



Dear afterschool partners,

Thank you for all you do to bring high-quality afterschool programming to youth in communities across Minnesota.

As you know, Minnesota struggles to adequately fund afterschool programming. It is critical that lawmakers hear our voices and fully understand the crucial role afterschool programming plays in a child's academic success.

**To aid you in building relationships with your legislators and helping advocate for better access to high-quality afterschool program for all Minnesota students, we've compiled this advocacy toolkit that incorporates research-based key messages and other resources.**

We hope this advocacy toolkit will be a valuable resource and help you navigate the legislative process, share your story with elected officials, and highlight the importance and impact of afterschool. The toolkit includes the following materials:

- Key messages to guide your advocacy discussions with legislators
- Tips for speaking with your legislators
- Tools for planning a site visit
- Sample letter to the editor to submit to your local newspaper
- Sample letter/email to send to your legislators

Sincerely,

Kari Dennisen Cunnien  
Executive Director  
Ignite Afterschool