



ACTNOW!
Afterschool for Children and Teens

DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP EXCHANGE:

YOUR VOICE, HEARD!

- Share Ideas
- Give Input
- Hear about new resources and policy updates

December 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



December Membership Exchange: Your Voice, Heard!

ACT Now will be dedicating its December Membership Exchange to **re-engaging new members that have joined the Coalition in the past several months!** Join us on **December 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.,** for a discussion-based session to learn about new **ACT Now** resources, our online learning system, and opportunities for further professional development. We will also be focusing on hearing from members about how we can strengthen our membership support services, foster greater community, and tailor our offerings to the needs of the diverse field. As per usual, attendees will hear policy updates and get to engage and network with one another! To register for this Membership Exchange, and all upcoming **ACT Now** events, please sign up for the [ACT Now Center for Afterschool Learning \(ANCAL\)](#).

For questions and concerns, please reach out to **Lesley Rivers (Program Coordinator)** at chapmanl@actnowillinois.org.

Policy Updates

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!

ACT Now Events:

- [RPSA YDS Quarterly #2 Meeting](#): November 30, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- [STEM Webinar: How to Choose](#): December 1, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- [STEM Resource Fair](#): December 6, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- [Statewide Community School Convening: Family and Community Partnerships](#): December 6, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- [Quality Standards 102 Training](#): December 7, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- [Fostering A Systematic Approach to Family Engagement](#): December 8, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- [December Membership Exchange](#): December 13, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

External Events:

- [National Collaborative for Digital Equity](#): Youth leadership development for financial and digital inclusion: November 28, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.

- **EducationWeek**: How Whole-Child Student Data Can Strengthen Family Connections: November 28, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **Learning Policy Institute**: Centering Authentic Relationships in Teaching and Learning: November 30, 2022, from 11:00 [a.m.to](#) 1:30 p.m.
- **Brookings Institution**: A Comparative Perspective on Policies to Support Single-Parent Families: December 1, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
- **Afterschool Development Initiatives**: Growing Developmental Relationships With Youth: December 2, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

Resources for Providers

Administration

What do the Election Results Mean for the State of Afterschool?

The [Afterschool Alliance](#) published a blog discussing what this year's midterm results could mean for afterschool. The blog also outlined newly elected officials who have proven to be champions of the afterschool field.

Advice from Veteran Teachers

[EducationWeek](#) asked veteran teachers "*What are one to three things you would tell your first-year teacher self, and why would it/they be important to tell?*" and posted the responses. The hope is to provide newer teachers and administrators with advice that can help them as they continue their career in education and youth development.

How Chicago is Addressing Attendance In Schools

The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted students' attendance, and the [Chicago Public School district](#) is working to address this issue. Chicago Public Schools highlighted the work of Multi-Tiered System of Supports teams, on which educators and administrators monitor attendance, grades, and behavior for individual students to provide help to those who need it. The district said it's also leaning on stepped-up family outreach and expanded after-school programs to help reengage students.

Safety, Health, Nutrition

Declining Enrollment and Child Hunger

The [Greater Chicago Food Depository](#) published a brief discussing the decline in school enrollment in school age youth and how it has an impact of children's hunger. The brief also discusses state and federal policies that can be put in place to help fight child hunger.

Youth Development

[More Play Time for Pre-K](#)

[Advance Illinois](#) published an article about the importance of play in Pre-K. The pandemic has had a significant impact on children's social skills, making play more important than ever. The article noted that one sign of quality play is when children are interacting with materials and peers and are given different options for activities.

[Making Youth Feel Welcome!](#)

[Edutopia](#) published an article discussing ways to make each student feel a sense of belonging in classroom environments. The article noted that one of the most powerful levers to increase student engagement and amplify learning is to ensure that learning experiences are reflective of students' lives.

[Youth Want Schools to Teach About Climate Change](#)

[EducationWeek](#) discussed findings from a nationwide survey from the EdWeek Research Center. The findings reveal that the education system does not align with the interest of many students on the issue of climate change. Teens are eager to learn more about how climate change will affect the future of the Earth and society, and what they can personally do to lessen the effects. The vast majority of states do not require comprehensive instruction on the subject outside of high school science class.

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

Opportunities for Providers

Administration

[Chicago Board of Education Request](#)

The [Board of Education of the City of Chicago](#) is seeking not-for-profit organizations to pre-qualify to provide out-of-school programs and services to students and families in the Chicago Public Schools Community Schools Initiative. **The Due Date of this Solicitation is December 9, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.**

Family and Community Partnerships

[Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade](#)

Chicago Thanksgiving Parade is a family friendly annual parade that features huge balloons, floats, marching bands, dance & equestrian groups, local sports teams and more. The parade will take place **Thanksgiving Day from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** and is free to attend.

[Celebrating Native American Heritage Month](#)

The [U.S. Department of the Interior](#) posted an article that explains different ways to celebrate Native American Heritage Month not only in November, but also all year!

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

Youth Opportunities

Youth Development

[The Young Entrepreneur Institute](#)

The [Young Entrepreneur Institute](#) (YEI) leverages the participation of the community of teachers, educators, and entrepreneurship organizations around them to share best practices in entrepreneurial education. Then, equipped with expert knowledge,

educators guide their students through curricular and experiential programs. Their website features additional games, resources, and Pitch Challenge Information!

[Chicago Public Library Internship Opportunity!](#)

The Chicago Public Library is hiring for their Teen Best of the Best positions. As an intern you will focus on reading new books and discussing your opinions and the evaluations of books. You will also have the opportunity to create book related social media content. The internship will begin on **February 11th and run until December 9th**. The meetings will all be in person at YOUmedia HWLC (400 S. State St.). The pay rate will be \$15/hour. **The deadline to apply is December 2, 2022.**

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

Funding Opportunities

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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