Christina Samuels
Staff writer, Education Week
Bringing the Community to Schools

Expert Presenters:

Diana Hall, program supervisor, SUN Community Schools

Lynn Blevens, principal, Lynch View Elementary School

Ginny Scelza, SUN site manager, Lynch View SUN Community School
An on-demand archive of this webinar will be available at www.edweek.org/go/webinar in less than 24 hrs.
SUN Community Schools

Snapshot of a Systemic Community Schools Approach
March 27, 2012
SUN Community Schools Today

64 SUN Community Schools in 6 school districts

Supported by policy calling for:

- Development of a system of care to achieve 2 policy goals:
  - Supporting education and school success as a means to reduce poverty
  - Improving the way resources for students and their families were delivered by developing a school-based delivery model

- Alignment of programs & funding into that system (SUN Service System)

Cornerstone of the larger SUN Service System
“Could someone help me with these? I’m late for math class.”
A SUN Community School is...

A **school** where:

- The school and partners from across the community come together to educate and support kids creating **collective impact**
- Community resources are **strategically organized** to support student success
- There is a **focus on the whole child**, integrating academics, services, supports and opportunities
Collective Impact: the commitment of a group of important actors from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem.

SUN Community Schools are examples of collective impact at the local neighborhood level, engaging the community and a wide range of partners with a shared vision & goals to impact academic success.
SUN Aligned Services

- Academic Support & Skill Development
- Early Childhood Programs
- Parent & Family Education & Involvement
- Anti-Poverty Programs
  - Basic Needs
  - Rent Assistance
  - Housing
  - Life Skills Development
- Health Services
- Mental Health & Addictions Services
- Library Services
- Links to & assistance with access to other government & community programs
SUN Community School Common Elements

- An array of services for youth and adults from 3 domains:
  - Academics & skill development
  - Enrichment & recreation
  - Social, health and mental health services
- Youth, family & community engagement
- District & school championship
- Shared leadership & accountability
- Site Coordination
What Collaboration Looks Like in SUN
SUN Community School Collaborative Systemic Partners

- Multnomah County  
  (Human Services, Health Dept, Library)
- City of Portland  
  (Parks Bureau, Housing, Planning, Children’s Levy)
- 6 School Districts
- State Dept. of Human Services
- Businesses
- Non-profit agencies
- Community members
Community School Resources
School Level Resources

$95K

core operating cash

+ aligned education resources

Title I ▪ General Fund ▪ Federal Nutrition ▪ Transportation ▪ Staff Time ▪ Grants
SCHOOLS UNITING NEIGHBORHOODS

$95K

gov't resources
higher education
faith
in school supports
parents + parent orgs
neighborhoods
business
community based orgs
Attracting & Integrating Resources

Total Aligned Contributions
$23.6 million

- $10 million: School Districts
- $3.2 million: Multnomah County
- $1.6 million: City of Portland
- $2.2 million: Portland Children’s Levy
- $1.6 million: federal grants
- Private Sources
- Community Organizations
SUN Community School & Service System Contributions

SUN Community School Operating Cash: $6.7 million

- Multnomah County: ~$3.2 million
- City of Portland: ~$1.6 million
- Portland Children’s Levy: ~$800,000
- 21CCLC grants: ~$670,000
- Districts: ~$400,000

Aligned SUN Service System Contributions
Over $30 million cash in additional aligned services (anti-poverty, early childhood, health, A & D, etc.)
Measuring Results: What Difference Does SUN Make?
Of the 19,127 unduplicated children & youth served on 2010-2011:

- **80%** received Free & Reduced Lunch
- **70%** were students of color
- **21%** were English Language Learners

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(Servicing the Most Vulnerable Kids & Families)
Improving Academic Outcomes

- Average daily attendance was 94.5%
- 74% of students met state benchmarks or growth target in Reading
- SUN CS students average score gains were equal to or higher than expected in the majority of grades
- High School students earned 6.8 credits on average

Interim Academic Outcomes & Youth Assets

Family Stability

Parent Involvement & Engagement

Community Safety & Vibrancy
Sustaining Over Time
Key Elements in Sustainability

- Supportive Policy
- Proven Success
- Innovative & blended funding
- Commitment to shared responsibility & shared governance
  - SUN Service System Coordinating Council
  - SUN Districts Council
  - Intergovernmental agreements and identified liaisons
Key Elements in Sustainability

- **Capacity to manage partnership & maintain collaboration**
  - Intermediary/Managing Partner
  - Dedication of time in key staff in partner organizations

- **Shared model across sites:** consistent roles, structures, practices, and outcomes

