



EXPECTATIONS for SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS in the National Network of Partnership Schools are working to develop, implement, and improve their leadership and programs of school, family, and community partnerships. NNPS sets research-based expectations for excellent and sustained partnership programs and guides schools to fulfill these expectations.

SCHOOLS (including preschools, elementary, middle, and high schools) are expected to:

- **Maintain a well-functioning Action Team for Partnerships (ATP), including teachers, parents, and an administrator. At the high school level, students must serve on the ATP. Community partners and other school staff also may serve on an ATP.**
- **Write clear and ambitious One-Year Action Plans for partnerships every year, linked to school improvement goals, including activities for all six types of involvement.**
- **Implement family and community involvement activities to help increase student achievement, attendance, positive attitudes, good behavior, post-secondary planning, and other goals for student success.**
- **Meet challenges to inform and involve all families.**
- **Identify funds to support planned activities.**
- **Allocate time for team meetings and work on partnerships.**
- **Create a welcoming school climate for students, families, and the community.**
- **Conduct end-of-year evaluations of the quality and effectiveness of family and community involvement activities and of the quality of ATP processes.**
- **Improve the organization and quality of plans and activities for family and community involvement from year to year.**
- **Ensure program continuity by replacing members who leave the Action Team for Partnerships and by orienting new team members, new colleagues, and new families to the school's on-going work on partnerships.**
- **Communicate annually with the National Network of Partnership Schools on an UPDATE survey and participate in NNPS activities.**

Your school can fulfill these expectations for a high-quality partnership program by using the NNPS tools and guidelines in Epstein, et al., 2002, *School, Family, and Community Partnerships: Your Handbook for Action, Second Edition*, Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, and with other NNPS professional development activities, materials, and services. The expectations form the basis of the annual NNPS Partnership School Awards. For more information, visit the NNPS website: www.partnershipschools.org.

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EXPECTATIONS for DISTRICTS

SCHOOL DISTRICTS in the National Network of Partnership Schools are working to develop, implement, and improve their leadership and programs of school, family, and community partnerships. NNPS sets research-based expectations for excellent and sustained partnership programs and guides districts to fulfill these expectations.

DISTRICTS (including LEAs, and AREAs and CLUSTERs within large districts) are expected to:

- **Identify and maintain district leadership for school, family, and community partnerships.**
- **Write and implement annual plans for district-level partnership activities.**
- **Write and implement annual district plans to directly facilitate schools' Action Teams for Partnerships in developing comprehensive and goal-oriented partnership programs with the six types of involvement.**
- **Guide schools to connect plans for family and community involvement to their school improvement goals for student success.**
- **Identify a budget to support district staff and partnership program activities.**
- **Allocate time for regularly scheduled meetings at the district level and with schools' Action Teams for Partnerships to help them continually improve their partnership programs.**
- **Conduct end-of-year activities to share best practices, celebrate successes, and evaluate the quality of district-level and school-based programs of partnership.**
- **Improve the organization and quality of district leadership from year to year.**
- **Increase the number of schools in the district that develop partnership programs from year to year and that improve the quality of their programs.**
- **Increase connections from year to year with colleagues across departments within the district and with other organizations.**
- **Ensure program continuity by orienting new colleagues to the district's work on partnerships, by providing training to new members of schools' Action Teams for Partnerships, and by replacing leaders for partnerships who leave their positions.**
- **Communicate annually with the National Network of Partnership Schools on an UPDATE survey and participate in NNPS activities.**

Your district (or area or cluster) can fulfill these expectations for a high-quality partnership program by using the NNPS tools and guidelines in Epstein, et al., 2002, *School, Family, and Community Partnerships: Your Handbook for Action, Second Edition*, Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, and with other NNPS professional development activities, materials, and services. The expectations form the basis of the annual NNPS Partnership District Awards. For more information, visit the NNPS website: www.partnershipschools.org.