

Business Education Partnerships

What is a Business & Education Partnership?

A Business & Education Partnership is a collaborative agreement between a school and an organization to help students learn, grow and attain the knowledge they need for the future. Partnerships can exist between schools and businesses, religious institutions, civic groups, nonprofit associations, academic institutions and military commands.



 NEWPORT NEWS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
smart, safe schools

Educating
tomorrow's workforce
is everybody's business!

Why Participate?

Whether a business or educator, there is a common goal to be shared: To have a knowledgeable and qualified workforce.

Today's students will be tomorrow's doctors, mechanics, teachers, paramedics, and law enforcement. They will also be your organization's managers, analysts, programmers, technicians, sales people and other new positions that will grow out of our dynamic economy.

Not only do students need the inspiration from their teachers and coaches, but they also need inspiration from you—today's business and community leaders. Who else would be better to inspire young people to follow a career path and be tomorrow's leaders?

The youth of this community are an investment in which we all have a stake.

By donating your resources and volunteering your time you are sending a clear message to children that you and your

organization care. Your presence creates role models for Newport News' youth to look up to and your involvement will expose them to work options they may have never thought of before.

As an inspiration, your organization has the ability to give focus to a young person's educational endeavors and help them grow. A first grader will be encouraged to read, a fifth grader might set their goals on becoming an engineer, or an eleventh grader might decide to attend college and pursue a degree in marketing. A boy will gain a positive role model and a girl might be inspired to become a CEO.

Your support will allow a teacher to take students on a field trip so that learning becomes alive, or engage students in a lab that shows students real-world applications of scientific principals or prove that people really do use the quadratic equation outside

of the classroom.

The reality is that our community benefits when everyone gets involved. A better student means a better worker, and a stronger workforce creates a more prosperous community.

As our students grow and graduate they will go on to college, technical schools and enter the workforce. They will take with them the experiences they've received in school, in the community and from individuals around them.

Educating tomorrow's workforce is everybody's business.

We all must equip the young people with the knowledge they will need to succeed and to excel in the global economy.

You are essential to this formula for success.

Become a partner today.

"Children need to be shown that there are a lot of options in life, and when they see the military I think they learn an awful lot. For example, when you ask young people what they want to be when they grow up, they may say a basketball player, a doctor, a lawyer or the President. We don't want to overlook the military service because it's a service to our country. It's an important responsibility, but it's also service to your community. Students see military that are in their community working with them to develop their personality and character. They're the kind of people we want them to be. Obviously, if they watch the news they will see that military members are sacrificing their lives—but to see soldiers up front, live and in person, just has a great impact on all our students."

-Richard Coleman
*Director,
An Achievable
Dream*

What school and business leaders are saying:

"We have over 80 employee volunteers in our tutoring partnership. What they find is that they get so much more out of it than they anticipated. They just wanted to help out by giving back to the community and what they discover is that they form a bond with the students."

-Denise Martin
*Divisional Business Manager,
Northrop Grumman Newport News*

"Teachers love when tutors visit because they reinforce the skills that students have already been taught. Our students benefit from practicing the skills they are learning in the classroom, so tutors give them the help they need and the opportunity to do more work. When students go for tutoring our teachers are able to do more hands on activities in smaller groups. So, all our students and teachers benefit.

Our tutors have helped us reach our Standards of Learning goals in reading and math. More of our students are passing the SOL tests and because of that, our school will receive recovery points to help with accreditation."

-Vanessa Stephens,
*Instructional Specialist,
Huntington Middle School*



How can my organization help?

Getting started is easy as volunteering to read to a class. Simply call the principal at a school near you and schedule a time to read. Children appreciate guest readers and the readers always enjoy the experience and usually commit more time in the future.

Help develop and participate in a positive mentoring program that provides role models for elementary students. They encourage goal setting, good study habits and good citizenship. For example, military representatives assist with physical fitness activities while counseling students on good grooming, business etiquette, and proper discipline.

Businesses and other organizations can help students pursue a pathway to a career. Numerous businesses in the community provide summer and school-year internships to Newport News high school students. It is critical that students learn about potential

careers while they make present and future educational decisions. Successful internships have been provided in career fields such as medicine, engineering, accounting, architecture, education, public service and technology. Businesses consider internships as a way of nurturing their industry. Many students return after they have completed formal training.

Tutoring programs throughout the school division have helped achieve higher goals. The TATOO (Taking Action to Overcome Obstacles) program, operating at Northrop Grumman Newport News since the early 80's, is a partnership program that provides tutoring in math, reading and science at Huntington and Newsome Park. Like other companies, Northrop Grumman provides employees flex time to tutor during lunch.

There are many ways to be involved.

