

Neighborhood Schools Project

The P-12 Project is committed to assisting Ohio's schools, particularly those that serve underserved children and youth. Our scope includes the entire state, but we have a responsibility to be good neighbors to the schools in our local community, which are some of the most needy in the Columbus area. Because of our proximity to these schools, we have developed a strong relationship with 14 neighborhood schools. These pages describe our local efforts.



Neighborhood Schools Project Goals

The Neighborhood Schools Project is a portion of what the P-12 Project does for the broader regional and state communities. Our local efforts assist with the long-term goals of neighborhood revitalization defined in the Campus Partners Plan. Developed by a collaboration of educators, parents, and community members, The Neighborhood Schools Initiative works to improve the education of children and youth living in the neighborhoods around The Ohio State University. We aim to:

- Assist the Columbus City School District with improving the academic performance of school-aged children and youth
- Work with local agencies to support families to become and stay involved with their children's education
- Collaborate in the development of after-school and summer programs that serve children and youth

- Coordinate community and social services that enable children and their families to thrive in the education system
- Assist the Columbus City School District with its efforts to improve school performance, particularly in those schools on probation
- Offer opportunities for lifelong learning to students and residents
- Incubate promising projects for broader use

Neighborhood Activities

The P-12 Project acts as the connector between the educational needs of the University neighborhoods and the educational resources of the Ohio State University.



In addition the P-12 Project seeds special projects that, if they prove to be scalable, are then brought to broader communities. Examples include the Counselor Wellness Program, the Reading Service Learning Course, and the Child and Youth Health Initiative.

To facilitate our neighborhood efforts, we engage an advisory board made up of community members, school members, and university faculty. P-12 Project also supports three subcommittees, each led by an OSU faculty member, to focus more tightly on particular aspects of educational needs. P-12 subcommittees include After-School and Summer Youth Development (Dawn Anderson-Butcher, Chair), Human Services (Gil Greene, Chair), and Service-Learning Committee (Golden Jackson, Chair).

To summarize, the neighborhood activities include:

- Service-Learning courses (Service-Learning Initiative)
- Ohio State internship opportunities for students
- Bringing Ohio State student volunteers to schools via Community Connection
- Ohio State credit-earning courses for professional development for teachers (Urban Schools Initiative)
- Counselor education and nurse training by Ohio State faculty members in P-12 schools
- Working to assist and develop after-school programs (After-School and Summer Youth Development Committee) ■