

Legislative Commission on Professional and Labor-Management Standards in Providence Public Schools

**Rhode Island Senate** 

Saul Rubinstein Rutgers University

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#### Research Overview

- Research Evidence on Collaborative Partnerships
  - □ Benefits to Student Performance
  - □ Benefits to Teachers
    - Turnover, Attraction, Retention
- Collaborative Culture, Structures, Systems
- NJ Public School Collaborative

# Union-Management Collaborative Partnerships and Educational Quality

- Public School Reform/Improvement based on:
  - □ District-level, School-level, Faculty/Staff Union-Management Partnerships
  - □ Empowering Educator Collaboration in Schools
  - □ Shared Decision-Making, Goal Alignment, Discretion, Educator Voice
  - Innovation from Educators within Districts & Schools
  - With Focus on Teaching and Learning

#### Why Collaborative Partnerships?

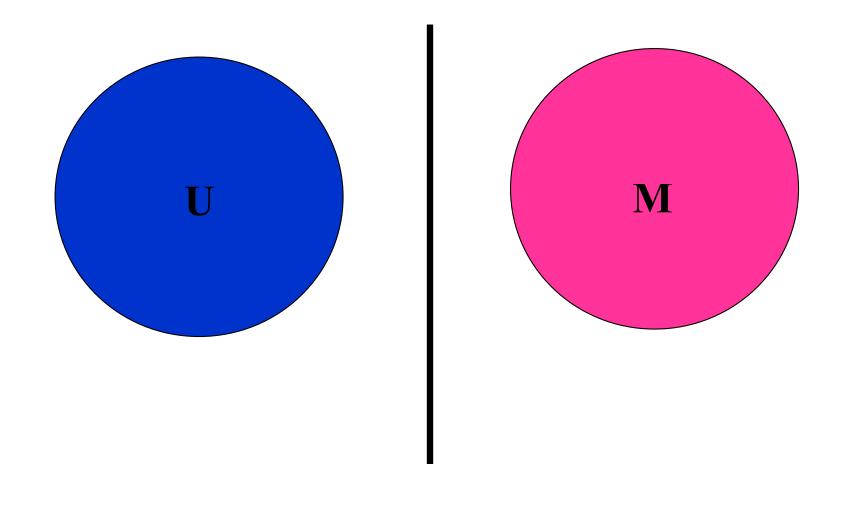
- Quality of Decisions
  - □ People Closest to the Problem

Quantity of Solutions – More Resources
 Devoted to Improvement

Quality of Implementation – More Support

Quality through Educator Voice

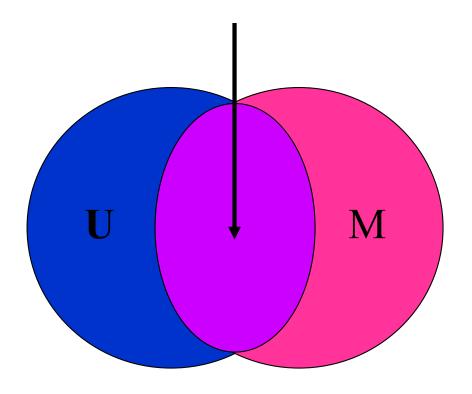
# Institution for Conflicting Interests: Collective Bargaining



#### Institution for common interests?

#### **Collaborative Partnerships**

(Teaching Quality and Student Achievement)



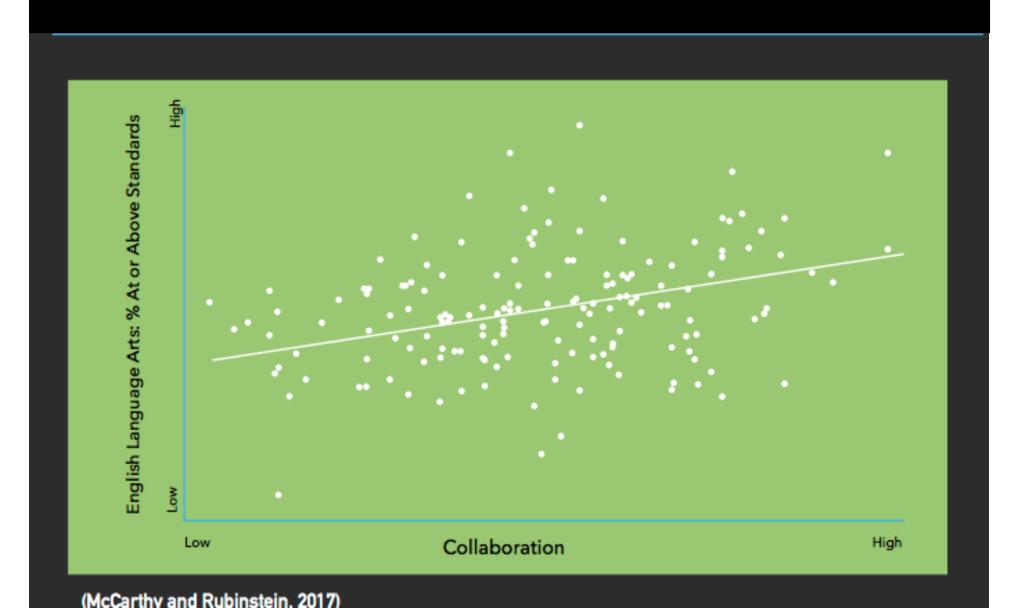
# Union-Management Partnerships as Antecedent to School Collaboration

