



SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY

Results from the Afterschool Alliance
Provider Survey on High-Impact Student Supports
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NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
FOR *Student Success*



Afterschool Alliance

Created By:
The NPSS Hub

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY



Executive Summary..... 1

Introduction..... 3

Survey Details..... 5

Key Survey Findings..... 6

Limitations..... 12

Implications..... 13

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



To better understand the landscape of high-impact student supports nationwide, the National Partnership for Student Success (NPSS) Support Hub at the Johns Hopkins Everyone Graduates Center (EGC) collaborated with the Afterschool Alliance to survey a convenience sample of out-of-school time (OST) providers about the extent to which they offer specific high-impact student supports in their programs, as part of a larger tracking survey fielded by the Afterschool Alliance.

62% of OST providers who responded to the survey reported offering student supports through at least one of the roles that the NPSS focuses on (high-intensity tutoring, mentoring, student success coaching, college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching, and wrap around services that connect students and families to community resources). Nearly half of providers that responded to the survey offer mentoring and about a third offer wrap around services. Two in ten offer college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching, student success coaching, and/or high intensity tutoring. The survey results indicate significant growth in the number of adults providing these supports in out-of-school time programs during the 2023-24 school year when compared to the previous (2022-23) school year. They also indicate significant demand for these types of evidence-based student supports during out-of-school time among those that offer them.

The survey results indicate that government funding may have played a key role in providers' abilities to provide NPSS supports, as providers with COVID relief funding, 21st Century Community Learning Center funding, AmeriCorps funding, and state government funds were more likely to report offering NPSS supports than those that did not have this funding.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: INTRODUCTION



The pandemic and its aftermath have increased the need for student supports to help accelerate learning and create stronger connections between youth and their schools and communities. This need arose at a time when schools, districts, and youth-serving organizations have experienced staffing shortages, creating particular implementation challenges.

In 2022, the [National Partnership for Student Success](#) (NPSS) was founded to address this challenge. The NPSS is a public private partnership between AmeriCorps, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University (EGC) focused on achieving a goal set by the Biden-Harris Administration of to bring an additional 250,000 people into high-impact student support roles as tutors, mentors, student success coaches, postsecondary transition coaches, and wraparound service coordinators—collectively the “NPSS roles”—by the summer of 2025. The NPSS works toward this goal by creating conditions for collaboration between the sectors of education, youth development, and national service on shared priorities related to increasing evidence-based, people-powered supports for young people.

The EGC established a Support Hub for the NPSS for the following purposes:

1. Engage in strategic efforts to increase the number of people ready to serve in NPSS roles,
2. Provide technical assistance to state and local efforts,
3. Develop and disseminate resources to support implementation,
4. Connect and convene key stakeholders.

The [Afterschool Alliance](#) is an organization that works to ensure that all youth have access to affordable, quality afterschool programs by working to increase investment in afterschool program initiatives at the national, state, and local levels. To better understand progress toward the NPSS’ goal of bringing additional people into high-impact student support roles, and more broadly the landscape of student supports nationwide, the NPSS Support Hub at EGC collaborated with the Afterschool Alliance to add questions related to the five NPSS roles to the 10th installment of their [Provider Tracking Survey](#) in the fall of 2024.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: INTRODUCTION

This survey, fielded by Edge Research on behalf of the Afterschool Alliance, is part of a 3.5-year afterschool and summer program provider survey series, that started in spring 2020 to track the pandemic's impact on the out-of-school time field and has since evolved to examine current issues for the field, such as workforce challenges and pandemic-relief funding. The survey series sought to understand the supports that afterschool and summer learning programs were providing at the time of each survey administration (between two and three times annually starting in 2020), the challenges they faced, and their needs with the goal of better supporting the children and families that these programs serve.

