



Welcome to the inaugural edition of the FSCP Key. The purpose of this newsletter is to help keep districts and schools informed about family-school-community partnering (FSCP) resources and initiatives.

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) is committed to supporting partnership work that leads to student academic and behavioral success. We align our work with the National Standards for Family-School Partnership (listed at the bottom of this page).

As we begin the 2017-18 school year, I encourage all of us to consider how we currently work with families and community stakeholders to help students meet and exceed standards.

I look forward to working with you this upcoming 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. More information is forthcoming:

August 15, 11am-3pm, 1525 Sherman St, Denver: SAC-PIE Full Council Meeting, open to the public.

October 5, 6:30pm-8:00pm, Tivoli Zenith Room, Denver: Kickoff for Family and School Partnership in Education Month, all are welcoming.

November 2-3, The Inverness Hotel, Englewood: Equity & Excellent Conference. The second day AM plenary session will focus on FSCP initiatives.

Third Friday of Every Month, Rotating Location: FSCP Coffee Chats, intended specifically for district-level colleagues to discuss and share FSCP work. Contact Darcy for more information.

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	2	3	4	5	6
Welcoming All Families into the School Community	Communicating Effectively	Supporting Student Success	Speaking Up for Every Child	Sharing Power	Collaborating with the Community

PROMISING PRACTICES

The Summit School District, in connection with their local Family Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC), has created an outreach and home-visitation program called “Conexiones.”

Conexiones is a kindergarten readiness program which aims to increase school connectedness, high school graduation rates, representation in advanced placement classes, enrollment in postsecondary institutions, and close the achievement gap. In the short term, Conexiones aims to increase the proficiency level of students in their academic achievement, increase the number of positive behavior referrals, increase administrative and teacher contact with families, and increase attendance rates.

Summit School District has identified family engagement as a key to the success of learners within the district at every age. As a result, the district actively connects with all parents, families, and community partners to build a network of support for every student’s academic success, character development, and social-emotional health.

For more examples of Promising Partnership Practices, go to: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/ui/p/promising>

RESEARCH BRIEF

The U.S. Department of Education established the Dual Capacity-Building Framework (2014) to guide state offices, school districts, and schools in establishing FSCP programs focused on student learning. The research-based framework recognizes that in order for FSCP to be effective, educational systems need to work in coordination with one another to build the capacity of educators and families.

Some initial steps to creating and sustaining a comprehensive FSCP program include:

- **Creating a team** to focus on engaging family and community partners to help improve student success.
- **Writing annual family engagement plans** that are embedded in the school improvement plan.
- **Reflecting** upon your family and community engagement events and program at least annually to understand what was implemented well and where improvement are needed.
- **Providing professional development** opportunities related to family and community engagement practices.

SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

Colorado is extremely fortunate to have the State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) as a support to collect and share promising partnership practices.

Established during the 2009 legislative session, SACPIE’s overarching goal is 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.

For more information, visit the SACPIE website:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/SACPIE/>

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

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

