

Community Partnership Schools

The Challenge

Thousands of Florida students arrive to school each day with more than a backpack - they carry baggage beyond their years: hunger, homelessness, poverty, exposure to violence, mental health struggles, inadequate access to health care and more. They carry so much weight that they simply cannot focus on their education.

The Solution: Community Partnership Schools

Through a long-term partnership with the school district, a college or university, and a health care provider, CHS leads community collaboration to bring resources and opportunities to students and families. By addressing barriers to learning –poverty, food insecurity, homelessness and others – Community Partnership Schools bring together high-quality academic supports, health care, counseling, mentoring and more – right at the school.

What Makes a Community Partnership School Unique?

Community Partnership Schools are proven to improve student behavior, increase academic gains and graduation rates, and enhance parental involvement. The model helps to provide learning environments that offer equitable opportunities and success for all students.

In addition to being a founding partner of the Community Partnership Schools™ model – along with the University of Central Florida and Orange County Public Schools – CHS is a core partner in 27 Community Partnership Schools from Pensacola to Miami.

The core of every Community Partnership School is a strong foundation:

4 or more core partners:

School district, reputable non-profit like CHS, health care provider, college or university.

Long-term commitment:

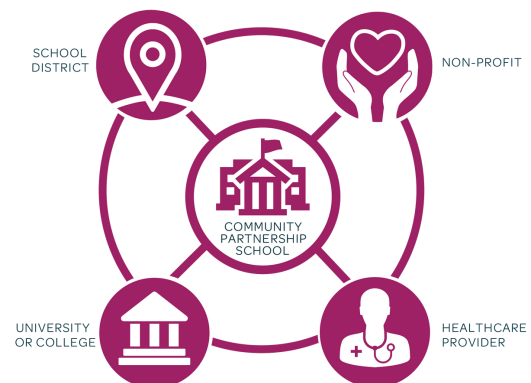
Partners make a 25-year (or longer) commitment.

Shared decision making:

Governed by a council of representatives from each partner organization, school leadership and community members to make decisions about funding, resource allocation, services and more.

Leveraged resources:

Community Partnership Schools identify and coordinate local providers that can offer academic support programs, enrichment activities and wellness services at the school. By blending and braiding funding from multiple sectors (health, education, human services) we create opportunities in the school and surrounding community to remove barriers to learning and success.



Each Community Partnership School focuses on four pillars:

- ★ **Expanded Learning:** Academic support and enrichment take place before and after school, during weekends and in the summer to augment traditional learning during the school day.
- ★ **Wellness Supports:** A range of health and social services are accessible on the school campus.
- ★ **Family & Community Engagement:** Families and the community are partners in children's education, and the school becomes a neighborhood center offering enrichment opportunities for both students and adults.
- ★ **Collaborative Leadership:** A culture of shared governance and collective decision-making advances a unified vision to identify needs and provide appropriate resources and solutions in the school and community.

Why does this matter?

Every child deserves the opportunity to learn and succeed ... but the reality is that, far too often, a child's zip code and family circumstances determine their future -- and their potential is lost, creating a ripple effect throughout the community.

Community Partnership Schools aim to change that: 95% of students attending Florida's 36 schools – 27 of which CHS provides leadership as a core partner – are economically disadvantaged.¹ This model empowers students to realize their potential and find paths toward academic and life success.



In May 2020, there was an increase of 2.5 million children living in poverty as a result of COVID-19.²



Children who grow up in poverty are five times more likely to drop out of high school. Today, nearly 80 percent of the prison population are high school dropouts.³



21 percent of low-income children and youth aged 6 to 17 have mental health challenges.⁴ Children at risk for mental health challenges in first grade face a 5% drop in academic performance in just two years.⁵



Students with toothaches are almost 4 times more likely to have a low grade point average.⁶

Through the Community Partnership Schools™ model, students have greater opportunities to thrive. Below is a small snapshot of this impact:

AT C.A. WEIS ELEMENTARY:

The percentage of students making learning gains in ELA Reading is 8% higher than the school district and 7% higher in ELA Math.



