



The Community School Initiative at **Lansdowne Elementary School**

What is a Community School?



“Community Schools mobilize students, families, educators, and community members to develop a grassroots vision for their schools and communities, and they work together to achieve their vision.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dTXujuJRc0>

-NEA

Why should we be a community school?

The Community School strategy is evidence-based:

- ✓ **Improved student learning**
- ✓ **Improved student attendance**
- ✓ **Improved student behavior**
- ✓ **Increased family engagement in learning**

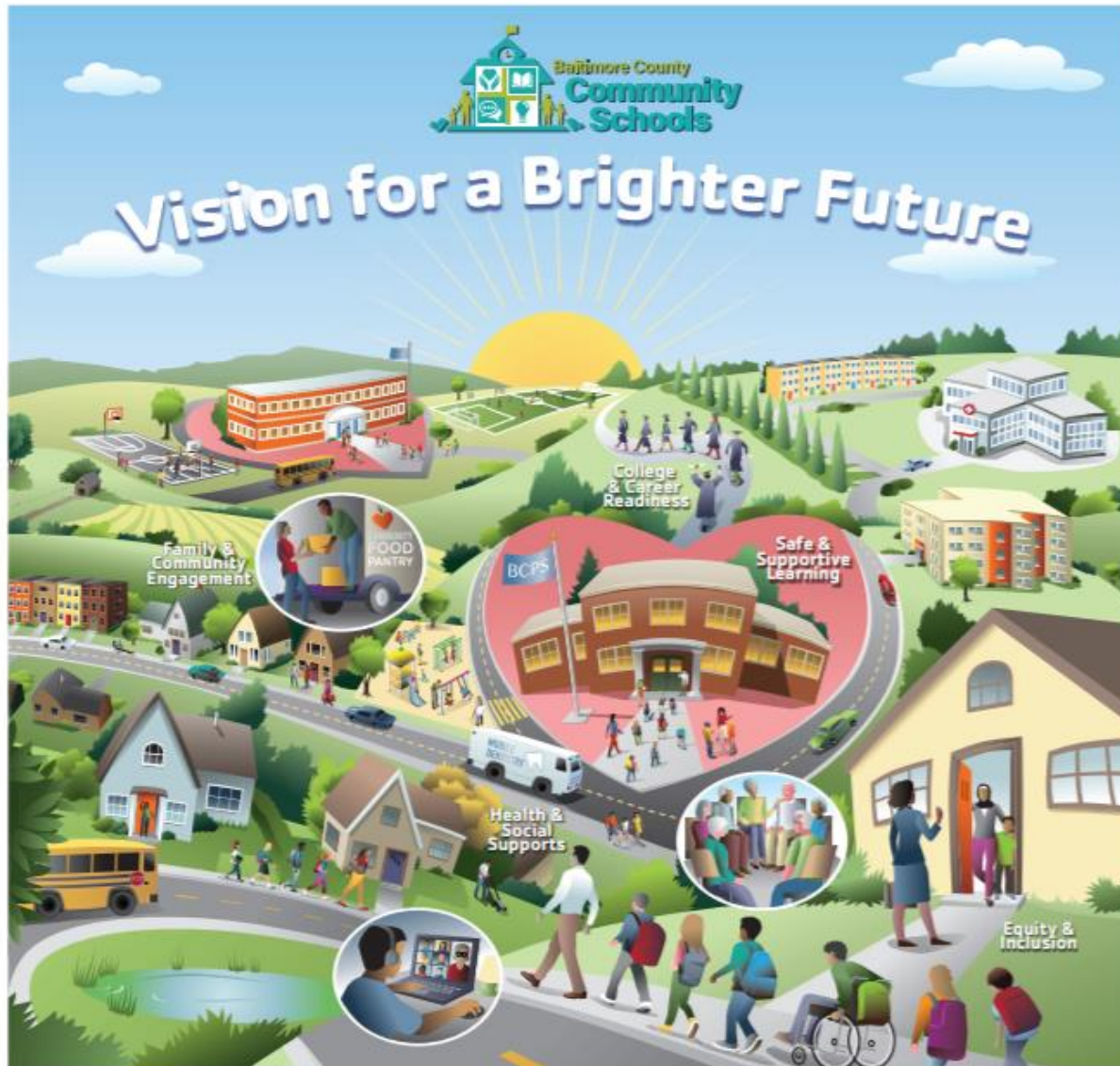


data based on nationwide study by
The National Coalition for Community Schools

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How do we make it happen?

Baltimore County's CS Commitments



**College & Career
Readiness**

Equity & Inclusion

**Family &
Community
Engagement**

**Health & Social
Supports**

**Safe & Supportive
Learning
Environment**

Who becomes a CSF? Someone with K-12 educational experience and their MA in School Counseling, Social Work or a related field.