Formal Union-Management Partnerships

**Greater School Collaboration** 

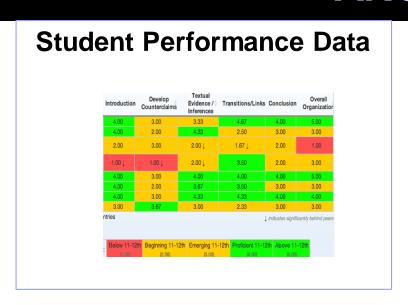
Educational Impacts: Student Outcomes, Teaching, Culture

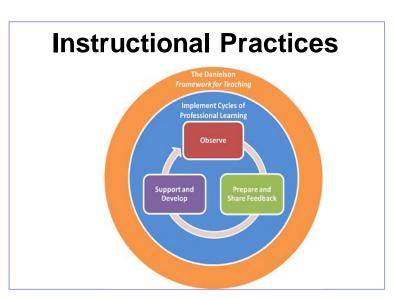
## Collaboration and Student Performance

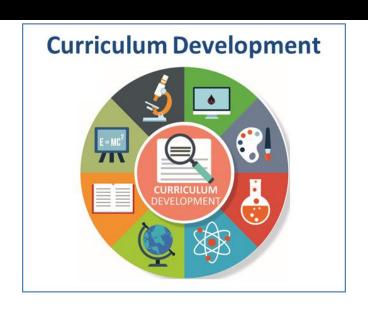




# WHAT ARE EDUCATORS COLLABORATING AROUND?

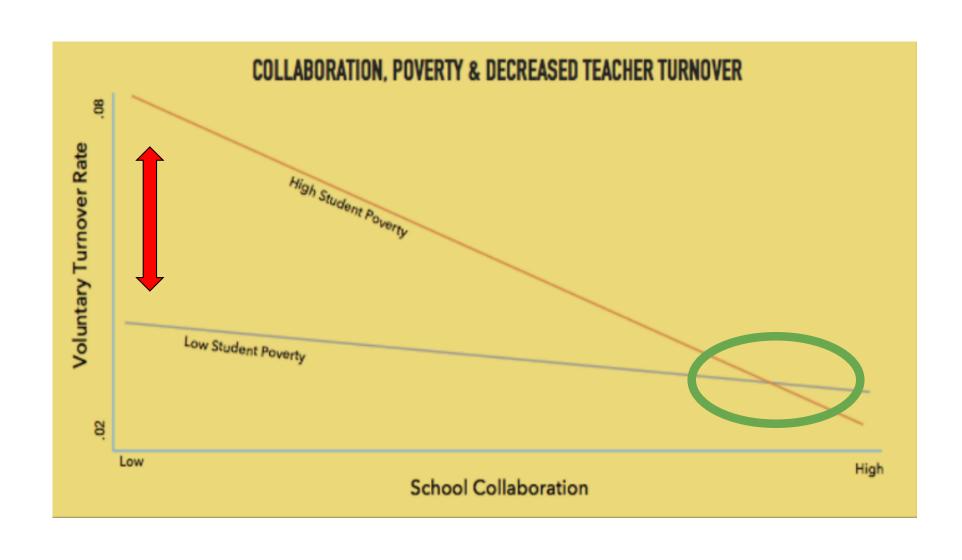




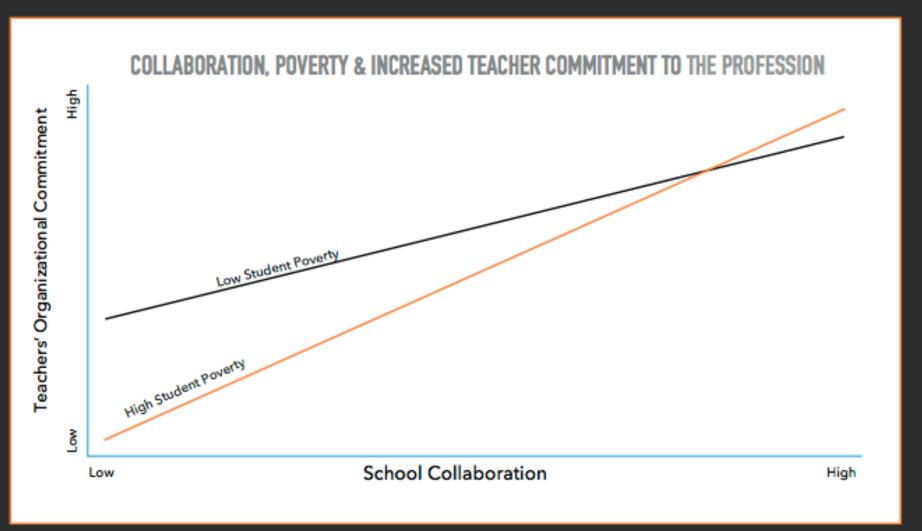




