



## Afterschool News March 2013

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### A Life-Changing Field Trip to The Perot Museum

What a difference three hours can make! Until a month ago, third-grader Tremaine wanted to be an apartment mover when he grew up. But after a trip to The Perot Museum of Nature and Science with DASN last month, he has decided he wants to be a scientist "that studies bones, chemicals, and all the stuff that makes up the earth!" As he said, the Perot "made him feel like he stepped in to a different kind of dimension." [Click here](#) to watch Tremaine tell you more.



The students who visited the Perot, ranging from kindergarteners to high schoolers, were shocked to discover that Dallas used to be underwater, imagining the giant prehistoric crocodile, *Deinosuchus riograndensis*, swimming through their neighborhoods. In the Dynamic Earth Hall, students touched tornadoes and dressed up in bow ties and blue blazers to deliver live weather

forecasts in front of a green screen.



*Photo credit: James Edward Photography*

The students learned a lot of new facts, but it also offered them a new view of their community. They made friends with children from other afterschool programs while working together to build a robot or waiting in line to race a cheetah. Adults, dressed in business suits and speaking with foreign accents they had never heard before, helped them with activities and showed them interactive displays. It turns out it's not just the museum exhibits that make an impression on our children!

## Share Your Profession with Middle School Students

Dallas AfterSchool Network is proud to be partnering with Big Thought to host this summer's Fair Park Live career exploration for thousands of middle school students. Students will have the opportunity to choose from myriad professions represented that day, including game designers, veterinarians, fire fighters, wedding planners, and airplane engineers. This interactive day will expose these students to new ideas, new people and new opportunities.

Want to join in on the fun? DASN is seeking presenters for this special event. **If you or someone you know is interested in showing 2,000 Dallas students what is fun and exciting in your career, and why science, technology, engineering, and math are vital skills in our job market, please join us!** We will help you to design a presentation that is fun, interactive and educational for the students. All careers are welcomed, as are volunteers who just want to help out. Please contact [Justin Hensley](#) to learn more.

## Dallas City Leaders Attend Afterschool System Building Meeting

Dallas AfterSchool Network was honored to be invited by the Wallace Foundation to join a group of 50 other afterschool intermediaries for a meeting about afterschool system building.

The "Better Together" conference explored the strategies employed by such cities as Boston, New York, and Washington, D.C. to create city-wide systems to support quality afterschool programming. These strategies are detailed in the Wallace report "Lessons from Five Cities on Building Systems to Improve After-School, Summer School, and Other Out of School Programming."

The conference covered quality improvement systems such as DASN's Program Quality Initiative; funding streams to support quality programming; and the need for management information systems to enable data-driven decisions.

Special thanks to the Dallas leaders, pictured at right, who accompanied Tanya McDonald to Baltimore for these important discussions.



*Pictured: Sarah Nelson, Communities Foundation of Texas; Susan Hoff, United Way; Byron Sanders, Dallas Education Foundation; Mike Morath, DISD Trustee; and Angela Farley, Regional Chamber.*

## Join DASN for RECESS!

Calling all Dodge Ball Champions, Kick Ball Captains and Queens of Double Dutch! It's time for RECESS! This version is for adults, featuring music, food, games, field trips and more all for the benefit of Dallas AfterSchool Network.

Join in on the fun. Get your [tickets online](#) today!

# RECESS!

An evening benefitting Dallas AfterSchool Network

**Friday, April 19, 2013**

**7:00 pm at Principal Faye Briggs' private Preston Hollow home**

**Superintendents: Sally and Forrest Heglund**

**Room Moms: Julie Bagley and Kate Rose Marquez**

Hope to see you there! Tag. you're it!

Questions? Contact [Rediat Kebede](#), 214-306-8400 x113

## Show Texas You Care About Afterschool on March 26th

Texas' statewide afterschool network, [Texas Partnership for Out of School Time](#) (TXPOST), is at the state capitol this month advocating for the establishment of an Expanded Learning Opportunities Council to address the educational opportunities for Texas families after school and before home.




Dallas AfterSchool Network invites you to join us for "OST Day" on the capitol steps on Tuesday, March 26th. [Click this link to register](#) or [follow TXPOST on Facebook](#) to stay in-the-know on OST (Out-of-School-Time) legislation.

## Support Quality Afterschool Time in Your Community

Students spend less than 20% of their waking hours in school, putting more importance on the need for students to learn in ways not bounded by the schedule of the school day, the limitations of the four classroom walls, or the location of one's home. High-quality afterschool programs help close the opportunity gap for thousands of Dallas County children by ensuring that 3PM - 6PM is a time for safe, experiential learning.

Please help Dallas AfterSchool Network to improve the quality of afterschool learning:

- [Volunteer](#) as a mentor, tutor, or curriculum implementer at a program in our network.
- [Follow](#) Dallas AfterSchool Network on Facebook 
- [Donate](#) online, or send a check to:

Dallas AfterSchool Network  
2902 Swiss Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75204

[Donate Online](#)

*Dallas AfterSchool Network makes afterschool better!*



*Dallas AfterSchool Network is the only organization in North Texas improving the quality of afterschool and summer programs. More than 11,000 K - 12th grade students benefit from our Program Quality Initiative which helps local programs to achieve national quality standards.*

[www.dasn.org](http://www.dasn.org)