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The Afterschool Alliance applauds the leadership and foresight of the Administration to institute additional data collection and reporting of findings from the School Pulse Panel (SPP) during the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Center for Education Statistics' increased intervals of surveys, in conjunction with timely dissemination of findings, has provided valuable data of the pandemic's impact on students, teachers, administrators, and schools.

Given the historic federal investment flowing to states and districts to support pre-K-12th grade students, continuing to collect information on the strategies schools are implementing to accelerate learning is essential to understand what schools are prioritizing and where resources are being directed, and its effect on student learning. Although afterschool and summer programs are recognized strategies to accelerate learning, and there exists a strong body of evidence regarding the positive impact of quality afterschool and summer programs, information about the availability of afterschool and summer learning programs and the structures and supports in place through schools to connect young people and their families to these programs is sparse.

We believe the following recommendations included in the following attachment will increase the accuracy and utility of the information collected as it relates to afterschool and summer programming.