



**UNIVERSITY-ASSISTED COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
A SUNY INITIATIVE TO TRANSFORM EDUCATION**



AGENDA FOR THE DAY

1

WHAT

2

WHY

3

HOW



SCHOOL-LINKED SERVICES, COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AND UACS

School-linked services connect schools with health and social services and other resources both on school grounds and in communities to support academic success.

A **community school** is a strategy that begins with a needs assessment and leads to a targeted *integrated* focus on academics, services, supports and opportunities to improve student learning, strengthen families and communities.

University-assisted community schools are community schools where IHEs serve as a lead partner to simultaneously improve community wellbeing while advancing research, teaching, and learning (PK-20+), and where the IHEs curriculum focuses on helping to solve local community-identified problems.

SUNY CAN HAVE A MAJOR IMPACT AS THE NATION'S FIRST STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF UACS WITH IHEs ACROSS THE STATE.



NATIONAL ISSUES IMPACTING OUR YOUTH

1

FOOD INSECURITY

17.3% of US households with children

2

MENTAL ILLNESS

21.8% of US children ages 3 to 17 diagnosed

3

ABSENTEEISM

14.7 million US children chronically absent

43% of dropouts missed too many days to catch up

4

TEACHER SHORTAGES

74% of teachers dissatisfied with their jobs in 2022



NATIONAL ISSUES IMPACTING COLLEGE STUDENTS

- In 2023, over three-quarters of college students (76%) experienced moderate to serious psychological distress.
- 36% of students were diagnosed with anxiety; 28% had depression. Trauma, eating disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, bipolar disorders, and substance use disorders are other mental health conditions affecting college students.
- 81% of college students said that their mental or emotional difficulties impacted their academics in the prior month.
- Nationally, 23% of undergraduates and 12% of graduate students report having experienced food insecurity.
- NYS students have higher debt load for higher education than the national average reflective of NYS having the highest income disparity in the nation.



BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Students who are civically engaged are more likely to finish their degrees, pursue further higher education and become community leaders.

College students from all academic disciplines expand resources and connections through:

- Drop in centers
- Classroom/academic support
- Family engagement and outreach
- Counseling & mentoring
- Diabetes and asthma education and support
- Financial literacy



Binghamton students across campus address school needs.

2016 – 2022

- ~ 2,356 college students placed
- ~ 75,622 hours served
- ~ 26,353 PK – 12 students impacted



UACS FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS

Binghamton Faculty-led UACS Partnerships:

- NSF Archaeology Afterschool Program
- Telemental Health
- In-person mental health (school and home)
- Addressing climate anxiety in high schoolers
- Expanding arts in local schools
- Supporting PharmTech students
- Connecting STEM and family engagement
 - Math activities for kids and families
 - Physics camps for grandparents and their grandchildren



UACS OUTCOMES

LOCAL OUTCOMES IN BUCS SCHOOLS

- Increased graduation rates (up to 10%)
- Decreased disruptive incidents
(up to 99%)
- Increased ELA Assessments (up to 30%)
- Increased mental health support
(up to 270%)

OTHER UACS POSITIVE OUTCOMES

- Decreased lead levels,
- Increased literacy levels,
- Positive school climate,
- Improved school safety,
- Improved student-teacher relationships
- Teachers increased ability to focus
on education
- Higher teacher retention



How SUNY UACS can be supported in NYS

FUNDING

- Grants – foundation, local, state and national
- NYS – allocations to districts for community schools, NYSED, NYSOMH
- School districts
- BOCES CoSer
- CBOs outsourcing services
- Fundraising

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- NYSED TAC
- Binghamton University Community Schools (BUCS)
- SUNY System
- Netter Center

Thank you!

SUNY System

Chancellor John King, Jr.
Associate Vice Chancellor Valerie Dent
Senior Assistant Provost Angela Pagano

Netter Center for Community Partnerships

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Ira Harkavy
Cory Bowman

Binghamton University

President Harvey Stenger
Provost Donald Hall
Vice President Brian Rose
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