

# Strengthening Collaborative Leadership in Fresno Unified's Community Schools



Community Schools | Fresno Unified School District

## SAY WHAT?

***“Strong Community Schools are built on shared leadership, trust, and systems that bring educators, families, and communities together in service of students.”***



As Fresno Unified School District continues to expand its Community Schools initiative, the need for strong, collaborative leadership has never been more important. Community Schools thrive when educators, families, students, and community partners share responsibility for decision-making and work together to support the whole child.

Catalyst for Educational Change is proud to partner with Fresno Unified School District to support this work by strengthening collaborative leadership practices and building systems that sustain community-driven solutions.

## Building Shared Leadership and Strong Systems

Through this partnership, CEC works alongside district and school teams to facilitate shared decision-making, align leadership practices, and create conditions for meaningful collaboration. Our work centers on professional learning, strategic facilitation, and coaching that help adults across the system develop the skills and structures needed to lead together.

By focusing on collaborative leadership, schools are better equipped to navigate complex challenges, engage diverse perspectives, and move from isolated efforts to coherent, system-wide practices that support students academically, socially, and emotionally.

## SO WHAT?

### Impact That Extends Beyond the Classroom

This work has led to stronger collaboration among school teams, clearer alignment between district and site-based leadership, and deeper partnerships with families and community organizations. As a result, schools are building healthier adult culture, improving communication and trust, and creating more responsive systems of support for students.

Most importantly, these strengthened systems lay the foundation for measurable, sustainable improvement, ensuring that Community Schools are not only implemented, but are positioned to grow, adapt, and deliver lasting impact over time.

***CEC's partnership with Fresno Unified School District is strengthening collaborative leadership, improving adult culture, and building sustainable systems that support whole-child success across Community Schools.***

Across Fresno Unified School District, this partnership is supporting site- and district-level leaders as they strengthen shared leadership practices, improve alignment, and build conditions for sustainable Community Schools implementation.

## NOW WHAT?

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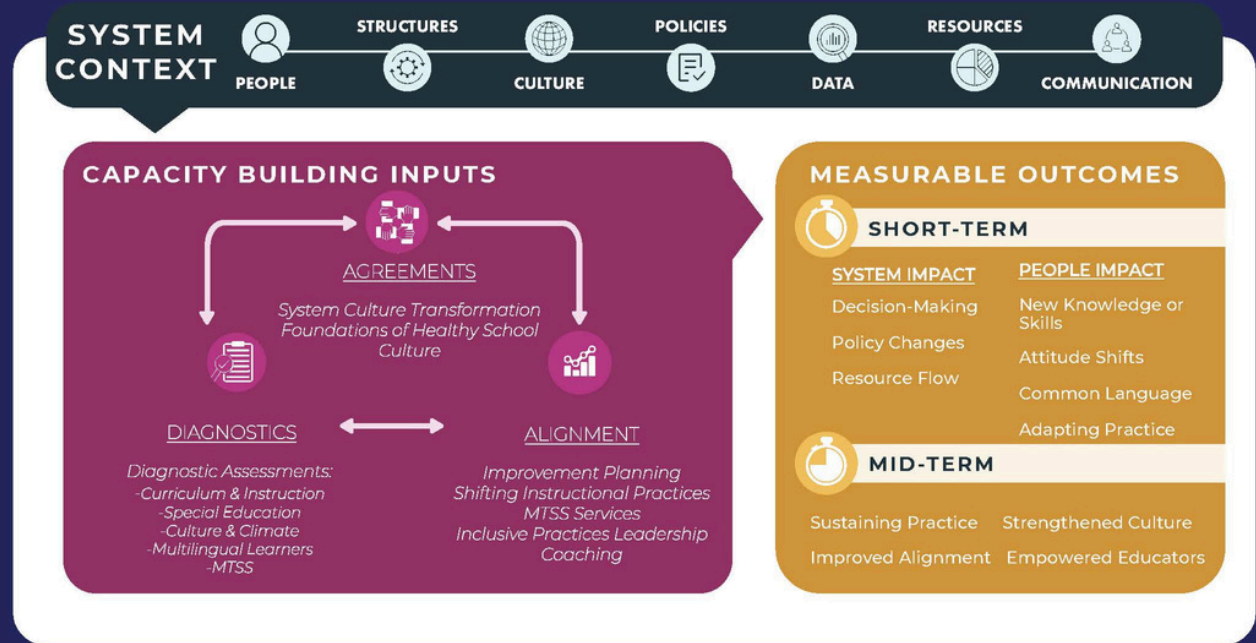
### Looking Ahead

As Fresno Unified's Community Schools initiative continues to expand, CEC remains committed to supporting leadership-driven, equity-centered practices that empower school communities and improve outcomes for students. Together, we are building the capacity, structures, and shared ownership needed to ensure long-term success.

Interested in learning more about how collaborative leadership strengthens Community Schools? Explore CEC's Community Schools services or connect with us to learn how we partner with districts to support sustainable, system-wide improvement.



Contact us to set up a meeting.



**LONG-TERM OUTCOME:**

*Increased system capacity to orchestrate equitable, inclusive transformation to reach intended outcomes through large-scale organizational change.*

**CEC's Logic Model shows how collaborative leadership and system alignment lead to sustainable Community Schools outcomes.**

**Why This Work Matters**

When adults work together around shared goals, real change is possible. Strong relationships, trust, and shared responsibility create the conditions schools need to improve and sustain progress over time.

CEC partners with districts to strengthen adult culture and collaboration because when people are aligned, systems work better for students.

**How CEC Supports Sustainable Change**

CEC helps schools and districts align their efforts around clear improvement goals and shared ownership. Our approach supports leaders and teams in pacing change, building momentum, and creating lasting impact without overwhelming the system.

**Learn More**

Explore how CEC's Logic Model supports large-scale improvement and collaboration. Our website offers free resources to help start conversations, align teams, and move ideas into action.

