



## GEORGIA'S KIDS COUNT ALL THE TIME

- 80% of our kids' time is spent *outside* the classroom.
- In most families, **parents' and childrens' schedules don't mesh**: the gap between schedules can amount to **20 to 25 hours a week**.
- In Georgia, **over 1.1 million kids**, at least half of Georgia's school-age children, may spend time away from their parents between the hours of 3PM-6PM and for up to 10 weeks in the summer.
- What children do **during afterschool and summer hours affects their achievement and social development**. It can be a time of **loneliness, boredom and danger** for our kids – or a time of **learning, engagement, and a building block in their development into successful, productive citizens**.

### AFTERSCHOOL- A KEY TIME TO HELP FULFILL GEORGIA'S COMMITMENTS TO KIDS

Georgia is committed to:

- Decreasing its high percentage of teen births and teen drug use

*By actively engaging youth afterschool and in the summer it reduces the time they have for dangerous and risky behavior.*

- Increasing the high school graduation rate

*Youth involved in afterschool and summer learning programs reinforce and enrich classroom experiences and result in greater student success and more positive attitudes toward school which decreases the likelihood that these youth will dropout of school.*

- Improving SAT scores and helping more of our students attend college

*Afterschool and summer learning programs not only can improve academic outcomes, but give young people the extra time, attention, and preparation they need to stay on track and succeed.*

- Building our future workforce and strengthening our economy

*Innovative afterschool and summer programs prepare our kids to live, learn, and work in a global economy by engaging them in activities that may not be offered during the school day (e.g.: music, foreign languages, technology skills.) Afterschool and summer programs are an ideal venue to reinforce what is learned in school and the home and to build the skills our kids need to survive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

**Our responsibility to young people doesn't end with the school day.**

**We need to maximize the benefits of afterschool and summer hours so that all of Georgia's kids are safe, engaged, and involved in positive experiences all the time.**