



State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education

SACPIE Quarterly Meeting - Virtual
August 27, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Jess Welch, Kim Chatman, Beth Donahue, Nathan Hickman, Jenny Lerner, Twyla Esquibel, Mark Sass, Carrie Olson, Laura Harney, Michelle Zeles-Hahn, Liz Wilson, Mary McNeill, Jason Taylor

Absences: Roxanne Aviles, Ami Prichard, Heidi Haines, Kristin Dalton, Kris Greer, Rhonda Solis, Brooke Cote, Angie Frank, Sherrell Lang, Chelsey Hall

Guests: Darcy Hutchins, Jes Stroope, Jamie Madigan, Sherri Wilson, Kate Garvin

9:00 Welcome and Business

Jess Welch opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Kim Chatman motioned to approve May minutes. Mark Sass seconded. All in favor. May minutes approved.

Darcy Hutchins shared the current SACPIE vacancies are for CD 7 and Health Wellness. The May 2025 meeting date was updated to May 6th.

9:15 Get to Know SACPIE Members

Members participated in an icebreaker.

9:45 CDE Update

Darcy Hutchins shared that the 2024 Promising Partnership Practices (PPP) are now available. Members further discussed what PPPs are and how to increase awareness and submissions. CDE FSCP CoP is up and running. The updates to the Opportunity Canvas are almost complete. Family Engagement Fridays

are going strong on CDE's social media. A Southeast FSCP Collaborative is starting out of the Santa Fe Trails BOCES.

10:08am SFEC Updates

COFEC – Laura Harney shared that their website is now launched. Hosting a webinar on Wednesday September 18th 1:00 – 3:00pm. Hosting an invite-only convening in Grand Junction on September 24th with 6 school districts attending.

RMFEC – Kate Garvin shared that they are starting up in Montrose and regionally in the San Luis Valley as the first two cohorts. Hosting an ECHO series, a free statewide PD opportunity for teachers beginning September 6th and running through October 11th.

10:15am SACPIE Refresh

Darcy Hutchins informed members on the revisions to the SACPIE statute. These revisions included adding a representative from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood, updating language from RtI to MTSS, adding advising educator preparation programs, and adding providing feedback to state agencies about publicly available tools and resources. The current statute sunsets September 1, 2030.

Members participated in a SACPIE Year-at-a-Glance small group discussion. Discussions focused on what topics SACPIE would like to discuss this year, what events/conferences/webinars should be included on a Year at a Glance, and what do members hope to accomplish as a SACPIE member during this school year.

The topics that members are interested in for this year are: learning what policies are in place that impact SACPIE; understanding how SACPIE advise the state board, or if this is not SACPIE's role; continuing to advise groups; engaging more with early childhood education; spotlighting effective SACs/DACs from around the state; learning how to effectively share information with parents to support their effectiveness; learning who to contact within congressional districts for advocacy; using strategies to go through the PTA to reach families; connecting what SACPIE is already doing with migrant advocates; convening a parent affinity group that will also build a parent network; getting more information on the roles and responsibilities of SACs/DACs; being accountable for collecting Promising Partnership Practices; creating a CliffsNotes version of a document for parents on how to get started, what they can do, and how to get involved in activities; developing a feedback loop from organizations that come and share/present – what were the results, what happened after they left; sharing basic information for parents on things such as accountability, charter law, and SPED law; bringing in student voice to the conversation; building empathy and bringing in varying perspectives, particularly from parents; understanding ways to get information out to parents and teachers and building a sense of urgency.

Events to add to a Year-at-a-Glance are the PTA national convention, CASE, CASB, charter schools annual conference; PEAK conference; School Counselor Association conference

The goals members discussed are demonstrating an impact of what members both learn and advise; having better SAC/DAC connections; knowing who to contact in districts and establishing a relationship with them; using connections to bring resources to the real world; integrating resources into practice; centering parent voice; and establishing who we advise as an advisory council.

Darcy Hutchins noted that in thinking through a multi-tiered system of support, it is helpful to have universal strategies for anyone to find. Additionally, regarding dual capacity building, SACPIE CD rep could join forces with the FSCP contacts in districts the Office of FSCP is working really closely with.

11:05am SACPIE Focus for 2024-2025

SACPIE members were asked to consider this guiding question and following prompts: Where should SACPIE focus our attention this year? Brainstorm current issues impacting education that require family involvement. Is this an area that SACPIE can support by learning more, giving feedback, improving messaging? Is it connected to the SACPIE mission and vision?

