunities

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Funding Sources

Largest Sources of Funding

- Parent fees
- 21st Century Learning Centers
- Child Care Works
- Workforce Investment Boards

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Other Possible Funding Sources

- Promise Neighborhoods
- Community Schools
- School improvement grants
- Title I/SES
- TANIF
- Foundations
- Local government funding

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What role do you see Out-of-School Time Programs playing in your school?

- Barriers
- Opportunities
- Successes

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What's Happening in OST in Pennsylvania?

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PSAYDN

Pennsylvania After 3 Report - High Support

Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
Report on Afterschool

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PSAYDN Mission

PSAYDN promotes 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.



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PSAYDN Vision

PSAYDN's mission is that all children and youth deserve access to high-quality Out-of-School Time programs that promote positive youth development and support the successful transition to adulthood.




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PSAYDN Goals

Connecting People
Create a sustainable structure of statewide, regional and local partnerships, particularly school-community partnerships, focused on supporting policy development at all levels.


Creating Opportunity
Support the development and growth of statewide policies that will secure the resources that are needed to sustain new and existing Out-of-School Time programs.

Changing Lives
Support statewide systems to ensure programs are of high quality.


Public Support is High

- 87% of Pennsylvania adults surveyed believe there should be some type of organized activity for young people Out-of-School Time
- 32% of Pennsylvania parents whose children are not in Out-of-School Time say they would enroll their children if a program were available
- 84% of parents are satisfied with the program their children attend
- 83% of Pennsylvania adults surveyed support public funding for Out-of-School Time

Afterschool Alliance


Legislative Budget & Finance Committee

House Resolution 824 of 2008

- Sponsored by Representative Jake Wheatley
- Called on the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LB&FC) to assess the availability and affordability of Out-of-School Time programs in the Commonwealth

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LB & FC Recommendations

Recommendations from the report findings suggested the PSAYDN and Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children (PPC) work with the Governor's Office and legislative leaders to create a Statewide Out-of-School Time Coordinating Council to do the following:

- Identify goals and action steps to address already-identified issues
- Promote additional web-based regional databases of Out-of-School Time programs
- Identify and promote potential new funding sources
- Assess local needs and barriers to Out-of-School Time programs, especially for adolescents

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Advocacy Next Steps How You Can Help!

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Are you already a member of PSAYDN?

**Are you interested in becoming a
member of PSAYDN?**

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Member Benefits

- TakeTen e-monthly newsletter
- PSAYDN website
- Annual Quality Forum
- Annual Meeting – Recognition of OST champion sites
- Annual Afterschool State Advocacy Day
- Support in planning and executing quality Lights On events
- Opportunity to network and serve on statewide committees
- Statement of Quality and Guiding Questions
- Advocacy training


Resources

National

- U.S. Government Afterschool Resources
www.afterschool.gov
- Afterschool Alliance
www.afterschoolalliance.org
- National Center for Summer Learning
www.summerlearning.org
- National League of Cities
www.nlc.org/IYEF/index.aspx
- Finance Project
www.financeproject.org
- National Association of School Boards
www.nsba.org/MainMenu/ResourceCenter/EDLO.aspx


Resources – Continued

Pennsylvania

- Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network
(717) 763-1661
www.psaydn.org
- Out of School Time Resource Center
www.sp2.upenn.edu/ostrc/about/index.html
- 21st Century Learning Centers Pennsylvania
www.21stcclc.org/index.cfm?pageid=4235
- Workforce Investment Boards
www.paworkforce.state.pa.us
- Regional Career Education Partnerships
parcep.wikispaces.com

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Questions?

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Contact Information

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Resources

- PA PIRC
 - www.center-schools.org/pa-pirc
- National PTA
 - www.pta.org
- Harvard Family Research Project
 - www.hfrp.org
- SEDL
 - www.sedl.org
- US Department of Education
 - www.ed.gov
- PA State Parent Advisory Council
 - www.spac.k12.pa.us

THANK YOU!

- The next webinar will be:
October 26, 2011: Topic to be determined
 - Join us at 12:05 p.m. (Eastern Time)

