



This is Afterschool in Nevada

In Nevada, the Washoe County School District dedicated nearly \$6.6 million in American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds to run a summer learning program in 2022 and 2023 for its K-12 students in need of support, building off a 2021 summer program funded by the district with previous pandemic relief funds. Staffed by school-day teachers, the summer program was offered at 35 schools, serving more than 27,000 students across the three summers (students may be counted more than once if attending multiple summers). School leaders also emphasized the importance of making the learning fun. High school dean Crystal Jackson said that the program gave students, "...another opportunity to build positive connections with adults, get some one-on-one support, while also earning some of those credits they may have missed." Across the three summers, more students were able to recover credits, increasing from 49% of high schoolers attending summer programming recovering at least one credit in 2021, to 58% in 2022, to 62% in 2023. A student said of the summer program, "I was mostly struggling in math but thanks to [my teacher] now I know my math better than I did before."

However, as American Rescue Plan and other pandemic relief funding expires, many Nevada youth will lose their programs—and families and communities will lose essential supports—if action is not taken. In Nevada, for every child in an afterschool program, 3 more would participate if a program were available. And a national fall 2023 survey of afterschool program providers found that nearly 3 in 4 are concerned about their program's long-term funding and future. Afterschool and summer programs across Nevada are accelerating students' growth, supporting students' well-being, and helping working families. To keep their doors open, these programs need additional investments at the local, state, and federal levels.

IMPROVING SCHOOL-DAY ENGAGEMENT AND REDUCING CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM







A 2023 U.S. Department of Education report on 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)—local before-school, afterschool, and summer learning programs that serve more than 1.3 million students attending high-poverty, low-performing schools—found that:

7 IN 10 students in the program demonstrated an **IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING**

NEARLY HALF of students who were **CHRONICALLY ABSENT** the previous year **IMPROVED THEIR SCHOOL-DAY ATTENDANCE**

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS ACCELERATE STUDENTS' ACADEMIC GROWTH AND SUPPORT THEIR WELL-BEING

Nevada students in afterschool programs are:

-  Getting homework help (69%)
-  Engaging in STEM learning opportunities (73%)
-  Working on their reading and writing skills (73%)
-  Interacting with their peers and building social skills (90%)
-  Taking part in physical activities (87%)
-  Building confidence (82%)



86% of Nevada parents are satisfied with their child's afterschool program

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS SUPPORT WORKING FAMILIES

Nevada parents agree that afterschool programs are:



Helping working parents keep their jobs **(84%)**



Providing working parents peace of mind knowing that their children are safe **(85%)**

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS ARE A SMART INVESTMENT

An overwhelming majority of Nevada parents favor public funding for afterschool and summer learning programs.



Research spanning several states shows that **EVERY \$1 INVESTED** in afterschool programs **SAVES AT LEAST \$3** by:

- ✓ Increasing kids' earning potential as adults
- ✓ Improving kids' performance at school
- ✓ Reducing crime and juvenile delinquency

With strong public support, a national survey found that approximately 8 in 10 registered voters said that afterschool programs are an absolute necessity for their community (79%) and that they want their federal, state, and local leaders to provide more funding for programs (80%).

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS

21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) programs engage students in hands-on learning activities aimed at supporting their academic growth, provide a variety of enrichment activities to complement school-day learning, and offer educational and support services to the families of participating children. The 2023 Department of Education annual performance report of 21st CCLC found that among regular participants:



MORE THAN 1 IN 2 improved their GPA



7 IN 10 improved their engagement in learning



2 IN 5 saw a decrease in school suspensions

In Nevada, 12,995 children in 82 communities take part in a 21st Century Community Learning Center. 21st CCLC grants are the only dedicated federal funding sources that support local communities' afterschool and summer programs. Demand for programming in Nevada is so great that 1 out of every 4 applications was not funded based on the most recently available competition data.

AFTERSCHOOL WORKS

Studies have shown that students regularly participating in quality afterschool programs attend school more often, are more engaged in school, get better grades, and are more likely to be promoted to the next grade. For example, a 2023 report by the U.S. Department of Education on 21st CCLC programs nationally included findings that showed that Nevada students in the program became more engaged in learning. Based on teachers surveyed, more than 3 in 4 Nevada 21st CCLC afterschool program participants in grades 1 through 5 (76%) improved their engagement in learning. These findings are similar to a 2019 statewide evaluation of Nevada's 21st CCLC programs by the American Institutes for Research that found that students who consistently attended the programs improved their classroom behavior, homework completion, and class participation. Additionally, the evaluation reported that students with higher levels of participation showed greater gains.

