

Expand Out of School Time Opportunities in Rochester



Out of school time programs are the new neighborhood.

In some cases, children across the city have no other place in their community where they can play and be a kid. Across the nation children and youth spend on average 18.5 hours a week in out of school time (OST) programs.¹ High quality programs are a valuable tool to support the growth, development, and health of a child.

National studies demonstrate participation in high quality OST programs contributes to overall student success:



Improved academic success²



Positive health outcomes³

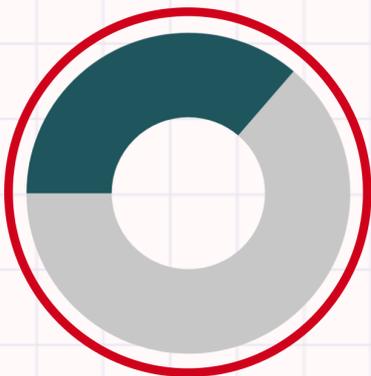


Strong Social-Emotional Skills⁴



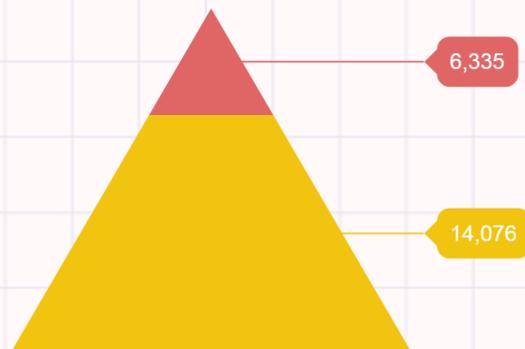
Reduction in negative behaviors⁵

Kids spend on average 18.5 hours a week in OST programs



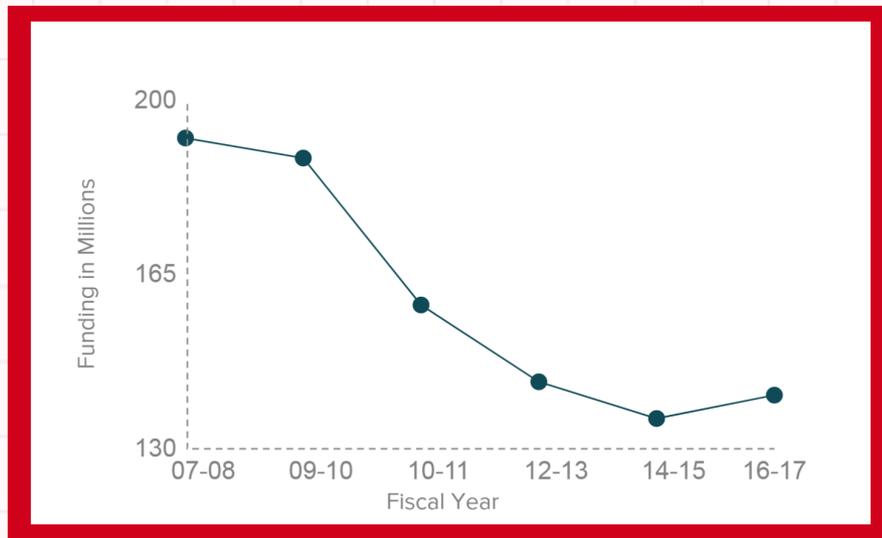
Nationally, kids of all ages spend 18.5 hours a week in OST programs. This adds up to almost 36% of additional instructional time outside of the traditional school day.

Only 31% of Rochester children in need can access OST programs



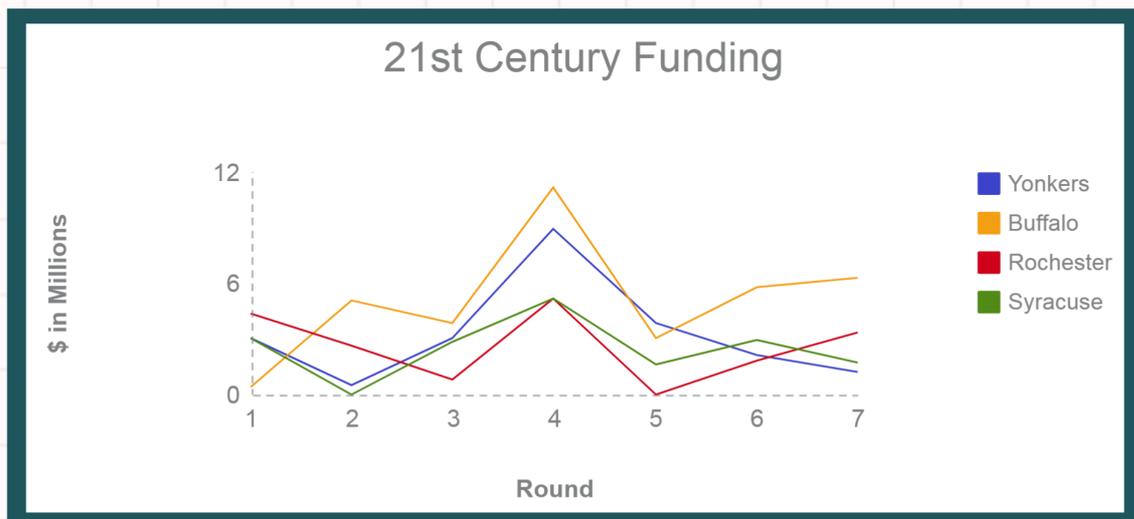
Nearly 70% of Rochester students are not engaged in a structured, consistent experience during non-school hours.⁶ We are missing a big opportunity to boost their chances of reading at grade level, graduating from high school, and achieving other milestones on a path toward success.

Funding for OST Programming in NYS Has Declined



Despite the need for additional funding for OST programs, funding for these critical programs has declined across New York State. This is detrimental to our children locally, who rely on OST and expanded learning opportunities, and to the 14,000 children in Rochester who are unable to access these essential programs.⁷

Rochester has the highest need, but lowest level of funding of the Big 4 Cities



Rochester has a higher child poverty rate than Buffalo and Syracuse. Rochester's high school graduation rate (48%) lags well behind Syracuse (61%) and Buffalo (62%). Yet in the last round of 21st Century funding, Rochester received \$2.6M compared to Buffalo's \$6M.

Recommendations

Increase funding for the City of Rochester's out of school time programs by:

1. Robustly supporting the Rochester City School District's application for new Empire State After-School Program funding. If fully funded, the proposal would substantially increase OST opportunities for Rochester's youth and their success in school and life.

Works Cited

1. Beets, M.W. Policies and Standards for Promoting Physical Activity in After-School Programs. (2012). A Research Brief. Princeton, NJ: Active Living Research
2. "Afterschool Programs Keep Kids Safe, Engage Kids in Learning, and Help Working Families", Afterschool Alliance, 2014, http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/National_fact_sheet_10.07.14.pdf
3. Kedler, S., Hoelscher, D., Barroso, C., Walker, J., Cribb, P. & Hu, S. The CATCH Kids Club: a pilot after-school study for elementary students' nutrition and physical activity in Public Health Nutrition 8(2): 133-140.
4. "Outcomes Linked to High-Quality After-school Programs: Longitudinal Findings from the Study of Promising After-school Programs", 2007, Univ. of CA-Irvine & Policy Studies Assoc
5. "Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2014 National Report," U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/nr2014/downloads/NR2014.pdf>
6. The Childrens Agenda (2015). Out of School Time Opportunities in Rochester. Executive Summary. <http://thechildrensagenda.org>
7. New York Network for Youth Success. (2016). Statewide Fiscal Map. www.nysan.org