



The College of Education at Rowan University has a rich history of preparing highly effective educators for South Jersey and beyond. For over 90 years, the college has been engaged in teacher preparation and professional development, undergirded by a commitment to excellence in education and innovation. The time has come to look toward our future, by creating teacher preparation opportunities for high school students, today. This school-university partnership creates a pipeline of unique recruitment and retention, pairing interested students with trained teacher facilitators and university experts. Aligned with the university's strategic priorities in access, affordability, quality, and serving as an economic engine, Rowan University will continue to produce effective teachers prepared to serve in our local, national, and global community.

*Access, Success, Equity...  
Turning Research into Practice*

For more information, please contact:

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**THE PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
SCHOOLS  
NETWORK**

# College of Education

## Mission

To positively impact and develop local, regional, national and global educational communities by:

- collaborating with partners in the field to promote learning and the mental and physical health of diverse learners in all settings
- integrating teaching, research, and service to advance knowledge in the field
- preparing and supporting professionals through the development of knowledge, skills and dispositions

with the ultimate goal of ensuring equitable educational opportunities for all learners.

## Vision

The College of Education will be a leading force in preparing and supporting reflective practitioners who use education to transform our global society.

## What is a PDS?

Professional Development Schools (PDS) are innovative institutions formed through partnerships between colleges of schools of education and P-12 schools. Their mission is professional preparation of teacher candidates, faculty development, inquiry directed at the improvement of practice, and enhanced student learning (NCATE: Standards for Professional Development Schools). These schools are more than sites for field placements for teacher candidates. A PDS is an environment in which university students, faculty liaisons, classroom teachers, and students in the schools can engage in long-term, on-going research-based initiatives that benefit all members in the learning community. In 2008, the National Association for Professional Development Schools (NAPDS), identified the essential working components of effective PDSs.



## What are the Key Roles at a PDS?

### *Professor in Residence*

A Rowan Professor in Residence (PIR) is a university faculty member who serves at the specific partner school to which he/she is assigned. Regular, on-site visits at least 1-2 days each week occur at their partner P-12 school.

### *PDS Site Coordinator*

A Professional Development School site coordinator is a school-based staff member who facilitates PDS activities.

## How do teacher candidates benefit from a PDS field experience?

A placement at a Professional Development School assures teacher candidates will:

- observe and experience best practices in action;
- actively participate in a learning community environment;
- receive extensive support from university faculty, teachers, and staff in the PDS community;
- are invited to attend and actively participate in PDS Council meetings.



## Current PDS Sites

- West Avenue School
- Cherry Street Elementary School
- Quarter Mile Lane School
- Holly Glen Elementary School
- Johnstone Elementary School
- Thomas E. Bowe School
- Dorothy L. Bullock Elementary School
- J. Harvey Rodgers School
- West Deptford Middle School