Policy Updates

Donald Trump Signs Perkins Reauthorization Bill

Last Tuesday, President Donald Trump signed the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act. This is the first legislation Trump has signed that makes significant changes to federal education laws.

The legislation is a reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, a $1.2 billion program last overhauled by Congress in 2006. The new law allows states to set their own goals for career and technical education (CTE) programs without the education secretary’s approval and requires them to make progress toward those goals, as well as additional changes to federal CTE law. For more information, click here.

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

Job Opportunity

Director of Education: Enlace Chicago

The Director of Education for Enlace ensures education programs and initiatives champion opportunities for educational advancement and economic development of Little Village residents, building a strategic vision for growth and sustainability. For a full job description and instructions on how to apply, click here.

Upcoming Events

YEA! Chicago Summer Social Event

Come celebrate the confidence and real world skill sets of teen girls and help foster their entrepreneurial mindset with Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!). This event will be held Tuesday, August 7th, 2018 @ 1871 from 5:30pm-8:00pm. To find out more about this event, click here.

Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week
Sign up to celebrate Community School Coordinators during the 2018 Coordinators Appreciation Week, September 24th – 28th. Coordinators are the super heroes of our movement standing for equity, democracy, and interdependence and should be recognized for their valor! To sign up, click here.

**Trainings and Webinars**

**Community Schools Advanced Certificate Program**

The Children’s Aid National Center for Community Schools has developed the nation’s first online certificate program on community schools. The program is designed for school professionals, community-based service providers, or anyone seeking to have measurable impact on people’s lives and their communities. For more information, click here.

**Webinar: Breakfast Matters**

Start the school year strong by promoting a robust breakfast program in your schools! Join this webinar to learn effective strategies to use at the beginning of the school year to get students excited about breakfast and increase the reach of your program. This webinar will be held Thursday, August 9th, 2018 from 1:00pm-2:00pm CDT. For more information or to register for the webinar, click here.

**Webinar: Leveraging ESSA for Community Schools**

Participants will leave this workshop with the knowledge and tools needed to partner with their schools and school districts and community based organizations to take advantage of a variety of federal opportunities to sustain and grow community schools. This webinar will be held Wednesday, August 15th, 2018 from 1:00pm-2:00pm CDT. For more information or to register for the webinar, click here.

**Webinar: Cracking the Code on Chronic Absence**

More than seven million U.S. students are chronically absent each year- meaning they have missed a month or more of school. This webinar explores the pernicious effects of chronic absence and how to use the "Every Student, Every Day Toolkit". This webinar will be held Monday, September 24th, 2018 from 12:00pm-1:00pm CDT. For more information or to register for the webinar, click here.

*To view ACT Now’s calendar of events, click here.*

**Resources**

Data-Driven OST Partnerships
These resources show what is possible when schools and out-of-school time (OST) partners collaborate and securely share information to support student learning. For more information, click [here](#).

**ISBE "Back to School" Resources**

ISBE has updated its "Back to School" webpage to serve as a resource hub to help you navigate important topics and make sure that you have the information you need to feel prepared for the start of the new school year. To view the site, click [here](#).

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

**Funding Opportunities**

**5 Grants to Address Digital Inequities**

If you’re searching for grants to address digital inequities or to help teachers fund their classroom priorities, look no further! For a full list and descriptions of each grant, click [here](#).

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

**Afterschool Spotlight**

**Gen2Gen Summer Fun(d) Champions**

Congratulations to two Illinois residents, Chez Smith and Pamela Mahn, who both received upwards of $250 from the *Gen2Gen Summer Fun(d)* for their event proposals that promoted intergenerational understanding and relationship-building in their communities. To read more about their work, click [here](#).

**Yollocalli: The CHILLS Beach Party**

This beach party was the second of a three-part series of teen nights hosted by the Yollocalli Arts Reach. The event featured student performances of hip-hop and poetry, bouncy-houses, student-created art and magazines, and delicious tacos. To read more about the event, click [here](#).