

2023



COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING[®]
CONFERENCE

ACTNOW

Afterschool for Children & Teens

How We ALL Succeed: A Proven Equity Strategy for Schools



Welcoming Activity

*College and
career
readiness is like
this image
because...*

ACTNOW

Afterschool for Children & Teens



Agenda

- ▶ Welcome/intro/norms
- ▶ What is a **community school**?
- ▶ Community school model + college & career readiness
- ▶ Using the model
- ▶ Questions & closing

Norms

- ▶ Take care of yourself
- ▶ Engage
- ▶ Put ideas on the table
- ▶ Give space for others

Speaker Intro



Lesley Rivers

she/her

Program Coordinator

GO BUCKS!



Mia Xia

she/her

Policy and Communications
Intern

Go 'Cats!



Michael Guilmette

he/him

Policy and Communications
Intern

Roll 'Rooms!



Amy Ji

she/her

Policy and Communications
Intern

Skating through life
professionally

All youth across IL deserve access to **high-quality, affordable** extended learning day programs.



Newsletter Join Form



2.

What is a Community School?



Think/Pair/Share

What is something you are **already doing** that could be considered part of this model?



3.

How Do
Community
Schools Prep for
College and Career
Readiness?

Community Schools are a site of **stability, kinship, resource distribution, civic engagement, and social connection.**

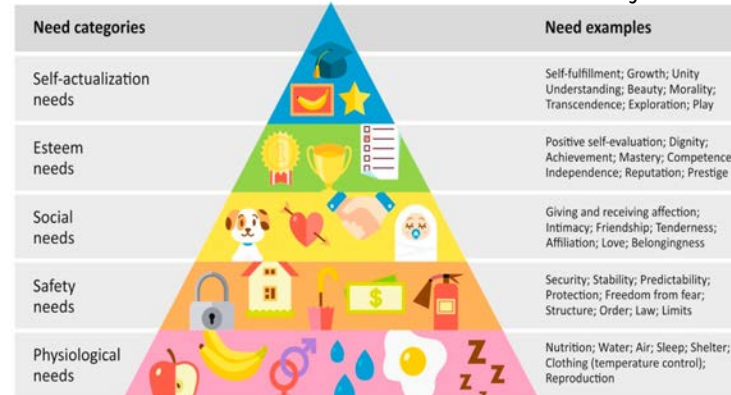
Recent reports on the impacts of COVID-19-based school closures reiterate the undeniably essential role of community schools:

Over **1.1 million** families living in poverty lost access routine child care during working hours

13 million children experiencing hunger encountered disruptions in critical food source

Nearly **1.5 million** children experiencing homelessness could not reach stable, reliable networks of social workers and healthcare providers

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



The absence of long-standing community schools have **detrimental consequences** on youth development:

Increased experiences of stress and anxiety due to chaotic transition/relocation processes into new school ecosystems (both online and in-person)

and

Severance of crucial support networks (teachers, adult mentors, peers) that provide a point of connection for students and their families

Result in...



Disruptions in learning & poorer academic achievement

Decreased access to & utilization of community resources and services

Loss of school as a safe space for learning, healing, & engagement

Increased mistrust & resentment towards social institutions

Manifestation & entrenchment of structural inequities in education

Community Schools equip students with the necessary **social-emotional skills** to succeed in college, future careers, and beyond.

Improved teamwork and collaboration in various social settings



Willingness to ask for help when needed



Strengthening feelings of belonging & introducing opportunities for growth and connection



Persevering & building resilience



Having compassion and empathy for others



Student outcomes are strongly determined by **family engagement**

Family involvement has a positive relationship with

- ▶ higher GPAs and scores,
- ▶ enrollment in more challenging academic programs,
- ▶ more credits earned,
- ▶ better attendance,
- ▶ improved behavior, and
- ▶ better social skills and adaptation to school

Source: National Center for Family & Community Connections with Schools

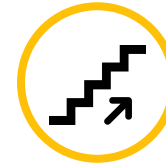
Community schools
recognize that
all families
want their children
to do well

Community schools **involve and support families** in many ways

Empower families to take charge in their child's education



Provide services to support and develop the education and careers of families



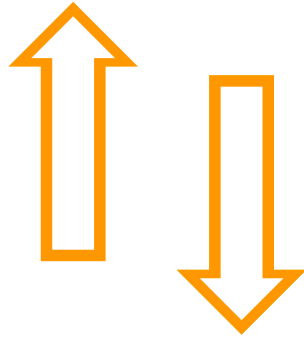
Create a structure of shared power between families, school staff, and community members



Develop culturally responsive school strategies that address youth and family needs and circumstances

Family poverty status is the best indicator of **educational attainment**

As the poverty
level of a
neighborhood
increases...

