

**College of Education**  
**Department of Educational Leadership & Technology**  
**Department of Teaching and Learning**

**2013-2014**

**Paul Candies Family Professional Learning Center in St. Charles Parish**

**The Vision:** Our goal through the Paul Candies Family Professional Learning Center concept is to create a more interdependent model of education, one in which literacy and mastery are entwined with leadership. In this approach, a wide range of professionals share the responsibility for addressing the social ills and external pressures of poverty that children and families bring with them to school. We must prepare our teacher education candidates to be superb in reading, mathematics, and informational literacy, to teach toward mastery, and to be effective leaders from the classroom to the school board office, interacting skillfully and collegially with other child welfare professionals. The College of Education can prepare candidates and current educators to succeed in this integrated system through apprenticeship experiences, graduate education and significant mentorship.

**Funding:** Southeastern received a commitment of \$50,000 per year for 3 years to fund the establishment and ongoing curriculum and staffing for the Candies Family Professional Learning Center. This transformational gift of \$150,000 generously provides financial support for services to St. Charles Parish in collaboration with university faculty.

- Collaborative Professional Learning Endeavors Related to Common Core, Differentiation, Formative Assessment
- Professional Learning Opportunities (e.g., Avatar)
- Faculty Travel, Scholarly Work & Research related to St. Charles Initiatives
- Program Support for Field Experiences, Service-Learning, Student Teaching and Graduate Program Offerings

**Faculty Opportunities:**

- Interact with St. Charles Parish educators, students and community on a variety of endeavors
- “Thank you for choosing St. Charles Parish” - Superintendent
- “Learning together to raise education as a profession” – Assistant Superintendent
- Participate in ongoing Professional Learning Communities with teachers & administrators
- Supervise teacher candidates in field experiences & student teaching
- Collaborative opportunities to conduct research

**Benefits**

- In-state field travel reimbursement
- Funding for research and other scholarly work conference travel
- Program support for field experiences, service-learning, student teaching and graduate programs

## **Paul Candies Family Professional Learning Center in St. Charles Parish**

### *Ways to Become Involved*

- **Professional Learning Opportunities – “PLC”**
  - **Focus – Best Practice – CCSS - PARCC**
  - **Study Groups in Content Areas K-8**
  - **Study Groups in High School**
  - **Half-days**
  - **“Learn together”**
  
- **Satellite Center**
  - **STAR Program**
  - **High School Recruitment Efforts to the Teaching Profession**
  - **Engineering Design - Robotics**
  
- **Supporting District Priorities – Mathematics Teaching and Learning**
  - **CCSS**
  - **Best Practices**
  
- **Field Experiences**
  - **J.B. Martin Middle School – grades 6-8**
  - **R.J. Vial Elementary School – grades 3-5**
  - **“Our Classrooms are Laboratories”**
  - **Teachers are open to inquiry and collaboration**
  
- **Teacher Ed – Two-Semester Senior Level Experience (EDUC415/484/490, ECE 422 & ST)**
  - **“St. Charles Parish Experience” – culture, classroom management, impact on student learning, etc.**
  - **Teacher Candidate Application and Selection Process with the Schools**
  - **Possible Paul Candies Scholarship Option**
  - **Future Direction – The Bigger Picture - Yearlong Residency Option (MAT, Alt Cert., Student Teaching)**
  
- **Supervision of Student Teaching**
  
- **Other Opportunities Anticipated to Develop Overtime**

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- **Indicate your interest in existing opportunities**
- **Attend a Planning Meeting for the Specific Initiative**
  - **Professional Learning for Teacher Candidates (FX/ST) - Monday, 8-19-13 1:00**
  - **STAR Program (high school student recruitment) - TBD**
  - **STEM Initiatives - TBD**