Jefferson County Public School’s District Accountability Committee (DAC) and School Accountability Committees (SAC) came together for a Jeffersonian-Style Gathering on April 18, 2017. The goal of this event was to discuss successful family-school partnership work throughout the district among interested DAC and SAC members. Sharing successes and challenges of family-school partnership made it possible for successful events to be replicated in schools to increase levels of engagement with new and different populations of families and community members.

Jefferson County’s district accountability executive committee was responsible for the timing and formatting of the event, while the district’s Communication Specialist was responsible for the presentation of family-school partnership practices at the event with the assistance of the family-school partnership subcommittee of the district accountability committee.

During the event, participants gathered for mingling and refreshments. A brief overview of the evening followed. Attendees then broke into small groups of 8-10 individuals to discuss pre-determined questions about how to leverage family partnership for student success. The gathering closed with a panel of six experts that answered questions about partnering.

All attendees received a survey following the event. Many attendees reported appreciation for the opportunity to connect with other district staffers with whom they would not otherwise have met; contact information was exchanged so that conversations could be continued after the conclusion of the event. Jefferson County staff were able to discuss specific ideas, strengths, and challenges of partnering with both wealthy communities, and those impacted by poverty.