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Fwd: Spotlight on America After 3PM results, how to broaden STEM participation, and more

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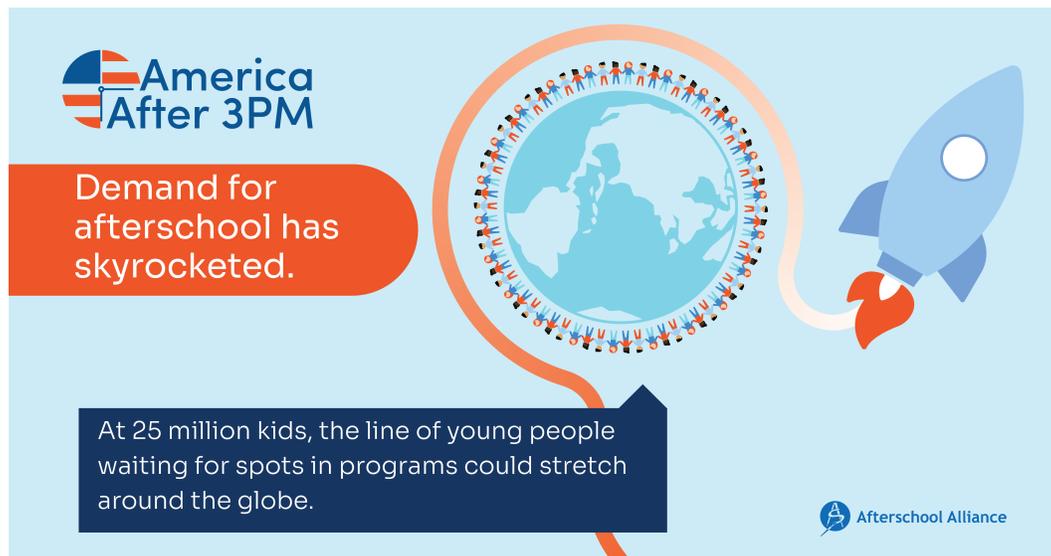
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Spotlight: America After 3PM Results

Afterschool Alliance Has Released National and State-Specific Data

Many more New York parents want afterschool programs for their children than are able to access them, according to a household survey commissioned by the Afterschool Alliance and released December 8. The survey finds that, by overwhelming margins, parents express strong, broad-based support for afterschool programs. But unmet demand – the percentage of children in New York not currently in an afterschool program whose parents say they would be enrolled if an afterschool program were available to them – has increased over the past six years. Low-income families, in particular, cite cost as a barrier to enrolling their children. As a result, for every child in an afterschool program in New York today, four more are waiting to get in.



The report "America After 3PM: Demand Grows, Opportunity Shrinks," includes responses from more than 30,000 U.S. families and builds on household surveys conducted in 2004, 2009, and 2014. It includes 1,303 in-depth interviews in New York about the demand for and availability of afterschool and expanded learning opportunities. It offers a pre-pandemic snapshot of how children and youth spend their afternoons and includes a separate survey of parents conducted this fall.

Completed before the coronavirus pandemic struck, the survey finds that there was a notable increase in demand for afterschool among New York students from 47% in 2014 to 66% in 2020. This translates to 1,607,533 students in New York who would participate in an afterschool program if one were made available to them.

The top findings of the study paint a stark picture of skyrocketing demand and barriers to access:

1. **Unmet demand for afterschool has reached an all-time high.** For every child in an afterschool program, three more are waiting to get in. Nearly 25 million children would be enrolled in a program, if one were available.
2. **Demand surges as parents see key benefits from afterschool.** Parent satisfaction has reached the highest level ever, with 94% of parents satisfied with their child's afterschool program, and parents cite broad benefits.
3. **Cost and access block participation in afterschool.** Parents report that cost, lack of available programs, and transportation have all become greater roadblocks to participating in afterschool programs, compared to 2014.
4. **Inequities are evident.** The inequities extend beyond participation in afterschool to also include afterschool activities overall, with higher income children more likely to take part. Families in the highest income bracket spend 5 times more on expanded learning activities than those in the lowest income bracket.
5. **Parents show strong support for expanding afterschool opportunities.** An overwhelming 87% of parents, across all parties, are in favor of public funding for afterschool opportunities for students.

