



CONNECTING TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

ACT NOW SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WEBINAR SERIES

**OCTOBER 25, 2022, FROM
10:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.**



SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING FOR AFTER ESSER FUNDING

ACT NOW SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WEBINAR SERIES

**NOVEMBER 30, 2022, FROM
10:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M.**



Ramona Dixon

(Director of Grants, Accountability, and Assessments—Rock Island-Milan School District 41)

Connecting to Community Partners

Join **ACT Now** for our third School Partnerships webinar on **Connecting to Community Partners**. **TODAY, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., ACT Now** and the [Partnership for Resilience](#) will provide background information regarding ESSER III funding and requirements highlight the benefits of partnering with established community-based organizations share best practices when developing community partnerships. Attendees will engage in an interactive session and leave with tools to create partnerships.

Don't forget to join us for our fourth webinar in this series! On **November 30, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., ACT Now** will focus on helping school districts plan for the continuation of newly established programs or resources after COVID-19 relief (ESSER III) funds are no longer available. Co-facilitated by **ACT Now** and **Ramona Dixon** (Director of Grants, Accountability, and Assessments - Rock Island-Milan School District 41), this webinar will outline, from a school districts' perspective, the most important steps to plan for the sustainable use of grant funds. Additionally, attendees will have access to an established sustainability plan to take away and reference independently.

Please reach out to Nikki Gillani (Afterschool Resources and Support Specialist - School Partnerships) with questions and concerns at gillanin@actnowillinois.org.

Policy Updates

Federal Updates

Lights On Afterschool Resolution

On **October 18, 2022**, Congressman David N. Cicilline (D-RI 1st District) was joined by 15 of his colleagues in introducing a [House Resolution](#) supporting Lights On Afterschool. This legislation speaks to the importance of afterschool programs and their role in providing students with a safe space to develop important life skills.

State Updates

Illinois State Board of Education October Board Meeting Recap

On **October 19, 2022**, the [Illinois State Board of Education \(ISBE\)](#) met for its monthly Board meeting. To access the recordings and meeting materials, [click here](#). The Board visited and heard presentations from the Schaumburg school districts. The Board heard presentations on a new data dashboard for schools and state agencies and charter school renewals. ISBE approved all items on the consent agenda before sharing upcoming Board actions. Within upcoming board actions in November, the state agency will review newly established requirements for the Freedom Schools Grant program (which is written into the school code subject to appropriation). ISBE will also review the request to extend FY18 Early Childhood Block Grant grantees' funding to align with the current and new awards for FY23. Finally, next month, ISBE will also vote to release the FY24 Request for Proposals (FRP) for the Early Childhood Block Grant. **The next ISBE Board meeting will take place on November 17, 2022.**

For an archive of previously listed policy updates, click [here](#).

Trainings, Events and Webinars

To register for all upcoming **ACT Now** trainings, please sign up for the [ACT Now Center for Afterschool Learning \(ANCAL\)](#). ANCAL is an online learning and training platform that is FREE for all Illinois afterschool and OST professionals. Within this new online learning system, you will be able to access a full list of all of our professional development opportunities!

Core Area	Organization	Name of Event/Training	Date	Registration Link
Safety, Health, and Nutrition	ACT Now	SEL Webinar #1: Youth and Self	October 26, 2022, from 10:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m.	REGISTER
	Youth.gov	Implementing Community Based Violence Intervention Strategies	November 9, 2022, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	REGISTER
	National Afterschool Association	Advancing Health Equity in OST	November 29, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	REGISTER
Professional Development	ACT Now	ACT Now Quality Standards 101 Training	November 2, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	REGISTER
	ACT Now	21 st CCLC Town Hall	November 17, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	REGISTER
	EdPrepLab	Educator Preparation	October 26, 2022,	REGISTER

		Laboratory Third Annual Virtual Fall Forum	from 10:30 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.	
	<u>EmpowerU</u>	How to Build Student Self-Regulation, Motivation and Resilience in Before/ After School Programming	October 27, 2022, from 12:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
	<u>Brookings Institute</u>	Defining a Culture of Care for Black Boys	October 31, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
	<u>EdWeek</u>	A Seat at the Table: How Can We Maximize Student Learning?	November 2, 2022, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
	<u>National Girls Collaborative Project</u>	The Genius of Play and STEAM	November 8, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
	<u>ACRES</u>	ACRES Training Cohort: ACRES Taster Workshop	December 8, 2022, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>
Youth Development	<u>The Opportunity Network</u>	Let's Talk About It: Coming Together for Youth Mental Health	October 27, 2022, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	<u>REGISTER</u>

