



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

December 17, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Presentation on *Michigan Out-of-School Time Standards of Quality*

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) first adopted *Model Standards for Out-Of-School Time/After-School Programs in Michigan* on February 27, 2003. Subsequently in August 2008, the State Board adopted revisions to these standards that reflected current research and changes in the field. In the fall of 2012, an ad-hoc committee led by MDE was convened to review and update these standards once again. The *Michigan Out-of-School Time (MOST) Standards of Quality* are aligned to the *Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Infant and Toddler Programs* and *Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Prekindergarten* to provide a continuum of high quality programming for all Michigan children and youth.

The title, *Model Standards for Out-of-School Time/After-School Programs in Michigan*, was changed to reflect current national trends. The committee agreed that the *MOST Standards of Quality* should reflect quality programming for all school-age children and youth from kindergarten entry through high school graduation (K-12). This document has been edited to replace the term "children" to "children and youth" or "student" to reflect this change. Indicators have been added to align with the *National AfterSchool Association Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Standards* that were adopted in 2011. In addition, standards and indicators have been added and edited to support Science, Technology, Engineering and Math programming, as well as, inclusive practices. This document will assist local administrators in their efforts to implement high quality programs for students in comprehensive out-of-school time programs.

Attachment A is the revised *Michigan Out-of-School Time Standards of Quality*. This draft has been reviewed by the committee, stakeholder groups, the Michigan After-School Partnership Quality Committee, Office of Great Start staff, and interagency partners and organizations. After a period of public comment, the committee will reconvene to consider the comments. A final recommendation on adoption of the revised standards is expected for the March 2013 State Board of Education meeting.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324

2013 Revision

~~**Model Standards for
Out-of-School Time
After-School Programs
in Michigan**~~ **Michigan Out-of-School
Time Standards of Quality**

**Michigan State Board of Education
August 2008
Revisions Proposed 2013**

INTRODUCTION

“Because young people spend only 20 percent of their time in school, how and where they spend the remaining 80 percent has profound implications for their well-being and their future. Quality afterschool (out-of-school time) programs provide engaging learning activities in a safe and supportive environment. These programs can meet students’ needs for personal attention from adults, inclusion in positive peer groups, and enjoyable experiential activities that build self-esteem. Afterschool (out-of-school time) programs are also uniquely positioned to encourage a more supportive bridge between home and school.”¹ In fiscal years 2000/2001 and 2001/2002, the Office of Early Childhood Education and Family Services, formerly the Early Childhood and Parenting Programs Unit, of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), in collaboration with the Department of Human Services (DHS), formerly the Family Independence Agency, funded a Super Pilot Out-of-School Time (OST) project. The purpose of this project was to improve quality, increase sustainability, and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies utilized by OST programs to develop and enhance quality.

A committee was formed from MDE and three school districts representing geographically diverse urban, rural, and small town populations. The OST committee was charged with the task of writing model standards for quality OST programming that could be used as a framework for the design and implementation of high quality programs meeting the specific and different needs of **children children and youth** during the hours outside of the school day. This committee began its work in August 2001 and concluded it in June 2002. The committee’s extensive research and practical knowledge of a combined 95 years of experience in OST programs resulted in a draft of this document.

On June 13, 2002, the Michigan State Board of Education (SBE) adopted the recommendations of its Task Force on Integrating Communities and Schools. One of the recommendations was to develop and disseminate model standards for programs offered during out-of-school time. On February 27, 2003 the SBE adopted the first edition of the *Model Standards for Out-of-School Time Programs in Michigan*.

Subsequently, legislation was enacted to develop the Michigan After-School Partnership (MASP) to build the capacity for communities to provide high quality after-school programs. The MDE charged MASP with reviewing and updating the *Model Standards for Out-of-School Time Programs in Michigan* to reflect current research in the field and changes in Michigan Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers. “The pervasive afterschool research cited in the report [*A New Day for Learning*] is evidence of why high quality, engaging activities are invaluable to children’s success in life. These activities help students learn persistence and concentrate on tasks; develop better work habits and attendance in school; increase their physical activity; improve their grades; build self-confidence through service learning, team sports and performance; explore careers; and develop skills such as critical thinking and creativity. In addition, research indicates that afterschool programs keep children safe and help working families.”²

In the fall of 2012, an ad-hoc committee was convened to review and update these standards. The Michigan Out-of-School Time (MOST) Standards of Quality are aligned to the Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Infant and Toddler Programs and Early

¹ Miller, B. *Critical Hours: Afterschool Programs and Educational Success*. May 2003

² C.S. Mott Foundation. *A New Day for Learning*. January 2006

Childhood Standards of Quality for Prekindergarten to provide a continuum of high quality programming for all Michigan children and youth.

The title of the Model Standards for Out-of-School Time and After-School Programs in Michigan was changed to reflect current national trends. The committee agreed that the MOST Standards of Quality should reflect quality programming for all school-age children and youth from kindergarten entry through high school graduation (K-12). This document has been edited to replace the term "children" to "children and youth" or "student" to reflect this change. Indicators have been added to align with the National AfterSchool Association Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Standards that were adopted in 2011. In addition, standards and indicators have been added and edited to support Science, Technology, Engineering and Math programming, as well as, inclusive practices.

