



Community School Fact Sheet

The full-service approach of The Children's Aid Society's community schools addresses the multiple needs of children by recognizing that learning is influenced by ongoing experiences within families, schools and communities. To realize this comprehensive and collaborative approach to young people's learning and development, community schools foster sustained partnerships among parents, schools, community-based organizations, area health care providers, local businesses and universities.

P.S. 61, Francisco Oller School
1550 Crotona Park East
Bronx, NY 10460

C.S. 61 is named after Francisco Oller, a famous Puerto Rican Impressionist artist. The Children's Aid Society began its partnership with C.S. 61 in spring 2002. Soon after, this K-8 school was divided into two schools: C.S. 61, now serving grades Pre-K - 5, and I.S.190, The School of Environmental Science, Mathematics and Technology, serving grades 6-8. The CAS community school partnership links C.S. 61/I.S.190 with CAS' new Bronx Family Center, which provides comprehensive services to benefit the entire community.

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Mission Statement

C.S. 61's mission, in partnership with parents, community, and community-based organizations, is to promote learning for all students in an active, respectful and skill-building environment. We believe that every child is important and valued. Our students will become self-confident, self-motivated and self-reliant learners. Our dedication to excellence and idea sharing among staff builds cohesiveness, enriches teaching and develops mutual respect. We believe that critical thinking skills should be taught to enable children to resolve conflicts, make decisions, and identify and solve problems. We are committed to fostering a nurturing environment in which each child feels special and grows in self-esteem. We promote the love of learning to enable our students in the lifelong process.

KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Core Instructional Program

C.S. 61 uses methodologies and materials that integrate listening, speaking, reading, writing and math throughout all curriculum areas.

Extended-Day Program

The extended-day program at C.S. 61 is a comprehensive collaboration between the two schools, teachers, The Children's Aid Society and other community institutions. Serving approximately 300 students every day, the program combines academic enrichment with youth development, mentoring, arts, instrumental and vocal music, martial arts, archery, dance, sports and recreation. Programs are offered after the school day, during holidays, and summer vacations.

ACADEMIC programs are literacy-based, combining homework help and tutoring with nationally recognized, research-based curricula designed to enhance literacy skills and increase student engagement and motivation around literacy learning. Curricula are keyed to the New York State standards and incorporate reading, writing, math and arts activities (e.g. drawing, collage-making, writing and performing scenes or alternative story endings, using computer graphics software).

SOCIAL AND VOCATIONAL programs have been developed in response to the community need for youth leadership, conflict resolution and safe environments with positive adult role models. For the lower grades, this is addressed through curricula developed by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, leadership and current events workshops, and journal writing sessions. Upper grades participate in the CAS Adolescent Sexuality and Pregnancy Prevention Program, which uses a holistic approach to empower youth, develop a desire for a productive future, and improve their sexual literacy and understanding of the consequences of sexual activity.

PHYSICAL HEALTH activities seek to promote fitness through sports and exercise programs including basketball, soccer, flag football, volleyball, martial arts, and several types of dance.

DANCE, ART, THEATER AND OTHER CULTURAL

programs are especially prominent in keeping with the vision of C.S. 61's namesake. The extended day program has also included "harman: how to listen," a music education outreach program that takes an integrative, participatory approach designed to explore new ways of listening to and appreciating music. Dance and theater productions also provide students with opportunities to engage in artistic and musical expression.

Other Programs and Services

The C.S. 61 community school is an adaptation of the traditional CAS full-service community school model. Linked to the nearby CAS Bronx Family Center, C.S. 61 is able to provide students and families with early childhood/day care, comprehensive health and dental services, mental health and family wellness programs.

FOR STUDENTS, mental health, medical and dental care had been identified by parents and school faculty as a primary concern. A wide range of services is provided at CAS' Bronx Family Center. Pediatric and adolescent health services include: well-child examinations, immunizations, acute care (sick visits), services for preteens and teens, reproductive health care, health education and counseling. Basic dental care is also available for students. On-site, a social worker addresses the emotional needs of students and their families through individual and family counseling as well as group work. The Bronx Family Center also specializes in preventive and foster care services.

FOR PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS, parent programs and activities promote parent involvement in the school, help them feel welcome and support them with programs that respond to their family's needs. CAS provides a range of services including emergency assistance, family counseling and health insurance consultation. Parents are encouraged to participate in advocacy events such as the annual After School Lobby Day in Albany. Additionally, parents are encouraged to volunteer for family events and participate in everything from after school program learning walks to annual program evaluations.



