

ACT NOW!

Afterschool for Children and Teens

Policy

ISBE Board Meeting

The Illinois State Board of Education met on November 17, 2017. The following are updates from the meeting:

- There was a lot of public participation in response to the WBEZ report entitled “[CPS Secretly Overhauled Special Education At Students’ Expense](#).”
- In regards to ESSA, 30 providers have been selected through IL-EMPOWER to provide services until June 30th. The next request for application release date has not been set.
- ISBE is awaiting recommendations from the indicator workgroups. Once submitted to the board they will be made available for public comment.

ISBE Budget Hearing

The Illinois State Board of Education held its FY19 budget hearing in Chicago on November 17th. The following is a summary of the testimonies presented affecting out-of-school time in Illinois:

- **ACT Now:** Asked for \$15 million for the Healthy Communities Incentive Fund (HCIF), an additional \$5 million for afterschool programs, and discussed the issues with ISBE grant management. ACT Now’s testimony can be accessed [here](#).
- **After School Matters:** Asked for funding for the After School Matters program.
- **Brighton Park Neighborhood Council:** Asked for a \$15 million dollar community schools line.
- **YMCA of Metro Chicago:** Asked for a \$15 million dollar community schools line, \$15 million for HCIF, an additional \$5 million for afterschool programs, and discussed the issues with ISBE grant management.



College and Career Pathway Endorsement Competencies Survey

The Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act (PWR) enacted in 2016 established a voluntary system for school districts in Illinois to award College and Career Pathways Endorsements to high school graduates. Education Systems Center is collecting feedback from diverse voices on industry endorsed competencies. The online survey will be open until **Monday, January 15, 2018** and can be accessed [here](#).

ED Grantmaking Priorities

In response to the U.S. Department of Education's (ED) proposed priorities for competitive grantmaking, the STEM Education Coalition has provided recommendations that would establish STEM as a global priority for all ED competitive grant programs. The STEM Education Coalition's recommendations can be viewed [here](#).

ACT Now policy updates affecting the afterschool/youth development field, including information about Teen REACH and 21st Century, can be found [here](#).

Resource

Fall Afterschool Matters Journal

The latest edition of Afterschool Matters from NIOST addresses such topics as mentorship, arts education, and motivating students through video game design. To access the journal, click [here](#).

For a list of afterschool and youth development related resources collected by ACT Now, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunities

For archived youth opportunities, click [here](#).

Trainings and Webinars

To view ACT Now's calendar of events, click [here](#).

Opportunity for Afterschool Providers

For archived opportunities for providers, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

For a list of previously listed afterschool and youth development related grants, click [here](#).



Read more about the [ACT Now Coalition](#). Please send any information you would like included in the next newsletter to StantonS@metrofamily.org

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The ACT Now Coalition brings together afterschool and youth development stakeholders from across Illinois to work towards ensuring that all young people in Illinois have access to quality, affordable afterschool programs.

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