"The field is also reaching consensus on a set of core practices (standards) and has developed instruments that measure these practices... Our advice is to focus on improving program quality, refining our tactics as we go."³

~~This document~~The MOST Standards of Quality ~~is~~are designed to assist schools and other organizations in developing high quality, comprehensive ~~out-of-school-time~~OST programs for all children and youth in grades K-12 in elementary and middle schools. The standards are based on research concerning quality programs for school-age children children and youth. ~~While not targeted for programs serving high school students, many of the standards may be applicable to these programs as well.~~

A set of critical components for out-of-school time programs is presented in this document as seven distinct areas for which quality standards have been established. These components are:

- Health and Safety, ~~and~~ Nutrition;
- Human Relationships; ~~and~~
- Program Staffing;
- Indoor and Outdoor Environment;
- Program and Activities;
- Administration; and
- Single Purpose Programs

These standards define the recognized indicators of OST program quality.

DEFINITIONS

This document uses the term "out-of-school time" (OST) to fully describe before school, after school, times and days when there is no school due to teacher training, snow days, vacations and summer vacation. Comprehensive ~~out-of-school-time~~OST programs ideally include both Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) to support the school day and School-Age ~~Child~~-Care (SACC) to support working ~~parents~~families. Comprehensive programs provide safe places for students when their ~~parents~~families are not available, as well as academic support, enrichment activities, and children and youth development opportunities. ~~While s~~Some single-purpose programs may serve ~~children~~ children and youth who do not need comprehensive services. However, many of the same guidelines and safeguards should be available for ~~children~~ children and

³ Granger, R., Dunrlak, J.A., Yohalem, N., & Reisner, E. (April, 2007). *Improving after-school program quality*. New York, N.Y.: William T. Grant Foundation

| youth at any time they are served by programs outside of school hours and not accompanied by their families.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

~~This document~~ The *MOST Standards of Quality* may be used as a guide to developing and evaluating OST programs for ~~children~~ all children and youth in ~~kindergarten through eighth grade~~ grades K-12. ~~While not targeted for programs serving high school students, many of these standards may be applicable to these programs as well. These standards indicate very high quality, age-appropriate practices. These Programs may be specifically mandated by their funding sources to follow these standards. The MOST standards are voluntary for all other OST programs., except those programs specifically mandated by their funding to follow the standards. The standards indicate very high quality.~~ The MDE and SBE recommend the use of this publication, along with other research-based assessment tools for program monitoring and self-assessment [e.g., Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA), Afterschool Program Assessment System (APAS), Quality Assurance System (QAS)].

~~Model Standards for
Out-of-School Time/After School Programs in Michigan~~
Michigan Model
Out-of-School Time Standards of Quality

NOTE: The components and related standards will be relevant to all high quality OST programs; however, some single-purpose programs may not find all components applicable to their programs but should minimally apply all standards within the Health and Safety and Human Relationships in addition to the Single-Purpose Programs components.

I. Health and Safety, ~~and Nutrition~~

<u>Standard:</u>	<u>Quality Indicators:</u>
<p>A. The physical, <u>social</u> and emotional health, safety, and security of all children and youth <u>children and youth</u> are protected.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ In school buildings, health and safety standards required during the school day are continued in the OST program. ❑ Health and safety regulations follow those of <u>the</u> Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers of school-age are met. ❑ Children <u>Children and youth</u> are supervised at all times, including <u>during</u> arrival and departure. ❑ A system is in place to prevent unauthorized individuals from taking children <u>children and youth</u> from the program. ❑ <u>Staff plan for different levels of supervision according to the level of risk involved in an activity.</u> ❑ <u>Staff consider the health; physical; and environmental hazards, such as:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Playground, e.g., broken equipment or unsafe play spaces</u> ○ <u>Cooking, e.g., hot foods or ingredients that may cause allergic reactions.</u> ○ <u>Science activities, especially the use of ANY chemicals or hazardous materials.</u> ❑ Staff builds trusting relationships with <u>children and youth</u> that provide physical, <u>social</u>, and emotional security. ❑ Equipment and facilities are checked daily and maintained in a safe fashion. ❑ Programming facilitates a variety of physical and nutritional activities that meet the needs <u>and abilities</u> of all children/ <u>children and youth.</u>

<p>B. Written policies and a training system are in place for emergencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Staff members are trained in accident prevention and in plans for emergencies. Plans are written and posted prominently. Staff members are trained in emergency practices and regular reviews of emergency plans are conducted. ❑ Contingency plans for emergencies, including closings, are communicated to families of students upon enrollment. ❑ A procedure for emergency communication with families (e.g., phone trees, <u>text messages</u>, e-mail and web postings, cell phone usage) is established and communicated. ❑ A phone is available at all times. ❑ Emergency family and medical contact information is maintained in the program and available to program staff at all times.
<p>C. Staff members are all trained to handle emergencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Within three months of beginning to work in the program, each adult program staff member shall hold valid certification in CPR and basic first aid as issued by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or a comparable organization. Training is updated to remain current. ❑ There is always an individual onsite who has current first aid training, CPR, and blood borne pathogen training.
<p>D. Positive policies and procedures ensure the health of all children <u>children and youth</u> and staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ The environment is clean, and appropriate sanitation, disinfecting, and maintenance procedures are followed. ❑ Sick children <u>Children and youth</u> and adults <u>with contagious illnesses</u> do not attend the program. ❑ The spread of illness is contained by proper hand washing procedures and other appropriate hygiene practices.
<p>E. Appropriate transportation rules are followed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <u>Transportation provided to students follows regulations in the Revised School Code for transporting students to and from school.</u> ❑ <u>Children and youth with special needs are transported in a safe, comfortable and appropriate manner.</u> ❑ Field trip transportation is arranged with the knowledge and consent of parents/<u>guardians</u>, and follows transportation rules required <u>required for school field trips as required by listed in the Licensing Rules for Child day Care Centers licensing</u> for licensed programs. ❑ Public transportation is utilized in the manner approved in the Revised School Code or <u>required by in the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers.</u>
<p>F. Proper procedures for the administration and handling of medication and individual medical procedures are developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Procedures are written, implemented, <u>posted</u>, and distributed in program handbooks to staff and parents. ❑ <u>Medication administration regulations of the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers are met.</u>

