

## The IDEA Partnership at NASDSE



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## What is the IDEA Partnership?

The US Department of Education's Investment in stakeholder expertise

- An affiliation of 55 national organizations
- Collaborating across roles and settings
- Translating research and policy to practice
- Solving persistent and complex problems

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## Using Existing Networks to Reach New Levels of Impact

### *We believe:*

- All students are general education students first.
- Members will *'hear'* messages from organizations differently than they *'hear'* them from the state or district.
- An organization's communication vehicles and national meetings create great opportunities to share information and motivate action.

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## Using Existing Networks to Reach New Levels of Impact

### We believe:

- Organizational divisions and state affiliates are natural outlets for materials designed by the IDEA Partnership.
- When national organizations and their state affiliates work together, information can move quickly and with more meaning.
- When states work with state affiliates of national organizations, ideas can change practice.
- Together, states and organizational affiliates can tackle challenges to effective implementation.

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## Levels of Collaboration in the Partnership

- Inform- Share accurate, relevant and useful information through national networks
- Network – Connect to state affiliates of national organizations to enable the work to move more deeply
- Collaborate – Work across organizations to develop shared messages
- Transform – Support shared work between state affiliates and states

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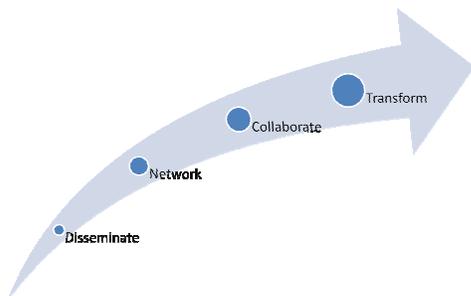
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## Unite and Deepen: Levels of Partner Engagement



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## Overarching Policy Agendas

- Cradle to College and Career (P-16, P-20 Pipeline)
  - Common Core Standards
  - Next Generation Learners
- School Improvement under ESEA
  - School readiness
  - Early Intervening Services (EIS)
  - Achieving adequate yearly progress goals
  - Response to Intervention

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## Overarching Policy Agendas

- School Behavioral Health
  - Shared agendas for addressing non-academic barriers to achievement
  - Public Health/Mental Health
  - Cross-agency work
- Transition under IDEA
  - Response to Intervention
  - Intentionality at Transition Points

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Nothing is more validating and affirming than feeling understood ...



And the moment a person begins feeling understood, that person becomes far more open to influence and change.

-Stephen Covey

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Dialogue: Building Shared Meaning across Groups



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What Do We Mean by Dialogue?

Debate	Discussion	Dialogue
Accepts assumptions as Truth	Surfaces various assumptions	Examines/ questions assumptions
Point – Counterpoint	Majority rules; agree to disagree	Seeks common ground; consensus
Persuasive	Informative	Reflective

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**Example: Dialogue Guides on Response-to-Intervention (RTI)**

[www.ideapartnership.org](http://www.ideapartnership.org)

**Topic Guides:** Relevant information on the subject.

**Reaction Question:**

– What do you think are the causes or contributing factors within your building or district that result in some students struggling to read?

**Application Question:**

What processes need to be in place to ensure fidelity and consistency in utilizing assessments, materials, programs, and intervention strategies?

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**It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers.**

James Thurber



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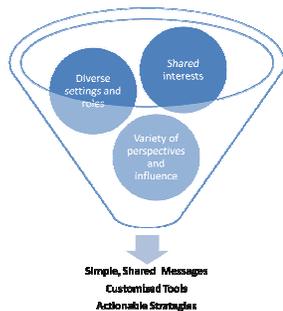
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**Building Relationships through Shared Work**



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## Partnership Collection

- Stakeholder perspectives on a topic (e.g. RTI)
- Available to people at all knowledge levels
- Making research tangible to those in the field
- A comprehensive collection of materials and resources



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## User Guides: Looking at Technical Assistance In-depth

- Provide efficient access to and use of research and materials located on a Federal Technical Assistance (TA) Center website
- Developed by cross-stakeholder group representative of
  - IDEA Partnership organizations
  - TA Center personnel
  - Range of roles at all levels of the education system
  - Geographic locations from across the United States

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## Each Guide Contains...

- Needs of the Field
- Essential Elements
- Guiding Principles
- Grounding Assumptions
- Dialogue Guides
- Fact Sheet
- Glossary
- Power Point & Presenter's Guide

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### Current availability...

- National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC) Evidence-based Practice
  - Available now at [www.ideapartnership.org](http://www.ideapartnership.org)
- National Center on Instruction
  - In process, projected to be available June
- Creating Agreement (early dispute resolution)
  - In planning stage

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### Communities of Practice



- A way of working*
- Involving those who do shared work
  - Involving those who share issues
  - Always asking “who isn’t here?”
- A way of learning*
- To create new knowledge grounded in *doing the work*
  - With those who can advocate for and make change

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### IDEA Partnership Communities of Practice

- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Creating Agreement/Appropriate Dispute Resolution
- School Behavioral Health
- Transition to Post-secondary Environments
- Universal Design for Learning

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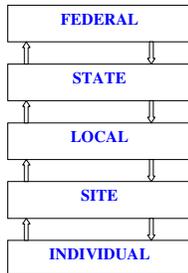
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## Learning at Multiple Levels of Scale: The Community Advantage



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## Why States Are Collaborating through Communities of Practice

- Efficiency and effectiveness of collaborative planning and monitoring
- School Improvement demands of No Child Left Behind
- NCLB requirements for 'highly qualified teachers' and 'adequate yearly progress'
- More meaningful planning and program design for teachers
- Desire for compatibility...reduced chance of incompatibility
- Desire to move beyond discussion to action
- Move from a 'desire to collaborate' to 'collaborating'

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## Communities as a Strategy: Supporting Changes in Practice

### *Shaping and spreading effective practice*

- Sharing promising strategies
- Learning how and why they work
- Helping locals learn from each other
- Creating new knowledge across organizational boundaries
- Using durable networks to support and spread practice change

### *Reframing policy, research and practice*

- Learning how to move from 'knowing' to 'doing'
- Translating learning to policy
- Encouraging investments that will move the work
- Recognizing the value of all contributions to a more complete & effective approach
- Creating new relationships among policymakers, researchers, & implementers

*NASDSE, 2002*

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### Multiplier Effect: Using the Durable Networks in National Organizations



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### Tools to Support Our Work

- Dialogue Guides
- Partnership Collection (e.g., RTI)
- User Guides (e.g., Center on Instruction)
- Shared Work website – [www.sharedwork.org](http://www.sharedwork.org)

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For more information about the  
**IDEA Partnership**

- Visit the website: [www.ideapartnership.org](http://www.ideapartnership.org)
- Call toll free line at: 1-877-IDEA INFO



The IDEA Partnership is funded by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and is part of the Technical Assistance and Dissemination network

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