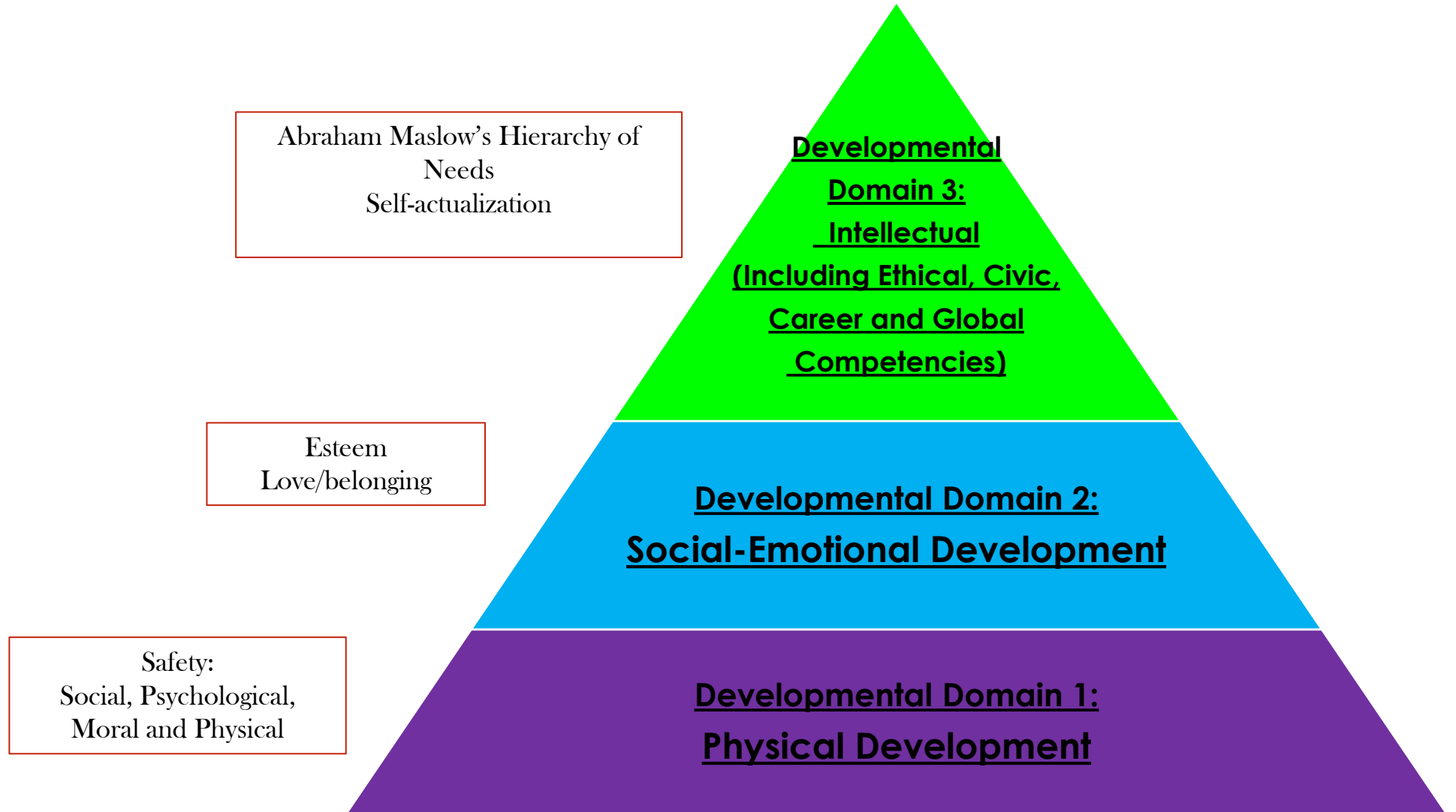




ETHOS OF A COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Presenter: Dr. JoAnne Ferrara

WHOLE CHILD EDUCATION



Four Pillars of Community Schools



Collaborative Leadership
and Practices

Expanded and
Enriched Learning
Time and
Opportunities
(2+3)

Active Family and
Community
Engagement

Integrated
student supports
(1+2)

COMMUNITY SCHOOL STANDARDS

Objectives:

- To help new community schools more effectively develop and implement their community school plans.
- To assist existing community schools to strengthen the quality of their practice and document outcomes.
- To provide a consistent language and framework for advocacy, technical assistance, research, funding, and policy efforts.

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Seven principles guide the community schools approach to school transformation, and provide a framework that undergirds each of the community school implementation standards.