<p>G.</p>	<p>The program serves foods and drinks that meet the needs of all children<u>children and youth</u>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> After-school OST programs serve a minimum of one snack if children<u>children and youth</u> attend fewer than 2½ hours. Students who attend longer programs receive <u>an nutritional components commensurate with the time spent in the program, including either an</u> additional snack or meal. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Food provided must be of nutritional quality to meet the minimum meal requirements of</u> Nutrition requirements are the same as those that apply to the MDE, Child and Adult Care Food Program. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Children and youth participate in food selection, preparation, distribution, and clean-up.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Deprivation of food is never used as a punishment. <input type="checkbox"/> The program serves healthy foods and drinks.Staff members sit and eat the daily program snack or meal with children and youth. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff discuss the health benefits of snack components with children and youth. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members do not bring in/consume personal food or beverages in front of the children and youth. <input type="checkbox"/> The amount and type of food offered is appropriate for the ages and sizes of children. <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking water is readily available at all times. <input type="checkbox"/> Children’s special nutritional needs are accommodated.
<p>H.</p>	<p><u>Programs serve foods and beverages in amounts and types that promote lifelong health and help prevent chronic disease.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>The amount and type of food offered is appropriate for the ages and sizes of children and youth.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Drinking water is readily available at all times.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Food choices accommodate dietary restrictions related to allergies, food intolerance, religion, and culture.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Students’ special nutritional needs are documented and all staff are made aware of accommodations.</u>
<p>I.</p>	<p><u>The program creates a social environment, including positive relationships, that encourages children and youth to enjoy healthy foods.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Food is not used as a reward or punishment.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Holidays and birthdays are celebrated with healthy items (if celebrated).</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Fundraisers emphasize healthy foods or rely on non-food items.</u>
<p>J.</p>	<p>Food is stored and prepared safely.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Food storage and preparation standards are maintained as required by <u>the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers Licensing Rule R400.5902.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances for heating and cooling food are maintained in a safe manner.

II. Human Relationships and Staffing

Standard:	Quality Indicators:
<p>A. Adult/Child-student rRelationships Aare authentic, consistent and positive.</p> <p>1. Establish primary relationships</p> <p>2.1. _____</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Staff treat all childrenchildren and youth respectfully, positively, and warmly. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff support children and youth in building new skills. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff encourage children and youth to exercise creativity, curiosity, and their imagination. <input type="checkbox"/> Children appear to be comfortable and happy in the program. Children and youth appear engaged, focused and interested in the program. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff give attention to children children and youth and their individual needs, <u>temperaments</u>, special interests, and abilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff provide opportunities for children and youth to engage with positive adult role models individually and in small groups. <input type="checkbox"/> Availability and longevity with the organization supports youth/staff relationships.
<p>B. Child management All relationships is engage children and youth in positive and respectful ways. handled with care and respect, focusing on prevention and using methodology, which promotes positive self-esteem. Safeguards for children included in the Revised School Code pertain to out-of-school time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members are kind, fair, and caring to all children. Staff provide a safe, respectful environment where children and youth and families may interact in positive ways. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff set appropriate, realistic limits that are consistently enforced. Clear expectations are established cooperatively with children and youth and maintained consistently. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff model and encourage communication, cooperation, and children and youth-centered approaches to reframe conflict resolution. conflict. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff promote psychological and emotional safety at all times. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff promote supportive peer interactions by encouraging collaboration, teamwork, and positive communication. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff interact with children and youth using various approaches to help children and youth learn to think for themselves, develop problem solving skills, and improve language skills. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff support children and youth with encouragement and attribute success to effort, attention, practice, and persistence. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff actively involve children and youth in decision making and leadership roles. <input type="checkbox"/> Corporal punishment is not allowed.

<p>C. <u>The program creates a positive social environment where all students feel safe.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <u>Staff teach, encourage and model positive behaviors.</u> ❑ <u>Staff greet children and youth by name upon their arrival.</u> ❑ <u>Staff acknowledge and positively support desired behaviors with children and youth.</u> ❑ <u>Staff communicate expectations of desired behaviors with children and youth and families at the beginning of the program.</u> ❑ <u>Staff utilize opportunities to help students develop positive/appropriate responses or social skills.</u>
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III. Staffing

<u>Standard:</u>	<u>Quality Indicators:</u>
<p>A. Staff to child-student ratios and group size are established to ensure that authentic, helpful, and caring relationships can be established and maintained between children<u>children and youth</u> in the program and the staff. Required minimum staff to child ratios are maintained consistently; high quality ratios are preferred.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <u>Adequate numbers of qualified staff are hired, trained, and on-site.</u> ❑ <u>Staff to student ratios are maintained consistently.</u> ❑ At least two adult staff members are present in the program at all times when children<u>children and youth</u> are present. Adult staff members are individuals who are 18 years of age or older. A high school student who is 17 and in the final year of a high school career preparation program in child care may count as an adult. ❑ Group size children does not exceed 30 children or youth. in order to maintain a high quality program. A group consists of those children<u>children and youth</u> and their program staff members who function as a unit for activities. ❑ Minimum ratios: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For children school age up to 12 years of age, there shall be one caregiver to 18 children or a fraction thereof, including children who are related to the staff and licensee. ❑ High quality ratios<u>Adult to student ratios do not exceed:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grades K to 3—one adult for ten children<u>children and youth.</u> • Grades 4 to 8<u>12</u>—one adult for 15 children<u>children and youth.</u> ❑ <u>Additional adults are present when children and youth with special needs require more supervision.</u> ❑ Mixed-age groups follow the ratio requirement for the youngest children-student in the group. ❑ Sufficient staffing is available to meet minimum ratios in all locations when groups are split between indoor and outdoor or separate activity areas.

