

# KENTUCKY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

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**A Groundswell of Community Partnerships to Transform Student Outcomes**



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## About the Prichard Committee

We are a citizen-led, nonpartisan, nonprofit with a singular mission of realizing a path to a larger life for Kentuckians with education at the core.

For more than four decades we have studied pressing education issues, helped inform the public and policymakers of our findings, and engaged communities to celebrate success and to design unique solutions to Kentucky's challenges.

The Prichard Committee is building on this legacy to spearhead hyper-local, data-driven strategies through the Kentucky Community Schools Initiative.

This model champions collaborative leadership over isolation, shifting from merely doing “to” families and communities to actively listening and working “with” them.

Our strength lies in innovation, collaboration, and in communities coming together to create a groundswell of action to improve education and economic outcomes in Kentucky.

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**The Prichard Committee**

Building a Groundswell for a Big Bold Future

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## Four Pillars of Kentucky Community Schools

To achieve better student outcomes, the Prichard Committee will seek to embed the community schools' four pillars, which are tailored to local contexts & evidence based.



## Pipeline Services Families & Students Receive

Pipeline services are designed to help children from early childhood to postsecondary education. They are implemented within the framework of the four pillars of community schools.

1. Encouraging family and community involvement
2. Community-based support for students
3. High-quality early childhood education programs
4. High-quality programs in and out of the classroom
5. Helping kids smoothly transition between different school levels
6. Support postsecondary and workforce readiness
7. Social, health, nutrition, and mental health services
8. Juvenile crime prevention and rehabilitation programs

## DATA METRICS

Below are the indicators for this project. While these data points are critical to understanding the success of this project, additional information will be collected as more is learned during the implementation of plans.



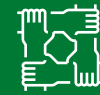
Track student chronic absenteeism rates



Track student discipline rates, including suspensions and expulsions



Obtain school climate information, which may come from student, parent, or teacher surveys



Track provisions of integrated student supports and stakeholder services



Expand and enrich learning time and opportunities



Track family and community engagement efforts and impact



Track graduation rates



Track changes in school spending information



Develop collaborative leadership and practice strategies, which may include building the capacity of educators, principals, other school leaders



Convene and engage all initiative-level partners, such as city or county officials, children's and youth's cabinets, nonprofit service providers, public housing agencies, and advocates



Track information on the number, qualifications, and retention of school staff, including the number and percent of fully certified teachers, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, rates of teacher turnover, and teacher experience



Regularly assess program quality and progress through individual student data, participant feedback, and aggregate outcomes to develop strategies for improvement



Organize school personnel and community partners into working teams focused on specific issues identified in the needs and assets assessment



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## Community schools success looks like...

- 🔍 School outcome data in the 40 pilot schools and 20 districts show improvements in academic and non-academic student indicators and we know how to replicate in other schools across Kentucky.
- 🔍 We have state, district, and school-level supports and policies in place, so educators, local community members, families, and students effectively utilize in- and out-of-school resources and opportunities.
- 🔍 The needs and resources for Family Resource Youth Service Centers to continue to work at their full potential are clear.

## The Big Shifts

1. Moving from doing "to" and "for" families → **Listening & doing "with" families & communities**
2. Moving from more programs → **Increased local coordination**
3. Moving from silos → **Collaborative Leadership**
4. Moving from random acts of programming → **Intentionality for High-Impact**
5. Moving from schools working alone → **Ripple effect of Groundswell Action**

## Prichard Committee Key Activities:

1. **INCREASE LOCAL COORDINATION** by engaging students, families, educators, and the broader community in understanding and responding to the unique needs and strengths of their school community, these schools will serve as proof points and test sites for community school best practices and policy.
2. **INCREASE STATE COORDINATION** of state services and strengthen policy through continuous improvement for long-term sustainability.
3. **ESTABLISH A STATE STEERING COMMITTEE** to guide implementation, evaluation, and collaborative leadership across state systems.
4. **EXAMINE KENTUCKY'S** current education and service delivery through the lens of the community school model to include a better understanding of what needs to be in place for FRYSC to work at its full potential.

# PILOT DISTRICTS

20 pilot districts serving as test sites and proof points

**Engage communities by implementing the community schools model in two schools. Each school will:**

- Survey school and community needs and assets.
- Implement the 4-pillar model
- Receive funding for program implementation.

**Districts will participate in state level peer-learning pods.**

Each pod specializes in topic areas identified by the district and state evaluation as a high-need area. Each pod is led by a state-level coach that connects districts to one another and serves as a liaison to state level leadership efforts.

**Hire a full-time Community Schools District Director**

to build the capacity of school-level teams and connect efforts to current district-level initiatives and goals.

