

# 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 31 Community Partnership Schools from Panama City 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 44 schools – 31 of which CHS provides leadership as a core partner – are economically disadvantaged. 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.<sup>2</sup>



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.<sup>3</sup>



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



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

*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 30,000 students in 31 Community Partnership Schools from Pensacola to Miami

- Evans High School (Flagship) - 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
- Bellview Middle School - Pensacola
- Campbell Middle School - Daytona
- Longbranch Elementary - Jacksonville
- Ruthorford High School - Panama City



*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 Becki Couch, Associate Vice President, Community Partnership Schools: [Rebecca.Couch@chsfl.org](mailto:Rebecca.Couch@chsfl.org) | 904-831-6342 [chsfl.org/communitypartnershipschools](https://chsfl.org/communitypartnershipschools)

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

SCHOOL	YEAR EST.	CORE PARTNERS
<b>Caribbean K-8 Center</b> Miami, FL	2022	CHS, Nicklaus Children's Hospital, Miami-Dade College, Miami-Dade County School District
<b>Jefferson County K-12</b> Monticello, FL	2022	CHS, FAMU, FSU, Florida Department of Health - Jefferson County, Jefferson County School District and North Florida College
<b>Pine Forest High School</b> Pensacola, FL	2022	CHS, Community Health of Northwest FL, Escambia County School District, UWF
<b>JFK Middle School</b> Riviera Beach, FL	2022	CHS, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Healthcare District of Palm Beach County and the School District of Palm Beach County
<b>Lake Worth High School</b> Lake Worth, FL	2022	CHS, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Healthcare District of Palm Beach County and the School District of Palm Beach County
<b>Bellview Middle School</b> Pensacola, FL	2023	CHS, Community Health of Northwest FL, Escambia County School District, UWF
<b>Campbell Middle School</b> Daytona, FL	2023	CHS, Daytona State College, Halifax Health and Volusia County Schools
<b>Longbranch Elementary</b> Jacksonville, FL	2023	CHS, Agape Community Health Center, CHS, Duval County School District, FSCJ, UNF
<b>Ruthorford High School</b> Panama City, FL	2023	CHS, Bay District Schools, Gulf Coast State College, PanCare Health