

Deep Partnerships, Deep Impact

How community partnerships enhance the ELT experience of students, teachers and families

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Framingham State College

Objectives

In this workshop we will:

1. Introduce the Quality ELT Partnerships tool and discuss how it can be a resource to strengthen school-community partnerships
2. Learn how high-quality, integrated ELT partnerships that function on multiple levels can have a deep impact on ELT schools
3. Reflect on how these principles can be applied to partnerships in which you are involved

WHY do ELT schools and “community learning organizations” work together?

- ☑ To bring programming/services into the redesigned day that schools alone cannot provide
- ☑ To tap into the expertise of family/child/youth-serving agencies and their staff
- ☑ To help schools capitalize on existing community resources and increase access to them for *all* students
- ☑ To lower teacher-student ratios, allowing for more individualized instruction
- ☑ To create opportunities for embedded professional development and educator collaboration during the school day
- ☑ To deepen connections between schools and their communities for students, teachers, and families

OTHERS?

HOW do ELT schools and “community learning organizations” work together?

- Providing specialty classes offered at the school throughout the day
Example: US Tae Kwon Do and Bowe Elementary School, Chicopee
- Co-leading projects integrated into core classes
Example: Worcester Art Museum and Jacob Hiatt Magnet School
- Embedding a comprehensive program in the expanded school day
Example: Tenacity and the Umana Middle School Academy, Boston
- Offering off-site classes at community-based facilities
Example: Boys & Girls Club, YMCA and Kuss Middle School, Fall River

OTHERS?

Two key resources to support partnerships

ELT Expectations & Indicators (E&I)	Quality ELT Partnerships Tool
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪The guide to “what good work looks like” in ELT schools, across <i>all</i> areas▪Generally used by instructional leadership teams to guide their implementation of ELT and support continuous school-wide improvement efforts▪Developed by Mass 2020, ESE, and Focus on Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪A companion to the E&I that focuses exclusively on community partnerships▪Designed for schools and community learning organizations to use together for self-assessment, reflection, and to strengthen partnerships▪Developed by Mass 2020

Quality ELT Partnerships Tool

- Who:** Developed by Mass 2020 for ELT schools and community learning organizations to use together
- What:** A tool that lays out five principles to guide quality ELT partnerships and indicators for each principle
- When:** Any time; may be most helpful as part of a mid-year and/or year-end partnership check-in
- Where:** PDF is available on the Mass 2020 website at www.mass2020.org
- How:** Partners can complete individually or together to identify strengths and areas for improvement
- Why:** Reflection, self-assessment, and planning



Five Principles of Quality ELT Partnerships

I. Common Purpose

II. Complementary Content

III. Communication

IV. Flexibility and Adaptation

V. Continuous Improvement and Sustainability

“Mission Explore”: Worcester ELT Schools and EcoTarium

- Teresa Wolcott, Program Associate
EcoTarium
- Kerrie Kelly, ELT Facilitator
Chandler Elementary School
- Deb Daley, ELT Facilitator
City View Discovery School

ELT REDESIGN

CITY VIEW DISCOVERY SCHOOL

CHANDLER ELEMENTARY

JACOB HIATT

Going beyond field trips



PARTNERSHIPS

- ECOTARIUM
- SCIENCE FACILITATOR (K—3)
- STEP (4-6) Science Through Experimentation
- Harvard Pilgrim—Sports-In-Society
- MA Audubon/Broad Meadow Brook
- Junior Achievement
- Mass College of Pharmacy
- Mass and Science Academy



Partnerships Con't

- Anna Maria College
- Animal Adventures
- Assumption College
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Rainbow child Development
- Tin cup Adventures
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden

Partnerships Con't...

- Worcester Community Action Council
- Worcester Center for Crafts
- Worcester Art Museum
- Worcester Tornadoes
- Worcester Central YWCA
- Quinsigamond College
- Kick Boxing (Contracted Consultant)

WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE

- Students, Parents, families and staff
- Classroom visits, fieldtrips, Professional Development, Arts integration component
- Engaging partners during the school day and afterschool
- Partnership enrichment events



EXPECTATIONS

- Clear, school-wide Academic Focus
- Strong Partnerships
- Allocation of time
- Enrichment
- Teacher Leadership & Collaboration
- Resources aligned & focused—Science Lab
- District Support—Grant Writing



CHALLENGES

- Supporting Partnership without detracting from the school-wide focus
- Funding within the partnerships
- Goals
- Establishing the P.D. component
- Evaluating successes and best practices/communication

BENEFITS OF THE ELT REDESIGN

- Organizations supporting the redesign
- Academic focus—Science, math, writing across the curriculum
- Monthly ELT facilitator meetings
- Resources, systems & structure in place
- Positive student reaction to outside interactions
- Quality of presentations & impact on student knowledge have exceeded expectations based on teacher/student surveys/interviews.
- Deepened collaboration between partnerships and teachers

Integration, Collaboration & Commitment

STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND FAMILIES
ULTIMATELY BECOME PARTNERS IN
LEARNING.





Expanded Learning Time Worcester Public School EcoTarium Partnership

Overall Goal: Integration of art and science curriculum providing enrichment for students, teachers and families while making a deep impact on learning through the formation of deep partnerships between the ELT Worcester Public Schools with the community learning organization partner, the EcoTarium.

Funding from Two Sources: Mass 20/20 and the Massachusetts Cultural Council (Mass. Creative Schools Grant)

Components of the Partnership

- Teacher Professional Development Day
- Classroom Pre and Post-visits
- Field Trips
- EcoTarium Institutional Membership
- Family Art and Science Night
- Evaluation