



EDUCATION

Create Pathways to Success

Strengthening educational efforts across all segments of the educational pipeline is vital to improved long-term educational outcomes. Children and families in poverty often need additional supports and resources outside of the traditional school setting to reach their full potential.

The Office of Community Wealth Building (OCWB) has placed an emphasis on collaborative initiatives to help improve social, academic, and ultimately career path outcomes for middle school and high school students.

Improving academic performance and positive social development among middle school children is widely recognized as a critical need for our schools and the City as a whole. Likewise, a concerted effort to connect our graduates to promising college and career opportunities can both raise expectations and have a lifelong impact on the economic prospects of our youth.



NextUp

The City of Richmond, through OCWB, is a full funding partner in the NextUp (Middle School Renaissance 2020) program – a public-private initiative involving the City, local area non-profits and corporations. Aiming to provide high-quality out-of-school time activities and programming at all City middle schools by 2020, the program is working to create a strong learning culture both in and out of the classroom.

Communities in Schools

The City of Richmond in 2015-16 will continue to provide substantial support to Communities in Schools of Richmond. Support for CIS is now a formal part of the program of the OCWB. CIS provides a variety of programming and intensive supports to students at all grade levels in Richmond, with the aim of helping redress the impact of poverty on healthy child development and learning.

RVA Future Centers

OCWB is collaborating with Richmond Public Schools and the RPS Education Foundation to launch RVA Future, a major new college and career access initiative. The goal of RVA Future is to lift the aspirations and expectations of Richmond area youth by providing students the information, support, and ultimately financial assistance needed to enroll and thrive in college or a quality training program. The City, through OCWB, has provided initial funding to support the establishment of Future Centers -- dedicated spaces within City high schools to support students in developing and pursuing their career goals. The Future Centers are the critical first step in the long-term development of a Promise Scholarship-type program for Richmond, with the aim of providing meaningful financial support to students pursuing post-secondary education.