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Intermediate School 190
1550 Crotona Park East
Bronx, NY 10460

The Children's Aid Society began its partnership with C.S. 61 in Spring 2002. Soon after, this K-8 school was divided into two schools: C.S. 61, now serving grades Pre-K - 5, and I.S.190, The School of Environmental Science, Mathematics and Technology, serving grades 6-8. The CAS community school partnership links C.S. 61/I.S.190 with CAS' new Bronx Family Center, which provides comprehensive school-linked services to benefit the entire community

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Mission statement

The mission of ESMT IS 190 is to challenge all students to gain the academic, social and emotional skills required to reach high academic standards. By addressing an individual student's needs, by harnessing the creative skills of teachers and by actively involving parents in the educational process, students will become good citizens of the school and of the community. Our goal is to provide a stable environment for students where they can pursue their interests through the academic programs and through the enriched after-school program provided by a partnership with The Children's Aid Society.

KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Core Instructional Program

Based on the acronym TEAM, *Together Everyone Achieves More*, I.S. 190 seeks to promote students' academic and social success through an interdisciplinary, standards-based curriculum involving teachers, parents, students and community - based partnerships.

Extended-Day Program

Focus groups and needs assessments revealed an overwhelming need for youth development and leadership programs. Accordingly, the extended-day program at I.S. 190 focuses on conflict resolution and community building, as well as academic enrichment.

ACADEMIC opportunities during the extended-day program seek to reinforce and enhance the regular school day curricula. These offerings include homework help, tutoring sessions and a Department of Education - sponsored enrichment program.

CAS & IS 190 SOCIAL AND VOCATIONAL enrichment opportunities are based on a theme of conflict resolution and criminal justice. Students participate in a Community Justice Program that offers students the opportunity to meet with different members of the law enforcement and judicial community to learn more about the system and about their own role in promoting community safety and development. In addition, extended-day curricula such as *Overcoming Obstacles*, *Passport to Manhood* and *SMART Girls* encourage a sense of community among the student body and self-esteem within individual girls and boys.

CAS HEALTH EDUCATION uses a holistic approach to empower youth, develop a desire for a productive future, research current health issues, improve their sexuality literacy and understand the consequences of sexual activity.

PHYSICAL HEALTH activities such as the sports and recreational leagues are extremely popular at I.S. 190. Sport programs such as basketball, flag football, and baseball are offered by CAS, CHAMPS and PAL. Additionally, CAS offers martial arts, soccer, archery and volleyball with an emphasis on the fundamental purpose of youth development and conflict resolution, while also promoting physical fitness.

DANCE, ART, THEATER AND OTHER CULTURAL

opportunities are implemented and led primarily by student interest. The community school atmosphere at I.S. 190 is characterized by the students' love of performance and, accordingly, staff has scheduled weekly showcases for various arts activities, including drama, dance, step and arts and crafts exhibits.

Other Programs and Services

The I.S.190 community school is an adaptation of the full-service CAS community school model. Linked to the nearby CAS Bronx Family Center, students and families are provided with comprehensive mental health services, dental and medical services, adoption and foster care services, family wellness and youth leadership programs.

FOR STUDENTS, the Bronx Family Center specializes in preventive services, with adolescent health services providing well child examinations, immunizations, acute care (sick visits), services for pre-teens and teens, reproductive health care, health education and counseling. Basic dental care is also available for students. On-site, a social worker addresses the emotional needs of the students and their families through individual and family counseling as well as group work. CAS sponsors a Youth Council, composed of community school and Family Center middle school students, who have identified pressing community issues to research, discuss and address, while also working to raise awareness for other young people through presentations and local youth conferences. Transition programs are also in place to help children as they progress from elementary to middle to high school.

FOR PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS, parent programs and activities promote parent involvement, help them feel welcome in the school, and support them with programs that respond to their family's needs. CAS provides a range of services including emergency assistance, family counseling and health insurance consultation. CAS also provides the following workshops/classes: ESL, Family Life & Sex Education, Computer/Technology, Math & Literacy, and various mental health related workshops. Parents are encouraged to participate in advocacy events such as the annual After School Advocacy Day in Albany and the annual Lights On After School Celebration.

P.S. 61 Francisco Oller School

Number of Students Enrolled

394 enrolled in 2006-2007

School Level

Elementary school (Grades PreK-5)

Student Information (2006-2007)	%
Students qualifying for free federal school lunch	81.6
English language Learners (ELL)	9.4
Arrivals to the U.S. in last three years	4.1
Special Ed students in a self contained class	10.5
Student attendance rate	91.7
Latino students	69.1
Black students	29.6
White students	0.3
Asian and other students	1.0

Intermediate School 190

Number of Students Enrolled

294 enrolled in 2006-2007

School Level

Middle school (Grades 6-8)

Student Information (2006-2007)	%
Students qualifying for free federal school lunch	77.1
English language Learners (ELL)	6.8
Arrivals to the U.S. in last three years	1.4
Special Ed students in a self contained class	7.1
Student attendance rate	91.9
Latino students	61.1
Black students	38.2
White students	0.4
Asian and other students	0.4