Community Schools: Opportunities and Barriers for OST

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Out-of-School Programming

Extended Learning Time Program

• After-school opportunities is one out of three statutory requirements

• After-school or extracurricular enrichment opportunities for all students

• May be provided by the school or a community service provider

• Do not supplant federally funded programs

Community Schools Strategy

• Expanded and enriched learning time and opportunities (EELTO) is one of four pillars

• Provides additional academic support, enrichment activities and other programs

• May be offered in partnership with community-based organizations to enhance academic learning, social skills, emotional skills and life skills

• Aligned with the school’s curriculum, culturally and linguistically responsive
Out-of-School Programming

Extended Learning Time Program

• 13 categories for academic and enrichment activities
• Offered on a regular basis (e.g., weekly, bi-weekly) throughout the school year
• Remote learning is an option during SY2020-21

Community Schools Strategy

• Enrichment activities emphasize real-world learning and community problem solving
• After-school, weekend, summer, and year-round programs provide academic instruction and individualized support
• Remote learning is an option during SY2020-21
Out-of-School Programming: Community Schools

• Community Schools focus on the whole child and the whole community
  • Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs
  • Collaborative Leadership

• Selection of intervention(s) must relate back to the school’s
  • Needs assessment
  • Asset map
  • Vision and input from the community through listening sessions and data collection

• Selection of intervention(s) must be drawn from
  • Existing research (ESSA provisions)
  • Local data
  • Research for the community school or implementation work
Community Schools: Four Pillars in Action

1. **Collaborative Leadership and Practices**
   - FT Community School Coordinator
   - Site-based Leadership Team
   - Lead Partner Agency
   - Collaborative School Leader

2. **Integrated Student Supports**
   - Intentional mental and physical health services

3. **Active Family and Community Engagement**
   - Mutually beneficial partnerships
   - Actionable voice in school
   - Adult education
   - Workforce development

4. **Expanded and Enriched Learning Time and Opportunities**
   - OST enrichment targeted on closing the opportunity gap
   - Youth driven and youth led

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Source: Learning Policy Institute
Challenges

1. COVID-19 pandemic
   • Academic and enrichment opportunities needs changed
   • Student support needs changed
     ✓ Basic: food, shelter, safety
     ✓ Psychological: Relationships, esteem
     ✓ Self-actualization: achieving full potential, creative activities

Opportunities

1. Re-assess needs and develop an inventory of opportunities with site-based leadership teams
   • Inclusive, data-informed, and action-driven decision making
   • Map current resources in the community; diversity is an asset
   • Community Schools Coordinators: Develop new partnerships that can provide services to address the identified needs
   • Leverage and braid federal, state, and local resources
Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

2. Limitations of partners in the community and restrictions of partners at the school

Opportunities

2. Expand community partners: every voice is at the table and it matters

• Develop a diverse and engaged site-based leadership team that can help identify other partners

• Understand the root causes of the restrictions

• Allow all stakeholders to influence the direction of the school and how it can serve the entire community
Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges
3. Internet Access

Opportunities
3. Not every student fits the same mold
   • Variety of providers and services
   • Hotspots
   • Mobile phones

4. Chronic Absenteeism

4. Consider home visits
   • Community School Coordinator
   • Counselor, Teacher, Family Liaison
Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

5. Continuous learning in remote or hybrid mode

Opportunities

5. Adaptation of OST opportunities

- Supported all students with the transition to online learning
  - Virtual classes: youth-driven and youth-led
  - Virtual showcases via websites
- Designed individualized, small group set of after-school activities to support students and families
  - Re-identified students’ choices through family and student surveys
- Strengthen intervention supports
  - Remote learning kits
  - Virtual Family Dinners

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