Visit aa3pm.co to explore the national topline.

Find specific results for New York State [here](#).

View the recording of the results release briefing [here](#).

Is your program working hard to offer quality services to your community? Let us know about it by filling out a [quick questionnaire](#) and we will spotlight your program in an upcoming newsletter.

Interested in advancing in the school-age field?
Need the qualifications to become a Site Director?

EARN YOUR SCHOOL-AGE CREDENTIAL TODAY



New York State Network for Youth Success Awards: Nominate Someone Great

The Network for Youth Success will be hosting our Third Annual Awards Ceremony during our Annual Conference in April.



Submissions are now open for the following awards:

- The Quality Leadership Award
- The Exemplary Award of Professionalism
- The Program Award of Excellence and Innovation
- The Champion Award
- The Regional Network Leader Award

Nomination deadline is January 15, 2021. The winner and honorees will be announced at the **School's Out, Make It Count! Conference** on April 23, 2021.

All award finalists will be selected by an independent panel of judges. Once finalists have been selected, additional information may be requested. Finalists and their nominators will be notified by email. If additional information is needed, the Network will contact the nominator.

Submit a nomination!

By submitting a nomination or supporting document (such as a letter of support), participating individuals grant the Network permission to use any of the submitted materials, not protected by copyright, in advertisements and/or promotions without compensation or notification. Such advertisements or promotions may include internet/social media announcements of the awards or the conference, as well as print materials distributed at, or in promotion of, the events. Self-nominations are not prohibited for these awards.

Broaden STEM Participation

Women make up half of the total U.S. college-educated workforce, but less than one third of the science and engineering workforce. Latina and African-American women make up less than 3%.

Afterschool programs can broaden participation in STEM. Here are some resources to help you get started:



Paper: Why Now? Why Us?: Inclusive 21st Century Learning - Paper from the National Center for Learning Disabilities identifying key strategies, case studies, and actions for impact.

• **Best Practices: Techbridge Essential Elements** - Techbridge Girls' Essential elements are guiding principles for high-quality, equitable STEM programs for girls. These essential elements are based on Techbridge Girls' 18 years of experience, their evaluation and research, and research from the field.

And check out some fun STEM activities to incorporate in your program:

- **Student Activity: Materials and Manufacturing** - In this activity based on the story of the three little pigs, students examine the properties, limitations, and durability of a variety of materials, then evaluate which of the materials would be best for building a model house.
- **Student Activity: Engineering Solutions to Freshwater Problems** - In this activity, students are introduced to six freshwater supply problems in various locations around the world. Students brainstorm their own ideas for solving each problem and then learn about the specific solutions that engineers have proposed.
- **Student Activity: How High Can a Super Ball Bounce?** - In this activity students explore how engineers might use elasticity of material to help them design products. Working in pairs, they drop bouncy balls from a meter height and determine how high they bounce. Youth measure, record, and repeat the process to gather data to calculate average bounce heights and coefficients of elasticity.
- **Student Activity: Community Engineering** - This website provides engineering challenges that are community-based and includes learning modules on topics like school gardening, classroom renovation, and designing an accessible playground.
- **Engineering Design Activities on Curiosity Machine** - Sign up for hundreds of FREE Technovation Engineering Design Activities with facilitation instructions and videos featuring STEM professionals and mentors.

Community Schools Technical Assistance Centers

Do you work in or with a community school?

The State funds three regional Community Schools Technical Assistance Centers, which provide events and resources for community schools. Learn more about the CSTACs, check out their upcoming events, and sign up for their newsletter to receive even more resources.



Also, if you're interested in community schools policy and advocacy, be sure to sign up for the **New York State Community Schools Network listserv**.

