“School university partnerships in general and partner schools specifically are the essential vehicles through which we may bring about simultaneous renewal.”

John Goodlad
As an active participant in the National Network for Educational Renewal, the College of Education and Human Services at Wright State University has developed strong partnership agreements with nine K-12 school districts and the Dayton Regional STEM School. In addition, numerous community organizations are partnering with CEHS through the Professional Development Community. The goals of these relationships are to develop excellent teacher candidates and rehabilitation practitioners, to improve K-12 student achievement, to enhance achievement of consumer independence and to encourage “simultaneous renewal” among the participants.

NNER founder, John Goodlad, describes the importance of these partnerships: “School university partnerships in general and partner schools specifically are the essential vehicles through which we may bring about simultaneous renewal.” His reference to “simultaneous renewal” emphasizes Goodlad’s belief that collaboration within the partnership structure will result in a synthesis of new and innovative ideas; ultimately the key to improving the educational system. The Wright State University Network for Educational Renewal Conference encourages this collaboration among the participating school districts, community organizations and the university on an annual basis.

Marcy Keifer Kennedy holds a B.S. and M.Ed. from The Patton College of Education at Ohio University. She currently serves as the Director of the Center for PDS Partnerships in The Patton College of Education. Kennedy oversees the operations of eleven active PDS partnerships, each with a unique structure and organization. The central purpose of the Center has been to foster and support outreach activities that connect the College with regional schools and to partner together to positively impact P-12 student learning. In 2014 Marcy was elected President-elect of the National Association for Professional Development Schools (NAPDS) and is currently serving as the NAPDS President.