



February 29, 2016

Dear Friends,

A [new report](#) profiles struggling schools across the country that are transforming into thriving schools through evidence-based strategies of the Community School model. CSS is experiencing this transformation first-hand as lead partner to nine schools participating in NYC's Community Schools Initiative. In this [article](#), CSS's Community Schools Director Paul Neenos describes specific improvements happening at the Teller Avenue Educational Campus in the Bronx, home to J.H.S. 145 Academy for Creative Education and the Arts, M.S. 325 Urban Science Academy, and M.S. 328 New Millennium Business Academy, as a result of the strong collaboration between the schools and CSS.

"Lack of effective sex education can have very real, very serious health consequences," said Stephanie Zaza, M.D., M.P.H., director of CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health.



The federal Centers for Disease Control has identified [16 topics](#) which it says should be included in sex education classes offered to high school students in the U.S. These include benefits of being sexually abstinent; how to create and sustain healthy and respectful relationships; and communication and negotiation skills related to eliminating or reducing risk for HIV, other STDs, and pregnancy. *Fewer than half of high schools and only a fifth of middle schools teach all 16.* We are proud that the [Teen Prevention Education Program \(Teen PEP\)](#), our school-based sexual health promotion and peer education program operating in 52 schools in New Jersey and North Carolina, substantially teaches all 16 topics. Teen PEP was developed in collaboration with HiTOPS, Inc. and the New Jersey Department of Health.



Opportunity Nation ensures that all Americans have the opportunity to thrive.

CSS is pleased to join over 300 cross-sector organizations working together to expand economic mobility and close the opportunity gap in America. As part of the Opportunity Nation Coalition, we support the notion that all Americans should have access to opportunity and that where you start off in life should not determine where you end up. Learn more about the campaign [here](#).

Upcoming webinars feature varied solutions, geographies. We are thrilled that so many of you have joined us for our recent ***Lunch & Learn Webinars!*** The series continues with the following events:

- [***Equal Voice, Powerful Dialogue: Facilitating Protocols to Transform School Climate & Culture***](#)

Wednesday, March 9, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ET

- [***School-Based Mentoring for High-Risk Students: Achievement Mentoring***](#)

Tuesday, March 29, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ET

- [***Community Schools in New York City: Strategies and Supports***](#)

Thursday, April 28, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ET

We are hiring: *Community School Director in Brooklyn, NY.* See [here](#) for details on this and other open positions at CSS.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel F. Oscar
CEO

P.S. As always, if you'd like additional information about anything you've read, simply hit reply and let me know. I look forward to hearing from you!