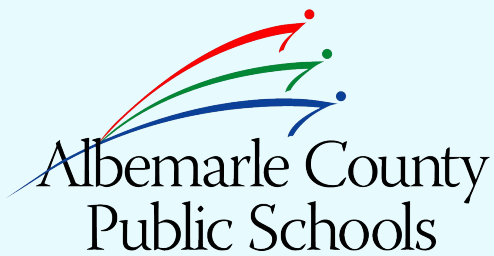


UVA - ACPS Research-Practice Partnership

ACPS School Board Meeting
May 28, 2026



Center for Community Partnerships

Agenda

1

Center for Community Partnerships

4

Small Group Discussion

2

What are Research-Practice Partnerships (RPPs)?

5

Closing Thoughts

3

Current State of the UVA-ACPS Partnership / Other Models in Virginia



Strategic Plan: Learning for All

VISION

Our learners are engaged in authentic, challenging, and relevant learning experiences, becoming lifelong contributors and leaders in our dynamic and diverse society.

MISSION

Working together as a team, we will end the predictive value of race, class, gender, and special capacities for our children's success through high-quality teaching and learning for all. We seek to build relationships with families and communities to ensure that every student succeeds.

We will know every student.

VALUES

Equity
Excellence
Family and Community
Wellness

GOALS

Thriving Students



Affirming and Empowering
Communities



Equitable, Transformative
Resources



UVA Center for Community Partnerships



Formed in 2019 to build a better bridge between the university and the community.

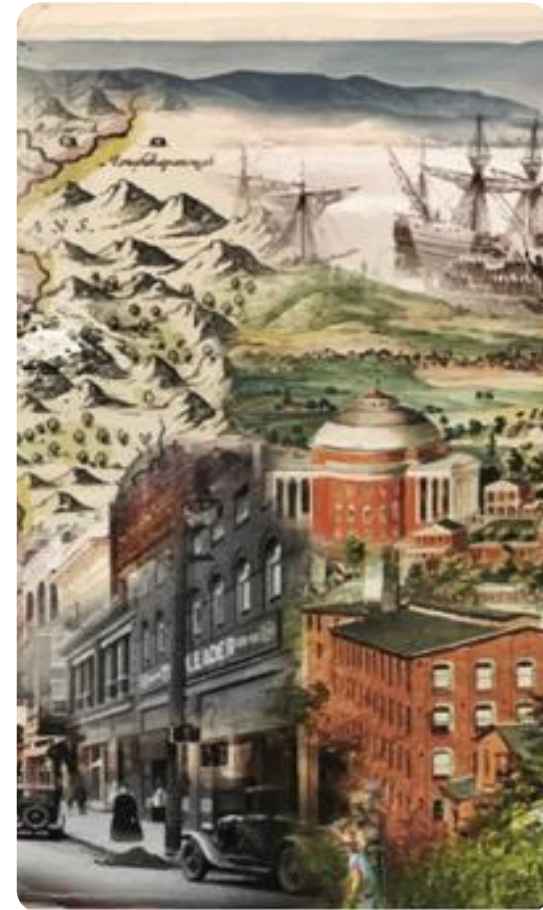
The work is defined by three pillars:

- ▷ Community-Engaged Scholarship
- ▷ Partnerships
- ▷ College and Career Access

Research-Practice Partnerships

As defined by the *National Network of Education Research-Practice Partnerships (NNERPP)*:

RPPs are **long-term** mutually beneficial formalized collaborations between education researchers and practitioners that are employed as **a strategy** for producing more **relevant research**, improving the **use of research evidence** in decision making, and engaging both **researchers and practitioners** to tackle problems of practice.



