

Towson Professional Development Schools

Mission Statement:

The Towson PDS Network promotes fundamental change not by prescription but by challenging involvement and problem solving for all stakeholders, by dignifying the knowledge that teachers possess, and by offering leadership and professional growth opportunities to university faculty and PDS teachers.

Emerging evidence reveals that the ambitious PDS Network agenda is realized when high-quality teacher education has the reality base of learning in the schools and testing ideas in classrooms. This realistic approach helps educators confront the challenges of seamless professional development, school reform and improved student achievement.

Within this collaborative context, and aligned with standards and guidelines set by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the state of Maryland, Towson University has identified six integrated goals for its PDS Network:

- create a collaborative culture and governance structure to guide the work of the network
- enhance pre-service experience by integrating theory and practice in a teacher-education program that is clinically based
- provide needs-based, continuous professional development for in-service teachers and administrators
- provide a forum for refining and inquiring into effective teaching and learning practices
- maximize student achievement
- disseminate promising practices and structures to the education community

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List of Towson PDS Schools

- **Middle School**
 1. Westminster Middle School
- **High Schools**
 1. Century High School
 2. Winters Mill High School