

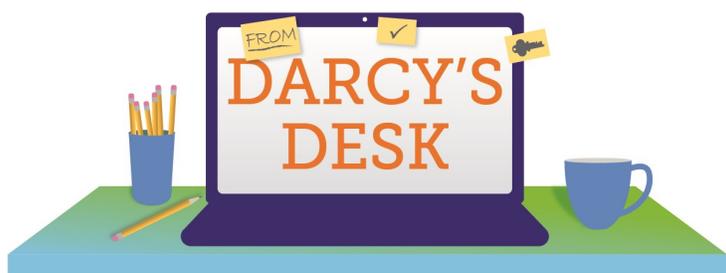
FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERING

THE FSCP

KEY



COLORADO  
Department of Education



Dear FSCP Friends,

April is shaping up to be a very busy and exciting month. First of all, my colleague, Lisa Steffen, has started a resource bank for school and district accountability committees (SAC/DAC). This is a work in progress but already has many resources to help strengthen and sustain committee work and composition. Check them out [here](#).

We are also working on creating more family engagement policy resources. This is also a work in progress but you can begin to access a few sample policies [here](#).

Finally, my colleague Chris Miller and I will be hosting Community Conversations for family members to share their experiences partnering with schools for their children's educational success. Five conversations will be held throughout the state beginning in Jeffco on April 8th. Please help us recruit a diverse population of parents with children in preschool through high school. Registration is [here](#). Let me know if you have questions. Now, back to work!

In Partnership,

*Darcy*

## UPDATES

Several FSCP events are on the horizon. Please share the dates far and wide and mark them on your calendars.

**Various April dates beginning April 8**, Community Conversations for families about their FSCP experiences. Have families register [here](#).

**April 19**, FSCP Coffee Chat, 10am-noon, hosted by Poudre School District, for district contacts. Register [here](#).

**May 21**, SACPIE Quarterly Meeting, 11am-3pm, MindSpark Learning Center, Lakewood, CO.

**May 24**, Promising Partnership Practices submissions due to CDE. Access the submission form [here](#).

**FSCP Coffee Chats for 2018-19**, 10-noon, Third Friday of each month. Half of the chats will be in-person and half will be virtual. Mark your calendars now!

For a more comprehensive list of announcements from CDE, you may subscribe to The Scoop, a newsletter published every Wednesday: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications>.

### 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

Swanson Elementary School staff created the Passport to Literacy Program, which strives to support all students and their families with literacy through multiple events that take place throughout the year. The main goal of the program is to increase student achievement by encouraging children and their families to read at home.

One portion of the Passport to Literacy Program was the Colt Reading Challenge calendar. This calendar reminded students to read at home and alerted parents to upcoming school events, particularly around literacy.

Swanson partnered with a community organization, Ride for Reading, to kick off the Colt Reading Challenge. Ride for Reading is a nonprofit organization that delivers books to Title I schools or low income communities. They educate students on the importance of reading and how to be safe when riding a bicycle. At the kickoff event, each family received three books to take home.

Organizing the literacy program takes a village! One Swanson staff member explains: "While the Colt Reading Challenge calendar is created by the Family Engagement Liaison, our events are created with the help of teachers, staff, and students."

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

# SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education's (SACPIE) is working with the Colorado Department of Education to collect submissions for the fifth annual *Promising Partnership Practices*.

SACPIE and CDE invite schools, districts, early childhood centers, institutions of higher education, accountability committees, parent-teacher committees, or any other school- or district-based council to submit an application for consideration in the publication. The purpose of this book is for schools, districts, and other educational organizations in Colorado to share how they partner with families and the community for student success.

# RESEARCH BRIEF

The Wisconsin Center for Education Research, housed at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, recently published a [report](#) of lessons learned from a five year Investing in Family Engagement Project.

The report highlights nine lessons learned from the project:

1. **Program goal setting** must be flexible and adaptable.
2. **Collaborative partnership building** allows external partners' an opportunity to share their expectations and perceptions of the FSCP program.
3. **Identifying resources and engagement-related factors** must be incorporated with plenty of time in the planning phase of any partnering initiative.
4. **Researching and understanding stakeholder audiences** requires clearly identify *all* audiences.
5. **Strategic communication planning** is needed for both families and school staff.
6. **Pilot testing** is helpful before implementing an initiative to scale.
7. **Buy-in (vs allowed in)** should be authentic and thoughtfully cultivated and nurtured.
8. **Recruiting families** requires a coordinated effort to build trusting relationships.
9. **Serving and retraining families** is as difficult as initial recruitment but can provide insight for evaluation.

Consideration for publication is based on the practices' alignment with either the [National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#) or the [Dual Capacity-Building Framework](#).

Last year, CDE and SACPIE highlighted over 60 practices. This is our goal is to have at least 75 practices from early childhood through college across all of Colorado. Help us celebrate five years of promising partnership practices by sharing with us your dedicated FSCP work.

SACPIE meetings are held quarterly and open to the public. Meetings in 2019 are located at MindSpark Learning in Englewood, CO on May 21, August 20, and November 19. For more information about SACPIE, click [here](#).

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

For questions, contact Darcy Hutchins, Family Partnership Director, [hutchins\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hutchins_d@cde.state.co.us), 303-866-5921