## RUTGERS Collaboration eliminates the negative



# COLLABORATION MITIGATES THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF POVERTY ON TEACHER COMMITMENT TO THE PROFESSION

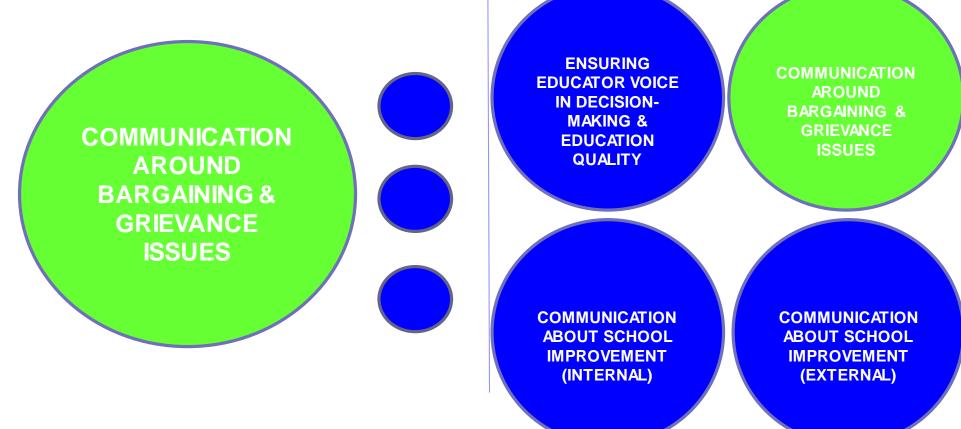


(McCarthy and Rubinstein, 2017)

#### **Dimensions of Collaborative Culture:**

- Teachers' Efficacy
- Goal Alignment
- Shared Decision Making
- Discretion
- Principal as Resource
- Union Rep as Resource
- Psychological Safety
- Mentoring
- Problem Solving

