

The San Jose Education Partnership

*Transforming San Jose's downtown schools into places of learning and inspiration.
2007-2010*

Expansion in San Jose

Partners in School Innovation is partnering with San Jose Unified School District and Applied Materials to fundamentally transform the lowest-performing elementary schools in San Jose. The partnership represents PartnersSI's first systemic effort working with school and district leaders to improve the quality of education across all of the low-performing schools in a major urban school district.

Objectives for the partnership

- Achieve **breakthrough student learning results** that translate to double-digit increases in the percentage of students reading at grade level on the California Standards Test
- Develop **best practices** in classroom teaching and school and district leadership
- Create a **thriving system** of public schools to serve the San Jose community

Number of schools and students served in 2008-09

- 7 schools with on-site school improvement teams
- 12 schools participating in Leadership Networks
- 6,100 students; 85% Latino; 60% English Learners; 95% economically disadvantaged

About Partners in School Innovation

Partners in School Innovation (PartnersSI) is one of the leading organizations working to fundamentally transform low-income public elementary schools in the Bay Area and create sustainable, systemic change. Since our founding in 1993, we have worked in over 40 urban schools and districts serving nearly 60,000 students, teachers and leaders. For the 2008-09 school year, we are working in 18 low-income schools in San Francisco and San Jose, impacting 12,000 students from low-income families. Over 90% of our students are students of color, 55% are English Learners and 70% are economically disadvantaged.

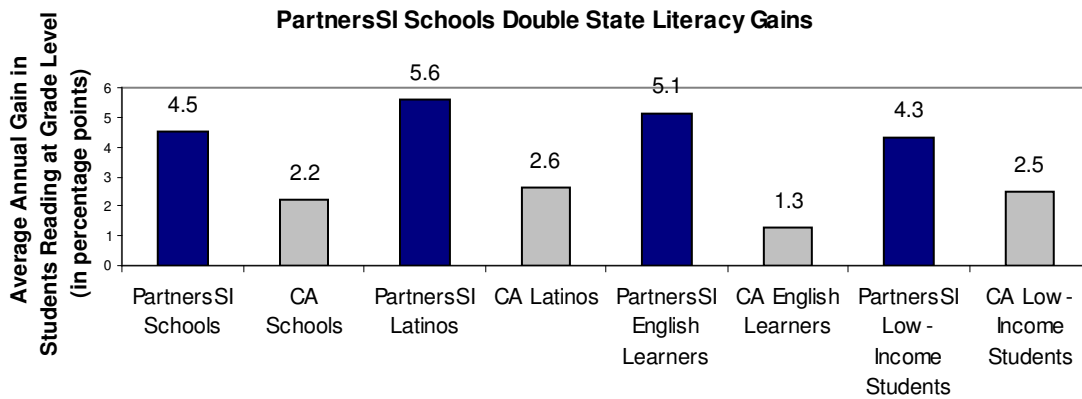
Our mission is to achieve educational excellence for all students while closing the gap in reading achievement between children living in poverty and their more affluent peers. We form multiyear partnerships with schools and districts who share our vision for closing the achievement gap and for transforming themselves from low-performing to high-achieving. As our student learning results have improved each year, schools and districts have increased their commitment to our work and expanded our partnerships. As a result, earned income from schools and districts has increased by a factor of 6 over the past five years and this year they are contributing 35% of our \$3.7M organizational budget.

Best Practices

- **Implementation Partnership.** We collaborate with schools and districts for three to five years to implement a continuous improvement approach that achieves breakthrough results.
- **Systems Change.** We work with schools and districts at multiple levels—district leaders, principals, school improvement staff, classroom teachers—to ensure that the improvements we are fostering will be supported and sustained in the long term.
- **Measurable Results.** We hold ourselves and all partners accountable for results. Our schools are significantly outperforming similar schools across the state and closing the achievement gap.

Student Learning Results

- PartnersSI schools are doubling California’s literacy gains on the California Standards Test in English Language Arts. Over three years, our schools make a 14 percentage point gain in students reading at grade level compared to a 7 percentage point gain for all students in the state. We are making four times the growth in percentage of proficient English Learners compared to other schools in the state.



- For three years in a row the vast majority of PartnersSI schools outperformed similar schools on the Academic Performance Index (API)—California’s measurement for the academic growth of a school. Over the course of our multi-year partnerships, our schools have nearly doubled the annual gains of other elementary schools (21 points vs. 12 points per year).

Investment Opportunities

The cost of the San Jose Education Partnership is \$1.5 million for the current school year. Applied Materials and San Jose Unified School District are making a combined commitment of \$1.2 million.

Partners in School Innovation needs to raise the remaining \$300,000 from corporate and community funders. We are looking for three-year commitments at each level of giving:

Grade Level Sponsor \$15,000

Enables us to work with a grade level of teachers and equip them with the tools and structures to engage in substantive teamwork and collaboration. Studies show that students with effective teachers for three years in a row will see a 50% increase in test scores.

School Sponsor \$50,000

Helps build our schools’ capacities to decisively improve and sustain the learning levels and life prospects of our students. In one year, a well-supported school can triple the number of students reading at grade level.

Leadership Sponsor \$100,000

Supports our leadership development sessions with district leaders, principals and teacher leaders, which provide them with opportunities to learn from research and share effective practices across school sites.

