

# **NYSAN**

**NEW YORK STATE AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK**

**Supporting Student Success: The Promise of  
Expanded Learning Opportunities**

**November 2009**

# Supporting Student Success (S3) Initiative - Overview

- S3 is an 18-month initiative that comes with technical assistance and modest funding.
- Partner organizations:
  - National Conference of State Legislatures
  - National Governors Association
  - Council of Chief State School Officers
- Cohort I (2007) – CO, IA, MA, NH, OH, RI
- Cohort II (2009) – ME, MN, NY, OR, WI

# S3 Initiative – Goals

- Initiative goal: to help states integrate Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs) into state educational systems.
- New York's goal: to promote collaboration, coordination, and communication between ELOs and public education in order to improve student engagement and dropout prevention efforts.

# S3 Initiative – Team Members

- Duffy Palmer (Governor's Office)
- Sen. Suzi Oppenheimer (D-37<sup>th</sup> Senate District & Chair of the Senate Education Committee)
- Senior Deputy Commissioner at NYSED (formerly Johanna Duncan-Poitier)
- Sanjiv Rao (NYSAN)
- Karen Schimke (SCAANY)
- Lucy Friedman (The After-School Corporation)
- Gladys Carrion (NYS OCFS)

# What are Expanded Learning Opportunities?

- ELOs are:
  - High-quality afterschool, summer learning, and extended day or year programs.
  - Vehicles for rethinking when, where, and how learning occurs.
  - Contexts to coordinate supports young people need.
  - One of the pillars of a comprehensive learning system.
  
- ELOs are **not** more of the same

# ELOs in New York State

ELOs in New York State can:

- Expand the capacity of the public education system to address opportunity, equity, and ultimately achievement, gaps
- Contribute to a system of multiple pathways to high school graduation for disengaged and/or disconnected youth
- Help sustain and complement the gains of high-quality early care and learning programs and quality school day learning
- Strengthen the youth services system by including comprehensive services related to health, community engagement, housing, workforce development, and the like

# Current Thinking: Strategies

With a focus on high school graduation, student engagement and dropout prevention, the NYS S3 Initiative will pursue the following strategies:

## ■ **Coordination**

- Identify and act on policy opportunities (regulations, funding streams, and/or legislation) to integrate ELOs and the P-20 education and other youth-serving systems in the state.

## ■ **Collaboration**

- Develop new strategies for schools and ELOs to support each others' efforts to keep students engaged in school and on track to earning a rigorous, standards-based diploma.

## ■ **Communication**

- Link new notions of time and learning between the school-day and non-school hours by promoting proven approaches that increase engagement and high school graduation rates

# Current Thinking: Emerging Ideas

- A vision and definition for ELOs in New York State
- Align afterschool program RFPs and map the ELO landscape
- Identify and promote promising practices from across the state
- Identify policy conditions that support or inhibit ELOs
- A framework for credit-bearing ELOs
- Providing guidance re: the use of Title I funds for ELOs
- Joint professional development across ELOs and schools

# Discussion

1. To what extent do your regional plans include integrating school / afterschool?
2. From a regional perspective, what would be the most helpful outcome of this focus on ELOs? What can S3 do for you?
3. What else would you like to share about ELOs and the opportunities / barriers that exist around advancing them?