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Brighton Park Neighborhood Council

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BPNC's Full-Service Community Schools

- 6 schools in Brighton Park
- Comprehensive services: Case management, counseling, parent programming, academic and enrichment opportunities
- Serving over 1,100 students and 311 adults
- Issue Area: “Provide a voice for youth”

Our Model

- We partner with 6 Middle Schools and 6 High Schools to run **youth leadership clubs** and encourage **student voice**.
- Students involved in our programs:
 - **Identify issues** of common concern
 - Research **root causes** and possible solutions
 - Take **collective action** to hold decision-makers accountable for implementing solutions.
- We believe that engaging youth in leadership and civic-action develops **critical consciousness** and builds **developmental competencies**, including **social-emotional skills** and **postsecondary readiness**

Bringing a Social Justice Lense to Services and Programming

Building a critical analysis of injustice encourages school engagement and builds leadership skills



Student Led School Campaigns

Students choose an issue at their school or in the community and work to implement a solution

- HEALTHIER LUNCHES
- CHANGE THE CELL PHONE POLICY AT SCHOOL
- CAMPAIGN AGAINST BULLYING
- CREATE A LGBTQ SAFE SPACE
- CREATE A PEACE ROOM
- PREVENT TEACHER LAYOFFS AND BUDGET CUTS
- THE RIGHT TO A SAFE PLAY SPACE
- STUDENT VOICE IN PLANNING OF GRADUATION CEREMONY
- MORE SUPPORT FOR STRESS MANAGEMENT





Students Plan and Organize Events at School to Raise Awareness

Meet with Decision Makers



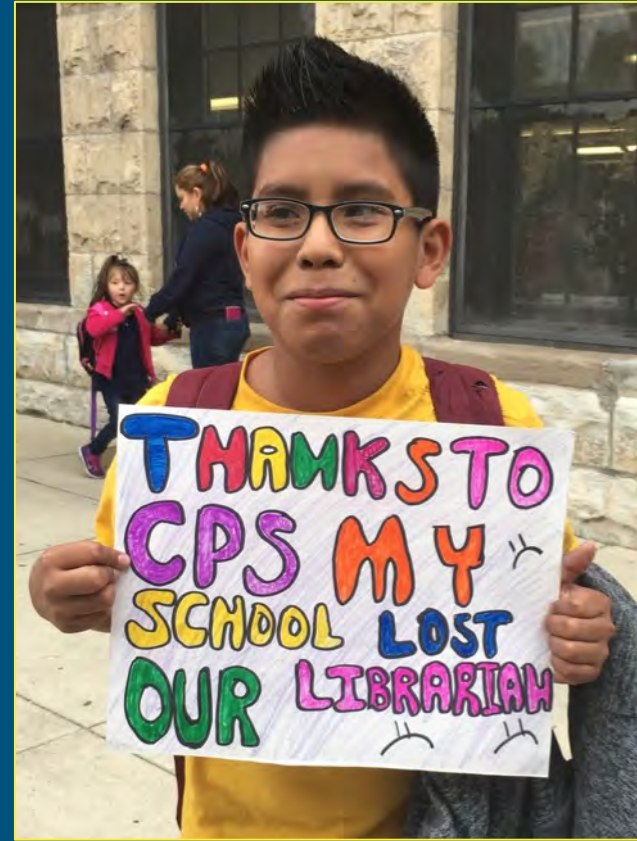
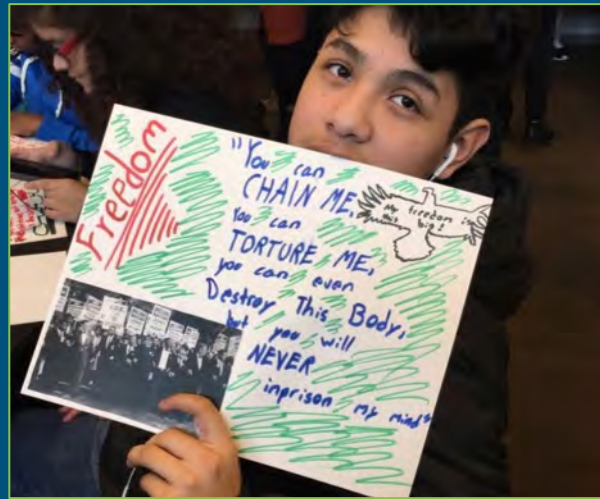
Meet with Legislators



Take Action

Builds Community, Sense of Empowerment and Motivation to Create Change





Youth Leadership Council

BPNC has Youth Leadership Councils in 6 Elementary schools, each year 10-20 youth participate.

The group focuses on:

- Violence Prevention
- Leadership Development
- Mental Health
- Education
- Immigrants' rights
- And Organizing



They help organize our annual Violence Prevention Youth Summit

Violence Prevention Youth Summit

- Each year about 450 youth attend from 8 middle schools
- The youth summit is a safe space where youth can talk about issues that are affecting them or their peers in their school or in their community.
- The youth summit takes place at a university, our goal is for them to start thinking about attending college.



Workshops at Youth Summit

- 10-15 different topics
- Up to 18 workshops
- 25-30 participants per workshop



Topics

1. Substance Abuse
2. Gang violence prevention
3. Bullying
4. Domestic violence
5. Sexual Assault & Sexual Harassment
6. Teen Pregnancy
7. LGBTQ Rights
8. College Readiness
9. Immigrant Rights
10. Mental Health







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