

December 2017



# Afterschool Centers on Education

## Letter from TEA

Dear ACE Project Directors,

Greetings from the Texas ACE home office in Austin! I hope that each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! December is ramping up to be another busy month of planning and programming, so I wanted to share some reminders and opportunities with you all.

Sincerely,

Christine McCormick  
Texas 21st CCLC State Coordinator



## Project Director Meeting January 23-24

I'm excited to be almost done with wrapping up planning for our Project Director Meeting in Spring, TX on January 23-24! It is a packed agenda with new updates on state-level initiatives and resources for local programs. These meetings are one of the few opportunities we have to talk face-to-face and share ideas and experiences as a group. Please register at this link: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4030619/Texas-ACE-PD-Annual-Meeting>.

Remember to bring your sustainability documentation so we can work in small groups! And we have some plans for our site visits, too – don't miss it! If you have questions about what to bring or meeting logistics, please contact your TAC or search your e-mail for notices that have been sent out to you already.

## Federal Update

The 21st CCLC program office at the U.S. Department of Education (USED) requested that we share the following information with our grantees:

The Department will not host the Summer Institute during 2018. Instead, the USED will sponsor the following events:

### **Beyond School Hours Conference**

February 2018

<http://beyondschoolhours.org/>

Invitees: State directors, project directors, and site coordinators

Offering: Pre-conference track and targeted 21st CCLC sessions during the conference

### **National Afterschool Association**

March 2018

<https://naaweb.org/convention>

Invitees: State directors, project directors, and site coordinators

Targeted 21st CCLC sessions during the conference

Expenditures for out of state travel related to these two conferences does not require prior state office approval. However, you must adhere to local travel policies and procedures as well as federal and state travel limitations and policies for any travel. While we encourage you and your staff to participate in professional development opportunities that strengthen local programs, please take care to ensure that all travel costs are both reasonable and necessary for the successful implementation of your program.

If you have questions about whether you should attend a particular out of state event, please talk to me or your TAC.

## SBOE Long-Range Planning

Work is under way to create a new Long-Range Plan for Public Education, which is expected to establish goals for Texas public schools through the year 2030. The State Board of Education (SBOE), which under Texas law is required to adopt a plan, recently appointed the Long-Range Plan for Public Education Steering Committee. This 18-member steering committee is made up of state board members, various stakeholder group representatives and representatives from three state agencies.

If you feel strongly about the role of afterschool programs in the education system, you might want to check out the website for dates and times near you! [https://tea.texas.gov/SBOE/long-range\\_plan/](https://tea.texas.gov/SBOE/long-range_plan/)



## TEA Holiday Hours

TEA will be closed from December 22 through January 1. I know – that’s a long break for our agency! Thank you to Commissioner Morath for granting a few extra days to extend our time off with friends and family. If you need to reach me, please try reaching me before December 22. If an urgent need arises, please email me, the help desk, or your TAC. I hope to send a holiday message, but in case we miss each other, I wish each of you a peaceful and happy season.

# FREE Training Opportunities

Take advantage of these upcoming free training opportunities. Please share with your staff!

## Texas ACE Site Coordinator Shop Talk, December 13

Texas Ace Site Coordinators should join us for a special Site Coordinator Shop Talk webinar from our studio in San Antonio. Attendees receive the most up-to-date program information in a fun and interactive format. The format promotes sharing ideas, questions, problems, and solutions. You never know who might show up! Visit <https://westat.adobeconnect.com/shoptalk>.

## The Y4Y Virtual Institute

A program offered by the federal contractor for training and technical assistance. Visit <https://y4y.ed.gov/learn-overview> to learn more and register.

Upcoming offerings include:

- **“The Right Stuff” Summer Learning Series, Webinar #1: The Right Ingredients: Start With Student’s Needs.** Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017 from 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time. In this webinar, you’ll get tools and advice to help you jump-start your planning for next summer’s program! Hear firsthand from your 21st CCLC peers across the country who’ve used Y4Y’s process to plan high-quality summer programs. This is the first in a three-part Summer Learning Showcase series.
- **School-Day Partnerships: It’s More Than Alignment, it’s Continuous Education!** Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017 from 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time. What happens when your program works with school staff to create seamless learning for students? Everybody wins! To make it happen, program and school staff need to think beyond “alignment” and focus on the overall student experience. Attend this webinar to learn about the potential benefits, and get ideas and resources for revamping your work with school-day partners. Also, you’ll learn all about the January release of the Continuous Education Through 21st CCLC Activities course, which will replace the Aligning With the School Day course!

Y4Y has also sent reminders about the following opportunities for program activities:

- December 4-10: Hour of Code. This grassroots campaign to demystify coding has gone global. Find out how to participate.
- December 4-10: Computer Science Education Week. You can host a Computer Science Tech Jam (there’s a kit) or promote computer science in other ways. Inspire your students!

## Resources .....

### Storm Recovery is Still Ongoing

TEA has established the following resources to assist school systems and parents affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Note that each of the web pages are being updated with new information on a regular basis.

- Resource page for parents: <http://tea.texas.gov/HarveyParentResources/>
- Resource page for school systems: <http://tea.texas.gov/HarveyResources/>
- Harvey Help page (offers of donations/assistance): <http://tea.texas.gov/harveyhelp/>



This article came to me through my Google Alerts – yes, I do see Texas programs featured from time to time! Publishing newspaper articles is an excellent way to spread the word globally about what you are doing.

This is just one example of the amazing staff and creative curriculum available to our students in our program.

Check out what this site coordinator is doing with technology in Greenville!

[http://www.heraldbanner.com/community/new-voices-emerging-in-crockett-school-program/article\\_40c0f362-d44f-11e7-bdd2-4b7cf17e299f.html](http://www.heraldbanner.com/community/new-voices-emerging-in-crockett-school-program/article_40c0f362-d44f-11e7-bdd2-4b7cf17e299f.html)