

10 Conversation Starters for Out of School Time Programs



- 1** Are you aware that across America, 25% of school aged youth do not have any supervision afterschool? In Nebraska, that figure rises to 31%. Some estimates indicate that over 100,000 of Nebraska's K-12 youth are unsupervised during the non-school hours. (see How do Children Spend their Out of School Hours?)
- 2** Are you aware that on an annual basis, American school children spend less time on academic work than peers in other developed countries?
- 3** Are you familiar with the terms Afterschool Programs, Community Learning Centers, Full Service Community Schools, Complementary Learning? (see Helpful links section of our website at www.nebraskaclcnetwork.org)
- 4** Did you know that students that regularly attend high quality afterschool programs demonstrated significant gains in academic performance over their peers that didn't participate in these programs? (see Quality Afterschool Programs Help Build Lifelong Success)
- 5** Are you aware that the time between 3:00 and 6:00, the gap between when school ends and parents return from work, is the peak time in which juvenile crime, drug abuse and car fatalities involving youth occur? (see How do Children Spend their Out of School Hours?)
- 6** Did you know that youth participating in quality out of school time programs were less likely than their peers to skip class, abuse drugs, and engage in sexual activity or exhibit delinquent behavior? (see How do Children Spend their Out of School Hours?)
- 7** Did you know that a broad cross section of Americans, ranging from law enforcement officials to working moms, feel that investments in expanded afterschool programs are the best solution to reducing juvenile violence? (see Americans Value Afterschool Programs)
- 8** Did you know that economists estimate that every \$1 invested in afterschool programs can yield as much as a \$3 savings to taxpayers – and that this substantial benefit does not even include the savings taxpayers receive from savings associated from reductions in juvenile crime rates? (see Americans Value Afterschool Programs)
- 9** Did you know that one of the best predictors of student achievement is meaningful family involvement in school activities? Are you aware that in many cities across the country, schools routinely offer meaningful activities outside of work hours to encourage parental involvement? (See Family Involvement: Proven Strategies for Promoting School Success, resource links on website)
- 10** Do you think that is an issue that we need to focus more attention on in our community? In Nebraska?