

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS IMPACT REPORT

Community Schools empowers neighborhoods by creating a place where everyone belongs, works together, and has the resources they need to thrive. This strategy transforms a school into a space where educators, local community members, families and children unite to build a brighter future.

United Way
Greater Knoxville



Community Schools

Since 2012, Community Schools has helped transform school communities and supported the holistic well-being of students in Knox County. In 2023, Community Schools joined United Way of Greater Knoxville (UWGK) to align with the community impact initiatives we have been leading for over a century.

UNITED WE ARE BUILDING THRIVING COMMUNITIES



15 SCHOOLS
6,400+ STUDENTS

in our regional footprint. We rely on local partners to help us in our work.



393 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
192 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

donate their time, dollars, goods and more to support our initiatives. These partners champion our efforts and allow us to provide services, programs, engagement events and more to local families.

The impact of these gifts is felt across Knox County. It is felt through the afterschool programs that show children new cultures and opportunities for their future. Through the meals that help families enjoy and celebrate holidays. Through the donations that help meet basic needs and get students ready to learn. Through the events that help caregivers feel connected to their kids, their school and their community.

OUR PILLARS IN ACTION

As part of UWGK, Community Schools has drastically increased capacity, improved processes and adapted the national Community Schools' four pillar model of supporting students, families, schools and neighborhoods. Our pillars include:

- **Shared Collaborative Leadership and Practice**
- **Active Family and Community Engagement**
- **Expanded Enriched Learning and Opportunities**
- **Integrated Systems of Support**



SHARED COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP AND PRACTICE

We engage school and community members to assess and strategize to meet needs. This includes professional development for teachers and parents, asset mapping schools and neighborhoods and more.

- **192 Steering Committee Members**
- **393 Community Partnerships**
- **\$1,176,864 In Kind Dollars Donated**

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND ASSET MAPPING

For the past two years, due to the lack of full-time coordinators, the Community Schools team has struggled to maintain regular asset mapping and needs assessments. Since joining UWGK, Community Schools has recommitted to this crucial aspect of our work. This year, we conducted a partner survey, and we were able to asset map each of our schools to create a holistic view of community resources and needs. These projects will inform our site-based steering committees as they prioritize our efforts moving forward. Looking ahead, we will continue conducting these assessments across various stakeholder groups, including school staff, parents and caregivers and community members.

ACTIVE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We champion opportunities for school involvement and family empowerment. This includes campus improvement projects, community events and parent engagement opportunities.

- **137 Engagement Events**
- **74 Neighborhood Groups Involved**

FREE MEALS AT COMMUNITY EVENTS

Each year, Community Schools helps champion community events for students, families and their surrounding neighborhoods. These gatherings are an opportunity for schools to expand their reach into the community and for families to feel welcomed, involved and invested in their child's education.

This year, we expanded our partnership with the Knoxville Dream Center to provide free meals to families at these events through their Dream Eats program. By providing meals to families, more people are able to attend these events and enjoy a hot meal. This partnership has provided 2,400 meals to families across 16 engagement events.



EXPANDED ENRICHED LEARNING AND OPPORTUNITIES

We offer enrichment activities to help students gain new experiences and opportunities. This includes college awareness, arts and culture afterschool programs and health and wellness programming.

- **1,059 Students Enrolled in Healthy Lifestyle Programming**
- **3,018 Students Enjoyed Vocational Exposures**

CULTURE ENRICHMENT AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

Community Schools is dedicated to helping students engage in unique and exciting enrichment opportunities. This fall, we began partnering with the Knoxville Asian Festival's Japanese Outreach Initiative to implement a Japanese culture after school club at several of our Community Schools sites.

As part of this program, students are exposed to various Japanese traditions such as origami, calligraphy, martial arts, tea ceremonies, cooking techniques and more. This after school program allows students to dive into other cultures, expand their knowledge and engage in fun activities and experiences.

INTEGRATED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT

We ensure students, teachers and caregivers have access to the support they need. This includes food security support, assistance with clothing, school supplies and hygiene supplies, teacher wellness and more.

- **3,142 Students Received Family Stability Assistance**
- **2,412 Students Received School Readiness Support**
- **298 Students Received Mentoring**

TEACHER APPRECIATION

With the support of our dedicated community partners, we have been able to strengthen relationships with the faculty and staff at our Community Schools and enhance the well-being of our educators.

During Teacher Appreciation Week, our site coordinators worked with partners to provide teachers with tokens of appreciation, heartfelt messages and recognition for their hard work. Each school received a small appliance of their choice for their teacher's lounge. When the Knox County Health Department learned that many schools had requested pellet ice machines, they generously offered to purchase the machines to help promote healthy water consumption.

OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Beaumont Magnet Academy

Belle Morris Elementary

Christenberry Elementary

Dogwood Elementary

Green Magnet Academy

Lonsdale Elementary

Maynard Elementary

New Hopewell Elementary

Norwood Elementary

Sarah Moore Greene
Magnet Academy

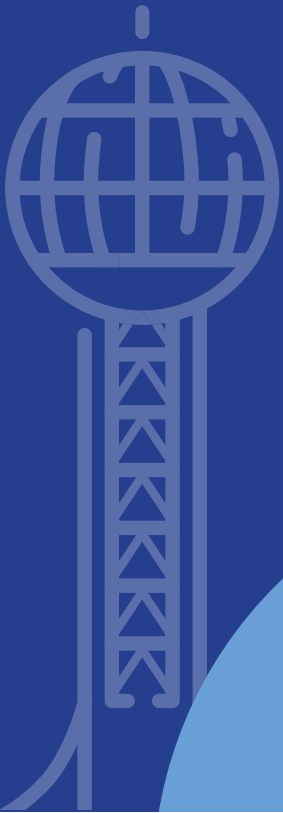
South Knoxville Elementary

Spring Hill Elementary

Vine Middle Magnet

West View Elementary

Whittle Springs Middle



PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Join our growing number of partners that support the Community Schools initiative! Whether you donate your time, dollars, goods or services, you are making a lasting impact on local kids, families and neighborhoods.



Community Schools

1301 Hannah Avenue • Knoxville, TN 37921
(865) 523-9131 • uwgk.org

Get connected with our team today by emailing Community Schools at:
communityschools@unitedwayknox.org.