A Guide to Building Education Partnerships
Navigating Diverse Cultural Contexts to Turn Challenge into Promise
MATTHEW T. HORA AND SUSAN B. MILLAR
Foreword by JUDITH A. RAMALEY

“This book presents the key challenges in building successful partnerships, with practical examples that show how the real work is done. It is a must read for leaders interested in building the next generation of schools.” —RICHARD HALVERSON, Associate Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“The authors have produced a very pragmatic and practical book that should be valuable to those in K-12 and higher education considering entering into new partnerships for school improvement.” —ANDY PORTER, Dean, Graduate School of Education, and George and Diane Weiss Professor of Education, University of Pennsylvania

“Most importantly, this work recognizes that every partnership will be unique. Rather than a ‘how-to’ cookbook approach, they provide practitioners a sound set of principles to help design, implement, evaluate, and refine partnerships across fundamentally different organizational cultures. This book is an essential tool for creating successful partnerships across multiple educational organizations.” —ART RAINWATER, Clinical Professor, Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Retired Superintendent, Madison Metropolitan School District

“I am pleased to endorse this book after using it in my course on entrepreneurship. I will definitely use the book in future courses as it’s an excellent teaching tool, as well as an invaluable resource for educational leaders.” —MERLE PRICE, Lecturer, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, Cal State Northridge, and formerly Chief Academic Officer, Los Angeles Unified School District

Education partnerships are central to—and often a requirement of—most education reform initiatives promoted by state and local governments, by foundations, and by business funders. Many fail for lack of understanding the dynamics of their complex relationships.

This book provides insights and guidance to enable prospective and existing education partners to address the issues that are critical to success. By surfacing participants’ often-differing motivations, and the practices and assumptions they bring to the table, the book provides the foundation for developing a constructive relationship. In scope, the book extends beyond school-university partnerships to include schools’ collaboration with state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and the business sector.

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