Pennsylvania School-Age Child Care Alliance-PENN SACCA
The Pennsylvania Affiliate of NAA (National AfterSchool Association)

Conference Highlights!

18TH ANNUAL PENN SACCA CONFERENCE
“Social/Emotional Learning: It’s All About the Connections”
Held on November 13 AND 14, 2015
Holiday Inn Harrisburg, Grantville PA

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Co-Chairs Corner

Greetings!

It is just a few weeks after our conference and we are happy to share some exciting news with you!

Our 18th annual PENN SACCA Conference “Social/Emotional Learning: It’s All About the Connections” on November 13 and 14, 2015 in Grantville PA was a great success. Although we were in the midst of a budget impasse, we were able to once again offer a great conference. We had stimulating workshops, delicious food, multiple vendors, lots of fun, and plenty of time to network and make connections!

Thank you for your support!!!

Without you we would not be able to offer this conference. We are already in the planning phase for the 2016 conference. If you have ideas for the conference or if you have presenters you would like to see next year, please let us know. We will try our best to make it happen!

A big THANK YOU to the Regional Keys, our vendors, and our sponsors for sponsoring workshops, and giving us items for the raffle!

A special thanks goes to Liz Joye, our main presenter at the conference. Liz offered several workshops on social/emotional Learning and was our featured speaker at the reception.
Also, a big THANK YOU goes to Michelle Figlar, Deputy Secretary of the Office of Child Development and Early Learning. Michelle addressed School-Age Professionals at the conference. She emphasized the importance of school-age care in Pennsylvania and that you as professionals are recognized, valued, respected and appreciated.

Another big THANK YOU goes to Laura Saccente, Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network (PSAYDN) Director. We are working with Laura and PSAYDN to support you in your work.

Our final THANKS goes to our Board of Directors, who work behind the scenes to make this conference a success.

Thank you Shasta Wagner and the PD Committee for planning this conference and making it all happen. We truly appreciate your expertise and the long hours of work you put into making this conference a success.
Thank you to **Connie Morak**. Connie joined PENN SACCA in 1994 and has served on the PENN SACCA Board of Directors since 1994 on the following committees: Communication, Governance, Conference, and Executive. Connie has been the Treasurer and will step down from this position in 2016 to spend more time with her family. Connie’s contribution to PENN SACCA and the school-age profession is invaluable. Connie has been influential in helping PENN SACCA continue to champion and guide the school-age professional. We know she will continue to champion for the profession from the sidelines.

We had a lot to celebrate this year: School-Age Professional Credentials, Director Credentials, Keystone STARS, Accredited Programs, ASQ (After School Quality), STEM Pilot participants, Afterschool Ambassadors, and Afterschool Champions, but special congratulations go to **Katie Runkle** and **Charlene Carey**. Both are featured on the front page of Afterschool Today (NAA's Magazine) as two of Afterschool’s Next Generation of Emerging Leaders. Katie was able to attend the PENN SACCA conference and we are hoping that she will also be able to attend the NAA Conference in March in Florida.
STEM Digital Badging – We are currently working with NAA and the PA Key to extend last year’s pilot and bring additional high quality professional development around STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) to our members. We are proud to be on the forefront of Digital Badging in Pennsylvania.

And here is some really great news!!! The Board of Directors has approved a paid position for PENN SACCA. The job description for a Communications and Development Coordinator and application is now available on our website, PENN SACCA. This position will entail collaboration with the PENN SACCA Board of Directors in growing memberships, general communications, and marketing efforts. Please see the job description for more details. Please consider submitting your resume and an application.

As always around this time of the year, we are soliciting nominations for new board members. If you are interested in serving on the PENN SACCA Board of Directors or if you know somebody who is interested in serving on the board, please contact Lauren Haag at lbhaag@comcast.net. We will begin seeking nominations for our board in mid-January and introduce the new Board Members at our March Meeting.

We are grateful for the hard work you do for children every day!