<p><u>B.</u> Staff (program staff and administrative staff) develop open and supportive relationships focused on the goals of the program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members communicate and cooperate with each other consistently. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members support each other through shared planning, coordination, and flexibility. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members treat <u>interact with</u> each other <u>with respect and tolerance in a professional manner.</u>
<p><u>C.</u> Staff composition <u>and</u> training reflect sensitivity to diversity, and gender equity, <u>and ability.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The program policy prefers employment of staff members who reflect the languages, cultures, and genders of the children <u>children and youth</u> and families served. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff training <u>in diversity is provided, including meeting needs of children and youth with special needs.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members are sensitive to, <u>and respectful of children's and youth's</u> culture, religion, home language, and gender <u>beliefs.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff avoid teaching stereotyped expectations to children and youth, especially in areas of academic achievement and career preparation.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff promote gender equity.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members are sensitive to individual student <u>children's</u> special needs and abilities.
<p><u>D.</u> Policies and standards are developed and written related to staff qualifications for each position, including written job descriptions used in recruiting and hiring staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>A written job description is available for each position in the OST program, which includes the title and qualifications needed, job duties, and salary/benefit range.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff qualifications align with the program goals and objectives and are based on the <i>National AfterSchool Association Core Knowledge and Competencies for Afterschool and Youth Development Professional.</i></u> <input type="checkbox"/> The plan for staff selection includes checking references, <u>criminal history, central registry, and background.</u>
<p><u>E.</u> A written plan for recruitment, orientation, and retention of staff is developed and implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>The written plan for recruitment, orientation and retention of paid, volunteer, and community staff is consistent and used by administrators for implementation and decision-making.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> The plan is considered by board members and administrators in budget development. <input type="checkbox"/> New staff participate in eight or more hours of pre-service orientation activities. Pre-service orientation activities include elements of <u>children and youth</u> development.

<p>f. Each site has an adult site supervisor or director with decision-making responsibilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The site supervisor/director is at least 21 years of age; has earned a high school diploma or GED; has current certification in infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid; and completes 12 clock hours of annual training on topics referenced in the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers R 400.5102(3)(b), in addition to CPR, first aid, and blood-borne pathogen training. □ A high quality-The site supervisor/director is at least 21 years of age and has a bachelor's degree and experiential background including college-level work and/or experience in education, child development/child psychology, recreation, social work, youth development, community organization, or another field relevant to work with students during out-of-school times s <u>and/-or</u> possesses the Michigan School Age Youth Development Credential. □ The site supervisor/director is available onsite when students are onsite.
<p>g. Program staff working directly with students will meet child care licensing rules for school age programs. <u>are well trained with appropriate experience to work in the OST field with children and youth.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ As a minimum, staff adhere to the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers R400.5104. □ High quality-Staff will possess the Michigan School Age Youth Development Credential. within one year of employment in an after-school program. □ <u>Staff will have training and experience that is appropriate for the type of programming, ages, needs, and abilities of the children and youth served.</u>

<p>H. A written plan for on-going staff development is implemented and budgeted. This plan must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • child/youth typical and atypical <u>children and youth</u> development; • <u>age-appropriate</u> curriculum; • behavior management; <u>child discipline;</u> • <u>gender equity, cultural sensitivity, and inclusion;</u> • <u>health/safety;</u> • <u>mental health/social emotional learning;</u> • <u>healthy eating/nutrition;</u> • nutrition<u>physical activity</u> ; • working-partnering <u>with parents/families;</u> • child/adult CPR/first aid/emergency procedures; • child abuse and neglect prevention and reporting; • record keeping; • appropriate activities; and • Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <u>The plan for staff development is incorporated into the overall staff development plan for the school or agency, is reflected in the budget, and is based on an assessment of the needs of the program and the staff.</u> □ <u>Individual staff development plans are developed and reviewed at least annually based on the National AfterSchool Association Core Knowledge and Competencies for Afterschool and Youth Development Professional.</u> □ Staff qualifications, as well as program evaluations, are taken into consideration and are consistently implemented. □ Within three months of beginning to work in the program, each adult program staff member shall hold valid certification in CPR and basic first aid as issued by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or a comparable organization.
<p>I. A written, board-approved compensation plan is developed to retain qualified staff and maintain quality programs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <u>The written, board approved compensation plan is clearly related to the local market, staff qualifications, program quality, and staff retention.</u> □ This<u>The</u> plan is consistently implemented with short-term and long-term fiscal sustainability plans in place.
<p>J. All staff who work with children <u>children and youth</u> are physically/mentally able to perform outlined job duties and are free of criminal convictions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Staff physicals are required prior to employment, and are updated at least every three years. □ Criminal background checks <u>and central registry clearances</u> are required prior to employment as defined <u>required</u> by Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers.
<p>K. Staff evaluation is established and used for ongoing professional development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <u>Each staff member is evaluated semi-annually by the supervisor.</u> □ <u>Staff evaluations are used to guide decision-making about professional development activities connected to program goals and objectives.</u>

