



Dear FSCP Friends,

Tis' the season when social media explodes with people posting lists of gratitude. I'm the first to admit that I've had difficulty with this in 2020. But when I take a step back, I realize that 2020 has been a wonderful year for Family, School, and Community Partnerships.

On October 30, over 170 attendees listened to the [FSCP: From Paper to Practice webinar](#). Dr. Steven Sheldon spoke about the new [Framework User's Guide Rubrics](#), which are now available on the CDE website as a fillable form. Representatives from Thompson School District, Englewood Schools, Aurora Public Schools, and Jeffco Public Schools all shared how they partner with families.

The Office of Learning Supports also has a new [FSCP Online Academy](#), among other topics. This will be the first of many lessons that discuss partnerships.

While 2020 has brought an abundance of challenges and sadness, there are still many reasons to have joy and hope.

In Partnership,

*Darcy*

## UPDATES

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

**November 17, 9-11:30**, State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) Quarterly Meeting. Contact Darcy for information about how to join. Meetings are open to the public.

**November 20, 10-noon**, Coffee Chat for district staff. Greeley Evans District 6 and the Migrant Parent Advisory Council will host the virtual meeting about working with migrant families. Refer to the Zoom link in your calendar invite.

**December 18, 10-noon**, Coffee Chat for district staff. Mountain Valley School District will host the virtual meeting about working with homeless families. Refer to the Zoom link in your calendar invite.

**FSCP Coffee Chats for 2020-21 school year, 10-noon**, Third Friday of each month. Mark your calendars now!

For a more comprehensive list of announcements from CDE, you may [subscribe](#) to The Scoop, a newsletter published every Wednesday.

### 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

In the midst of the pandemic, DPS Superintendent Susana Cordova and the FACE office led and assisted in completing individualized calls from central office staff. The Assessment, Reporting and Data Support and Impact Office provided family contact information from schools who sent data about who they were and were not able to reach and those that needed the extra level of engagement. FACE staff created a google form where staff members would fill out information of all families contacted and what resources were requested from each of the families.

In these calls, many families say they appreciate having the opportunity to talk to someone about how they are feeling or asking questions not related to education. Some family members have also shared some of their hardships on how they are struggling to make ends meet and other families are doing just fine.

A FACE staff member shares: "As we continue walking families through these unprecedented times, it is very critical for us to continue open lines of communication. We understand that families engage in different and meaningful ways which is why we are documenting all of the feedback we are receiving from families and providing it to district leadership."

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

# SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

Mary Patt McNeill, the Family Services Director for Denver Great Kids Head Start and early childhood representative on SACPIE, shares a few resources about comprehensive programming.

Denver Great Kids Head Start (DGKHS), a program of the Office of Children's Affairs in the City and County of Denver, is funded to serve 1,344 children and their families. The vision of DGKHS is to prepare all enrolled Early Head Start and Head Start children to enter kindergarten confidently with the social, physical, emotional, and cognitive skills necessary for continuing school success. Established in 1997 as a grantee/delegate agency model, DGKHS is unique in its ability to leverage the strengths of community-based delegate

# RESEARCH BRIEF

This month we are taking a break from the research brief and instead sharing some tips about building relationships and engaging with families on virtual platforms. Clarice Fortunato, District Family, School, and Community Liaison for Englewood Schools, shared this information.

The Alliance for Family Engagement hosted a [webinar](#) about navigating FSCP in a virtual world. Some tips for building rapport with families include:

- Greeting participants by name when they join.
- Use the time before the session to engage participants and help them feel comfortable.
- Show participants your world in this time of working from home (pets, family pics, etc. ) It makes you relatable.

They also shared tips to overcome "Zoom fatigue."

- Instead of always holding formal meetings, make it more interactive and fun. Build relationships with the families first, then you can move on to the meeting.
- Look at how the meeting is being marketed. Is it something you or your family would want to attend?
- Prioritize what is truly important for families right now. Do we/they have to meet weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly? Can we cut this down a bit while we are living in this virtual pandemic world?

agencies providing classroom-based services with oversight provided by the organizational infrastructure and reach of the City and County of Denver. Delegate agencies include: Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Denver, Clayton Early Learning, Denver Public Schools, Family Star Montessori, Mile High Early Learning, Sewall Child Development Center, and Volunteers of America. DGKHS has many different programming options for families which include: Part Day, Full Day, Extended Day, Virtual and Homebased options.

For more information about DGKHS, including enrolling for program services, please visit the website – [www.denvergov.org/headstart](http://www.denvergov.org/headstart), or contact Mary directly at [mary.mcneill@denvergov.org](mailto:mary.mcneill@denvergov.org).

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

For questions, contact Darcy Hutchins, Director of Family, School, Community Partnerships, [hutchins\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hutchins_d@cde.state.co.us), 303-562-8175

