Expanded Learning Time & Opportunities

Community School Partnership

Danette Townsend, Executive Director
expanded learning time & opportunities

PILLAR

- Learning outside of the classroom
- Strong collaboration between in school learning & community
- Intentional alignment to the needs and wants of participants
- Youth voice - not about us without us
- Real world learning & problem solving
- INTENTIONAL & INFORMED

— ABC COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP
Young people spend a small fraction of their waking hours in schools. However, those who live in more affluent communities have access to academic support and enrichment beyond the school day and year, including tutoring, experiential learning (science and computer coding camps, for example), sports, music, and art.

Rich opportunities to learn can increase academic and beyond-academic outcomes, including improved student attendance, behavior, achievement, higher graduation rates, development of social, emotional and leadership skills, and reduced involvement in juvenile crime.

Community Schools draw on the rich cultural and social resources in communities that are often absent from traditional schools, enabling an increase in the number of knowledgeable adults from whom students can learn. Community Schools build deep, mutually beneficial partnerships that create sustained success for all.
QUESTIONS?
EXPANDED LEARNING TIME AND OPPORTUNITIES

Robert F. Kennedy Charter School
Shawn Morris, Principal
The RFK Orientation Program

- “Mindfulness 101”
  - This program is an integrated, nature-focused social/emotional learning experience focused on mindfulness, personal identity, communication and conflict resolution, community and trust building, problem solving, and collaborative work.
  - The program engages students in outdoor activities and “outside work” for students to complete at some point in their week outside of school.
  - Goals and objectives are to develop social emotional skills and competencies in students while engaging them in outdoor and nature-focused activities.

— ROBERT F. KENNEDY CHARTER SCHOOL
Concentration Areas:

- Mindfulness and meditation
- Personal identity development
- Immerse students in outdoor experiences and wild places in NM
- Communication skills and conflict resolution tools
- Community and trust building
- Individual and group problem solving

Developing additional opportunities with Cottonwood (OST) and other programs for all our students.

— ROBERT F. KENNEDY CHARTER SCHOOL
The NM Podcast Network engages young people and provides them the opportunity to develop skills in community media – creating and publishing their own podcasts. One goal of the network is to develop a statewide network of youth committed to empowering youth voice across the state of New Mexico.

The program is open to other students outside of RFK. RFK is the Hub for the program and the network is currently working with RFK and South Valley Prep students, as well as other students at other schools that have a passion for this type of activity.