ALTERNATIVES TO SCHOOL CLOSURES

(Because you can’t improve a closed school.)

KEY STRATEGIES

- Well-prepared and effective teachers who can support diverse learners.
- Wraparound academic, social/emotional, & health supports to help students stay on track.
- Positive discipline policies that keep students in school, safe, and learning.
- Engaged parents & communities that are invested in the school’s success and foster partnerships between the school, local businesses, and non-profits.

Universal pre-K access so that every child is ready to learn when they enter school and no one starts behind.

Equitable school funding so that schools in low-income communities can be equipped with resources & supports.

Expanded Learning Time including after-school programs, internships, and community service.

Examples of Supports

Educators
- More support staff
- Strong PTAs

Students & Families
- Student peer mediation groups
- Student voice on school board

Community
- School-based Clinics
- Health Care Providers
- Law Enforcement
- Local Businesses
- Mentoring & Internships

Policy Makers
- Stopping suspensions
- Fair education budgeting

Alternatives in Action

Cincinnati, OH
- Community Learning Centers
  - Graduation rates up from 51% in 2000 to 82% in 2010
  - Achievement gap between Black & white students narrowed from 14.5% in 2003 to 1.2% in 2010

Oakland, CA
- Community Schools
  - Schools with after-school programs rose from 32 to 90
  - 10x more children with access to summer school
  - School-based health clinics

Evansville, IN
- Community Schools
  - 27% more students meet early literacy benchmarks
  - 79% of 2010 grads pursued post-secondary education, above state average

Hartford, CT
- Community Schools
  - Reading proficiency +10% since 2009
  - After-school programs proven to maintain and increase math, reading, & writing performance

Learn More & Take Action:
www.schottfoundation.org

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www.communityschools.org