

Coalition for Community Schools

STATE COALITION STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

EXPLORING ([click to read more](#))

There is talk of developing a coalition, but only informal communications or plans have been made. Someone convenes a group of people to move the plans forward.

EMERGING ([click to read more](#))

There is commitment to developing a coalition by actively convening partners and putting in place a governance structure with initial goals and benchmarks outlined.

EVOLVING ([click to read more](#))

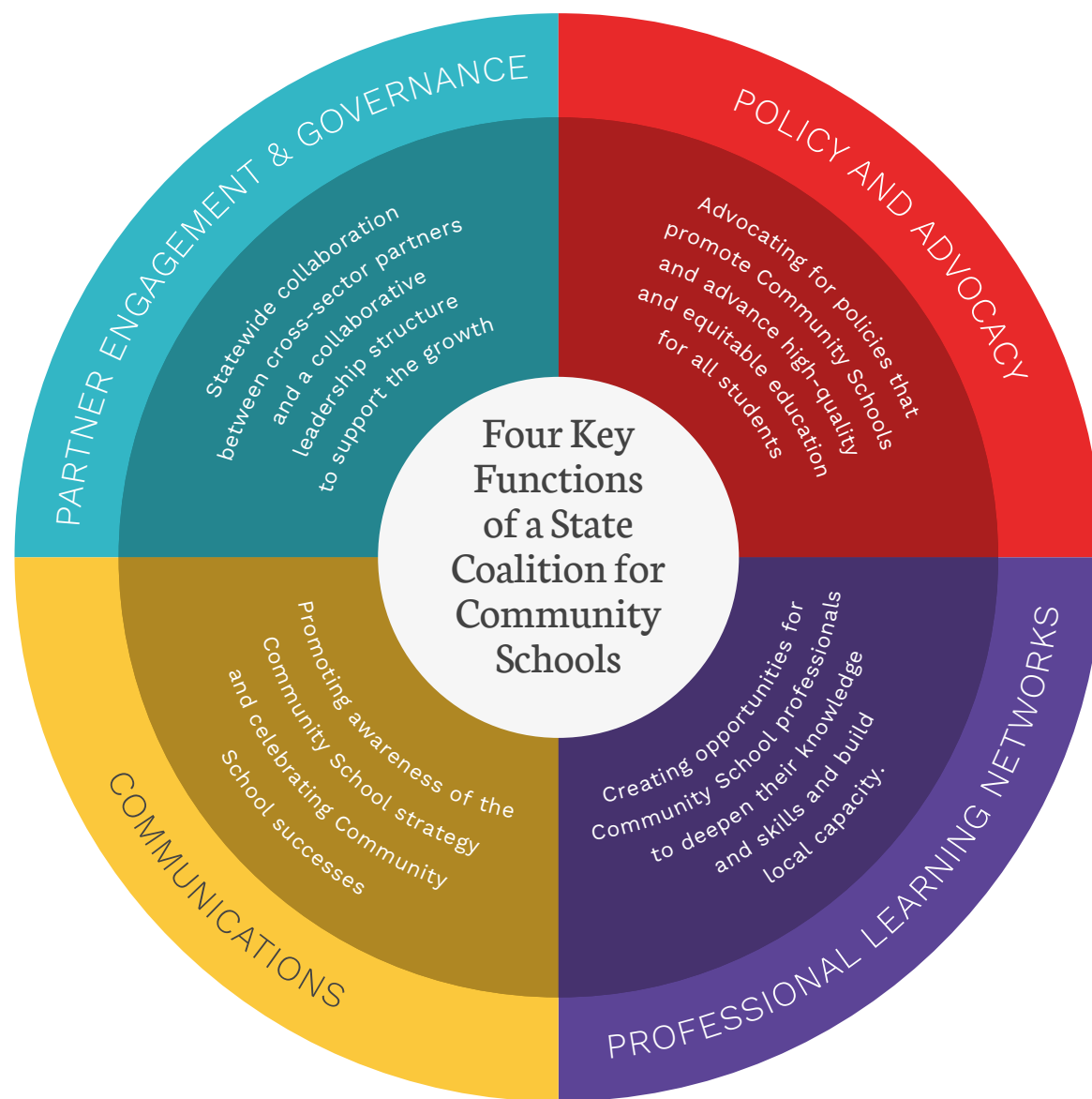
There is an official coalition in place, a wide range of partners are involved, regular communications to the field, and a leadership team and professional learning convenings are occurring.