IV.H. Indoor and Outdoor Environment

Standard:	Quality Indicators:
<p>A. The indoor environment is established to offer a safe, comfortable, age/<u>ability</u> appropriate, stable facility with adequate space in which to carry out the program <u>and meet the needs of all students.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> There is specific space that is safe, clean, and comfortable with enough room (a minimum of 35 square feet per child) for all program activities. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>There is convenient access to running water for program activities and cleaning.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> The facility is arranged and furnished for a variety of learning and recreational activities, including space for active and quiet playactivities, homework, and spaces for groups of children <u>children and youth</u>, and privacy for individual childrenstudents. <input type="checkbox"/> There is adequate space for storage of equipment and materials, as well as personal <u>possessions.</u> possessions of children and staff. <input type="checkbox"/> Physical <u>The physical</u> environments can be modified to meet the needs of the program offerings and special needs of individuals. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>The program adheres to safety regulations and policies including those regarding the inclusion of children and youth of all cultural backgrounds and abilities.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Written guidelines are in place regarding the use and maintenance of program facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> The program is creative <u>works cooperatively with other programs</u> in meeting space constraints in shared spaces.
<p>B. The outdoor environment is established to offer a safe and age/<u>ability</u> appropriate area for daily outdoor play and sports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> There is adequate outdoor space available for large motor and sports activities daily. <input type="checkbox"/> Children <u>Children and youth</u> may choose to use a wide variety of outdoor equipment and games for active and quiet play. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Use of the</u> Public Playground Safety Handbook⁴ is recommended when applicable. <input type="checkbox"/> All outdoor equipment and spaces are suitable for the sizes and abilities of all children <u>children and youth</u> and are maintained in a safe manner.
<p>C. All materials and equipment, both indoor and outdoor, are purchased and maintained to provide learning and play experiences that are age/<u>ability</u> appropriate, individually supportive and regularly offer multiple choices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Enough materials, equipment, and resources are available and accessible by program participants and are appropriate for skill levels and the number of children and youth participating.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Enough materials and equipment are available to provide for at least three activity spaces per child. <input type="checkbox"/> There is a full range of learning and recreational equipment and materials (<u>e.g.,</u> cooking, woodworking, art, literacy, <u>fitness recreational materials, science,</u> technology, <u>scienceengineering,</u> and math, etc.).

⁴ Public Playground Safety Handbook – www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/325.pdf

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Materials and equipment are available for a variety of choices, individual and group interests, and in good repair.
D. The environment is accessible to children <u>children and youth</u> and families with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Program is barrier-free and complies with all Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations.⁵
E. The environment reflects the diversity represented in the population of the community and gender equity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Décor, materials, and resources reflect family backgrounds and interests of children <u>children and youth</u>. ❑ Materials, photographs, and equipment are representative of a variety of cultures, populations, <u>and abilities while avoiding stereotypes</u>.
F. The environment reflects various learning styles and abilities of all children <u>children and youth</u> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ There is a variety of age-appropriate materials within active and quiet spaces to accommodate all children's <u>children's and youth's</u> learning styles and abilities.

⁵ American with Disabilities Act regulations - www.ada.gov

IV. Program and Activities

<u>Standard:</u>	<u>Quality Indicators:</u>
<p>A. Activities are planned and supported through resources which reflect the interests and abilities of the children <u>children and youth</u> enrolled and provide support for the school-day activities, especially supplementing the areas of development not regularly provided during the school day.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>The program offers developmentally appropriate activities that reflect the mission and goals of the program.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>The program offers a variety of active and quiet activities that are appropriate for the age, skill level and abilities of all children and youth.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Resources are available and utilized to provide a variety of child <u>child and youth</u>-centered <u>and child and youth-led</u> activities that increase the opportunities for all children-<u>children and youth</u> to develop in all areas (social, emotional, intellectual, academic, physical, and cultural).</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>The program provides planned daily recreation, sports, or fitness activities that are at least 20 percent of daily program time.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>When weather does not permit outdoor participation, active indoor movement and games are offered.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>The program offers enrichment opportunities in core academic areas as well as in cultural arts and technology.</u>
<p>B. The comprehensive curriculum addresses the needs of the whole child, individual as well as group needs, and supports the school curriculum.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Staff members demonstrate awareness of children's-<u>students'</u> individual daily needs, <u>abilities</u>, and learning styles and plan to accommodate them in daily programming/<u>activities</u>. <input type="checkbox"/> <u>There is a clear rationale for the activities chosen.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Activities challenge participants intellectually, creatively, and/or physically and require building, learning, and applying a progression of new skills.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Formal processes or structures are in place linking the program to the school day. <input type="checkbox"/> Activities have educational, social-emotional, physical or life-skills outcomes.
<p>C. Materials are of sufficient quantity and type to support the curriculum for all ages.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A minimum of three developmentally appropriate activity choices are available for each child daily. The enriched environment includes a wide variety of multiple materials and equipment, which are available to children.</p>
<p>D.C. Program development and implementation is carried out in such a way to include significant child-<u>child and youth</u> choice and <u>child and youth</u> involvement in planning <u>and leading</u>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Staff give <u>children</u>-<u>children and youth</u> many opportunities to <u>plan, carry out and evaluate their own activities. choose what they will do, how they will do it, and with whom.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Children-<u>Children and youth</u> are included in the planning <u>and design of the program and activities offered.</u>-<u>process.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Children-<u>Children and youth</u> are encouraged to offer ideas, take the initiative, and make suggestions, <u>and lead program activities.</u>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <u>There are opportunities for children and youth to participate and develop connections with their larger community.</u> ❑ <u>Children and youth participants and staff share leadership and control of program activities.</u> ❑ <u>Children and youth are appropriately involved in decision making and the planning, management, evaluation, implementation and improvement of the program.</u>
	E.D. <u>Parents-Families</u> are appropriately involved in decision <u>making, the</u> planning, management, evaluation, implementation and improvement of the program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Multiple systems are in place for <u>parents-families</u> to be involved and to provide input regarding policies, procedures, curriculum, etc. ❑ Multiple systems are in place for maintaining communication with <u>parentsfamilies</u>. ❑ <u>Families and community members feel welcomeare invited to collaborate with staff and participate in the program.</u> ❑ —, respected, and comfortable in the program. ❑ Expectations for adult participation in the program are clearly communicated.
	F.E. School day and OST activities are linked in ways that support the academic development of each individual child <u>regardless of ability.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ OST programming includes developmentally appropriate academic support and enrichment activities that complement the school curriculum. ❑ OST staff members work with individual teachers and parents to support <u>children’s homework and academic needs of children and youth.</u> ❑ <u>OST staff members participate in school-wide activities-and/or community activities</u> and goals. ❑ <u>OST programming is based on best practices for addressing barriers to learning and promoting positive development.</u>
	G.F. Program collaborates with other <u>children and</u> youth organizations, community resource agencies and schools to meet the needs of all participating <u>children/youth.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <u>Program staff Establish mechanisms for regular communication to better-coordinate with children and youth serving agencies.</u> ❑ <u>Program staff collaborate with school counselors, coaches, teachers and community members to determine the needs and provide support for children and youth in the community. Support opportunities for youth.</u>
	H. — Staff are educated on the character education curriculum components and can demonstrate their presence in annual programming. I.G. <u>The program regularly includes components of character education as defined by the Michigan State Board of Education Policy on Quality Character Education.⁶</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Curriculum planning <u>includes regularly includes of the</u> components of character education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • service learning; • conflict resolution; • asset building; • leadership; • decision making skills for healthy choices; • peer activities—older with younger; • intergenerational activities; and • peer mediation. ❑ Character education opportunities are consistent with the Michigan State Board of Education Policy on Quality Character Education.

