MICHIGAN AfterSchool ASSOCIATION

Virtual Winter Conference:
Empowering Leaders & Youth in Out-of-School Time

Bonus Session: 8:00am-9:00am (1 clock hour)

Breaking the Language Barrier: Best Practices for Developing Reading and Writing proficiency in English Language Learners (ELL)

Core Knowledge & Competencies - 1,2,5

In this workshop, you will learn foundations to help English Language Learners start their reading and writing process. You will also learn small group instruction activities to help improve their ELA proficiency on state exams, understand ways to build relationships with your English Language Learners, ways to keep ESL students engaged in learning, and expand their academic skillset.

Presenter - Briana Young, Literacy Logic

Session 1: 9:00am-10:30am

Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Enhancing Career Readiness in Afterschool Programs
(Option 1)

Core Knowledge & Competencies - 2,5,7,9

Senior leaders will learn how integrating technology and work-based learning can enhance student outcomes and increase program sustainability and funding potential. Participants will engage in interactive discussions and hands-on activities to develop strategies that position their programs as vital for career readiness, making them more attractive to funders and community stakeholders. The session will demonstrate how to use data-driven decision-making and measurable impact to highlight the value of afterschool programs, ensuring long-term support and investment. Leaders will also explore how aligning their programs with workforce development priorities can open doors to new funding opportunities, community partnerships, and increased visibility. By the end of the session, participants will leave with actionable plans and insights to drive program growth, elevate student success, secure sustainable financial support, and create meaningful, long-lasting community impact for their initiatives.

Presenter - Fred Lumpkin, Work for Tomorrow

High School Internships - Unlock Student Early Access to Career Pathways (Option 2)

Core Knowledge & Competencies - 2,4,6,9

A successful model integrated into our program offerings places high school students in summer internship opportunities in the 11th or 12th grade - prior to students pursuing post-secondary pathways. This workshop will describe our success with providing high school students with meaningful internships in partnership with corporate partners looking to provide early access to talent pipelines through investment in youth. The workshop will also explain how cohort experiences focused on academic topics and workplace skill development lead to student success.

Presenter - Michelle Reaves, Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program

Session 2: 10:45am-12:15pm

"Bad" Behavior: Trauma-Informed Interventions (Option 1)
Core Knowledge & Competencies - 1,2,4,5,8,9
What are our expectations and assumptions when working with challenging youth behaviors? This interactive workshop will explore the role trauma and chronic stress can play in "bad" behavior. Join us and learn more effective intervention strategies so that we can build resiliency in the youth and ourselves.
Presenter - Kirk Lowis, Portage Community Center

Relationships are Key (Option 2)
Core Knowledge & Competencies - 1,4,7,10
Relationships are essential to every key area in our lives. Learning to build strong relatiosnhips with yourself, God and others can catapult your purpose and those of who you serve to the next level. Learn why relationships are the key and how you can begin with your relationship with yourself.
Presenter - Nicole Webster, Detroit Unleashed

LUNCH: 12:15pm-1:00pm

Session 3: 1:00pm-2:30pm

Empowering Resilient Futures: Strategies for Supporting Mental Wellness in Out-of-School Youth (Option 1)
Core Knowledge & Competencies - 1,4,5,6,8
Participants will be guided through innovative strategies for assessing youth wellness, identifying strengths, and providing targeted support for those navigating mental health challenges. Attendees will leave with a toolkit of practical interventions and prevention techniques rooted in trauma-informed, evidence-based practices to foster resilience and cultivate healing pathways that level up the next generation of expanded learning professionals.
Presenter - Tiffany Mensah, D.O.V.E.S. Network®

Raising Mentally Strong Children Combining Neuroscience and a Felt Sense of Safety (Option 2)
Core Knowledge & Competencies - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8
Behavior is communication, adults need to understand what is being communicated if we're going to guide children to safety. What if…through this new lens of discipline we implemented the word "experiences" instead of consequences. What experiences does this child need to help them develop a sense of "felt safety?"
Presenter - Gloria Sherman, Parenting and Teaching with G.L.O., LLC

Session 4: 2:45pm-4:15pm

Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Enhancing Career Readiness in Afterschool Programs
(Option 1)
Core Knowledge & Competencies - 2,5,7,9
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Presenter - Fred Lumpkin, Work for Tomorrow

MAA Learning Network-Online Training for Out of School Time (Option 2)
Core Knowledge & Competencies - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
This interactive session is designed to show attendees how to access the State Certified online training courses offered through MAA. We will review navigation, courses available, and tools within the learning management system for supervisors/managers, and program directors. Participants will be able to see how to access training specific to their needs, along with tools for new employee onboarding, ongoing professional development, and certification. The information in this session is valuable to all stakeholders, staff, supervisors, leaders, and program managers. We look forward to seeing you there!
Presenter - Steve Stookey, Cypherworx

Please be sure to have your selections ready before you register for the conference. You will need to choose your session at the time of registration.