



Sharing Our Progress (September 2016)

Selection of Schools in 2015-16

- In December 2015, 22 MMSD schools were invited to submit an application to be selected as a Community School.
- The invitation list was based on a scoring of student and community needs (12 data points focused on student demographics, academics and engagement 11 data points included public health, proximity to publicly funded services, out-of-school time activity, transportation, housing and safety).
- The application consisted of four parts:
 - **Need**
 - **School readiness and alignment** to the school improvement priorities.
 - **Staff survey results** to identify support for the implementation of the Community School Strategy.
 - **Impact** - how the Community School model would impact that school/community.
- Ten schools applied. A committee of 23 people scored the applications based on the four categories above. The committee made a recommendation of the top four schools to consider. The MMSD Senior Leadership Team reviewed the recommendations and made the final selection of two schools.
- **Mendota Elementary and Leopold Elementary** schools were selected and announced in March, 2016.

Implementation Phase 1 (Best Practices in Action)

- **Resource Coordinators** hired in May 2016, began meeting with teachers, staff, community partners and families
 - Both schools held neighborhoods block parties in August 2016 as a form of community engagement.
- Both schools have formed a **Community School Committee** comprised of family members, teachers/staff, community partners, Neighborhood police, County JFF, etc.
 - Leopold Committee will hold its final needs assessment / priority meeting 9/28/16
 - Mendota Committee will hold its final needs assessment / priority meeting 10/03/16
 - Both schools will develop a Coordination Plan based on priority areas identified.
- **Lead Partner** selection was put on "hold" after Spring Request for Application. One applicant for one school. The role of the Lead Partner is to help sustain the salary/wages of the Resource Coordinator and bring strategic support to the programs/service and priorities that the school/community needs. We will resume this conversation in October.
- **District Support.** We have an allocated budget and an internal Steering Committee that meets monthly to support the implementation at the school level.

- **Evaluation.** We are working with Wisconsin Center for Educational Research (WCER) to evaluate the process of implementation during the first year. Our MMSD Research & Accountability will evaluate academic data at the end of the year.
- **Madison-Out-Of-School Time.** We are in continuous conversation and active partners in MOST and see a direct tie between Community Schools and Out-Of-School Time as positively impacting families and youth.

Thinking about the future

- Interested in partnering with the City to determine selection criteria / analysis for development of Community Schools. We are committed to using an equity lens in order to make decisions about the types of models (services / programs) that will help those the furthest away from opportunity.
- Conduct an analysis this year of the Madison landscape – addressing neighborhood assets and gaps to determine best location for Community Schools and/or other city programs.