

**Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty
Francis Marion University**

NATIONAL NETWORK OF PARTNERSHIP SCHOOLS

March 2008 E-Brief

**To: Action Team for Partnerships (ATP) Members
in the National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS)**

**From: Markey Bee – COE Project Manager & NNPS School, Family, and Community Liaison
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Happy Spring NNPS Colleagues!

As the temperature outside is warming up, we hope your partnership activities are “blooming” along with the flowers this spring. In this e-brief you will find information about important COE NNPS activities that are “coming up” in April and May.

Is Your School Interested in Becoming a NNPS Member?

New Member Team Training

April 3, 2008

8:00 – 2:30

Pee Dee Education Center

The Center of Excellence is conducting a one-day workshop for Partner District elementary, middle, and high schools who wish to join NNPS on Thursday, April 3, 2008 at the Pee Dee Education Center from 8:00-2:30. During this training, school team members will; 1) become familiar with the basic components of the NNPS research-based model, 2) write a One-Year Action Plan for the 2008-2009 school year, and 3) learn how to link family and community involvement to student achievement and other school improvement goals.

Although this training is especially designed for schools that are newly joining the network, current NNPS member schools are also invited to attend. If you wish to evaluate your current action plan and update it for 2008-2009 school year or if you have new ATP members that you wish to train in the NNPS basic model, please feel free to join us on this day.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. If you have not already notified us that you are planning to attend on April 3, please contact the COE immediately at 843-669-3391 Ext 28 or email coe@fmarion.edu. We look forward to seeing your team there!

Congratulations Florence 1, Florence 3, and Darlington School Districts!

NNPS District Leadership Institute

April 17-18, 2008 – Baltimore

The NNPS District Leadership Institute will be held in Baltimore, Maryland at the Radisson Hotel on April 17-18, 2008. This two-day intensive workshop prepares district facilitators to lead and support

schools in building sustainable, goal-oriented programs of school, family, and community partnerships using the NNPS research-based approach.

When the date of the District Leadership Institute was announced, each COE Partner District was contacted. The COE agreed to pay the \$250 registration fee for one designated representative from each district to attend this Institute. Three school districts – Florence One, Florence Three, and Darlington – have taken advantage of this opportunity to attend the Institute. Congratulations!!



Let's Celebrate and Learn from Each Other!
COE NNPS End-of-Year Luncheon Celebration



April 29, 2008

12:00 – 3:30

Ervin Dining Hall

Did you do something great this year to get parents involved in your school that you want to share? Did you have a great strategy for reaching some “hard-to-reach” families? Did you participate in any NNPS activities this year that were particularly successful? If you did, bring your Action Team Members to enjoy good food and good company at the COE NNPS End-of-Year Luncheon Celebration on April 29 from 12:00 – 3:30. The Luncheon Celebration will be held in the Ervin Dining Hall at the Francis Marion University campus.

Poster Session: You don't want to miss this informal, relaxing opportunity to share your school's best practice and learn about what others have done this year to reach all families and to support student success in school. During the Poster Session, each participating school will present a table-top display showcasing one or two of their best partnership practices. The display may include photographs, charts, and/or work samples with short descriptive summaries of the activities.

Receive a \$100 mini-grant: To receive a \$100 mini-partnership grant, all you have to do is share a successful partnership activity and have at least three team members attend the celebration. Your school will receive a \$100 mini-grant from the COE as an incentive to implement one of your partnership activities next year. Last year the winners were: *Easterling Primary, Greenwood Elementary, Hannah-Pamplico Elementary/Middle, Latta Middle School, Mullins High School, Rains Centenary Elementary, and Wallace-Gregg Elementary.*

Promising Partnership Practices!
Is Easy as 1-2-3



Submit a Promising Partnership Practice. Deadline May 15, 2008

Each year NNPS publishes a collection of great partnership ideas submitted by members and distributes that information in a book called “Promising Partnership Practices” to each member school. You will soon be receiving detailed information from NNPS on how to complete and submit the questionnaire. For more information, go to the NNPS website at www.partnershipschoools.org and click on *Success Stories in the Spotlight, Promising Partnership Practices* and *Submit a Promising*

Partnership Practice. We hope that each school will consider submitting one of their great ideas to this publication. Three of the COE NNPS schools were featured in the 2007 *Promising Partnership Practice*. Congratulations to Wallace-Gregg Elementary, Rains Centenary Elementary, and Delmae Elementary.

Mark Your Calendars!

COE 2008 Events

- **April 3 – COE NNPS One-Day New Member Team Training**
8:00 - 2:30 – Pee Dee Education Center, FMU
 - **April 17 and 18 – District Leadership Institute**
Johns Hopkins University – Baltimore
 - **April 29 – COE NNPS End-of-Year Luncheon Celebration**
12:00-3:30 – Ervin Dining Hall, FMU
 - **May 15 – Promising Partnership Practices Deadline**
 - **June 10 and 11 – COE Summer Institute**
8:00-3:30 – Poyner Adult Education Center
 - **June 30 – Annual School 2008 UPDATE survey due to NNPS**
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Please remember that we are always available to assist you in any way either on-site or by phone!



Working Together for Student Success,

Markey and Tammy

Thank you in advance for distributing this e-brief to all school ATP members!