



Dear FSCP Friends,

Believe it or not, I am closing in on a decade at CDE! And this year, more than any year prior, I am fielding many questions and concerns about accountability committees. School and district accountability committees ([SACs and DACs](#)) are a legislated advisory body that elevates family voice in important matters like the Unified Improvement Plan, budgets, and family engagement policy.

While in years past I may have received two or three questions per year about SACs and DACs, I'm now receiving multiple concerns every week. When implemented appropriately, SACs and DACs have the ability to build community and support policies for the benefit of every student. Unfortunately, when not implemented correctly, they erode trust, which is sadly what I encounter every week.

How are you currently working with your district's accountability committees? Have you found a balance between letter of the law and spirit of the law?

In Partnership,

Darcy

UPDATES

Several FSCP events are on the horizon. Please share the dates far and wide and mark them on your calendars. Also consult the [FSCP Year-at-a-Glance](#).

Ongoing Self-Paced Courses. Available for free [here](#).

Ongoing Promising Partnership Practices. No need to wait until the end-of-year scramble to submit a Promising Partnership Practice for the 2023 edition. [Submit here](#).

March 9, 9-10, FSCP Office Hours. Everyone welcome especially new FSCP contacts. Join [here](#).

March 17, 10-noon, In Person Coffee Chat for district staff. DPS hosting at the Southeast Community Hub (7125 Cherry Creek N. Dr. Denver, CO 80224).

April 21, 10-11:30, Coffee Chat for district staff. More information to come. Join the zoom meeting [here](#).

May 1-2, FSCP Annual Retreat for district staff. More information forthcoming.

June 2, Promising Partnership Practices Submission Due Date. See link above.

For a more comprehensive list of announcements from CDE, you may [subscribe](#) to The Scoop.

FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERING STANDARDS

1

Welcoming All Families into the School Community

2

Communicating Effectively

3

Supporting Student Success

4

Speaking Up for Every Child

5

Sharing Power

6

Collaborating with the Community

PROMISING PRACTICES

Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) acquired a new website platform which allowed the Special Education department to access a newsletter template. This newsletter transformed their email communication to parents into a full newsletter that was fully accessible.

BVSD offers a variety of events including Common Sense Parenting classes, Parent Network groups, and workshops and webinars for parents throughout the year. The district provides all parents access to these programs, in order to allow schools to focus on school-based events and provide equitable opportunities to all families at the district level. The newsletter is a way to share these resources more effectively.

To ensure all families received the newsletter, the team pulled all parent emails associated with a student with an Individual Education Program (IEP) and merged them into a mail list. This is done each fall to include new parents. Producing the newsletter can be time-intensive and requires being aware of new and existing opportunities and resources in the community. The team found that they produced a better newsletter by offering it every other month. Advice to others would include keeping detailed notes about possible content and having regular sections to include in each issue.

Click [here](#) to read more Promising Partnership Practices.

SAC/DAC ON TRACK

Accountability Committees have a long list of legislated responsibilities. And they are very meaty topics—budget, accountability, planning, policy, family engagement, etc. It is sometimes difficult to remember that the people serving on accountability committees are volunteers!

At this month's SAC/DAC Networking Series, part of the discussion centered around volunteer management. Some things to consider:

- ⇒ Understand Motivation: Understanding motivation is what leads members to feel satisfied with the time they give.
- ⇒ Develop and Leverage Skills: Some volunteers want to

RESEARCH BRIEF

There are many two-way communication strategies that allow for sharing between home and school, but few are as well researched and structured as the Teachers and Parents as Partners (TAPP) model.

The TAPP process is facilitated by a trained TAPP consultant that meets with the teacher and parent(s) three to four times over eight weeks. The teacher and parent discuss goals for the student, with a focus on the students' strengths, needs, and behaviors in need of change. With the support of the consultant, they select interventions to implement at home and school and monitor whether the student is making progress. Between meetings, the teacher and parent(s) communicate using two-way communication methods to ensure consistency between home and school.

[Two decades of research](#) has found that TAPP improves student outcomes in the areas of academic performance, attitudes towards school, homework habits, and reduced behavior problems, to name a few. TAPP has also been found to be beneficial when mediating tense parent-teacher relationships.

To learn more about TAPP or to participate in an online study, [visit their website](#).

bring their expertise to your organization (marketing background). Others want to enhance certain skills or maintain ones they already possess. Others come to learn something new. Have members team up to tackle big projects or learn from each other.

- ⇒ Illustrate Impact: Provide concrete examples of the difference their contribution made.
- ⇒ Recognize Service: Recognize and appreciate the time and effort members bring.

The next SAC/DAC Networking Series is on April 27 from 5:30-6:30. Go [here](#) to review materials and recordings from past SAC/DAC Networking sessions.

THANK YOU FOR SPENDING TIME WITH US THIS MONTH.
WATCH FOR THE NEXT EDITION IN APRIL.

For questions, contact Darcy Hutchins, Director of Family, School, Community Partnerships,
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