



CONGRESSWOMAN

SUSIE LEE

SERVING NEVADA'S 3RD DISTRICT

Communities Serving Schools Act

Even though it's always been true, this pandemic has reminded us that student success goes well beyond the classroom. It's a fact that if students have access to nutrition, tutoring, after school programs, mental health support, and other vital services, they will perform better in school. It's also a fact that students from low-income neighborhoods and communities of color rarely have enough access to these services. During my two-plus decades of work with Nevada schools and students, I have seen this first-hand. I know that if we truly want to make education a national priority, we have to improve these wrap-around services, especially for our most underserved communities. The Communities Serving Schools Act will invest in the health, well-being, and stability of our students by expanding wrap-around services for those kids and families who need it most.

Background

The Communities Serving Schools Act provides \$1 billion in grants to state and local education agencies to invest in wrap-around school services that assist with the health, well-being, and stability of students outside of the classroom

The grant funds shall be used for: (1) implementing a planning period to assess the needs of the school and select appropriate/relevant programs and services; (2) partnering with a nonprofit community-based organization with a demonstrated record of providing high-quality, evidence-based wraparound services for children; (3) hiring an on-site coordinator who will align services with student needs, connect students to said services in an efficient manner, ensure integration of these services within the school, and track data on an annual basis.

Wrap-Around School Services

Wrap-around school services are programs that support the whole child by providing students, particularly in underserved, low-income communities, with help that leads to success inside and out of the classroom. Investing in these services that improve well-being ultimately improve student success inside the classroom. It's proven that children with access to services like tutoring, after school programs, nutrition, and mental health care, will perform better in school.

Helping Nevada's Students

[Nevada faces a \\$1.2 billion budget shortfall](#) due to the pandemic. This will likely result in cuts to the state's General Fund – 35% of which is for K-12 education and 34% for health and human services. These cuts will directly impact the services and resources available to Nevada's K-12 students. It's more important than ever that Congress steps up to provide wrap-around services like those in the Communities Serving Schools Act, as states face severe budget cuts.

