



Wisconsin Out of School Time Alliance Advocate

In this edition of the WOSTA Advocate

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- **OST Policy and News:** Childcare Crisis, Election updates
- Please follow us on [social media](#) for ongoing content and updates.

Monthly Program Spotlight

YMCA Youth in Government: Empowering Future Leaders

As the 2024 elections approach, it's crucial to prepare our youth for active civic engagement. The Wisconsin YMCA Youth in Government (YIG) program offers a one of a kind, hands-on experience in government that classrooms often cannot provide.

YIG participants explore topics they care about, gaining skills in public speaking, legislative processes, and critical thinking. Throughout the school year they develop legislation, research case law, and learn about the media. Many also engage in community service projects, enhancing their understanding of civic responsibility.

Read the full blog post [here](#).



If you are interested in being featured in a WOSTA Advocate - please sign-up using the form below. We'd love to come meet you!

Featured Program Sign-Up

The OST Toolbox

- The Wisconsin Youth Company in cooperation with WOSTA and MOST are hiring an organizer to create the people power to ensure future funding for youth in our state. [LEARN MORE HERE!](#)
- Lights On for Afterschool is a great opportunity to showcase your program to local policymakers who are often critical to funding afterschool and summer programs. Consider inviting school board members, the school superintendent, the mayor, the police chief, the county sheriff, city or county board representatives, or the county executive. Developing relationships with these individuals can pave the way for more resources for your program. [Register your event here](#) and receive free posters and other swag! [Watch this LOA 101 webinar to learn the basics](#)
- New toolkit - [Keep the Lights On for Kids](#)

Taking Action for Afterschool

- **NEW GROUP FORMING** to unite statewide support for afterschool and summer programs beginning soon! The [Wisconsin Partnership for Youth and Children](#) will be meeting quarterly via Zoom to discuss and prioritize the needs of school age children in out of school time. All supporters of afterschool and summer programs are welcome! [Learn more here.](#) [Sign up here!](#)
- [Use this tool](#) to register to vote, find out the district you live in and learn about your candidates and the issues. All you need is your address.

- [Advocacy Resource](#): *How afterschool can address chronic absenteeism*
 - *Did you know that millions of dollars from the Opioid Settlement come to local governments all over the nation? [Check to see if your county or city receives opioid funding](#) and consider making a pitch for funds for afterschool as a preventative program.*
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WOSTA Updates

- **2024 Statewide OST Conference** - Scheduled for November 12-13, in-person at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells and November 15, virtual. [Registration is OPEN](#)
 - School-Age Curricular Framework and Trauma Informed Care courses happening in November. [View course descriptions and register.](#)
 - The Benefits of WOSTA Membership: Becoming a member of the Wisconsin Out of School Time Alliance is FREE and members receive discount codes for reduced registration to the Alternative Pathway courses. [Link to Join.](#)
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OST Policy and News

Wisconsin News& Legislative Updates:

- [Report: Staff shortages leave 33,000 children without child care](#)
- [Gov. Evers Announces State Building Commission Approves 50 Community Projects Across Wisconsin Supported by \\$50 Million State Budget Investment](#)
- [Arcadia school district's child care center to offer 30 new slots in coming months](#)
- [An expert says Wisconsin's child care market is 'broken.' One Manitowoc CEO is trying to help.](#)
- [School Referendums on November Ballot](#)
- [This rural WI school district has a creative idea to help the childcare crisis and school funding issues](#)
- [School Referendums on the November Ballot](#)
- [Wisconsin Policy Forum considers Medicaid expansion's potential impact](#)

National News & Legislative Updates:

- **Legislative Update:** A continuing resolution will keep federal funding at the same levels as 2024 until December 20th. Congress is now in recess until after the elections.
- [Newly introduced legislation would expand opportunities for community service in Federal Work-Study programs](#)
- [Education: Where do Harris and Trump stand?](#)
- [The 2024 Election's Role in Shaping Education](#)
- [Schools Face More Uncertainty as Pandemic-Era Funding Ends](#)
- [Was ESSER funding successful? Superintendents say it's hard to generalize](#)
- [Usher Partners with BGCSM in Detroit to Launch National Campaign for](#)

- [Afterschool Program Expansion](#)
- [CT after-school and summer camp providers say funding doesn't match the need](#)
 - [Stark Racial, Class Disparities in K-12 Mental Health Linked to Absenteeism](#)
 - [Superintendent Research Briefing: District-Wide Strategies for Reducing Chronic Absenteeism](#)
 - [Opportunities, Not Poverty Alone, Predict Success](#)
 - [What Works to Help Students of Color Feel Like They Belong at School](#)
 - [Child care momentum continues with a re-introduced bill for CCDBG](#)
 - [FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces New Actions and Resources for Increasing Student Attendance and Engagement](#)
 - [New NASA after school program engages students with STEM learning](#)
 - [MN after-school programs learn how to work around parent burnout](#)
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<https://www.wosta.org/>

Proudly enriching the health of our communities through a partnership between Marshfield Clinic Health System and the Wisconsin Out of School Time Alliance, with generous support from the Charles Mott Foundation, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Wisconsin Department of Administration, Supporting Families Together Association and Shine Early Learning.





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