

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
MAY 2, 2023 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
<p>A resolution to authorize a Memorandum of Understanding with the Little Rock School District for the sustainable implementation of the Community School Model.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ordinance √ Resolution</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SYNOPSIS</p>	<p>A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Little Rock School District for Fiscal Year 2023 for the sustainable implementation of the Community School Model.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">FISCAL IMPACT</p>	<p>For Fiscal Year 2023, the City and the Little Rock School District shall each provide the sum of \$500,000.00 and shall be known as “Total Agreement Funding.” Such funding can come either in the form of budgeted funds, salary and benefits for employees dedicated to Community Schools programs, or the cost of programs that fulfill pillars of the Community School Model. Funding for this Memorandum of Understanding is available from Account No. S15C507.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">RECOMMENDATION</p>	<p>Approval of the resolution</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">BACKGROUND</p>	<p>The Community School Model includes the following four (4) pillars when faithfully implemented: a) the creation of integrated student support services individualized to students’ needs; b) the expansion of high-quality out of school learning opportunities for students; c) the promotion of active family and community engagement with schools operating as community “hubs” for those activities; and d) the development of a collaborative, trusting leadership of the schools that incorporates school leaders, teachers, parents, and community members.</p>	

**BACKGROUND
CONTINUED**

When faithfully implemented, the Community School Model has shown empirical evidence for success in terms of reduction of absenteeism rates, reduction of in-school disciplinary infractions, and improved academic achievement. A vibrant partnership between a School District and community partners, including City Government, is essential for sustainable implementation and growth of the Community School Model. The City of Little Rock committed, as part of the debate over “reconstitution” of the Little Rock School District (LRSD) following five (5) years of State control, to invest in the Community Schools Model as a tangible sign of the community’s commitment to the improvement of LRSD.

The Little Rock City Board of Directors voted to provide initial funding for key programmatic elements of the Community School Model in partnership with LRSD. In addition, LRSD has similarly shown commitment towards the creation of a partnership through funding the salary and benefits for Community School Coordinators for the initial four (4) schools to pilot the Community School Model.

Upon approval of the resolution, the Memorandum of Understanding will be executed with LRSD.