

## Writing Prompt: Share Your Story to Protect 32n Funding

Your voice makes the difference. Legislators will remember your story more than a statistic, so let them know why state Out-Of-School Time funding matters to your program, your youth, and your community.

Use the points below to guide your writing:

- Introduce yourself and your program. Who do you serve? What makes your program unique?
- Explain why 32n funding is essential. How has it allowed you to keep your doors open, expand opportunities, or support youth and caregivers?
- Paint a picture of what's at stake. What would your community lose if this funding disappeared? Think about youth, families, schools, and local employers.
- Highlight the bigger picture. Remind your legislator that OST programs improve literacy, attendance, well-being, and career readiness, while also helping caregivers stay in the workforce and strengthening Michigan's economy.
- End with a clear ask: urge them to preserve 32n funding so youth remain at the center of Michigan's future.

Share your experience with honesty and urgency. Programs like yours are what keep Michigan's youth safe, supported, and thriving. If you need additional guidance, use the <u>Key Messaging Points</u>.