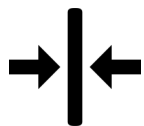


# Research-Based Strategies for Strong DISTRICT Leadership on Partnerships<sup>1</sup>



## CREATE AWARENESS

Promote district and school partnership programs to key stakeholders, including teachers, administrators, families, school board, businesses, and community groups.



## ALIGN PROGRAM & POLICY

Integrate partnership plans and practices with official policies, strategic plans, and goals for student success. Help schools connect engagement activities to school goals for student achievement and behavior.



## GUIDE LEARNING & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Conduct professional development workshops and provide on-going technical assistance to help the district and school teams strengthen their partnership plans and practices over time.



## SHARE KNOWLEDGE

Communicate with district colleagues and school teams to share best practices. Continually update knowledge about effective programs of school, family, and community partnerships.



## CELEBRATE MILESTONES

Recognize progress and excellence on partnerships at the district and school levels.



## DOCUMENT PROGRESS & EVALUATE OUTCOMES

Evaluate teamwork, outreach, and quality of each engagement activity that is implemented. Conduct annual evaluations of the quality and progress of partnership programs, overall.

<sup>1</sup> Epstein, J. L., et al., 2019. *School, Family, and Community Partnerships, Fourth Edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.

## ABOUT NNPS

### National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) at Johns Hopkins University

was established in 1996 by Dr. Joyce Epstein and colleagues, after many years of research on family and community engagement.

### NNPS Professional Development.

The mission of NNPS is to “grow leaders” for partnerships across the country. NNPS professional development is based on research on the structures and processes that ensure effective, equitable, and sustainable programs of family and community engagement at the district and school levels.

**Active Members.** NNPS includes over 500 schools, districts, organizations, and state departments of education in the U.S., and partners in other countries. Your district will become part of this exciting network.

**Schools.** Schools in NNPS use the research-based framework of six types of involvement, an action team approach, and written plans to implement, evaluate, and continually improve family and community engagement.

Schools' Action Teams for Partnerships (ATPs) select involvement activities that help create a welcoming school climate and that are linked to academic and behavioral goals for students in their own School Improvement Plans.

**Districts.** District leaders for partnerships in NNPS organize district-level activities and guide schools to strengthen goal-linked partnership programs at all grade levels. District policies for family and community engagement guide the work of district leaders and school teams.



## YOU ARE INVITED . . .

Join other districts in NNPS that are working to implement their family engagement policies in all schools.

Use evidence-based strategies to customize plans for partnership to match the district's goals for student success.

## WHY NOW?

**The time is right** to strengthen your schools' partnership programs at the preschool, elementary, middle, and high school levels.

**The time is right** to ensure that *all* families feel welcome at school and are engaged in ways that support student achievement, attendance, health, plans for college and career, and other important outcomes.

**Everyone wants strong and sustainable programs of family and community engagement. NNPS will help you reach this goal.**

Joyce L. Epstein, Ph.D., Director  
Steven B. Sheldon, Ph.D., Associate Director  
National Network of Partnership Schools  
Johns Hopkins University  
2800 N. Charles Street, Suite 420  
Baltimore, Maryland 21218  
(410) 516-2318  
nnp@jhu.edu  
[www.partnershipschools.org](http://www.partnershipschools.org)

# NNPS MEMBER BENEFITS

- **Comprehensive *Handbook for Action*** for each member-site to guide partnership program development
- **On-call technical assistance** by phone, e-mail, and website
- **Monthly *E-Briefs*** to communicate news, information, and opportunities
- **Free webinars** for district, organization, and state leaders and for school teams
- **Quarterly *Blog*** on new research and advances in practice
- Invitation to share successful activities in the annual **NNPS book of *Promising Partnership Practices***
- **NNPS Partnership Awards** to recognize excellent programs
- **Outstanding website** with program guidelines, research results, best practices, and more. Visit [www.partnershipschools.org](http://www.partnershipschools.org)
- **Certificate of membership and posters of six types of involvement** in English and Spanish
- **Annual Program Evaluation**  
NNPS conducts annual evaluations of the quality and progress of district and school programs of family and community engagement.

**PLUS:** If your district has 8 schools or more that are members of NNPS, you will receive a **customized report of your own schools' UPDATE data each year**. You may use these reports in your evaluations of family and community engagement.

**ALL BENEFITS ARE INCLUDED IN THE NNPS MEMBERSHIP FEE and RENEWALS.**

## JOIN NNPS DISTRICT Membership Levels

### Level 1: MEMBER

- ☐ **District Only.**  
\$500. All member benefits.

### Level 2: PARTNER District and School Action Teams for Partnerships (ATPs)

- ☐ **District and 1-7 schools,**  
\$500 for district and each school.
- ☐ **District and 8 or more schools  
(or ALL schools in the district)**  
\$500/per school.  
**FREE district membership**

All member benefits.

**JOIN NNPS.** District and school membership forms are at [www.partnershipschools.org](http://www.partnershipschools.org).

## START-UP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**NNPS 3-part sequence of Professional Development for district leaders and school teams.**

**Select the one that works for your district.**

- ☐ **A. On Site. Contractual agreement for workshops and travel.**
- ☐ **B. NNPS Leadership Institute in Baltimore, Spring or Fall. Registration required.**

**Contact NNPS for details:**  
**410-516-2318**      [nnps@jhu.edu](mailto:nnps@jhu.edu)

## YOUR DISTRICT'S NEXT STEPS

### Be a National Leader on Partnerships!

- **Identify a leader or leaders for School, Family, and Community Partnerships** (Key Contacts to NNPS).
- **Select your district's membership LEVEL** (see JOIN NNPS).
- **Participate in a new member interview** with an NNPS facilitator to plan next steps. Receive monthly communications from NNPS.
- **Choose your district's Start Up Professional Development with NNPS:** On site or in Baltimore.

**NNPS will send you a *new member packet*** with the *Handbook*, posters, book of *Promising Partnership Practices*, and other materials.

### On-Going Leadership . . .

**Facilitate** school ATPs. Guide teams to plan, implement, evaluate, and continually improve their programs of family and community engagement for student success.

**Evaluate** district and school progress at the end of each school year. Use the NNPS benefit to receive customized reports on the quality and progress of your schools' partnership programs.