

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 2-3.152 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.152)

7 Sec. 2-3.152. Community schools.

8 (a) This Section applies beginning with the 2024-2025
9 ~~2009-2010~~ school year.

10 (b) The General Assembly finds all of the following:

11 (1) All children are capable of success.

12 (2) Schools are the centers of vibrant communities.

13 (3) Strong families build strong educational
14 communities.

15 (4) Children succeed when adults work together to
16 foster positive educational outcomes.

17 (5) Schools work best when families take active roles
18 in the education of children.

19 (6) Schools today are limited in their ability to
20 dedicate time and resources to provide a wide range of
21 educational opportunities to students because of the focus
22 on standardized test outcomes.

23 (7) By providing learning opportunities outside of

1 normal school hours, including programs on life skills and
2 health, students are more successful academically, more
3 engaged in their communities, safer, and better prepared
4 to make a successful transition from school to adulthood.

5 (8) A community school is a public school or nonpublic
6 school that establishes a set of strategic partnerships
7 between the school and other community resources that
8 promote student achievement, positive learning conditions,
9 and the well-being of students by providing wraparound
10 services and ~~traditional school~~ that actively partners
11 with its community to leverage existing resources and
12 identify new resources to support the transformation of
13 the school to provide enrichment and additional life skill
14 opportunities for students, parents, and community members
15 at-large. Each community school is unique because its
16 programming is designed by and for the school staff, in
17 partnership with parents, community stakeholders, and
18 students.

19 (9) Community schools currently exist in this State in
20 urban, rural, and suburban communities.

21 (10) Research shows that community schools have a
22 powerful positive impact on students, as demonstrated by
23 increased academic success, a positive change in attitudes
24 toward school and learning, and decreased behavioral
25 problems.

26 (11) After-school and evening programs offered by

1 community schools provide academic enrichment consistent
2 with the Illinois Learning Standards and general school
3 curriculum; an opportunity for physical fitness activities
4 for students, fine arts programs, structured learning
5 "play" time, and other recreational opportunities; a safe
6 haven for students; and work supports for working
7 families.

8 (12) Community schools are cost-effective because they
9 leverage existing resources provided by local, State,
10 federal, and private sources and bring programs to the
11 schools, where the students are already congregated.
12 ~~Community schools have been shown to leverage between \$5~~
13 ~~to \$8 in existing programming for every \$1 spent on a~~
14 ~~community school.~~

15 (c) Subject to an appropriation or the availability of
16 State or federal funding for such purposes, the State Board of
17 Education shall make grants available to fund community
18 schools and to enhance programs at community schools. A
19 request-for-proposal process must be used in awarding grants
20 under this subsection (c). Proposals may be submitted on
21 behalf of a school, a school district, or a consortium of 2 or
22 more schools or school districts. Proposals must be evaluated
23 and scored on the basis of criteria consistent with this
24 Section and other factors developed and adopted by the State
25 Board of Education. Technical assistance in grant writing must
26 be made available to schools, school districts, or consortia

1 of school districts through the State Board of Education
2 directly or through a resource and referral directory
3 established and maintained by the State Board of Education.

4 (d) As used in this subsection (d), "trauma-informed
5 intervention" means a method for understanding and responding
6 to an individual with symptoms of chronic interpersonal trauma
7 or traumatic stress.

8 In order to qualify for a community school grant under
9 this Section, a school ~~may~~ must, at a minimum, provide the
10 following ~~have the following components:~~

11 (1) Before and after-school programming each school
12 day to meet the identified needs of students.

13 (2) Weekend programming.

14 (3) Summer ~~At least 4 weeks of summer~~ programming.

15 (4) A local advisory group comprised of school
16 leadership, parents, and community stakeholders that
17 establishes school-specific programming goals, assesses
18 program needs, and oversees the process of implementing
19 expanded programming.

20 (5) A program director, ~~or~~ resource coordinator, or
21 community school coordinator who is responsible for
22 establishing a local advisory group, assessing the needs
23 of students and community members, identifying programs to
24 meet those needs, developing the before and after-school,
25 weekend, and summer programming and overseeing the
26 implementation of programming to ensure high quality,

1 efficiency, and robust participation.

2 (6) Programming that includes academic excellence
3 aligned with the Illinois Learning Standards, life skills,
4 healthy minds and bodies, parental support,
5 trauma-informed intervention, and community engagement and
6 that promotes staying in school and non-violent behavior
7 and non-violent conflict resolution.

8 (7) Maintenance of attendance records in all
9 programming components.

10 (8) Maintenance of measurable data showing annual
11 participation and the impact of programming on the
12 participating children and adults.

13 (9) Documentation of true collaboration between the
14 school and community stakeholders, including local
15 governmental units, civic organizations, families,
16 businesses, and social service providers.

17 (10) A non-discrimination policy ensuring that the
18 community school does not condition participation upon
19 race, ethnic origin, religion, sex, or disability.

20 (11) Wraparound services, including:

21 (A) safe transportation to school;

22 (B) vision and dental care services;

23 (C) established or expanded school-based health
24 center services;

25 (D) additional social workers, mentors,
26 counselors, psychologists, and restorative practice

1 coaches and enhancing physical wellness, including
2 providing healthy food for in-school and out-of-school
3 time and linkages to community providers;

4 (E) enhanced behavioral health services, including
5 access to mental health practitioners and providing
6 professional development to school staff to provide
7 trauma-informed interventions;

8 (F) family and community engagement and support,
9 including informing parents of academic course
10 offerings, language classes, workforce development
11 training, opportunities for children, and available
12 social services, as well as educating families on how
13 to monitor a child's learning;

14 (G) student enrichment experiences; and

15 (H) professional development for teachers and
16 school staff to quickly identify students who are in
17 need of these resources.

18 (Source: P.A. 96-746, eff. 8-25-09; 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10.)

19 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect June 1,
20 2024.