



Planning Unit: Appalachian State University Public School Partnership

Revised Date: October 21, 2004

Planning Period: 2005-2010

Planning Form 1:

Unit Mission Statement

Appalachian State University/Public School Partnership

The Appalachian State University/Public School Partnership has as its mission the development of a strong cooperative program by and between members of the Partnership to enhance teaching and learning. Members of the Partnership are: the Reich College of Education, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Watauga, Wilkes County Schools, College of Arts and Sciences, and the Northwest Regional Educational Service Alliance (RESA).

A unit of the Reich College of Education, the Appalachian State University/Public School Partnership has a three part organizational design, a Governing Board, Coordinating Council and a Partnership Director. The Governing Board determines the policies and budget, the Coordinating Council sets goals and plans activities to reach those goals, and the Director coordinates and facilitates the establishment of goals and activities, and submits all activities to the Governing Board for approval.

The Partnership members have agreed to work closely as equals for the purpose of making educational improvements in areas that are of mutual concern to the Partners.

The Partnership will be engaged in activities that:

1. develop avenues to promote best practices more consistent with the research about knowledge, skills and dispositions of learners, the learning process, teacher effectiveness and technological advances;
2. identify both university and public school personnel who can provide leadership for pre-service and in-service experiences;
3. promote and coordinate research activities among the Partners;
4. establish procedures to ensure university faculty, public school teachers and administrators continually exchange ideas regarding educational issues and trends;
5. recognize the work of the Partnership and ensure the results are disseminated to all;
6. encourage collaborative grant writing;
7. encourage and support dialogue between Partnership schools and pre-service education.

Planning Form 2: Unit Plan

1. Strategic Planning Statement

Direction for the Appalachian State University/ Public School Partnership is based on several assumptions about collaborative relationships between partners of the public schools and the university.

- A. The establishment of university/public school partnerships has national and state support from committees on educational reform.
- B. A degree of dissimilarity exists between or among the partners so as to prevent redundancy of purpose.
- C. Mutual self-interests exist among members and the agenda of the Partnership grows out of points of overlapping self- interests.
- D. A measure of selflessness on the part of each member exists so that there is sufficient satisfaction of the self- interests.
- E. Member units exhibit mutual respect and regard for the well-being of the unit and demonstrate trust in collaboration members.
- F. Decision-making involves a shared process with input from all participating members.
- G. The efforts of the Partnership are directed as a positive influence on the training of teachers, the continual professional development of practicing teachers and the improvement of the university/public school environment.
- H. The dissemination of information among the member units and to agencies beyond the collaborative is a significant activity.

Using a collaborative model, the Appalachian State University/ Public School Partnership has chosen a 30 member coordinating council representing faculty (public school and university), principals, and central office personnel to identify and establish strategies for implementation of objectives. The major themes for the 2005-2010 planning period will be to:

MAJOR THEMES

- 1. Influence the preparation of teachers in the Reich College of Education and provide for professional development of practicing faculty, administrators and support personnel.**

The Appalachian State University/Public School Partnership views public school personnel as a valuable resource to the preparation of teachers in the Reich College of Education. Thus, The Partnership will endeavor to encourage the

collaboration of university and public school personnel in the planning of curriculum and instruction of pre-service teachers.

Focus Groups

Professional Development Schools

- 2. Disseminate information about the Partnership and encourage communication concerning Partnership activities within and to agencies/organizations outside the Partnership.**

Publication and dissemination of information concerning Partnership activities is a continuing activity. Communication consists of newsletters, articles in professional publications, presentations at professional conferences, meetings with representatives from all Partnership schools, a Partnership brochure, website, and on-line discussion forums.

-Brochure

-Website

-Discussion Forums

-Professional Presentations

- 3. Promote pride in the teaching profession and recruit outstanding prospective teachers with emphasis on teaching areas of present and potential personnel shortages and underrepresented populations.**

The Partnership will promote the teaching profession through events planned to emphasize the professional contributions of teachers. The recruitment of prospective teachers will emphasize teaching areas with shortages of qualified personnel. Efforts will be made to attract high quality teachers through positive interactions with practicing teachers and current pre-service teachers.

-Teacher Cadets

-Teaching Fellows

-Lateral Entry Grant

- 4 Share ideas and trends in education and encourage collaborative research among university and public school personnel to foster teacher education and public school reform.**

University, public school and RESA personnel will be encouraged to participate in activities designed to facilitate dialogue between and among its members. The Partnership will also encourage collaborative research to find answers to critical questions concerning teaching and learning.

-Teacher Research/Study Groups

-Focus Groups

-Partnership Workshops

- 5. Seek outside funding for Partnership projects and activities.**

The Partnership will pursue outside finding for projects that are financially impossible for member units to support.

Z. Smith Reynolds Teacher Recruitment Grant

6. Promote applications of technology in university and public school instruction.

The Partnership will pursue access, support, and time for acquiring technological skills and integration of technology across the curriculum for Reich College of Education and Pre-K classrooms.

-Computers for School Program

-Salt Grants-

7. Recognize the changing cultural climate and support the needs of diverse learners in the educational community.

-Partnership Workshops focusing on ESL and inclusion

-International visitors in schools