

ACT NOW:

Protect
Out-of-School
Time (OST)!



We need your voice!
waynemetrol.org/jointhefight



What is Happening?

The Michigan House passed a School Aid budget that **eliminates dedicated funding for Out-of-School Time (OST) programs under Section 32n.**

Instead of maintaining the \$50 million OST grant program administered by MiLEAP, the House budget shifts the funds into general school funding.

Without dedicated funding, programs will close.
Families will lose support. Kids will miss out. **We need you to act now.**



**This Toolkit is
Interactive!**

What Can You Do to Help?

- **Share stories on social media** of how these programs impact your life.
- **Please urge your representatives in Congress to sustain this funding!**
 - **Add Your Voice**
- **Contact your State Representative and Senator today and urge them to include dedicated OST funding in the final FY25–26 state budget.**
 - Encourage your board members, families, youth, and partners to speak out too. Use the sample message, talking points, and fact sheet below to guide your outreach.

ACT NOW:

Protect
Out-of-School
Time (OST)!



We need your voice!
waynemetrol.org/jointhefight



- Email or write a letter using a [provided template](#).
- Review [Key Messaging Points](#), and this [Factsheet](#) for more information.
- Help elevate youth voices by inviting students to share personal messages with lawmakers.
 - Heartfelt letters from older youth and drawings or short notes from the younger kids can make a powerful impression. Whether it's a crayon-colored card or a letter, these expressions remind decision-makers that real young people are behind these programs and that their futures are directly impacted by funding decisions.
 - [Letter-Writing Prompt for Youth](#)
 - [Drawing Template for Youth](#)
- Invite your legislators and their staff to come visit your program.
 - There's no better way to showcase the power and value of afterschool than showing people firsthand. You do not need to get the Legislator there—having one of their staff join can be incredibly powerful.

[Tips for Conducting A Legislative Visit](#)

SHARE THE CAMPAIGN ON SOCIAL MEDIA WITH A LINK TO TAKE ACTION.

COPY AND PASTE A STORY BELOW. USE THE CORRESPONDING GRAPHIC IF NEEDED!

ACT NOW: Out-of-School Time (OST) from Budget Cuts!

The 2026 federal budget proposes dangerous cuts to Out-of-School Time (OST). **The program provides children with a strong educational foundation while enabling parents to pursue employment and career growth.**

These cuts would devastate our communities. We need your voice. It only takes 5 minutes.

#ProtectOST #Act4Community



[Square-General Use](#)



[4:5-Instagram](#)