⁶ Michigan State Board of Education Policy on Quality Character Education – http://www.michigan.gov/documents/Character_policy_final_94134_7.pdf

<p>J.H. Computer technology experience, which helps children-children and youth become comfortable with both skills and materials, should be available at all ages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Computers and age-appropriate software (or access to) are present in the program and used regularly by all participants. ❑ Computer and technology opportunities are consistent with the State of Michigan Educational Technology Plan.⁷
<p>I. <u>Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) experiences, if provided, offer active learning extensions that align with school curriculum.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ <u>STEM experiences that offer opportunities to engage with materials and ideas are provided for all children and youth.</u> ❑ <u>Staff encourage children and youth to create plans, implement those plans and self-evaluate.</u> ❑ <u>Staff help students understand that success in STEM activities will require attention to detail, effort, and persistence.</u>
<p>K. <u>The OST daily schedule provides for regular indoor/outdoor activities.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Each child has a chance for physical activity at least 30 minutes each three-hour block of time. ❑ When weather does not permit outdoor participation, active indoor movement and games are offered.

VI. Administration

<u>Standard:</u>	<u>Quality Indicators:</u>
<p>A. Prior to developing a new program, a comprehensive needs assessment is conducted and the results are used <u>for data-driven decision making for program</u> in planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ A needs assessment is administered to prospective parents<u>participants</u>, school staff, and when appropriate, to children<u>families</u>. Program development and implementation is based on the <u>collected</u> data.
<p>B. Stakeholders, including parents, guardians, and family members, school personnel, businesses, service organizations, and others, in the school and community are identified and involved in<u>in the planning process</u> and/or informed of the program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ OST staff, school staff, students, and members of the community conduct regular meetings to coordinate programming, curriculum, and goals. ❑ Ongoing communication and linkages, including formal advisory committees, between and among OST staff, school staff, community members, youth advisory councils, and families are established and encouraged. ❑ Community goals for <u>children children and youth</u>, as identified by the a county multipurpose collaborative body, ISD<u>education entities</u>, or municipalities<u>entities</u>, are incorporated into the program. ❑ <u>Children and youth</u> and staff share responsibilities for community outreach efforts.

⁷ State of Michigan Educational Technology Plan – www.michigan.gov/documents/STP2006_5-10-06c_158945_7.pdf

<p>C. There is an established budget that adequately supports the program goals and objectives. reflects input from appropriate stakeholders, utilizing a process that is inclusive and comprehensive.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ The budget development process reflects input from appropriate stakeholders, including the program director, site staff, other administrative staff, and the district/agency budget staff. ☐ includes the program director, other school administrative staff, and the district/agency budget staff. The budget adequately supports staffing, professional development, and a variety of appropriate activities and materials related to the program goals and objectives.
<p>D. Fund development, revenue, and fiscal management systems are planned for and implemented to provide for a high quality, sustainable program supporting these standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Revenues and expenses are reported and monitored utilizing effective business office procedures. ☐ Fees are established to support quality programming. ☐ Grant funds, Department of Human Services child care subsidies, scholarships and donations are used to support program goals.
<p>E. The program has developed a policies and procedures handbook for parents-participants and staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Clear, concise, thorough handbooks are developed, updated regularly, and given to each parent-families, participants and employees (one for parents and one for staff). The policies and procedures are administered in a consistent and equitable manner and include at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enrollment policies; • adult behavior expectations; • attendance policies (including sign-in/sign-out procedures); • administration and handling of medications; • emergency contingency plans; and • participant behavior management expectations and procedures.
<p>F. A system of regular and comprehensive program evaluation is established and used for on-going program improvement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ At least twice a year, staff, children and youth, and parents-families, and community members are given the opportunity to evaluate the program and the results are used for systematic program improvements.
<p>G. Program administration training is in place for site directors/supervisors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Professional development is planned for and implemented to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • program content; • program delivery system; and • methods for working effectively with all children children and youth, parentsfamilies, and staff.
<p>H. Youth have an influence on the structure and policy of the organization.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Children and yYouth participate with in program quality reviews and developing plans for improvement. ☐ Children and youth and staff share responsibility on program governing bodies (e.g., boards, advisory panels, standing committees, task forces).