Disciplinary referrals dropped by over 90% between 2016–2020.



Out of school suspensions have decreased by 94% since 2016.

AT THE WEBSTER SCHOOL:

Students demonstrated a 46% increase in learning gains in FSA Math in 2018 to 2021.

21% → 67%

AT ENDEAVOUR ELEMENTARY:

The percentage of students making learning gains in the FSA ELA* more than tripled between 2016 and 2019.

67% → 95%

*FSA ELA = Reading

AT EDWARD H. WHITE HIGH SCHOOL:

67% → 96%

Graduation rates increased 29% between 2015 and 2021.

AT EVANS HIGH SCHOOL:

Evans High School has seen a 185% increase in college acceptances to UCF since 2012.

↑ 185%

AT OCPS ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE:

Overall learning gains on the FSA MATH increased from 32% in 2018 to 48% in 2019.

Overall learning gains on the FSA ELA* increased from 38% in 2018 to 58% in 2019.

*FSA ELA = Reading

AT MORT ELEMENTARY:

The average teacher retention rate at Mort Elementary was 13% higher than 5 comparative schools between 2013–2018.

↑ 13%

¹ - Economically disadvantaged students are students determined to be eligible for free and reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program.

² - <https://firstfocus.org/resources/key-stats-on-the-effect-of-covid-19-on-kids>

³ - <https://www.apa.org/pi/ses/resources/indicator/2013/05/poverty-dropouts>

⁴ - <https://youth.gov/youth-topics/prevalence-mental-health-disorders-among-youth#:~:text=Youth%20at%20Higher%20Risk%20for%2017%20have%20mental%20health%20disorders>

⁵ - <https://childmind.org/report/2016-childrens-mental-health-report/mental-health-impacts-schools/>

⁶ - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3482021/>

*Data compiled from 20 Community Partnership Schools reflective of July 2021–November 2021.

Where are we today?

Children's Home Society of Florida serves more than 26,000 students in 27 Community Partnership Schools from Pensacola to Miami

- Evans High School - Orlando*
- Endeavour Elementary - Cocoa*
- C.A. Weis Elementary - Pensacola*
- Mort Elementary - Tampa*
- Edward H. White High School - Jacksonville*
- Howard Bishop Middle School - Gainesville*
- South Woods Elementary - Elkton*
- The Webster School - St. Augustine*
- OCPS Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) K-8 - Orlando*
- Wilkinson Junior High School - Middleburg*
- Sabal Palm Elementary - Tallahassee*
- Keystone Heights Jr/Sr High - Keystone Heights*
- Orange Park High School - Orange Park
- Dodgertown Elementary - Vero Beach
- Miami Southridge Sr. High - Miami
- Manatee Elementary - Bradenton
- Eccleston Elementary - Orlando
- Jones High School - Orlando
- Homestead Middle School - Miami
- Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts - Miami
- Parker Elementary - Panama City
- Daughtrey Elementary - Bradenton
- Jefferson County K-12 - Monticello
- Pine Forest High School - Pensacola
- Caribbean K-8 Center - Miami
- Lake Worth High School - Lake Worth
- JFK Middle School - Riviera Beach



Through Community Partnership Schools, children find hope and opportunities. Simply put: they learn how to dream again.

“

Every child should have the same resources, opportunities and privileges to be what they want to be. Your background, race, economic status and the neighborhood you grew up in does not make you any greater or less – every child can succeed despite the barriers in their way.