- **Community Engagement**

- **Flexibility of system and sites to adapt**
Snapshot: Lynch View
SUN Community School
Presenting from Lynch View

Lynn Blevens, Principal

Ginny Scelza, SUN Site Manager, Metropolitan Family Service
Lynch View Demographics

- **School Population:** 454 students
- **Grades:** K-6
- **80% Free and Reduced Lunch**
- **48% Students of Color:**
  - Asian 7%,
  - African American 4%,
  - Hispanic 33%,
  - American Indian/AK Native <1%,
  - Multiple Race 4%,
  - Pacific Islander <1%,
  - White 52%
Youth Programs including:
- Homework Help
- Math Intervention Groups
- Triple R Environmental Club
- Student Store
- Video Classes

Summer Programs
- 4 weeks of Summer Academically-linked Programming
- 2 weeks of Kindergarten Transition Program: “Ready Freddie”

Mentoring

Adult Programs including:
- Parent Education: Make Parenting a Pleasure class, parent and child clay class
- Adult Education & Recreation: yoga
Enrichment & Recreation

Wide Array of Enriching Activities including:

**Academic Enrichment**
- Saturday Academy Classes
- Oregon Zoo – UNO Program
- Multnomah County Library
- AKA Science
- Cooking
- Service Learning Programs
  - Triple R Recycle Club
  - Student Council
  - Student Store

**Recreation**
- Sports activities: soccer, basketball
- Arts and Culture: Glass fusion art, clay/sculpture
Case Management & Social Services

Free dinner & free lunch every weekday during entire summer break (11 weeks)

Anti-Poverty Services

- Rent Assistance
- Utility Assistance
- Case Management
- Clothing and other necessities

On-Site Emergency Food Pantry

Health and Mental Health

Linkage to broad array of community organizations

Lynch View Health Fair
Youth, Family & Community Engagement

Family Education & Events
- SUN Showcases
- **Family Education**: Parent Child Clay Class; Kindergarten Transition Program: Ready Freddie, Info sessions on school system
- **Parenting Education**: Make Parenting a Pleasure classes

Community & Cultural Events
- **Academically Focused Events**: School Reading Night, Math & Science Night, etc.
- **Community Building Events**: Multicultural Night, Holiday Breakfast, etc

Youth, Family & Community Engagement
- Student Council & Youth Advisory Board
- Lynch View Site Council
Collaborative & Systemic Approach

Site Management
• Role of Site Manager
• Principal championship
• Shared planning & governance

System Coordination
• Partner coordination & meetings
• Referral system & tracking

Shared Governance

Service Integration

Resource & Partner Engagement
Leveraged Partners & Resources

$77,154 leveraged in cash & in-kind donations

- Community Agency Partners including
  - **Saturday Academy**: academic/arts curriculum
  - **Oregon Zoo – UNO program**: environmental science
  - **AKA Science**: grade appropriate science
  - **Oregon Food Bank**: food pantry
  - **Human Solutions**: anti-poverty services
  - **Multnomah Education Service District**: health services

- **5 Business Partners**: Bella Pearl Salon, Rose Bowl Bowling, Cleary’s Sports, Knowledge Learning Corp, Tom’s Pizza

- **358 volunteer hours contributed**
Lynch View SUN: Story of Success

Student with special needs
• Access to inclusion services through Parks and Recreation supporting participation in after school programs
• One-on-one adult support to more fully participate

Support to parents
• Parenting classes
• ASL translation for both parents

Family support
• Access to food pantry
Lynch View SUN: Making a Difference

Serving the Students Who Need it the Most
- 75% Students of Color
- 85% Free and Reduced Lunch

Improving Academic Success
- Lynch View got out of AYP status
- 86% of students increased benchmark scores in Reading & Math
- Average daily attendance of SUN CS students was 95%
- 76% of students met/exceeded benchmark or growth target in Reading

Removing Non-Academic Barriers to Success

Building Family Engagement
SCALING UP
STUDENT SUCCESS
REGISTER TODAY!
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Bringing the Community to Schools

Required Reading from *Education Week*:

**Oregon Community Schools Model Staying Power**
For Lynch View Elementary, a K-5 school in suburban Portland, the school day doesn't end when the bell rings at 2:22 p.m.

**Community Schools: Reform’s Lesser-Known Frontier**
Lawmakers should do more to expand efforts to link schools with networks of social support, argues Sarah M. Fine.

**Blair, Duncan Push Schools as Community Hubs**
Britain’s former Prime Minister joined the U.S. Education Secretary in touting the role of school as a social anchor.