EXPANDING ([click to read more](#))

The coalition has added key committees, is regularly tracking impact and stories, and is widening sphere of influence through new partnerships, expanded public communications, and ongoing capacity building.



Powered by IEL



- An informal leadership team meets
- Key partners are identified (including SEAs, LEAs, CBOs, cross-system agencies, state intermediaries, families, educators, and youth)
- Initial meetings have been calendared and frequency of meetings has been determined
- Mapping of critical potential stakeholders is underway
- A shared understanding of the coalition's purpose, identity, and vision is beginning to develop among partners

- Initial leadership team is in place with elected co-chairs
- Key partnerships have been established
- A consistent core group of coalition members regularly participates in meetings and coalition activities
- Funding source secured for meeting costs
- Agreements for meeting norms and shared state coalition values and vision have been established
- Coalition meetings intentionally incorporate opportunities to build and deepen relational trust among members
- Critical stakeholders have been identified and tiered according to ideal level of engagement
- A plan for engaging critical stakeholders is developed and drives partner engagement strategies

1 EXPLORING

Partner Engagement & Governance

[Click to learn more](#)



EMERGING 2

3 EVOLVING

EXPANDING 4

- Official leadership team and Intermediary entity identified to guide coalition efforts
- Structure complies with all legal and financial requirements
- Co-chairs selected by the state partners actively engage in state and national Coalition networks
- Co-chairs are participating regularly in meetings and activities within the state and nationally
- Partnerships regularly reviewed to ensure balanced engagement, reciprocity, and participation across governance and network levels
- Coalition includes practitioners, school leaders, families, students, community organizations, state agencies, and unions
- Strategic collaborative plan actively drives coalition and committee outcomes

- State Coalition is recognized by the state as collective body to make recommendations
- The governance structure includes policy, communications, state Research Practice Network, and youth advisory committees
- Partners are leading and contributing on committees
- Potential and current funders are identified and engaged on a regular basis to support sustainability of State Coalition and partner activities
- Funding secured for full time state coalition coordinator position and general operations
- Relationships with a network of funders are established and cultivated to support the long-term sustainability of the state coalition and its activities

- State landscape mapping is underway to identify current community school policies at the site/district/municipal/state level
- State policy opportunities are discussed
- Municipal policy opportunities are discussed
- District level policy opportunities are discussed
- Informal inquiries of elected official interests are in process
- Policy power mapping is underway to identify key influencers in the policy process
- State Education Agency colleagues are engaged in ways that are appropriate to the local context and the scope and restrictions of their roles and agencies

- Clear policy priorities are established, informed by the state and local funding landscape
- Key policy influencers have been identified, and a plan is developed for how to educate and engage each influencer
- Shared messaging and collateral materials are developed through the state coalition's communication functions, and messaging is tailored to each policy influencer's interests
- Organized education of elected officials is occurring
- Opportunities for alignment and collaboration with State Education Agencies are identified and pursued in ways that respect the scope and restrictions of their agencies.