This report provides additional information and insight into the state of student supports beyond the findings shared in Dr. Robert Balfanz and Dr. Vaughan Byrnes' September 2023 [*Increasing School Capacity to Meet Students' Post-Pandemic Needs: Findings from the 2022-23 National Partnership for Student Success Principal Survey*](#), which analyzed results from the RAND Corporation's spring 2023 American School Leader Panel Survey. The spring 2023 American School Leader Panel Survey surveyed school principals and focused primarily on student supports taking place in school buildings. The methodology of the American School Leader Panel Survey is distinct from that of the Afterschool Alliance survey on which this report is based, so the two surveys should not be used for comparison. At the time of publication, analysis of survey data from the 2023-24 RAND Corporation American School Leader Panel is not yet available.



SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: SURVEY DETAILS



The survey was fielded by Edge Research on behalf of the Afterschool Alliance to a convenience sample of out-of-school time (OST) providers between October 31 and December 6, 2023 as part of the Afterschool Alliance's Provider Tracking Survey (10th wave). The survey was promoted broadly, including an email sent to approximately 42,000 individuals and shared across four social media channels (X, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram) to more than 49,000 followers. The survey was administered online and took providers approximately 15 minutes to complete. Each provider that completed the full survey was entered into a drawing through which 50 respondents received a \$100 gift card. The 1,116 respondents provided a non-representative convenience sample.

The NPSS Support Hub at EGC wrote six survey questions in consultation with the Afterschool Alliance related to NPSS roles in OST time programs. These questions were asked of providers alongside other questions related to afterschool program operation, program elements, challenges, and needs.

Survey respondents include providers with programs in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and U.S. territories, as well as national programs. 30% of survey respondents reported serving pre-K students, 88% reported serving elementary school students, 54% reported serving middle school students, and 28% reported serving high school students. On average, providers that responded to the survey question about the racial/ethnic backgrounds of the students estimated that they typically serve are 5% Asian, 25% Black or African American, 20% Hispanic or Latinx, 4% Native American, 1% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, 43% White, and 3% other. Survey respondents operated programs in urban settings (39%), suburban settings (30%), and rural settings (38%). 52% of survey respondents reported operating afterschool programs, 38% operated year-round programs, and 3% operated only in the summer. The median number of students served by providers that responded to the survey was 120 in the fall of 2023. Approximately half of respondents reported operating a single service site and about 34% operate a small network of between two and nine service sites. Smaller percentages (7% and 8% respectively) reported operating larger networks of 20 or more sites or between 10 and 19 sites. 68% of providers reported operating in a public school, and 32% reported operating elsewhere.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: KEY SURVEY FINDINGS



OVERVIEW:

62% of providers who responded to the survey reported offering student supports through at least one of the NPSS roles (high-intensity tutoring, mentoring, student success coaching, college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching, and wrap around services that connect students and families to community resources). Nearly half of providers that responded to the survey offer mentoring and about a third offer wrap around services. 21% of providers that responded to the survey offer college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching, but this increases to 31% and 53% respectively among providers serving middle and high school students. Two in ten offer student success coaching and/or high-intensity tutoring.

The survey results indicate significant growth in the number of adults providing these supports in out-of-school time programs during the 2023-24 school year when compared to the previous (2022-23) school year. They also indicate significant demand for these types of evidence-based student supports during out-of-school time among those that offer them.

Finally, the survey results indicate that government funding may have played a key role in providers' abilities to providing NPSS supports, as providers with COVID relief funding, 21st Century Community Learning Center funding, AmeriCorps funding, and state government funds were more likely to report offering NPSS supports than those that did not have this funding.



SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: KEY SURVEY FINDINGS



MENTORING:

The providers who responded to the survey were most likely to report providing mentoring of all of the NPSS supports, with 47% of providers offering this people-powered support.

