



memo

TO: The Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Patrick Broncato

DATE: October 27, 2025

SUBJECT: AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM MEMO

We have had requests from two for-profit programs to run after-school programs in our buildings. These for-profit programs have been run in previous years when our District's after-school programs have run. The District-led programs are staffed by our current teachers, and they are teacher-driven, meaning that we ask teachers to create and staff them, they are aligned with our curriculum, and they get paid a stipend to do so. Every year, we have three separate sessions, the first of which started on October 7th this year. Each building can host up to five programs per school. Over the years, the interest of teachers to create these programs within their school buildings has fluctuated, with some years experiencing a high level of interest and others not. This year, for the first session, we have a couple of buildings that currently don't have any programs.

For years, we have had for-profit groups run after-school fee-based programs at our schools, specifically Young Rembrandts, and more recently, an Elite Chess Club at Goodrich. These groups rent (or, in some instances, just use our rooms) at the same time we run our after-school programs in our schools, and charge a fee for students to participate. The result is that students who can't afford the cost can't participate, unless there is some sort of "scholarship" offered to students.

I have told our schools that for-profit groups can rent our facilities, just like anyone else, but they can't do it between 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm when we run our after-school programs. As a result, the owners of these programs are concerned because they won't have immediate access to all our schools after school, and their students will be unable to catch the after-school bus. I have given them options, such as eliminating the need to pay a fee for their programs (and/or having one of our teachers run the program), or holding them anytime they desire except for the 3:00-4:30 pm time slot.