



## National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) 2023 October E-Brief for Schools in NNPS

### **CORRECT LINK PPP 2023 E-BOOK!**

We always want to correctly represent our NNPS sites. We corrected St. James Santee Elementary-Middle School to reflect the correct city of McClellanville, SC – this correction generated a new link to PPP 2023. The link has been corrected here and throughout this E-brief so that you may enjoy all of the excellent activities in Promising Partnership Practices 2023.



The 2023 school year is off to a great start!  
Excitement for teaching and learning is in everyone's heart.  
Parents and other partners are knocking on the door  
To see how to help students succeed—more, more, more!

The school year is, indeed, off to a great start. This is *the* year to design and implement partnership activities focused on student success. NNPS will stay connected with you in our monthly *E-Briefs*. Check *E-Brief* each month for timely information to advance your leadership, plans, and practices of family and community engagement.

**THEME FOR THE YEAR.** The NNPS theme for the 2023-24 school year is:  
**Tools You Can Use.**

All school ATPs should use the *Annual Evaluation of Activities* to reflect on the success of each family and community engagement activity that they implement. See this tool on pp. 248-352 (Goals Plan) and pp. 353-359 (Types Plan) in Chapter 9 of the *NNPS Handbook for Action*.

The evaluation pages are exactly parallel to the pages of the *One Year Action Plan for Partnerships* (i.e., Page 1 of *Plan* matches Page 1 of *Evaluation*.). This makes it easy for ATPs to discuss each family engagement activity that is implemented throughout the school year. (The forms are printable from the CD in the back of the *Handbook* or from the [publisher's downloadable site](#)).

**Why is this a good tool to use?** [Annual Evaluation of Activities](#) helps every ATP learn that it is fun and profitable to talk things over—as a team—after implementing each family and community engagement activity. The short evaluations accumulate over the school year by recording which activities went well, which need to be redesigned to reach more and different families, and which improved the school climate and contributed to student success. This helps ATPs decide whether to repeat, improve, or think “new” in their *One Year Action Plan for Partnerships* for the next school year.

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## Promising Partnership Practices 2023

Did you find a great activity in the new E-Book--*Promising Partnership Practices 2023*? Click this new link to read the creative collection: [PPP 2023!](#)

Thanks, again, to all contributors. We look forward to seeing what YOUR school, district, region, or organization will share in the next edition at the end of this school year!

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## NNPS UPDATE Survey and RENEWAL Last call to renew YOUR NNPS Membership for 2023-24 and to EVALUATE YOUR Program of Partnerships!

Your work on strengthening your program of school, family, and community partnerships is more important than ever! Thanks to all members of NNPS who returned the 2023 *UPDATE* to evaluate progress and renew membership in NNPS for the 2023-24 school year!

If you have not returned your 2023 *UPDATE* to evaluate progress and renew NNPS membership, NOW is the time! Click on [NNPS UPDATE and](#)

[Renewal for 2023-24](#) and scroll down to complete the correct *UPDATE* for your school, district, or organization.

Do not get “cut” from this great resource. Stay active to continue to receive all membership benefits (see the l-o-n-g list of benefits at Join NNPS at [www.partnershipschoools.org](http://www.partnershipschoools.org)). Send in *UPDATE* and the \$400 renewal fee—ASAP—to remain a national leader on family and community engagement.

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## YOUR SPACE

In *YOUR SPACE*, we will feature a creative and important activity from *Promising Partnership Practice 2023*. You may adopt or adapt these ideas, OR send in a new activity to Brenda Thomas during the year ([bthomas@jhu.edu](mailto:bthomas@jhu.edu)). OR send a question to NNPS to solve an emerging challenge and we will address your question in *YOUR SPACE*.

***Fall Family Engagement Literacy Night*** was planned by the ATP of **St. James-Santee Elementary-Middle School, Charleston County School District, McClellanville, South Carolina** and reported by **Rosetta Swinton, Family Service Specialist**. The ATP sent invitations in English and Spanish to all families. A local business partner donated dinner for all attendees. The program featured read-aloud stories and time to figure out letter-sound puzzles that children and parents could do at home. Each family also received a bag of produce donated by the local food bank. A guest speaker from the State Board of Education presented information to help parents see how to “coach” their children to enjoy reading at home and during vacations with fun-activities and discussions. Parents also made a few take-home resources to use with their children. At the Fall Literacy Night, teachers met with parents and addressed questions about their children’s learning. A school counselor assisted with information on how the school was addressing students’ Social Emotional Learning (SEL) skills across grade levels, and how parents could reinforce those skills at home. [Click here](#) for the activity and photos in *Promising Partnership Practices 2023* on pp. 4-5.

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## NNPS and SOCIAL MEDIA

### Meet the 2023 NNPS Partnership Award Winners.

Seven schools, three districts, and two organizations earned 2023 NNPS Partnership Awards. They explained how they go beyond having good *activities* to building strong and sustainable *programs* of family and community

engagement. See their photos and stories. Follow the link from the home page, or click: [Meet the 2023 NNPS Partnership Award Winners](#).

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## NNPS Members-Only Access Code

The **MEMBERS-ONLY CODE** gives special benefits to active members of NNPS. The **Members-Only Access Code** is **NNPS23mem**. On the website, [www.partnershipschoools.org](http://www.partnershipschoools.org), you can use the Code to explore many years' books of *Promising Partnership Practices* and all 18 NNPS Samplers of goal-linked partnership activities in the section Success Stories. We will remind you of the code in every month's *E-Brief*.

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## INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

**Working alongside students, parents, and families.** See this perceptive new article in the current issue of *Phi Delta Kappan* on the importance of partnerships and the role of students to increase equity and social justice in schools. The article by Lac, Mansfield, & Fernandez (2023) summarizes studies and examples showing how important it is for teachers, parents, students, and others to work together for a more welcoming climate and more successful students. Just what YOU are working on with NNPS!

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## SUPPORT NNPS

If you make tax-deductible donations to non-profit organizations in 2023, please consider NNPS. Your donation supports NNPS's unique projects—books of *Promising Partnership Practices*, *Partnership Awards*, monthly *E-Briefs*, Annual *UPDATE* Evaluations and reports, and our excellent website. Here's how: Click the Donate link. Then, click "OTHER" in the Johns Hopkins School of Education DESIGNATION box. **Specify: National Network of Partnership Schools.**

### **DONATE!**

Click the dropdown menu for the section on Centers and scroll down to the National Network of Partnership Schools. Insert your gift information and complete the form.

NNPS appreciates your tax-deductible donation. The University and NNPS will send official acknowledgements of your donation for tax purposes. Thank you!

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**Keep harvesting great partnerships! We look forward to hearing about your exemplary partnership work throughout the year.**



**In partnership,  
Brenda, Steve, and  
Joyce  
*The NNPS Team***

The NNPS School E-Brief is disseminated once a month during the school year. The E-Brief is intended to:

1. Offer timely information to support your efforts to build comprehensive school, family, and community partnership programs.
2. Update you on available research, tools, materials, services, and training opportunities from the National Network of Partnership Schools.
3. Provide you with a vehicle to exchange ideas with, ask questions of, and share resources with other NNPS members and the NNPS staff.

To respond to NNPS about an E-Brief, click “Reply” and you will send your email only to me, Brenda Thomas.

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