



MEDIA ADVISORY  
June 24, 2008

CONTACT: Deb Chase  
207/778-7575  
Gretchen Wright  
202/371-1999

## **Summer Program Blues**

### ***Report on Summer Programs Describing Scope of Need, Funding Challenges to Be Released***

*How many schools in Maine provide summer programming that includes academic, enrichment and recreational activities? How many schools have adequate funding to meet the need for summer programs? What do principals across the state of Maine believe should be the primary focus for high quality programs?*

The Afterschool Alliance will join the Maine Afterschool Network and the Nellie Mae Education Foundation to release a new report on summer programs that addresses these questions and many others at a luncheon and presentation. The presentation will begin at:

**Noon, Thursday, June 26  
Mariner's Church Banquet Center  
368 Fore Street  
Portland**

Speakers will include:

Steve Rowe, Maine Attorney General  
Susan Gendron, Commissioner of Education for the State of Maine  
Dr. Beth Miller, Ph.D., author of *The Learning Season: The Untapped Power of Summer to Advance Student Achievement*  
Jennifer Duddy, State Office Representative, Office of U.S. Senator Susan Collins  
Amy Princiotta, Student at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Gardiner  
Lynn D'Ambrose, Senior Program Officer, Nellie Mae Education Foundation  
Deb Chase, Director, Maine Afterschool Network  
Jodi Grant, Executive Director, Afterschool Alliance

The report, *New England After 3PM: Spotlight on Maine*, is based on a statewide survey of 195 school principals. It was conducted by the Afterschool Alliance in conjunction with the Maine Afterschool Network and funded by the Nellie Mae Education Foundation.

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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](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org).*

*The purpose of the **Maine Afterschool Network** is to enable every child to have access to quality, inclusive, affordable after school programming that meets the needs of the child, the family and the community. More information is available at: [www.maineafterschool.net](http://www.maineafterschool.net).*

*The **Nellie Mae Education Foundation** is the largest philanthropy in New England that focuses exclusively on promoting access, quality, and effectiveness of education. The Foundation provides grants and other support to education programs and intermediary organizations in the region to dramatically improve underserved students' academic achievement and to investigate and promote high quality, varied approaches that allow students to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Foundation also funds research that examines critical education policy issues and public understanding about education in order to better inform efforts to improve education. Since it was established in 1998, the Foundation has distributed nearly \$83 million in grants. Currently, it primarily provides funding through five strategic initiatives: Early Learning, Pathways to Higher Education, Time for Learning, Adult Learning, and Systems Building. For more information, visit [www.nmefdn.org](http://www.nmefdn.org)*