Wendy Roush and Claudia Hunold, Co-Chairs
More Conference Highlights

Our Vendors who shared quality OST resources.
One of our many workshops…
*Engineer Your Social Emotional Learning*—Presenters Lisa Callender & Lorraine McKinnin

A special visitor to our conference…
Michelle Figlar’s daughter, Tilly, enjoyed her time at the PENN SACCA Conference, eating lunch with PENN SACCA Board Member, Jan Sapotichne and making a square for PENN SACCA’s quilt. PENN SACCA uses the quilt to chronicle the school-age programs that are committed to providing the highest quality care for youth.
Many thanks to those who donated baskets for our annual raffle! Below are some of the happy winners:
Women Making a Difference 2015

Congratulations to Shasta Wagner for being chosen for this award!

The 18th Annual PENN SACCA Conference was a success in large part from the efforts of Shasta Wagner, a PENN SACCA board member and conference Chair. We are not the only ones who recognize her diligence and dedication to her profession. Please join us in congratulating Shasta on receiving this well-deserved award!

History of Award

In a 1971, Gloria Steinem wrote, “I have met brave women who are exploring the outer edge of human possibility, with no history to guide them, and with a courage to make themselves vulnerable that I find moving beyond words.”

The 37 women in this edition of the Pennsylvania Business Central are among the courageous people who have been building that history that seemed absent to Steinem 34 years ago. They came from throughout our 24-county readership area and represent a wide array of industries and communities. It is our honor to celebrate the achievements of these exceptional women leaders and it is our hope that their collected stories will guide others moving forward.

Bio of Shasta Wagner, Cambria County Child Development Corporation

Shasta Wagner, M.Ed., is the education director of the non-profit organization Cambria County Child Development Corporation.

Wagner has worked at CCCDC for 14 years. She has been an early childhood and school-age education teacher, site director and curriculum liaison prior to becoming the education director of all CCCDC education programs. Wagner earned a master’s degree from Lock Haven University in teaching and learning and holds degrees and certifications in elementary education and human services/early childhood education.

Through her commitment to the education and care of children, she serves on various boards such as: Pennsylvania School Age Child Care Alliance, Keystone STARS Regional Leadership Council and the Occupational Advisory Committees for vocational education at Greater Johnstown High School and Admiral Peary Vo-Tech. She also is a Pennsylvania Quality Assurance System certified instructor and technical assistance consultant for early childhood and school-age professionals in Pennsylvania.

In her personal time, Wagner devotes her time mentoring through Big Brothers/Big Sisters and is the treasurer of the Westover Area Volunteer Fire Company. You may also find her gardening or playing with her dog in her backyard.
Upcoming Events

Survey for OST Professionals (Deadline: December 18, 2015)
Please take a few minutes to help PENN SACCA convey issues that impact your program to Pennsylvania administrators. Upon completion, you may enter your name for a drawing of a $50 gift certificate to Amazon! [Survey Link]

2016 PSAYDN Ambassador (Deadline: January 8, 2016)
Become a Strong and Effective Voice for Out-of-School-Time Programs
Apply now to be one of the 15 individuals to participate in the 2016 PSAYDN Ambassador Program. Build relationships with your federal and/or state house or senate members, and learn policymaker engagement strategies that will allow you to directly communicate with your elected officials on the importance of afterschool, out-of-school time, and summer learning programs. As a PSAYDN Ambassador you will also learn how to use social media to inform your community about the benefits of these programs. [More Information and Application]

Kids of Steel Marathon!
Lindsey Miller, Providence Family Support Center, Pittsburgh, PA, South West Regional Key

On April 30, 2016, 40 youth from Providence Family Support Center will be racing in the Kids of Steel Marathon held at PNC Park in the heart of downtown Pittsburgh. Through the Kids of Steel program, youth are challenged to get healthy by trying new fruits and vegetables every week and by running a marathon-over 18 weeks. Providence Family Support center strives to strengthen families and to enrich the lives of youth and families located in the North side of Pittsburgh. This year the Providence After School Program is working in collaboration with Fit-United and with the Kids of Steel Program to offer free race registrations, transportation, weekly nutrition courses, and a weekly training session to all youth enrolled.

