

Information for school administrators

What does the new Child-Parent Center mean for our school?



Implementing a Child-Parent Center preschool through 3rd grade (CPC P-3) model at your school provides evidence-based instructional practices in a supportive learning environment that is consistent, stable, and predictable. The CPC P-3 program aims to increase collaboration between school staff, the community, and parents.

The CPC P-3 program is a center-based early intervention that provides comprehensive educational and family-support services, primarily in low-income neighborhoods. The goal of the CPC program is to improve early childhood education through family engagement and high quality instruction, making the transition to the next grade easier. Established by the Chicago Public School District in 1967, the CPC has demonstrated for over four decades that it is one of the nation's most effective educational reform strategies.

What impact do CPCs have on children and families?

- Increased kindergarten readiness
- Increased school and parent involvement
- Increased school attendance
- Increased student motivation
- Increased self-regulation of skills
- Decreased behavioral challenges

What does this change mean for your school?

Collaborative leadership

- Principals play a central role in overseeing implementation of the CPC P-3 model and in planning for the sustainability of the program.
- New roles may be created or reassigned to fill the needs of various positions of the CPC P-3 model, which emphasizes collaborative leadership over a typical hierarchical structure.
- Collaborative teams have expanded reach, enabling the team to accomplish more together and increasing shared responsibility.

Increased parent involvement

- Parent involvement is a crucial aspect of the CPC-P3 model. With the support of the Parent Resource Teacher and School-Community Representative, schools offer a menu of options for parent involvement for families at home, as well as at school.
- Your school will build parent involvement and engagement by supporting opportunities for their educational attainment, career opportunities, and personal development.
- By forming strong partnerships with the community, the CPC P-3 program helps provide comprehensive educational and family support services to students and families.

Curriculum alignment

- CPC and school staff work together to develop a Curriculum Alignment Plan using evidence-based curricula and instructional practices. This supports student learning and outcomes while easing students' transition from one grade to the next.
- Teachers participate in horizontal and grade level meetings throughout the year to ensure curriculum alignment for a consistent and predictable pathway for students and parents.

Professional development for teachers

- Improving teacher effectiveness is a key strategy in ensuring all children have rich educational experiences through the CPC P-3 program.
- Developed by the Erikson Institute, the CPC P-3 professional development system is a hybrid model of online modules, in-person meetings, individual teacher goal setting, and follow-up coaching to help teachers attain new skills to help every child succeed.

Smaller classes sizes

- Each CPC P-3 class has two teachers and class sizes are limited to 17 students for preschool and 25 students for kindergarten through 3rd grade.