

# Coordinating Multi-Agency Student Services: Lessons Learned and Real Examples

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# Partnerships

What do they look like, and how can they be meaningful?

# What Partnerships Are Not:

- Coming to the table with OUR plan and expecting ‘buy-in’ with no participation.
- Expecting trust because ‘we are the experts.’
- Lack of clear direction and leadership.
- Lack of communication (95% of leadership is communication).
- Poor planning and implementation plans.

# NDDPI Builds Partnerships by:

- **Building Relationships**: We value meaningful stakeholder engagement at every level. Our belief is that building relationships enables long-term, sustainable progress.
- **Cultivating Opportunity**: We value the free and open exchange of ideas. Our role is to cultivate opportunities between partners to benefit our young people.
- **Inspiring Growth**: We value inspiration and support over regulation. Our aim is to inspire and support our schools and communities as we challenge conventional standards.

# What Partnerships Are:

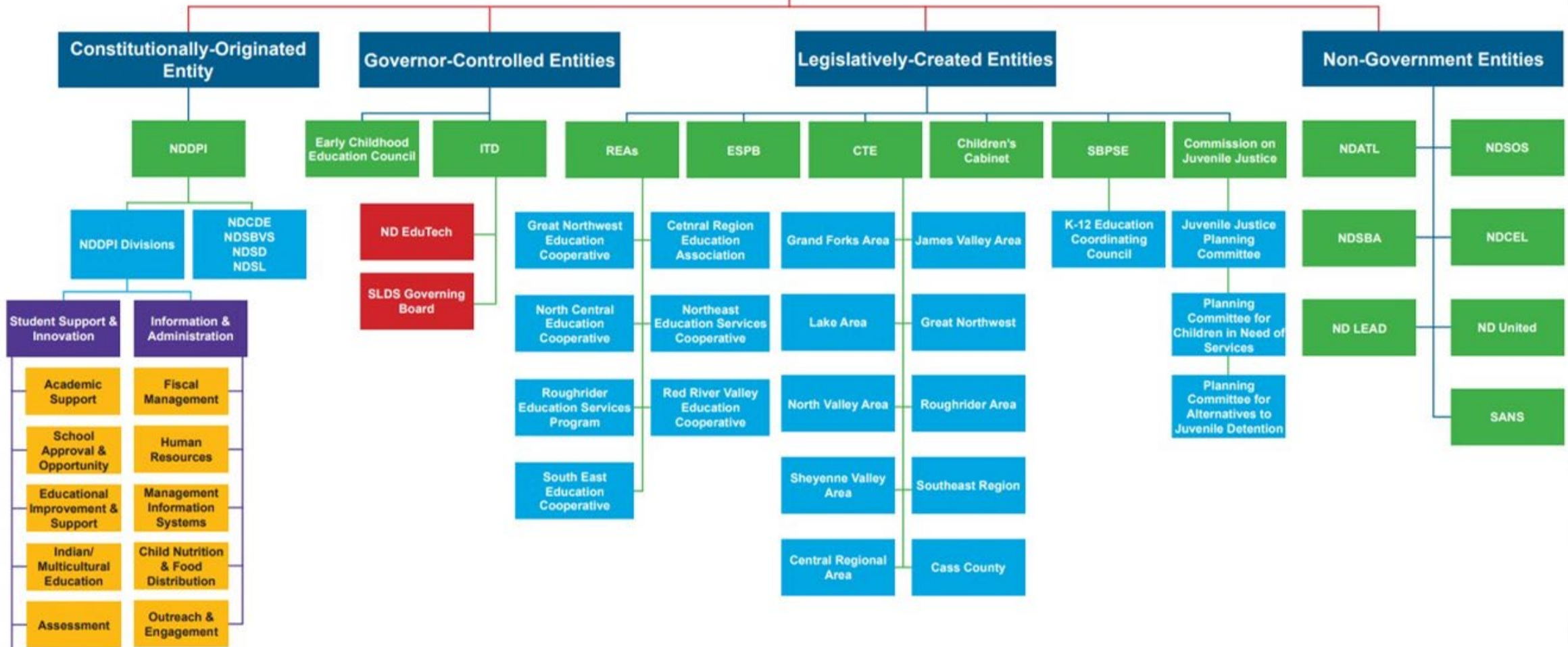
- Stakeholder engagement.
- Transparency and communication.
- Look for and welcome feedback.
- Clear objectives and alignment – something simple as creating a joint agenda for meetings.
- Consistency – meet often, bring issues to the table.
- Provide an environment of trust.
- Be available – make time.

# NDDPI Examples:

- **Monthly/quarterly meetings with partners:**
  - Education Standards and Practices Board
  - Center for Distance Education
  - DHS – Early Childhood
  - Tribal Consultation
  - Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation Committee
  - Superintendent’s Student, Parent, Administrator, & Principal Cabinets
  - Children’s Cabinet
  - Institutional Child Protection Services (ICPS) Team

# Division of ND Educational Authority

*as of July 1, 2023*



**CDE:** Center for Distance Education  
**CTE:** Career and Technical Education  
**ESPB:** Education Standards and Practices Board  
**ITD:** Information Technology Department  
**NDATL:** North Dakota Association of Technology Leaders  
**NDCEL:** North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders  
**NDDPI:** North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
**ND LEAD:** North Dakota Leadership and Educational Administration Development

**NDSBA:** North Dakota School Boards Association  
**NDSBVS:** North Dakota School for the Blind/Vision Services  
**NDSD:** North Dakota School for the Deaf  
**NDSL:** North Dakota State Library  
**NDSOS:** North Dakota Small Organized Schools  
**REA:** Regional Education Association  
**SANS:** SysAdmin Audit Network Security  
**SBPSE:** State Board of Public School Education



# ICPS

- **Team consists of team members from:**
  - Attorney general's office,
  - Law enforcement,
  - Department of Public Instruction,
  - A parent with lived experience,
  - One or more representatives of the lay community, and,
  - A designee of the chief executive official of any institution named in a report of institutional abuse or neglect.



# How Does ICPS Investigate?

- The process is triggered with a submittal of state form Report of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect (SFN 960).
- Central Intake sends 960 to ICPS and law enforcement.
- Depending on the severity of the accusation, law enforcement and ICPS will work in conjunction as to not corrupt potential evidence.
  - Coordination of forensic interviews,
  - Investigation of policies and procedures,
  - Investigation of individuals,
  - NDDPI is an essential resource to the team regarding school operations, FERPA, and overall participation of the investigation.

# Outcomes of Investigation

- After the investigation, if there is a preponderance of evidence, the case will go to full assessment and be reviewed by the team.
- The case is reviewed by a child protection investigator.
- Questions and a conversation will be conducted.
- The team will then vote the school/institution ‘indicated’ or ‘not indicated,’ i.e. guilty or not guilty.
- Indicated schools must complete a ‘Corrective Action Plan’ (CAP).
- Schools will work with NDDPI to complete their CAP.

# Final Takeaways

- NDDPI leverages partnerships in all the work we do.
- These partnerships are essential to student safety, outcomes, and their ability to be Choice Ready.
- Stakeholder engagement, trust and communication is key.
- Making time must be a priority.
- We must have a mindset that we are in this together.

# Questions?

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