

## **School 17's Continued Growth is Guided by Their Recent Community School Needs Assessment, Asset Map, and Development Plan**

Enrico Fermi School 17 follows a Community School model where they partner with community organizations to make the school the hub of the neighborhood and the access point to services that are tailored specifically to meet child, parent, family and community needs. As lead agency for Enrico Fermi School 17's community school initiative, CCSI helped support the school's Community Engagement Team (CET) to lead a needs assessment. They collected information from a broad array of voices, and then identified strategies and recommendations to enhance strengths and address challenges and potential barriers within the School 17 community. Parents/caregivers, middle school students, students and non-students who access the School 17 Rec Center, and teachers completed surveys that assessed their perspectives of the strengths and challenges of School 17, as well as programs and services offered within the school. Data was also collected from all on-site partners using a case management tracking tool, to better understand utilization of these partner services.

Brief highlights from the assessment are:

### **Areas of Strength**

- Adults described great strides and improvements with the community school model
- Diversity as Strength is embraced by teachers, students, and families
- Parents report a high level of attendance at whole-school events
- Teachers appreciate the range of supports that further rigorous teaching and student learning
- On-site partners serve the majority of the student body

### **Areas in Need of Continued Growth or Expansion**

- Safety remains an area of growth for the School 17 Community and surrounding JOSANA neighborhood
- Communication between and across various groups at the school
- Cleanliness in the neighborhood
- Parents voiced most interest in art, dance and athletics for extra-curricular activities
- Formal mentorship programs

### **The following strategies were offered to continue growth and fulfill the vision at School 17:**

- Share the findings of the needs assessment with stakeholders to obtain additional input and prioritize next steps
- Continue annual assessments to monitor change over time and the impact of the community school model
- Continue implementing trauma responsive and restorative practices
- Improve communication through utilization of social media
- Continue strengthening connection with the Dental and Health clinics by offering educational workshops to students and families
- Provide continued opportunities for teachers to use their strengths and bring their vision for the school to life
- Continue partnerships with Charles House Neighbors n Action (CHNA) and community organizations to work together to address neighborhood concerns around safety and cleanliness
- Continue to partner with City Recreation to provide a broader array of offerings to students and neighborhood residents

- Identify opportunities for formal mentorship programs

School 17's leadership will share the report findings and use them as a guide for the school's continued growth over the next year. For more information about CCSI's work with community schools, check out our [website](#).