COMMUNITY SCHOOL BASICS WEBINAR: GETTING STARTED!
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM

Renée L. Rider
Assistant Commissioner, Student Support Services,
New York State Education Department

Brian S. Cechnicki
Director of Education Finance,
New York State Education Department

Jane Quinn
Vice President, The Children's Aid Society
Director, National Center for Community Schools

Lukas Weinstein
Director of Regional Initiatives, The Children's Aid Society
National Center for Community Schools

AGENDA
What is a Community School?
Conducting a Needs Assessment
Other Core Concepts related to Effective Community Schools
New York State Foundation Aid & the Community Schools Set Aside
Contact Information
Questions & Answers
What is a Community School?

A Strategy, Not a Program

A strategy for organizing the resources of the school and community around student success...

Pat Harvey, Former Superintendent
St. Paul Public Schools

“Could someone help me with these?
I’m late for math class.”
What is a Community School?

A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, services, supports and opportunities leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities.

Coalition for Community Schools

CAS Developmental Triangle

Several well-known models:

- Beacons
- Bridges to Success
- Children’s Aid Society Community Schools
- Communities in Schools
- Healthy Start
- Polk Brothers Full-Service Schools
- Schools of the 21st Century (Yale)
- University-Assisted Community Schools
Underlying Research Base

* Making the Most of Non-School Time
  - Reginald Clark
  - Milbrey McLaughlin
  - Deborah Vandell
* Whole Child Approach/ Application of Developmental Knowledge
  - Jacquelynne Eccles
  - James Comer
* Parents’ Active Role
  - Epstein (six types)
  - Henderson and Mapp
* School Improvement
  - Anthony Bryk et al.
* Health-Learning Links
  - Charles Basch
* Consistent Adult Guidance & Support
  - Werner/Benard
  - Fritz Ianni

What Makes a Community School Different from a Traditional School?

Strategic Elements

* Full-Time Community School Director
* Systematic Needs Assessment
* Strategic Partnerships (Aligned with Needs Assessment and Coordinated w/ Each Other)
* Integration of SOS with Core Instruction
* Site-Based Governance w/ Partners Integrated
* Data-Driven Decision Making w/ Shared Accountability for Results
Typical Program Components

- After-School and Summer Enrichment
- Parent/Family Engagement
- Adult Education
- Medical, Dental, Mental Health and Social Services
- Early Childhood
- Community and Economic Development

Getting Started

School Readiness

- Principal leadership: Bryk’s research on school improvement points to the importance of the principal as the driver of change, using an inclusive leadership style
- School leadership team: The community school strategy should be fully integrated into the school’s comprehensive education plan, with understanding and buy-in from the SLT (including teachers and parents)
Conducting a Needs Assessment

What is a Needs Assessment?

A systematic process used to understand and create a profile of a community school’s needs that will inform and drive decision-making.
Overview of the Needs Assessment Toolkit (available at nccs.org)
Step 1: Getting Started

**Actions**
- Convene the Advisory Council
- Revisit the Advisory Council’s mission/purpose and consider whether to add members
- Conduct a Readiness Self-Assessment

Step 2: Archival Data Review

**Actions**
- Gather and record key information from existing data sources as-is, and manipulated data sources
- Complete the Archival Data Collection Worksheet
- Complete Resource Inventory
EWI Format

EWI data presented at the school-level:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Warning Indicators</th>
<th>1st Grade</th>
<th>2nd Grade</th>
<th>3rd Grade</th>
<th>4th Grade</th>
<th>5th Grade</th>
<th>6th Grade</th>
<th>7th Grade</th>
<th>8th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>89.4%</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School absences</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student discipline issues</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent/teacher conflict</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student self-report</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct at school</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students with 1 or 2 conduct issues</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 3: Initial Analysis

Actions

- Convene Advisory Council to review the Archival Data and identify high priority needs
- Develop questions for surveys, interviews and focus groups
- Identify key informants
**Step 4: Surveys**

**Actions**
- Develop surveys for key constituent groups: students, parents and teachers (required)
- Administer the surveys
- Compile survey results

**Step 5: Key Stakeholder Interviews**

**Actions**
- Conduct Key Informant Interviews
- Summarize findings

**Step 6: Focus Groups**

**Actions**
- Conduct Focus Groups with key constituents: students, parents and teachers are required
- Summarize findings
Step 7: Final Analysis

**Actions**

- Convene Advisory Council to review summaries of surveys, interviews and focus groups and determine priority need areas for the next 12 months
- Begin to recommend solutions for how to address the needs

Step 8: Reporting

**Actions**

- Write Need Assessment Report
- Disseminate Report

Phasing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phasing</th>
<th>Weeks 1&amp;2</th>
<th>Weeks 3&amp;4</th>
<th>Weeks 5&amp;6</th>
<th>Weeks 7&amp;8</th>
<th>Weeks 9&amp;10</th>
<th>Weeks 11&amp;12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Getting Started</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archival Data Review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveys</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder Interviews</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Effective community schools continually develop a set of four key capacities:
1. Comprehensiveness
2. Collaboration
3. Coherence
4. Commitment
What is Foundation Aid?

- Primary state funding formula for general operating support
- $16.5 billion total statewide in 2016-17
- Increased by $630 million last year, including $100 million in Community Schools Set-aside

Community Schools Set-aside

- Designated districts are required to spend a portion of their 2016-17 Foundation Aid increase on Community Schools
- Set-aside funds are paid at the same time as districts’ general aid payments.
- Expenses are reported by your Business Official and Superintendent

For More Information:

- www.childrensaidsociety.org
- www.nccs.org
