

# Community Partnership Schools™ MODEL

Orlando, Florida



The **Community Partnership Schools™** model is a community school model in which four core community partners — a school district, university or college, nonprofit, and health care provider — commit to a long-term partnership to establish, develop and sustain the Community Partnership School.

## ***How are Community Partnership Schools unique?***

**Four or More Partners.** Each core community partner is essential to the success of the Community Partnership School. The partners work together to secure resources to address student, family and community needs.

**Long-Term Commitment.** The partners make a commitment, often through a Memo of Understanding, to support their Community Partnership School for a minimum of 25 years.

**Shared Decision-Making.** A Community Partnership School is governed by a council of representatives from each of the partner organizations along with leadership from the school and community. The representatives collectively make decisions about securing funding, allocating resources, hiring staff and working with providers.

**Four Dedicated Staff Positions.** A Community Partnership School's core staff — a director, after school coordinator, health programs' coordinator and parent coordinator — support the four pillars of community school success. Other staff positions may be created as well.

**Leveraged Resources.** The staff identify and coordinate local providers to offer academic support programs, enrichment activities and wellness services at the Community Partnership School. In some cases, local providers relocate to the school.

**Organizational Structure.** In addition to the core partners and staff, Community Partnership Schools involve administrators, community members, students and other stakeholders.

**Certification Eligible.** Schools that implement the Community Partnership Schools™ standards and then operate successfully for a full year are eligible to apply for certification by the University of Central Florida. Schools that achieve UCF certification are well-positioned to secure future financial support.

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS focus on improving student well-being and success by engaging and supporting parents and the community. All community school models share the same focus, but they vary in their approach to organizing resources.

## PILLARS OF COMMUNITY SCHOOL SUCCESS

- Collaborative leadership
- Expanded learning
- Student support
- Family and community engagement

Oakes, J., Maier, A., & Daniel, J. (2017). *Community Schools: An Evidence-Based Strategy for Equitable School Improvement*. Palo Alto, CA: Learning Policy Institute



## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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*The Children's Home Society of Florida, Orange County Public Schools and the University of Central Florida developed the Community Partnership Schools™ model, first implemented at Evans High School in Orlando. © 2016, Children's Home Society of Florida, Orange County Public Schools, University of Central Florida. All rights reserved.*