Family, School, and Community Partnering Resources

The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) is to review best practices and recommend to policy makers and educators strategies to increase parent involvement in public education, thereby helping to improve the quality of public education and raise the level of students' academic achievement throughout the state (C.R.S 22-7-301, 2012). A component of that responsibility is to suggest possible resources that a school or district might access as they strategically plan for their site's needs. Many excellent materials and programs are available to support family and community partnerships in schools. The following represent only a selected sample, focusing specifically on research and best practice application as related to Colorado legislation. This document is a working draft.

Colorado

- **State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE)**
  
  http://www.cde.state.co.us/SACPIE/index.asp
  
  This website contains information on the following: legislation, community organizations, Colorado Department of Education resources, member contributions, research, and SACPIE.

- **Response to Intervention (RtI)/Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)**
  
  http://www.cde.state.co.us/RtI/Family.htm
  
  A tiered instructional framework is required in every Colorado school. One of the essential components of RtI/MTSS is Family, School, and Community Partnering. The Colorado Department of Education offers opportunities at this site including: toolkit, face-to-face trainings, online courses, email network, and archived webinars. These resources are intended to be applicable and adaptable to various sites, situations, and educational levels.

National Websites:

- **Family Involvement Network of Educators (FINE)/Harvard Family Research Project**
  
  http://www.finernetwork.org
  
  This project researches and compiles expert information on early education and care, out-of-school learning, and family and community partnership in K-12 education. Examples of resources are: newsletters, reports, school stories, webinars, planning tools, trainings, and databases.

- **National Network of Partnership Schools**
  
  http://www.csos.jhu.edu/p2000/
  
  This site reports on research, programs, and policy analyses related to the national network and other initiatives. TIPS (Teachers Involving Parents in Schoolwork) is research-based interactive homework and is one of numerous programs described. There are school-based examples.

- **National Parent Teacher Association**
  
  http://www.pta.org
  
  The National Standards for Family-School Partnerships are described in detail, with accompanying instructional materials, surveys, and related resources.

- **Working Together: School, Family, and Community Partnerships**
  
  http://www.cesdp.nmhu.edu/toolkit/index.asp
  
  A comprehensive, research-based, practical online resource provides information in English and Spanish for educators and family members. It includes videos, forms, surveys, and articles.

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Videos:

Flamboyan Foundation Videos
http://www.youtube.com/user/FlamboyanFoundation?feature=watch
This series of 38 videos describes various aspects of partnering, from preschool to the secondary level, through short educator vignettes. Some are in Spanish and topics include Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTT), calling home, sharing data, positive messaging, and technology.

O’Hearn School
http://fsp.unl.edu/future_module1_video1.html
This video demonstrates a family center, family-to-family outreach, and inclusion of all staff members through one school’s story of developing a community-wide partnering culture.

Articles:
Each of these articles describes a specific aspect of the partnering process.

- **Family Engagement as a Systemic, Sustained, Integrated Strategy to Promote Student Achievement**

- **Family-School Partnerships and RtI**

- **Parents As Turnaround Specialists: Ricardo LeBlanc-Esparza Tells Us How it Is Done**
  http://www.learningfirst.org/visionaries/RicardoEsparza

- **Stepping into Students’ Worlds**
  http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/feb10/vol67/num05/Stepping-into-Students'-Worlds.aspx

- **Teaching Secrets: Phoning Home**
  http://www.edweek.org/tm/articles/2010/06/23/tln_bernstein.html?tkn=OPZFM38W08f9gWi6Vn7iqym6XBv8AzHrHMFK&cmp=clp-edweek

Books:

  This book provides practical, field-tested ideas on how school staff and families work together.

  A roadmap for systemic partnering is provided, with sample forms, actions, and evaluations.

  From classroom to community, this volume provides a framework and practical tools.