

Public Education Needs Your Support!



“For every dollar you invest in effective reform efforts to enable low-income students to graduate from high school, four dollars are gained in social and economic returns!”

An invitation to:

- Improve local public schools
- Engage with local community and business leaders
- Achieve your social responsibility goals

The Crisis in Public Education

CURRENT COSTS

Economy

- In June 2009, McKinsey & Co. posited that the achievement gap is costing our country trillions of dollars in economic performance. “Gaps in U.S. educational achievement have affected GDP more severely than have all recessions since the 1970s.”²
- Education is highly correlated with employment and work-force participation: 44% of high school dropouts are not in the labor force and an additional 15% are unemployed.³
- To compensate for underprepared workers, U.S. industry spends about \$25 billion annually on remediation for dropouts.⁴

Health

- Lower educational attainment is correlated with higher rates of public assistance, mortality, and unhealthy lifestyles.⁵

Criminal Justice

- 82% of America’s prisoners are high school dropouts and 80% of prison inmates are functionally illiterate.⁶

Democracy

- High school graduates are twice as likely to vote as people with an eighth grade education or less.⁷

FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

By 2023, the U.S. student population is predicted to reach a “minority-majority.” Yet minority students are the most underserved students in the system.

On average, low-income African American and Latino students are two to three years behind white students of the same age.

“The racial achievement gap, if not addressed, will almost certainly act as a drag on the overall U.S. educational and economic performance in the years ahead.”⁸

Our nation is at risk. Our once unchallenged preeminence in commerce, industry, science, and technological innovation is being overtaken by competitors throughout the world... What was unimaginable a generation ago has begun to occur — others are matching and surpassing our educational attainments.

If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might well have viewed it as an act of war.¹



¹“A Nation at Risk: The Imperative of Education Reform,” National Commission on Excellence in Education (April 1983).

²“The Economic Cost of the US Education Gap,” *McKinsey Quarterly* (June 2009).

³US Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (October 2007).

⁴“A Right Denied: The Critical Need for Genuine School Reform,” presentation by Whitney Tilson (2010).

⁵“The Economic Impact of the Achievement Gap in America’s Schools,” report by McKinsey & Co. (April 2009).

⁶“A Right Denied: The Critical Need for Genuine School Reform,” presentation by Whitney Tilson (2010).

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⁸“The Economic Cost of the US Education Gap,” *McKinsey Quarterly* (June 2009).

How to Make a Difference

1. INVEST IN EARLY EDUCATION

Early success in school correlates with higher rates of high school graduation, college attendance and completion, and earnings.

“When starting from a similar point, students who are able to improve their performance between third and eighth grade are much more likely to graduate with honors and benefit from higher earnings over time.”⁹

2. INVEST IN EARLY LITERACY

Reading and writing are the gatekeeper skills to other subjects including science and math.

A child who is not reading at grade level by third grade is unlikely to graduate from high school.¹⁰

3. INVEST IN IMPROVING EXISTING HUMAN CAPITAL

A teacher’s effectiveness has more impact on student learning than any other factor inside a school system, including class size, school size, and after-school programs.¹¹

However, low-income minority students are not getting their fair share of high-quality teachers. The majority of education schools are insufficiently preparing teachers for today’s diverse classrooms.¹²

Thomas Kane, a Harvard economist (currently working with the Gates Foundation) states: “There is simply too much potential in improving the vast number of teachers who neither drag their students down nor pull them ahead... By figuring out what makes the great teachers great, and passing that on to the mass of teachers in the middle, we could ensure that the average classroom tomorrow sees the types of gains that the top quarter of our classrooms see today.”¹³

4. INVEST IN SYSTEM-WIDE CAPACITY-BUILDING

Scaling effective instruction requires the increased capacity and performance of systems, processes, and people at the school-wide and district levels.

Schools and districts must transform from “ineffective bureaucracies that impose requirements and monitor compliance into true learning organizations.”¹⁴ Such learning organizations generate a “new capacity for the high levels of intellectual performance demanded today.”¹⁵

About Partners in School Innovation

Founded 16 years ago by a McKinsey & Co. partner, Partners in School Innovation serves public school districts in the Bay Area with a systematic approach to accelerate achievement, especially in African American, Latino and English Learner students in low-performing schools. We prioritize elementary school literacy and our distinction from other education reform organizations is that we work side-by-side with our clients to build the capacity of existing human capital at multiple levels of the educational system (from the classroom to the district office).

