
AP 525 – Ethical Guidelines for Partnerships

Background

Partnerships are mutually beneficial relationships between the District and external organizations, either businesses or educational organizations, that are designed to enhance learning for students and other learners. Partnerships are co-operative because the partners share values, objectives, human, material or financial resources, and roles and responsibilities to achieve desired learning outcomes. They may involve other education stakeholders as partners, including students, employees, parents, communities, businesses, labour and government organizations.

Procedures

1. Partnerships are relationships identified by the District in which the fiscal or human resources of an external organization and the District's are combined, and through mutual agreement, directed to a specific project or series of projects to enhance learning opportunities in the District.
2. The District supports and encourages partnerships that:
 - 2.1 Enhance the quality and relevance of education for learners.
 - 2.2 Mutually benefit the partners.
 - 2.3 Treat all those served and affected by the partnership(s) fairly and equally.
 - 2.4 Provide opportunities for the partners to meet their shared social responsibilities toward education.
 - 2.5 Acknowledge and recognize each partner's contributions appropriately.
 - 2.6 Are consistent with the ethics and core values of the District.
 - 2.7 Are based on clearly defined expectations of the District and partners.
 - 2.8 Are based on shared or aligned objectives that support education.
 - 2.9 Generate resources to complement but not replace public funding for education.

- 2.10 Measure and evaluate partnership performance at least annually to make informed decisions that ensure continuous improvement or necessitate discontinuation of the partnership(s).
- 2.11 Are developed and structured in consultation with the partners.
- 2.12 Respect each partner's expertise and the policies and procedures operating in the District.
- 2.13 Identify clearly defined roles and responsibilities for the partners.
- 2.14 Protect the welfare of students.

3. Approvals

All partnerships will be approved by the Superintendent, and in cases of doubt, the Secretary-Treasurer will be consulted. Partnerships must comply with the ethical guidelines set out in this administrative procedure.