

# Community Links High School

2400 S. Marshall Blvd. ~ Chicago, Illinois 60623

## THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Community Links High School is housed at John Spry Community School. It is located in the heart of Chicago's Little Village (La Villita) neighborhood, a community rich with Mexican tradition and culture. As a community school, Community Links serves as a beacon, providing education and services to students and families that live in the surrounding area. We are committed to academic excellence, and the social and emotional development of all our students.

Community Links was founded in September of 2003 as a small school. Students complete four years of coursework in three years by attending classes year-round, including summers. Our fast-paced, rigorous curriculum prepares students to succeed in the college academic setting.

### *Key features of our school include the following:*

- Late start, extended school schedule (9:00 a.m.-6:00p.m.)
- Mandatory summer coursework reinforces student learning.
- Work Experience internships required.
- Standards-based, thematic, cross curricular instruction.
- Service Learning curriculum with community involvement and family education approach.
- JROTC/Physical Education program which promotes teamwork, models self-discipline, and fosters respect and leadership.
- Small Class Size 18 to 1 Student Teacher ratio.
- High School/ Primary student mentorship/tutoring partnership.
- Integrated student counseling curriculum that follows the American School Counseling Association guidance model.
- College Bridge program partnerships with five university partners for H.S. and college credit.

## THE FACULTY

A talented and dedicated diverse staff of six full-time teachers including Golden Apple and Teach for America graduates. Each of our faculty is committed to life-long learning, and many are pursuing advanced degrees in their content areas.

## ACCREDITATION

Community Links is a Chicago Public High School and is fully recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Telephone: (773) 534-1997/ 534-1700

Fax: (773) 534-1688

Website: [spry.cps.k12.il.us](http://spry.cps.k12.il.us)



## STUDENT PERSONNEL SERVICE STAFF

Francisco Borrás.....Principal  
Eddie Jiménez..... Lead Teacher  
Larry Anguiano.....Administrative Assistant  
Lisa McDonald.....Guidance Counselor  
Tom Kennedy.....Math Teacher  
Andrew Hebert.....Math Teacher  
Timothy Ruby.....History Teacher  
Laura Reyes.....English Teacher  
Kate Kreinbring.....English Teacher  
Mark Sidarous.....Science Teacher

## ACADEMIC AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Community Links students are expected to meet rigorous academic standards as part of a fast-track intensive course of study. Students are engaged year-round, taking classes every summer in addition to their full course schedule during the academic year. During their third-year each student follows a demanding and rigorous schedule while enrolled in university course-work throughout the city. Students are enrolled in classes alongside undergraduates and receive university credit.

A minimum of 24 academic units of credit are required for graduation. Coursework must include the following: English, four units; Mathematics, three units; Social Science, three units; Science, three units; World Language, two units; Fine Arts, 2 units; Physical Education, two units; Career Education, two units; and Elective Credit, three units. Students must also receive credit for consumer education, drivers education, and pass examinations on the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Illinois.

## POSTSECONDARY OUTCOMES

Graduates of Community Links have gone on to attend the following colleges and Universities: University of Illinois at Champaign- Urbana, DePaul University, National Louis University, Columbia College, Northeastern Illinois University, Robert Morris College, and City Colleges of Chicago. Most of our students are the first in their families to graduate from high school and attend college. Over 85% of the Class of 2007 is currently enrolled in a college or university.

## OUR MISSION

The mission of Community Links High School is 100% high school and post-secondary graduation. We seek to inspire each student to reach his/her fullest potential as a productive citizen and active community member by forging a partnership between students, faculty, staff, parents, and community members.

**Founder, Dr. Carlos Azcoitia**