

Success Schools



Transforming Students
Schools and Communities
Through Alternative
Education Partnerships



Success Schools

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SUCCESS SCHOOLS IS ON A MISSION

— to turn underachieving students toward success; to turn underperforming schools into high-functioning, healthy learning environments; and to turn peer-based communities into positive sites for the educational and social development of at-risk youth.

To realize this vision, we work with various educational partners to implement flexible, custom-tailored wholeschool or partial-school programs that comprehensively and expertly meet the academic, behavioral, and social needs of the most challenging populations of students who require alternative placements and who learn best in alternative settings.

Who Do We Serve:

Educational Partners:

- • • • Departments of Education
- • • • Public School Districts
- • • • Charter School Networks
- • • • Lead Education Agencies (LEAs)
- • • • Educational Management Organizations (EMOs)
- • • • Public Agencies

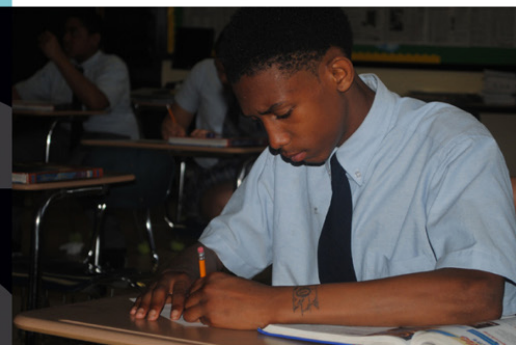
Populations Served (K–12):

- • • • Students with Disruptive/Disciplinary Issues (e.g., code of conduct suspensions)
- • • • Overage Students
- • • • Underachieving & Undercredited Students
- • • • Special Education Students (e.g., LD, ED & MD)
- • • • Students Who Dropped Out / At Risk of Dropping Out
- • • • Students Returning to School from Outside Placements



“With the new program,
I see kids who are *feeling good*
about themselves.
I see kids who are *respected.*”

Janis Ripper, Chief of Student Support Services, Pittsburgh Public Schools



LEADING SCHOOLS & STUDENTS TO SUCCESS

Our reach is national—managing alternative education schools and programs across the country, where the need is greatest, especially in urban areas. And yet our grasp and understanding of educational programming needs is local—allowing us to individualize our services and adapt our time-proven model to the particular requirements, standards, and concerns of specific educational communities.

Collaborating one-on-one with school district and educational partners, we quickly mobilize our resources to provide cost-effective, outcomes-driven solutions to today's most pressing issues for alternative education students in the least restrictive environment (LRE).

What We Do:

We Redefine a school's culture by ensuring safety and security, by establishing clear goals and boundaries in students' daily routines, and by eliciting a sense of control and ownership over students' own school, education, and future.

We Reengage struggling students with high-quality, meaningful academic and behavioral interventions that get them back to school, back on track for high school graduation, and back into mainstream educational and social settings as quickly and seamlessly as possible.

We Reenergize staff by breaking the cycle of negativity and misconduct in troubled students, by replacing that with a positive learning environment that emphasizes confidence and competencies, and by cultivating an atmosphere of mutual respect and responsibility.

We Renew hopes and expectations for faculty and student body alike by inspiring positive choices and pro-social behaviors, by empowering students to help themselves, and by instilling an appreciation for the value of lifelong learning.



“Success Schools has *totally embraced*
the expectations of Richmond Public Schools.
They have improved school climate by
giving students the opportunity to become
real leaders.”

Frank Butts, District Liaison, Richmond Capital City Program

A STUDENT-CENTERED APPROACH TO LEARNING

Success Schools is fueled by the unwavering belief that all kids have the ability to learn, to achieve, to attain their goals—even difficult-to-educate kids who have thus far faced numerous challenges in the traditional classroom setting. Our multifaceted education model therefore addresses students on all fronts—academic, behavioral, social, emotional, and developmental—to produce real quantitative and qualitative improvements across all facets of their lives: at school, at home, and in the community.

Our model is comprised of 6 components that all work in unison to guide students toward reaching their fullest potential. We place the student at the hub of this structure of support systems, for when student strengths are given prominence over their deficits, when their abilities take precedence over their disabilities, and when their successes are highlighted over their past failures, they become invested in their own education, their classrooms come alive with engagement and participation, and the whole school's climate benefits from newfound aptitudes and attitudes.

