

FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERING

THE FSCP KEY



COLORADO
Department of Education



Dear FSCP Friends,

A few months ago, my colleague, Lisa Steffen, conducted a family partnering training for staff at Alternative Education Campuses. She heard many promising practices about how these schools are working with families. Here is one of the stories she heard.

An Alternative Education Campus in Western Colorado couldn't get anyone to attend the SAC meetings until the principal started sharing the struggles he was facing when attempting improvement strategies in the school. By sharing his challenges and asking the school community for help, parents saw a clear opportunity to engage, and a space for them to offer their expertise. By sharing power, now parents are asking how they can help outside of SAC, and they are looking forward to a new year of meetings on how to collectively address challenges.

The call for submissions for the fifth edition of *Promising Partnership Practices* will be out shortly. We look forward to hearing all of your success stories!

In Partnership,

Darcy

UPDATES

Several FSCP events are on the horizon. Please share the dates far and wide and mark them on your calendars.

March 14, Special Education Advisory Council training, 9am-noon, Adams 12 Five Star Schools. For more information, email CSEACTraining@gmail.com.

March 15, FSCP Coffee Chat, 10am-noon, hosted by Poudre School District, for district contacts. Register [here](#).

May 21, SACPIE Quarterly Meeting, 11am-3pm, MindSpark Learning Center, Lakewood, CO.

May 24, Promising Partnership Practices submissions due to CDE. More information will be provided in the next few weeks.

FSCP Coffee Chats for 2018-19, 10-noon, Third Friday of each month. Half of the chats will be in-person and half will be virtual. Mark your calendars now!

For a more comprehensive list of announcements from CDE, you may subscribe to The Scoop, a newsletter published every Wednesday: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications>.

FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERING STANDARDS

1

Welcoming
All Families
into the School
Community

2

Communicating
Effectively

3

Supporting
Student
Success

4

Speaking Up
for Every Child

5

Sharing
Power

6

Collaborating
with the
Community

PROMISING PRACTICES

The Parent Mentor/Padres Mentores Program at YouthPower365 (YP365) is entering its fifth year of programming across eight elementary schools in Eagle County. The goal of the practice is to engage families in their children's education while developing parent/guardian participants into true education partners and leaders in their schools and community.

Parent Mentor participants commit to a year-long classroom volunteer experience and, in exchange, YP365 provides intensive professional development training on topics to support their classroom volunteerism, including:

- Classroom management,
- Reading, writing, math and English Language Learner (ELL) strategies, and
- Support for their own personal goals in the areas of education, health and wellness, financial security and job skills.

The Parent Mentor program owes much of its success to relationship building and communication. It is essential to spend time and effort in the planning stages of this program to involve school and community leaders. For more information, visit YP365's [Youtube Channel](#) and [website](#).

For more examples of Promising Partnership Practices, click [here](#).

SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education's (SACPIE) early childhood subcommittee is working on collecting examples of dual capacity-building for both parent leaders and program staff.

One resource the committee would like to share is a video about family partnering in early childhood. Organizations serving children and families are increasingly focusing on family engagement as a strategy to improve services, enhance consumer and provider satisfaction, and reduce costs. This video highlights the voices of two family members of the Project LAUNCH Young Child Wellness Council.

RESEARCH BRIEF

The Walton Foundation and Echelon Insights recently published a study entitled "[Millennial Parents and Education](#)." The study helps educators to better understand what Millennial parents think about today's public schools, and specifically what their expectations are for what schools will do for their children.

Findings include:

- Millennial parents expect a lot out of their children's schools, in part because the rise in two-income households has shifted what parents these days can do for their kids.
- Socioeconomic status is a key driver of views about public schools.
- Millennial parents expect that their children's schools will prepare their children both academically and with the other skills they'll need to thrive.
- Millennial parents use many different data points to judge whether their child is getting the skills he or she needs to succeed.
- When judging the quality of a school as a whole, Millennial parents look to test scores, school culture, extracurricular offerings, and graduation rates.
- Millennial parents believe schools should be held accountable for performance and are very open to a wide range of methods of holding schools accountable and responsible for giving kids a good education.

The council exists to bring families and public and private partners together to improve policies, programs, and approaches so that all children enter school with the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical skills they need to succeed. As this five-year grant comes to a close, family members are eager to share their experiences with those interested in systems level initiatives. Watch the video [here](#).

SACPIE meetings are held quarterly and open to the public. Meetings in 2019 are located at MindSpark Learning in Englewood, CO on May 21, August 20, and November 19.

For more information about SACPIE, click [here](#).

THANK YOU FOR SPENDING TIME WITH US THIS MONTH.
WATCH FOR THE NEXT EDITION IN APRIL.

For questions, contact Darcy Hutchins, Family Partnership Director, hutchins_d@cde.state.co.us, 303-866-5921