SACPIE members shared:

- What systems are in place within family engagement to address: SPED, MTSS, fundraising, increased achievement, SEL, increasing teachers, career readiness, concurrent enrollment, chronic absenteeism, migrant, prek, etc. (not every school will have all of these challenges).
- A challenge is providing resources to having resources be implemented. Shift to relationships over resources (parents see school as asset, school sees parents as assets). SACPIE's role could be cross-walking across the organizations/districts to consider family partnership activities in different areas and integrating opportunities. Increasing awareness. FSCP as a strategy not a goal. Building trust by narrowing in one focus at a time. Implementation guides/framework.
- SACPIE has a parent from every district, but not once have all parents attended the same SACPIE meeting. SACs/DACs don't operate effectively in every school/district, and there is no accountability in place. Helping parents find and feel comfortable with their voice. Supporting academics, specifically math proficiency. Bringing concrete strategies that will help parents understand how to help with academics at home, how to communicate with the school, etc. Topics to explore include math, literacy, mental health, attendance, drug use.
- SACPIE is reaching some families, but not all. If SACPIE builds the foundation of relationships with families, it creates entry points for the other topics (Gaps in SAC/DAC, academic support for "subgroups" and tools for parents, mental health, drug use, and attendance/chronic absenteeism)
- When SACPIE invites people/organizations to present and seek feedback from members, how does SACPIE integrate focus areas/goals that will lead to a shared idea of what SACPIE is working to? This will help create accountability measures for the group.
- The success of SACs/DACs relies on the relationship school leaders have with their school community.
- To synthesize: driving theme for this year is "relationships over resources."
 - o Create a set of guiding questions focused on relationships to ask any presenter.
 - o Graphic of "relationships over resources" as foundation, strategies "growing" out of that, with topics woven throughout (see topics above)
- Who does SACPIE advise and what does that feedback loop look like? How can SACPIE see the impact of the group's feedback that will benefit implementing the theme?

12:00pm Lunch

12:45pm 100 Day Challenge

The CDE's Office of FSCP is part of the global Family Engagement Educators' Network (FEEN). FEEN has proposed a 100 Day Challenge for family engagement. SACPIE members are invited to participate either individually or in small groups.

SACPIE members considered challenges and entered them on the spreadsheet.

1:27pm Plan for November FSCP Month

Last year, FSCP Month included a communication toolkit, a proclamation from the governor, a superintendent coffee chat, and a social media campaign. What does SACPIE keep? What does SACPIE start? What does SACPIE stop? Follow up email to come from Darcy Hutchins.

1:30pm Member Resource Sharing

Mark Sass shared with the group that CDE has hired the American Institute of Research to describe how funding currently works in the state, what is necessary or adequate cost to achieve an adequate outcome, estimate a new formula if the state is short (which it is), and make estimations for how much it will cost to come up with a new funding formula. They are looking for feedback and will be hosting town halls around the state, as well as distributing a survey. This is an opportunity for parents to step in and talk about funding. Mark will share information with Darcy who will distribute to SACPIE members.

Jenny Lerner shared that in the Migrant Education Program, they have a consortium of 7 different states. They are working on family engagement and supporting migrant families. This year the focus is on academic support. They have made a template/toolkit on how to work with families and students in K12 to help with reading at home. It was tested with 14 families in Colorado with good results. Jenny will share with Darcy who will distribute to SACPIE members.

Mark Sass shared that he would like to survey parents on their thoughts regarding attendance for a legislative group. They are trying to tap into why chronic absenteeism is high. Mark would like help in reaching parents across different congressional districts.

Darcy Hutchins shared the CDE's Every Day Matters attendance website for SACPIE's feedback.

1:45pm Wrap-Up

For the 100-day challenge, what can members commit to having done by the next meeting in November? Use the spreadsheet to capture plans and progress. In November, members will report out.

Jess Welch asked members if anyone would like to lead an ad-hoc SACPIE group. Liz Wilson volunteered to host a parent group if others would like to participate.

The next SACPIE meetings are November 19th 2025, February 11th 2025, and May 6th 2025.

Communications to members will continue to come via e-mails. Members were reminded to respond to RSVPs.

2:00pm Adjourn