How We Do It:

Academic Program

Mirroring the standards-based curriculums already in place by the district/school system, which facilitates a smooth transition back to mainstream classes

- Personalized Learning Plans & Individualized Academics (including fulfillment of all IEP requirements, when applicable)
- Computer-Assisted Instruction & Educational Technology
- Data-Driven & Research-Based Instruction
- Cross-Curricular & Co-Teaching Models
- Focused Learning Environment (free of distractions/barriers)
- Emphasis on the Way Students Learn & Interact with Instruction Materials

Behavior Program

School-wide behavior management system that enlists every student as a contributing member of the school culture via positive student-to-student interaction, redirection techniques, group dynamics, and incentives for appropriate behaviors

- Safe, Secure & Structured Campuses
- Student Code of Conduct & Set of Norms
- Dramatic Reduction in Problem Behaviors
- Daily Positive Reinforcement Techniques
- Individualized Behavior Contracting
- Student Monitors
- Student Rating System (6 tiered levels of attainment)



Positive Peer Culture

Hallmark of our programming that teaches students to lead and support themselves and one another through peer-based exercises, such as role modeling and mentoring

- Morning & Afternoon Assembly
- Guided Group Instruction (GGI)
- Opportunities for Student Leadership
- Student Government
- Promotion of Student Ownership & Accountability
- School Uniforms

Transition Services

Preparing students for successful educational and societal experiences by equipping them with real-life skills for real-world settings and situations

- School-to-Work Programs
- Vocational Training
- Personal Growth Program (including life skills and activities of daily living [ADL] training)
- Postsecondary Planning
- Career Preparation (résumés, interviewing and networking techniques, job skills)
- Financial Management Skills

Supplementary Program Features

- Individual & Group Counseling
- Community Involvement Initiatives (participation in local charitable and communal events to increase awareness and plant the seeds of altruism)
- Social Skills Training (e.g., anger management, conflict resolution, communication skills)
- Extracurricular Activities (field trips, sports leagues, school dances, talent shows, art/science fairs, etc.)

Parental Involvement

- Parent Orientation Sessions
- Regular Parent Meetings & Events
- Open Communication & Full Transparency
- Parental Support & Engagement in All Program Aspects

The Value of Success Schools

Our company's successful track record and reputation can be attributed to three vital advantages we bring to all our partnerships and programs.

Experience

Success Schools was born of the passion and commitment of two seasoned professionals, each of whom has over 20 years of expertise working specifically in the interests of at-risk youth in both public and private settings. Our leadership team is fully prepared and qualified to develop, operate, and manage school-based behavior intervention programs anywhere in the country, for any populations of students.

We are assisted by an incredibly talented and dedicated team of state-certified teachers and support staff who are trained in alternative education practices and who work tirelessly for our shared end goal: to guide each and every one of our students to their highest level of educational and social development.

Cost-Effectiveness

The nature and scope of Success Schools' services allows us to provide our programming at a cost-neutral price point or below. Students stay in district (often in their home schools as well) rather than being sent to expensive out-of-district placements, which affords our partners both institutional oversight and significant cost savings (\$4K–\$5K per student per alternative education program). Further indirect cost savings are actualized in the form of reductions in: vandalism, lawsuits, support services, workmen's compensation, district hearings, and other costly policy formalities.

Results

We deliver on our promise to transform low-performing schools with outcomes-driven approaches that produce measurable results like these—all garnered over the course of one school year or less:

- **69% reduction** in serious on-campus incidents
- **99% participation** in standardized testing*
- **19% increase** in math scores*
- **16% increase** in reading scores*
- **50% rate** of return to sending schools
- **88% of 8th graders** promoted to high school
- **91% of eligible** high school seniors earn diploma
- **88% of parents** and **89% of students** report improved progress over previous school
- **30-day turnkey** start-up possible (including physical building renovations and staffing)
- **100% retention rate** with our educational partners

*Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA), 2010–2011



Service Options

Whole-School Model

Management/operation of an alternative education school for students removed from the public school setting by the district for behavioral reasons (e.g., discipline issues, suspensions, arrests). This can be a "turnaround school" or a stand-alone facility for one sending school or a consortium of sending schools to this designated site.

This option is ideal for (1) students who can benefit from a highly structured specialized program; (2) facilities in need of beautification and rejuvenation; and (3) districts looking to transform a facility.

School-within-a-School Model

A Success Schools program implemented directly on an existing school campus for smaller populations of students who have been removed from the general education setting for behavioral reasons (e.g., disruptive behaviors, misconduct, expulsion).

This option is ideal for schools and school systems looking to fulfill LRE (least restrictive environment) requirements, by providing comprehensive alternative education programming right on the premises of a general education school.

Consulting & Professional Development Services

Onsite seminars and workshops conducted for education providers looking to train personnel in our specialty areas, including transforming school culture, creating a positive learning environment, and alternative education policy development. We also offer the option of assigning a full-time advisor to the client's site, when applicable and desired.

Particularly suited for smaller groups of educators with limited funding for ongoing training and for schools aiming to support and improve the effectiveness of their existing staff and programs; fulfills professional development requirements as well.



“We are seeing students who struggled to succeed in their home school *finding success*, at Clayton Academy”

Linda Lane, Pittsburgh Public Schools Superintendent