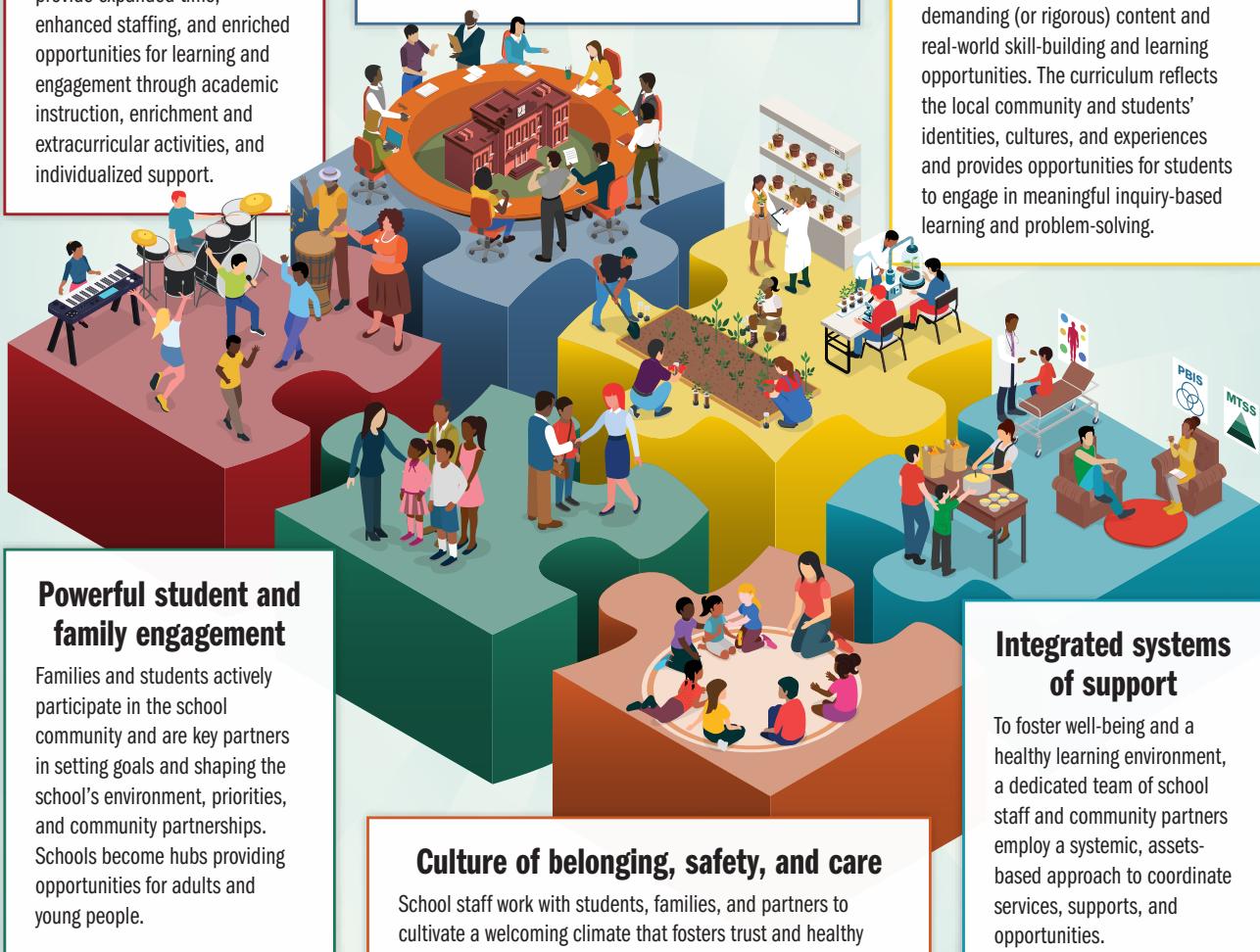# Key Practices for Community Schools Transformation

Expanded and enriched learning opportunities

Before- and after-school, weekend, and summer programs provide expanded time, enhanced staffing, and enriched opportunities for learning and engagement through academic instruction, enrichment and extracurricular activities, and individualized support.

Collaborative leadership, shared power and voice

Families, students, teachers, principals, and community partners co-create a culture of professional learning, collective trust, and shared ownership as they make decisions together through formal structures and through more informal engagement.

Rigorous, community-connected classroom instruction

Teaching and learning in the school integrates high-quality instruction with demanding (or rigorous) content and real-world skill-building and learning opportunities. The curriculum reflects the local community and students' identities, cultures, and experiences and provides opportunities for students to engage in meaningful inquiry-based learning and problem-solving.

Powerful student and family engagement

Families and students actively participate in the school community and are key partners in setting goals and shaping the school's environment, priorities, and community partnerships. Schools become hubs providing opportunities for adults and young people.

Culture of belonging, safety, and care

School staff work with students, families, and partners to cultivate a welcoming climate that fosters trust and healthy relationships. Each person in the school community finds value in a rich diversity of experiences and feels encouraged to share their own views, knowledge, and culture.

Integrated systems of support

To foster well-being and a healthy learning environment, a dedicated team of school staff and community partners employ a systemic, assets-based approach to coordinate services, supports, and opportunities.

Access the Community Schools Forward Framework

https://bit.ly/4f5JyrP

About this infographic

These key practices are drawn from the Community Schools Forward Framework, informed by both research and practice. The framework shows the integrated nature of the key practices and emphasizes the enabling conditions (i.e., trusting relationships, inclusive decision-making, a shared vision, and actionable data) and supportive infrastructure that must be in place for effective implementation.