

# Overview of the Action Team for Partnerships

## What is the National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS)?

- NNPS helps schools, districts, states and organizations to plan and implement family and school partnerships by using Joyce Epstein's six types of involvement.
- NNPS uses research-based information to increase student achievement and success in school while improving community and family involvement.
- The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is a charter member of NNPS. Numerous Wisconsin schools, districts, and organizations are also NNPS members.

## What are the 4 Elements of the NNPS School Model?

1. Action Team for Partnerships (ATP)
2. Framework of Six Types of Involvement
3. One-Year Action Plan for Partnerships
4. Program Evaluation

## What is the Action Team for Partnerships?

- The ATP is "action arm" or committee of the School Improvement Team or School Council.
- ATPs work to create a welcoming school environment for families
- ATPs engage families and the community in ways that support student achievement and success

## What does the Action Team for Partnership do?

- Write a One-Year Action Plan for Partnerships with activities linked to selected goals in the School Improvement Plan
- Integrate all family and community involvement activities conducted by teachers and school groups in the One Year Action Plan for Partnerships
- Recruit and recognizes other teachers, parents, community members for leadership and participation in family and community involvement activities
- Implement, coordinate, publicize, and oversee the planned involvement activities
- Monitor progress, assess the strengths and weaknesses of implemented involvement activities, document results, and resolve problems
- Report progress to the School Council (or School Improvement Team) and to the faculty, PTA/PTO, local media, and other groups
- Replace departing ATP members
- Continue improving the school's program of family and community involvement

### **Who is on an Action Team for Partnerships?**

- An ATP has 6 to 12 members and must include:
  1. The school principal
  2. Two or three teachers from different grade levels
  3. Two or three parents with children in different grade levels
  4. The parent liaison
  5. A PTA/PTO officer or representative
  6. Two students from different grade levels (on high school ATPs)
  
- The ATP should also include
  1. Members from the community at large, including: business partners, interfaith leaders, representative from literary, cultural, civic, and other organizations
  2. Others who are central to the school's work with families, including: the school nurse, social worker, instructional aide, counselor, other administrator, secretary, grandparent raising a child in the school, custodian, etc.

### **How is an Action Team for Partnerships organized?**

- An ATP may be organized in one of two ways:
  - 1. By Improvement Goal**

ATP members split into subcommittees for four school improvement goals for student success: two academic goals, one nonacademic goal, and one overall partnership goal for a welcoming school environment.
  - 2. By Type of Involvement**

The ATP forms six subcommittees or work groups. Each subcommittee designs and oversees activities for one of the Six Types of Involvement to support student success.
  
- The ATP meets as whole team at least once a month to coordinate and monitor all activities. Subcommittees meet as needed to plan and implement activities in the One Year Action Plan for Partnerships.

### **How can we join the National Network of Partnership Schools?**

Visit NNPS at [http://www.csos.jhu.edu/p2000/join\\_network.htm](http://www.csos.jhu.edu/p2000/join_network.htm) to become a school, district, state, or organization member.