Called the Vancouver Public Schools Full-Service Community Schools: Roadmap to Learning, Vancouver Public Schools (VPS), together with the 13 partners that comprise the Strengthening Neighborhoods Collaborative (SNC), will establish full-service community schools (FSCS) at eight high-poverty elementary schools: Fruit Valley, King, Marshall, Ogden, Roosevelt, Washington, Eisenhower, and Sacajawea. Located in the Central Vancouver and Hazel Dell sections of Vancouver (WA), target school families are substantially more minority, poverty stricken, and less educated when compared to the county. Serving 3,711 students in grades kindergarten through five, the target elementary schools have diverse student populations that include comparatively high concentrations of English language learners, student mobility, and low-income families. Students also show higher rates of chronic absenteeism, lower rates of school readiness, and too few students meeting state standards in English language arts and math.

The plan for FSCS initiative is to marshal the assets of the target communities and align them with the target schools in a highly coordinated and integrated way. VPS and its partners will:

1. Increase school engagement with families starting at birth to ensure that call children enter kindergarten ready to learn, transition to school successfully, and are reading on grade level by third grade
2. Increase options for high-quality in-school and out-of-school time learning and enrichment to engage students in school, enhance leaning opportunities, and make successful and supported academic transitions from one year to the next
3. Expand family and community engagement across the target elementary schools so that families are empowered to remain engaged through their child’s K-12 education
4. Increase the social, emotional, behavioral, physical, and mental health of children
5. Enhance the capacity of the SNC partnership and other FSCS partners to offer a full-service community schools model that improves the coordination, integration, accessibility and effectiveness of services during and beyond the federal funding period

Serving approximately 9,957 high-need children, parents/adult family members, and community members by the end of the fifth project year, VPS and SNC partners (Vancouver Housing Authority, Free Clinic of Southwest Washington, Southwest Washington Accountable Community Health, Clark County Public Health, Share, Council for the Homeless, Bridgeview, Partners in Careers, The Children’s Center, Children’s Home Society of Washington, Foundation for Vancouver Public Schools, Educational Service District 112, and Boys and Girls Clubs of SW Washington) will implement a comprehensive and coordinated pipeline of services and supports.

This birth to career pipeline will feature a high-quality early learning opportunities, high-quality in-school and out-of-school time programs, family and community engagement activities, postsecondary and workforce readiness services, community-based support, an array of social, health, nutrition, and mental health services, and juvenile crime prevention programming.