Role of the CPS CLC Lead Agency for Resource Coordination within Cincinnati Public Schools

Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) Community Learning Centers (CLC) is a nationally recognized model with the goal of supporting CPS student success by transforming schools into hubs of the neighborhood. “The success of the school and the community are inextricably linked. One rarely succeeds without the other.” Leveraging community strengths and assets in collaboration and partnership with students, families, community and civic leaders, residents, businesses, non-profits, and faith based organizations, to prepare students for life while maximizing the community’s return on its investment in public schools. To accomplish this, the CPS Board adopted Board Policy No. 7500 – Community Learning Centers. The goal of CLCs is to support student success and maximizing the community’s return on its investment in public schools.

Each CPS CLC partners with a non-profit community-based organization that is invested for mutual benefit in both the success of the school and the community as well as the organization as the CLC Lead Agency. This mutual benefit is established through alignment with the district goals and the school’s CPS CLC goals and One Plan. (CPS CLC Lead Agency Roles and Responsibilities) This organization is interviewed and selected by the school’s Local School Decision Making Committee (LSDMC). The committee of 12 members includes families/parents, community members, staff, teachers, students* and the school Principal.

Selecting a Lead Agency may be the most important decision in transforming a traditional school into a Community Learning Center. The Lead Agency’s mission must be consistent with Cincinnati Public Schools’ vision of the Community Learning Center; mutual benefit is probably the best predictor of long-term success and the best incentive for the hard work involved in this partnership.

The Lead Agency plays a critical role in supporting the transformation from traditional schoolhouses to Community Learning Centers or creating “hubs” of activities, programs, partnerships and resources that benefit children, families, and communities.

Specifically, CLC Lead Agencies within Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS):

- **Committed** to working with the school, community and district to transform the schoolhouse into a Community Learning Center and achieve CPS CLC goals.
- **Mutual benefit.** The mission and values of the agency are consistent and in alignment with the district, school and the community.
- **Collaborate and actively engage** to support the implementation of the CPS CLC model.
- **Promote trust** and collaboration by fostering and strengthening relationships among CPS’s internal and external stakeholders for a culture of high expectations.
- **Collaborative Leadership.** Engages with the district, school and community leaders regularly to support the successful implementation of the CPS CLC Model.

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The CPS CLC Lead Agency will actively engage in the CLC Lead Agency Collaborative to strengthen relationships and best practices of the model.

Establish regular meetings with key stakeholders including the Principal, LSDMC, and Resource Coordinator to discuss progress with the development of the CPS CLC and the work of the Resource Coordinator.

- **Employs and supervises a Full-Time Resource Coordinator.** The Resource Coordinator is selected and employed by the Lead Agency with recommendation and input by the school’s LSDMC (Local School Decision Making Committee), and Principal.
  - The Resource Coordinator supports CPS in the implementation of the Community Learning Center’s nationally recognized model of creating schools as centers of communities to strengthen students’ outcomes aligned to CPS’ One Plan and to promote vibrant communities for student success. (See Resource Coordinator Job Description and Role & Responsibilities.)
  - The Lead Agency supervises and supports the CLC Resource Coordinator in collaboration with the Principal as the on-site supervisor.
    - The Lead Agency provides on-going support for the Resource Coordinator, in the form of regular meetings, reviewing action plans and annual goals, and providing opportunities for professional development. As well as ensuring active engagement in all district initiatives, programs, training, and meetings.

- **Share accountability.** Understand the needs and interests of the school, families, and community, and, likewise, the school should understand the Lead Agency’s mission, vision, and goals. The Lead Agency should find the intersection and synergy of both, and work together with the school to meet goals and share progress for continuous improvement, using CPS Framework and Standard Operating Procedures to support the implementation and maintenance of the CLC model. (MOU, Evaluation, data management, planning tools, partner logs, etc…)

- **Comply** with CPS Board policies and guidelines in accordance with local, state, and federal laws, including data use. Ensure that the Resource Coordinator and other Lead Agency staff follow these policies, guidelines, and laws.