



CALL FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

"Don't hide your light under a bushel"

Illinois Community Schools Forum

Creating a Community Vision for Our Children's Success

-- October 19, 2012 --

The Federation for Community Schools is pleased to announce the 8th annual **Illinois Community Schools Forum: *Creating a Community Vision for Our Children's Success*** to be held on **Friday, October 19, 2012**, in Chicago, IL. Schools, communities and families must work together to create environments in which all of our children achieve success in school and beyond. The community school model provides us with a framework for leveraging our shared resources and expertise on behalf of students and families. Community schools create students who are well-rounded, involved in their communities, and civically engaged, and families who have their needs met so they can effectively support their children's development. This year's Forum is focused on highlighting the promising practices that community schools engage in to support students from early-childhood through post-secondary success. The Forum will feature presenters from across multiple disciplines – including education, social services, youth development, juvenile justice, higher education, and community development – because we know that this work truly blossoms when everyone who touches our children's lives works together towards a shared vision of success.

FORUM WORKSHOPS

Workshop Topics

The Forum will feature breakout workshops that engage participants in dialogue grounded in research and integrated with practical applications for engaging stakeholders to create high quality community schools. Breakout sessions for this year's Forum will feature promising community school implementation practices as well as program development strategies that support children and families from early childhood through post-secondary success. We will also highlight innovative ways in which community schools, at the school, city, and district levels, can create meaningful linkages to other programs that impact children and families.

Many of the workshops will be for individuals who are working on the ground - at the school and community agency level - to develop, coordinate, and implement programs and services for student and families. Other workshops will be more appropriate for individuals who operate at the administrative level and are looking for ways to create systemic changes to better support community schools and the families they impact. The following chart lists **potential** workshop topics that are intended to help you think about the exceptional work you do and how your work might be shared to inform the practices of the broader community school field.



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Potential Workshop Topics	Goals and information covered
Maximizing data	Illustrate specifically how data is used to guide the selection and implementation of programs and services that yield measurable success for students and families.
Linking to classroom curriculum and/or school’s learning goals	Demonstrate strategies for linking out-of-school time programs and services to students’ classroom learning and/or the school’s overall learning goals (including Common Core) so learning is enriched and deepened through community school programs.
Community engagement	Plan and implement practices of community engagement to expand the capacity of community schools to achieve student and family outcomes by maximizing access to community resources.
Advisory board planning and development	Guide the development and implementation of an advisory board that expands the capacity of the community school achieve targeted outcomes for students and families.
Engaging teachers and school administrators in community school development	Examine the strong influence teachers can play in expanding the community school’s capacity to achieve a shared vision for student success.
Health and wellness	Identify and explore the range of approaches to providing health supports to students and families in community schools.
Parent & family engagement	Engage parents in a range of experiences that will improve their capacity to advocate for successful outcomes for students and families, develop leadership skills, and truly become partners with the school in their children’s educations.
Leveraging resources & sustainability planning	Use local asset mapping to assess and identify pathways for leveraging existing resources and promoting community school sustainability.
Linking to early childhood and/or high education	Link community schools to early childhood, middle, high school, and/or post-secondary schools so students and families have access to a continuum of quality support and to facilitate transitions.
Youth development	Innovative and research-based youth engagement strategies that can be incorporated into community school programs to increase psycho-social development of students.
Systemic change	Engage in strategies that structurally change the operations within and across organizations or agencies that support students and families.



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Workshop Target Audience

All workshops will be identified by “tracks” that indicate the target audience/s for which each breakout session is designed. In developing your workshop proposal, there is no need to try to be “all things to all people.” Instead, consider who your ideal target audience/s are and how the information you are providing can inform their work.

