

Polk Bros. Foundation Community Schools Leadership Network

Coordinated by the DePaul Center for Urban Education
in collaboration with the Chicago Public Schools
Office of Extended Learning Opportunities
Office of Elementary Areas and Schools
Office of Principal Preparation and Development

Goal: To expand the progress of Community Schools to increase literacy and to support social-emotional development

Components:

- ❖ Organize principal-to-principal dialogue about effective responses to school and community needs
- ❖ Strengthen links between extended learning opportunities and the core curriculum
- ❖ Expand learning opportunities for parents and community members

Activities and Resources:

- SIPAAA PLUS PROGRESS NOW—Toolkit to correlate Community School priorities in the SIPAAA and organize immediate progress in literacy
- “Toolkits” for Community Schools Leadership
- Administrator forums focused on principals’ priorities including the LRE, ISAT, and parent involvement and correlated with administrative recertification requirements
- Preparation of grant proposals to obtain additional support for Community School initiatives
- Community School Newsletter template and at-home literacy and math activities
- Literacy Development toolkits that emphasize writing about the community and city
- Workshops on expanding literacy for librarians, art, music, and computer teachers, Literacy Coaches, and representatives of community partners
- Workshops and resources to support social-emotional development within the core curriculum and extended learning activities
- Development of “Working Models”—exemplary guides to school progress based on the work of effective Community Schools

Outcomes:

1. Increased achievement by students
2. Increased family involvement
3. Increase community connections
4. Strengthened school leadership

Program Contact:

Barbara Radner, DePaul Center for Urban Education, 312-362-5155
bradner@depaul.edu