

Family Literacy Classes

Adams 12, Adams 14, and Metro State University
Adams County, CO



The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Adult Education Initiatives (AEI) has provided a three year Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) grant to Adams 14 Schools. Adams 14 and Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU) partnered with Adams 12 Five Star Schools to provide adult education to adults in need of English Language skills and/or a High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma.

The courses include family literacy, six levels of English as a second language (ESL), Adult Basic Education (ABE), Adult Secondary Education (ASE)/ HSE exam preparation, and Career Pathways Courses. During the 2018-19 school year, seven schools hosted the classes. Morning and evening classes are available, Monday-Thursday. Classes in four of the locations are offered all months throughout the year with the exception of July and August.



The MSU Denver Family Literacy Program offers English language acquisition, computer skills development, and parenting coursework across a range of thematic units. Families with children ages 1-5 are offered a concurrent play-based preschool program in district provided space. To instill an early love of learning, parents spend time weekly in the early learning environment participating in literacy activities with their children. Organized service learning experiences for parents and children contribute to the greater community.

Thus far, the partnership has served 530 students in the evening, 117 of whom are family literacy program participants. Of those 117, 58 are preschool families and 56 preschool children.

MSU Denver has been a critical partner in this endeavor, as they teach classes and connect families with their schools and communities through genuine family engagement activities at Stem Launch, McElwain Elementary and Rose Hill Elementary. Adams 12 has served as the entity that provides classroom space, parent referrals, and financial assistance so parents may pay for classes, attending to logistical issues, providing assistance covering costs for supplies, etc.



Together, the partnership has served hundreds of Adams County families to improve their English skills, engage them in their local schools to increase student academic achievement, obtain their HSE diploma, and/or improve their career prospects. It takes a great deal of communication, grit, perseverance, and a passion to serve our

Adams community! Sharing resources, eliminating territorial trends, and having a true understanding that the community as a whole benefits with increased educational opportunities is what makes this a positive and sustainable partnership.

Standard 3—Supporting Student Success