



In addition to academic knowledge and leadership skills, another area that can be beneficial to offer families support in is parenting skills and positive parenting. The intent of the Parenting Partners program at Denver Public Schools is to help develop parenting skills, provide families with the tools to support children’s social emotional needs, and empower families to become engaged in children’s education.

Parenting Partners is an eight-week long research-based program that focuses on positive parent engagement, improved student academics, and strong home learning environment. The eight workshop topics include: Parent Roles in Student Achievement and Creating Confident Kids, Positive Parenting – Success Starts at Home, Communication that Works, Creating Structure for Achievement, Discipline – Practice for Success, What Children and Teens Need to Succeed, Parents Engaging for Academic Success, and Graduation.

In this district, a train the trainers workshop is used to teach staff and parents to act as facilitators. Each school has a training kit and materials, and there is district level support that can be accessed by schools. These trainings happen several times throughout the year.

This curriculum strongly contributes to fostering partnering between schools and families. It equips families with tools to support student achievement and student social emotional development. It helps families to establish the type of home positive home learning environment with discipline, expectations, and routines. Additionally, it provides the tools for parents to take on many roles such as supporters of learning, encouragers of identity, advocates for learning opportunities, models of lifelong enthusiasm for education, and collaborators with school staff and community

Denver Public Schools has heard very positive feedback from participants regarding this program, as parents share what an impact it is having on their families. They state that their children are improving in both academics and attendance, and parents who go through this training are becoming more involved in committees and activities, and are the most consistent participants in events such as forums and trainings.