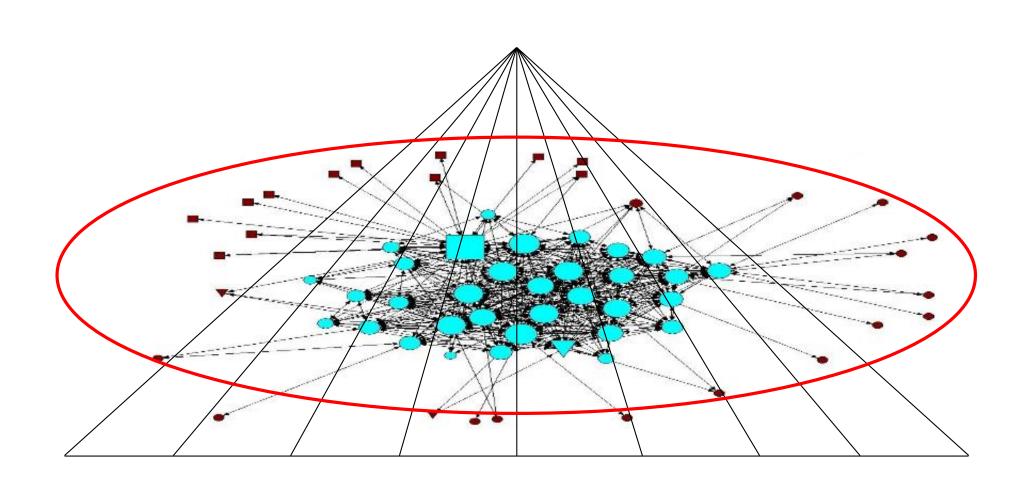
# ASSOCIATION REPS: CHANGING ROLE PERCEPTION



WEAK PARTNERSHIP = PRIMARILY PERCEIVE ROLE AS FOCUSED ON TRADITIONAL UNION ACTIVITIES

STRONG PARTNERSHIP = MORE BALANCED ROLE

## RUTGERS Partnership as Organizational Network



## Types of Improvement Initiatives

- **New Curriculum**
- ▼ Technology
- Sharing Instructional Practice
- Math & Language
  Performance
- Professional Development

- & Exam Coordination
- Mentoring

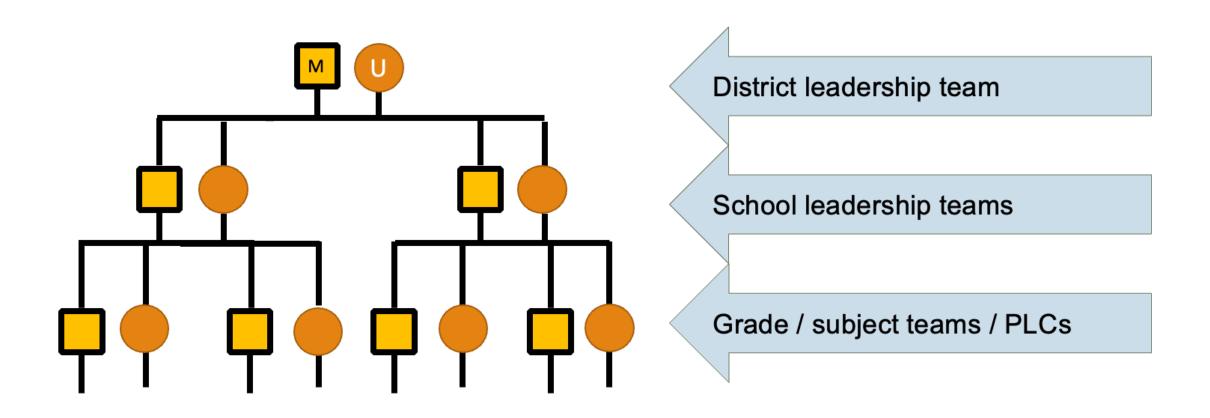
- Textbook Selection
- New Teacher Induction
- Peer Assistance
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Covid-19
- English as Second Language
- Student Advisory Periods
- New Courses
- Scheduling
- Homework Policy



#### To Date:

- 25 Districts
- 158 Schools
- 475+ Administrators
- 9,241 Teachers
- 99,552 Students
- Adding 6-8 Districts 2023-24
- 10% of NJ Districts

#### **Structures**

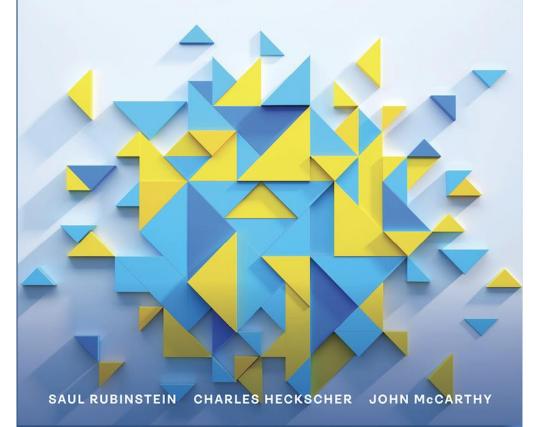


#### The Web of Support:

- Inter-District Learning Network
- Peer Facilitators
  - Capacity Building Workshops
- Role-alike Networks
  - (Boards, Superintendents, Union Leaders, Principals)

# DEMOCRACY AND REFORM IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THE CASE FOR COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS



#### Policy Recommendations:

- Promote/encourage Multi-stakeholder (State, School Boards, Superintendents, Principals & Supervisors, Union, Parents) Partnerships at each level:
  - State
  - District
  - School
- Capacity Building for Collaboration
- Study Tour of Best Practice (peer to peer starter yeast)
- Inter-district Networks
- Peer Facilitation Team