

**Carol McElvain, J.D.**

Senior Program Associate  
Afterschool Programming

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Location: Naperville, Illinois, office

**Area of Expertise**

- Afterschool Programming

**Current Work**

- *Beyond the Bell*® Third Edition: Primary author of toolkits on quality programming for afterschool professionals, including a planning guide for new programs, a staff workbook to build a professional program, and a guide for principals to align their afterschool programming with their overall school improvement efforts. Work includes training, consulting, and technical assistance to programs based on the toolkit materials.
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers program: Comanager of national electronic data collection on the breadth and details of the nearly \$1 billion federal effort under Title IV of the No Child Left Behind Act to provide afterschool programming and services to children and their families. Collaborate with 10,000 centers across the country, working with approximately 1.5 million children per year.
- Training and technical assistance: Clients include the Chicago Public Schools, the Chicago Community Trust, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
- Promising practices in access and equity: Work focuses on identifying and disseminating high-quality afterschool programs and practices that provide more opportunities for children during out-of-school time.

**Key Professional Appointments**

- Policy Chair, Illinois Afterschool Partnership (2002–Present)
- Advisory Committee member, American Youth Policy Forum Out-of-School Time Compendium (2007–Present)
- Advisory Board member, Roadmap to Afterschool for All (2007–Present)
- Leadership Team member, National Partnership for Quality Afterschool Learning (2007–Present)
- School Board member, Glen Ellyn (Illinois) School District 41 (2003–2007)
- Board member, Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center (2007–Present)

McElvain plans and provides training sessions to promote quality afterschool programs nationwide. She has experience in project management and design, training and technical assistance, and program facilitation. McElvain collects and assesses high-quality academic enrichment activities and promising practices in afterschool programming and leads efforts to coordinate and leverage statewide afterschool networks.

**Selected Publications and Presentations**

- McElvain, C. K., Caplan, J. G., Diedrich, K. C., Kaufman, S., & Walter, K. E. (2005). *Beyond the bell*®: A toolkit for creating effective afterschool programs (3rd ed.). Naperville, IL: Learning Point Associates.
- McElvain, C. K., & Caplan, J. G. (2001, September). Creating effective after-school programs for middle and high school students. *National Association of Secondary School Principals Bulletin*, 85(626), 35–44.

**Media Contact Information**

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