ACPS-UVA Research-Practice Partnership (2022-2026)

Fall 2022: IRB approved and Data Sharing Agreement signed with ACPS and CCS

Spring 2024: First ACPS-SHP Community Advisory Board established to ensure research alignment

Fall 2025: Established Full Community Advisory Board linking ACPS, CCS, PVCC, and SHP

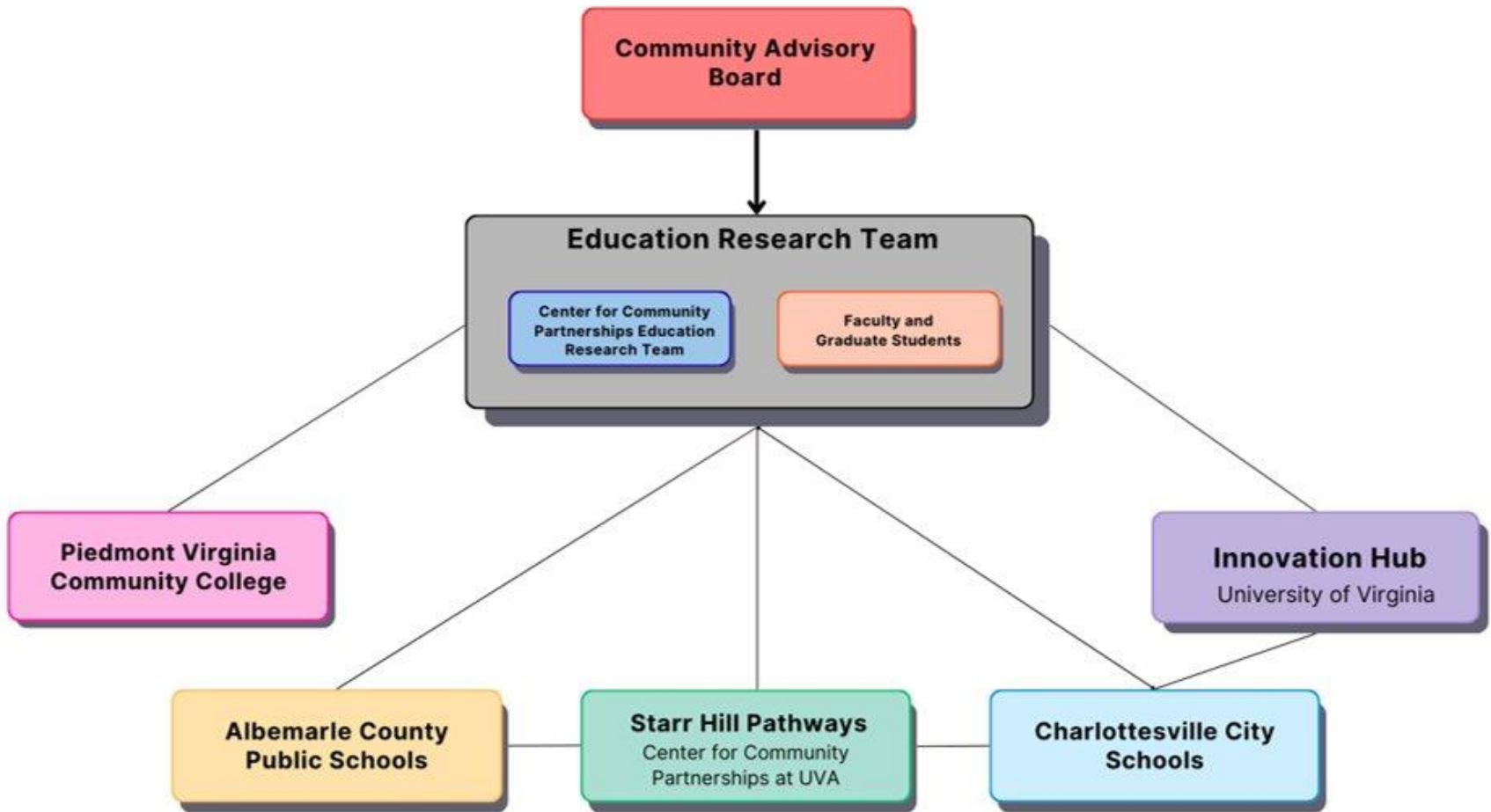
Summer 2022: First Starr Hill Pathways summer program with ACPS and CCS students

