

CONSULTATION

HIGH LEVERAGE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES



COLORADO
Department of Education

The Office of Family-School Partnerships sits within the Improvement Planning Unit at Colorado Department of Education and was created in response to SB 13-193. This office provides online and in-person supports for LEAs to build capacity for family-school-community partnering.

In-Person Consultation

The following is a list of general supports that tend to be most successful when they are customized specifically for the LEA's needs.

- **Promising Practices Training:** Drawing from over 50 years of research, this customizable half-day training includes examples of promising partnership practices based on the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. Participants will complete a Starting Points Inventory, share practices and challenges, and begin action planning to improve family-school partnerships for student learning.
- **Accountability Committee Training:** This 2-hour training is intended for School and District Accountability Committees (SACs and DACs). Participants will learn how to recruit, prepare, and sustain productive and effective SAC and DAC members.
- **District Leadership Training:** Schools that are nested within LEAs that support family-school-community partnering (FSCP) are more likely to have stronger FSCP than schools without LEA support (Epstein, Galindo, Sheldon, 2011). This half-day session provides LEA staff with the tools to support school-level partnership initiatives.

Online Resources

The following is a list of online tools to support family-school-community partnering.

- **Promising Partnering Practices:** Over 100 practices, submitted by schools and LEAs across Colorado. These practices can be viewed by edition or by its corresponding National Standard for Family-School Partnership at www.cde.state.co.us/uip/promising.
- **Research Briefs:** The research briefs are intended to provide information for LEA and school leaders about the importance of partnerships. The briefs align with the Dual Capacity-Building Framework (U.S. Department of Education, 2014). The briefs are available at www.cde.state.co.us/uip/researchbrief_opportunityconditions and www.cde.state.co.us/uip/researchbrief_studentoutcomes.
- **FSCP Key Monthly Newsletter:** This monthly newsletter is sent to LEA-appointed family partnership contacts at the beginning of each month. Editions are also posted on the CDE website at www.cde.state.co.us/uip/octoberfscpkey.
- **Family Partnership Survey:** This survey is intended for LEA and school use. Data is not collected or analyzed by CDE. The survey aligns with the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships and helps schools and LEAs identify areas of strength and needed improvement of family outreach. One survey is for school staff and the other for parents in order to complete a gap analysis. Available at www.cde.state.co.us/uip/school_family_community_partnership_survey.
- **TIPS Interactive Homework:** Teachers Involve Parents in Schoolwork (TIPS) is a resource to encourage teachers and families work together for student learning. TIPS Interactive Homework is an example of a high impact Family-School-Community Partnering strategy. CDE, in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University, developed K-3 Literacy TIPS assignments, available at www.cde.state.co.us/uip/tips_interactive_homework.

Who Can I Contact for More Information?

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