

Expanded Learning & Afterschool Project

Affordable, Sustainable Approaches
Powered by School-Community Partnerships



The Expanded Learning & Afterschool Project is a 50-state initiative that provides educators and communities with research and promising practices for effective ways to leverage the time beyond school to accelerate student achievement.

We Are A **Hub**

Sharing **research** on high quality expanded learning

Identifying and spreading **promising practices** in afterschool and summer learning

Highlighting affordable, sustainable and effective expanded learning **approaches**

What We **Believe**

We believe that expanded learning and high quality afterschool make better use of students' time by:

- Accelerating student achievement
- Leveraging school-community partnerships
- Providing engaging activities that complement the school day
- Offering affordable and sustainable approaches

What We Want to **Accomplish**

Our goal is to dramatically expand the range of learning opportunities available by:

- Increasing the numbers of children and youth engaged in learning anytime and everywhere
- Increasing the number of programs serving low-income students during the afterschool and summer hours
- Increasing the number and quality of robust school-community partnerships

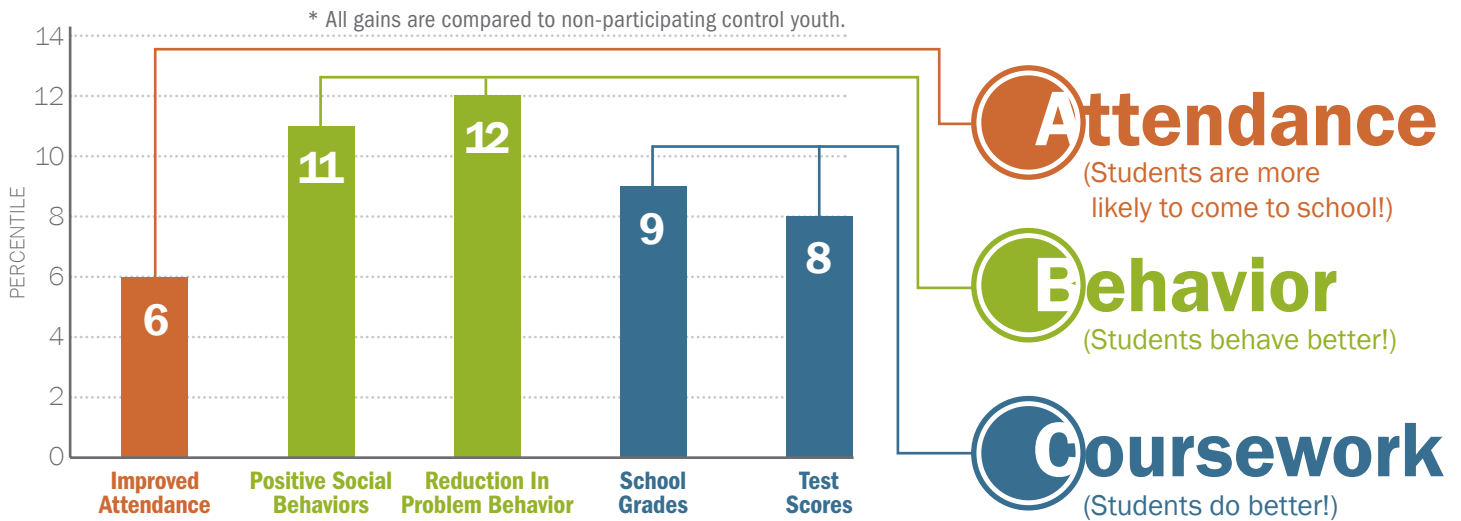
» **JOIN US!**

Visit www.expandinglearning.org and become part of the project.

High Quality Afterschool Programs Accelerate Student Achievement

Research shows that high quality afterschool programs can lead to increased **Attendance**, improved **Behavior** and improved **Coursework**. This means that students participating in a high quality afterschool program went to school more, behaved better, received better grades and did better on tests. These ABCs are critical factors to student engagement and achievement.

High quality afterschool programs are proven to accelerate student achievement:¹



About the Research

Information based on a meta analysis of 68 research evaluations of afterschool programs conducted by Professors Joseph Durlak and Roger Weissberg. The two-thirds (41) of programs found to meet the SAFE criteria (sequential, active learning, focused time and attention and explicit definition of skills) showed significant improvements in attendance, behavior and/or coursework.

A Base to Build On

Many states and communities provide funding for high quality afterschool programs. At the federal level, the 21st Century Community Learning Center program is a unique federal funding stream that has been successfully bringing together communities to accelerate student achievement through afterschool and summer learning programs for more than a decade. Unique for the emphasis it places on having communities at the table, this funding stream allows for local design and variation in providing engaging, proven, cost-effective afterschool and summer learning programming.

More than **1.6 million** young people served²



10,466 school-based and community-based centers across the country³



For more information, visit the Expanded Learning & Afterschool Project at www.expandinglearning.org.

¹ Durlak, J. A., & Weissberg, R. P., Pachan, Molly (2010). *A Meta-Analysis of After-School Programs That Seek to Promote Personal and Social Skills in Children and Adolescents*. <http://casel.org/wp-content/uploads/A-meta-analysis-of-after-school-programs-that-seek-to-promote-personal-and-social-skills-in-children-and-adolescents.pdf>.

^{2,3} Afterschool Alliance. Retrieved March 19, 2012 from <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/policy21stcclc.cfm>.



What Can You Do?

- **Sign on** as a supporter of our principles of expanded learning and lend your name to demonstrate the power of the initiative
- **Access** research and promising practices for expanded learning and afterschool
- **Connect** to tools and supports for fostering expanded learning in your community
- **Sign up** for updates about upcoming Web events and stakeholder summits



Principles of Expanded Learning

High quality expanded learning, afterschool and summer programs incorporate:

- **School-Community Partnerships.** Building upon strong collaboration between communities and schools
- **Engaged Learning.** Incorporating learning that is hands-on and engaging
- **Affordability and Scalability.** Utilizing financial models that are affordable, scalable and sustainable
- **Learning Time After School and During the Summer.** Adding significant time for learning and enrichment that complements the school day
- **Family Engagement.** Engaging families to participate in their children's learning
- **Health and Wellness.** Linking to meals and providing opportunities and supports for physical and mental well-being

»» JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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coming soon!



At no time in history has the power of expanded learning, afterschool and summer programs been greater for increasing student learning, providing next generation learning opportunities, fostering school-community partnerships and promoting family involvement. The Compendium on Expanded Learning will bring together more than 40 articles by thought leaders, subject matter experts, researchers and other professionals to present research, best practices and policy implications for improving expanded learning in eight critical topic areas.

The compendium is being produced with the support of the C.S. Mott Foundation and under the leadership of executive editor Terry K. Peterson, Ph.D.



Sign up to be notified when the compendium is released at www.expandinglearning.org/sign_up.html

get in touch with the site



Expanded Learning and Afterschool: Opportunities for Student Success is a website that offers educators, practitioners, elected officials and community leaders access to research, promising practices and approaches for expanding learning. **Learn** about expanded learning principles, **access** research and promising practices, and **connect** to tools and supports for fostering expanded learning all in one place.

View the site at www.expandinglearning.org

