

The Madison Out of School Time (MOST) Initiative

Concept Paper – Coalition approved 1/31/2014

Purpose

The purpose of the Madison Out-of-School Time (MOST) initiative is to ensure all of Madison's children and youth have access to the kinds of comprehensive, high quality, out-of-school time programs that support positive youth development, educational achievement and/or career and community readiness.

In order to accomplish this, the MOST initiative will engage parents and youth, OST program providers, the City of Madison, the Madison Metropolitan School District, Dane County, and community stakeholders to develop a city-wide system that supports collaboration and coordination across out-of-school time (OST) programs for children and youth.

Components

The MOST Project has identified three potential components of a citywide OST system, they are:

Collective Vision & Goals shared across OST program providers, schools, local government, youth and families, and funding organizations. This will:

- Facilitate coordination and collaboration
- Support diverse, high quality children and youth OST programming.

Information Collection & Sharing – Develop information management systems for sharing data in order to:

- Give youth and families better access to existing programs and resources for families, youth and communities.
- Identify where children and youth lack access to programs
- Provide real-time data for better decision making.

Program Quality Improvement – Support program improvement that leads to positive outcomes for youth, families and communities. We will:

- Collectively define quality OST programs
- Enhance the capacity of OST programs to improve outcomes for youth
- Provide coaching/mentoring to OST program providers

Structure

The **MOST Coalition** consists of a broad array of stakeholders invested in children & youth success and working to create and sustain a city-wide OST system.

The **MOST Action Team** is a subgroup of the MOST Coalition which engages and facilitates stakeholders to act on behalf of the MOST Project.

The **Administration Team** is composed of leaders from the City of Madison and Madison Metropolitan School District the partnering entities that are currently funding the MOST coordinator position.

The **City of Madison Education Committee** supports the efforts of MOST as the formal link to elected bodies and local government for policy and resource recommendations.