

District Leaders Advocacy Guide



The Facts

Nebraska's Congress members rely on constituent input to make informed decisions, but can't act on what they don't know. As a school district leader, you understand the needs of students, families, and educators. Speak up to help shape policies that reflect Nebraska's communities.

Your Advocacy Journey!



Legislative Reps

Reach out to Legislative Representatives and share facts such as:

- Nebraska afterschool programs provide academic support, enrichment opportunities, and family engagement.

Community Partners

Speak with community partners about afterschool programs and encourage them to reach out to elected officials.

Businesses

Speak with businesses in your community about how afterschool supports working families. Encourage businesses to reach out to congress.

Your Stories Matter!



The Why

Storytelling is one of the most powerful tools for communicating the importance of afterschool programs. They create an emotional connection that makes information more memorable and inspires action. **Begin sharing your stories NOW!**

Use these talking points to help start telling your stories when talking to...

School Board Members

- We see improvements in _____. (Attendance, behavior, academics, etc.)
- Afterschool supports student _____. (Achievement, workforce development, safety, etc.)
- Without afterschool, we cannot support the students who need us most.

Community Partners

- Afterschool sparks career paths through hands-on learning and mentoring.
- Partnering to keep afterschool programs strong helps students grow—and prepares tomorrow's workforce.
- Afterschool builds real-world skills like teamwork and problem-solving.

Businesses

- Afterschool gives kids extra time to build skills in reading, math, and STEM.
- It's a safe place where students can unwind, connect, and grow outside of the classroom.
- When we invest in afterschool, we're investing in better outcomes for our whole community.

Afterschool in Nebraska

92%

92% of Nebraska parents overwhelmingly support public funding for afterschool programming.

89%

89% of Nebraska parents believe that afterschool programs give working parents peace of mind

\$ 6.5 million

More than \$6.5 million in federal 21st Century funds provides afterschool programming for over 17,000 Nebraska youth.