The goal of the Kids of Steel program is to instill healthy lifestyle habits in every child. Upon signing up for the Kids of Steel Training Program, each organization will receive a full training manual on how to execute the program, monthly newsletters, helpful nutrition and exercise trends, etc. Youth must practice physical fitness and document the time spent for each child. On race day each child will receive a Kids of Steel running shirt, race number, and a goody bag filled with healthy snacks, coupons, and tickets to sporting events in the Pittsburgh area.

Providence Family Support Center’s After School Program participated in this event in 2014, where 15 youth ran and completed their last mile on race day. Over 30 family members and friends supported youth on this day at the finish line! Parents and family members are encouraged to run or walk with their children, but only one parent will wear a race number. Below are some photos from the finish.
Overall, this program is highly recommended to get youth educated on health, nutrition, and embracing an active lifestyle at a young age. If you are interested in learning more about signing up your school or organization for next year email at kidsofsteel@p3r.org or visit the program on the web at http://www.thepittsburghmarathon.com/KidsOfSteel
**Professional Development Opportunities**

**Hour of Code**
- Dates to Organize: December 7-13, 2015
- Cost: $0
- For more information go to: [https://hourofcode.com/us](https://hourofcode.com/us)

The Hour of Code (www.hourofcode.com) is a global movement reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries. Anyone anywhere can organize an Hour of Code event. One-hour tutorials are available in over 40 languages. No experience needed. Ages 4 to 104. On the website you will find how to teach one hour of code in after-school.

**What is Coding and Why Should School-Age Professionals care?** by Claudia Hunold

Coding is a hot topic right now. Constantly, we hear of new initiatives to get kids coding and in fact coding has just been added to the national curriculum. But what exactly is ‘coding’ and how does coding work? The short answer is that writing code tells the computer what to do. Our world runs on code. Every time we switch on a PC, a mobile phone, a calculator, even a microwave, code is being run. Code is the list of instructions given to any computer in order for it to perform the desired actions.

Without programmers, computers would be incapable of even the most basic tasks. Without somebody writing that code, the computer would simply sit there doing nothing. Computers are dumb, but they’re excellent at following instructions.

We live in a world that is becoming more reliant on technology every single day. Your bank transactions exist on specialized servers designed to reliably communicate with other computers. Businesses rely on email to quickly and cheaply communicate. Smart phones provide the ability to contact others, check the weather, etc. Just take a moment to think about how many conveniences owning a computer or a smart phone offers you today; can you imagine life without them now?

We need coders to keep on telling computers how to perform these ever more complex and useful tasks for us, and as our reliance on computers grows, our understanding of how they work must grow too.
Professional Development Opportunities (cont.)

Pennsylvania School-Age Professional Credential
The Pennsylvania Key administers the Pennsylvania School-Age Professional Credential (SAPC) through the five Regional Keys. It was developed to promote quality services for children and families by providing specific standards, professional development and evaluation of school-age practitioners. Individuals interested in acquiring the SAPC must meet specific eligibility requirements, complete 120 hours of coursework addressing the thirteen (13) Functional Areas and complete a collection of information including a Portfolio, Resource File, Observations and Family Questionnaires. The final step in the process is an on-site assessment review with a SAPC Assessor. This credential is recognized in the Keystone STARS Continuous Quality Improvement System as meeting Level III on the Pennsylvania Early Learning Keys to Quality Career Lattice. For more information go to: PA School-Age Professional Credential

Rising STARS Tuition Assistance Program
The RISING STARS TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM pays 95% of tuition costs for eligible college coursework taken by early learning and school-age professionals, with a maximum benefit of $4,500 per individual each fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). The program covers tuition costs only, and does not include books, materials, or fees. Tuition costs net of other funding sources such as scholarships, stipends, discounts or grants (except Pell Grants) are used to determine the amount of assistance.

