

## School Research Partnership Projects and Policy Briefs – 2011

The Duke University School Research Partnership (SRP) Office facilitates collaboration between Duke researchers and area school districts to create and maintain mutually beneficial relationships. The SRP Office strives to serve as a portal between Duke and the school districts and to assist researchers in getting their studies placed in schools. A core component of SRP is the Duke Research Consultation Program in which undergraduates function as research assistants/consultants for Durham Public School staff members, e.g., principals, school board members, and administrative staff, as well as for leaders of other agencies and organizations. These students work under the supervision of a Duke faculty member or Research Scientist to address questions of specific interest to their community partner as part of an independent study class they are taking.

Below is a list of the students, advisors, and community partners for the SRP projects conducted during 2011. To review the policy brief that students prepared for their partner, click on the project title below.

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### SPRING 2011

#### [Improving the Dropout Rate at the Durham Performance Learning Center: National Research and Students' Views](#)

*Student* – Michael Asher

*Advisor* – Leslie Babinski, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Bud Lavery, Executive Director, Communities in Schools of Durham

#### [Recommendations for an After-School English Language Learner Literacy Intervention in Durham Public Schools](#)

*Student* – Emily Bray

*Advisor* – Liz Snyder, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Bud Lavery, Executive Director, Communities in Schools of Durham

#### [Risk Assessment Procedures in North Carolina's Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#)

*Student* – Kara Dimon

*Advisor* – Anne-Marie Iselin, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Mike Rieder, Deputy Secretary, Court Services, NC Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

#### [Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness Strategies for the Durham Public Schools](#)

*Student* – Catalina Hidalgo

*Advisor* – Jenni Owen, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Eric Becoats, Superintendent, Durham Public Schools

### [Best Practices for Involving Students in Decision Making with the Durham Public Schools](#)

*Student* – Stephanie Kershaw

*Advisor* – David Rabiner, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Natalie Beyer, member, Durham Public Schools Board of Education

### [The Effect of No Child Left Behind on Arts Education Instruction](#)

*Student* – Brianna Nofil

*Advisor* – Ben Goodman, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Nancy Cox, member, Durham Public Schools Board of Education

### [Evaluating Parents' Satisfaction with the Duke Hospital School](#)

*Student* – Jean Rheem

*Advisor* – Nicole Lawrence, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Richard Lemke, Principal, Duke Hospital School

### [Expanding the Carter Community School to Include a College-Prep High School](#)

*Student* – Jeff Scholl

*Advisor* – Joel Rosch, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Gail Taylor, Principal, Carter Community School

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## **FALL 2011**

### [What are the Best Practices for Reducing Truancy?](#)

*Student* – Curtis Beach

*Advisor* – Anne-Marie Iselin, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Heidi Carter, Vice Chair, Durham Public Schools Board of Education

### [Transition Centers for Transition Grade Levels Where Students Deemed At-Risk of Failure are Assigned to Centers or Classes During Their Transition Year](#)

*Student* – Emily Eshman

*Advisor* – Ben Goodman, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Julie Spencer, Professional Growth & Development, Durham Public Schools

## **Different Ways That Schools are Structured and Different Approaches to Meet Educational Needs of Children who are Hospitalized for Extended Periods**

*Student* – Rachel Garcia

*Advisor* – Nicole Lawrence, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Richard Lemke, Principal, Duke Hospital School

## **Factors and Recommendations for Disproportionate Representation of African American Students in DPS Special Education**

*Student* – Lauren Hendricks

*Advisor* – Jenni Owen, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Wayde Johnson, Lead School Psychologist, Durham Public Schools

## **Enhancing School Structures to Improve Outcomes of Age-Based and Performance-Based Grouping**

*Student* – Gulnaar Kaur

*Advisor* – Susan Wynn, Duke Program in Education

*Community Partner* – Natalie Beyer, member, Durham Public Schools Board of Education

## **Smaller-Themed Learning Environments**

*Student* – Ryan Lipes

*Advisor* – David Malone, Duke Program in Education

*Community Partner* – Maria Johnson, Instructional Support Coordinator, Durham Public Schools

## **Best Practices for Parent Involvement**

*Student* – Ivy Prince

*Advisor* – Ann Skinner, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Sheila Miglarese, Office of Public Affairs, Durham Public Schools

## **The Effect of Teacher Assistants on Student Achievement**

*Student* – Rohan Taneja

*Advisor* – Leslie Babinski, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Debbie Pitman, Area Superintendent, Durham Public Schools

## **What are the Best Practices for Positively Impacting Students' Motivation and Persistence, Particularly at the Middle and High School Level?**

*Student* – Allie Yee

*Advisor* – Joel Rosch, Center for Child and Family Policy

*Community Partner* – Bud Lavery, Executive Director, Communities in Schools of Durham