

## **Administrative Procedure 525**

---

### **SCHOOL / BUSINESS / COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

#### **Background**

The Division believes strongly in the Charter statement, “Inspiring confident, caring citizens of the world”. In keeping with this belief, the Division supports the formation of school/business/community partnerships. Appendix 525A – Strategies for Establishing and Enhancing School/Community Partnerships describes a variety of strategies for establishing and enhancing school/community partnerships.

#### **Procedures**

1. Principals shall:
  - 1.1 Consult with the School Council, parents, staff and students (when appropriate) in the identification, development and implementation of educational partnerships and sponsorships.
  - 1.2 Inform the Superintendent or designate of any proposed involvement in any educational partnership or sponsorship.
  - 1.3 Forward all educational partnership or sponsorship contracts to the Superintendent or designate for authorized signature.

Reference: Section 60, 61, School Act

## STRATEGIES FOR ESTABLISHING AND ENHANCING SCHOOL / COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

### Calgary Educational Partnership Foundation Programs

1. Stay In School Initiatives
2. Teachers in Business
3. Resource Sharing Initiative
4. Employability Skills Portfolio
5. Student Futures Conference
6. Career Centre Project
7. Mayor's Excellence Awards Luncheon
8. Reading "Give It A Shot" Program
9. Dr. Jane Goodall—"Roots and Shoots"
10. Principal for a Day Pilot
11. Class Act—Recognition

For more information in regard to programs, refer to the Calgary Educational Partnership Foundation newsletter.

### Food for Thought

- ⇒ *Take small steps, start small and let the ideas grow*
- ⇒ *Celebrate communication and public relations*
- ⇒ *Express appreciation for the involvement of individuals and groups in partnerships*
- ⇒ *Think in terms of reciprocal-relations "What can the school do for the partner as well as what can the partner do for the school?"*
- ⇒ *Recognize that there is not a "one fit" approach for all schools—each school will have unique priorities and strategies*
- ⇒ *Informal contacts are useful in providing opportunities to "plant a seed"*
- ⇒ *If it does not work the first time, it does not mean it will not work on a second attempt*

Golden Hills School Division  
No. 75  
435A Highway No. 1  
Strathmore, AB  
T1P 1J4  
(403) 934-5121 Fax: (403)

## SCHOOL BUSINESS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Golden Hills School  
Division No. 75

*Our strength is people learning  
and growing together in a  
healthy, caring environment*

## *Strategies For Establishing and Enhancing School/Community Partnerships*

### **E**stablish A Partnership Committee

Establish a school/community/business partnership committee—brainstorm ideas as a staff in regard to individuals on staff, parents, students, members of the community who would have a significant contribution to make to the committee.

### **I**dentify What the Business/Community Has to Offer

Outline what business/community groups have to offer to the school (e.g. assistance in setting up a Young Entrepreneurs Club; job shadowing opportunities; presentations to students and staff in regard to business perspective on education; placements for work experience registered apprenticeship programs).

### **I**dentify What the School Has to Offer

Involve students, school staff members and parents in preparing a list of what the school would have to offer through a partnership (assisting businesses in technological applications such as establishing a home page or providing computer training sessions; developing an advertising campaign for business; catering to meetings, organizing and providing leadership for workshops and providing facilities for out-of-school use).

### **I**dentify Existing Partnerships

Involve school staff members in a brainstorming session to generate a list of all of the partnerships involving businesses, community organizations and individuals which presently are in place.

### **E**xtend An Invitation

Identify some potential partnerships and extend an invitation to attend a function to learn more about what is taking place and to consider potential involvement.

### **U**se the Calgary Educational Partnership Foundations As A Model

Make reference to programs that are available through the Calgary Educational Partnership Foundation and ensure that the opportunities that are made available through the Partnership Foundation are being fully accessed. Consider possible modifications and adaptations that could be used for the benefit of the local school community.

### **P**repare Students for Involvement in Partnership

Develop a program to prepare students for involvement in partnerships. It is strongly recommended that the Employability Skills Portfolio be used at the junior and senior high school level (e.g. Grade Nine Health and CALM 20). Involve members of the business community in describing basic and special qualities they are looking for in making placements for learning experiences, and in filling job vacancies.

### **E**stablish and Enhance School Programs in the Community

Establish and enhance programs involving the school and the community (work experience, integrated occupational program, registered apprenticeship program, job shadowing, storefront schools).

### **C**elebrate Partnerships

Sometime during the school year organize a function (e.g. breakfast, luncheon or after-school coffee and donuts—anything involving food) to recognize and celebrate those who are involved in supporting the life and work of the school community through partnerships.