Network for Youth Success Events

SAVE THE DATE! Jan. 18 (MLK Day): Professional Development Day

Join Timothy Fowler of the Network for Youth Success for a day of professional development for front-line staff! He will lead three different topics across the day:

1. Exploring Culture in Afterschool — How centers and activities can expose school-age children to other experiences and backgrounds.
2. Beyond the Behavior: Guiding Challenging Behaviors — Specific techniques to address challenging behaviors in a positive way that help all youth to be successful.
3. Creating Inclusive Environments for STEAM Learning — A STEAM activity demonstrates how to engage all learners and leave no one behind.

Each session will be 1.5 hours long. Stay tuned for registration information.

Jan. 19 & Apr. 27: Spring 2021 SAC Credential Course (VIRTUAL), Part 2

The Distance Learning School-Age Care (SAC) Preparatory Course includes viewing recorded videos, reading, and preparing a portfolio and resource file. This class meets the education requirement to be a Site Director in New York State. **We are now enrolling for Spring 2021.**

SAVE THE DATE! Apr. 23-24, 2021: School's Out, Make it Count

The Network's annual conference will be held April 23-24, 2021. Be ready for two full days of trainings, vendor exhibits, awards, networking, and more. Stay tuned!

Other Events

Dec. 17: Implementing Project-Based Learning (PBL) with Y4Y (virtual)

Student projects are the perfect way to tap into students' interests, develop their independent and cooperative learning skills, and make learning relevant and fun for students of all ages! Learn how Y4Y's resources can support you as you work with students to craft a driving question, facilitate an investigation, and work towards a culminating event, all while building students' knowledge and 21st Century skills. Whether you're new to PBL or an old pro, this will walk you through best practices for facilitating student-led projects. **Click here** to register.

Dec. 18: Understanding and Preventing Youth Bullying and Peer Victimization (virtual)

Whether you are a student, parent, educator, or school leader, bullying and peer victimization in school are serious concerns in the U.S. and around the world. Research shows that by creating socially and emotionally supportive spaces, schools can foster a climate of inclusion and respect among both students and staff. The webinar will address what bullying and peer victimization look like during the pandemic, who is most at risk for victimization during the pandemic, and how CASEL is using SEL during the pandemic to reduce isolation and victimization. To register, **click here**.

Feb. 17-19: Beyond School Hours 2021 National Education Conference (virtual)

Foundations, Inc is bringing you the great content and high-quality professional learning you expect from Beyond School Hours—adapted for a remote setting! With the new virtual setting, this conference will last all year long. Join for live and exciting professional learning, site visits, and keynotes during the main conference days, and then join for live follow-up webinars for the rest of the year. All webinars are included with conference registration! To register, **click here**.

Mar. 9-11: Northeast CAMP Conference (virtual)

The staff and volunteers who bring you the Tri-State CAMP Conference are pleased to announce the virtual Northeast CAMP Conference. In addition to top-tier speakers and timely sessions, state legislative groups from each of the Northeast states will be providing updates that will be imperative to operating your camp in 2021. These are difficult times for the camp industry and we promise to be with you every step of the journey. Take advantage of the early-bird price and register by Feb. 5. To register, **click here**.

Have questions? Email Samara Feinberg at samara@acanynj.org.

Jun. 1-4: National Family and Community Engagement Conference (hybrid)

This year's hybrid convening will highlight the great work being done by The School District of Philadelphia. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in pre-conference sessions, four plenary sessions, over 70 workshops, and more. Content will be organized across the following strands:

- Parent Leadership, Advocacy and Community Organizing
- Promote Inclusion, Ensure Equity and Create Opportunity
- Integrated Systemic Approaches
- Early Learning and Literacy
- Relationship Building and Trust
- Research, Evaluation, and Data Collection

For more information and to register, [click here](#).

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Visit our [COVID-19 Resource Page](#) for updated information and guidance.

Please visit our website at networkforyouthsuccess.org.
Donate to our cause at networkforyouthsuccess.org/donate.

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