

Community Schools Community of Practice

Setting the Stage for a Community Schools CoP



**District of Columbia
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
Elementary, Secondary and Specialized Education Division**

Sept. 29, 2016

AGENDA

- **Welcome & Introductions**
- **Purpose of Meeting**
- **Introduction to Community Schools**
- **CoP Mission/Vision/Goals Development**

Community Schools: Community of Practice

OSSE, in partnership with key stakeholders, is launching a Community of Practice (CoP) in 2016-17 school year. The CoP will offer an opportunity for all District of Columbia schools to receive training and technical assistance in creating and sustaining a community school.

General Framework of Meetings

- **Frequency of meetings**
 - One meeting per month (September 2016- May 2017)
 - Two-hour meeting
- **Structure of meetings:**
 - **First hour** Introduction to topic; sharing of theories on topic
 - **Second hour** Practical application of topic and network opportunities

Community Schools: Community of Practice

Fall 2016 CoP Meetings

Sept. 29, 2016: Setting the Stage for a Community Schools CoP

This session will focus on the introduction of OSSE's first CoP, creating a mission and vision for the CoP, introduction to community schools and an introduction to key tenets to consider when creating a community schools.

Oct. 27, 2016: Start Up/School Administration Buy-in

This session will focus on areas to consider when starting up a community school (e.g., relationship building with a collaborative approach, communication styles and goal setting and alignment). There will also be a panel discussion for participants to hear from best practices that exist in the field.

Nov. 30, 2016: Evaluation/Data

This session will focus on how to use evaluation/data to inform practice (i.e., How to access and assess national and local data trends as well as OSSE community schools evaluation report to strengthen DC community schools). There will also be a panel discussion for participants to hear from best practices that exist in the field for this topic area.

Dec. 20, 2016: Partnership Building

This session will focus on partnership building (i.e., why are partnerships essential to community schools?), taking an inventory and determining school needs, and building a collaborative partnership. There will also be a panel discussion for participants to hear from best practices that exist in the field for this topic area.

Community Schools: Community of Practice

Winter/Spring CoP Meetings

- **January 2017: Attendance**
Further information available soon
- **February 2017: Family Engagement/Special Populations**
Further information available soon
- **March 2017: Community & Public Health**
Further information available soon
- **April 2017: Finance/Sustainability**
Further information available soon
- **May 2017: “Telling Your Community School Story”/ Wrap-up**
Further information available soon

Community Schools

Community School

- A public and private community partnership
- Coordinates educational, developmental, family, health, and after-school-care programs during school and non-school hours for students, families, and local communities at a public school or public charter school
- **Objectives:**
 - Improve academic achievement
 - Reduce absenteeism
 - Building stronger relationships between students, parents, and communities
 - Improve the skills, capacity, and well-being of the surrounding community residents

Theory of Action...

If schools work in partnership with parents and community members to help build resources and support for students and their families...



Increased academic success for District students is possible!

Community Schools – Resources and Supports

Supports and Services include:

- Academic- enrichment activities
- Adult education
- Child-care services
- College, Career & Citizenship
- Community Engagement
- Early childhood development and education
- Family engagement services
- Family Engagement
- Medical and dental care
- Mental health promotion and treatment services
- Parent leadership programs
- Nutrition services
- Truancy prevention programs
- Youth development programs and services

Results Framework

- Given the theory of action, the following are results of a successful community school implementation:
 - Children are ready to enter school;
 - Students succeed academically;
 - Students are actively involved in learning in their community;
 - Students are healthy: physically, socially, and emotionally;
 - Students live and learn in stable and supportive environments;
 - Families are actively involved in children's education; and
 - Communities are desirable places to live.

Community Schools – A National Perspective

- Nationally, community schools have proven to be successful in:
 - **Reducing** absenteeism
 - **Improving** health and wellbeing of students and their families, and
 - **Increasing** the rates of high school graduation and college attendance.

Lessons to Date

- Based on lessons learned through a review of DC's program activities and best practices over the past three years, the following are key considerations as the District enters the fourth year of program implementation:
 - **Use data to evaluate outcomes** and effectiveness and inform program design.
 - **Ensure alignment** between supports/services and academic achievement
 - **Provide structural support** for community schools
 - **Ensure sustainability**
 - **Strengthen student and family** engagement

For any questions, please contact:

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OSSE Community Schools Incentive Initiative webpage:

<http://osse.dc.gov/communityschoolsinitiative>