Spring 2023: WT Grant Foundation awarded UVA/ACPS an Institutional Challenge Grant establishing long-term research agenda

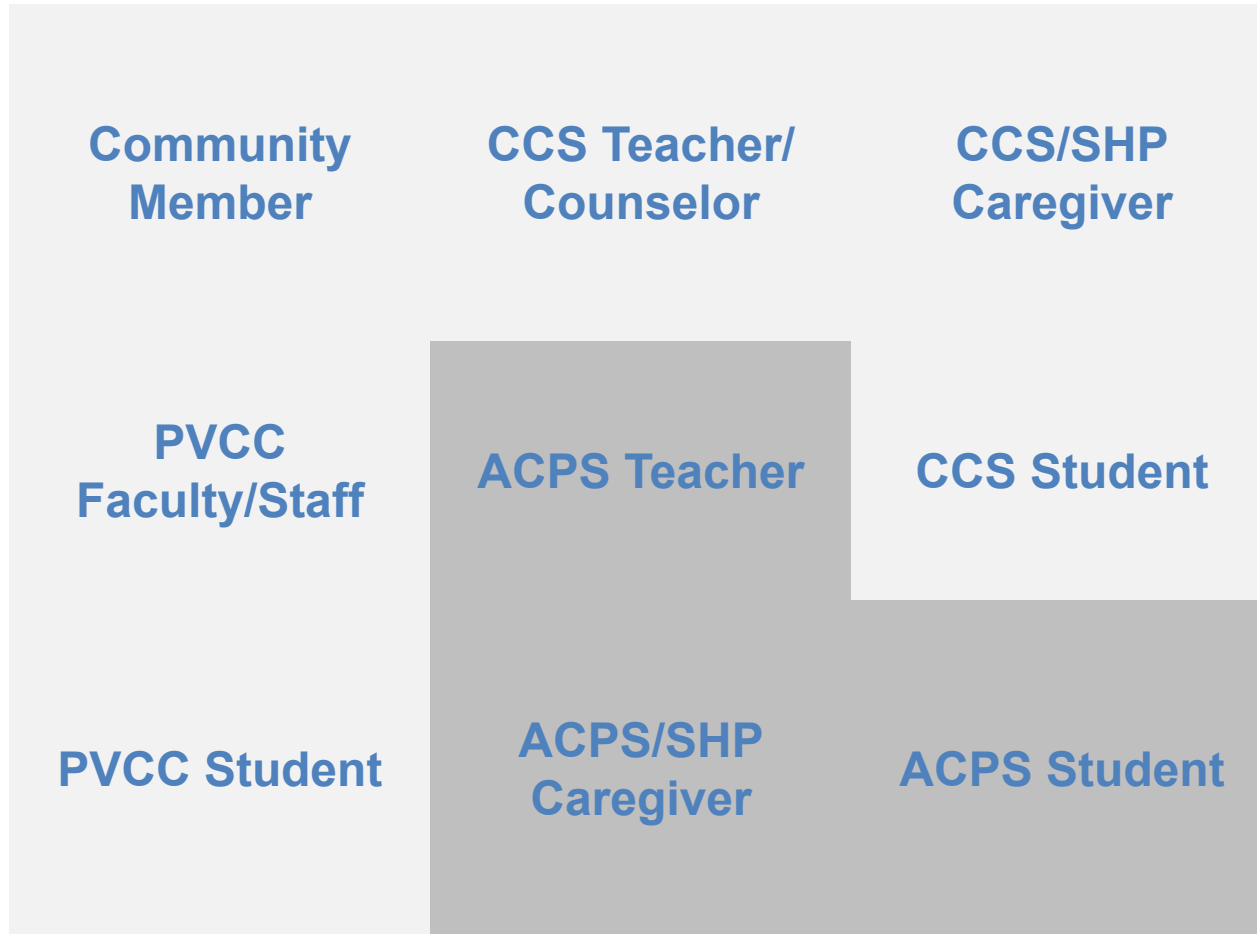
Summer 2025: Began building a new research partnership to bring in PVCC

