

From:



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Press Release

National Urban Alliance with San Francisco Unified School District in Systemic Professional Development Partnership

May 29, 2009- Syosset, NY. – **The National Urban Alliance for Effective Education (NUA)** and the **San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD)**, authorized by the San Francisco Board of Education, agreed to launch a systemic professional development partnership. Beginning in 2009-10 the partnership will provide training, coaching and modeling of effective teaching practices to more than 325 teachers at 15 district high schools. SFUSD reached out to the NUA after receiving federal funding to initiate and sustain proven professional development.

In support of the Board action, SFUSD stated, "NUA is the best in the nation at improving urban teacher quality...we asked NUA to come to SF because we wanted to enlist a national group which has a good track record with addressing systemic K-12 reform."

SFUSD officials continued, "In economically, racially and linguistically diverse districts, NUA partnerships have established an exemplary record for significantly raising the academic performance of those students, reducing the academic performance gap between student potential and student achievement, and transforming expectations teachers have of students for high intellectual performance."

The NUA will partner with SFUSD to address three key goals of the district: Access and Equity (making social justice a reality), Student Achievement (engage high achieving and joyful learners), and Accountability (keep district promises to students and families).

NUA's Pedagogy of Confidence and Professional Development Model are based on extensive research that suggests the single most important factor in realizing high student achievement is the teacher. SFUSD's Strategic Plan stresses that teachers should have knowledge of current research on human development; knowledge of content; and knowledge of and an ability to effectively relate to and utilize the unique gifts and talents of each student.

The NUA and SFUSD collectively recognize the importance of excellence in teacher practices, especially those related to the content and methods of instruction, student engagement, the expectations of students for high intellectual performance, and the relationships that exist between students and teachers, students and their peers and the school and community. The NUA is committed to the right of each child to rigorous

academic curricula and to well-prepared and engaging teachers whose practices are consistent with 21st Century realities and expectations.

**For more information and to schedule an interview please contact
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The NUA is dedicated to substantiate in the public schools of urban America an irrefutable belief in the capacity of all children to reach the highest levels of learning and thinking demanded by our ever-changing global community.