



OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

EDUCATION ADVOCATES ARE HOUSING ADVOCATES

Teachers know that children learn better and are more likely to graduate when they live in a stable, affordable home.

Stable, affordable housing drives stronger student outcomes.

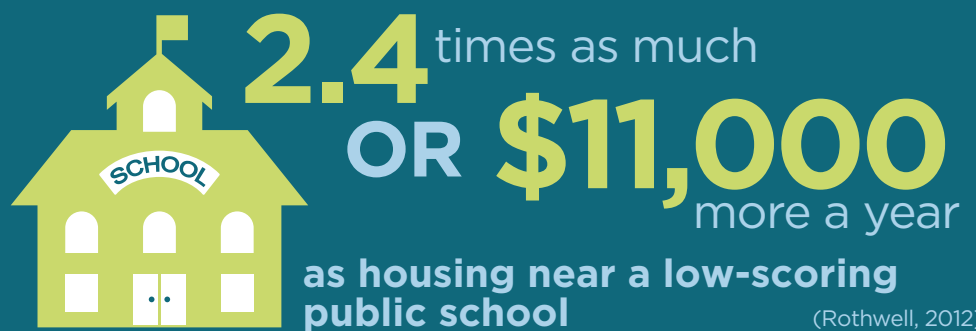
- “Low-income children in affordable housing score better on cognitive development tests than those in unaffordable housing (Newman & Holupka, 2015). Researchers suggest that is partly because parents with affordable housing can invest more in activities and materials that support their children’s development (Newman & Holupka, 2014). Parents also are able to save more money for their children’s college tuition when they are not rent burdened and are more likely to attend a parent teacher conference (Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation, 2016).” Quoted from [NLIHC, A Place to Call Home](#)
- “Low income children who switch schools frequently due to housing instability or homelessness tend to perform less well in school, have learning disabilities and behavioral problems, and are less likely to graduate from high school (Voight, Shinn, & Nation, 2012). When they grow up, they are also more likely to be employed in jobs with lower earnings and skill requirements (Fischer, 2015).” Quoted from [NLIHC, A Place to Call Home](#)
- “Students who attend schools with large populations of hypermobile children [due to unstable and unaffordable housing] also suffer academically since more time must be devoted to review and catching up on work (Cunningham & MacDonald, 2012).” Quoted from [NLIHC, A Place to Call Home](#)

- “Children who live in a crowded household at any time before age 19 are less likely to graduate from high school and tend to have lower educational attainment at age 25 (Lopoo & London, 2016).” Quoted from [How Housing Matters](#)
- “Living in poor-quality housing and disadvantaged neighborhoods is associated with lower kindergarten readiness scores (Coulton et al., 2016).” Quoted from [How Housing Matters](#)

Schools should not “go it alone.” Out-of-school factors greatly influence academic outcomes. After all, children spend more time in and around their home than they do in school.

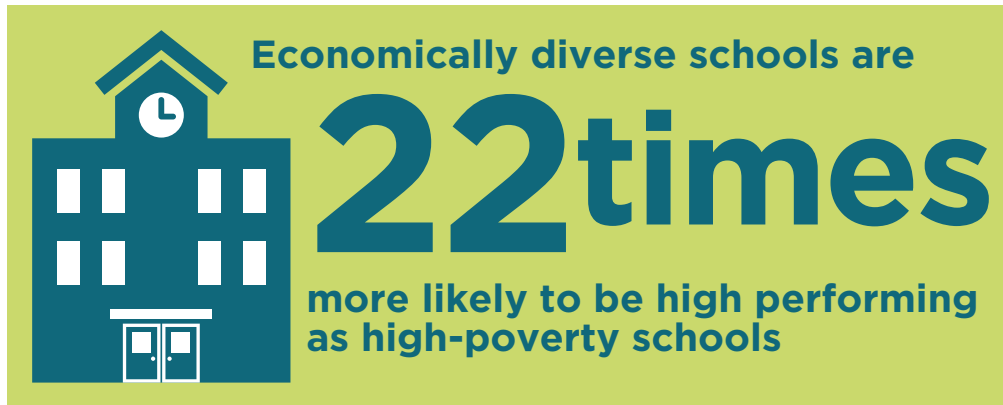
- “The preponderance of evidence shows that achievement differences between students are overwhelmingly attributable to factors outside of schools and classrooms (Hanushek et al. 1998; Rockoff 2003; Goldhaber et al. 1999; Rowan et al. 2002; Nye et al. 2004).” Quoted from [DiCarlo, The Shanker Institute](#)
- Because school funding largely comes from local property taxes, housing plays a pivotal role in how much schools can spend on students’ education. The highest poverty school districts receive roughly \$1,000 less per pupil in state/local funding than the wealthiest districts ([The Education Trust, 2018](#)).

Near a high-scoring public school, housing costs



From [How Housing Matters](#)

Affordable housing options located in high-opportunity areas can lead to economically diverse neighborhoods, which, in turn, can lead to economically diverse schools which consistently drive strong student outcomes for all children.



Harris, 2007

- “Students in integrated schools have higher average test scores. On the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) given to fourth graders in math, for example, low-income students attending more affluent schools scored roughly two years of learning ahead of low-income students in high-poverty schools. Controlling carefully for students’ family background, another study found that students in mixed-income schools showed 30 percent more growth in test scores over their four years in high school than peers with similar socioeconomic backgrounds in schools with concentrated poverty.” Quoted from The Century Foundation, [Benefits of Integrated Schools](#)
- In Montgomery County, Maryland, scattered-site public housing gave low-income children an opportunity to live in more affluent neighborhoods and thereby attend more affluent schools, which drove stronger achievement and significantly reduced gaps. This ground-breaking study showed that affordable housing, in and of itself, can help raise student achievement and can be more effective than some traditional education reforms ([Schwartz, 2010](#)).
- Attending a diverse school reduces prejudice and stereotypes, and prepares students for success in a diverse global economy (The Century Foundation, [Benefits of Integrated Schools](#)).
- When a low-income child is able to access affordable housing located in a better neighborhood, it improves the likelihood of college attendance ([Chetty & Hendren, 2015](#)).

“School reform cannot succeed without housing reform.”

– Richard Rothstein, Economic Policy Institute

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