State Advisory Council on Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE)

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

Colorado PTA 92nd Annual Convention
April 20, 2013

SACPIE — STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

Families, Schools, and Communities Fostering Student Success

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Welcome
and
Introductions!

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What is SACPIE?

Legislation
Members
Objectives
Activities
Goal
Standards

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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: "On the Team"

On a football team, every player has a job to do and a role to play. Each player is respected for his/her unique expertise. Each player practices and works to become better at executing personal responsibilities. The team works together to obtain the best results possible.

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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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A Research-Based Partnering Definition

Family and Community Partnering **is the collaboration of schools, families, and communities as equal partners in improving learner, classroom, school, and district outcomes.**

In effective partnering, each stakeholder shares responsibility for learners' success by:

- establishing and sustaining trusting relationships;
- understanding and integrating family and school culture;
- maintaining two-way communication;
- engaging in collaborative problem-solving:
- coordinating learning at home, school, and in the community, using data;
- acknowledging and celebrating progress. (CDE, 2010)

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Why Should Schools Partner with Families and Communities?

Time
Research
Laws
The Shift

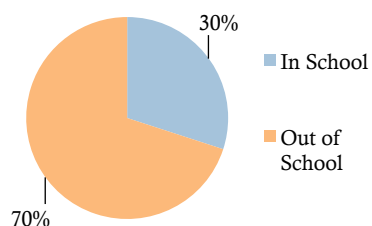**SACPIE** Families, Schools, and Communities Fostering Student Success

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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)

During School Years (Waking Hours)

30% In School

70% Out of School

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Research
Student Achievement

⬥ 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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Research
Student Achievement

The C's: *Coordinated or Connected* **or** *Continuous* **or** *Complementary or Congruent* **or** *Consistent* **Learning**

- Practice increases memory traces and fluency.

- Applying learned knowledge in the real world reinforces concepts.

- Summarizing information forces more in-depth processing. (Gage &Berliner, 1998)

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Laws
Colorado Read to Ensure Academic Development (READ) Act (2012)

The parent plays a **central** role in supporting the student's efforts and so parents will:

- Help **develop** the READ Plan;
- Be given **strategies to use at home** in supporting the student's reading success;
- Be **encouraged** to work with the student's teacher in implementing the READ Plan;
- Receive **ongoing, regular, updates and communication concerning progress**.

(HB 12-1238)

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Laws
Colorado Individual Career and Academic Plans
ICAP (2009)

- Each school district:
  - ensures **every student and their parents or legal guardians** has access to and assistance in the development of an ICAP;
  - provides ICAP access and assistance, at a minimum, annually in grades nine through twelve, and should include the **students and parents or legal guardians**;
  - Ensures that each **student and their parents or legal guardians** receive advising regarding the relationship between the ICAP and postsecondary goals and expectations.

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(SB 09-256)

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Laws
Colorado Education Accountability Act

(2009)

- District and School Accountability Committees make recommendations concerning spending funds, preparation of performance/improvement plans, educator evaluation, and other locally determined areas.

- Committees must include at least three parents of students.

- A parent representative must serve as chair or co-chair.

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(SB 09-183)

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A National Shift Based on Time, Research, and Laws

The Six Types of Parent Involvement (Epstein, 1995)	National Standards for Family-School Partnerships (PTA, 2008)
♦ Parenting	♦ Welcoming All Families
♦ Communicating	♦ Communicating Effectively
♦ Volunteering	♦ Supporting Student Success
♦ Learning at Home	♦ Speaking Up for Every Child
♦ Decision-Making	♦ Sharing Power
♦ Collaborating with Community	♦ Collaborating with Community

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What is the Shift?

Traditional Parent Involvement	Family Partnering
♦ Parents	♦ Family
♦ Schools are responsible.	♦ There is shared responsibility.
♦ School-initiated, set formal meetings.	♦ Flexible hours and meeting venues.
♦ School to home, one-way communication.	♦ 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.

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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Activity #2
Family-School Partnering Continuum

Where are you and your school on the partnering continuum ? Give a number for you and one for your school.

Home and school are separate, very different worlds. It is the school's responsibility to educate children, and the family's responsibility to see that the children are dressed, fed, and prepared for school.

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Schools share the responsibility for education with families. The partnership with families is flexible: on some issues the parents will be the more active partner and on others, the school will be.
(Adapted from Peak Parent Center, 2008)

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How Does SACPIE Support Partnering Throughout the State?

Focus on The Students We Share

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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

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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