



Community Schools in Fairfax County

Marla Zometsky, Successful Children and Youth Policy Team (SCYPT) Coordinator

Dr. Sloan Presidio, Chief Academic Officer, Fairfax County Public Schools

Karla Bruce, Chief Equity Office, Fairfax County

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Presentation Goal and Overview

- Update on current Community School efforts and planned improvements
- Share a summary of the findings of the Fairfax County Community Schools (FCCS) Multi-tiered evaluation and associated Implementation Framework: Guidance for Implementing Community Schools in Fairfax County:
 - **Program Model**
 - Updated FCCS Implementation Framework; including roles and responsibilities for each partnering organization. FCPS School Board Approved on October 10, 2023.
 - **Process for Site Prioritization and Selection**
 - Updated and approved by FCPS School Board on October 10, 2023
 - **Funding Needs Projections**

Community Schools Local History: an Equity Strategy

- SCYPT initiative since 2018
 - Recognize that students are best positioned for success when they are supported in a holistic manner
 - School success is often dependent on student health, family stability, community safety, and many other factors not considered as part of a school's traditional function
- Opportunity Neighborhoods (ONs) and Community Schools work together
 - Collaboration brings more targeted and effective solutions to the school and surrounding school community
 - ONs lead a collective impact effort in a specific geographic area; partner with schools, but don't duplicate the work of FCPS staff
 - Community schools aim to align existing services, develop partnerships to address identified gaps and barriers, and engage the local community to best address local assets and needs to support students' school success
- Adhering to the following principles:
 - A focus on equity of opportunity (One Fairfax)
 - The importance of a whole-child approach
 - Improving access through location (e.g., co-location and the integration of services)
 - Services based on identified local community needs
 - Shared accountability among school, FCPS, County, and partners
 - The necessity of family and community engagement

Current Community Schools Model

Three existing Community Schools

- Onsite staff and coordination is done by CBOs
- All are part of an array of initiatives and services focused on the local community
- Other local FCPS schools; faith and community-based services/centers; Fairfax County Government facilities/centers
- Located in or near an Opportunity Neighborhood Initiative
- Each has a different funding source and structure from the others
- Operating without a consistent framework of support and evaluation (operating frameworks, funding amounts, etc.)

Existing Community Schools	Whitman MS	Mount Vernon Woods ES	Glasgow MS
FCPS Region	3	3	2
School Year CS Established	2018-2019	2018-2019	2019-2020
Funder	United Way of the National Capital Area	Fairfax County NCS	Communities in Schools of Northern Virginia, FCPS
CBO Coordinating Organization (MOU)	United Community	United Community	Communities in Schools of Northern Virginia

Moving Forward - Updated Community Schools Framework

- **Site Selection Process:** will use clearly defined metrics of prioritized schools identified for the expansion; consultation with School Administrators, Regional Administrators, and the FCPS School Board; Community Schools Prioritization and Selection Committee (FCPS and County) finalizes the prioritization list; funds identified and **approval of selection by FCPS School Board.**
- **Program Support Staffing Model:**
 - Community School Central Office Coordinator - Enhanced coordination and management of community schools including the creation of a full-time, FCPS central office position.
 - Community School Site Specialist – Direct support for the project school site; 100% of time collaborating with CBOs facilitating assessment, data gathering, developing and implementing programming, quarterly reporting.
- **Lead Community Based Organization:** Continued role for a Lead Community Based Organization at each community school site to center family voice, provide direct service delivery, and enhance outreach efforts. Depending on the needs of the school and capacity of the Organization this may be staff, programs, etc.
- **Assessment and Evaluation:** Standardized processes for needs assessment, evaluation, and reporting for each school site should be incorporated into the framework.
- **Communications:** Communication will be enhanced to establish expectations and standards for internal and external communications

Moving Forward - Fairfax County Community Schools Model

Defined roles and responsibilities for each organization that facilitates the Community Schools Initiative

Key Roles and Responsibilities

FCPS

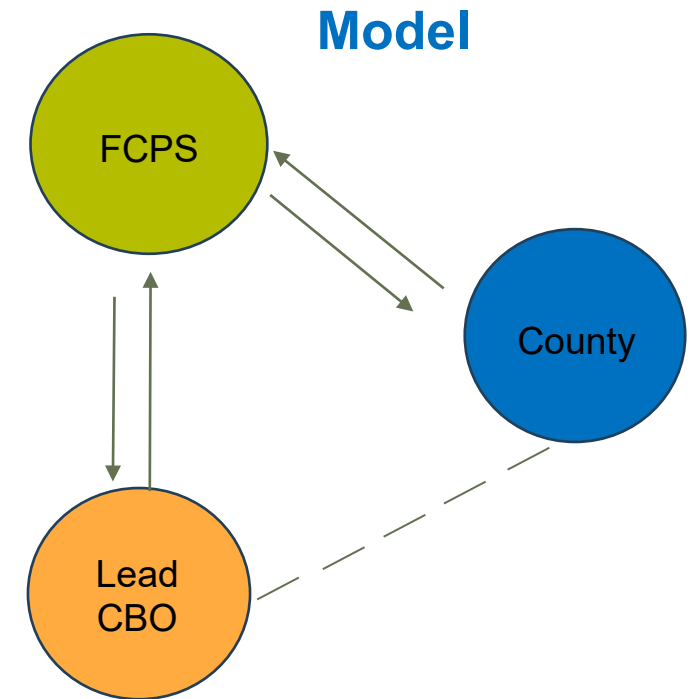
- Direct collaboration with the County on all aspects of CS program
- Administration in identifying and vetting of CBOs
- Administration of MOU with CBOs
- Direction of CBOs on service provision as agreed to in MOUs
- Administration of Program
 - Managing of Support Staff
 - Assessment and Evaluation of Program
 - Manages internal and external communications