<p>Family and Community Partnerships</p>	<p><u>National Museum of Mexican Art</u></p>	<p>Día de los Muertos Xicágo</p>	<p>October 29, 2022, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u>REGISTER</u></p>
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Resources for Providers

Administration

[Impact on Pandemic on Learning](#)

[Project Tomorrow](#) conducted research on the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on student's' learning. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, students and teachers have felt more confident utilizing technology in the classrooms. The research also notes that principals are struggling to maintain staff morale as the nation emerges from the pandemic.

Safety, Health, Nutrition

[Keeping Kids Healthy This School Year](#)

The [Vaccine Equity Cooperative](#) hosted a webinar in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that talked about ways to keep youth safe this school year. The event discussed resources to equitably increase access to vaccines and boosters, COVID- 19 data trends, and more.

Youth Development

[Supporting Students with College Decisions](#)

[Chalkbeat](#) published an article on how to help high school students select a college that is a good fit for them. The article offers tips and resources on how high school staff can make the transition for students easier.

[Helping Students Manage Emotions](#)

On **October 17, 2022**, [Edutopia](#) published a blog post that discussed how to help students manage emotions. Some of the tips included directing students to credible resources and actively listening to students as they share their experiences.

Family and Community Partnerships

[Free Internet Access for Low-Income Families](#)

[EdWeek](#) published an article that discussed how families in need can receive Internet access through the [Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#). Leveraging ACP, qualifying households can apply for a \$30 discount on monthly Internet bills. Those enrolled in Medicaid, have a child who receives free or reduced priced lunch at school qualify. There is also income-based qualification for families!

[Election Toolkit](#)

The [Afterschool Alliance](#) developed an Afterschool Election Toolkit that helps prepare people to have meaningful conversations with elected officials. The toolkit has resources talking points, sample materials, and information on how a non-profit organization can participate in the electoral process.

[What to Expect in This Year's Election](#)

The [Illinois Collaboration on Youth \(ICOY\)](#) published an article on what to expect this election season. The resource includes resources on how to request a mail in ballot, the significance of this being a remap year, and more.

For an archive of our previously listed Resources for Providers, click [here](#).

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

[Uniting Voices: Associate Director of Institutional Partnerships Position Open!](#)

[Uniting Voices](#) is currently hiring to fill the Associate Director of Institutional Partnerships position. Interested and qualified candidates should send a resume, cover letter and references to jobs@unitingvoiceschicago.org, with the job title in the subject line.

For an archive of our previously listed Opportunities for Providers, click [here](#).

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

[Project Synergy Scholarship](#)

[Lewis University](#) has released the Project Synergy Scholarship. The scholarship provides up to \$10,000/year for up to four years plus additional mentoring, research, and professional development opportunities. **Students should apply by February 25, 2023** to receive priority consideration; however, applications will be considered after that on a rolling basis until all scholarship slots are filled.

[NASA Halloween Activity](#)

[NASA](#) posted different space themed pumpkin stencils to help youth celebrate Halloween. Kids can decorate their pumpkins and also tell others what they have learned about the shape they created!

For an archive of our previously listed Youth Opportunities, click [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Youth Development

[Every Kid Outdoors Grant](#)

The [National Park Trust](#) and the [USDA Forest Service](#) has released the 2023 cycle of the Every Kid Outdoors Small Grants Program. The Every Kid Outdoors Small Grants Program will award grants up to \$5,000 to schools and non-profits looking for resources and funding needed to connect kids in their community to local public parks, lands, and waters. **The deadline to submit the application is November 21, 2022.**

Administration

[Birth to Five Illinois](#)

[Birth to Five Illinois](#) announced a \$500,000 funding opportunity for the establishment of new local early childhood collaborations in areas of the State that do not have them. Through these grants, Birth to Five Illinois hopes to encourage a systems-level approach to improving Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) and increasing enrollment in ECEC programs and services. **The deadline to apply is December 1, 2022.**

For an archive of our previously listed Funding Opportunities, click [here](#).

Were you forwarded this email?

[Click Here](#) to Subscribe to the **ACT Now** Newsletter!

NOTE: We sort our trainings and resources by the Core Areas in the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards to promote better understanding and implementation of the Standards. **Blue headings denote a Core Area.** To learn more about the Quality Standards, click [here](#).

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