

State Advisory Council on Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE)

The What, Why, and How of Partnering with Families in Colorado

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Growing Together Showcase
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Families, Schools, and Communities Fostering Student Success

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Welcome and Introductions!



Families, Schools, and Communities Fostering Student Success

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What is SACPIE?

Legislation
Members
Objectives
Activities
Goal
Standards



Families, Schools, and Communities Fostering Student Success

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A Legislated Council

- ◆ In 2009, the Colorado General Assembly found that it was in the *best interests of the state* to create a **state advisory council for parent involvement in education** that will review best practices and recommend to policy makers and educators strategies to increase parent involvement... thus helping...raise the level of student achievement throughout the state. (C.R.S. 22-7-301(2), 2012)



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Includes Members Who Represent...

- ◆ Parents and School or District Accountability Committees
- ◆ Non-Profit Organizations That Promote Families Who:
 - ◆ Have Students with Disabilities
 - ◆ Are Underserved
 - ◆ Need Support
- ◆ Early Childhood
- ◆ Statewide Organizations For:
 - ◆ Counselors
 - ◆ Teachers
 - ◆ School Executives
 - ◆ School Boards
 - ◆ Charter Schools
 - ◆ Parents and Teachers
- ◆ CDE
- ◆ Higher Education (CCHE)
- ◆ Human Services



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Works Toward Three Objectives

1. Inform stakeholder groups about best practices for promoting family-school partnerships.
2. Recommend statewide family partnership initiatives.
3. Seek funding to develop a grant program.



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Supports...

- ◆ **Implementing programs to involve families in:**
 - ◆ Improving their child's academic achievement.
 - ◆ Partnering in Response-to-Intervention (RtI).
 - ◆ Improving graduation and persistence in higher education.
- ◆ **Developing opportunities to support partnering such as:**
 - ◆ Offering parent education and leadership trainings.
 - ◆ Creating family-to-school liaison positions.



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Strives To Achieve an Overarching Goal

- ◆ To partner with Colorado's families in maximizing the potential of every student by:
 - ◆ Reducing dropout rates.
 - ◆ Reducing gaps in academic achievement and growth among student groups.
 - ◆ Increasing the number of students who continue into higher education.



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Aligns with the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships

1. Welcoming All Families into the Community
2. Communicating Effectively
3. Supporting Student Success
4. Speaking Up for Every Child
5. Sharing Power
6. Collaborating with the Community (PTA, 2008)

SACPIE's 7th Standard: Providing Professional Development and Pre-Service Training for Administrators and Teachers



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What is Family, School, and Community Partnering?



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Activity#1 Definition

What is your definition of partnering?

Partnering is _____.



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Partnering Principles

- ◆ A struggling student experiences collaborative support and encouragement immediately from home and school, thus staying engaged in learning
- ◆ It is all about ongoing, sustainable, intentional relationships.
- ◆ The focus is always on student success - measurable goals, progress data, and doing what works.



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Partnering Principles

- ◆ Cultural and linguistic differences are directly addressed because:
- ◆ students see their worlds working together;
- ◆ there is a forum to understand the culture of the family and the culture of the school.
(Garcia Coll & Chatman, 2005)



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Educators, Families, Students, and Community Resources: “At the Table”

Picture a table where people are discussing a problem.

- ◆ Respecting and listening
- ◆ Understanding different perspectives
- ◆ Focusing on positive outcomes
- ◆ Disagreeing at times
- ◆ Intentionally working to compromise



Each involved party has a place “at the table,” even if he/she can’t attend. All voices are heard.



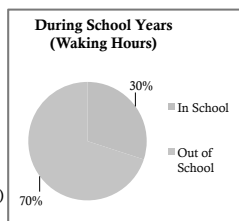
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Time Coordinated Learning Between Home and School

Students Spend More
Than 70% Of Their
Waking Hours Outside
of School.

(Clark, 1990; Callender & Hansen, 2004)



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Research

- ◆ On the Colorado TELL Survey, the teaching condition with the strongest connection to high student achievement is *Community Support and Involvement* – whether parents/guardians in the community are engaged, influential, and supportive of teachers and schools – across all school levels. (New Teacher Center, 2012)



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Research Student Achievement

- **For Students:**
 - Higher achievement, more homework completion, come to school more and stay in school longer, observing more similarities between home and school.
- **For Families:**
 - Becoming more supportive of child and teachers, becoming more confident in how to help child learn, learning more about education programs.
- **For Teachers and Schools:**
 - Improved teacher morale, higher ratings of teachers by parents, parents support schools and bond issues.

