
Full Service Community Schools⁴

The Foundation is replicating full service public community schools. A public middle school or high school in a poor neighborhood partners with an established nonprofit youth development organization, which locates in the school. School staff focuses on teaching. Nonprofit staff focuses on positive youth development and family enhancement. The school typically is open 365 days a year, from early in the morning to late at night. Other key components include:

- Smaller class sizes.
- More individual attention to students than in conventional schools.
- Teachers who concentrate on developing cognitive skills and who leave prevention curricula and services to the nonprofit organizations.
- A heavy emphasis on parental involvement and services for parents (like child care) that facilitate such involvement.
- The availability of health centers and family resource rooms.
- After-school safe havens and help with home work.
- Respect and high expectations for students.
- A combination of new educational concepts and old-fashioned settlement house values — a marriage of John Dewey and Jane Addams.

Excellent full service public community schools being used as Foundation models include the Salome Urena Middle School in New York City and the Washington Irving Middle School in Boston. The Foundation is replicating full service community schools in seven locations in Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Washington State.

