Presidents' Community Partner Award



Beech Street School

Southern New Hampshire University

It is clear upon first step into the Beech Street School (Beech) that community and partnerships is not only important to the administration, but at the heart of their work. It is a welcoming environment with a number of resources, after school programs and support systems for their families. This past year, a third grade class at Beech partnered with a SNHU service learning science class. The students at both institutions exchanged pen pal letters and met regularly. SNHU students were able to infuse some much needed science into their curriculum while the students at Beech taught many of the SNHU students about diversity and different cultures. As one of the SNHU students said in a journaling activity, "I had no idea so many kids spoke languages other than English in Manchester." Also another service learning program at SNHU is the Math Buddies program in which education majors are placed at schools across Manchester, including Beech to help students struggling in math improve their skills. At the same time, SNHU students gain valuable teaching/mentoring experience. The SNHU/Beech Street School partnership has been an example of how higher education and local schools can work together to utilize resources. SNHU hopes to continue and grow this much appreciated partnership with a wonderful school.