1. **PURSUE EQUITY**—Educational excellence and equity are inseparable. Community schools work actively to identify and confront policies, practices and cultures that keep students of different backgrounds and races from achieving equitable outcomes. Community schools proactively and intentionally empower those typically disempowered by barriers to participation.
2. **INVEST IN A WHOLE-CHILD APPROACH TO EDUCATION**—Meaningful teaching and learning embraces but goes beyond mastery of core academic subjects to include youth development principles; holding high expectations for children, youth, and adults; and developing their social-emotional, health, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.
3. **BUILD ON COMMUNITY STRENGTHS TO ENSURE CONDITIONS**—Community schools utilize the assets of the entire community—including the gifts of people who live and work there, parents, families, residents and community partners to create the optimal learning conditions for each student.
4. **USE DATA AND COMMUNITY WISDOM TO GUIDE PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRAMS, AND PROGRESS**—Reliable and community-specific data, coupled with the wisdom of youth, families and residents, guides how educators and community partners work together to achieve measurable results.
5. **COMMIT TO INTERDEPENDENCE AND SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY**—Student success requires explicit investment in collaborative planning and implementation between educators and community partners and across program areas and disciplines. Mutually agreed upon results and related indicators, as well as written agreements enable educators and community partners to hold each other accountable.
6. **INVEST IN BUILDING TRUSTING RELATIONSHIPS**—Deep collaboration takes dedicated effort and time, and becomes evident in the daily formal and informal social exchanges within a school community and between the school and the broader community. Trusting relationships fuel school transformation by helping to create a nurturing safe, respectful climate where caring adults, families and students come to rely on each other as part of a shared approach to student success.
7. **FOSTER A LEARNING ORGANIZATION**—Improved student learning depends on a school community where educators and community partners work together towards continuous improvement. Time and support are available for individual and collective reflection and adjustment as well as shared learning and professional development, to facilitate responsiveness to student needs.

In combination, and when guided by a coherent and rigorous vision of how students, schools, and communities can thrive, these principles provide a strong foundation for the pursuit of the community school strategy.

PARTNERS

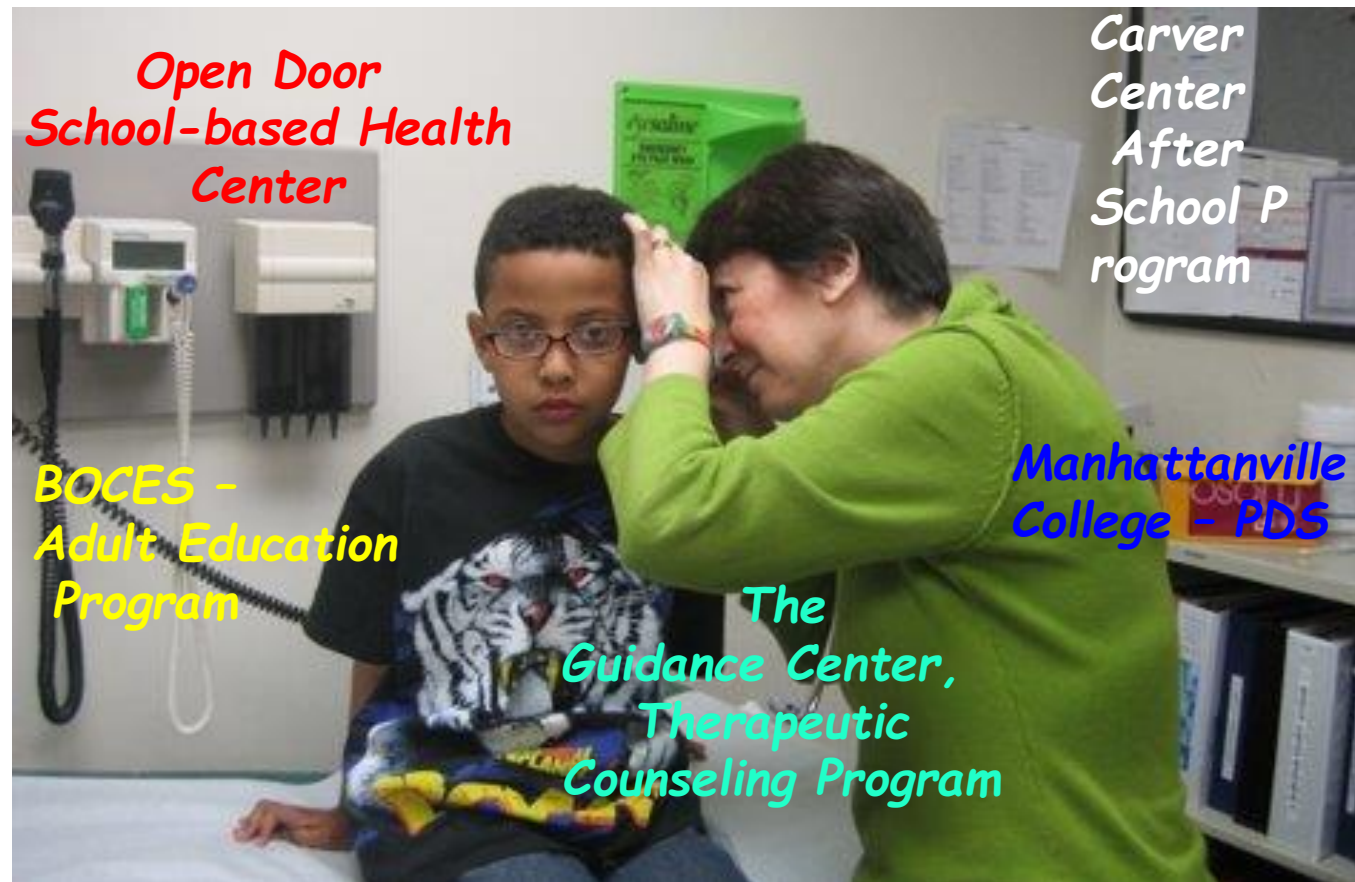
- University, community organization, non-profits, faith-based organizations, local business, and local government.
- Local needs, assets, priorities.