Meet Your CSF (Community School Facilitator)

Alexandra West

- **Former School Counselor at LES**
- **BA in Psychology with an emphasis in Human Services**
- **MA in Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling**

Role of the Community School Facilitator

- **Guides the Needs Assessment.**
- **Creates the Community School team.**
- **Uses data to create and implement the Multi-Year Plan.**
- **Leverages partnerships and resources around the school and community needs.**
- **Maintains relationships with all stakeholder groups to move the work.**
- **Builds capacity of stakeholders through leadership development.**
- **Continually assesses where we are and where we need to go.**

A Comprehensive Needs Assessment will allow us to plan for the process.

- ★ Gather, organize, analyze, and report the current picture of our school community.
 - ★ Community & School Resource Inventory
 - ★ Existing Data Review
- ★ Include the voices of LES stakeholders equitably and inclusively through surveys, interviews, listening sessions to identify the needs of those we serve.
 - ★ Students
 - ★ Staff
 - ★ Families
 - ★ Community Members
 - ★ Business Partners
- ★ Provide a realistic picture to inform our Community School Action Plan.

CS Shared Decision-Making Team

- ★ Include the voices of ALL LES stakeholders

- ★ Students
- ★ Staff
- ★ Families
- ★ Community Members
- ★ Business Partners



- ★ Identify and plan for resources to meet the identified needs of our school family.
- ★ Meet monthly to use Needs Assessment and ongoing data to plan for our school's needs

Building our Community School



★ Capital Resources

- ★ COP (Community Oriented Policing Services) grants
- ★ donations/grants
- ★ Business partnerships

★ Human Resources

- ★ Volunteers
- ★ Programs
- ★ Connections
- ★ Talents

Road Map



EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES*

- Career Planning
- Operation Occupation
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Academic Enrichment
- Culturally Responsive Practices
- Out of School Time Programming
- Effective Family & Community Communication
- Parent Teacher Home Visits
- Increasing physical activity during school day
- Mentoring
- Multi-tiered approach to addressing trauma
- Prevention of Adverse-Childhood Experiences
- School Family Partnerships
- Building Student Resilience

*Not a complete list.

EVIDENCE-BASED IMPACTS

EQUITABLE OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

Knowledge
(Short-Term)

Actions
(Intermediate)

Conditions
(Long-Term)

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Chronic Absenteeism
Average Full Day Attendance

Increased Instructional Days

Decrease in Achievement Gaps
Decreased Behavioral Referrals, Suspensions, and Expulsions

Improved High School Graduation Rate
Improved College and Career Readiness

EQUITY AND INCLUSION

After-School Program Participation
Number of Enrichment Partners

Enhanced Academic Learning
Parent's Feeling of Partnership in their child's learning
Parental Awareness of Student Academic

Inclusive Practices Supportive of Student Learning
Use of Facilities for Out-of-School-Time Activity

Reduction of Achievement Gaps

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Family Participation in Outreach Events
Number and Type of Family Outreach Events Held

Staff and Families with Increased Awareness of Strategies Utilizing Student-Focused Family Engagement

Positive Engagement and Collaboration Between Families with School Staff

Effective Use of Family Partnerships as A Resource to Elevate Student Achievement Levels

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SUPPORTS

Number of Health and Wellness Education Programs Developed Based Needs Assessment
Level of Participation in Health Wellness Programs

Community Awareness of Health and Wellness Benefits for Children

Improved Social Norms Involving Whole Child Supports

Equitable Distribution of Health & Wellness Benefits to Low-Income Communities

SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Percent of Students Demonstrating Targeted CASEL Competencies
Student, Staff, And Community Perceptions on School Climate Surveys

Increased Social/Emotional Skills

Increased School Connectedness

Staff Utilization of Positive Behavior Interventions

Declining Disproportionality in Suspensions & Expulsions

A charitable, cause-driven organization working for community well-being.

The Y.™ For a better us.

What are our current resources?

College & Career Readiness

MTSS supports, data-driven small groups, school supplies, career lessons, ESY, ELO

Equity & Inclusion

Diverse classroom libraries, COVID tutoring, Equity team, translated newsletters

Family & Community Engagement

Watch D.O.G.S., meal program, family nights (math, reading), Parent Presentations from support staff

Health & Social Supports

Nursing Assistant, School-based mental health partnerships, meal program, school supplies give away

Safe & Supportive Learning Environment

Schoolwide CD, staff PD on trauma informed schools, resource staff support and coaching

Next Steps

Conduct
Comprehensive
Needs Assessment

Build our Community
School Shared
Decision-Making Team

Identify resources, talents,
and connections in our
school community

