

IDAHO RURAL EXPANSION COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

BACKGROUND

Community Schools are neighborhood public schools that partner with their local communities to **foster environments where every student can thrive**.

Community Schools are a time-tested strategy for connecting students to needed support and expanding resources and opportunities for families.

Community schools have grown throughout Idaho over the past decade. Each community school is as unique as the neighborhood that surrounds it, but all are driven by the principle that **every student deserves the opportunity to succeed, with family and community serving as critical partners in supporting students**.

STRATEGY IN ACTION

Utilizing this hyper-local approach, rural areas throughout Idaho unite to address their unique challenges and **leverage local strengths**.

Through **collaboration** between educators, local organizations, and community members, we jointly identify the most effective educational supports, community engagement strategies, and resources.

United Way of Treasure Valley serves as the lead coordinating agency, supported by key partners including Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health, Idaho State Department of Education, Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children, Idaho Children's Trust Fund, Idaho Nonprofit Center, Idaho Out-of-School Network, and dozens of schools across Idaho's rural districts.

FOUR PILLARS OF IDAHO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Collaborative Leadership

Fostering a culture of shared responsibility and decision-making among families, students, school staff, and community members.

Expanded and Enriched Learning

Providing meaningful learning experiences during and outside the school day to foster a love of learning and real-world opportunities.

Family and Community Engagement

Offering impactful opportunities for families and community members to engage in school life and participate in their children's educational success.

Integrated Student Supports

Coordinating services to meet the holistic needs of students and families, focusing on overall health, well-being, and personal development.



PROJECT SUMMARY

- \$46 million investment to scale Community Schools across Title I & rural districts in Idaho
- 5 Year project Implementation begins in 2024-2025 School Year
- Reaching up to 50 schools across 25 school districts in every Idaho education region
- Robust local and statewide evaluation to ensure effective implementation
- Locally led, student and community centered
- Statewide Steering Committee to increase coordination at state level
- Focus on long term sustainability of Idaho's Community Schools

[Want to learn more?](#)

CONTACT

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Visit our website at:

IdahoCoalitionforCommunitySchools.org