Food Bank of Westchester

PILLAR 1 - INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORTS

- **In Action** - Dental van, medical clinic, mental health, well-being curriculum, health fairs, cooking classes, nutrition programs, asthma management, physical and wellness programs.

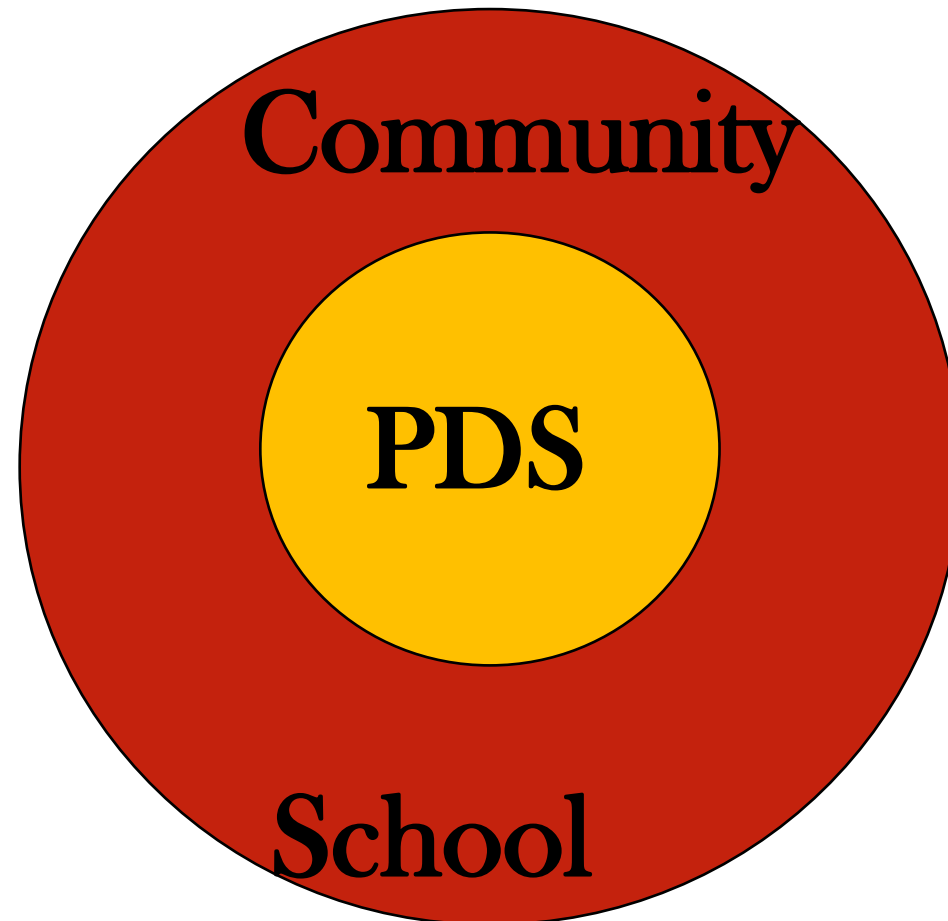


PILLAR 2 - EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Longer school day.
- Before and after school activities.
- Longer school year.
- **In Action** - Remedial/enrichment, College to Career Day, Saturday Academy, summer program, tutoring, mentor program, internship, PDS.

