



About Community Schools

What is a community school?

The Coalition for Community Schools (CCS) defines a community school as both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources (See chart below). Its integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development, and community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families, and healthier communities. Schools become centers of the community and are open to everyone – all day, every day, evenings, and weekends.

Using public schools as hubs, community schools bring together many stakeholders to offer a range of supports and opportunities to children, youth, families, and communities to achieve results. Community schools are built around a Results Based Logic Model (RBLM), as described in the next section.

Community schools are responsive to the unique conditions and circumstances facing their students, families, school, and community. Their design is based on the following principles:

- Communities and schools are fundamentally and positively interconnected.
- Schools can make a difference in the lives of *all* children.
- Children do better when their families do better.
- The development of the whole child is a critical factor for student success.
- Community schools initiatives blend funding streams and partnerships to build on existing efforts.

More CCS Resources:

- ☑ [National Models- Community Schools Across the Nation](#)
- ☑ [Community Schools Research Brief](#)
- ☑ [Making the Difference](#)
- ☑ [Raising Graduation and College Going Rates: Community High Schools](#)
- ☑ [Is Your School a Community School?](#)
- ☑ www.communityschools.org