



Dear FSCP Friends,

January was an FSCP whirlwind! On January 10-11, over 50 staff members from 16 school districts attended the second annual District Leaders Retreat. Attendees learned about district-level research-based supports for family-school-community partnering.

Each district left with draft goals and an action plan for family engagement through the 2019-20 school year. I hope to see even more districts attend next year. It is a wonderful opportunity to connect with colleagues from other districts.

I am also excited to share the newly-written family partnering definition that CDE will use to guide its FSCP work. I hope this is helpful to all of you for your work in districts and schools: ***Families, schools, and communities actively partnering to develop, implement, and evaluate effective and equitable practices to improve educational outcomes for students.***

Please share this definition far and wide, consider adopting it at your site, and use it to guide policy and programs. Let me know if you have any questions.

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 February Dates, ESEA Regional Networking Meetings, locations across Colorado. For more information, click [here](#).

February 12, SACPIE Quarterly Meeting, 11am-3pm, MindSpark Learning Center, Englewood.

February 15, Virtual Coffee Chat, 10am-noon, for district contacts. Register [here](#).

March 7-9, Parents Encouraging Parents Conference (PEP), Colorado Springs. For more information, click [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

Staff at Johnson Elementary School in Fort Collins staff decided to organize more opportunities for Latino parents to partner with school personnel. As a result, staff started a six-month home visit program focusing on ELL students and their families.

During the first parent meeting held in September, staff distributed a calendar for parents to choose the time and date for a home visit. The visits were offered to all 23 English Language Learners' students, regardless of their academic performance or behavior issues so the visits were not associated with problems or disciplinary actions.

During the visit, parents and family liaison talked about the teacher's feedback, and all the contents in a backpack (e.g. dice, cookie trays, shaving cream, notebooks, number lines, 100s charts, pencils, crayons, flashcards, card decks, manipulatives, workbooks, chalk, books in Spanish). All the questions and concerns from the parents were written down and later shared with the student's teacher. Visits lasted between 50-90 minutes.

Johnson Elementary has already seen numerous positive results since implementing the home visit program, including 100% attendance at parent-teacher conferences! For more examples of Promising Partnership Practices, click [here](#).

RESEARCH BRIEF

This month's research brief includes information about two recently published family partnering tools.

The first tool is from the National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP), housed at Columbia University. The NCCP partnered with groups in Georgia to develop an assessment tool for early childhood education programs. The research brief, entitled "Helping Early Care and Education Programs Assess Family Engagement Practices and Plan Improvements: Results of the Georgia Family Engagement Planning Tool Pilot," includes results from the pilot and sample surveys. For more information, click [here](#).

Another new resource comes from the National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition. The English Learner Family Toolkit was created to help families choose education services that meet their child's needs. U.S. educators, elementary and secondary school teachers, principals, and other school staff can also share the toolkit as a resource for English learners and their families.

The English Learner Family Toolkit consists of 6 chapters, and each chapter contains 5 sections - an overview, family and student rights, questions to ask schools, tips, and resources. [Download](#) the complete toolkit by using the quick links for the information needed most.

SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) recently formed new committees and selected new priorities of its legislated responsibilities for 2019.

SACPIE's work and advisory duties for 2019 will focus on these two priorities:

- Involving parents in programs to raise academic achievement, increase high school graduation rates, decrease student dropout rates, and close the achievement and growth gap.
- Increasing parent involvement in education-related committees at the local and state levels.

SACPIE members will work toward collecting and sharing promising practices aligned with these two priorities through collaboration in three grade-level subcommittees:

- Early Childhood
- K-12
- Higher Education.

SACPIE meetings are held quarterly and open to the public. Meetings in 2019 are located at MindSpark Learning in Englewood, CO on February 12, 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 MARCH.

For questions, contact Darcy Hutchins, Family Partnership Director, hutchins_d@cde.state.co.us, 303-866-5921