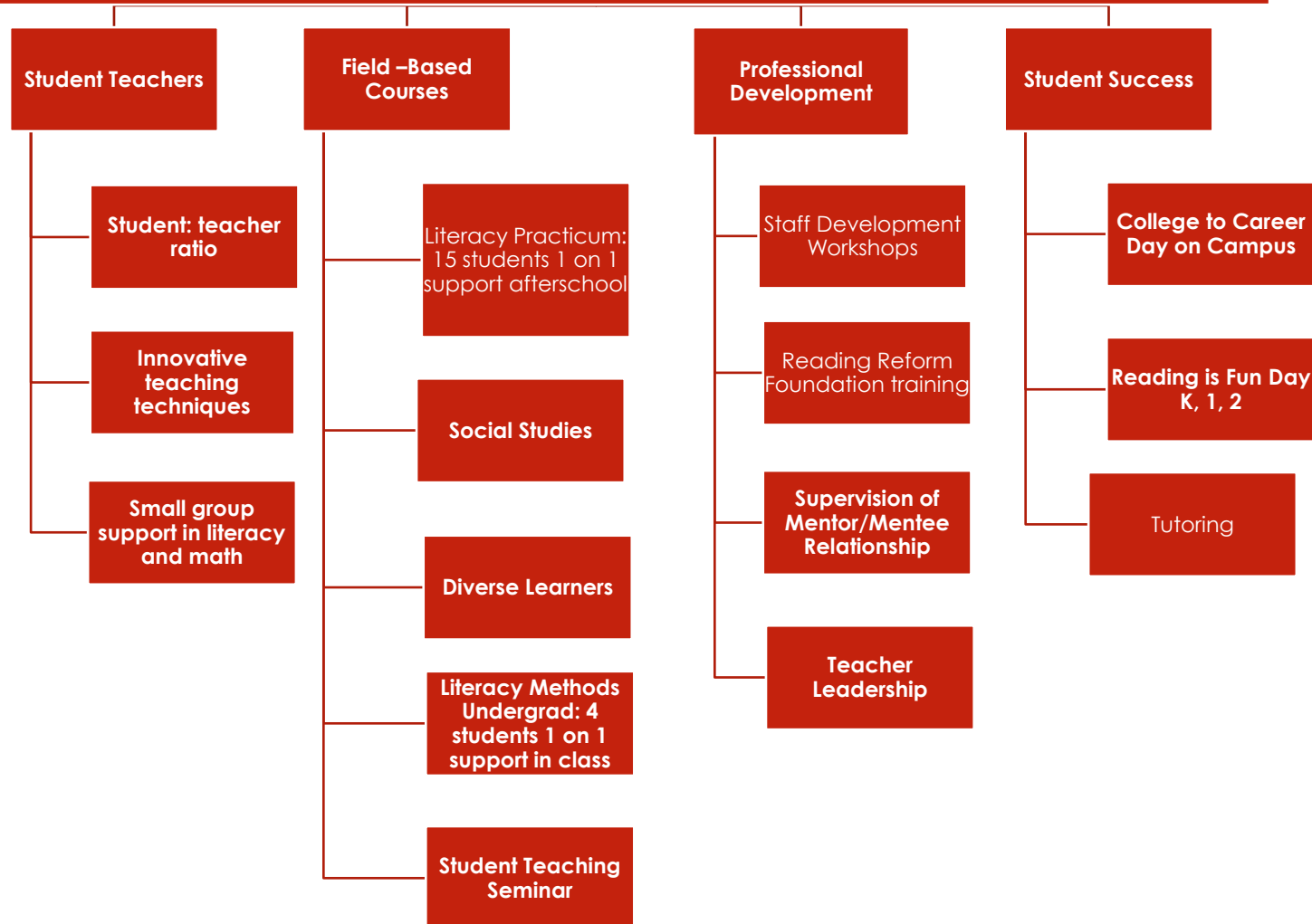


A UNIQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARTNER: THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL

A Glimpse at a School Day



PILLAR 3 - FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **In Action** - Parent Leadership Academy, job training, adult education, designated family room, parent coordinator, food pantry, language and literacy courses, clothes distribution, home visits, family nights, sports/cultural events, and childcare.



PILLAR 4 - COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

- Builds capacity among all stakeholders.
- **In Action** - Site based leadership team, parent leadership team, student council, community oversight council.

Community



KEY IMPLEMENTATION ESSENTIALS

- A Community School Director
- A Comprehensive Needs and Asset Assessment
- Site-based Problem-Solving Teams
- Stakeholder/Partner Teams
- Community School Standards