

The New Jersey Expanded Learning Time Summit

Please Save the Date!

Thursday, September 23rd
9:30AM to 1:30PM
(Reception to Follow)

PSEG Headquarters
80 Park Place - Newark, NJ

Through the generous support of Novartis Pharmaceuticals, The Cummings Memorial Fund, PSEG, and other investors, New Jersey After 3 will convene national experts in the emerging field of Expanded Learning Time (ELT) to discuss success stories and compare strategies on how to best support schools and communities in the mutual objective to improve student achievement and school, community and family success.

This first in a series of "summits" on Expanded Learning Time in New Jersey will set the tone and context for increased coordination and collaboration between schools and community partners throughout the State.

Summit participants will learn about successful ELT models from across the nation and hear from thought leaders in the field - laying the foundation for local stakeholders to develop strategies that improve their own efforts to improve student achievement and break down barriers to student success.



The New Jersey Expanded Learning Time Summit

Why this is important: A growing body of research suggests that expanding student learning time is an effective strategy for improving student achievement, particularly for low-income students, minority students, and English language learners.

As the Nation works towards the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (No Child Left Behind), The President and US Secretary of Education seek new solutions that better support the needs of students, schools and families in the 21st century. In its recently published "blueprint" for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Obama Administration outlines a series of strategies and grant competitions meant to drive education reform. This reform explicitly calls for the expansion of learning time for students and incentivizes the formal inclusion of the nonprofit community in the education process.

In the highly publicized Race to the Top competition, both winning state proposals included formal structures to expand learning time, among other meaningful reforms. These winning efforts prompted many other states, including New Jersey, to formally include this strategy in the second round of proposals submitted on June 1.

Opportunity: There is an existing infrastructure of evidence-based programs working in formal partnership with schools throughout the State, across a broad spectrum of partners from the public and private sector. The current levels of coordination, communication, data sharing, and measurement across these groups, however, vary greatly. As the national movement towards expanded learning time gains momentum, and public and private resources are directed towards restructuring the amount of time and the ways students learn in our schools, it is critical that best practices be identified, studied and discussed.

The Summit will be the first step in shaping the local vision for how public schools and the private and public sector can work together to set common goals, measures, and structures that produce better outcomes for students, families and communities.

The Role of New Jersey After 3: As a statewide leader in the afterschool field, and the supporter of evidence-based programs that expanded learning time in 114 public school communities across the state, New Jersey After 3 is in a unique position to bring its capacity, network and experience as the convener of this summit.

This summit will convene experienced educators, thought-leaders and policy makers from across the nation to share their vision and experiences in expanding learning time. Event participants will hear from local, state and national policy makers on the importance of expanding learning time as a way to prepare students for success in the 21st century, setting the stage for further discussion and planning for how to best leverage minimal resources for the maximum benefit of students, schools and families.



Please contact Jim McGlynn at jmcglynn@njafter3.org, or (732) 246-7984 for sponsorship information or other event details.

Invitations to Follow