

NNPS Calendar of Professional Development Activities

2025-26 School Year

NNPS provides formal workshops to prepare state, district, region, and organization leaders to plan, conduct, and improve their leadership and partnership programs in all schools.

NNPS provides on-going support—on call consultations, resources, and references—to enable Professional Development Partners at all policy levels to continually improve their knowledge and skills to conduct effective and equitable programs of school, family, and community partnerships.

I. Prepare Leaders for Partnerships with Knowledge and Skills to Conduct Research-Based Programs of School, Family, and Community Partnerships

1. Awareness Session: Overview of Research on Partnerships, Main NNPS Partnership Program Components

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 2-4 p.m. EDT

Thursday, January 22, 2026 2-4 p.m. EST

Awareness Sessions are conducted twice during the school year. The presentation, activities, and discussion orient leaders and their colleagues in districts, regions, states, and organizations to the basic components of research-based programs of family and community engagement. Q & A (2-hours; 2-4 p.m.)

Who should attend? Awareness Sessions are for all colleagues, supervisors, and other partners who want or need to know about the work that will be conducted to improve programs of school, family, and community partnerships. This includes new leaders who are hired or added to leadership roles in the past year. By attending an NNPS Awareness Session, educators and parents will be able to talk knowledgeably about research-based partnership programs.

2. Leadership Institute for District, Organization, and State Leaders for Partnerships

Discussion of Leadership Roles, Responsibilities, and Strategies for strong and sustainable leadership at the district, region, state, and organization levels. Preparation to complete a Leadership Plan for Partnerships. Q & A (3-hours; 2-5 p.m.).

Thursday, September 25, 2025 2-5 p.m. EDT

Thursday, February 12, 2026 2-5 p.m. EST

NNPS Intensive Leadership Institutes are conducted twice during the school year. The presentations and activities prepare leaders for partnerships to use research-based structures and processes to guide all schools' Action Teams for Partnerships (ATPs) to develop excellent and equitable programs of family and community engagement for student success in school.

Leaders for Partnerships will be able to select and customize strategies to guide their schools—preschools, elementary, middle, and high schools—to strengthen and continually improve goal-linked programs of family and community engagement for student success in school.

Leadership Institutes precede the workshop for school-based Action Teams for Partnership (ATPs). Leaders organize their own responsibilities and activities, including how and when they will guide school teams at the preschool, elementary, middle, and high school levels to conduct partnership programs with their own students' families.

3. NNPS Team-Training Workshop for Schools' Action Teams for Partnerships (ATPs)

Topics include: Using the framework of six types of engagement; understanding challenges to reach all families; focusing partnership practices on academic and behavioral goals for students; creating a welcoming school climate; taking an action team approach; and writing a One-Year Action Plan for Partnerships. Q & A (3-hours; 9:30-12:30 p.m.)

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 1 - 4 p.m. EDT

Thursday, February 26, 2026 1 - 4 p.m. EST

School-based Action Teams for Partnerships (ATPs) include teachers, parents, administrators, and others—the partners in education. High school ATPs also include 1-2 students. The NNPS Team-Training Workshop for school ATPs introduces research-based “basics” for partnership programs to engage *all* families in ways that support student learning and development.

District leaders attend this workshop *with* one or more (or all) of their schools' ATPs. They will “coach” or “facilitate” the school teams to continually improve their partnership programs and to engage all families at all grade levels in ways that contribute to student success in school.

After the NNPS Team Training Workshop, district, region, state, and organization leaders will be able to conduct the same workshop at any time with new teams or new team members. NNPS will provide resources and support to our Professional Development Partners.

II. Support Leaders for Partnerships to Continually Improve Program Quality

Quarterly Networking and Support: *Let's Talk About Partnerships*

Leaders come together to meet each other, share best practices, discuss and solve emerging challenges, and ask important questions (2-hours; 2-4 p.m.)

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Quarterly Knowledge-Building: *Let's Learn More About Partnerships*

The NNPS research team will present and discuss important topics in research and proven practices for more effective and more equitable school, family, and community partnerships. In 2024, we focused on Engaging Families to Improve Student Attendance and Engaging Families to Help Improve Student Reading Skills and Attitudes. Other topics may include Engaging Families to Help Improve Math Skills and Attitudes; Engaging Families with Low Incomes; The Role of Students in Family Engagement; Principals' Roles on School ATPs; Engaging Grandparents, Using Evaluation Resources, and other topics requested by NNPS Professional Development Partners in districts, regions, organizations, and states. (2-hours; 2-4 p.m.).

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

ALL YEAR: NNPS Communications and Support For Professional Development Partners

- *Leadership Line* The NNPS newsletter is sent at the end of each month's Professional Development Activities. Each issue includes the recordings of workshops and summaries of promising practices and ideas from each session.
- “On-Call” Consultations NNPS welcomes questions about emerging challenges, and requests for resources or references from Professional Development Partners at any time (nnps@jhu.edu).