



Dear FSCP Friends,

Welcome back to a new school year. I know this is not even close to being a “normal” start, but I see so many possibilities for our FSCP work in the upcoming year.

Schools and districts have risen to the challenge of continuing to build relationships with families and supporting student learning during these unprecedented times. Over 35 schools and districts submitted Promising Partnership Practices for the 2020 edition, many of which highlight COVID-specific activities. The complete 2020 edition will be [available online](#) in mid-August.

Districts have also been helping their peers. Recently, Douglas County School District received a grant to improve technology access to ELL families, thanks to guidance from our friends in Boulder Valley. Congratulations, DCSD!

I hope that you will join your fellow districts in receiving further support during our monthly Coffee Chats. Looking forward to working with you all this school year!

In Partnership,

*Darcy*

# UPDATES

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

**August 18**, 9-11:30am, State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) Quarterly Meeting. Virtual.

**August 21**, 9-noon, Mini-Retreat Coffee Chat for district staff. Refer to Zoom link in your calendar invite.

**September 1**, 1-2:30pm for rural districts and 3:30-5:00pm for urban and suburban districts. School Accountability Committee Networking Meeting . For school leaders and district staff who support SACs. Register for [Rural](#) and [Urban/Suburban](#) by August 28.

**September 18**, 10-noon, Coffee Chat for district staff and school family engagement liaisons, Aurora Public Schools will host the virtual meeting. Refer to Zoom link in your calendar invite. Please share with family engagement liaisons.

**FSCP Coffee Chats for 2020-21 school year**, 10-noon, Third Friday of each month. Mark your calendars now!

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

North Middle School (NMS), in Aurora Public Schools, received feedback from families after COVID forced us to shelter-in-place that they needed to be more concise with all the information being sent home. Therefore, North's family liaison created a [Youtube video](#) that showed an overview of how to help students' login, monitor their progress, and what to expect to see in the online platform.

After making the first video, the liaison made another one to help parents [utilize their mobile hotspot](#). The next step was to make sure that staff offered parents an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback about how the school could improve online learning support. To begin this dialogue, NMS hosted a couple of virtual coffee chats with parents, the principal, administrative team, and counselors.

Counselors answered questions and offered parental advice to support students through this difficult time. One theme was that families wanted to take a more active role in their student's learning. As a result, staff helped parents create their own account for their student's online learning on Edgenuity. During the coffee chats staff also learned about immediate needs and parents were able to offer their support to each other.

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

# SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) partnered with the Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE) and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to gather information from principals and superintendents about their experiences with accountability committees. The three groups plan to use this information to better support schools and districts in implementing meaningful and relevant accountability committees, particularly during our current COVID world.

Jason Taylor, principal at Platte Valley Middle School and CASE rep on SACPIE, will be co-hosting two networking meetings with CDE staff. These networking meetings will be an opportunity for school and district leaders to share strat-

# RESEARCH BRIEF

In January 2020, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) released a [P-12 Framework](#) to help guide districts and schools to implement systemic and sustainable family, school, and community partnership structures. Staff at CDE co-created this Framework with districts, schools, families, and community partners from across Colorado.

In May 2020, CDE entered a partnership with staff at Johns Hopkins University to develop accompanying resources to assist districts and schools to bring the framework to life. Districts and schools will soon have access to an implementation guide, a series of rubrics, and planning documents to bring inclusive and equitable partnerships to scale.

Part of the implement guide is a summary of research about what districts and schools need to have an "excelling" partnership program. Schools and districts with excelling programs will demonstrate high levels of implementation across several domains that research has shown to be predictive of strong FSCP programs that drive important outcomes. These domains include:

- **School and program leadership.**
- **Attention to inequities.**
- **Giving voice and sharing power.**
- **Programmatic approach and not events.**
- **Teamwork and shared leadership.**
- **Evaluation.**

These resources will be available [here](#) in mid-August.

egies, challenges, and goals for the 2020-21 School Year. Time will be available to share promising practices from around the state, as well as an opportunity to discuss ways of leveraging remote meetings to engage new audiences.

These two convenings will take place on September 1, 2020. [One session](#), held virtually from 1:00-2:30 will have a focus on rural and small rural districts. The [second session](#), held virtually from 3:30-5:00 will be primarily for urban and suburban districts. However, if one time works better for you than another, please attend whichever is most convenient.

Contact Lisa Steffen ([steffen\\_l@cde.state.co.us](mailto:steffen_l@cde.state.co.us)) if you have questions about the sessions.

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

For questions, contact Darcy Hutchins, Director of Family, School, Community Partnerships, [hutchins\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hutchins_d@cde.state.co.us), 303-562-8175