Our “Secret Sauce”

- **Implementation Partnership.** We work side-by-side with districts and schools in 3-5 year partnerships—we are not simply short-term consultants, coaches or trainers.
- **Focus on Existing Human Capital.** While others seek new talent for schools, we work to build the capacity of leaders and teachers who represent the overwhelming majority in the system—those already on the front lines, facing challenges for which they are typically underprepared.
- **Data-Driven, Results-Oriented Continuous Improvement.** We build the capacity of leaders and teachers to use data to set goals, plan, implement, assess, reflect and adjust in a cycle of continuous inquiry in order to build improved systems, practices and habits of mind that will accelerate student achievement.
- **Sustainable Systems Change.** We bring cutting edge tools and build core knowledge and skills at multiple levels—in district leaders, principals, mid-level leaders and teachers—to ensure best practices are aligned, embedded and sustained across the system.

Our Core Outcomes

- African American, Latino and English Learner children become thriving, high-performing students.
- Teachers and principals become re-inspired and effective professionals.
- Schools and districts increase their capacity and adopt our high-impact methodologies as their own.
- Our staff join a growing pipeline of innovative educational leaders.

Our Plans for Broader Impact

Our ultimate goal is to establish a national model for school transformation that will lead public schools throughout the U.S. to adopt improvement methodologies for closing the achievement gap.

⁹ “The Economic Impact of the Achievement Gap in America’s Schools,” report by McKinsey & Co. (April 2009).

¹⁰ C. Snow, et al., “Preventing Reading Difficulties in Young Children,” Committee on the Prevention of Reading Difficulties in Young Children, National Research Council (1998).

¹¹ S. Rivkin, et al., “Teachers, Schools and Academic Achievement,” *Econometrica*, Vol. 73, No. 2 (March 2005).

¹² D. Goldhaber and D. Brewer, “Evaluating the Effect of Teacher Degree Level on Educational Performance,” *Developments in School Finance* (1997), and A. Levine, “Educating School Teachers,” Washington, DC: The Education Schools Project (2006).

¹³ E. Green, “Building a Better Teacher,” *New York Times Magazine* (March 7, 2010).

¹⁴ T. Glennan, Jr. and L. Resnick, “School Districts as Learning Organizations: A Strategy for Scaling Education Reform,” The Institute for Learning (2004).

¹⁵ Ibid.

We Need Your Support Today!

Investment Benefits

- Network at VIP forums and events
- Participate on Partners in School Innovation's Board of Directors or Leadership Council
- Marketing opportunities through our events, website, annual report, and e-Newsletter

Investment Opportunities

Your support helps Partners in School Innovation to serve public school districts with a systemic approach to accelerate student achievement and to establish a national model for school transformation.

Sponsor our Work in Schools

SPONSOR A SCHOOL

Invest in the transformation of one high-need Bay Area elementary school serving roughly 500 students. Your investment will be leveraged by a similar level of contribution from the school itself, making you a true partner to the school and its improvement. In one year, a well-supported school can double or triple the number of students reading at grade level. As a School Sponsor, you will have opportunities to visit the school and learn about systemic urban education reform through the eyes of the school and PartnersSI staff.

Investment Opportunity: \$50,000 for 1 year

SPONSOR A SCHOOL INNOVATION PARTNER

By sponsoring a School Innovation Partner (SIP), you can provide one high-need Bay Area elementary school with a talented educational leader and coach, whose proven effectiveness as a former teacher or leader helps build the school's capacity to accelerate student learning. Our SIPs have taught for an average of six years in urban schools and 50% have earned an advanced degree in education. They come from prestigious institutions including Stanford, UCLA, UC Berkeley, Northwestern, Princeton, and Dartmouth. Your investment also goes toward the SIP's career development and building the pipeline for innovative leadership in public education. As a SIP Sponsor, you will gain insight into your SIP's work through regular communication from him/her and the opportunity to see the work in action at a school site.

Investment Opportunity: \$25,000 for 1 year / \$15,000 for 6 months

Sponsor an Event

SPONSOR A BUSINESS LEADER EVENT

An exclusive event featuring McKinsey & Co., for the Bay Area's top corporate executives, social entrepreneurs and philanthropists focused on what the business community can and must do to support high quality education.

Investment Opportunity: \$7,500 (sponsorship benefits available)

SPONSOR "WHAT MATTERS MOST: CONVERSATIONS ON EDUCATION REFORM," A BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES

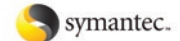
Hosted by Partners in School Innovation and New Leaders for New Schools, this informational series showcases the latest news and thinking by prominent thought leaders on the issues that matter most in education reform.

Investment Opportunity: \$5,000 (sponsorship benefits available)

Join our Leadership Council

A gift of \$5,000 or more qualifies you for our Leadership Council, a group designed to support the initiatives of both our Board of Directors and executive management team. Contribute, learn and network with other professionals and senior leadership in your community. The Leadership Council will formally convene twice a year.

We thank our supporters:



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