



Professional Development Schools strongly support two goals articulated in the *Bridge To Excellence* (BTE) Master Plan:

Goal 1:

Each child regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, disability or socioeconomic status, will meet the rigorous performance standards that have been established.

All diploma-bound students will perform on or above grade level in all measured content areas.

Goal 2:

Each school will provide a safe and nurturing school environment that values our diversity and commonality.

For additional information contact:

Rockburn Elementary School

Phone: 410-313-5030

Fax: 410-313-5036

Website: <http://res.hcps.org>

Veterans Elementary School

Phone: 410-313-1700

Fax: 410-313-1709

Website: <http://ves.hcps.org>

Howard County Public School System

Professional Development Schools Program

Phone: 410-313-6878

Fax: 410-313-7336

Website: www.hcps.org

Towson University

Center for Professional Practices

Phone: 410-704-2569

Fax: 410-704-2733

Website: www.towson.edu/coe/pdsn



The Howard County Public School System

Towson University



Professional Development Schools Program

Rockburn Elementary School
Veterans Elementary School

Professional

The Mission of the Howard County Public School System is to ensure excellence in teaching and learning so that each student will participate responsibly in a diverse and changing world.

- The HCPSS Professional Development Schools Program supports the HCPSS mission and goals and is in alignment with *The Redesign of Teacher Education*.
- A Professional Development School (PDS) is a collaboratively planned and implemented partnership for the academic and clinical preparation of teacher candidates and the continuous professional development of both school system and higher education faculty.
- Professional Development Schools are selected public schools with which the Institute of Higher Education (IHE) forms partnerships, creating a community of learners.
- That community of learners is dedicated to enhancing the personal and professional growth of all members.
- Interns, staff, and IHE faculty collaborate, sharing the latest teacher research and instructional strategies to ensure exemplary teaching for student learning.

Development

- PDS partners engage a broad base of stakeholders to representatively govern and support their endeavors.
- Stakeholders include students, teachers, administrators, support staff, central office staff, parents, IHE faculty and staff, interns, community members, and business partners.
- The work of the partnership is guided by the Maryland Standards for Professional Development Schools.
- These standards indicate expected performance in the areas of Learning Community, Collaboration, Accountability, Organization, Roles and Resources, and Diversity and Equity.
- Through the lens of these standards, PDS stakeholders work to support school improvement initiatives in alignment with the HCPSS mission and goals.



Schools

Towson University PDS Program

Early Childhood Education Undergraduate Program

The program is built on the premise that special capabilities and understandings are necessary to teach in the preschool and primary grades. Therefore, the goal of the Department of Early Childhood Education is to prepare teachers as facilitators of active learning in developmentally appropriate environments. The program requires a total of 128 credit hours, including 70 credit hours in the arts and sciences, and 58 credit hours in professional courses. Internship experiences extend over the three final semesters.

In Internships I and II, an intern is placed in a classroom one day per week over 13 weeks. The first internship experience begins in the pre-primary classroom. Internship II is completed in a primary placement. For Internship III, interns return to placements in the pre-primary and primary classroom for an entire semester. Throughout the internship experience, an intern has the opportunity to broaden instructional knowledge, to apply what has been learned, and understand the roles and responsibilities of a teacher and a professional educator engaged in the career of teaching and education. During this experience interns demonstrate their ability to be facilitators of active learning for diverse and inclusive learners in a technologically advanced environment.