

# A PDS Relationship is “A Family Affair!”

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NPDS Conference  
Orlando, Florida  
April 10, 2008





# **West Virginia University at Parkersburg**

- **Stand alone community college**
- **Regional campus of West Virginia University**
- **Approximately 4000 students**
- **Offers 5 baccalaureate degrees**
- **Non-residential campus**
- **College and programs accredited**



# Education Division

- **Program established in 1991**
- **Elementary education certification K-6**
- **Middle school certifications**
- **Developed as a field-based program**
  - **Approximately 1000 hours of field experiences**
- **NCATE accreditation**
- **400 teacher candidates**
- **5 professional education faculty**



## **Experiences for Joseph R. Oliverio**

- Began with partnership as Assistant Principal with Williamstown Elementary in 2000
- Sought principalship of school with ties to WVUP Partnerships Project
- Advocated for grants, legislation, personnel
- Attended professional development sessions nationally
- Represented the Project at state and national meetings
- Presented at national conferences



## Worthington Elementary School

- Partnership began in Fall 2002
- Serves Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- 225 students
- 28 faculty
- 43% qualify for free and reduced lunch
- Partnership focused on math needs of students



## **Experiences for Paula J. Oliverio**

- Serve on WVUP PDS Advisory Council
- Serve on Belmont Elementary PDS Advisory Council
- WVUP Research Team representative
- Attended professional development sessions nationally-Kagan, Brain-based Research, etc.
- Advocated for Partnership for Pleasants County, WV
- Presented at this national conference



## **Belmont Elementary School**

- **Partnership began in Fall 2007**
- **Serves Pre-Kindergarten – 4<sup>th</sup> grade**
- **237 students**
- **35 faculty**
- **53% qualify for free and reduced lunch**



# Our “Family Affair”

- Married for 22.5 years
- One daughter (age 17)
- Two dogs
- Professional Educators
- His Interests: Sports Officiating, Music, Theater
- Her Interests: Live Theater, Travel, Mary Kay



# Why We Are Special

- **Enhanced professional relationships**
- **Ease and expectation of teacher candidate placements**
  - Consistency in evaluation and standards
  - Consistency in quality of placements
- **Communicated vision and mission**
  - Of the schools and the teacher preparation program
- **Shared successes and challenges**
- **Shared best practices**



# Benefits for Students at Both Institutions

- **Improve student achievement**
  - Tutoring
  - Small group/Individual instruction
- **Field day opportunities (ie. Math, Heritage Days, etc.)**
- **Cultural opportunities**
- **Mentoring for all students**
- **Create a nurturing environment for teacher candidates**
- **Provided new opportunities for teacher candidates**
  - Growth and development in a collaborative setting
  - Greater understanding of content
  - Involvement in action research



# Benefits for Teachers

- **New and innovative strategies**
- **Technology and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills**
- **Renewed energies**
- **Professional growth opportunities**
- **Materials and resources**
  - Mini-grants
  - Center for Teaching Excellence
- **Opportunities to collaborate with teachers from other schools and districts**
- **Use of college resources**
- **New collaborative professional relationships**
- **Extra help in the classroom**



## **Role of Funding in the Partnership**

- **Grants to increase resources and purchase materials**
- **Allows for a variety of professional development opportunities**
- **Provides opportunities to celebrate effort and accomplishments**

**The Good News!!!**

**Project Relationships Are Not Dependent Upon Funding!**



# Professional Growth in a Partnership

- Teachers exposed to best practices and new instructional strategies
- Teachers placed in collaborative mentoring relationships
- Teachers, teacher candidates, college faculty, public school students meet and experience noted authors, musicians, and artists
- Teachers receive training in cooperative learning strategies, brain-based learning research, win-win discipline, action-based learning, reading recovery instruction
- Attend and present at conferences locally, regionally, and nationally
- Teachers and teacher candidates are in an environment of continual learning



# Advantages for Teacher Candidates & Teachers

- Relationships between the school system and college is advantageous to teachers and teacher candidates
- Teacher candidates build relationships with teachers, principals, and county administrators
- Teacher candidates have opportunity to experience schools of interest for employment possibilities
- Teacher candidates placed on “Preferred list” for substitutes and long term positions
- Teachers have access to professional development and to demonstration of best practices
- Teachers become adjunct faculty and guest lecturers
- Teachers receive extra “assistance” in the classroom



# Outside Looking In!

- View the advantages listed earlier
- Listen to accolades of Partnership Project
- See the excitement of students involved
- Cooperating Teacher to Student Teachers
- Realize the financial benefits
- Proof and benefits with test results
- Access to latest research from faculty



# Invited to the “Party”

- Met with Administration and staff
- WVUP Faculty Presentation Visit
- Turnover of Administration
- WVUP Faculty Presentation Visit
- First school in county to be “invited”
- Placement of Student Teachers, etc
- Grant-Technology supplies for classrooms
- Grant-Flip cameras for classrooms



# Others Want “Invited”

- Looking at expanding to Middle Schools
- County systems already onboard
- Additional County systems being considered
- Win-Win for both “Partners”



**This is why we think professional  
development schools are**

**“A FAMILY AFFAIR!”**

**We hope you do too!**



# Questions or Comments



**Thank You!**

**If we can be of assistance to you**

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**[www.wvup.edu/Academic/education/resources.htm](http://www.wvup.edu/Academic/education/resources.htm)**