

What Are Community Schools?

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY & OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY CHILD

Community Schools are networks of support, opportunities and relationships where the school is the resource hub for the whole community serving to strengthen students, families and neighborhoods. Moving beyond the traditional role of a school, Community Schools open their doors to community stakeholders and partners, creating improved conditions for both learning and teaching, giving each child a greater chance for success in school and in life.

6 Key Strategies

The recent report, *Community Schools: Transforming Struggling Schools into Thriving Schools*, February 2016, concluded that the community schools that achieve the most dramatic results do so applying a six-part approach focused on these strategies >

Core Elements



Whole Child Approach to Learning



Quality Early Childhood Development



Expanded Learning, Out-of-School Time Opportunities



Authentic Family and Community Engagement



Positive, Trust-Filled School Culture and Climate

- 1** Curricula that is engaging, culturally relevant and challenging to meet diverse needs
- 2** High quality teaching advancing student-centered learning
- 3** Multiple, effective supports for students and families often provided through community partners
- 4** Positive discipline practices and relationship ties with students and families that promote attendance and restorative practices
- 5** Authentic parent and community engagement in planning, decision-making and participation in enrichment opportunities
- 6** Inclusive, expanded school leadership structure focused on building a culture of collective trust and open communication

Community Schools are more than just centers of education - they are the **heart** of the community where teachers, families, community members and service providers come together in coordinated, purposeful and results-focused **partnerships**.

Learn More > communityschools.org