

# PDS Project Press Conference

## *Background Information*

### **About PDS Partnerships**

- \* U.S. News & World Report now includes PDS programs as an indicator of quality among top ranked schools of education.
- \* 256 NCATE' accredited institutions have a commitment to professional development school partnerships
- \* PDS partnerships typically involve more than one school partner. Some partnerships have as many as 16 professional development school sites. Tens of thousands of P-12 students attend school in PDSs.
- \* PDS partnerships involve small and large teacher preparation programs; public and private higher education institutions; 4 year, 5 year, and 5<sup>th</sup> year programs; elementary, middle, and high schools.
- \* Some higher education programs place all of their candidates in PDSs, e.g., U. of South Carolina, Kansas State University, and Towson University in Maryland. For others, PDSs represent a small number of clinical sites being used.
- \* PDS partnerships are located in urban, suburban, and rural settings.
- \* Recent studies indicate PDS partnerships benefit P-12 students and candidates. \*\*

### **District Level Initiatives**

- \* Recent work in Waco, Texas, Denver, Colorado and Jacksonville, Florida—conducted as part of an NCATE project, supported by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, represents initial efforts by urban school districts and their university and teacher union partners to determine how scaling-up PDS partnerships could address their persistent problems with inadequately qualified teachers and high teacher turnover in schools where student achievement is lowest.

### **State and Regional Partnership Initiatives**

- \* 31 states have partnership initiatives funded by Title II Higher Education Partnership grants
- \* Maryland and Louisiana have mandated PDS partnerships
- \* West Virginia has passed a legislative appropriation to support PDS development statewide.

- \* Several states or regional groups have used, or are currently using, the PDS Standards in a variety of ways to inform their partnership initiatives, for example:

Maryland.....Dr. Virginia Pilato Maryland State Department of Education (410) 767-0390  
 West Virginia.....Van Dempsey, West Virginia University (304) 293-6762

## **National Organizations Supporting PDS Partnerships**

Holmes Partnership ..... Dr. Robert Yinger, President (254) 710-3111  
 National Network for Educational Renewal ..... Richard Clark (425) 747-3280  
 National Education Association, Teacher Education Initiative.....Sylvia Seidel  
 (202) 822-7906

## **Some Federal Sources of Support for PDS Partnership Initiatives Have Included:**

- \* Eisenhower Grants
- \* Goals 2000
- \* Title II Higher Education Partnership Grants

## **NCATE PDS Publications**

*Standards for Professional Development Schools*, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Washington, DC, 2001.

*Handbook for the Assessment of Professional Development Schools*, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Washington, DC, 2001.

\*\*Teitel, Lee. *How Professional Development Schools Make a Difference: A Review of Research*, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Washington, DC, 2001. (Revised edition available mid September 2004)

Levine, Marsha editor, *Designing Standards that Work for Professional Development Schools*, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Washington, DC, 1998.