➢ For more information go to: Rising STARS
Upcoming Grants for Out-of-School Time

Captain Planet Foundation
The Foundation supports high-quality, hands-on environmental stewardship projects that have enabled more than 1.1M youth across the U.S. and around the world make significant environmental improvements to their schools or communities.

- **Funding Focus:** provide hands-on environmental stewardship opportunities for youth; serve as a catalyst to getting environment-based education in schools; and inspire youth and communities to participate in community service through environmental stewardship activities.
- **Amount:** Between $500 – $2,500
- **Deadline:** September 30th- typically for spring and summer projects; January 31st- typically for fall and winter projects
- **For more information:** [http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/](http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/)

Hive Catalytic Funding
The Sprout Fund, in support of the Pittsburgh Kids+Creativity Network, provides catalytic funding to support innovative solutions and imaginative approaches to learning that are open and accessible to all children, youth and teens.

- **Funding Focus:** small-scale and first-time projects that create more relevant and impactful connected learning opportunities in Pittsburgh, Southwestern Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio.
- **Amount:** Up to $15,000
- **Deadline:** First Friday of every even-numbered month (February, April, June, August, October, and December)
- **For more information:** [Hive Catalytic Funding](http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/)

YFU Intercultural Exchange Program Scholarships
YFU is the intercultural exchange program for U.S. high school students or recent graduates that want to experience another part of the world. YFU offers scholarships to various students.

- **Funding Focus:** Young adults who are specifically looking for learning opportunities abroad and are ready to make a difference in today’s world!
- **Amount:** Varies from partial to full scholarship
- **Deadline:** Varies by country
- **For more information:** [Intercultural Exchange Program](http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/)

YSA Grant Programs
Youth Service America supports and motivates youth, educators, and service-learning coordinators by distributing over 400 micro grants each year for service and service-learning initiatives. While most of the grants support projects that culminate on Global Youth Service Day in April, funding is also available for projects in the fall. Sign up to receive grant and awards announcements.

- **Funding Focus:** Youth as problem solvers to address the most important challenges facing our world.
- **Amount:** Varies/project
- **Deadline:** Varies
- **For more information:** [YSA Youth Changing the World](http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/)
Websites

This listing of various websites is provided as a courtesy to our members and is for general informational purposes only.

PENN SACCA has no management over the nature, content, and availability of the websites and resources listed and inclusion does not imply a recommendation or endorsement of the views expressed within them.

OST Activities
- 4-H Afterschool
- Exploratorium
- Getting Started With My Plate
- ECELS-Healthy Child Care Pennsylvania
- Action for Healthy Kids
- PBS Learning Media
- National Center for Quality Afterschool - Afterschool Training Tool Kit

Service Learning and Volunteering
- EPA Service Learning
- Generation On Clubs
- Generation On Kids
- Service-Learn
- National Youth Leadership Council
- What Kids Can Do

Pennsylvania
- DHS - PA Department of Human Services-Child Care
- PA Keys & Keystone STARS
- Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children
- PSAYDN - Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool/Youth Development Network
- Pennsylvania 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Professional Development Dimensions
- PACCA - Pennsylvania Child Care Association
- Pennsylvania School-Age Professional Credential
- OCDEL - Office of Child Development and Early Learning
- CCIS - Child Care Information Services
- Center for Schools and Communities
- Better Kid Care

National
- NAA - National AfterSchool Association
- Find Youth Info
- Afterschool Alliance
- Every Child Matters
- NIOST-National Institute on Out-of-School
About PENN SACCA

What’s New?

PENN SACCA is now on Pinterest! Follow us at: PENN SACCA
Please send Pins for our board to vaclark@comcast.net

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

We ask you to support PENN SACCA (Pennsylvania School-Age Child Care Alliance) and choose our organization as your favorite charitable organization.

If you have any questions, please email Valerie Clark at vaclark@comcast.net

Volunteering Opportunities
Are you interested in sharing your skills and expertise with the OST profession? Do you want to help guide, champion, and represent out-of-school-time professionals?

PENN SACCA is looking for dedicated members with skills and expertise they would like to share on the following committees: Advocacy, Communications, Finance, Governance, Membership, and Professional Development.