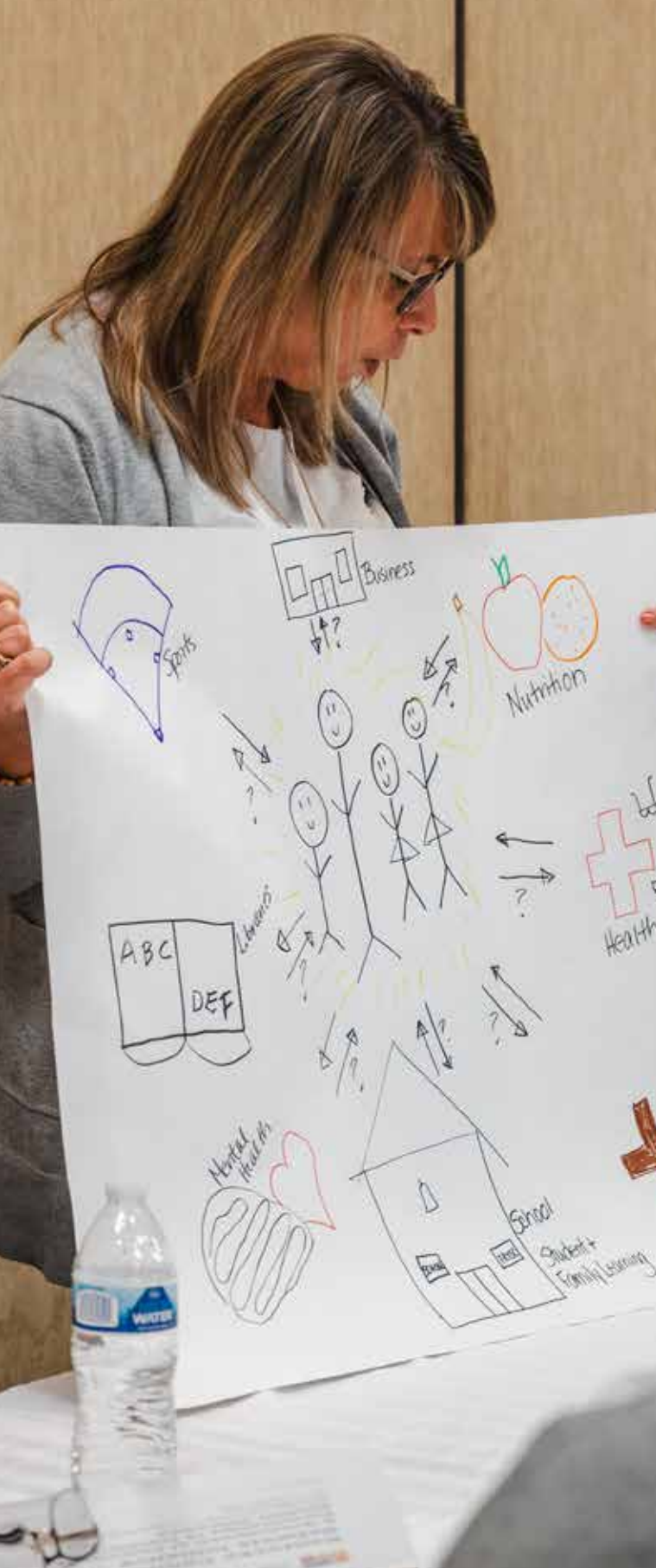
**School teams include**

- Community members
- Families
- Students (middle and high school)
- Local businesses
- School principals
- FRYSC advisory council
- FRYSC at the school



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# KCSI PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS

- Bracken County
- Carter County
- Christian County
- Clark County
- Covington Independent
- Danville Independent
- Daviess County\*
- Dayton Independent
- Fayette County
- Hopkins County
- Jefferson County\*
- McCracken County
- Owensboro Independent\*
- Paducah Independent
- Rockcastle County
- Rowan County\*
- Scott County
- Shelby County
- Warren County
- Washington County

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*The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence is committed to building a groundswell of champions to improve education outcomes - early childhood through postsecondary - with the unique combination of policy advocacy and local action. The launch of the Kentucky Community Schools Initiative provides the opportunity for us to partner with up to 20 communities across Kentucky, who will actively develop and own local responses to the unique needs of students and families and improve academic outcomes. Together, over the next 5 years, we'll scale these promising strategies community by community - building a Groundswell."*

**-Brigitte Blom, President and CEO,  
 Prichard Committee**



Scan to visit our website.



## LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS:

- Groundswell Community Schools Initiative
- Community Schools Playbook
- How the Science of Learning and Development Can Transform Education
- Building a Community School System