Spring 2026: Applied for Continuation Funding from WTG Foundation and a new Spencer Foundation Grant

Current RPP Structure



Community Advisory Board Structure



Past & Ongoing Research Projects

Project	Involved Personnel	Research Activities	Dissemination	District and/or Policy Response
Career Self-Efficacy and Outcome Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACPS Researchers • CCP Researchers • UVA Faculty and Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District-wide survey data collection (6th-8th graders) • Interviews with students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual ACPS reports (deidentified and identified) • Academic Articles and Conference Presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased focus on student's career aspirations and career readiness • Increased student, teacher, and counselor buy-in for CSE surveys • Career Nights at ACPS introduced
Culturally Responsive Teaching Professional Learning Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACPS Researchers • CCP Researchers • UVA Faculty and Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher Interviews and Surveys • Student Achievement Data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACPS Internal Program Evaluation • Academic Articles and Conference Presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District amended the CRT credential to respond to findings • Eliminated the CRT micro-credential, which was found to be ineffective • Required CRT PD for all teachers and administrators

New Research Projects

Project	Involved Personnel	Research Activities	Dissemination	District and/or Policy Response
Algebra I Acceleration in Middle School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACPS Researchers • CCP Researchers • UVA Faculty and Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Evaluation of course-taking practices • Interviews with teachers and students • Student achievement data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Brief • White papers and presentation at VLDS • Research plan approved by community Advisory Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State law passed (HB2686) • New standardized test cut points for enrollment in 8th grade Algebra
Supporting Dual Enrollment in ACPS High Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACPS Researchers • CCP Researchers • PVCC Researchers and Leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course-taking patterns • Student achievement data • Interviews with students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research plan approved by community Advisory Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot initiative planned for 2026-2027 year for seniors planning to attend local community college

Other Models in Virginia

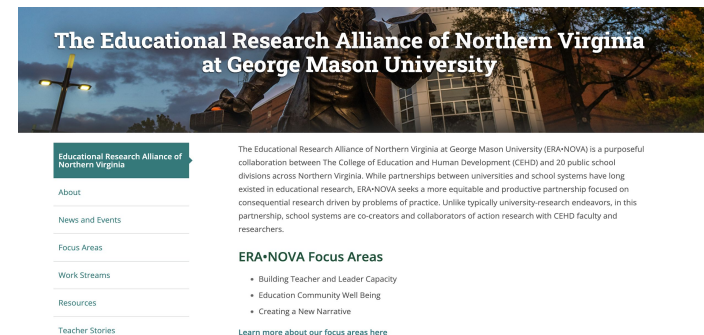
VCU Metropolitan Education Research Consortium (MERC)

- Established in 1991: Henrico, Hanover, Goochland, Richmond, and Chesterfield
- Research projects, white papers, podcasts, reports, annual summit, etc.
- Regular meetings and annual strategic alignment



Educational Research Alliance (ERA.NOVA) at George Mason University

- Newer partnership with 20 public school divisions across northern Virginia. Established with Prince William County.
- Focus areas: Teacher and Leadership Capacity, Community Well-Being, Co-Created Projects





Small Group Discussion

Proposal for Future CCP/ACPS Research Collaboration

Board Makes Policy
Decisions and Asks
New Questions Based
on Findings

4

1

Board Identifies 3-5
Research Priority Areas
Annually



Research Team Meets
with Board Quarterly to
Deliver Findings and
Recommendations

3

2

Cross-Institutional Team
Builds Research Design
for Community Review

Closing Thoughts for Consideration:

- How can we more strongly align research/evaluation priorities so that findings are more responsive to the needs of the district?
- What structures can we put in place to amplify the voices of students, families, teachers, counselors, administrators, and all other stakeholders in the research projects?
- What opportunities exist for stronger cross-institutional collaboration in our local region?