

# Program Quality News

From the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Program Quality News connects education and human service leaders with research, case studies, tools and training to improve the quality of youth programs.

## Feature

### After-School Special: Teeing Up Summer Care

It's that time of year again. School is out and with kids in need of care during the day, the conversation has turned to choosing high-quality summer care programs. What questions should parents ask when choosing a high-quality program for their kids?



This article comes as an installment in the blog's nine-month series that explores how voluntary standards developed in Washington are impacting the quality of afterschool programs that serve about 134,000 youth.

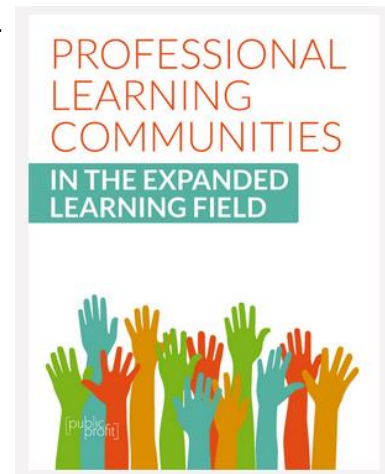
[Read more!](#)

## Reports and Guides

### A Look Inside Professional Learning Communities

When expanded learning staff are well-supported, programs thrive. Too often, however, we rely on short-term fixes, like brief workshops, to help these professionals hone their craft. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) can improve staff members' practice by engaging adults in meaningful conversations about their work and encouraging them to practice new skills.

[This guide](#), from Public Profit, summarizes more than a decade of research about PLCs and presents lessons from several PLCs for expanded learning opportunities.



## Opportunities

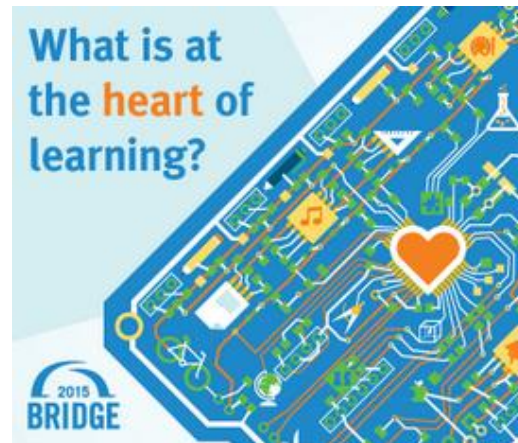
### Bridge Conference

**What is at the Heart of Learning?** What is at the heart of learning? Rather than focusing on getting the "right answer," educators should develop good questions, support children and youth in the process of learning and inspire curiosity.

This year's Bridge Conference will provide informal and formal educators with the vision and tools they need to facilitate inquiry for children and youth. Sessions will explore current research on learning, the role of educators to instigate learning, global perspectives on the importance of building curiosity and how inquiry-based learning supports a more equitable education.

When & Where: Oct. 19-20 at the University of Washington

[Register here!](#)



## Calendar of Events

### Weikart Center YPQI Roadmap Webinar Series 2015-2016



Mark your calendars! Share your experiences with other network leaders guiding Youth Program Quality Intervention work. These webinars will be an opportunity to share best practices and build a learning community.

The full list of webinars with descriptions, and links to register, is available [here](#).

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The Forum for Youth Investment is the proud parent company of The Ready by 21 National Partnership, the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, the Children's Cabinet Network and SparkAction.org.