VII. Single-Purpose Programs

Note: Single purpose programs may not find all standards applicable to their programs but are encouraged to review this document in its entirety. Many standards will be relevant to all high quality OST activities. The following standards should be followed by programs that are not designed to be comprehensive.

<u>Standard:</u>	<u>Quality Indicators:</u>
<p>A. Programs that are established to provide one type of activity for a limited time period meet minimum requirements to ensure students' health and safety.</p>	<p>☐ Standards I.A, I.J, and II.A, and II.BC, are met. These standards are reiterated below.</p>
<p>i. The physical, social and emotional health, safety, and security of all children and youth are protected.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ In school buildings, safety and health standards required during the school day are continued in the OST program. ☐ Health and safety regulations follow those of the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers of school age, are met. ☐ Children Youth are supervised at all times, including during arrival and departure. ☐ A system is in place to prevent unauthorized individuals from taking children from the program. ☐ Staff plan for different levels of supervision according to the level of risk involved in an activity. ☐ Staff consider the health, physical, and environmental hazards. Such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Playground, i.e., broken equipment or unsafe play spaces ○ Cooking, i.e., hot foods or ingredients that may cause allergic reactions ○ Science activities, especially the use of ANY chemicals or hazardous materials ☐ Staff build trusting relationships with youth that provide physical, social, and emotional security. ☐ Equipment and facilities are checked daily and maintained in a safe fashion. ☐ Programming facilitates a variety of physical and nutritional activities that meet the needs and abilities of all children/youth.

VII. Single Purpose Programs

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<u>Standard:</u>	<u>Quality Indicators:</u>
<p>ii. Written policies and a training system are in place for emergencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Staff members are trained in accident prevention and in plans for emergencies. Plans are written and posted prominently. Staff members are trained in emergency practices and regular reviews of emergency plans are conducted. ☐ Contingency plans for emergencies, including closings, are communicated to families of students upon enrollment. ☐ A procedure for emergency communication with families (e.g., phone trees, text messages, e-mail and web postings, cell phone usage) is established and communicated. ☐ A phone is available at all times. ☐ Emergency family and medical contact information is maintained in the program and available to program staff at all times.
<p>iii. Staff members are all trained to handle emergencies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Within three months of beginning to work in the program, each adult program staff member shall hold valid certification in CPR and basic first aid as issued by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or a comparable organization. Training is updated to remain current. ☐ There is always an individual onsite who has current first aid training, CPR, and blood borne pathogen training.
<p>iv. Positive policies and procedures ensure the health of all children youth and staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Staff members communicate and cooperate with each other consistently. ☐ Staff members support each other through shared planning, coordination, and flexibility. ☐ Staff members treat each other with respect and tolerance. ☐ The environment is clean and appropriate sanitation, disinfecting, and maintenance procedures are followed. ☐ Youth and adults with contagious illnesses do not attend the programs or are isolated. ☐ The spread of illness is contained by proper hand washing procedures and appropriated hygiene practices.

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<u>Standard:</u>	<u>Quality Indicators:</u>
<p>v. Appropriate transportation rules are followed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation provided to students follows regulations in the Revised School Code for transporting students to and from school. <input type="checkbox"/> Students with special needs are transported in a safe, comfortable and appropriate manner. <input type="checkbox"/> Field trip transportation is arranged with the knowledge and consent of parents/guardians, and follows transportation rules required for school field trips or as required listed in by the Licensing Rules for Child day Care Centers licensing for licensed programs. <input type="checkbox"/> Public Transportation is utilized in the manner approved in the Revised School Code or required by in the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers.
<p>vi. Proper procedures for the administration and handling of medication and individual medical procedures are developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Procedures are written, implemented, posted, and distributed in program handbooks to staff and parents. <input type="checkbox"/> Medication administration regulations of the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers are met.

<p>vii. The program serves foods and drinks that meet the needs of all children youth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ After school programs serve a minimum of one snack if children youth attend fewer than 2 ½ hours. Students who attend longer programs receive nutritional components commensurate with the time spent in the program, including either an additional snack or meal. ☐ Food provided must be of nutritional quality to meet the minimum meal requirements of Nutrition requirements are the same as those that apply to the MDE, Child and Adult Care Food Program. ☐ Youth participate in food selection, preparation, distribution, and clean up. ☐ Deprivation of food is never used as a punishment. ☐ Staff members sit and eat the daily program snack or meal with the students. ☐ Staff members discuss the health benefits of snake components with youth. Staff members do not bring in/consume personal food or beverages in front of the youth. ☐ The program serves healthy foods and drinks. ☐ The amount and type of food offered is appropriate for the ages and sizes of children. ☐ Drinking water is readily available at all times. ☐ Children’s special nutritional needs are accommodated.
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VII. Single Purpose Programs

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Standard:	Quality Indicators:
<p>viii. <u>Programs serve foods and beverages in amounts and types that promote lifelong health and help prevent chronic disease.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ The amount and type of food offered is appropriate for the ages and sizes of youth. ☐ Drinking water is readily available at all times. ☐ Food choices accommodate dietary restrictions related to allergies, food intolerance, religion, and culture. ☐ Student’s special nutritional needs are documented and all staff are made aware of accommodations.

