

Hot Topics for Out-of-School Time Directors and Administrators

December 2011

***Hot Topic* Supervision**

***"Shining a Light on Supervision-Lessons from the Beacons."* (2010)**

This OST policy commentary from the Forum for Youth Investment takes readers inside the world of the Beacons to understand their approach to supervision.

***"Working with Generation Y: Understanding and Supporting their Workplace Needs"* (2010) by Alan Ekblad and Timothy Hathaway**

Generation Y's 32 million U.S. workers will increase to approximately 21% of the workforce in the next 3 years. In a child care and early education industry dominated by young workers, that means Generation Y-ers (16-30 year olds) are part of your staff. Learn more about this demographic.

***"Achieving through Joy"* (2009)**

This article from Guidestar presents active listening tips and an achievement exercise that engages nonprofit supervisors and employees to come up with their own goals, challenges, and solutions.

Where to Find These Articles: Go to the OSTRC Document Library, listed under Program Management and Administration, Human Resources and Supervision

***Hot Topic* Current Debates on OST Learning**

***"How to end a dispiriting fight over learning time"* (2010) by Jay Mathews**

As advocates of after-school programs contest advocates of longer school days, Jay Mathews investigates the use of research in both advocacy movements.

Where to Find It: Go to the OSTRC Document Library under Program Management and Administration, Advocacy and Policy

***"After-School Programs and Academics: Implications for Policy, Practice, and Research"* (2008) by Robert C. Granger, Ed.D.**

No Child Left Behind has put educators under considerable pressure to improve student academic outcomes. Much of the funding for afterschool programs comes from education budgets. The focus on academic achievement is producing heated debates among after-school practitioners, policymakers, and researchers. Should afterschool programs be required to have a positive impact on academic outcomes? Will such an expectation crowd out other important goals and turn after-school programs into another version of the school day? This report focuses on the growing program-evaluation literature, observational studies, and commentaries by practitioners and advocates in the context of this debate.

Where to Find It: <http://www.srca.org/documents/publications/spr/spr22-2.pdf>

***Hot Topic* Financial Management**

***"Beyond the Award Letter: Fund Management for Leaders of Small Youth-Serving Organizations."* (2009)**

This guide helps non-profit leaders develop the tools and knowledge they need to enhance the systems they use to manage grants and contracts.

Where to Find It: Go to the OSTRC Document Library, www.sp2.upenn.edu/ostrc/doclibrary, under Program Management and Administration, Budgeting and Fiscal Management

Featured Hot Topic

Health and Nutrition in OST Programs

Tools and Resources

Health Promotion Council (HPC)

Health Living Guidelines:

HPC is leading the Healthy Kids Healthy Communities Out-of-School Time Initiative. They have developed Healthy Living Guidelines for the Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) managed Out-of-School Time (OST) Programs. These guidelines intend to improve the environment for youth in OST programs (i.e. limiting non-homework screen time, encouraging physical activity, and discouraging sugary drinks) and reverse the epidemic of overweight and obese youth.

HPC's Professional Education:

HPC provides a diverse array of trainings and consultation services for both individuals and organizations in topics including Diversity Dialogue, Food Safety Training, and Health Literacy.
Website: www.hccpa.org

Online toolkit and checklist:

This online resource from The Strategic Alliance for Healthy Food and Activity Environments provides an assessment as well as fact sheets and tools to integrate health and nutrition into your OST program.
<http://www.eatbettermovemore.org/sa/enact/afterschool/index.php>