



## N CLCN E-MAIL BLAST

October 2007



Lights On  
Afterschool!

October 18, 2007:

## Nebraska Lights On Afterschool Day!

As discussed in our last newsletter, on October 18th schools and communities across the nation will be joining in a celebration of Lights On! Afterschool. As part of the lead up to the Summit, Governor Heineman will issue a proclamation designating October 18th as Nebraska Lights On Afterschool Day and we encourage you to schedule celebrations in communities across the state.

The national organization Afterschool Alliance has a wealth of information that you can access, and prizes that you can win, if you register your event on their web site. The following information is from the **Afterschool Alliance**:

T-Mobile USA is joining in festivities for the 8th annual **Lights On Afterschool**. To help recognize afterschool program leaders who participate in **Lights On Afterschool**, T-Mobile has extended our prize drawing to offer three of their hottest cell phones. Programs who **register** starting today, through October 5, will be entered in the drawing to receive:

- Nokia 5300 Xpress (a music phone)
- Samsung t629 (a really slim “slider” phone that also has an MP3 player)
- Motorola pink “Cherry Blossom” RAZR (A tattoo design by Ami James of Miami Ink)

We know the beginning of the year is a busy time. Holding a **Lights On Afterschool** event can be a great kick off to the year, and wonderful exposure for your program. From years of experience, we have learned that the more the community knows about your program, the more support you will enjoy. Read about the results of **Lights On Afterschool** events in our **Case Studies** section.

Click on these quick net links to help you plan your Lights On Afterschool event:

- **Event Checklist**
- **Email & Print Invitations**
- **Afterschool for All Petition**
- **Reaching Policy Makers**
- **Getting Press**
- **Using Lights On to Raise Funds**
- **Light Bulb Art**
- **Graphics & Logos**
- **Lights On Buttons & Other Items**
- **Radio Announcer Copy**



## Governor's Summit on Extended Learning Opportunities

On September 18th, Governor Heineman announced that he would be convening a Governor's Summit on Expanded Learning Opportunities in early 2008. Supported by a grant from the National Governor's Association, the Summit will focus on opportunities to support afterschool, summer and extended day programs and to integrate these initiatives with emerging early childhood education and parent involvement programs.

In his announcement Governor Heineman noted that "this summit is an opportunity to highlight some of the successful efforts already underway in Nebraska and encourage more school districts and communities to explore partnerships that would make these opportunities more widely available to young people."

The Network is very excited to be co-hosting the Summit with the Governor's Office and envisions working with a variety of stakeholders to ensure that the summit is a success. We will use future e-blasts to keep you abreast of details as they emerge.

## N CLC N to Focus on Program Sustainability

As we have discussed previously, the Network plans to make helping school-community partnerships develop program sustainability a major focus of our activities in 2007 – 08. In conjunction with a complete redesign of our website, we will develop a special section with resources devoted to providing you with information about how you can build sustainable practices into your program.

As part of the lead in to this project, we need to hear from you! We will be scheduling a series of local meetings to discuss this issue with stakeholders across the state but also want to encourage you to contact us directly with your thoughts and ideas. Please email me at [jcole@nebraskachildren.org](mailto:jcole@nebraskachildren.org) with any insight or questions that you might have.

## Upcoming Hot Topics Calls

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Thank you to all of you who participated in last month's Hot Topic call on Parental Involvement. As the Governor's Summit indicates, for many in the afterschool field this is an area of growing interest. Thank you to LaRon Henderson, of the Nebraska PIRC and Fatherhood programs, and Melani-Ludtke Taylor, the State PTA President, for their contributions to this discussion.

Because the next Hot Topics call coincides with Lights On! Afterschool activities many of you have planned, we are

canceling the call scheduled for October 18th. Our next call will be on November 15th at 11:00. We will provide subject information and call in numbers as we get closer to that date.

### **Feedback, questions or ideas? Contact:**

Again, please provide any feedback that you have on issues related to afterschool to [jcole@nebraskachildren.org](mailto:jcole@nebraskachildren.org) or (402) 477-6422.

