**Join the Boston Summer Learning Community**

In 2015, the Boston Summer Learning Community – a joint initiative of Boston After School & Beyond (BASB) and the Boston Public Schools (BPS) – partnered with 40 organizations at 79 summer sites, serving over 5,600 students.

The Community pursues four shared goals:

1. Increase student access to – and track attendance in – summer learning opportunities, with a specific focus on high-need youth.
2. Improve the quality of programs and pursue continuous improvement together.
3. Focus on student social-emotional development, and the skills necessary for success in school, work, and life.
4. Scale and sustain data-driven best practices through a year-round learning community.

Sites employ a common set of validated research tools to measure program quality, and track enrollment data in a common database to capture the collective impact of Boston’s summer programs. Each fall, sites receive a data scorecard, which benchmarks programs to one another and to research-based indicators to inform continuous improvement.

**Mayor Walsh and BPS Superintendent Chang have challenged the Boston Summer Learning Community to grow to 100 program sites serving 10,000 youth.** BASB welcomes additional organizations with existing summer programming to **join the Community** for summer 2016.

Organizations that join the Community will receive **in-kind access** to:



Suite of measurement tools designed to capture skill growth and program quality from third-party & student perspectives. Estimated in-kind value: $9,000/site.



Citywide measurement system that allows organizations to track data over time and identify strengths and areas of challenge within their programs. Data can inform year-round program improvement and fundraising efforts.



Year-round peer learning community focused on best practice and continuous improvement, with expertise from local and national researchers & leaders.

**See reverse side** for requirements to participate in the Boston Summer Learning Community and for more information on the measurement tools. Please contact David McAuley at dmcauley@bostonbeyond.org to express interest in joining the Community or to discuss in more detail; registration begins in October 2015. Organizations new to the Community will be invited to an informational webinar, to be scheduled in November or December 2015.

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Requirements to participate in the Boston Summer Learning Community include:

* Implement the following program quality tools from the National Institute on Out-of-School Time (NIOST) at *no-cost to your program*:
* Assessment of Program Practices Tool (APT): A third-party observer will conduct a one-time site visit and rate the summer program on various indicators of program quality.
* Survey of Academic and Youth Outcomes – Youth Version (SAYO-Y): A 10-15 minute, one-time survey completed by youth at the end of the program that captures their experiences in the program and their perception of certain aspects of program quality.
* Track attendance and program scheduling through Youthservices.net, an online citywide shared database, *at no cost to your program*.
* All sites use this database to input attendance and demographic data on their program participants. Results of all measurement tools will also be uploaded to the database. Program leaders will be able to access their Program Report for Improvement and System Measurement (PRISM) and other data reports from Youthservices.net, including tracking data over time.
* Some widely used databases (for example, Salesforce) are compatible with Youthservices.net, and can be linked to prevent double entry of information.
* Disseminate a centralized Summer Learning Community consent form for guardians to sign.
* Participate in a year-round learning community, which includes in-person summits and webinar/online resources.

* *Consider* implementing additional tools that capture student social-emotional development from student and/or teacher-staff perspectives. More details to follow in informational webinars.

In order to be eligible for the Boston Summer Learning Community, programs must:

* Serve Boston Public School students (exclusively or in addition to students from other districts).
* Run summer programming at least 3 weeks in duration, or a close variation thereof.
* Serve consistent cohort(s) of students during summer. Recommended minimum number of students: 10.

**See reverse side** for overview of the Boston Summer Learning Community. Please contact David McAuley at dmcauley@bostonbeyond.org to express interest in joining the Community or to discuss in more detail; registration begins in October 2015. Organizations new to the Community will be invited to an informational webinar, to be scheduled in November or December 2015.