Resources You Can Use

Messaging: How to Effectively Communicate for Community Schools

Model Legislation

Community Schools in ESSA State Plans

Implementation Resources

Implementation Resources

The passage of good policies in support of community schools is just the important first step toward achieving a comprehensive community schools strategy. The following resources are designed to help you actively engage stakeholders to ensure the policies you enact are successfully implemented and positive program outcomes are attained.

Policies that Advance Community Schools

- Building Community Schools: A Guide for Action, National Center for Community Schools
- Community School Standards, Coalition for Community Schools
- Community Schools as an Effective School Improvement Strategy: A Review of the Evidence, Learning Policy Institute
- Community Schools: A Whole-Child Framework for School Improvement, Coalition for Community Schools
- Community Schools: Problem Solving Machines, Roosevelt Middle School Case Study, Center for Popular Democracy
- Community Schools: Resources, American Federation of Teachers
- Community Schools: Transforming Struggling Schools into Thriving Schools, Center for Popular Democracy
- ESSA Resources, Coalition for Community Schools
- Leading with Purpose and Passion: A Guide for Community School Directors, National Center for Community Schools
- Partnerships, Not Pushouts—A Guide for School Board Members: Community Partnerships for Student Success
- Scaling Up School and Community Partnerships, Coalition for Community Schools
- The Six Pillars of Community Schools Toolkit, National Education Association
- Transforming Schools Revitalizing Neighborhoods: A Guide for Resource Coordinators, Cincinnati Public Schools Community Learning Centers
- What the Four Pillars of Community Schools Look Like in Action (Infographic), Learning Policy Institute

First Pillar: Integrated Student Supports

- Building Community Schools: A Guide for Action, National Center for Community Schools
- Community School Standards, Coalition for Community Schools
- Community Schools as an Effective School Improvement Strategy: A Review of the Evidence, Learning Policy Institute
- Leading with Purpose and Passion: A Guide for Community School Directors, National Center for Community Schools
- Making the Grade: A Progress Report and Next Steps for Integrated Student Supports, Child Trends

- National Evaluation: Five-Year Summary Report, Communities in Schools
- Policy Brief: Principles of Effective Practice for Integrated Student Support, City Connects, City Connects
- Wraparound Replication Cookbook, School and Main Institute

Second Pillar: Expanded and Enriched Learning Time and Opportunities

- Continuous Quality Improvement in Afterschool Settings: Impact Findings from the Youth Program Quality Intervention Study (Executive Summary), David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
- Expanded Learning Time: Expectations for Implementation, Mass 2020 and Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Financing Expanded Learning Time in Schools: A Look at Five District Expanded-Time Schools, National Center on Time & Learning and The Wallace Foundation
- Governance Structures for City Afterschool Systems: Three Models, The Wallace Foundation
- Growing Together, Learning Together: What Cities Have Discovered About Building Afterschool Systems, The Wallace Foundation
- Quality Standards for Expanded Learning, California Department of Education, Afterschool Division, and the California Afterschool Network
- Time Well Spent, Partnership for Children and Youth

Third Pillar: Active Family and Community Engagement

- A Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships, Partners in Education
- Best Practices in Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Implementation: Developing a Culture of Authentic Parent Engagement and Shared Decision Making, Californians for Justice
- Community Schools: Transforming Struggling Schools into Thriving Schools, Center for Popular Democracy
- Early Childhood Community School Linkages: Advancing a Theory of Change, John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities and Institute for Educational Leadership
- Effective Family and Community Engagement Strategies, Hanover Research for LEAD Connecticut
- Engaging Families and Community Partners for Equity and Excellence: 2015–2020 Action Plan, Hartford Public Schools
- Family Engagement Toolkit, Oakland Unified School District
- Handbook on Family and Community Engagement, School Community Network
- Keeping Students at the Heart of LCFF: Student Engagement in Year One of LCFF, Californians for Justice
- Patterns of Practice: Case Studies of Early Childhood Education & Family Engagement in Community Schools, Institute for Educational Leadership
- The Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework; Promoting Family Engagement and School Readiness from Prenatal to Age 8, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start
- Tools and Resources for Schools, Albuquerque Public Schools
- Transforming Schools Revitalizing Neighborhoods: A Guide for Resource Coordinators, Cincinnati Public Schools Community Learning Centers

Fourth Pillar: Collaborative Leadership and Practices

- Building a Leadership Team, Coalition for Community Schools
- Community School Standards, Coalition for Community Schools
- Family Leadership, Governance and Site Planning Toolkit, San Francisco Unified School District
- National Standards for Family School Partnerships, National PTA
- Partnership Effectiveness Continuum: A research-based tool for developing, assessing, and improving partnerships, Education Development Center
- Principles of Effective Partnerships, Center for Community Schools
- Scaling Up School and Community Partnerships: The Community Schools Strategy, Coalition for Community Schools
- School Leadership Teams Overview, New York City Department of Education
- Shared Use for Schools (Multiple Resources), Safe Routes to School National Partnership