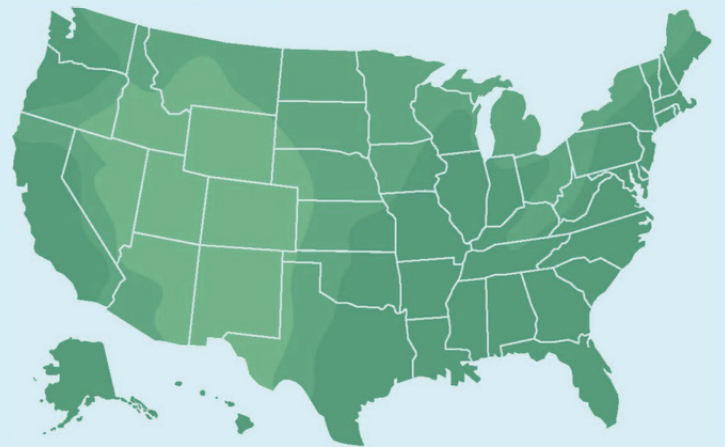


About IEL's Coalition for Community Schools

The Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) has a long and distinguished history supporting communities to accelerate system change and expand educational and workforce opportunities for young people and their families. Through the Coalition for Community Schools, IEL is coordinating a national effort to expand Community Schools in urban, rural, and suburban communities. IEL provides national leadership to help build learning systems that unite communities, families, and schools to accelerate the improvement of student outcomes.

Community Schools are public schools that align and strengthen existing resources—including school staff, families, partners, and community members—while identifying new assets and funding to expand opportunities and support for all students. They people together around a shared strategy that builds on community strengths, responds to student needs, and helps all students thrive in school and beyond. Community Schools are a proven approach to improving education through culturally informed strategies that help students reach their full potential. There are currently an estimated 5,589 Community Schools in 47 states, Washington, D.C. Puerto Rico, and Canada.

The Coalition for Community Schools is made up of over 1,000 partners across the country, and is supporting existing or developing Community School State Coalitions in 40 states and territories.



What does the Coalition do?

- Convenes community members, families, advocates, and Community School practitioners to provide expertise on supporting students and families.
- Shares latest research and lessons learned for Community School planning, implementation, and scaling, and sustainability.
- Nurtures relationships to promote student and community success.
- Advocates for funding and legislative support of Community Schools at the federal and state level and beyond.

When these conditions are met:

High-quality core instruction with community resources to support instruction.

Students are motivated and engaged in learning before, during, and after school.

The basic physical, mental, and emotional health needs of young people and their families are recognized and addressed.

There is mutual respect and effective collaboration among parents, families, and school staff.

Community engagement that promotes a safe, supportive, and respectful school climate that connects students to a broader learning community.

These outcomes happen:

Student learning improves.

Parent and family participation in their children's education and in the school increases.

Principals and teachers have more time to focus on supporting quality instruction.

Families have more opportunities and support to engage in their student's academic journey.

Barriers to learning are decreased

What is needed to create more Community Schools:

- Leadership from across the community to provide the fuel and direction needed to start and sustain the work.
- Long-term, sustainable financing that taps into a diverse array of funding streams and ensures existing community resources are used as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- The organized and vocal support of constituents – students, parents, and community residents – to keep community and school leaders focused on building support and getting results.
- Customized technical assistance and capacity building for collaborative leaders across the education field.

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Get involved:

Districts and Community Organizations: Visit our website to learn about how you can join the coalition.
<https://www.communityschools.org/link/join-the-coalition/>

School Leaders: Learn about how you can make your school(s) a Community School:
<https://www.communityschools.org/learn/start-a-community-school/>

Policy Makers and Advocates: Learn more about how to bring Community Schools to your community here:
<https://www.communityschools.org/lead/policy-pulse/local>

For everyone: The IEL Coalition team provides professional development and technical assistance to communities creating comprehensive systems of support grounded in a framework of collaborative leadership. Whether you're new to the Community Schools strategy, need assistance to expand or sustain an entire system, or need to strengthen family engagement practices, the IEL team is readily available to respond to your unique circumstances and co-create a results-based transformation plan.
<https://www.communityschools.org/services/>



Learn More & Sign up

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