

# COMMUNITY FIRST SCHOOL

## Research Behind the Core Values



### LIFE-LONG LEARNING FOR ALL

Experiential learning methods, like service-learning & problem-based learning, are linked to positive gains in students' attitudes toward self, attitudes toward school & learning, academic performance, creativity, civic engagement, and social skills.<sup>1</sup> These learning methods are especially impactful for students in urban, low socioeconomic status, & majority nonwhite schools.<sup>2</sup>



### POSITIVE CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Multiculturally competent staff demonstrate more empathy & promote positive classroom climates, humor, leadership skills, and healthy social abilities among students from diverse backgrounds.<sup>3</sup> Similarly, trauma-informed practices in schools decrease the effects of traumatic stress & increase GPAs among students experiencing traumatic or toxic stress.<sup>4</sup>



### SHARED POWER

Schools' collaborative leadership practices promote sustainable school improvement efforts, improve classroom instruction, & positively influence student learning outcomes.<sup>5</sup>



### DIRECT ACCESS TO FIELD EXPERIENCES & INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING

When students participate in direct field experiences, they develop applied problem-solving skills & an understanding of local culture while identifying neighborhood issues & enacting real-life solutions.<sup>6</sup>



### COMMUNITY FIRST

Students benefit academically when communities and families engage with schools.<sup>7</sup> Communities also benefit when schools build reciprocal relationships with community-based organizations through innovative education programs like service-learning.<sup>8</sup>

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