

Church - School Partnership Planning



Name: _____ Date: _____

Use this worksheet to think through the questions and details that you need to consider as you create a Church - School Partnership in your community.

QUESTIONS	IDEAS TO CONSIDER & AREAS TO RESEARCH
Who in the church might be interested in participating? Who might lead?	
What gifts & talents does the church have to share?	
How much time, energy, and resources does the church have to allocate to this partnership? (Be realistic!)	
Who in the church already has a connection to a school? Which one(s)? What school is our neighbor?	
What are the demographics of the school? (e.g. % Free & Reduced Lunch, Spanish speakers, academically gifted)	
What barriers might get in the way or need to be overcome?	
What groups in the community are in partnership with the school already?	
Who do we need to contact & meet with to explore the idea? Who are the stakeholders?	
What are the greatest needs of the school according to the principal, counselor, social worker, nurse, teachers, parents, PTA, etc.?	

Church - School Partnership Planning



TYPES OF PARTNERSHIPS	EXAMPLES OF PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
BASIC NEEDS OF STUDENTS	
STAFF SUPPORT	
BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE	
FINANCIAL & FUNDRAISING	
ADVOCACY & JUSTICE	
OTHER?	

SOME TIPS TO REMEMBER:

- **ASK** Questions and **LISTEN** with your ears and heart! Where is the Spirit already at work?
- Be humble, curious, empathetic, and teachable. **DO NO HARM**.
- Follow all volunteer registration, background checks, and school policies to ensure kids are safe.
- Carefully assess what time and resources your church has to give, and plan for longevity to build trust and effectiveness. Short bursts of support can unintentionally cause harm.
- **UNDER** promise and **OVER** deliver--never the other way around!
- The students and school are **ALWAYS** the priority, not the church & its needs.
- All Glory is for God, not the church's ego. Check your ego at the door.
- Don't create more work for the school.
- Joining a team with other community partners is a great way to start. Silos are not helpful.
- While the school may have many struggles, good things are happening too! **NEVER FORGET** to celebrate the **GOOD** and talk about the school in a positive light in the community! Be an encouragement to the students and staff!
- Treat all children with respect and equality--don't play favorites or create jealousy!
- Partnership is **BECAUSE** our faith calls us to love our neighbors, **NEVER** as a way to share faith. Evangelism is **NOT** appropriate and crosses legal boundaries.
- Do justice. Love kindness. Walk humbly. Each person is a child of God!
- Add your own: