

FAMILY, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERING

# THE FSCP KEY



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education



Dear FSCP Friends,

My favorite month of the year has arrived and we're well into Virgo-season. I want to use this month's Darcy's Desk to highlight the updated [P-12 FSCP Framework User's Guide](#).

This guide includes a brief background about how we developed the Framework and the research base behind the 12 accompanying rubrics.

The best part about this updated guide, though, are the six new case stories from Colorado districts who participated in last year's FSCP Collaborative. Each story candidly outlines these districts' journeys toward sustainable, systemic, scalable family, school, and community partnerships.

I believe you will all see yourselves and your current FSCP journey in these stories. They're also a great tool to share with your district leadership and colleagues. I encourage you to carve out a bit of time this month to review. Please reach out to Darcy or Jes if you want to learn more about the tailored supports we can provide.

In Partnership,

*Darcy*

## UPDATES

Several FSCP events are on the horizon. Please share the dates far and wide and mark them on your calendars. Also consult the [FSCP Year-at-a-Glance](#).

**September 8, 9-10**, FSCP Office Hours. Everyone welcome especially new FSCP contacts. Join [here](#).

**September 12**, Family Engagement Liaison Course begins. Contact [Leslie](#) if you have questions.

**September 16**, 10-noon, Coffee Chat for district staff. Hosted at Aurora Public Schools about their Welcome Center. 1577 E. 1st Ave., Aurora, CO 80011.

**October 13**, 9-10, FSCP Office Hours. Everyone welcome especially new FSCP contacts. Join [here](#).

**November 1**, 6-8 PM, Kickoff for Family and School Partnership in Education Month. Families and district/school staff welcome. More information forthcoming.

For a more comprehensive list of announcements from CDE, you may [subscribe](#) to The Scoop, a newsletter published every Wednesday.

### 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

Spellbinders Storytellers mission is to use the art of oral storytelling to enhance literacy, encourage character development, and build intergenerational community. Denver Public Schools' Storytelling program brings together young and old to create connections, advance literacy, and enrich the lives of children and volunteers alike.

Oral storytellers volunteer in classrooms – telling, not reading stories. Tellers provide 20 to 40-minute storytelling sessions based on the needs of the teacher. Tellers return each month so that children form long-term relationships with caring community members. Storytellers offer a fun, engaging, and effective tool for literacy skill building.

Listening and speaking are core skills that cross all content areas. Oral storytelling requires students to visualize and imagine. This supports reading comprehension and evokes critical thinking skills which are essential to all higher learning. Stories include tales from around the world that expand a child's worldview.

The program is evaluated by surveying teachers at the end of the school year. Approximately 98% of teachers report that having a Spellbinders storyteller in the classroom helps students achieve academic goals.

Click [here](#) to read more Promising Partnership Practices.

## SAC/DAC ON TRACK

On August 25, parents and staff from across Colorado joined the bi-monthly SAC/DAC Networking meeting. And we had an amazing conversation!

The session started with a brief overview of [SAC](#) and [DAC](#) legislated responsibilities. Participants then engaged in a conversation about recruitment, communication and how to “demystify” accountability committees.

Attendees at the meeting all shared a goal; they want accountability committee meetings to be welcoming and not overwhelming. They shared that it's difficult to recruit members when the topics seem so daunting. CDE staff recom-

# RESEARCH BRIEF

A couple of months ago, the [National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement](#) (NAFSCE) published a new guidance document: [Family Engagement Core Competencies: A Body of Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions for Family-Facing Professionals](#).

Based on over 3 years of research with the field, the Family Engagement Core Competencies bring together the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that family facing professionals develop and embrace to engage families equitably. The goal of the Core Competencies is to enhance, unify, and amplify the standards documents and guidance that address family and community engagement in various fields and developmental periods to advance and support more effective and universal practice. The competencies are:

1. Respect, Honor, and Value Families.
2. Embrace Equity Throughout Family Engagement.
3. Build Trusting Reciprocal Relationships with Families.
4. Foster Community Partnerships for Learning and Family Wellbeing.
5. Co-Construct Learning Opportunities with Families.
6. Link Family and Community Engagement to Learning and Development.
7. Take Part in Lifelong Learning.
8. Advocate for Systems Change

NAFSCE is [hosting a webinar](#) on September 15 from 11-12 MDT to walk people through the Competencies.

mended balancing what needs to be discussed with having fun. The legislated responsibilities won't happen if you're struggling to recruit committee members or if families don't feel that they have a voice.

Parent leaders offered several suggestions about how to use social media to engage SAC/DAC members as well as the broader school community, while also remaining positive and productive.

Go [here](#) to review materials and recordings from past sessions. The Office of FSCP staff look forward to learning from all of you to improve supports we can offer to others.

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

For questions, contact Darcy Hutchins, Director of Family, School, Community Partnerships,  
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