

ExpandedED Schools by The After-School Corporation

New York City, NY; New Orleans, LA; and Baltimore MD



Reinventing K-8 schools that struggle to deliver on the promise of public education, by giving students more time and a wider range of opportunities to learn.



A Snapshot from a Participant's Perspective

For fourth graders Kiara and Donnell, the learning day begins by 8:00 am and ends around 5:30 pm at Thurgood Marshall Academy Lower School (TMALS), a K-5 ExpandedED School in Harlem, New York. The school expands its instructional staff, resources and learning hours by partnering with the community organization Abyssinian Development Corporation.



Over breakfast in the cafeteria, Kiara and Donnell join their schoolmates in listening to classical music and reciting poetry. By 8:30 am they are in their classrooms having their first of eight encounters that day with literacy instruction—in this case, discussing the book “Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing.”



Much of their morning is spent on literacy and math, with lunch at 11:15 am. On nice days they enjoy much-needed outdoor movement at recess, but on this rainy afternoon they dance to selections from their principal's iPod. After lunch, they go online to research the biographies of Michelle Obama and Condoleezza Rice for reports they are writing.



By 1:00 pm, AmeriCorps members are pushing into classrooms to assist teachers with small-group instruction and fourth graders are painting Harlem landscapes in the style of Romare Bearden. Around 2:00 pm, fourth graders move into a hands-on science activity. Today's unit on water absorption fascinates Donnell, who wants to be a Marine.



At 3:00 pm, when students in other schools are heading home, Kiara, Donnell and their schoolmates have two and a half hours of additional learning time ahead of them. Between 3:00 and 5:30 pm, all TMALS students get a nutritious daily third meal, help with their homework and immersion in a variety of academic and enrichment activities, some of which they may choose. Kiara and other student leaders meet with the principal, then she heads to Reader's Theater and a workout with capoeira—an Afro-Brazilian dance and a martial art. Given a choice of African dance or outdoor sports, Donnell grabs a basketball and heads outside to shoot hoops.





A Model of High-Quality Expanded Learning

The ExpandedED school model by The After-School Corporation (TASC) helps schools and communities lift the limits of the outdated school calendar to provide more individualized, balanced and hands-on education to students. ExpandedED schools incorporate the principles of high-quality expanded learning in the following ways:

School-Community Partnerships and Family Engagement

Each ExpandedED school partners with a community organization experienced in serving youth and educating the whole child. Community educators join teachers, families and the principal in intensive planning to reinvent the school day to more fully meet the needs of their kids. Community educators share instruction and accountability for student outcomes with teachers. They help them build a lively school culture of exploration and achievement and fortify students against lives often marked by stress and hardship.

Engaged Learning

By incorporating community educators into the school team, ExpandedED schools offer students more personalized and engaging instruction that success in today's knowledge economy demands without mandating longer hours for teachers.

Learning Time after School and during the Summer

At ExpandedED Schools, the school day expands by approximately three hours to match parents' working hours, with students learning for a minimum of 1600 hours a year, which is almost a third more hours than the typical school schedule. Additional hours are devoted to a balanced, well-rounded curriculum that includes academics and enrichments such as arts and inquiry-driven projects that inspire a life-long love of learning.

Health and Wellness

All participants of ExpandedED schools are offered a nutritious third daily meal after the school day ends. They also have opportunities to participate in physical activities, such as African dance and outdoor sports.

Affordability and Sustainability

Size: 11 schools

Annual Operating Cost: Approximately \$1,600 per student at scale

Funders and Partners:

Funding comes from each participating school's budget (such as Title 1 and Supplemental Educational Services funding); from the partnering community agency (such as 21st Century Community Learning Center and local out-of-school time funding); from public funding streams such as AmeriCorps; from private foundations that support education reform, youth development, STEM learning and other supports for students and families; and financial and in-kind support from TASC.

The Wallace Foundation and the Open Society Foundations provide major support for a three-year national demonstration of ExpandedED Schools. TASC works with these partners to implement ExpandedED elementary and middle schools.

► **In Baltimore:**
The Family League of Baltimore City, Inc. and Baltimore City Public Schools

► **In New Orleans:**
Partnership for Youth Development

► **In New York City:**
Department of Education and Department of Youth and Community Development