### Network Alignment: The Five

#### RELATIONSHIPS

**STAFF**
Interaction between formal educators and out-of-school program (OST) staff
- Formal educators teach in the OST program bringing their education expertise to the program while working with other OST staff

**STUDENTS**
OST programming builds supportive relationships with students and supports social/emotional learning
- Youth build strong rapport with each other in informal environments
- Research shows participation in OST programs decreases behavioral issues
- Programs often include work on conflict resolution, team-building skills, and diversity issues

**FAMILIES**
OST programming acts as a bridge to engaging families in student learning in the regular school day.
- Shared decision-making opportunities to strengthen family involvement

### RELEVANCE

**CURRICULUM**
OST programs include experiences in core subjects, financial literacy, the arts, civic engagement, community service, and service learning
STEM experiences are a popular inclusion in many programs
- Experiences connect to real world experiences, especially those of interest to youth attending

**EXAMPLES:**
Youth in Government School gardens NPASS curriculum with wiring a house, balloon-powered cars, cake chemistry, heating an oven, or trebuchets Robotics AfterSchool Math Plus AfterSchool Science Plus 4-H aerospace Bully prevention Career education Citizenship Entrepreneurship

**INSTRUCTION**
Supports Individual Plans of Study

### RESPONSIVENESS

**LEADERSHIP**
Includes youth voice
Focuses on choice
Expands youth interests
Experiences built on principles of positive youth development
Work based upon developmental ages and stages of children and youth

**EARLY CHILDHOOD**
OST programming supports
Kindergarten Readiness

**DISTRICT CLIMATE**
OST programming supports the “It takes a village” philosophy as staff attempts to extend formal education learning
- Tutoring and homework help assist in keeping youth current with assignments

**NUTRITION & WELLNESS**
Health & wellness programs
- Nutrition education
- Regular physical activity
- Focus on HEPA Standards

### RIGOR

**CAREER & TECHNICAL ED**
OST build awareness of and interest in careers
Expands career readiness by developing youth workforce skills (soft, essential, and 21st century skills). Examples include collaboration, mindset, self-regulation, and critical thinking.
- Opportunities for job shadowing, internships, field trips
- Business & industry mentors
- Collaboration with community organizations

**PROFESSIONAL LEARNING**
Regular opportunities for OST conferences, specialized training, and individualized coaching and technical assistance
- Focus on promising and evidenced-based practices
- 21st CCLC programs and other similar programs strengthened by site visits, coaching, technical assistance, and external assessors

### RESULTS

**ACHIEVEMENT, GROWTH, GAP, OTHER MEASURES**

**Research on OST:**
Students in quality afterschool programs improve their school attendance and have higher graduate rates.
- Consistent participation in high-quality afterschool programs can help eliminate the achievement gap (Vandell, 2013)
  - When afterschool participation is highly consistent, there is no gap in low-income and high-income children’s math achievement at grade 5
  - The more consistent the afterschool participation, the narrower the gap in math achievement
  - The more rarely students participate in afterschool activities, the wider the achievement gap

By 6th grade, middle class kids have spent 4,000+ more hours in afterschool & summer learning opportunities than low-income students.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RELATIONSHIPS</th>
<th>RELEVANCE</th>
<th>RESPONSIVENESS</th>
<th>RIGOR</th>
<th>RESULTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent interaction and relationship-building through parent nights</td>
<td>Enhances and extends regular classroom instruction</td>
<td>Afterschool and summer meals program</td>
<td>RESOURCES (examples)</td>
<td>Afterschool building blocks according to parents:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular communications with parents/families occurs during drop-off and/or pick-up from programs</td>
<td>Homework help and tutoring provide individualization of assistance and help youth keep up with workloads</td>
<td>Trauma-informed care and adverse childhood experiences awareness</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>• 88% say kids develop social skills</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY</td>
<td>Blended programming</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kansas Enrichment Network</td>
<td>• 78% say kids improve their behavior at school</td>
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<td>OST programming may include service-based community projects (community service, project-based learning, and service learning)</td>
<td>Enrichment activities</td>
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<td>National</td>
<td>• 82% say kids get excited about learning</td>
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<td>Community members serve as mentors in programs</td>
<td>Complex problem-solving opportunities</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Afterschool Alliance</td>
<td>• 82% say kids get help with homework</td>
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<td>Regular connections with community organizations</td>
<td>STAFF ENGAGEMENT</td>
<td></td>
<td>• National Summer Learning Association</td>
<td>• 78% say kids gain skills in science, math, technology, or engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular engagement with community members who serve as speakers, mentors, in-kind and financial contributions</td>
<td>Supports Individual Plans of Study</td>
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<td>• Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality</td>
<td>• 77% say kids gain workforce skills like teamwork, leadership, and critical thinking</td>
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<td>EXAMPLES:</td>
<td>Extends experiences through hands-on activities</td>
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<td>• STEMEducators</td>
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<td>School gardens</td>
<td>Youth voice and self-directed choice</td>
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<td>• Active Science Learning</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Broaden horizons and relevant knowledge</td>
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<td>• Harvard’s Partnerships in Education &amp; Resilience</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Learning comes to life</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Texas Tech University’s Institute for Measurement, Methodology, Analysis &amp; Policy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community business volunteers bring real world exposure</td>
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<td>DATA</td>
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<td>TECHNOLOGY</td>
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<td>System, program, and youth level assessments</td>
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<td>Use of iPads, Kindles, computers, and other devices for projects</td>
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<td>Kansas Afterschool Guidelines and Self-Assessment promotes continuous improvement</td>
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<td>Opportunities to expand technology experiences through instruction such as coding</td>
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<td>Assessment of youth outcomes through:</td>
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<td>Engagement surveys</td>
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<td>Interest surveys</td>
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<td>Parent/staff surveys</td>
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<td>Attendance and retention</td>
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<td>STEM Dimensions of Success Observation Tool</td>
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<td>For more information, contact the Kansas Enrichment Network</td>
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