

new york city
COMMUNITY
schools

NYC Community Schools

- + NYC defines the Community School model as an **equity strategy** to organize resources and share leadership so that academics, health, youth development, and family engagement are **integrated into the fabric of schools**.
- + Community schools **collaborate** with Lead Community-Based Organization (CBO) partners to create **welcoming, supportive environments** that help students navigate barriers and build on strengths so that every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.



The Office of Community Schools (OCS)

What OCS Believes:

- + Children bring their whole selves to school and we need a strategy that meets the needs of the whole child
- + Schools are built on relationships and we are committed to making sure that all children feel connected and experience a sense of belonging
- + No single team or agency alone can provide all the support needed
- + Each of our communities are filled with assets, relationships and resources we can leverage for student success



Role of the Lead CBO

- + The Lead CBO collaboratively partners with schools in order to effectively implement the community school strategy.
- + They hire a Community School Director (CSD) who coordinates and integrates services, programs, partnerships and other supports for students and families.
- + Together with school leadership, the Lead CBO develops a collaborative leadership structure (such as a Community School Team) that meaningfully includes the voices of students, families and other community members in the planning process.



Core Features of Community Schools

- + **Collaborative Leadership & Practice:**
Multiple stakeholders contribute to the school's vision and goals. The school engages in practices that distribute responsibilities and share leadership.
- + **Family and Community Engagement:**
Families and community members participate in decision-making and partner in students' holistic development.
- + **Expanded Learning Time (ELT):**
Students have opportunities to engage in hands-on learning and enrichment before, during and after school, on weekends, holidays and summer.
- + **Wellness and Integrated Student Supports:**
Key physical health, mental health and social services are delivered to address barriers to learning.



Core Features/Pillars Infographic



Promoting interaction among families, administration, and teachers helps families to be more involved in the decisions about their children's education.

Schools function as neighborhood hubs. There are educational opportunities for adults, and family members can share their stories and serve as equal partners in promoting student success.

Active Family and Community Engagement



Parents, students, teachers, principals, and community partners build a culture of professional learning, collective trust, and shared responsibility using strategies such as site-based leadership teams and teacher learning communities

Collaborative Leadership and Practices



A dedicated staff member coordinates support programs to address out-of-school learning barriers for students and families.

Mental and physical health services support student success.

Integrated Student Supports



Enrichment activities emphasize real-world learning and community problem solving.

After-school, weekend, and summer programs provide academic instruction and individualized support.

Expanded and Enriched Learning Time and Opportunities

These infographics are available for downloading at www.communityschools.futureforlearning.org.

While all Schools are Different, all NYC Community Schools Have Four Core Evidenced-based Features/Pillars



Collaborative Leadership and Practice

CBO partnership & Community School Director

Share data to inform collaborative planning and to target interventions

Leverage inter-agency & public-private partnerships

Assets and Needs Assessment



Family & Community Engagement

Family Nights

Family Leadership Training

Community School Forums

Specialized Programs
(Adult Education Classes, Home Visits, etc.)



Expanded Learning Time

Hands on Learning Experiences

CBO co-facilitation before, during and after school

Summer Programming



Wellness & Integrated Student Supports

Mental Health

Reproductive Health

Vision Screenings

Immigration Services

Success Mentoring

NYC Community School Results

- + In January 2020, the RAND Corporation released the impact study entitled “[Illustrating the Promise of Community Schools: An Assessment of the Impact of the NYC Community Schools Initiative](#).”
- + This report found that students in NYC community schools are more likely to graduate on time, miss fewer days of school, have improved math scores and feel safer and more supported.
- + Watch [this video](#) that summarizes the report’s key findings.

