



THE NETWORKER

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Hello from the Vermont School Age Care Network!

As summer begins, I find myself celebrating the long days and warmth that we so miss many months of the year here in Vermont. But on a personal level, the beginning of of summer vacation for my daughter, a student at FD Tuttle Middle School in South Burlington is reason to celebrate as well.

As I greeted her on the last day of school, I felt like I did when I was her age coming home that last day. The summer stretched out before me, both then and now, with promises of sunny days filled with adventures, learning, laziness and busy-ness. While I now work year round, I think one of the great things about Vermont is that we all so appreciate the summer weather, that we slow down a bit, with committees going on hiatus in the summer and emails flowing a bit more slowly as well. This provides the space we all need to regenerate our energy and find the fun again.

I hope you can join me in this summer fun. Many of you work in summer programs for children and I know that means long, busy days for you. But try to find a few minutes each day to see the summer with the eyes of the children you work with- and join in the water play, explore art and drama, and generally- HAVE FUN!

I wish you all the best this summer, personally and professionally. And remember, if we can help you in any way, be in touch. We'll be here!

Sue Kamp
VSACN Coordinator



SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now for the Vermont Afterschool Conference, October 22, 2010 at the Killington Grand Resort Hotel in Killington, Vermont. Registration information will be available in August. Visit <http://vermontafterschool.org/professional-development-training/vermont-afterschool-conference/> for more information.

Lights! Camera! Learning!

The next round the Vermont Center for Afterschool Excellence program Lights! Camera! Learning! will focus on summer learning and videos will be judged in two categories: elementary programs and middle/ high school programs.

Video entries do not need to be elaborate. They should be no more than 3-6 minutes in length and focus on capturing innovative learning in action.

Awards will go to the top winner in each category and videos that incorporate strong student involvement may be considered for an additional award. Winning projects will be featured at the Vermont Afterschool Conference on October 22, 2010. Prizes include:

- \$1000 cash award
- Program-pack of six Flip™

video cameras (retail value approximately

The Vermont Afterschool Foundations Certificate and Afterschool Professional Credential

The Vermont Afterschool Foundations Certificate and the Afterschool Professional Credential are two ways for Vermont afterschool providers to strengthen their work through training.

The Afterschool Foundations Certificate supports entry-level professionals in the Afterschool field especially during their first two years of employment. To be eligible for the Certificate, candidates must complete and document a total of 16 hours of training in Core Competency areas:

- child and youth development
- curriculum and learning environment
- families and communities
- healthy and safe environments
- professionalism and program organization

Congratulations to **Amber Lines** of

\$1000)

- o Video and supporting materials posted on Vermont Center for Afterschool Excellence website

For more information about this exciting contest, please go to the [Lights! Camera! Learning!](#) page of the Vermont Center for Afterschool Excellence website.

VSACN Training and Technical Assistance

The Vermont School Age Care Network is available to provide technical assistance to communities considering starting an afterschool or summer program as well as to existing programs that have questions about how best to serve the children and families in their program. Specific areas of assistance that are available include curriculum, program management, personnel, funding ideas and strengthening relationships with families.

VSACN is also currently recruiting new trainers to work with programs around the state. If you have a workshop you have designed that you would like to list through VSACN or if you would like to be trained to provide some of VSACN's existing workshops (or both!) we would like to talk to you.

To discuss workshop options for your staff or becoming a VSACN trainer, please contact Sue Kamp at VSACN for more information: vsacn@mjcvt.org or (802) 388-2853.

Burlington, who recently received her certificate.

The Vermont Afterschool Professional Credential adds to the professional stature of afterschool professionals who have at least 500 hours working with school age children. It extends professional growth beyond the Foundations Certificate. The Credential requires applicants to complete two courses which are regularly available through the Community College of Vermont (or their equivalent) as well as 46 hours of additional training in the following areas:

- curriculum and learning environment
- families and communities
- healthy and safe environments
- professionalism and program organization

Applicants for the Credential must submit a Portfolio that documents all training, and includes two letters of recommendation, a professional self assessment, and other material.

For more information about these professional development opportunities, contact Kerrie Workman at (802) 434-5046 or kwork23@yahoo.com.



On the Job Training

is an opportunity for newer and part-time afterschool workers to develop their skills, focusing on specific daily activities. Participants receive support and positive feedback working with a more seasoned staff person in their program. 1000 hours of on the job training must be documented for completion.

For more information, contact Sue at the Vermont Child Care Industry and Careers Council: (802) 985-2700, or sue@vtchildcareindustry.org.

Join the Vermont School Age Care Network!

The Vermont School Age Care Network (VSACN) invites you to become a member. There are many benefits to joining VSACN including national benefits from the National AfterSchool Association. This will link you to your peers throughout the country, as well as to high quality professional development and technical assistance, both locally and nationally.

Member benefits for VSACN include:

- Our online newsletter, *The Networker*
- Membership in the National Afterschool Association
- Training and technical assistance for your program
- Networking opportunities through VSACN's NING page

There are three membership levels to consider:

- Full Membership: \$60 per year
- Associate membership: \$25 per year
- Friend of Afterschool: Free

For more information regarding benefits for each level of membership and for an application, please click [here](#).

We look forward to hearing from you!

SAVE THE DATE:

Plan now to attend the following events:

- After the Bell Rings: Innovative Strategies for Including All Children in Out-of-School Time Programs. September 29-October 1, 2010, San Diego, CA. <http://www.kitconference.org/>
- The Vermont Afterschool Conference: October 22, 2010, Killington Grand Hotel

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