



Dear Prospective Partner,

Thank you for your interest in partnering with the Paulding County School District through our Partners in Education (PIE) program. We hope this program provides meaningful opportunities for you to become actively engaged with our schools and community.

The Paulding County School District serves more than 31,000 students who will become the future leaders, innovators, and workforce of our community. Our mission is to prepare all students for success today and tomorrow, and your partnership can help us achieve that goal.

The PIE program offers businesses and organizations flexibility in how they choose to participate while establishing shared expectations for a successful partnership. Our goal is to create mutually beneficial relationships that support both our schools and our community partners. By sharing your time, talents, resources, and expertise, you help inspire lifelong learning and contribute to student success. As the saying goes, it takes a village.

Whether you volunteer at school events, speak to students about career opportunities, recognize student achievements, mentor students, or serve as a judge for academic competitions, the PIE program can be tailored to match your interests and availability. We value every contribution and appreciate any gift of time, talent, or treasure that supports our students and schools.

In addition, we offer opportunities for businesses and organizations to support our employees through recognition, incentive, and discount programs. As the largest employer in Paulding County, the district employs more than 4,000 dedicated staff members who work each day to provide exceptional educational experiences for our students. By offering discounts, special recognition, or other incentives, you demonstrate your appreciation for their contributions to our community. In return, you gain opportunities to share information about your business or organization with district employees.

If you have questions about the Partners in Education program or would like to enroll, please contact Jana Stegall, Business and Community Relations Administrator, at 770-443-8003 ext. 10045 or jstegall@paulding.k12.ga.us. She will be happy to help you explore partnership opportunities and identify meaningful ways for your business or organization to engage with our schools.

Thank you again for considering a partnership with the Paulding County School District. We look forward to working together to support student success and strengthen our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Barnette".

Steve Barnette,
Superintendent
Paulding County School District



Partners in Education Agreement

1. Partner's Contact Information:

Business/Organization Name: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Type of Business: _____

Website Address: _____

2. Partnership Information:

Would you like to be a District _____ School Partner _____ Incentive Partner _____

If you would like to be a School Partner, please list the school(s) you would like to partner with

Please list activities/incentives that you would like to provide to the District/School(s):

3. All Partners In Education must agree that they will not advertise or share information about competing products/services/benefits that the District provides. These include:

- TRS and PSERS, State Pensions.
- Voluntary Retirement Plans (automatic enrollment at 3% for all employees, PSERS members receive a 6% match.
- Health Insurance, HMO, HRA, HDHP
- Life Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Vision Insurance - Base and Buy Up Plan.
- Disability – Short and long Term (Guaranteed issue as a new hire).
- Flexible Spending Account (Medical and Dependent).
- Employee Assistance Plan (EAP).
- Telemedicine Plan.
- Voluntary Benefits.
- Critical Illness, Accident, Hospital Indemnity, Legal Plan, Permanent Insurance

Partnership Agreement signed by: _____ Date: _____

{To be completed by Paulding Partners in Education}

Date received: _____ Date approved: _____



What does a partnership look like?

What am I committing to?

Here are a few ideas to help you get started, but you can work with your school/district Ambassador to come up with activities that will work for you.

With a small amount of time and resources:

- **Participate in Career Fairs, STEM nights, and other career exploration activities**
- **Sponsor meals for administrative meetings/events**
- **Sponsor breakfast, lunch, or snacks at a school staff meeting**
- **Provide Financial Literacy or other workshops for staff and students**
- **Serve as a judge for various school competitions**
- **Volunteer at Reality Fairs**

With slightly more time and/or resources:

- **Sponsor “Student of the Month” programs**
- **Provide incentives for teacher/staff recognition**
- **Provide support for hands-on learning**
- **Be a guest speaker**
- **Teach employability skills to students**

More involved activities:

- **Hire high school students through the WorkBased Learning program**
- **Serve on Advisory Committees for CTAE/Academy programs**
- **Participate in the STEM & Skilled Trades Expo**
- **Provide workshops for parents and students**
- **Provide training for CTAE programs**
- **Offer Job Shadowing and Teacher Externship opportunities**
- **Be a vendor at school/district events**

The options are endless for the ways you and your business/organization can get involved and make a difference!



Frequently Asked Questions

Who can participate in the Partners in Education program?

Businesses (small and large), civic groups, government agencies, churches, colleges and university organizations, and non-profit agencies.

Does a business/organization have to be located in Paulding County to participate in the Partners in Education program?

No. We invite all businesses that want to establish a partnership with our schools and our students to become Partners in Education.

Is there a minimum financial investment for partners?

There is no cost with establishing a partnership. Financial and in-kind donations are made at the discretion of the community partner.

What are the requirements for becoming an official District or School Partner in Education?

Every Partner in Education should fill out a Partnership Commitment form. Once approved at the district level, that form will be sent to the schools the Business Contact Person identified as being interested in partnering with. The Local School PIE Coordinator will reach out to the Business Contact Person to arrange a meeting to develop an Action Plan.

Each Partner in Education must commit to a minimum of ONE ACTIVITY PER QUARTER, PER PARTNERSHIP. This regular interaction helps build a relationship and enhances the quality of the partnership.

What are the requirements for becoming a PCSD PIE District Partner?

Partners-at-Large are those businesses/organizations that want to, and have the means to, support more than three schools or the district as an entirety. Most businesses/organizations will not fall into this category. PALs will work with the System Coordinator to establish an Action Plan for their contributions.

Can community partners join more than one school in partnership?

Yes, however, new PIEs should look carefully at their commitments. PIEs must commit to one activity per semester.

What are the requirements for an Incentive Partner?

Incentive partners offer the employees of the Paulding County School District special offers just for being on staff. This could be a discount on purchase, gift cards, free items with purchase, or other incentives to show your appreciation to our hard-working employees.

Is there a bad time of year to enter a partnership?

Not at all. Partnerships that begin late in the school year can be advantageous for both the business/organization and the school because it gives the partner and school the opportunity to get to know each other, discuss their ideas and expectations, and plot out their action plan for the next school year.

How long do partnerships last?

Partnerships last for as long as they are mutually beneficial to both the school and the business/organization. Partnerships should be renewed and updated annually.

Can I partner if I have a small business?

Absolutely! Many small businesses have successful partnerships with schools. The key is to know your limitations. Committing to activities you know you can fulfill is paramount to succeeding in your partnership. Many activities do not require an inordinate amount of time or money. Small businesses are the perfect companies to talk about entrepreneurship and budgeting with students, or volunteering. Work with your partner school to find out exactly where your resources and talents can be of use.

Small businesses are also a perfect PPIE Incentive Partner, who can offer incentives to PCSD staff. This might include a discount on purchases, free items with purchase, or other incentives only available to our staff.

How does a PIE choose a partner school?

Many PIEs want to partner with their neighborhood schools. This is great! However, some of the schools in Paulding County are located in more rural areas, which leaves them at a disadvantage when it comes to Partners. If you are more comfortable in a neighborhood school, go for it! But also know your resources and talents can be useful at ANY of our schools.

If you need help in deciding which school you'd like to partner with, the System Coordinator can help! The objective of a partnership is to meet the interest, needs and resources of the organization and the school.

What should I do if I cannot fulfill my commitment as a Partner?

Please let the Local School PIE Ambassador, as well as the System Coordinator, know as soon as you are aware you cannot fulfill your commitment.

How do I sign up to be a Partner in Education?

It's easy! Just call or email, Jana Stegall, Business and Community Relations Administrator

770-443-8003 ext. 10045

jstegall@paulding.k12.ga.us