



American Youth
Policy Forum

Making the most of time: Strategies for promoting expanded learning for all students

American Youth Policy Forum and Campaign for High School Equity

Discussion Group

June 2, 2014

Hall of States, 444 North Capitol St. NW Room 333, Washington DC

The American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) is partnering with the Campaign for High School Equity (CHSE) to organize a series of discussion groups focused on key education policy issues of importance to the civil rights community. The Campaign for High School Equity and its members¹ are exploring a range of youth and education-related issues that affect students of color with the goal of promoting a continued focus on equity. This discussion group is one of a series of five being held in 2013/2014.

Youth need a range of knowledge, skills, and abilities to graduate high school prepared for the world beyond. Students need an increasingly deep understanding of academic content, but in order to master that content, students must also develop higher order skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, and social and emotional skills. Systems-navigation skills to understand the college-going process and potential pathways to graduation and employment are also vital. Students, however, have not always had opportunities to develop these skills in school, as the K-12 system has focused primarily on teaching students academic content, with little attention to many of the additional supports or learning experiences needed to prepare for college and careers.

In order to ensure that all students are prepared for life beyond high school, educators should think differently about how we use time, both during and beyond the school day. There are a variety of innovative models that promote student learning by making the most of any available hours in a student's day. Some communities have built robust networks of afterschool and summer providers that engage students in a variety of learning experiences and are key partners with schools to not only promote student engagement, but also provide students with valuable knowledge and skills. Others have re-envisioned the use of time during the school day and leveraged up to 300 additional

¹ The Campaign for High School Equity members include: Alliance for Excellent Education • League of United Latin American Citizens • Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund • National Association for the Advancement of Colored People • National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund • National Council of La Raza • National Indian Education Association • National Urban League • Southeast Asia Resource Action Center • The Leadership Conference Education Fund



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hours in the school year to expand opportunities for learning, enrichment, and teacher collaboration.

Regardless of the model, communities have come to realize that educators can foster a student-centered learning environment by taking advantage of time beyond the traditional school day to engage youth in a diversity of learning experiences. This discussion group will examine the role that expanded learning, either during an expanded school day or out of school, can play in supporting positive outcomes for students of color and low-income students. It will examine the structures that must be put in place to ensure equitable access to such opportunities.

This event has been designed to meet a number of goals:

1. Educate and inform the group on fundamental principles and best practices underlying the rethinking of time and place for learning;
2. Foster relationships and build connections between members of the Campaign for High School Equity, relevant expanded learning representatives, and other mainstream education organizations;
3. Identify entry points for the civil rights community to support and advocate for the expansion of high quality expanded learning to communities that lack them.

AGENDA

8:30 AM **Breakfast Available**

9:00 AM **Welcome and Introductions**

9:30 AM **Setting the Stage: What is Expanded Learning and how can it support college and career readiness for all students?**

Betsy Brand, Executive Director, American Youth Policy Forum
Rufina Hernández, Executive Director, Campaign for High School Equity

High quality expanded learning can lead to a number of positive outcomes for students, including academic, social and emotional, and critical thinking skills. These skills are all necessary to be prepared for college and careers. In this session, Ms. Brand will frame the day's discussion by articulating a research-based vision for high quality expanded learning, how it can contribute to the college and career readiness agenda for low income



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students and students of color, and how we can promote equitable access to high quality programs, either during an expanded school day or out of school.

9:45 AM **Afterschool and summer learning as a strategy to promote student success**

Lori Kaplan, CEO and President, Latin American Youth Center

Candy Markman, Director, Mayor's After School Initiatives, Nashville, Tennessee

Bela Shah Spooner, Program Manager, Afterschool Initiatives, Institute for Youth, Education, and Families, National League of Cities

Terri Ferinde Dunham, Lead, National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks

Presenters will highlight how high quality expanded learning can improve outcomes for communities of color, promising practices in afterschool/summer programs, their role in supporting the field, and current trends across the country. Presenters will also share what structural barriers exist at the local or state level, strategies for overcoming those barriers. Throughout the presentations, they will focus on implications of their work for communities of color and the potential role civil rights organizations might play in their work. Participants will have a chance to respond and ask questions following presentations.

10:45 AM **Q & A Opportunity**

11:15 AM **Break**

11:30 AM **Rethinking time during the school day**

Moderator: **David Goldberg**, Vice President, National Policy & Partnership, National Center on Time and Learning

Patricia Hurrieta, Director of Teaching and Learning for English Language Development Adams County School District 14, Colorado

Roy Chan, Director, Effective Practices, National Center on Time and Learning

Presenters will discuss initiatives to leverage additional time during the school day to improve student learning, enrichment, and teacher collaboration. Presenters will share what implementation looks like at the school level and the role the state and other supporting stakeholders have played in promoting this work. Throughout the presentations, they will focus on implications of their work for communities of color and the potential role



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civil rights organizations might play in their work. Participants will have a chance to respond and ask questions following presentations.

12:00 PM Q&A Opportunity

12:15 PM Networking Lunch

12:45 PM Policy Implications at the federal level

Sharon Deich, Vice President, Cross and Joftus

Angela Hernandez-Marshall, Team Leader, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education

Presenters will discuss the policy opportunities for integrating ELOs within traditional school reforms, elaborate on federal policies and funding streams that have supported expanded learning, and highlight opportunities and challenges within the policy landscape.

1:30 PM Small group discussion: Promoting the expanded learning agenda

Small groups will discuss how participants can promote an equity agenda in expanded learning and how civil rights organizations can support that agenda.

Group Prompt: *Where are the opportunities to communicate to policymakers, family and community members, and practitioners (school and youth leaders) that expanded learning is a strategy that can be used to help all students succeed academically and otherwise? What messages might resonate with the civil rights and broader education community? What ones need tweaking? What other information is needed to promote increased use of afterschool, summer school, and ELOs for low-income communities?*

2:15 PM Moderated Discussion

Returning to the large group, participants will share their learning from the small group discussions.

2:45 PM Summary of the Day

3:00 PM Adjourn