This is the perfect opportunity to become an active PENN SACCA member.

PENN SACCA recently updated the list of volunteer opportunities and there are lots of ways you can help.

➢ For more information: Volunteers – left-hand column on Home page

Share Your OST story through PENN SACCA Reports
Our next newsletter will feature Advocacy. If you have an advocacy story you would like to share, or know of any advocacy opportunities please send the information to vaclark@comcast.net

As an added bonus, if you write an article for PENN SACCA Reports, it will count as a professional development activity for Keystone STARS!

The Communications committee recently developed guidelines for assisting you in sharing your OST experiences with PA OST professionals through PENN SACCA Reports.
Guidelines for Submitting Articles for publication in PENN SACCA Reports

PENN SACCA Reports is published four times a year. We accept article submissions on the following timeline:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month of Publication</th>
<th>Submission Due Date</th>
<th>Theme</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>February 1, 2016</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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Article submissions should **not exceed 425 words**.

Submissions should be sent electronically as a Microsoft Word attachment to PENN SACCA Reports Editor- Valerie Clark at: vaclark@comcast.net

PENN SACCA Reports editor reserves the right to edit, or shorten text as necessary. Submission of an article does not guarantee it will be published in the newsletter.

Sections to Include in Your Article:
- Title (catchy, self-explanatory, different, yet easy to comprehend)
- Introduction of Topic (It should explain the topic at hand without revealing everything that's going to follow, and egg the reader to move ahead)
- Body of Information (put in all the details and explanations, along with your examples or illustrations)
- Summary or Conclusion (a brief recap of the entire article, which signifies the end of the write-up-do not include new ideas or thoughts)
- Name of Writer, Program Name & Address

Sources of Article Content
- The author must secure any necessary permission for copyrighted material for print and electronic reproduction.

Guidelines for Writing Articles:
- Keep it simple (i.e., short, informative paragraphs)
- If you wish, include images that are relevant to the subject matter, and are clear and easy to make out.
- Use bold and italics to help make your point. If you feel strongly enough about something… underline it as well!
- Use subheadings if it helps to clarify the content.
- Avoid useless content.
- Use numbered or bulleted lists if appropriate.
- Leave white space so reader is not overwhelmed with amount of content.
PENN SACCA Membership
There are lots of good reasons to join PENN SACCA!!

PENN SACCA’s membership structure:
- Rolling Membership — you will be a member for one year from the date you join
- 4 or More Comprehensive Memberships — $5 discount for all comprehensive memberships from one organization
- Each member must have an individual email
- PayPal Charge of $5 — eliminated
- All members (Comprehensive or Regular) will received an NAA Ambassador membership.
- When enrolling online, an organization will be able to enter multiple memberships of one category (comprehensive or regular) while only having to enter their organization, program type, address, county, regional key, and phone number once, if desired.
- Individuals who become a member through NAA are not members of PENN SACCA.
- Membership Fees Online — remain the same as last year: $70-Comprehensive and $40-Regular with no additional charge for PayPal.
- Membership Fees by Mail — increase by $5: $75-Comprehensive and $45-Regular

PENN SACCA’s membership benefits:
- A Comprehensive membership
  - Provides you with a great discount for our 19th Annual Statewide Conference to be held November 11 & 12, 2016 in Grantville, PA. This is the only statewide conference dedicated to the OST profession.
  - Gives you voting privileges regarding the election of members of the Board of Directors
  - Qualifies you to apply for a position on the Board
- Keeps you updated on current events effecting the OST profession
- PENN SACCA Reports—our quarterly newsletter
- Eligibility for scholarship and room reimbursement at conference
- Includes an NAA Ambassador membership and benefits
- Fulfills a Keystone STARS professional development standard

Importance Notice: Due to changes instituted by NAA, if you join through NAA, you are NOT a member of PENN SACCA. However, if you become a member through PENN SACCA, you are a member of NAA.
- For more information: PENN SACCA Membership
Pennsylvania School Age Child Care Alliance  
2015 Board of Directors

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