

# National Network of Partnership Schools at Johns Hopkins University

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*Educators and families agree that school, family, and community partnerships are essential for children's success in school.*

*Based on more than three decades of research and the work of many educators, parents, students, and others, we know that it is possible for all elementary, middle, and high schools to develop and sustain strong programs of partnerships that help students succeed.*

*Districts and states can establish policies and take leadership to help all schools develop excellent programs of partnerships.*

*As a member of the National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS), you will be guided, supported, and recognized in your efforts to maintain goal-oriented school, family, and community connections.*

## What is the National Network of Partnership Schools?

Established at Johns Hopkins University in 1996, the National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS) assists schools, districts, states, and organizations that are committed to developing strong programs of school, family, and community partnerships. Each Partnership School strengthens its program with an Action Team for Partnerships, a framework of six types of involvement to engage parents in different ways, and a written action plan for goal-oriented family and community involvement linked to the school improvement plan. District, state, and other leaders assist schools to develop, evaluate, and continually improve their partnership programs.

## Why Become a Member of the National Network?

- ★ Comprehensive handbook to guide partnership program development
- ★ Certificate of membership
- ★ Invitations to attend leadership and development conferences
- ★ *Type 2*, NNPS Newsletter
- ★ Annual collection, *Promising Partnership Practices*
- ★ Colorful posters of six “keys” to successful partnerships
- ★ Technical assistance by phone, e-mail, and website
- ★ Opportunities to participate in research and evaluation projects
- ★ Other benefits and experiences

Members benefit from the experience of the NNPS staff and by sharing ideas with other schools, districts, and states working to increase and improve partnerships. In every issue of the NNPS newsletter, at workshops, and on the NNPS website, members share creative solutions for improving family and community involvement.

## Who May Join the National Network of Partnership Schools?

Membership is open to all schools, districts, states, and organizations that agree to the requirements listed on the following page.

# Membership Requirements

Members work with NNPS to improve connections with students, families, and communities. Schools, districts, and states must meet a few requirements.

*Developing good connections of home, school, and community is an on-going process that takes time, organization, and effort.*

*NNPS offers a research-based framework, tools, and strategies that enable all schools, districts, and states to organize school, family, and community partnerships to improve schools, strengthen families, and increase student success.*

*Organization and university partners are welcome to join NNPS to assist schools and districts in their regions.*

To join NNPS, there is a \$200 processing fee for schools; \$300 for districts, states, and organizations.

Annual renewal fees are waived for all members that return the annual UPDATE survey.

## At the SCHOOL LEVEL, each Partnership School will:

- ✓ Create an Action Team for Partnerships.
- ✓ Use the framework of six types of involvement to plan and implement a goal-oriented program of partnerships linked to school improvement plans.
- ✓ Allocate an annual budget for the work and activities of the school's Action Team for Partnerships.
- ✓ Allocate time for an initial One-Day Team-Training Workshop and at least one hour per month for the Action Team Partnerships to meet to plan and evaluate activities.

## At the DISTRICT LEVEL, each Partnership District will:

- ✓ Assign the equivalent of one full-time facilitator to assist 15 to 30 schools to create their Action Teams for Partnerships. Part-time coordinators may work in districts with fewer than 15 schools.
- ✓ Allocate an annual budget for the district facilitator's salary and activities to develop, strengthen, and maintain partnership programs in all schools.
- ✓ Assist each participating school to fulfill the requirements listed above for the school level.

## At the STATE LEVEL, each Partnership State will:

- ✓ Create or identify an Office or Department for School, Family, and Community Partnerships.
- ✓ Assign the equivalent of one full-time coordinator and adequate staff to conduct state-wide leadership activities or school, family, and community partnerships.
- ✓ Allocate an annual budget for the work of this office and for the activities to support districts and schools to develop excellent partnership programs.
- ✓ Assist districts and schools to fulfill the membership requirements listed above.

## ALL MEMBERS will:

- ✓ Complete an annual UPDATE survey to report progress and to renew membership in NNPS.

**If your school, district, state, or organization is ready to develop strong programs of school, family, and community partnerships for student success, you are invited to join the National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS).**

For more information and membership forms visit [www.partnershipschools.org](http://www.partnershipschools.org) and the section Join NNPS.

Or contact us at NNPS, Johns Hopkins University, 3003 N. Charles Street, Suite 200, Baltimore, MD 21218  
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**Visit us at [www.partnershipschools.org](http://www.partnershipschools.org)**