Providers that reported offering mentoring:

- Reported a median of approximately **5 staff members** providing or coordinating mentoring supports for young people.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of students receiving mentoring** from surveyed providers. 34% of these providers reported offering mentoring to more students in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. 49% reported providing mentoring to about the same number of students as the previous year, and 10% reported providing this type of support to fewer students in 2023-24.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of adults providing and/or coordinating mentoring** among surveyed providers. 33% of these providers reported that more adults provided and/or coordinated mentoring in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. Of providers reporting increases, they brought on approximately an **additional seven staff on average to provide or coordinate mentoring**. 52% of providers reported similar staffing numbers for these supports when compared to the prior school year, and 9% reported decreases.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: KEY SURVEY FINDINGS



WRAPAROUND SERVICES:

30% of the providers responding to the survey reported providing wrap around services that connect students and families to community resources.

Providers that reported offering wrap around services:

- Reported a median of approximately **3 staff members** providing or coordinating these services.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of students receiving wrap around services** from surveyed providers. 39% of these providers reported offering these services to more students in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. 48% reported providing wrap around supports to about the same number of students as the previous year, and 8% reported providing wrap around services to fewer students in 2023-24.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of adults providing and/or coordinating wrap around services** among surveyed providers. 34% reported that more adults provided and/or coordinated wrap around services in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. Of providers reporting increases, they brought on an **additional three staff on average to provide or coordinate wrap around services**. 55% of providers reported similar staffing numbers for these services when compared to the prior school year, and 7% reported decreases.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: KEY SURVEY FINDINGS



COLLEGE & CAREER ADVISING OR POSTSECONDARY TRANSITION COACHING:

Two in 10 providers (21 percent) responding to the survey reported offering college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching. However, this increases to 31% and 53% respectively among providers serving middle and high school students.

Providers that reported offering college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching:

- Reported a median of approximately **3 staff members** providing or coordinating these supports.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of students receiving college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching** from surveyed providers. 33% of these providers reported offering these supports to more students in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. 52% reported providing postsecondary transition supports to about the same number of students as the previous year, and 9% reported providing these supports to fewer students in 2023-24.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of adults providing and/or coordinating college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching** among surveyed providers. 34% reported that more adults provided and/or coordinated postsecondary transition supports in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. Of providers reporting increases, they brought on approximately an **additional four staff on average to provide or coordinate college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching**. 52% of providers reported similar staffing numbers for these supports when compared to the prior school year, and 8% reported decreases.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: KEY SURVEY FINDINGS



STUDENT SUCCESS COACHING:

20% of providers responding to the survey reported offering student success coaching in their programs.

Providers that reported offering student success coaching:

- Reported a median of approximately **5 staff members** providing or coordinating these services.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of students receiving student success coaching** from surveyed providers. 37% of these providers reported offering these supports to more students in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. 44% reported providing student success coaching to about the same number of students as the previous year, and 11% reported providing these supports to fewer students in 2023-24.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of adults providing and/or coordinating student success coaching** among surveyed providers. 40% reported that more adults provided and/or coordinated student success coaching in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. Of providers reporting increases, they brought on approximately an **additional four staff on average to provide or coordinate student success coaching**. 41% of providers reported similar staffing numbers for these supports when compared to the prior school year, and 12% reported decreases.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: KEY SURVEY FINDINGS



HIGH-INTENSITY TUTORING:

19% of providers responding to the survey reported offering high-intensity tutoring in their programs.

Providers that reported offering high-intensity tutoring:

- Reported a median of approximately **5 staff members** providing or coordinating high-intensity tutoring.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of students receiving high-intensity tutoring** from surveyed providers. 41% of these providers reported offering this type of support to more students in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. 41% reported providing high-intensity tutoring to about the same number of students as the previous year, and 13% reported providing this support to fewer students in 2023-24.
- Demonstrated an **increase in the number of adults providing and/or coordinating high-intensity tutoring** among surveyed providers. 34% reported that more adults provided and/or coordinated high-intensity tutoring in the fall of the 2023-24 school year when compared to the prior school year. Of providers reporting increases, they brought on approximately an **additional seven staff on average to provide or coordinate high-intensity tutoring**. 50% of providers reported similar staffing numbers for these supports when compared to the prior school year, and 13% reported decreases.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: KEY SURVEY FINDINGS

