



Ignite Afterschool
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Dear legislators,

The Ignite Afterschool coalition seeks your support to **increase the Extended Time Formula Allowance** so it is once again aligned with the **General Education Formula**, as was originally intended. Many school districts rely on this funding to provide summer learning opportunities that prevent summer learning loss as well as afterschool classes that complement academic learning. Without action, thousands of students- particularly those who need these programs the most—will face greater educational barriers.

The **Extended Learning Time Allowance** formula has remained unchanged since **2015**, creating a **30% funding gap** between extended-time and general education revenue for 2025. With increasing student needs, rising operational costs, and no additional district funds available, many schools are being forced to **reduce or eliminate** these critical learning opportunities. To ensure **equitable access to extended learning**, we are advocating for an increase to the **Extended Time Formula Allowance** so it is once again aligned with the **General Education Formula**. For example, school districts served by an Alternative Learning Center are reimbursed about \$5.47/hour for each qualified elementary student participating in Extended Learning Time programming (up to \$1,024.40 over the school year). In order to match the current General Education Formula, that amount should be x.

The funding disparity is making it difficult for districts to recruit and retain staff, provide high quality programming, and offer necessary student transportation. With a **relatively small investment of \$15 million**, Minnesota can sustain these programs and continue delivering the **academic and social benefits** that research has shown lead to improved student outcomes.

Below, please find a list of education and community-based organizations who have joined our coalition in support of this effort. We hope you will join us. Please contact darian@igniteafterschool.org if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss this issue further.



