



2021-22 CCSP Planning Grant Project Abstract (Form B) Outline

(updated November 2022)

Instructions [from CDE]: Describe the vision for the proposed community schools planning project. If applicable, describe the consortium and/or participating school sites. (Note: planning grant applicants are not required to have identified participating school sites unless they are qualifying entities.) Include information about the potential programs and services to be provided (via the school site, a site near or adjacent to the school, or virtually). Explain how the community (including students, families, community partners, educators and other school staff) and potential cooperating agencies will be engaged in the planning for and ongoing assessment and continuous improvement activities of the proposed community schools initiative. Include other factors that demonstrate need that are not included in the Evaluation Criteria listed on page 16. (three-page limit: 12-point Arial font, single line spacing, with one-inch margins. Handwritten entries will not be accepted.)

NOTE: this document reflects the guidance of the CA Community Schools Learning Exchange, not that of the CA Department of Education

The Vision & Opportunity. What is the vision the community schools initiative builds on? What is the opportunity for this work in your district, at this particular time?

- Identify core district goals/strategic plans and what capacities or priorities you hope CSs will strengthen. You can absolutely draw from existing materials like strategic plans, district mission and belief statements, LCAP goals, and other high-level documents. (For example, “Our strategic plan includes the goal that all learners develop the social-emotional skills and mindsets necessary to achieve lifelong success. We envision community school development will help build our capacity to provide integrated supports that boost students’ social-emotional development, and community-engaged learning opportunities to support student success.”)
- You may also want to consider making connections to some of the core community school elements, outlined in the [CCSP Framework](#) (e.g. The Four Cornerstone Commitments, Key Conditions for Learning, or Proven Practices). For example: “Our district is committed to supporting whole-child development. We co-constructed our district’s vision and belief statement through a 6-month collaborative process with our student, family, and staff community, reflecting the CCSP Cornerstone Commitment to shared decision-making and participatory practice.”

Demonstrated Need. How does a community school initiative in your community reflect the CCSP program’s equity goals?

- Share (briefly) how your LEA meets the eligibility and competitive priority requirements. CDE will pull your specific data, but you can use this space to *highlight any competitive priorities* and/or provide context. (For example, how will this work help your students, families and community respond to the challenges posed by the pandemic? (competitive priority) Why are school-based resources so critical in your small/rural community? (small/rural priority).
- **Eligible schools (if needed).** If you need to name specific schools to meet eligibility requirements, name them here.
- **Consortium (if applicable).** If you are applying in consortium (in conjunction with other LEAs), briefly describe the consortium here or above in vision.



Assets and Strengths. What existing district and/or community strengths will the community schools initiative build on? Consider:

- **Current “bright spots” of whole-child supports.** Where are you already implementing aspects of community school strategies? For example, restorative practices, integrated student services, school-based health services, and family supports. (Remember, just because a school already offers integrated services or family resources does not necessarily qualify it as an “existing community school” and does not disqualify you from CCSP planning grant funds).
- **Existing practices and structures for collaboration, equity, and/or improvement work.** Any seeded elements of CS strategies that illustrate collaborative work? (e.g., coordination of service teams, professional learning communities, equity audits, continuous improvement cycles).
- **Existing or potential strategic partnerships.** Who are you already in partnership with and what roles do they play in student success? What potential opportunities exist to leverage community resources and build collaborative partnerships?

Proposed planning process In broad strokes, what do you hope to accomplish in the planning process? Consider the following:

- **WHO** will be involved in the planning process? What roles will they play? Who is already invested; who do you hope to engage? Here is an opportunity to signal your commitment to a collaborative process engaging multiple stakeholders (*competitive priority for emphasis on engaging students, families, and other stakeholders*).
- **HOW** will you structure and staff the planning process? Who will perform the core work (e.g., tracking down data, facilitating meetings)? Will you hire new staff? Engage additional assistance? (e.g., professional facilitation? a research partner?) Restructure the workload of existing staff? How will you ensure you are authentically engaging with the broader community? How will you compensate for planning process participants' time (e.g., teacher stipends, childcare and gift cards for families)?
- **WHAT** existing collaborative and/or leadership structures exist in your community that you could engage with and/or incorporate into the CCSP planning? (e.g., executive cabinet meetings, principal network meetings, Children’s Cabinet, city or county partners’ meetings, school site council teams, ELAC).

It is okay to not know all the answers for how you will structure and roll-out the planning process. The most important part is to signal your commitment to an inclusive process, name what you already have in place (including who you already have on board), and who else you want to engage.

Closing/Summary

- **Recap.** What is the desired outcome for your community school strategy? This should circle back to and reinforce the vision but not repeat it.