DEMAND FOR STUDENT SUPPORTS:

Among providers that responded to the survey and reported offering one or more NPSS support, 37% reported that more students sought NPSS supports in the fall of 2023 than they had staff to effectively provide these services. This indicates that while promising growth has taken place, additional people in NPSS roles are needed to fully meet the student demand for these supports in OST. While unmet demand for NPSS supports was reported across programs serving all grade levels and diverse student populations, unmet demand was highest when programs served primarily students of color, when programs served primarily students eligible for free or reduced priced lunch, and among programs serving high school students.

FUNDING SOURCES:

Providers that responded to the survey and that reported offering NPSS-aligned supports were less likely to be reliant on parent fees to fund their programs, and more likely to have 21st Century Community Learning Center grants, COVID relief funding (such as American Rescue Plan, Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER), or Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funding), AmeriCorps funding, and state government funding than providers that did not offer NPSS-aligned supports across all categories. Additional details on these key findings can be found in the [data visualization](#).



SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: LIMITATIONS



Because this survey was conducted through a convenience sample, it is possible that the sample of providers that responded to the survey are not representative of OST providers nationally. Providers who completed the survey may be more likely to have increased evidence-based student supports than the general population of providers due to connection to a national network like Afterschool Alliance or other related factors. This could lead to an overestimation of the growth of NPSS supports in OST. Given this sampling method and a lack of information on the true number of OST programs operating nationally, the number of additional adults providing NPSS supports through providers surveyed cannot be extrapolated to a national level.

However, Afterschool Alliance has one of the largest networks of OST providers nationally and has the capacity and experience to disseminate information about the survey to a diverse group of nationwide operating diverse program models. As leaders in expanding support for afterschool programming, the Afterschool Alliance connects regularly with more than 25,000 organizations and 65,000 individuals as well as the 50 State Afterschool Networks. There is currently no national record of all OST providers in the way that information on nearly all schools, universities, or similar institutions nationwide are known. Given this, Afterschool Alliance's network is likely the most inclusive pathway to reaching the largest and most diverse group of OST providers to complete a survey like this.

Additionally, because varying definitions and understandings exist for high-intensity tutoring, mentoring, student success coaching, college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching, and wrap around supports, it is possible that some providers reported providing these supports to students in ways that are inconsistent with the evidence for what makes them most beneficial for students.

Finally, because the survey was designed to be completed in approximately 15 minutes, it is possible that some answers reported by providers are estimates, such as the number of staff providing or coordinating each type of NPSS support.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS BEYOND THE SCHOOL DAY: IMPLICATIONS



The Afterschool Alliance Survey results demonstrate growth in the number of adults providing high-intensity tutoring, mentoring, student success coaching, college and career advising or postsecondary transition coaching, and wrap around services in the OST sector. The 1,116 OST providers that responded to the survey reported bringing on an additional estimated 2,200 people providing NPSS roles in 2023-24 when compared to the previous school year. Though these 1,116 providers are not a nationally representative sample, this increase among surveyed providers is promising. This is the case both for OST programs operating in school buildings as well as other community-based settings. These survey results also demonstrate promising growth in the number of students receiving these types of high-impact supports.

The survey results also indicate that while significant growth in NPSS roles took place among surveyed providers, significant demand remains for additional services. Of providers that reported providing NPSS supports, nearly one third reported that more students sought these types of supports than they had staff to effectively provide them.

Finally, government funding, including COVID-19 relief funding from federal and state sources, and 21st Century Community Learning Center funding were significant sources of support among providers who implemented NPSS-aligned supports in the fall of 2023-24. As COVID-19 relief funding comes to a close, OST providers will need additional sources of funding to maintain staffing levels and continue to increase the number of adults providing NPSS-aligned supports to children and youth beyond the school day.



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