



ROLLING RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION

Community Partnerships

Education, the future of our democracy and society, is everyone's business. The definition of Community Partnerships is a group of people who live in the same area in an arrangement where they agree to cooperate to advance their mutual interests. In this case our mutual interest is our children's education and everyone has a level of responsibility for it. The Division and our schools engaging with the community in partnership will create the impetus to work together for the betterment of student learning and our communities.

Family and school partnerships are of paramount importance. Research tells us that the single greatest influence in a child's education is their parents. Ensuring a positive supportive partnership between home and school is a great responsibility for school personnel and parents. If a student's success rests in the balance parents and school must work together and connect regularly.

Our partners in this enterprise are not limited to parents of children in our schools. Our partnerships cover all sectors of our communities and society from businesses to elected government officials, and from seniors to community organizations. Our job is to help our partners see their validity and importance in the educational process.

Schools are closely connected to the cultures that exist in the community through their students; therefore it is important that partnerships exist between school and community so we understand one another and can work together. As such it is important that our students participate in their community and that the community participates in our schools. Our students need to understand what it means to volunteer, as volunteerism helps create a community that is a better place to live.

As a Division we must be intentional about providing opportunity for these partnerships to develop on a variety of levels. An example is the Nursery School/Before and After School Program that was built in one of our schools in partnership with the Nursery School organization. As we come to understand each other better, we continue to build a deeper level of trust. This trust is important because it supports the work of our school personnel who are responsible for unleashing the full potential of each child in our division.