

FORT WORTH ISD

Community & Strategic PARTNERSHIPS

Role of the Department of Community and Strategic Partnerships

The **Department of Community and Strategic Partnerships (CSP)** is a District office that supports campuses in their efforts to cultivate partner relationships with local businesses, community organizations and faith-based groups for the purpose of supporting student achievement.

Partnerships are relationship based and typically include donations of in-kind goods and services, cash contributions, and/or volunteer service to a campus or the District. Schools are encouraged to have multiple partners and the District encourages partners to get involved with multiple schools. It's also important to remember that a partnership is a relationship in which both sides benefit.

The Department of Community and Strategic Partnerships can help your campus:

- Brainstorm and identify prospective partners that match your campus needs.
- Facilitate meetings with prospective partners.
- Suggest strategies for nurturing and strengthening partnerships.
- Assist Campus Partner Coordinators with best practices for recruiting and retaining partners.
- Share principles of effective partnerships.
- Assist with ideas for partner recognition.
- Recognize your partners' contributions on the District website and through social media outlets.
- Provide your Campus Partner Coordinator tips and techniques for making "the ask," and accompany, when requested.

What CSP needs from your campus:

- Designate the appropriate person on your campus to be the Coordinator who will work directly with your partners and with the CSP department. Provide contact information for the Coordinator to CSP.
- Develop a list of specific needs, why your campus needs help in meeting these needs and how meeting these needs will help advance student achievement. If you know associated costs, please include those as well.
- Develop a list of businesses, organizations, churches or individuals that may have expressed an interest in supporting your campus. This list should also include prospective partners you've identified.

What CSP needs from your partner:

- A commitment to be available to assist the school across the school year.
- A list of the specific ways in which the partner would like to assist your campus (*see partner application and interest indicator*).
- The name of a primary contact to coordinate details of the partnership.

Remember, the Department of Community and Strategic Partnerships is here to assist your campus in building long-lasting relationships. Please contact us with any questions or needs you may have.