

# Coastside Community Schools Partnership

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"...there is no more dependable stimulus for community building than a *common task*."

John W. Gardner

# Opportunity and Benefit

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- Enrich the lives of the people in the Coastside community with a particular focus on children and young people
- Student gains in academic achievement and non-academic development

*"As someone said, 'Children are our best known source of adults;' so the first step in building community is the nurturing and development of children who will grow into community-building adults..."*

John W. Gardner

# Coastside Community School Partnership - CCSP

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- Cabrillo Unified School District
  - Dwight Wilson, John Bayless, Allan Kass
- City of Half Moon Bay
  - Bonnie McClung, Jim Grady, Paul Nagengast
- Boys and Girls Club of the Coastside
  - David Cline
- County of San Mateo
  - Rich Gordon, Charlene Silva, Beverly Johnson
- John W. Gardner Center
  - Craig Baker, Mike Montoya

"Leaders unwilling to seek mutually workable arrangements with systems external to their own are not serving the long-term interests of their constituents."

– JW Gardner *On Leadership*

# The John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities

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“We are continually faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as insoluble problems.”

- John W. Gardner

# Taking a Partnership Approach to Youth and Community Development

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- Young people want opportunity
- Partners bring different expertise, and capacity - not one can do it all alone
- Community organizations have a history of working to meet community needs
- Coastside is relatively isolated - infrastructure and resources are limited
- Schools can be a resource for the entire community
- Civic leaders have a shared interest, responsibility, and are committed to a common effort

# Beliefs and Organizing Principles

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- Build on the community's strengths to address the array of challenges that children face
- Engage parents and families to help strengthen children, families and community
- Provide a high quality learning experience so children can be successful in life
- Create supportive environments that provide individualized attention
- Enrich children's learning and development in after school settings
- Coordinate and integrate resources that benefit children and the community
- Facilitate meaningful roles and leadership pathways for young people to make a difference in their community

# The Mission of the Coastside Community Schools Partnership is to:

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- Provide a strong academic program for all students
- Recognize parents and community as partners with our schools
- Coordinate and integrate the delivery of support services for children and families – physical, emotional, social, and cognitive
- Develop student, parent, and community leaders and supportive social networks
- Provide enrichment opportunities outside of school hours
- Enable our schools to be identified as vibrant community centers that leverage the unique resources of our community in ways that enhance and support families
- Enrich the lives of the people in the community with a particular focus on children

# What is a Community School Approach ?

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- A Community School is an ***approach*** rather than a program.
- A ***place*** and a ***set of partnerships***
- Schools, families and communities ***work together*** to support successful children
- Focus on educating children **AND** strengthening families & communities
- ***Integrated focus*** on academics, services, supports and opportunities (supporting ***whole child***, which includes family and community)



Removing barriers and promoting success to learning & development

- Health
- Dental
- Mental Health
- Social Services
- Parent Involvement
- Coordinated Services

# Accomplishments at Cunha

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- Building on previous and ongoing efforts
  - Teachers, Staff and Community Collaboratives
  - Coastside Health and School Linked Service
  - Boys and Girls Club and Youth Serving Organizations
- After School Enrichment Opportunities
  - Science Fair Resource Center
  - Woodshop, Drama, Girls for Change
  - Open Gym, Boys and Girls Club, Sports
  - Expansion of Homework Center
- Coordination of student wellness efforts
  - Health Services and Education
  - Social Support Access
- Coordination of Funding and Planning

# Accomplishments of the Coastside Partnership (CCSP)

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- Cross-Boundary Leadership Commitment
- Agreement on shared beliefs and operating principles
- Commitment to strengthening coordination efforts
- Agreement that facilitates resource sharing
- Coordination Funding Commitment

# Next Steps

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- Establish infrastructure for effective partnerships
  - City Parks and Recreation Programming
  - Health and Mental Health Supports
  - Youth Development Programming
  - Family and Community programming
- Establish a Robust Community School Coordinator Position
  - Three-Way Shared funding for F.T.E

# Community Building...

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*"...the first step in building community is the nurturing and development of children who will grow up into community-building adults..."*

-John W. Gardner