

Parent and Family Academy Series

Pueblo School District 60

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Pueblo School District 60 is committed to building trusting relationships with families of 29 different schools by fostering inclusive, welcoming environments and providing culturally informed tools for school system navigation. Efforts to implement the Parent and Family Academy Series were led by the district's Parent and Family Engagement Coordinator under the Department of Student Support Services. School-relationship surveys, stakeholder committees, and community partners and organizations that saw the need for a network of trust and shared responsibility for student and family success were all utilized for successful implementation.

Pueblo School District 60 prioritized creating a positive school climate and strengthening engagement through the Parent and Family Academy Series. One such event, Infinite Campus Night, equipped parents with the tools to monitor their child's grades and attendance, promoting active involvement in academic progress. Another event, CPR/First Aid Night, reinforced the importance of personal responsibility and school safety by providing families with lifesaving skills that support a secure learning environment. Additionally, the district hosted a series of mental and physical wellness workshops and presentations covering topics such as healthy eating, adolescent development, behavior management, importance of attendance, and suicide prevention. By affirming diverse perspectives and ensuring that their input was taken and turned into action, these events worked to remove barriers that have historically limited family engagement. As a result, families became more confident navigating school systems, advocating for their children, and being a part of their students' school.

Stakeholder surveys to guide event planning and ensure topics met families' needs were key to the implementation efforts. After each event, feedback surveys helped identify areas for improvement and structure of future events. One parent of an 8th grade student shared: "Please do more events like these—they make students feel powerful and see the leader inside of them." A key challenge was getting families to attend, often due to travel constraints.



Event organizers have several pieces of feedback for other districts. Build trust through consistent and culturally respectful outreach. Start small with accessible, family-focused events that meet real needs expressed through surveys or direct contact. Use community partners when able, gather feedback, and ensure families feel seen, heard, and valued especially in more than just English. Empower them with tools, not just information, and always prioritize relationships over attendance numbers.