

Dear Friend:

Boston After School & Beyond is pleased to bring you this periodic update of activities and events with links to topics of interest. If you would like to receive more regular information of this sort, please visit our Blog (<http://www.bostonbeyond.org/blog>) or connect with us on Twitter ([@BostonBeyond](https://twitter.com/BostonBeyond)). We look forward to a productive 2012 with you.

Chris Smith
Executive Director

Looking Ahead: Planning for Summer in January
Mayor Menino announces renewed Opportunity Agenda funding for Summer Learning Project



"The Opportunity Agenda's first big project was Summer Learning. They've stepped up and made it happen... Today I'm pleased to announce the Opportunity Agenda has committed \$2.4 million [for summer learning] for 2012 and 2013."

- Mayor Thomas Menino, Boston Summer Learning Forum, December 9, 2011

Leaders from the state and city government, Boston Public Schools, local and national funders, and program providers came together at the Boston Summer Learning Forum, sponsored by The Wallace Foundation.

Superintendent Carol Johnson, Kristin McSwain (Boston Opportunity Agenda), Ed Pauly (The Wallace Foundation), and Jennifer Sloan McCombs (RAND) participated in a discussion moderated by John Barros, (DSNI and School Committee), on recent research that links summer learning to the achievement gap -- and its implications for school-community partnerships, policy, and funding.

- Watch the entire [Summer Learning Forum Video](#) on our website. You can click the timestamp links to view a specific section of the program

- Read [Making Summer Count: How Summer Programs Can Boost Children's Learning](#), a new report from RAND, commissioned by The Wallace Foundation, that synthesizes decades of research on summer learning.
- For the full set of event photos, see our [Facebook album](#).

Superintendent links Boston Summer Learning Project to Policy Agenda

During the panel discussion, Superintendent Johnson explained that Boston's summer learning model, which draws on the strength of teachers and community partners, should inform public policy, specifically reauthorization of [the Elementary and Secondary Education Act](#) (ESEA).



"I think that what we are learning has huge implications for how we should try to influence the public policy of ESEA, and that has to do exactly with the examples here of creating partnerships between schools and other entities. [...] We have to identify a stable source of revenue that helps us do the kind of early and thoughtful planning that will be necessary for us to build a really integrated system of learning for students during the school year, after school, and *particularly around summer learning*."

Spreading the Word: National Discussion on Expanded Learning CBASS Hosts ELT Twitter Chat - January 24, 2-3PM ET

On January 24, [Education Sector](#)'s Dr. Elena Silva, who was the keynote speaker at the [Achieving-Connecting-Thriving Conference](#), co-sponsored by Boston Beyond and PEAR last April, will be the featured guest in a Twitter chat hosted by the [Collaborative for Building After-School Systems](#). The chat will engage leaders around the country in a discussion of The Wallace Foundation's [Reimagining the School Day: More Time for Learning](#), co-authored by Silva. Please join this discussion using the hashtag [#timechat](#). Follow [@cbass_national](#) and [@expand_school](#) and [@educationsector](#) for updates on the chat.

Materials from "Will Expanded Learning Time = Better Outcomes?" Webinar

On a related subject, experts from the education and youth development fields discussed the implications of the No Child Left Behind waiver process in a webinar organized by three members of the Ready by 21 National Partnership - the Forum for Youth Investment, American Association of School Administrators and United Way Worldwide. If



you missed this webinar, you can experience the entire presentation on the [Forum for Youth Investment website](#).

Boston Teaching STEM After School *Boston programs participate in two national grants*



With support from the Noyce Foundation and the AmeriCorps program, in partnership with TASC in New York and CBASS, the Boston Youth Environmental Network (BYEN) is coordinating grass-roots and grass-tops strategies to infuse STEM subjects in after-school programs. For example, BYEN has trained 15 AmeriCorps members to facilitate environmental science learning, with a focus on service, in a variety of after-school programs. Everyday Explorers provide program participants with opportunities for hands-on, experiential learning that foster school success and greater engagement while allowing youth to form close, informal relationships with adults who can act as role models.

Participating After School Program Sites

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester - Daniel Marr
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston - Sumner Elementary & Condon Elementary
- DotWell-Lee After School Program
- Zoo New England

Welcoming new staff to Boston Beyond

In the last months of 2011, Boston After School & Beyond hired three [new staff members](#):

- **Dr. Philip Jackson** - Director of Teen Initiatives
- **Maura Boyce** - Data Strategy Manager
- **Emily Shaer** - BYEN Education Program Coordinator

New ways to communicate with us in 2012

To continue these discussions and more, connect with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), or our new [Blog](#)!

We respect your time and the limits of your inbox, so if you prefer to be removed from our mailing list, please reply to this e-mail with "Remove" in the subject.