



FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOLS

Executive Committee Members:

Van Dempsey, Dean/facilitator
Barbara Owens, PDS Director
Carolyn Crislip-Tacy, Associate Dean
Jaci Webb-Dempsey, FSU Faculty
Richard Pierce, FSU Faculty
Deb Hemler, FSU Arts and Sciences Faculty
Keisha Kibler, Coordinator, West Preston Middle
Christy Miller, Principal, E. Fairmont Jr. High
Joann Gilbert, Asst. Principal, Nutter Fort Primary
Elizabeth Lopez, Coordinator, N. Marion
Cindy Oliver, Coordinator, Taylor County Middle
Russ McKeen, Coordinator, W.I. Middle
Debbie Johnson, Coordinator, White Hall

Strategic Plan

In the fall of 2009 the PDS Executive Committee (Strategic Planning Committee) met to examine and discuss some fundamental questions and focus on specific components that should be presented to other partnership groups for input until a final comprehensive document was drafted. This committee was composed of members from all Partnership representative groups: dean, associate dean, partnership director, university faculty, public school administrators and educators. The following questions helped guide the discussions:

- ~ Who are we?
- ~ What do we want to be?
- ~ How can we achieve our goals?
- ~ How will we know when we have succeeded?

In this initial meeting, we listened to all stakeholder group representatives and in the process we reflected on our individual and collective commitments and practices. From this initial work, we have defined our mission, goals and core values which we believe embrace the Partnership's initial phase of development. It is our intent to build on our strengths and expand into areas that distinguish us in terms of leadership, visibility, excellence and innovation.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the FSU/PDS Partnership focuses on student learning. While the partnership will have effects on all students, all aspects of our educator preparation programs are designed to positively impact student learning in a seamless, 21st century guided, public education system. A positive impact on student learning increased professional development among practicing educators and enriched, site-based educator preparation programs are the expected outcomes of the FSU/PDS Partnership program.

GOALS

To strengthen relationships and collaboration between FSU higher education, P-12 and local and state communities to improve teacher education

To build support for professional development among all stakeholders in the Partnership to ensure best teaching practices to meet the needs of all learners

To ensure all teacher education candidates are challenged to meet high standards in content preparation

To engage in research, assessment and evaluation that support teacher professional development and preparation

To foster common language and an understanding of the work of professional development schools across the Partnership

To develop resources to build and sustain the work of the Partnership

CORE VALUES

We function as one community. We share a dedication to our mission. We embrace equity among our schools and the broader community.

- ~ We foster an environment that furthers our goals and enables us to take on active roles in both local and global conversations.
- ~ We are an open, ethical, highly engaged, and collaborative community based on trust, transparency, and mutual respect.
- ~ We believe in the importance of equity, embracing diversity, and making a difference.
- ~ We actively and intentionally seek a range of perspectives and approaches to research, scholarship, and creative work. Together, we are able to make curricular changes and partnership decisions more creatively and effectively than we could independently.
- ~ We value a collaborative governance structure with clearly delineated roles and responsibilities.
- ~ We are dedicated to educating and nurturing a diverse group of students, faculty, and staff and we are committed to helping all members of our community to achieve to their fullest potential.



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Goal: To strengthen relationships and collaboration between FSU higher education, P-12 and local and state communities to improve teacher education.

Action Steps

- ~ Continue to establish and maintain strong collegial relations with public schools
- ~ Continue to meet at least yearly with county superintendents
- ~ Examine and revise, if needed, roles and responsibilities of coordinators, liaisons, and principals yearly
- ~ Continue to orient FSU faculty to Partnership work and the liaison role
- ~ Continue to recruit FSU faculty in Education and Arts and Sciences to serve in the liaison role
- ~ Provide reasons for and opportunities for liaisons and site coordinators to engage in meaningful PDS work
- ~ Provide opportunities for the PDS's to work collaboratively across the Partnership sharing resources and funding
- ~ Develop materials (signs, brochures, website) which will "high-light" the PDS Partnership
- ~ Link the PDS website with partner counties
- ~ Work with other high schools and offices at FSU to recruit more students to FSU Teacher Education

Goal: To build support for professional development among all stakeholders in the Partnership to ensure best teaching practices to meet the needs of all

Action Steps

- ~ Establish professional learning communities within and among the Professional Development Schools
- ~ Develop and or share a catalogue of "Best Practices" resources/people within the Partnership
- ~ Offer classes, co-taught by public school educators and university faculty, which focus on current national and state PD (Professional Development) initiatives
- ~ Plan and deliver common PD initiatives thru partnership-wide activities
- ~ Create a web-based vehicle to share experience/knowledge gained from conferences/workshops



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Goal: To ensure all teacher education candidates are challenged to meet high standards in content preparation

Action Steps

- ~ Recruit students who want to pursue teaching in Math, Science, Foreign Language, and Special Education to attend FSU
- ~ Continue to work collaboratively with PDS teachers to make revisions to FSU program outcomes and assessments
- ~ Present opportunities for PDS teachers/principals to co-teach with FSU teacher education faculty
- ~ Continue to identify PDS teachers/administrators to present current education initiatives to teacher education students
- ~ Utilize recent FSU graduates to recruit students in Teacher Education

Goal: To engage in research, assessment and evaluation that support teacher professional development and preparation

Action Steps

- ~ Continue to provide and support funding for Action Research for teacher education students which documents successful PD in schools
- ~ Continue to support FSU faculty and PDS faculty to present shared work at conferences
- ~ Continue to support RAE (research, assessment and evaluation) which will lead to NCATE Accreditation
- ~ Use NCATE PDS Standards to document change over time in the Partnership work

Goal: To foster common language and an understanding of the work of professional development schools across the Partnership

Action Steps

- ~ Post a glossary of PDS terms on Partnership Website and in a handbook
- ~ Conduct seminars for teacher education candidates specifically designated to the PDS concept
- ~ Create a public relations sub group to deliver presentations to county Board of Education about the work of the Partnership in their county schools
- ~ Encourage PDS liaisons to address their school 's faculty about PDS work

Goal: To develop resources to build and sustain the work of the Partnership

Action Steps

- ~ Align Partnership resources with funding from FSU to support current roles and provide additional roles as needed
- ~ Identify other possible funding sources (grants, etc.) that may provide financial support
- ~ Raise the visibility of support for PDS work within and beyond the education of the community
- ~ Identify and link with business, community and other organizations to contribute to or assist with the development of activities which will promote the work of the Partnership