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Redwood City 2020 Tuesday Tidbits

Inside this edition: Community Schools, Pipeline of Success, and Redwood High School



Community schools provide wraparound services AND strong academics

[Community schools](#) have been an initiative supported by Redwood City 2020 leadership since the year 2000. Since 2006, the implementation and supervision of community schools has been led by the [Redwood City School District](#), a core member of Redwood City 2020. In Redwood City and North Fair Oaks, full-service community schools promote student success by integrating resources to provide holistic social, emotional, and academic support for students and families. They are both a place for education and a set of partnerships between schools, families, and the broader community. In community schools, multiple services are mobilized through intentional partnerships to provide opportunities, optimize assets, and address identified needs of students, families, and communities. In a recent blog post: [Community Schools: Much More than Wrap Around Services](#), Martin J. Blank, the President for the Institute for Educational Leadership, argues persuasively that community schools bridge the tensions between poverty and academics. "We don't have the luxury anymore of "either-or" propositions between wraparound services or strong academics. There are no silver bullets and we must do both - and that is what community schools do."

Broad consensus reached on Pipeline of Success

From April 2015 through January 2016, Redwood City 2020 and the [Redwood City School District](#) regularly convened more than forty community stakeholders from a variety of sectors to actively participate in a workgroup to explore expanding and sustaining local community schools. Through this important work, a vision emerged for a community-wide Pipeline of Success for children, youth, and families from cradle to career that is linked by a continuity of holistic services, information sharing, transition supports, streamlined referral systems, academic alignment, and staff and partner collaboration throughout the developmental continuum. This collective impact initiative enhances local community school efforts with a broader scope of action and new allies and partners, and strengthens the robust commitment to collaboration and intentionality that Redwood City 2020 partners already uphold. The Redwood City 2020 Executive Team, composed of chief executives from [Redwood City 2020's core member organizations](#), vetted and tailored the workgroup's recommendations throughout the spring. Redwood City 2020's policy board, the Leadership Council, reviewed the comprehensive recommendations from the Executive Team at its May meeting and reached consensus on the following: high level vision for the cradle-to-career Pipeline of Success, shared desired results, multi-level collaboration structure, guiding principles, core elements, and categories of pipeline linkages. The stage is set for implementation and tangible next steps will be proposed to the Leadership Council and Executive Team in a joint meeting on August 17th and to workgroup members on August 31st.



Stay tuned for exciting developments throughout the fall!



Community school expansion: Redwood High School

Thanks to generous support from the Grove Foundation, the [Sequoia Healthcare District](#), and the [Sequoia Union High School District](#), [Redwood High School](#) will transform into a community school in the 2016-2017 academic year. Redwood High School is primed for success as a full-service community school because, in addition to substantial needs that could be met through partnership and holistic services, the school has tremendous strengths on which to build. Redwood High School students are characterized by strength and resiliency, despite the numerous challenges they face. By continuing their education at Redwood High School, they demonstrate commitment to learning, achievement motivation, personal power, and other developmental youth assets. Caring staff at Redwood High School and the community school approach will surely help students reach their full potential. On behalf of our partners at the Sequoia Union High School District, we are delighted to announce that applications are being accepted for a Community School Coordinator position at Redwood High School. The position posting is accessible at the following links:

- Classified posting: <https://www.edjoin.org/Home/JobPosting/817848>
- Certificated posting: <https://www.edjoin.org/Home/JobPosting/817862>

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