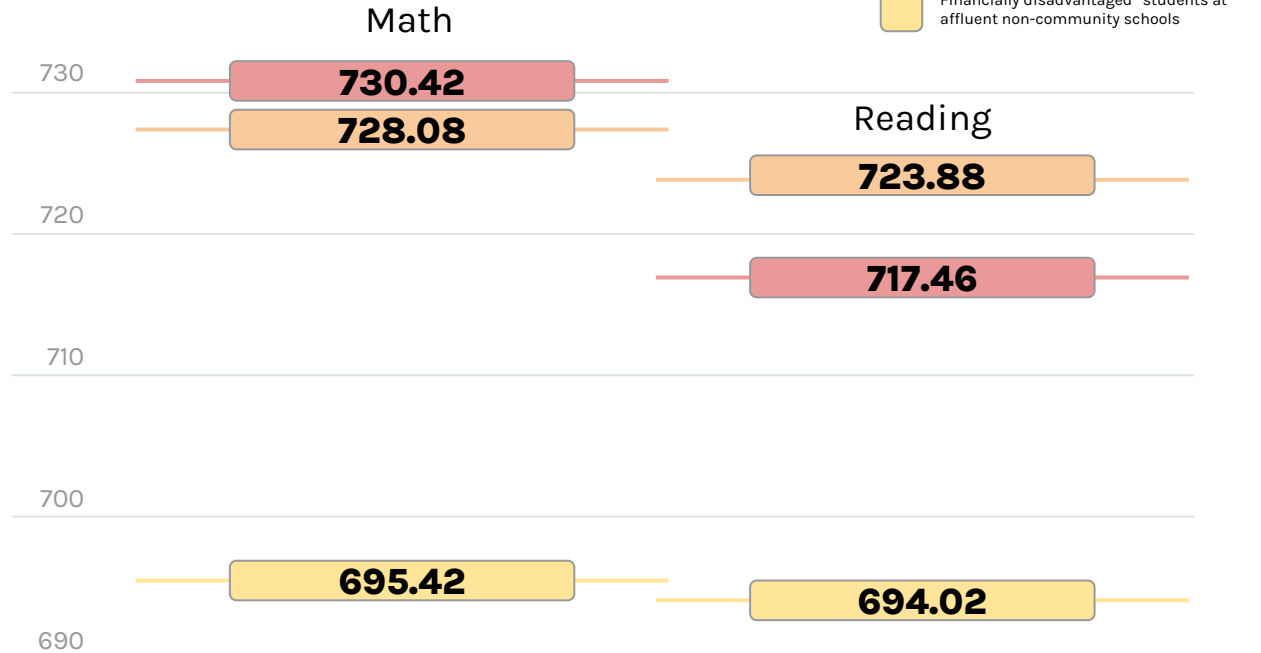


...student
achievement
decreases.

Source: Center for
American Progress

How do community schools create an **equitable** education system?

Student Achievement in Union Public Schools



Source: Adams, "The Community School Effect."

*Adams uses "low-income" and "non-low-income"

Think/Pair/Share

How can this model **equitably** support preparing for CCR for ALL learners?

Each table/group should come up with 1 example and share with the room.

4.

How Can You Use
This Model to
Help Students
Prepare for the
Future?



College and Career Readiness in **Afterschool**

What are possible services or programs that would prep for this?



Pick A **Pillar**

- ▶ EXPANDED AND ENRICHED LEARNING TIME
- ▶ FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- ▶ INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORTS



Example Programs

EXPANDED AND ENRICHED LEARNING TIME

Afterschool program that partners with a local college or university. Allow youth to begin seeing themselves at college

During afterschool/summer, take field trips to technical colleges to expose students to other careers.

Career fair/day in afterschool/summer

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Guest speakers/presenters from local industry leaders/large employers

Invite families to a class on how to apply for federal financial aid/college

Hold a transition class for families and their youth on life post-HS

INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORTS

College/career counselors embedded at the school

Consider Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Are your students fed/clothed/housed? If not, they cannot begin to think about CCR. Meet those needs first.

Discussion Question

Take the time to discuss in your small groups.

What are possible programs or services that would prep for college and future careers?



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What are possible programs or services that would prep for college and future careers?



Questions?
Use the Padlet!



Optimistic Closure

My next step is...

Thank you!



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