<p>ix. Adult/Child Relationships 1. Are authentic, consistent and positive 2. Establish primary relationships The program creates a social environment, including positive relationships, that encourages youth to enjoy healthy foods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Staff treat all children respectfully, positively, and warmly. ☐ Children appear to be comfortable and happy in the program. ☐ Staff give attention to children and their individual needs, special interests, and abilities. ☐ Availability and longevity with the organization supports youth/staff relationships. ☐ Food is not used as a reward or punishment. ☐ Holidays and birthdays are celebrated with healthy items (if celebrated). ☐ Fundraisers emphasize healthful foods or rely on non-food items.
<p>x. Child management is handled with care and respect, focusing on prevention and using methodology, which promotes positive self-esteem. Safeguards for children included in the Revised School Code pertain to out-of-school time. Food is stored and prepared safely.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Staff members are kind, fair, and caring to all children. ☐ Staff set appropriate, realistic limits that are consistently enforced. ☐ Staff model and encourage communication, cooperation, and conflict resolution. ☐ Corporal punishment is not allowed. ☐ Food storage and preparation standards are maintained as required by the Licensing Rules for Child Care Centers. ☐ Appliances for heating and cooling food are maintained in a safe manner.

~~VII. Single Purpose Programs~~

~~**Note:** Single purpose programs may not find all standards applicable to their programs but are encouraged to review this document in its entirety. Many standards will be relevant to all high quality OST activities. The following standards should be followed by programs that are not designed to be comprehensive.~~

~~**Standard:**~~

~~**Quality Indicators:**~~

<p>xi. <u>Adult student relationships are authentic, consistent and positive.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff treat all children youth respectfully, positively, and warmly.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff support youth in building new skills, curiosity, and their imagination.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Children appear to be comfortable and happy in the program. Youth appear engaged, focused and interested in the program.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff give attention to children youth and their individual needs, temperaments, special interests, and abilities.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff provide opportunities for youth to engage with positive adult role models individually and in small groups.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Availability and longevity with the organization supports youth/staff relationships.</u>
<p>xii. <u>Child management All relationships is engage youth in positive and respectful ways, handled with care and respect, focusing on prevention and using methodology, which promotes positive self-esteem. Safeguards for children included in the Revised School Code pertain to out-of-school time.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff members are kind, fair, and caring to all children. Staff provides a safe, respectful environment where youth and families may interact in positive ways.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff set appropriate realistic limits that are consistently enforced. Clear expectations are established cooperatively with youth and maintained consistently.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff model and encourage communication, cooperation, and youth-centered approaches to reframe conflict resolution conflict.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff promote psychological and emotional safety at all times.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff promote supportive peer interactions by encouraging collaboration, teamwork, and positive communication.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff interact with youth using various approaches to help youth learn to think for themselves, develop problem solving skills, and improve language skills.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff support youth with encouragement and attribute success to effort, attention, practice, and persistence.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff actively involve youth in decision making and leadership roles.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Corporal punishment is not allowed.</u>
<p>xiii. <u>The program creates a positive social environment, where all students feel safe</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff teach, encourage and model positive behaviors.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff greet children by name upon their arrival.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff acknowledge and positively support desired behaviors with children.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff communicate expectations of desired behaviors with children and families at the beginning of the program.</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Staff utilize opportunities to help students develop positive/appropriate responses or social skills.</u>

<p>A. Programs are appropriate for the students enrolled.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Activities are age and <u>ability</u> appropriate. ❑ Activities meet the learning styles and interests of the enrolled students. ❑ <u>Accommodations are provided for students with special needs.</u>
<p>B. Appropriate staff members are present at all times.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ At least <u>two adults are</u> present at all times. ❑ Staff members have specialty expertise relevant to the content/skill of the program being offered. ❑ <u>Staff members have knowledge of children and youth development and age/ability appropriate expectations.</u>

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GLOSSARY

Activity

A planned interaction led by staff.

Cognitive/Cognition

Both the knowledge possessed and the children's and youth's ability to think, reason, learn, and understand. Younger school-age ~~children-children and youth~~ usually think in concrete ways. Older school-age ~~children children and youth~~ (adolescents) begin to use more complex ways of thinking.

Curriculum

The program content and how it is delivered.

Out-of-School Time (OST)

Before school, after-school, times and days when there is no school due to teacher training, snow days, vacations, summer vacation, etc., which ideally includes both extended learning opportunities to support the school day and school-age child care.

Program

Refers to the organization and all of the activities, as a whole, for ~~children-and-children and~~ youth during their out-of-school time.

School Age ~~Child~~ Care

Eligible to be enrolled in kindergarten, as defined by The Revised School Code, but less than 13 years of age.

Single Purpose Program

A program that is primarily supervised, school-age-child-focused training in a specific subject, including, but not limited to, dancing, drama, music, or religion. This exclusion applies only to the time a child is involved in supervised, school-age-child-focused training. A program that is primarily an incident of group athletic or social activities for school-age ~~children children and youth~~ sponsored by or under the supervision of an organized club or hobby group, including, but not limited to, youth clubs, scouting, and school-age recreational or supplementary education programs. This exclusion applies only to the time the school-age child is engaged in the group athletic or social activities and if the school-age child can come and go at will.

~~**Training, Other**~~

~~Training provided through workshops, seminars, conferences, college/university courses, on-line course work and training, and webinars.~~

Youth /Students

Children and adolescents who are school-age ~~in kindergarten through twelfth grade, through teen age,~~

Youth Development

The support of the natural unfolding of the potential inherent in ~~children-and-children and~~ youth in relation to the

challenges of their physical and social environment. Positive child and Youth development encourages individuals to actively shape their own development through their choices and perceptions.