

## School Partnerships

### Description

Strengthens connections between churches and local schools to support students, educators, and families through practical service and presence.

### Annotated Books & Readings

**Putnam, R. D. (2015). Our kids: The American dream in crisis. Simon & Schuster.**

Explains widening opportunity gaps and why church–school partnerships matter.

URL: <https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Our-Kids/Robert-D-Putnam/9781476769905>

**Payne, R. K. (2013). A framework for understanding poverty. Aha! Process.**

Common framework (debated) that many school–church teams use to understand barriers and supports.

URL: <https://www.ahaprocess.com/product/framework-book-seventh-edition>

**Warren, M. R. (2001). Dry bones rattling: Community building to revitalize American democracy. Princeton University Press.**

Case studies of faith-based community organizing with schools and neighborhoods.

URL: <https://press.princeton.edu/books/paperback/9780691074320/dry-bones-rattling>

### Movies / Documentaries

Waiting for “Superman” (2010).

Critiques the U.S. public school system; prompts discussion on justice and community action.

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1566648/>

Teach Us All (2017).

Explores educational equity and civil rights; useful for school-church partnership reflection.

URL: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6588332/>

### Best Practices / Toolkits

• MENTOR: Start a Program

URL: <https://www.mentoring.org/resource/start-a-program>

• Afterschool Alliance: Starting a Program

URL: <https://toolkit.afterschoolalliance.org/starting-a-program/>

• ASE Education Foundation: Adopt-A-School Toolkit

URL: <https://adoptaschoolkit.com/>

• Coalition for Community Schools — Impact

URL: <https://www.communityschools.org/learn/start-a-community-school/impact>

## **Nazarene Resources**

- Nazarene Compassionate Ministries — School Partnerships  
URL: <https://www.ncm.org>

## **Regional Resources (New England)**

- MA: Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education (Office of Student and Family Support)  
URL: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/?section=family>
- RI: Dept. of Education — Students and Families: Engaged Communities  
URL: <https://ride.ri.gov/students-families>
- CT: Dept. of Education — School-Family-Community Partnerships  
URL: <https://portal.ct.gov/sde/sfcp/school-family-community-partnerships/how-to>
- NH: Dept. of Education — Partners  
URL: <https://www.education.nh.gov/partners>
- VT: Vermont Afterschool  
URL: <https://vermontafterschool.org/>

## **National / Equity & Justice Resources**

- Learning Policy Institute — Equitable Access and Opportunity  
URL: <https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/topic/equitable-access-and-opportunity>
- EdTrust — EduReimagined  
URL: <https://edtrust.org/rti/edureimagined-edtrusts-vision-of-education-equity/>