

Definition of a Partner In Education Partnership

A partnership is a mutually agreed upon arrangement between a school or innovation zone and a business, government agency or community organization in which the **parties commit to specific donations and activities intended to benefit students, improve student achievement and help accomplish school improvement goals.**

In this manual, the community partner is generally referred to as “the business” or “the partner” and the education partner is generally referred to as “the school” or “the school partner.”

A school may initiate a partnership by recruiting a partner or, the business may initiate the relationship by contacting either Partners In Education or calling the school directly.

The business or organization does not need district approval to become a partner. Rather, restrictions on partnerships center on the appropriateness of activities in the partnership. Partnerships must comply with state and federal law and all School Board policies.

A partnership relationship is a privilege, not a right, and all schools retain the right to reject any partnership that does not meet the needs of the school.

Excellent partnerships are designed to improve student achievement and are an integral part of the school improvement plan.

Excellent partnerships are committed to improving the quality of public education in order to prepare all children to live and work in the 21st century.

Excellent partnerships are guided by written, realistic action plans that include planning, goal setting, communication, recognition and evaluation.

Excellent partnerships are able to demonstrate progress toward ambitious, high priority goals. They evaluate their success primarily on the basis of improvements in student achievement rather than on programmatic success.