Chapter 1

An Introduction to the PDS Experience

The PDS program at Illinois State University is rooted in two philosophical bases. The first is the College of Education’s Framework, “Realizing the Democratic Ideal,” which provides a set of ethical and intellectual commitments that guide successful teachers in the dimensions of “knowing” content and pedagogy, as well as “caring” for students.

The other is the mission of the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER) and its Agenda for Education in a Democracy.