① EXPLORING

Policy & Advocacy

[Click to learn more](#)



EMERGING ②

③ EVOLVING

EXPANDING ④

- Consensus on state policy agenda, informed by various local and state partners, is established among partners and local communities
- Process is developed for how, when, and if the coalition will demonstrate support for various policy asks
- Key outcome measures and goals are identified
- Templates are developed and shared for potential school board and/or municipal resolutions and policies
- An organized annual grassroots advocacy strategy is in place
- Elected official champions are identified
- Elected official champions are using the coalition's shared messaging to educate colleagues

- The State Coalition's policy agenda and advocacy are aligned with the Coalition for Community School's national policy and advocacy agenda
- Student, family, educator, practitioner, and community members are engaged and sharing their lived experiences in local and state advocacy
- State Coalition prepares and advocates for policies that promote Community Schools and advance equity
- Local and state elected officials are champions for Community Schools and identify opportunities for alignment of efforts and resources to support development
- Community Schools appear in resolutions and policies at the district, municipal, and state level

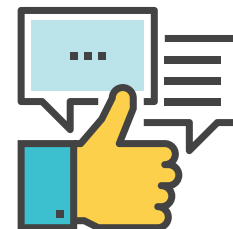
- The national Coalition for Community Schools is notified; state receives communications guide
- A listserv of local stakeholders is created
- Messaging on the purpose of the state coalition is developed and used to engage new stakeholders

- Coalition partners have developed shared core messages that follow national best practices and can be adapted for local contexts while maintaining a consistent statewide narrative
- Print collateral is developed with shared messaging
- Outward communications include branding and messaging developed by the coalition
- Additional tools such as newsletters and virtual collaboration groups or listservs are used for frequent communication
- A guide is developed on how to host local site visits using shared branding and messaging

① EXPLORING

Communications

[Click to learn more](#)



EMERGING ②

③ EVOLVING

EXPANDING ④

- Student, family, educator voices shape shared communications and messaging materials
- Shared branding guidelines and a nationally aligned communications plan are fully adopted
- Regular two-way communications and content-sharing across the state listserv network
- Members receive training to practice and integrate shared messaging into advocacy and presentations
- Messaging incorporates compelling outcome data and site visit invitations for key stakeholders

- Key partners are incorporating Community Schools messaging in communications
- Local and state advocacy reflect and utilize shared state coalition branding and messaging
- A PR strategy has been developed and guides messaging efforts
- Stories of Community Schools regularly appear in the media
- Evaluation and outcome data is integrated into community school messaging and storytelling
- Results and outcomes of the state coalition are shared widely within the state, local partners, and the Coalition for Community Schools
- Influencers and stakeholders continue to be engaged in localized site visits

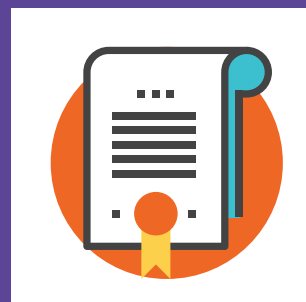
- Local Community School lead partners conduct internal trainings on Community Schools
- Community School practitioners participate in Coalition for Community School's convenings, network activities, and webinars
- Opportunity mapping is conducted, including a statewide landscape analysis, identification of target audiences, and assessment of existing assets, needs and gaps to identify opportunities for advancing shared learning

- State standards are developed and state standards are aligned with national standards
- State coalition works with state and local partners to identify priority audiences, needs, and gaps in learning and implementation and shapes professional learning and technical assistance accordingly
- State coalition leaders participate in relevant Coalition for Community Schools networks and activities
- Professional learning opportunities are offered to current practitioners to share knowledge
- Professional learning opportunities are offered to potential stakeholders to increase awareness

① EXPLORING

Professional Learning Networks

[Click to learn more](#)



EMERGING ②

③ EVOLVING

EXPANDING ④

- Statewide capacity building system is in place, including structures such as role-alike networks, technical assistance/coaching, and mentoring
- Common impact measures are in place
- Data collection systems (quantitative data and stories) are in place to identify, analyze, illuminate, and inform state coalition efforts and professional learning opportunities
- Participating partners share expertise through the state coalition's activities and communications
- Role-alike professional learning opportunities are offered
- An annual learning exchange/conference is offered for networking and knowledge sharing for continuous improvement and deepening relationships
- Shared tools are developed for state specific implementation guidance and data collection

- Data is used to inform state coalition's activities and communications
- State coalition is working in regional clusters with others for knowledge sharing, sustainability, and scaling practices
- Statewide structures are developed for localized assistance such as technical assistance and mentoring