It takes a village to create a Community School.

At Pittsburgh Public Schools, we’re striving to promote student achievement, create positive conditions for learning, and improve the well-being of families and communities through our Community Schools initiative. Using a successful national model as a guide, we have established strategic partnerships with local organizations that provide specific supports that are needed in individual schools. For example, our community partners provide health care services, cultural experiences, food services, mentoring and other supports that help eliminate barriers to learning. Community Schools serve as a resource hub, bringing families, youth and educators together with community organizations to support the well-being of our students and their families.

Nationally, community schools are recognized as “smart schools” that improve student learning by combining traditional approaches with community-based resources on site.

The Mission of Community Schools

When schools and community partners work together, we can achieve great things. PPS Community Schools are dedicated to achieving the following outcomes:

- Children are ready to enter school.
- Students attend school consistently.
- Students are actively involved in learning and their community.
- Families are increasingly involved with their children’s education.
- Schools are engaged with families and communities.
- Students succeed academically.
- Students are physically, socially and emotionally healthy.
- Students live and learn in a safe, supportive, and stable environment.
- Communities are desirable places to live.

8 Designated Community Schools Include:
- Pittsburgh Arlington PreK–8
- Pittsburgh Arsenal
- Pittsburgh Faison K–5
- Pittsburgh King PreK–8
- Pittsburgh Langley K–8
- Pittsburgh Lincoln PreK–5
- Pittsburgh Milliones 6–12
- Pittsburgh Westinghouse 6–12
Core Components of Community Schools

Although each Community School has different resource needs, they are structured in the same way. All have these key components:

**Community Schools Site Manager:** This dedicated individual works in partnership with the school principal and the larger school community to implement the defined Community Schools Strategy.

**Community Schools Site Team:** A team of school-level stakeholders at every designated Community School assists in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the Community School Action Plan. The Site Team includes students, parents, community members, partner agencies, teachers, school staff, and administrators.

**Community Schools Site Action Plan:** A comprehensive strategy is created by the Community School Site Team. It is designed to remove barriers to academic success and strengthen relationships between the school and the surrounding community, all in conjunction with the School Improvement Plan.

**Partner Agencies | Community Resources:** Many local organizations and individuals provide resources, services, programming, or advocacy to promote the Community Schools Strategy.

Many teachers report that they are more effective in Community Schools.

Need more information? Contact Monté Robinson, Community Schools Coordinator, at 412-529-3083 or mrobinson2@pghschools.org.