INTRODUCTION: POLICY UPDATES

The end of September is an perennial scramble for Congress. With the federal fiscal year ending on September 30, the race to pass a federal budget, or at least extend the current one through a continuing resolution, really starts moving when faced with the alternative of a government shutdown. While Congress works to pass a continuing resolution, the Build Back Better plan will continue to be debated by Democrats in Congress through the fall. The plan as it stands now, which will certainly change in some ways, builds on the historic education investment in the America Rescue Plan to address education infrastructure, higher education, workforce development, and career and technical education, while also providing substantial investments in child care. What could the Build Back Better Act mean for afterschool and summer learning? Check out the blog to find out.

MATERIALS: NEW TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Back to Afterschool with STEM!
On September 16 the Afterschool Alliance and partners at the California Academy of Sciences, Learn Fresh, and COSI joined together to discuss using STEM activities to reengage students this fall! In this webinar, partners will walk through STEM tools and activities for virtual and in-person out-of-school time programming. You can view all of the resources from and recording of the webinar online.

METHODS: UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

It's on! Join us for the 22nd annual Lights On Afterschool! Registration is now open—every afterschool program that registers will receive 10 free posters and be entered to
win great prizes all October long.

And we're bringing back our centerpiece virtual event for 2021: join us on October 28, 2021 at 6 p.m. for the Lights On Afterschool Youth Town Hall. Youth from programs around the country will share reflections on the past year and a half and how their afterschool programs have impacted their lives, perspectives on what youth need to thrive, and hopes for the future. A special segment will be devoted to recognizing the powerful role of afterschool program staff and mentors in shaping the lives of young people.

Computer Science Education Week 2021
Computer science Education Week (CSEDWeek) is an annual call to action to inspire k-12 students to learn computer science, advocate for equity in computer science education, and celebrate the contributions of students, teachers, and partners to the field. This year's CSEDWeek will be December 6-12, 2021.

FURTHER READING

Upcoming STEM Opportunities form Million Girls Moonshot! Looking for STEM learning opportunities for your students? Professional development for staff in STEM? Interesting and engaging webinars for the field? Look no further than this collection of opportunities from Million Girls Moonshot!