Rebecca Boreland
2017 graduate of Evans High, A Community Partnership School
Currently attending University of Florida, College of Nursing

”



For additional information on Community Partnership Schools or to learn how to get involved, contact Jarvis Wheeler, Senior Statewide Director, Community Partnership Schools: Jarvis.Wheeler@chsfl.org | 407-463-1706 chsfl.org/communitypartnershipschools

SCHOOL	YEAR EST.	CORE PARTNERS
Evans High School Orlando, FL	2010	CHS, Orange County Public Schools, Orange Blossom Family Health, UCF
C.A. Weis Elementary Pensacola, FL	2015	CHS, Community Health of Northwest FL, Escambia County School District, UWF
Endeavour Elementary Cocoa, FL	2016	Brevard Health Alliance, Brevard Public Schools, CHS, Eastern FL State College, City of Cocoa, UCF
OCPS Academic Center for Excellence Orlando, FL	2016	CHS, Orange County Public Schools, Orange Blossom Family Health, Rosen Preschool, UCF, Valencia College,
Mort Elementary Tampa, FL	2016	CHS, Hillsborough County Public Schools, Tampa Family Health Centers, USF, Tampa Innovation Partnership, University Area CDC
Edward H. White High School Jacksonville, FL	2016	Agape Community Health Center, CHS, Duval County School District, FSCJ, UNF
Howard Bishop Middle School Gainesville, FL	2017	Alachua County School District, Alachua County Health Department, CHS, Santa Fe College, University of Florida
South Woods Elementary Elkton, FL	2017	CHS, Flagler Hospital, St. Johns County Public Schools, St. Johns River State College
The Webster School St. Augustine, FL	2017	CHS, Flagler Hospital, St. Johns County Public Schools, St. Johns River State College
Wilkinson Jr. High School Middleburg, FL	2018	Baptist Health Systems, CHS, Clay County Public Schools, St. Johns River State College
Keystone Heights Jr./Sr. High Keystone Heights, FL	2018	Aza Health, CHS, Clay County Public Schools, Santa Fe College
Sabal Palm Elementary Tallahassee, FL	2018	CHS, FAMU, FSU Primary Health, Leon County Schools
Dodgertown Elementary Vero Beach, FL	2019	CHS, Indian River State College, School District of Indian River County, Treasure Coast Community Health Centers
Eccleston Elementary Orlando, FL	2019	CHS, Orange Blossom Family Health, Orange County Public Schools, UCF
Jones High School Orlando, FL	2019	CHS, Orange Blossom Family Health, Orange County Public Schools, UCF
Manatee Elementary Bradenton, FL	2019	CHS, Manatee County School District, MCR Health, University of South Florida
Orange Park High School Orange Park, FL	2019	CHS, Clay County Public Schools, Orange Park Medical Center, Palms Medical Group, St. Johns River State College
Miami Southridge Sr. High School Miami, FL	2019	CHS, Community Health of South Florida, FIU Miami-Dade County School District
Homestead Middle School Homestead, FL	2019	CHS, Community Health of South Florida, FIU Miami-Dade County School District
Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts Miami, FL	2019	CHS, FIU, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Nicklaus Children's Hospital
Parker Elementary Panama City, FL	2021	CHS, Bay District Schools, Gulf Coast State College, PanCare Health
Daughtrey Elementary Bradenton, FL	2022	CHS, Manatee County School District, MCR Health, University of South Florida

SCHOOL	YEAR EST.	CORE PARTNERS
Caribbean K-8 Center Miami, FL	2022	CHS, Nicklaus Children's Hospital, Miami-Dade College, Miami-Dade County School District
Jefferson County K-12 Monticello, FL	2022	CHS, FAMU, FSU, Florida Department of Health - Jefferson County, Jefferson County School District and North Florida College
Pine Forest High School Pensacola, FL	2022	CHS, Community Health of Northwest FL, Escambia County School District, UWF
JFK Middle School Riviera Beach, FL	2022	CHS, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Healthcare District of Palm Beach County and the School District of Palm Beach County
Lake Worth High School Lake Worth, FL	2022	CHS, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Healthcare District of Palm Beach County and the School District of Palm Beach County