

Dear John,

On behalf of the NAPDS Leadership Team and the NAPDS Awards Committee, I am delighted to inform you that the Monmouth University Partnership has been selected as a recipient of the 2017 NAPDS Award for Exemplary Professional Development School Achievement. As the primary contact on the submission, I am sure you will be excited to share this good news with your team!

Your PDS will be recognized and honored at the NAPDS national conference in March. The ceremony will take place prior to the keynote speaker, Tyrone Howard, on Friday, March 10, 2017 at approximately 9:00 a.m. I look forward to your PDS being there to receive this wonderful recognition in person!

At your earliest convenience, please let me know who from your team will be in Washington, DC to receive the award. All members of the team who are present will be introduced as you come forward to accept the award on behalf of your PDS. There will be space reserved in the first few rows for you to sit. When your PDS is recognized, you will all come up to receive the award. Photos will be taken immediately following the keynote speaker.

We were delighted with the response by PDS partnerships across the country. We received 14 submissions and the Awards Committee certainly had its work cut out for it! The submissions provided a sense of excellence in the partnerships and it is clear that there is wonderful PDS work being conducted nationwide. Your submission provided clear evidence to the Awards Committee that your work is exemplary and demonstrates the spirit of PDS work.

Your information will be provided to our journal editors (School-University Partnerships) and you will be contacted about having your PDS featured in an upcoming issue of the journal. Please consider writing for our NAPDS publications to share your work. I would also encourage you to participate in the concurrent session dedicated to discussing this award process. I will send more information about this as it becomes available.

I am attaching a public press release to share and publicize this recognition. You are welcome to make the announcement public.

Again, we are grateful for your submission, wish you much continued success, and look forward to seeing you at the NAPDS National Conference in Washington, DC.

Sincerely,

Peggy Lewis

Chair, NAPDS Awards Committee

For Immediate Release

Contact: Donnan Stoicovy, NAPDS president at dms11@scasd.org

For more information about NAPDS, www.napds.org

Monmouth University Professional Development School Partnership Wins National Award

The professional development school partnership between Monmouth University School of Education and the school districts of Freehold Township, Hazlet, Long Branch, Manalapan-Englishtown Regional, Middletown, and Ocean has received the Exemplary Professional Development School Achievement Award.

The National Association for Professional Development Schools (NAPDS) presents the award at its annual conference in Washington, D.C., on March 10, 2017. The award gives national recognition to outstanding school-university partnerships that shape educator leadership and practice.

The Monmouth University Partnership is noted for its work that focuses on increasing P-12 student learning while developing strong programs to support education professionals through innovative clinical structures. The partnership provides outstanding teacher preparation.

Members of the partnership say, “Through our partnership, teachers and university faculty are working together to address longstanding issues in P-12 schools and teacher preparation programs. The award recognizes the partnership for exemplifying the NAPDS vision in the way they, “...see today’s challenges as tomorrow’s innovation.”

One of only three school-university partnerships recognized nationally this year, the award committee commented that the many opportunities for increased experience for both teacher candidates and elementary students are due to the common goal of increasing P-12 student learning. It is what unifies all partners in the same mission.

Defined by specific characteristics known as the Nine Essentials, professional development schools are uniquely positioned to prepare future educators; provide current educators with on-going, job-embedded professional development; encourage joint inquiry of education-related issues; and promote the learning of P-12 students. The Monmouth University partnerships are nationally recognized for their exemplary work in the field of education.