

Community Schools: A Strategy, Not a Program



Lukas Weinstein
Director of Special Projects

Children's Aid Society



- ◆ Serves New York's neediest children and families at more than 40 locations.
- ◆ A Leader in firsts – all CAS initiatives:
 - first free school lunch program,
 - first industrial school for poor children,
 - first day care program for working mothers and
 - first visiting nurse service
- ◆ Cutting edge of children's services
 - Carrera Adolescent Sexuality and Pregnancy Prevention Program
 - Community School Model
 - Foster Care approach and systems



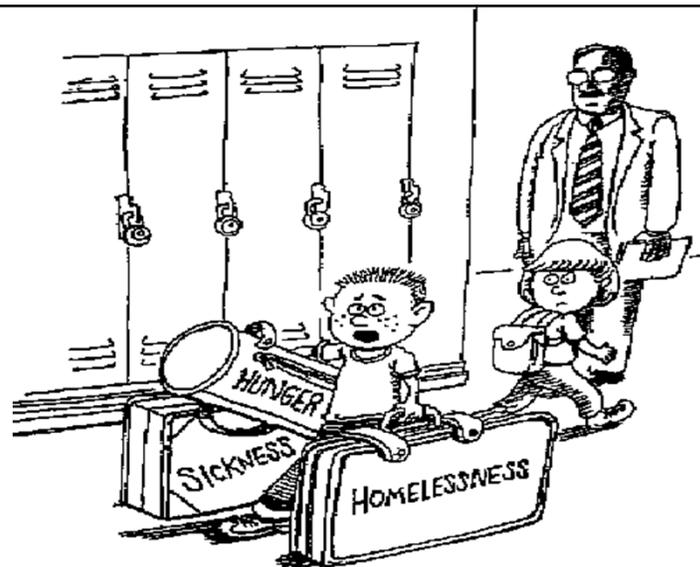
CAS Community Schools



- ◆ Partner with the New York City Department of Education since 1992
- ◆ Strategic Opportunity is the Intersection of capacity and need.
- ◆ 16 schools –some have 3 schools in one building (referred to as a “campus model”)
- ◆ 15 public schools, one charter school
- ◆ 2013 NYS Education Commission Report cites as a “Model of Education-Centered Comprehensive Programs”



The Children's Aid Society



***“Could someone help me with these?
I’m late for math class.”***

Scott Spencer

A Strategy for What?



A strategy for organizing the resources of the community around student success...

Pat Harvey, Former Superintendent
St. Paul Public Schools

What is a Community School?



A community school is both **a place** and **a set of partnerships** between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, services, supports and opportunities leads to **improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities.**

Coalition for Community Schools

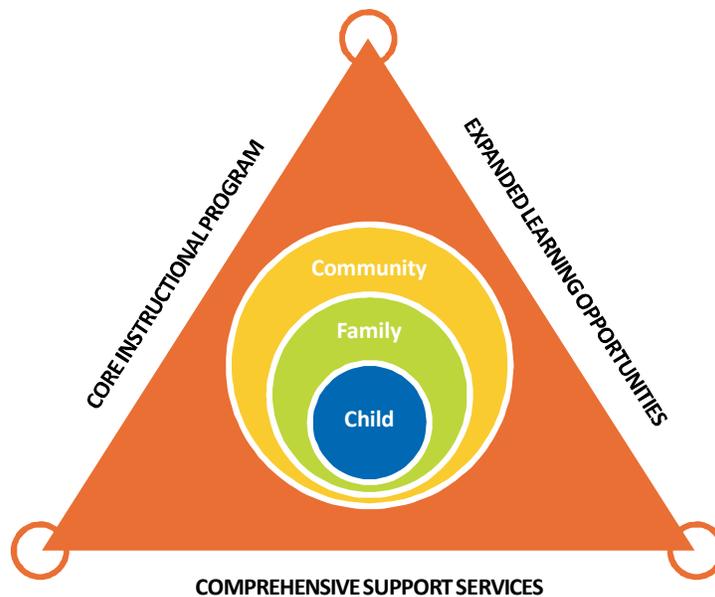
Another Definition...



A community school is characterized by:

- ◆ Extended Services
- ◆ Extended Hours
- ◆ Extended Relationships (“swinging door”)

CAS Developmental Triangle



Results of CAS Community Schools



- ◆ Improved academic performance—ELA and Math
- ◆ Higher attendance rates—Students and Teachers
- ◆ Positive school climate
- ◆ Improved school safety
- ◆ Greater parent involvement
- ◆ Improved student-teacher relationships
- ◆ Community benefits, such as better use of public buildings and safer neighborhoods
- ◆ Teachers able to focus on education



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National Center

for

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Consultation ◆ Advocacy ◆ Innovation



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