(Esler, Godber, & Christenson, 2008)



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Laws Informed by Research, Focused on Results

- ◆ **Federal:**
 - ◆ Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
 - ◆ Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
 - ◆ Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
- ◆ **Colorado:**
 - ◆ Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) (S.B. 09-256)
 - ◆ Education Accountability Act (S.B. 09-163)
 - ◆ Educator Effectiveness (S.B.10-191)
 - ◆ READ Act (H.B. 12-1345)



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NEW! SB 13-193 Concerning Increasing Parent Engagement in Public Schools

- ◆ Requires that every district have a parent engagement policy.
- ◆ Requires that every district identify a staff family-school liaison.
- ◆ Empowers District and School Accountability Committees (DACs and SACS) with special protocols if schools are priority or turnaround status.
- ◆ Provides for regional staff and family trainings in partnerships.
- ◆ Supports family requirements in READ Plans, Individual Career and Academic Plans (ICAP), and truancy plans.
- ◆ Creates a Director Position at CDE to coordinate these efforts and support districts.



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Laws Colorado Educator Effectiveness (2010)

- ◆ **Principal Quality Standards:** Principals design and/or utilize structures and processes which result in family and community engagement, support, and ownership for the school.
- ◆ **Teacher Quality Standards:** Teachers provide proactive, clear, and constructive feedback to families about student progress and work collaboratively with families and significant adults in their lives.
- ◆ **7.01.** Districts and schools shall create systems and structures that focus on providing parents with meaningful opportunities to support the academic achievement and growth of their children.



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(SB 10-191)

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What does it mean?

- ◆ Shared responsibility that encourages two-way communication including feedback from parents and students to make curriculum responsible, relevant and accessible to all.
- ◆ Parents will be engaged in school governance, curriculum and instruction.
- ◆ Data needs to be meaningful to families.
- ◆ Schools need to be involved in the community to ensure multiple learning opportunities.

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A National Shift Based on Time, Research, and Laws

The Six Types of Parent Involvement (Epstein, 1995)

- ◆ Parenting
- ◆ Communicating
- ◆ Volunteering
- ◆ Learning at Home
- ◆ Decision-Making
- ◆ Collaborating with Community



National Standards for Family- School Partnerships (PTA, 2008)

- ◆ Welcoming All Families
- ◆ Communicating Effectively
- ◆ Supporting Student Success
- ◆ Speaking Up for Every Child
- ◆ Sharing Power
- ◆ Collaborating with Community

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What is the Shift?

Traditional Parent Involvement

- ◆ Parents
- ◆ Schools are responsible.
- ◆ School-initiated, set formal meetings.
- ◆ School to home, one-way communication.

Family Partnering

- ◆ Family
- ◆ There is shared responsibility.
- ◆ Flexible hours and meeting venues.
- ◆ Ongoing two-way communication.



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What is the Shift?

Traditional Parent Involvement

- ◆ Parents give consent to educational plans.
- ◆ Structured volunteering at school.
- ◆ Homework is often seen solely as the child's responsibility, with consequences for lack of completion.



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Family Partnering

- ◆ Educational plans are jointly developed and delivered.
- ◆ Supporting learning at home and school.
- ◆ Homework is seen as an important home-school link and communication tool, with successful completion related to achievement; problem-solving occurs to ensure success.

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SACPIE Supports Best Practices ...

- ◆ Applying research and laws to practice;
- ◆ Sharing knowledge and responsibility among educators, families, and communities;
- ◆ Using data to make decisions in strategic action planning and for continuous improvement.



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SACPIE Supports Best Practices...



- ◆ **Students:** What is BEST for OUR students?
- ◆ **Goals:** What do we want to ACHIEVE TOGETHER?
- ◆ **Input:** What do families or schools or communities THINK, FEEL, KNOW?
- ◆ **Decisions:** Are WE ALL “at the table” and “on the team”?
- ◆ **Roles:** How can WE PARTNER around that?
- ◆ **Responsibilities:** What are WE EACH doing?
- ◆ **Data:** How will WE KNOW it is working?

(CDE, 2009)



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SACPIE Supports Best Practices ...

SACPIE Website

- ◆ CDE, Commissioner of Education Webpage
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/SACPIE/index.asp>
 - ◆ Home
 - ◆ About Us
 - ◆ Meetings, News, and Trainings
 - ◆ Resources: CDE, Member Contributions, Websites, Articles
 - ◆ Quick Links



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SACPIE Partners with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE)

Together We Can

Vision

All students in Colorado will become educated and productive citizens capable of succeeding in a globally competitive workforce.

Mission

The mission of CDE is to shape, support, and safeguard a statewide education system that prepares all students for success in a globally competitive world.



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Thank You!

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Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) and do not necessarily reflect the official position or policy of the Colorado Department of Education or the Colorado State Board of Education.



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