



NEWS RELEASE
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Capstone National Partners' Diane Rogers Joins Afterschool Alliance Board of Directors

WASHINGTON, DC – The Afterschool Alliance today announced the appointment of Diane Rogers to its board of directors. The Wisconsin-based Rogers works with Capstone National Partners, and is a 25-year veteran of state and federal government and a former Clinton Administration appointee in the U.S. Department of Education.

“Diane Rogers understands how to make education work for America’s schoolchildren, and knows how to turn ideas into policy,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “So I’m delighted that she’s going to bring her years of hard-earned experience to her service with the Afterschool Alliance. As a parent, she knows that afterschool programs are invaluable for working families, and as a leader on education issues she knows how important afterschool programs are to children’s success in school and to the health of communities. We are thrilled to have her join us as we work to expand afterschool opportunities for the nation’s children.”

In her work with Capstone National Partners, Rogers draws on her experience in state and federal government to provide clients expert guidance on public policy, politics, management and strategic planning. Before joining Capstone National Partners, she served as Vice President for Governmental and External Relations at the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, where she advocated on behalf of higher educational quality before Congress and the Executive branch.

Rogers served in the Clinton Administration for eight years, appointed by the President to a variety of positions. She was Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary of Education responsible for all policy and management oversight of the U.S. Department of Education. She managed the development of policy initiatives in elementary and higher education, including reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. She also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Student Financial Affairs and as the office’s first Chief Operating Officer. She managed the operation of Title IV student financial assistance programs and oversaw the development of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA), which has become a standard tool for higher education institutions receiving financial aid applications. She also served as Chief of Staff in the Office of Postsecondary Education.

Before her time in Washington, Rogers spent several years working in state government as a legislative aide, policy analyst, and finally as Deputy Director of the Wisconsin State Senate Democratic Caucus.

Also joining the board of the Afterschool Alliance this month is Jean Margaret Smith, Senior Vice President, Public Affairs & Administration, Nickelodeon/MTVN Kids and Family Group.

Rogers lives in Whitefish, Wisconsin with her husband and two children.

In addition to Rogers and Smith, the Afterschool Alliance board includes:

Terry Peterson, Afterschool Alliance Chairman, Director, Afterschool and Community Learning Resource Network, Charleston, South Carolina; **Herb Sturz**, Afterschool Alliance Secretary, Trustee, Open Society Institute, New York, New York; **Jaemie Ballesteros Altman**, independent consultant, food and restaurant industry, San Francisco, California; The **Honorable David Cicilline**, Mayor, City of Providence, Rhode Island; **Dr. Lucy Friedman**, President, The After-School Corporation, New York, New York; **Reinaldo Llano**, Director, Corporate Community Relations, Bright House Networks, Orlando, Florida; **Lisa Lucheta**, Principal, Torani Syrups and Flavors, San Francisco, California; **Kenneth C. Montague, Jr.**, former Secretary of Juvenile Justice, State of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland; **Gilbert Moreno**, Senior Relationship Manager, JP Morgan Chase, NA, Houston, Texas; **Mary Peavey**, President, Peavey Electronics Corporation, Meridian, Mississippi; and **Stacey Gillis Weber**, active supporter of education causes, New York, New York.

With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, the Afterschool Alliance works at the national, state and local levels to make quality, affordable afterschool programs available to all families. It organizes *Lights On Afterschool*, the only nationwide rally for afterschool programs, which is held each October. The 11th annual *Lights On Afterschool* will be October 21, 2010.

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The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.