

We all want North Dakota's young people to thrive. Effective family engagement is grounded in partnership and shared responsibility. Out-of-School Time Programs (before & after school, summer) can be a key partner in boosting student achievement, building a positive school culture, and providing young people with a stronger sense of community.

## ND QUALITY STANDARDS FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAMS

Each of the 4 Quality Domains (Health & Safety, Relationships & Interactions, Youth-Centered Program Design, Leadership & Management) include indicators to support family engagement. Those indicators are outlined below within the six types of parent involvement, a framework developed by Dr. Joyce Epstein to assist educators in developing effective family engagement. Visit [www.ndafterschoolnetwork.com/family-engagement-in-afterschool/](http://www.ndafterschoolnetwork.com/family-engagement-in-afterschool/) for more information.

### PARENTING



#### *Relationships & Interactions*

**RI13:** We share information for community resources with youth, staff, and families that may benefit them, as appropriate.

### COMMUNICATING



#### *Health & Safety*

**HS12:** We have clear, written policies on how youth, staff, parents/guardians and visitors enter and exit the program facilities. Youth, staff, parents/guardians, and visitors are aware of these policies and are following them.

**HS13:** We have procedures in place to ensure youth leave the program only with authorized adults. Our staff know what to do if an unauthorized person tries to remove a youth from the program.

#### *Relationships & Interactions*

**RI2:** We acknowledge and greet parents/guardians using positive language.

**RI0:** We have ongoing and meaningful relationships with families in our program.

**RI12:** We provide opportunities for families to communicate and provide feedback.

**RI13:** We share information for community resources with youth, staff, and families that may benefit them, as appropriate.

## COMMUNICATING, CONT.



### *Youth-Centered Program Design*

**PD12:** We regularly connect with schools, communities, and families to make sure our program offerings align with and respond to other aspects of youths' lives.

### *Leadership & Management*

**LM5:** We share information at least annually about our goals and outcomes to key stakeholders including youth, staff, families, schools, and the broader community.

**LM7:** We collect, review, and respond to feedback from youth, families, staff, and other stakeholders.

**LM8:** We have an advisory team or similar consultive body that includes perspectives from staff, parents, and youth.

**LM20:** We regularly review and update our policies and handbook. When updates are made, we communicate them to staff and families.

## VOLUNTEERING



### *Health & Safety*

**HS12:** We have a clear, written policies on how youth, staff, parents/guardians and visitors enter and exit the program facilities. Youth, staff, parents/guardians, and visitors are aware of these policies and following them.

### *Youth-Centered Program Design*

**PD6:** Our program is culturally responsive. Our activities reflect, incorporate, and value the cultures of the youth we serve.

**PD12:** We regularly connect with schools, communities, and families to make sure our program offerings align with and respond to other aspects of youths' lives.

**PD15:** We cultivate partnerships and mutually-beneficial collaborations with colleges, employers, or other professionals in our community to help youth envision themselves in a wide variety of potential career pathways.

### *Leadership & Management*

**LM13:** Our staff and volunteers have passed criminal background checks.

## LEARNING AT HOME



### *Youth-Centered Program Design*

**PD19:** We help youth connect program activities to real-world applications that are meaningful and relevant to them.



# DECISION-MAKING



## *Relationships & Interactions*

**RI12:** We provide opportunities for families to communicate and provide feedback.

## *Youth-Centered Program Design*

**PD12:** We regularly connect with schools, communities, and families to make sure our program offerings align with and respond to other aspects of youths' lives.

## *Leadership & Management*

**LM7:** We collect, review, and respond to feedback from youth, families, staff, and other stakeholders.

**LM8:** We have an advisory team or similar consultive body that includes perspectives from staff, parents, and youth.

# COLLABORATING WITH COMMUNITY



## *Relationships & Interactions*

**RI11:** We have ongoing, collaborative, and meaningful relationships with schools, community partners, and stakeholders.

**RI13:** We share information for community resources with youth, staff, and families that may benefit them, as appropriate.

## *Youth-Centered Program Design*

**PD6:** Our program is culturally responsive. Our activities reflect, incorporate, and value the cultures of the youth we serve.

**PD12:** We regularly connect with schools, communities, and families to make sure our program offerings align with and respond to other aspects of youths' lives.

**PD15:** We cultivate mutually-beneficial collaborations with colleges, employers, or other professionals in our community to help youth envision themselves in a wide variety of potential career pathways.

**PD19:** We help youth connect program activities to real-world applications that are meaningful and relevant to them.

## *Leadership & Management*

**LM5:** We seek and nurture mutually beneficial partnerships.