Why should schools partner with community partners like the Boy Scouts of America?

The Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA) mandates every school to be a 21st Century Community Learning Center.

21st Century Community Learning Centers allow schools to plan, implement or expand projects that benefit the education, health, social services, cultural and recreation needs of communities by partnering with community partners.

Indiana schools, private and public, are mandated to provide character development education at every grade level through grade 12.

“Each public and non-public school teacher, employed to instruct in the regular courses of the first twelve (12) grades, shall present his instruction with special emphasis on honesty, morality, courtesy, obedience to law, respect for the national flag, the constitutions of the United States and of Indiana, respect for parents and the home, the dignity and necessity of honest labor and other lessons of a steadying influence, which tend to promote and develop an upright and desirable citizenry. The state superintendent shall prepare outlines or materials for this instruction and incorporate them in the regular courses of these twelve (12) grades” (Indiana Code 20-10.1-4-4, Morals Instruction. Formerly: Acts 1975, P.L.240, SEC.1).

Boy Scouts of America is a character development program with proven effectiveness. The Scout Oath and Law demonstrates how well this addresses this mandate.

Scout Oath:

“On honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; To help other people at all times; To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.”

Scout Law:

“A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.”

There are general Benefits for Schools by partnering with organizations like Boy Scouts of America

From Building A Community School

Results to Date:

- Improved Academic Performance
- Higher Attendance Rates
- Positive School Environments
- Safer Schools
- Greater Parental Involvement
- Improved Student-Teacher Relationship

From School, Family, and Community Partnerships

Results of partnerships:

For Students:

- Increased skills and talents through enriched curricular and extracurricular experiences
- Awareness of careers and options for future education and work
- Specific benefits linked to programs, services, resources, and opportunities that connect students with community

For Parents:
• Knowledge and use of local resources by family and child to increase skills and talents, or to obtain needed services
• Interactions with other families in community activities
• Awareness of School’s role in the community, and of the community’s contributions to the school

For Teachers:
• Awareness of community resources to enrich curriculum and instruction
• Openness to and skill in using mentors, business partners, community volunteers, and others to assist students and augment teaching practice
• Knowledgeable helpful referrals of children and families to needed services

From The Coalition of Community Schools

A recent Coalition research brief concludes that:
• Student learning improves.
• Student attendance improves.
• Students show improved behavior.
• Parent and family participation—in their children’s education and in the school—increases.
• Families have more opportunities and support in caring for and helping to educate their children and in contributing to their community.

Similar findings appear in studies from different communities across the nation.
• A return on investment study by The Finance Project and the National Center for Community Schools shows a social return of $10-$14 for each dollar invested in community schools.
• Students in high-implementing community schools in Tulsa, Okla. had math scores 32 points higher than those in other Tulsa schools; their reading scores were 19 points higher.
• Evaluators of Baltimore’s community school initiative found that experienced community schools had significantly better attendance and lower chronic absence than non-community schools. From 2009 to 2014, experienced community schools increased their average attendance rates by 1.6%, compared to a 1.8% decrease for non-community schools, and decreased early chronic absence rates by 4.1%, compared to non-community schools, where early chronic absence increased by 3.6%.

There are specific benefits for schools of partnering with Boy Scouts of America
• More than half of scouts have improved their performance in academic and non-academic areas, particularly in athletic skills, science, reading, and math.
• Boys who are Scouts are involved in a variety of after-school activities. In fact Scouts are more often involved in after-school activities such as sports, visual arts, or hobbies than are boys who have never been Scouts.
• Scouts are more likely than boys who have never been scouts to earn mostly an A grade. This is especially true of boys who have been Scouts for five or more years.

Scouts address several needs of Indiana Schools

Programs of Boy Scouts of America addresses the following areas:

- Enrollment
- Attendance
- Reading
- Math/Science
- Career & Technical programs

- Graduation rates
- College readiness
- Parental involvement
- School environment
## Indiana School Needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Math/Science</th>
<th>Career &amp; Technical Programs</th>
<th>Graduation rates</th>
<th>College readiness</th>
<th>Parental involvement</th>
<th>Welcoming School/Environment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partnering and meeting at the schools develop family trust in the school and this encourages enrollment. Deeper relationships at the school encourages parents not to move outside of the school boundaries. Participating in scouting decreases discipline issues which decreases suspensions. Partnering and meeting at the schools develop family trust in the school and this encourages attendance. Although Scouting is a national program, the rank requirements meets and enhances the Indiana Academic Standards. All scouts at every level in encourages and required to read for understanding to accomplish requirements. Scouting provides additional age appropriate reading material encouraging the love of reading.</td>
<td>Although Scouting is a national program, the rank requirements meets and enhances the Indiana Academic Standards. Science Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) is a basis of many of the Scout activities as well as an entire program. Exploring life in general is a basis of all scouting programs, however there are specific scouting programs open to both boys and girls to explore the STEM field as well as multiple career fields. Scouts self-select their interest through surveys and are then able to learn hands on through internship.</td>
<td>Scouting prepares scouts for life in general, however the leadership skills as well as their taught preparedness encourages scouts to continue to lead through their education and/or post elementary life planning.</td>
<td>Partnering with Scouts also means partnering with your parents. Creating a positive place for children to grow and develop. Parents are more likely to rank your schools to be welcoming because they are there doing scouts with their children. Scouts will be a positive partner creating a positive environment.</td>
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### How does scouting address these needs

### Scout program creating these outcome

| Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, Ventures, & Reaching for Tomorrow | Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, Ventures, & Reaching for Tomorrow | Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, Ventures, & Reaching for Tomorrow | Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, Ventures, & Reaching for Tomorrow | Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, Ventures, & Reaching for Tomorrow | Explorer | Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, & Ventures | Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, & Ventures | Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, STEM Scouts, Explorer, Ventures, & Reaching for Tomorrow |