

# Colorado's Promising Partnership Practices

## Lesher Middle School

### “Noche de Ciencias” (Science Night)

#### Description/Summary

“Noche de Ciencias” (Science Night) at Lesher Middle School is an event for students and families to:

- Engage in exciting scientific exploration
- Engage in hands-on STEM activities
- Connect with engineering college students
- Learn about college options, tuition assistance programs and financial aid information directed at minorities in the community.

The evening is facilitated by CSU's Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE).

#### Student/ Parent Outcome

Parents and students learn about the possibilities of studying careers related to mathematics, science and engineering.

- How to apply to different STEM programs
- How they qualify for grants and scholarships for college tuition

Learning this information in the middle school years allows for families and students to envision their student graduating from high school and continuing onto university, eventually fulfilling their dream of graduating with a degree.

#### Practice Implementation

- The Outreach Coordinator at Colorado State University's SHPE chapter reached out to the Assistant Principal at Lesher Middle School to propose the idea. Lesher was honored to partner with CSU Hispanic Engineers.
- We invited students through Spanish, Math and Science classes.
- The Family Liaison shared informational flyers with Lesher staff and students and published information on the Lesher website.
- We recorded three calls, one to invite families, one to remind them, and one to confirm the event.
- Parents and students were invited to dinner with pizzas, drinks and snacks before the event. We also had door prizes for attendees that were raffled off at the beginning of the event.



This event was supported by Poudre School District's Department of Language, Culture & Equity and CSU's Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers  
<http://www.shpe.org/>



#### Practice Feedback

- This practice is an AWESOME opportunity for Lesher families and a great way to encourage participation in STEM fields where minorities are underrepresented.
- Families who attended the event were very excited that Lesher Middle School hosted their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “Noche de Ciencias” (*Science Night*). Parents and students appreciated the hard work to coordinate the event and congratulated the school for hosting.
- CSU's Hispanic Engineers were great with their interactive presentations, provided valuable information and were well organized.