The workshop tracks are:

- *New* Community School Practitioners / Resource Coordinators
- Community Partner Representatives / Supervisors
- Community *High School* Practitioners
- Parents / Parent Organizers
- *Experienced* Community School Practitioners / Resource Coordinators
- School Administrators
- Advocates
- Teachers / Out-of-School Time Program Staff

Workshop Format

There will be **3 sets of workshop breakouts** throughout the day. Each session will be **90 minutes** long. All breakouts will include a combination of **presentation and interactive dialogue** among participants and presenters. We strongly encourage presenters to incorporate an **activity** that illustrates the content being presented so participants can think together, learn from each other, and understand how to implement or apply these strategies in their own communities and schools. We understand that not every workshop topic lends itself to an activity; however, we ask that you consider how you can still engage participants in meaningful conversations that enrich the learning for everyone.

To ensure that participants walk away from each workshop with an understanding of who the presenter/s were and how the material covered applies to their own community school development, we have created a few workshop agenda items that we would like **all presenters to incorporate into their presentations**. These items are listed below and are also included in the proposal application that follows. Please give strong consideration to how you will address these agenda items in your workshop presentation - not just in the proposal.

- I. Briefly describe the presenter/s backgrounds
- II. Briefly describe the presenter/s work in and/or with community schools; or how their work could relate to community schools
- III. Discuss the impact of work being discussed on the communities being serve
- IV. Ask participants to share how they see the work presented as connecting to their own work with community schools

Application Deadline

We strongly encourage those working in, with, and on behalf of community schools who are successfully executing any aspect of community school planning, implementation, and/or sustainability to share their expertise at the Forum so others in the field can learn from your experiences. In other words, “don’t hide your light under a bushel”! If you are interested in sharing your expertise at the Forum, please complete the following application and submit it to Havilah Darnieder at havilahd@ilcommunityschools.org by **Friday, June 29, 2012**.



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WORKSHOP APPLICATION

If you have reviewed the previous information about the types of Forum workshop presentations we are looking for and are interested in presenting at the Forum, please complete the following application. ***Workshop presenters will be able to register for the Forum at a discounted rate.***

Applications are due by **Friday, June 29, 2012**. Please **submit your application via email to Havilah Darnieder** at havilahd@ilcommunityschools.org. You should also contact Havilah if you have any questions about completing this application or about the Forum in general.

PRESENTERS

Lead Presenter's Name: _____

Organization / School
(please list both when applicable): _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Other Presenter's Name: _____

Organization / School
(please list both when applicable): _____

Email Address: _____

Other Presenter's Name: _____

Organization / School
(please list both when applicable): _____

Email Address: _____

Other Presenter's Name: _____

Organization / School
(please list both when applicable): _____

Email Address: _____



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PRESENTERS’ BIOS

Please provide a brief bio for the **lead** presenter, including a description of their work in and/or with community schools (<150 words):

Please use the space below to include brief bios for any **other presenters**, including a description of their work in and/or with community schools (<450 words):

WORKSHOP TITLE

Provide a title for your workshop (*Some titles may be slightly modified*):



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TARGET AUDIENCE

Please identify the audience/s to whom your workshop will be MOST relevant:

- *New* Community School Practitioners / Resource Coordinators
- *Experienced* Community School Practitioners / Resource Coordinators
- Community Partner Representatives / Supervisors
- Community *High* School Practitioners
- School Administrators
- Parents / Parent Organizers
- Advocates / Policymakers
- Teachers / Out-of-School Time Program Staff
- Other: _____

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Please describe what information you will be sharing and the methodology you will use to convey this information in your workshop (<500 words):

Please identify the goals of your workshop (What can participants expect to learn?) (<150 words):



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Please describe the impact that the work you are presenting has had on the individuals and/or communities being served (<150 words):

Please describe any activities or discussion questions you will use to engage your audience (<150 words):

If it is not obvious, please describe how the work you are presenting is connected (or could potentially connect) to community schools (<150 words):

LOGISTICS

We will make our best effort to accommodate your logistical needs and preferences. We will contact you in advance if it will be necessary to make some changes:

Please indicate your **Audio / Visual** needs:

Flip chart and markers
Overhead projector
No A/V needed

Please indicate your **Room Set-up** preference:

Classroom style
Theatre style (no desks)
U-shaped set-up
Banquet rounds