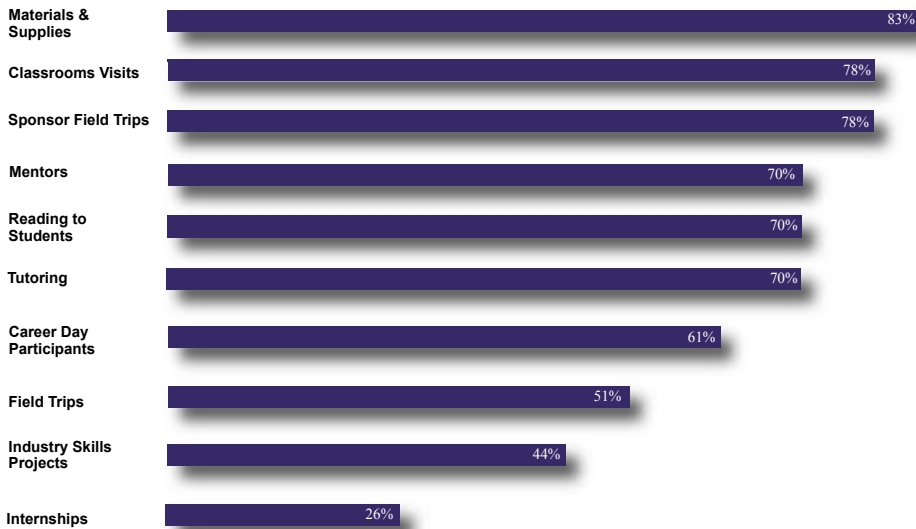
Ways to Get Involved

- As a parent, neighbor, friend or business owner, you can help students make the transition to the world of work easier by sharing information about your business or career.
- Discuss with young people the experiences and education that led to your career choice.
- Give specific examples of how the skills students learn in school—math, writing, or others—are used in your job.
- Bring an interested young person to your work site for a tour.
- Let students know the importance of managing time wisely and how that skill will help them in the work world.
- Ask young people what their interests are and what they are doing to pursue them.
- Talk about how setting personal and career goals will help them make better choices about further education or training.
- Consider offering internship or apprentice opportunities at your business.
- Suggest to your professional organization that it offer a student scholarship or stipend.
- Visit classrooms to talk about careers
- Provide a classroom demonstration
- Participate in Career Day
- Sponsor field trips
- Invite classes to visit job sites
- Provide job shadowing experiences
- Tutor students in reading and math
- Donate instructional materials
- As an employer, provide release time for employees to visit schools
- Encourage parental involvement in school activities
- Establish grants for teachers to create special projects
- Participate in physical fitness training
- Construct an outdoor learning environment
- Develop Career Pathways for students

Business  Education Partnerships
<http://www.nnschools.org/BizEd>

Educating tomorrow's workforce is everybody's business!

Business & Education Partnership Survey: What Educators Want



Partnership requests are from an August 2006 survey of Newport News Public Schools principals and instructional supervisors.

How do I become a partner?

Becoming a partner can be easily done online.

You can visit the Newport News Public Schools Business & Education Partner's website at <http://www.nnschools.org/BizEd>, where you will find more information about the program and links to register.

Or, you can go directly to the Peninsula Council for Workforce Development website at <http://www.pcfwd.org/BizEd.php> to register. The Council has partnered with local school divisions and has developed a website that pairs businesses and educators. To register, follow the online directions and indicate how you would like to help. Afterwards someone from the school division or the Council will contact your organization and assist in making arrangements for your partnership activity.

You can also call Newport News Public Schools Community Relations Department at (757) 591-4545 or send an e-mail to BizEd@nn.k12.va.us and someone will assist you in becoming a partner.



Career Pathways: Help a Young Person Excel in a Career

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics there are more than 12,000 career options for our students to consider. And, employers, more than ever, are expecting young people to arrive with a core set of basic knowledge and the ability to apply their skills in the workplace.

This is where business and community leaders can help build our community's future workforce.

Newport News Public Schools has launched a new initiative called Career Pathways. This career development program will provide pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students with a pathway to a career through interrelated courses, as well as extra-curricular, and service learning experiences. Starting in high schools students have the choice of pursuing a Career Pathway in: Architecture & Construction; Arts, A/V Technology and Communications; Business, Management and Administration; Education & Training; Manufacturing; Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics; Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security; or Health Science. As a Business & Education Partner you can have positive influence on a young person's career choice by providing career related experiences such as:

Speakers Bureau: Make personnel available to present to student groups during school visits, assemblies and special programs.

Job Shadowing: Explore career opportunities with students in the workplace. (example: provide 4-8 hours to ninth and 10th grade students based upon interest)

Internships: Make available job-like opportunities for students. (example: provide 15-20 hours for 11th and 12th grade students based on a selected Career Pathway)

Mentorships: Provide available personnel to mentor students in a Career Pathways area. (example: meet with students at school in an individualized or group setting)

Field Trips: Provide opportunities for students to visit worksites.

Summer Camp: Sponsor a summer camp to include activities, presentations and workshops at worksites. (example: one week from 9 a.m. - 12 noon)

Communication Link: Provide information about the range of careers within your company/industry to be posted on the NNPS Career Pathways website.

Classroom Visits: Coordinate with district personnel to share with students information about careers and workplace skills.

Activities and Clubs: Support school-based activities and clubs.

More information on Career Pathways can be found by visiting <http://www.nnschools.org/careerpathways>



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I think one of the things I enjoyed the most was the ability to learn how to improve my skills at programming and to get real-world experience.

I'm getting all sorts of programming skills -different ideas, tips, methods and just ways of doing things that when I go to college and enter the workforce, I'm sure I'll have a leg up over other programmers who are just entering the job.

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*-Michael Booth
Denbigh High School student
and intern at Jefferson Lab*

