

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

BROOKLYN CENTER
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

District-wide Initiative

(3 schools and 1 community resource center)



<http://www.brookcntr.k12.mn.us/>

BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA

PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ YMCA
- ◆ Hennepin County, City of Brooklyn Center
- ◆ Big Brothers Big Sisters
- ◆ Campfire USA
- ◆ Park Nicolet Foundation
- ◆ Family Partnership
- ◆ United Way -Twin Cities
- ◆ NW Hennepin Family Services Collaborative
- ◆ MN Minority Education Partnership
- ◆ Brooklyn Center Rotary, Lions and Business Association
- ◆ University of Minnesota
- ◆ Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin
- ◆ Students in Action/Jefferson Awards/Close Up D.C.

RESULTS

- ◆ Mobility has decreased from 35% to 26% in the last 4 years.
- ◆ Standardized test scores are starting to increase most areas.
- ◆ The percentage of students graduating and going onto post secondary education has doubled to 80% in 2010 in the last 4 years.
- ◆ Behavior incidents have decreased by 75% in the last 4 years.
- ◆ Over 200 parents have joined the Parents of Power Program, a 7 week course for parents on understanding and being engaged with the education system.
- ◆ Since opening February 2010, the Health Resource Center has served over 1,500 students.



BACKGROUND

Brooklyn Center is a small school district just outside of the Twin Cities. In 2009, with support from the school board and Superintendent Keith Lester, Brooklyn Center became the first district-wide full service community schools district in Minnesota.

By uniting community, Brooklyn Center Community Schools strive to support the academic, social, and emotional development of students and families, empowering them to become caring and responsible citizens at home and in the world.

Brooklyn Center's mission is to empower each learner to excel academically, socially and emotionally, while capitalizing on the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the students, staff and community.

LEADERSHIP

The Brooklyn Center Community Schools initiative has over 100 partnership programs - all at no-cost to the school. Julie Ha Truong is the Community Schools Project Manager. In 2011 the Community Schools model was written into school district policy. In 2010 the State House and Senate signed resolutions supporting Brooklyn Center as a pilot Community Schools District.

Leadership, Management, and Action Teams consisting of school staff, community partners, funders, students, parents and community representatives help coordinate and direct the Community Schools effort at each school.

Action Planning Teams focus on key issues across the district:

- ◆ Parent Involvement
- ◆ City Partnership (e.g., reducing youth crime)
- ◆ Clinical (Medical, Dental, Mental Health, Vision)
- ◆ Student Supports (School social workers collaborating with community partners.)
- ◆ Family Resources (Emergency Services, Senior Citizens, Ethnic Programs etc.)
- ◆ Wellness/Health/Community Gardens

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Brooklyn Center Community Schools is dedicated to coordinated academic, enrichment, and wellness/support service, including:

- ◆ Rigorous academic programs (IB World Schools, Arts Magnet School of Excellence, and Technology Integration.)
- ◆ Before, after school and summer programs
- ◆ Family Resources Rooms in each school
- ◆ Family & early childhood education and adult education courses.
- ◆ Parent involvement courses (preK - 12)
- ◆ Health Resource Center built into the high school to provide all youth access to medical, dental, mental health, and health care insurance access services.
- ◆ In-school & afterschool tutoring and mentoring
- ◆ Service learning
- ◆ Literacy programs
- ◆ Community recreation center (July 2011)
- ◆ Child Care & Teen Parents Center (Fall 2011)

