

Jordan Education Initiative

University-School/JEI Partnerships

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Structure of the presentation

- **Introduction/purpose**
- **Advantages of partnership**
- **Forms of collaboration**
- **What makes a successful partnership**
- **Barriers to collaboration**
- **Universities-JEI partnership**
- **Good Examples of U-S partnerships**



Introduction/Purpose

- In 1876, Daniel Gilman, expressed the hope that American universities would one day, “make less misery among the poor, less ignorance in the schools, less bigotry in the temple, less suffering in the hospital, less fraud in business and less folly in politics”.



Introduction/Purpose...cont.

- The core of the partnership is working towards the goal of "the simultaneous renewal" of universities and schools.
- The partnership concept rests on the belief that organizational performance can be significantly improved through joint, mutually dependent action.
- The university is an essential partner in community building and education reform...universities are economic engines.



Introduction/Purpose...cont.

- The purpose of the partnership is to improve learning for all students:
 - Improve the quality of teaching and support services available to teachers.
 - Demonstrate ways in which schools can facilitate and promote learning.
 - Provide opportunities for students to develop positive attitudes for higher education preparation.
 - Sharing and disseminating of best practices between public schools and universities



Advantages of Partnership

- Advantages for Universities

- Faculty members get field experience
- Faculty members advance their research
- Faculty members solve and teach real life problems
- The knowledge gained by faculty member is used to strengthen instruction at the university level for the pre-service teachers
- University students receive training
- Increase students opportunities to get jobs
- Generation and application of research and new knowledge about teaching and learning



Advantages of Partnership...cont.

- Advantages for Schools

- Schools get the know-how
- Schools improve their quality
- Schools get access to the qualified university personnel and other facilities
- Schools solve their problems at lower/no costs
- When universities and schools work together, the success of their relationships will be reflected on the society and government--stimulate innovation which is in the heart of any economic growth.



Forms of collaboration

- Service learning: engage students in community learning and service activities as part of their regular coursework/for credit
- Faculty involvement: takes the form of individual initiatives where faculty becomes the driving force behind particular community activities.
- Teachers in Residence....two to three teachers are appointed to teach instructional methods and classroom management. And they also supervise interns/preservice teachers



Forms of collaboration...cont.

- Student volunteerism: involves individual and voluntary initiatives where students engage in community activities
- Applied research: involve the university, faculty and students in data collection, analysis, and reporting on current community issues



How to make Partnership Successful

- Trust
- Communication
- Exchanging visits
- Establishing an office to coordinate partnerships
- Mutual benefit/mutual responsibility
- Support
- Flexibility



How to make Partnership Successful...cont.

- Make faculty work count where it matters most-in the promotion process
- understand and appreciate a community's culture
- Both partners need to carefully reflect on their traditional ways of thinking, and should be prepared to make efforts toward more collaborative activities based on equality, professionalism, and mutual respect.
- Create quality programs that attracts students



Barriers to Collaboration

University-Related Barriers

- Teaching Load
- Lack of publicity/organize workshops
- Not linking partnerships with schools/community for promotion
- Bureaucracy/centralization/closed system
- Mistrust



Barriers to Partnerships...cont.

School-Community related barriers

- Bureaucracy
- Misconception/mistrust
- Culture---the way society perceive universities.
Sometime society resists change



Good Examples of U-C/S P

- Boston Higher Education Partnerships
- The Rutgers State University: Computer Usage Training Program
- Brown University: Summer high school, Computer Science 92, Environmental Studies 11 Course, etc....
- University of California at Berkeley: School/University Partnership Program (SUP)
- Western Michigan University: the School/University Partnership Team



JEI-University Partnership

- **Current Situation:**

There are 6542 faculty members and around 120,000 student Centers for Community Service, studies and consultations.

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The national Strategy for Higher Education 2005-2010

- **What is needed?**

University Undergraduate Students:

Graduate Students: direct them to study problems in the discovery schools

Faculty members: Faculty –For-School

Faculty-For-Faculty



JEI-University Partnership...cont.

- Advantages for University:
 - Take advantage of the Discovery Schools/labs
 - Develop software
 - Develop training packages in collaboration with the JEI
 - Design certificates programs: principalship certificate..
 - Produce employable graduates
 - Curricula Development—quality programs
 - Work with experienced team in educational/technological issues



JEI-University Partnership...cont.

- Advantages for the JEI
 - Teacher training: professional development standards, preservice teachers, ICDL, Technology
 - Cut costs of training
 - Lifelong Learning: Volunteers, After school programs, Community Centers
 - Well- trained Principals



Conclusions

- Partnerships can make a difference.
- U-S partnership is a must
- U-S partnership is a win-win relationship
- MOE/MOHE/JEI/Universities should find ways for collaboration
- Schools and universities should understand each other's culture
- What is next? The first step

