

# COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

## TULSA AREA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE



31 Community Schools across 2 Districts

<http://www.csctulsa.org>

## TULSA, OKLAHOMA

### PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ Tulsa Public Schools
- ◆ Union Public Schools
- ◆ Broad faith-based partnerships
- ◆ CampFire USA Green Country
- ◆ Child Care Resource Center
- ◆ Community Service Council
- ◆ Family and Children's Services
- ◆ Global Gardens
- ◆ Metropolitan Human Services Commission
- ◆ Northeastern State University-BA
- ◆ OU Physicians Tulsa Community Health Clinics
- ◆ OU Urban Design
- ◆ Tulsa City/County Health Dept.
- ◆ Tulsa City/County Library
- ◆ Tulsa Community College
- ◆ Tulsa Technology Center
- ◆ Tulsa University
- ◆ Tulsa City Parks & Recreation Department
- ◆ Tulsa Children's Behavioral Health
- ◆ Tulsa HUB bicycle education/safety
- ◆ YMCA

### RESULTS

Students in schools with high implementation of the TACSI approach scored significantly higher than comparable students in non-TACSI schools on math achievement tests. Further, the eighteen TACSI schools had higher ratings on the following compared to eighteen non-TACSI schools:

- ◆ Instructional leadership
- ◆ Effective supervisory practices
- ◆ Culture of faculty trust Student's trust of teachers
- ◆ School identification among students
- ◆ Parent trust in school faculty
- ◆ School outreach to neighborhood

### BACKGROUND

The Tulsa Area Community Schools Initiative (TACSI) was established through the Tulsa Metropolitan Human Services Commission (MHSC) in 2007 and is administered by the Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa (CSC). TACSI recognizes the need to engage the entire community in aligning and developing community resources to educate the whole child, by building relationships based on collective trust. It believes that community schools should serve as centers of community life, offering comprehensive and integrated programs, services, and opportunities to students, families, and neighbors in the community. Sustained by family, school and community partnerships, community schools provide nurturing environments and enriching opportunities which promote successful learning. With the support of community schools, every student will graduate from high school with a complete education, equipped with the academic, physical, social, and emotional skills needed to achieve success and continued active involvement in the community.

TACSI schools focus on seven core components:

1. Early care and learning
2. Health/health education
3. Mental health/social services
4. Youth development/out-of-school time
5. Family/community engagement
6. Neighborhood development
7. Lifelong learning

There are currently 18 community schools across 2 school districts with plans to expand.

### LEADERSHIP

TACSI provides leadership and influence to engage local communities in creating and sustaining community schools that support academic success, strengthen families, and engage communities. TACSI is guided by a community steering committee. The TACSI Resource Center at CSC staffs a Management Team with leaders from the two participating school districts, Union and Tulsa, and other stakeholders. This structure assures focused, accountable leadership within the community and key institutions for implementing and grounding TACSI in developing evidence-based conditions for learning.

### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

TACSI programs include:

**Linkages** so that each child will experience healthy, natural transitions from one learning environment to the next.

**Before, during, and after school activities as well as summer opportunities** offer enrichment opportunities for students and their families.

**Mentoring To The Max** offers opportunities to establish ongoing relationships with caring adults.

**Global Gardens** empowering students and communities through the process of creating community gardens. Committed to the values of inquiry-based and peach education.

**Seniors in Schools** brings neighborhood senior citizens and students together building relationships and establishing a greater respect among generations.

**Neighborhood Planning Academy** gives the school community and neighborhood residents the opportunity to plan and act together.

**Exploration of College and Career** through higher education, workforce and business partners.

**OU Physicians Tulsa Community Health Clinics** serve high need students, their families, and the surrounding communities.

**Mental health services** provided to individual students, groups, and families.



Coalition for Community Schools | Institute for Educational Leadership

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