

Pittsburgh: Growing Our Schools Through Authentic Partnerships and Communication

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Woolslair PreK-5



Great Public Schools (GPS)



Our Solution for PPS: COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

(Schools that are centers of their communities)

KEY STRATEGIES

- Well-prepared and effective teachers who can support diverse learners.
- Wraparound academic, social, emotional, & health supports to help students stay on track.
- Positive discipline policies that help students in school, safe, and learning.
- Engaged parents & communities that are invested in the school's success and foster partnerships between the school, local businesses, and nonprofits.
- Universal access to pre-K so that every child is ready to learn when they enter school and no one starts behind.
- Equitable school funding so that schools in low-income communities can be equipped with resources & supports.
- Expanded Learning Time to bring after-school programs, internships, and community services.

EXAMPLES OF SUPPORTS



ALTERNATIVES IN ACTION

- CINCINNATI, OH** (Community Learning Centers)
 - Graduation rates up from 51% to 70% in 2010
 - Achievement gap between black & white students narrowed from 14.5% in 2010 to 3.2% in 2013
- OAKLAND, CA** (Community Schools)
 - Number of schools with after-school programs rose from 32 to 96
 - 10x more children with access to summer school
 - School-based health clinics
- EVANSVILLE, IN** (Community Schools)
 - 27% more students meet early literacy benchmarks
 - 79% of 2010 grads pursued post-secondary education above state average
- HARTFORD, CT** (Community Schools)
 - Reading proficiency +10% since 2005
 - After-school programs proven to maintain and increase math reading, & writing performance

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“Cradle to Career”

AFT Innovation Fund CTE Grant



Early Childhood Grant



Brashear Teaching Academy



Communications Tapestry

- Nina's Notes (Thursdays)
- News Blast (Tuesdays)
- Breakfast/Lunch/Snacks with Nina
- Community Schools Buzz (Monthly)
- Action Alerts on Legislation (Periodically)
- Meeting Reminders (Periodically)
- Surveys and Questionnaires
- Multiple Opportunities for Continuous Input



Grassroots Committees

- Paraprofessionals
- New Teacher
- Special Education
- Substitutes
- Early Childhood
- K-8
- High School



Professional Development

- Educational Research & Dissemination (ER&D)
- Teacher-to-Teacher PD
- Building Representative Trainings



Teacher Leader Program



African American Mentorship Program



Political Action Committee



Partnership with AFT

- Community Outreach Events
- CTE
- GPS
- Community Schools
- Member Communications
- Data Update
- First Book
- Early Childhood
- PAC
- Teaching Academy
- STEAM
- AROS
- IT Support
- Program and Policy Council
- Paraprofessional Recognition
- Teacher Leader Program
- Member Texting
- Member Organizing
- President Leadership Training
- Bargaining Input and Support
- PFT Financial Solvency
- Member College Debt Clinics
- Building Rep Retreats Support and Speakers
- President Communications Training
- Educational Research & Dissemination (28 Years)
- Communications Director Training
- Teacher Evaluation
- Paraprofessional Trainings & Leadership