

# School-Level Leadership Development in Family and Community Engagement in Thompson School District

## PROGRAM GOAL:

To build the capacity of district Principals and Assistant Principals, to integrate and elevate family school and community partnering practices in schools, and to collect baseline data across the system to drive district improvement planning in the area of FSCP.

### *Training objectives:*

- Understand requirements for stakeholder involvement in CO public schools
- Learn strategies to engage families in school accountability and improvement
- Learn research-based FSCP practices that improve student growth and achievement
- Access resources and training to support partnering efforts in TSD schools

## IMPLEMENTATION:

**WHO:** All elementary, middle, and high school administrators/principals, as well as district level directors of elementary and secondary education.

**WHAT:** Half-day workshop to build district capacity and improve school-level systems of family and community engagement.

**CO-FACILITATED BY:** CDE and TSD

**FOLLOW-UP IMPLEMENTATION:** Throughout the year targeted district supports and additional staff training options were offered to schools and educators. The district FSCP team used participant feedback to design universal training modules utilized for new-teacher induction, educator EdCamps, and site-based FSCP training and support.



## ACTIVITIES:

- Site-based self-assessments using CDE's Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Practice Profile for Family, School and Community Partnering
- Administrators shared specific FSCP challenges occurring in their schools, and using a Mailbox protocol, collaboratively shared ideas and solutions
- Review of federal, state and local guidance for FSCP
- Review of changes to stakeholder engagement requirements under ESSA
- Review and unpacking of the 6 National PTA Standards, TSD FSCP Policy, and CDE guidance
- Review of the research and evidence base for FSCP activities that leads to student growth and school improvement
- World Cafe model for sharing knowledge, surfacing needs, leading collaborative dialogue, and creating paths of action for FSCP practices in TSD
- Showcasing Promising FSCP Practices in TSD Schools Identifying and sharing resources and training to support partnering efforts in TSD

## LINK TO STUDENT OUTCOMES:

Direct links to student achievement include support for schools who wish to engage/train families in supporting student learning at home, analysis of school communication systems to ensure two-way approaches, and support for including FSCP in site-based school improvement plans.

## PROGRAM EVALUATION:

The site-based self-assessment provided baseline data related to our district FSCP systems, and it revealed both strengths and areas for system-wide improvements that have been included in the District Unified Improvement Plan and our MTSS Framework. The World Cafe model surfaced common misconceptions, challenges, and needs in schools across the district. It also identified schools in need of targeted supports, as well as schools with promising practices that can be recognized and replicated.

Questions included in the World Cafe protocol are listed below:

**1:** What systems are currently in place in your school to support family-school-community partnering for student achievement?

**2:** What challenges get in the way of meaningful and wide stakeholder engagement on your school accountability teams, and what might be some ways to address those challenges?

**3:** What supports from the district and state are helpful or would be helpful to continue your efforts to partner with families and the community for student achievement and school improvement?