Lead CBO

- Service Delivery, Coordination and Outreach
 - Partners with School Site Specialist to accomplish goals (programs, services, activities)
- Assists with identifying additional partners for service collaboration

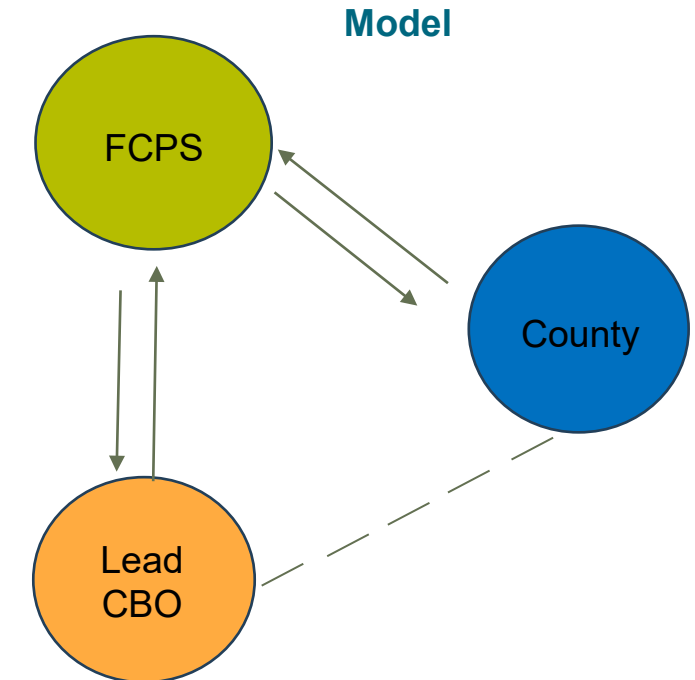
County

- Direct collaboration with the FCPS on all aspects of CS program
- Technical Assistance with identifying and vetting of CBOs
- Facilitate county agency support and service delivery at CS
- Creates and implements a shared funding model



Moving Forward - Community Schools Governance and Oversight

- The Opportunity Neighborhoods and Community Schools Core Team: ongoing technical support and collective impact capacity building for existing and future sites
- The vital expertise and established relationships of local CBO's informs outreach, understanding, and customized solutions for unique community needs
- Community schools are connected to the broader networks of Opportunity Neighborhoods, Neighborhood School Readiness Teams, and other place-based initiatives serving their local communities
- Points of contact in each HHS region, FCPS region, and corresponding CBOs have clear communication with principals, school site specialists and other key school personnel to coordinate partnership development and data sharing
- SCYPT will maintain its review of this ongoing initiative



Highlighting the Site Prioritization Process

- Utilizes clearly defined metrics from available data sources
 - Primary Measures: including Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS), Chronic Absenteeism, and the Vulnerability Index
 - Secondary Measure examples: SOL reading/math pass rates; Virginia School quality profile, FC Youth Survey, feeder patterns, family engagement surveys, low rates of family engagement; school organization and structure; preference within Opportunity Neighborhood and Opportunity Neighborhood Designation
- Ensures FCPS School Board and principal awareness of expansion considerations; considers school site readiness for Community School Initiative, including upcoming implementation of other programs, FCPS School Board has final approval

Community School Funding Information

Fairfax County Community Schools Cost Estimate

Resources Required	Resource Timing	Annual Recurring Cost
Central Administrative Coordination	Initial recurring investment	\$250,000
Each New Community School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community School Site Specialist • CBO Partner Funding • Programmatic Costs 	Per site - timing based on funding availability and site identification	\$400,000 - \$500,000

Funding Approach

- No additional funding is needed for County staff supports; existing staff will be utilized
 - Current County support for one Community School will continue
- Grants for Community School implementation will be explored
- Philanthropic and other resource opportunities will be explored
- New model allows for flexibility as funding sources are identified

Moving Forward: Community Schools

- Improved technical assistance and coordination of the existing three Community School sites
- Align metrics and community assessment processes
- FCPS and Fairfax County are reigniting the Opportunity Neighborhoods and Community Schools Core Group that will lead the next phase of implementation planning and support the governance structure
- The SCYPT will continue to champion the Community Schools initiative as a key Collective Impact approach to addressing the in- and out- of school barriers to learning and in their powerful role to advance equity for students and their families.