



# America SCORES Cleveland

## WRITE. PLAY. ACHIEVE.

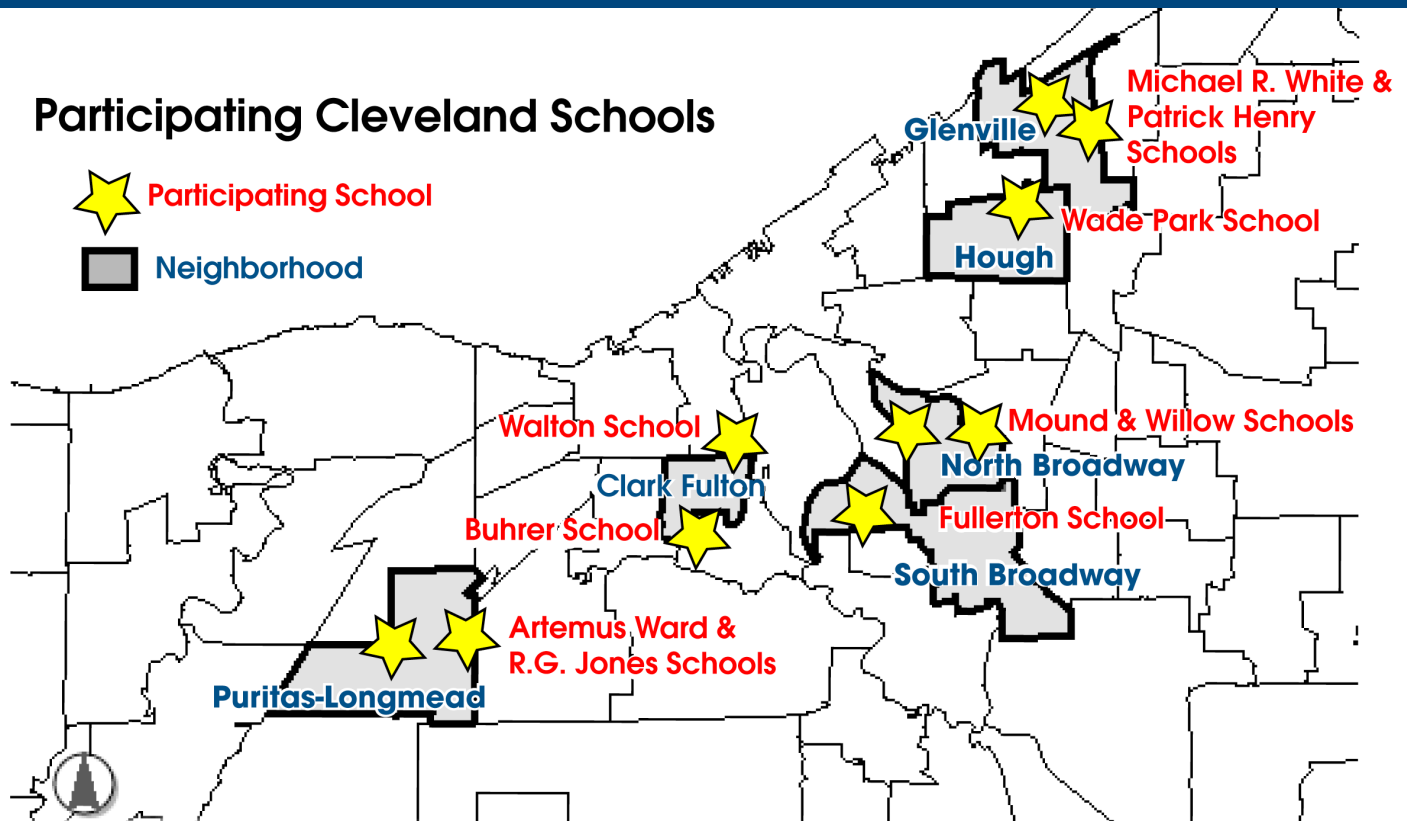
### Mission

America SCORES Cleveland inspires urban youth to lead healthy lives, be engaged students, and have the confidence and character to make a difference in the world.

### History

America SCORES Cleveland (SCORES) was founded in the spring of 2004 with after-school programming for 120 students in four under-resourced Cleveland Metropolitan Schools. SCORES has increased our impact over the past seven years to now serve 450 students in 10 schools. Each participating school has a boys' and girls' team, serving a total of 32 students per school. The program requires mandatory attendance by its students, called poet-athletes, in order to stay in the program. There are several waitlisted schools that will be considered for partnership when additional funds are secured.

### Participating Cleveland Schools



NEO CANDO -- <http://neocando.case.edu>

### Parents' Perspective:

Over **90%** of SCORES parents believe that their child spends more time reading since joining SCORES.

And, over **95%** of SCORES parents believe that their child has increased his or her physical activity since joining the program.

### For More Information

America SCORES Cleveland  
3631 Perkins Avenue, Unit 2CE  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
(216) 881-7988

[www.AmericaSCORESCleveland.org](http://www.AmericaSCORESCleveland.org)

Look for SCORESCleveland on



# Program Play-By-Play

The America SCORES model uses the proven benefits of **poetry**, **soccer**, and **community service** to facilitate the healthy development of the “whole child.” America SCORES makes after-school learning and fitness fun!

## Grades 3-5

- 10 weeks during both the fall and spring seasons.
- 5 days a week for 90 minutes each day.
- 2 days per week poet-athletes attend creative writing workshops.
- 3 days per week poet-athletes attend soccer practices and games.

## Grades 6-8

- 10 weeks *during the spring only*.
- 4 days a week for 90 minutes each day
- 2 day per week poet-athletes attend writing workshops.
- 2 days per week poet-athletes attend soccer practices and games.

## Creative Writing Curricula

### Grades 3-5

- In the fall, poet-athletes concentrate their writing efforts on the “Power of Poetry” curriculum, ending the season with a Poetry SLAM! Poet-athletes learn how to effectively compose and recite poetry and other forms of creative writing on topics ranging from the balloon boy hoax to gun violence.
- In the spring, the “Writing for the Community: Choose Your Own Adventure” curriculum focuses on service-learning. Poet-athletes develop and implement a community service project to make a positive change in their community.

### Grades 6-8

- In the spring, the “Leadership in Action” curriculum teaches poet-athletes what it means to be a leader, while planning a community service project with their team. Last year, poet-athletes completed projects ranging from a “Salsa Pots” project where neighbors were given planters with the produce and herbs necessary to make salsa to improving a community garden next to their school.

## Sports-based Youth Development Curricula

- Curriculum-based soccer practices and games emphasize character-building skills including leadership, teamwork and commitment.
- Practices end with discussions that focus on healthy behaviors, self-esteem, goal setting and school stewardship.

“I have seen the kids come from thinking this is an after-school playtime, to becoming a disciplined group of kids who are here for a purpose. **Every time we are in the classroom writing poetry or in the gym playing soccer, the kids realize they are a part of something great.**”

— SCORES Coach Joe Nagorski  
& CMSD teacher at Artemus Ward K-8 School

