

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026 AGENDA**

Subject: 2026-27 Community Schools Model Implementation MOU with Little Rock School District.	Action Required: Ordinance √ Resolution	Approved By: Delphone Hubbard City Manager
Submitted By: Office of Executive Administration		

SYNOPSIS	A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Little Rock School District, for the 2026-2027 School Year for the sustainable implementation of the Community School Model.
FISCAL IMPACT	2026 Fiscal Year funding for the City's \$500,000.00 obligation under the MOU in the amount of Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000.00) is available from Account No. S15C741. Subject to approval and appropriation by the Board of Directors, the remaining \$50,000.00 in funding necessary to satisfy the Total Agreement Funding shall be included in the City's Fiscal Year 2027 Budget.
RECOMMENDATION	Adopt the Resolution
BACKGROUND	Funds can be 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. Key practices of the Community School Model include powerful student and family engagement, collaborative leadership and shared power and voice, expanded and enriched learning opportunities, rigorous, community-connected classroom instruction, a culture of belonging, safety, and care, and integrated systems of support. When faithfully implemented, the Community School Model demonstrates empirical evidence of success,

**BACKGROUND
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including reduced absenteeism rates, decreased in-school disciplinary infractions, and improved academic achievement. Seven Little Rock Community Schools have increased their average daily attendance. 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 eight (8) schools to pilot the Community School Model.

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