

## EDEXPLORESRQ COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

4/2/13

The Sarasota School District (District) values hands on, community based experiences as effective means to motivate, educate, and prepare our students for careers and life.

This commitment is longstanding especially in the arts and led to the creation of the Community/Schools Partnership for the Arts (C/SPA) in 1996 with the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County. In 2011, Sarasota was named a Kennedy Center Any Given Child city by the Kennedy Center because of its commitment to arts education both in the classroom and with the community.

The District entered a partnership facilitated by The Patterson Foundation in January 2010. The goal was to improve connections between the classroom and community assets across the curriculum that better support Common Core and Next Generation Standards. The partnership included the Sarasota School District, the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County, the Science and Environment Council of Sarasota County, the Education Foundation of Sarasota County and The Patterson Foundation.

The partnership led to the development and implementation of EdExploreSRQ in August 2011. EdExploreSRQ is a publicly accessible website designed to give teachers, principals and parents information and access to “explorations” that connect classroom learning to community arts, science and history experiences. Explorations include out of school, in school, and two-way interactive experiences. As of March 2013, 34 organizations and 25 teaching artists posted 160 explorations that have been vetted by District curriculum leaders and linked to benchmarks.

The partnership found that lower income students and schools had less access to explorations because of costs and fewer funding sources. In response, EdExploration grants were awarded targeting these students and schools. The grants were developed by the Education Foundation of Sarasota County with matching support by The Patterson Foundation. Over the first two grant years (2011 and 2012), some 14,000 students benefited.

The School District of Sarasota County, the Arts and Cultural Alliance, the Science and Environment Council of Sarasota County, the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, and The Patterson Foundation commit to support and enhance EdExploreSRQ as an effective way to maximize community assets to motivate, educate, and prepare our students for careers and life.

The Sarasota School District Director of Curriculum will be the convener of the partnership which will meet at least quarterly to consider EdExploreSRQ updates,

training and professional development, on going evaluation, marketing and communication, fundraising/grant making.

To that end, the parties agree to the following:

A. School District:

- (1) Host and maintain the EdExploreSRQ website
- (2) Assign the staff and team responsibility for EdExploreSRQ
- (3) Include EdExploreSRQ in strategic planning
- (4) Provide links to instructional focus calendar and the Sarasota Instructional Improvement System.
- (5) The Director of Curriculum will lead the district EdExploreSRQ team.

B. The Education Foundation of Sarasota County

- (1) Market and fundraise for Education Foundation Exploration Grants
- (2) Provide Education Foundation Exploration Grants and encourage teachers to apply through the Education Foundation's Classroom Grant program.
- (3) Participate in the district/community partnership team.

C. Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County:

- (1) Assign staff and team responsibility for EdExploreSRQ
- (2) Coordinate Alliance member participation in EdExploreSRQ including implementation, marketing and evaluation
- (3) Include EdExploreSRQ in Alliance program planning
- (4) Coordinate the participation of teaching artists on EdExploreSRQ
- (5) Participate in district/community partnership team at least quarterly to consider EdExploreSRQ updates, training and professional development, on going evaluation, marketing and communication, fundraising/grant

D. Science and Environment Council of Southwest Florida

- (1) Assign staff responsibility for EdExploreSRQ oversight
- (2) Encourage and coordinate SEC member participation in EdExploreSRQ including implementation, marketing and evaluation
- (3) Include EdExploreSRQ in SEC program planning
- (4) Participate in district/community partnership team at least quarterly to advise on EdExploreSRQ updates, training and professional development, on going evaluation, marketing and communication, fundraising/grant

E. Community Foundation of Sarasota County:

- (1) Establish EdExplore SRQ Endowment Partnership
- (2) Over the next five school years (2013/2014-2017/2018) provide a minimum of \$100,000 annually for posted explorations targeted to low income schools and students.
- (3) Over the next 5 years (2013 – 2018), raise funds to secure endowment

matching from The Patterson Foundation with goal of \$3 M. Up to 5% of the endowment will be available each school year for posted explorations beginning 2019/2020.

(4) Develop and manage a grant making process targeted to participation by low income students and schools in EdExploreSRQ explorations.

(5) Participate in district/community partnership team at least quarterly to consider EdExploreSRQ updates, on going evaluation, marketing and communication, fundraising/grant making

F. The Patterson Foundation:

(1) Provide matching funds of up to \$3M through the Community Foundation of Sarasota County based upon their annual commitment and fundraising for EdExploreSRQ Endowment over the next 5 years (2013-2018).

Signatures:

Sarasota School District

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Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County

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Science and Environment Council of Southwest Florida

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The Education Foundation of Sarasota County

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The Community Foundation of Sarasota County

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The Patterson Foundation

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