

**APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT  
2017-2018**

This agreement is made and entered into by and between the partners listed below that form the Appalachian State University-Public School Partnership.

Reich College of Education  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Elkin City Schools  
Alexander County Schools  
Alleghany County Schools  
Ashe County Schools  
Avery County Schools

Burke County Schools  
Caldwell County School  
Watauga County Schools  
Wilkes County Schools  
NWRESA

I. Unit Mission Statement

The Appalachian State University-Public School Partnership has as its mission the development of a strong cooperative program, reciprocal in nature, whose efforts will positively influence the preparation of pre-service teachers and the professional development of practicing teachers and administrators. Effective partnerships and high quality clinical practice are central to preparation so that candidates develop the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions necessary to demonstrate positive impact on all P-12 students' learning and development. (Standard 2, CAEP). The Partnership will establish open lines of communication between all participant schools and the University to ensure that decision-making involves a shared process with input from all participating members.

A unit of the Reich College of Education, the Appalachian State University/Public School Partnership has a three part organizational design: a Governing Board, a Coordinating Council, a Partnership Director, and School Representatives. The Governing Board determines the policies and budget, the Coordinating Council sets goals and plans activities to reach those goals, and the Director coordinates and facilitates the establishment of goals and activities and submits all activities to the Governing Board for approval. School representatives serve as primary contacts for Partnership information.

The Partnership members have agreed to work closely as equals for the purpose of making educational improvements in areas that are of mutual concern to the Partners.

The Partnership will be engaged in activities that:

1. develop avenues to promote best practices consistent with the research about knowledge, skills and dispositions of learners, the learning process, teacher effectiveness, content knowledge and technological advances;
2. identify both university and public school personnel who can provide leadership for pre-service and in-service experiences;
3. promote and coordinate research activities among the Partners;
4. establish procedures to ensure university faculty, public school teachers and administrators continually exchange ideas regarding educational issues and trends;
5. recognize the work of the Partnership and ensure the results are disseminated to all;

6. encourage collaborative grant writing;
7. encourage and support dialogue between Partnership schools and all education programs.

## II. Organization and Governance

Organization of the Partnership will consist of the Governing Board, Director, a Coordinating Council, and a representative for each of the Partnership Schools.

### A. Governing Board

- 1) Superintendents, Reich College of Education Dean, the College of Arts and Sciences Dean, and the Director or designee of the Northwest Regional Educational Service Alliance (RESA) will constitute the Governing Board.
- 2) The Governing Board will approve the goals of the Partnership.
- 3) The Governing Board will meet quarterly. Additional meetings can be called as necessary.

### B. Director

- 1) The Director will be an employee of Appalachian State University responsible to the Dean of the Reich College of Education, but his or her appointment will be subject to the approval of the Governing Board; the Director will be responsible to the Board for all Partnership activities.
- 2) The Director will coordinate and facilitate all partnership activities as determined by the goals of the Partnership and the approval of the Governing Board
- 3) The Director will be responsible for collaborative grant writing in support of Partnership goals.
- 4) The Director will be responsible for communication among partners and with external agencies.

### C. Coordinating Council

- 1) The Coordinating Council will consist of 33 members representing faculty (public school and university), principals, and central office personnel. LEA representation will include a teacher, principal, and director of staff development.
- 2) The Coordinating Council will determine projects based on the goals of the Partnership and develop strategies for successful completion.
- 3) The Coordinating Council will meet quarterly; additional meetings can be called as necessary.

### D. Partnership Representatives

- 1) Each of the partnership schools will have a designated representative who will disseminate resource information within the school and who will direct requests for information and assistance to the Director of the Partnership.
- 2) The Partnership Representatives will meet quarterly with coordinating council members in each district.

## III. Resources

- A. Each LEA will contribute \$4,000 annually for the operation of the Partnership to be used for activities such as professional development, professional learning communities, collaborative field-based work and mini-grants. .
  - B. Appalachian State University will provide salaries for the Director and office support for the Partnership. Office space, travel, communication costs such as postage and phone, and office supplies will also be furnished.
- IV. No modification to this agreement shall be valid unless in writing and executed by the parties hereto. This agreement shall be in force as soon as approved by the Partners of the Partnership.

