

Board of Education, City of  
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Abstract

The Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Community Schools Initiative, in partnership with Loyola University, Youth Guidance, Enlace Chicago, Umoja Student Development Corporation, and New Life Centers of Chicagoland, has formed the CPS Community Schools Initiative Full-Service Consortium (The Consortium) to transform two high schools —Spry Community Links and Roger C. Sullivan— into Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS).

Spry and Sullivan are located in under-resourced communities and serve primarily low-income Latinx and African American student populations. Academic attainment is well below average at these schools, and chronic truancy, absenteeism, and suspensions are high. While the two schools currently provide programming outside of the regular school day to support students, there remain persistent gaps in addressing the multifaceted needs of their students.

The Consortium proposes to improve student academic outcomes through the promotion of positive social-emotional development and safe school environments in combination with academic supports and enrichment. New project services will focus on social-emotional learning and restorative practices. Spry and Sullivan will collaborate with partners in order to ensure that students receive tiered social-emotional learning services at the appropriate level. The schools will be infused with a variety of much-needed services, from universal trainings such as Enlace's SEL@Home parent workshops, to group programs like Youth Guidance BAM and WOW mentoring, to intensive individual services like New Life Centers' UrbanLife Skills specialized interventions.

Simultaneously, Spry and Sullivan will continue providing health services, parent engagement, and academic enrichment during out-of-school time. With these wraparound supports, the Consortium will increase participation in community schools programming, boost attendance, grades, and graduation/on-track rates, and foster social-emotional learning competencies amongst participants.