



Dear FSCP Friends,

I'm using the "Darcy's Desk" this month to shamelessly promote the 2018 edition of Promising Partnership Practices. This year is the fourth annual edition of the publication that highlights around 50 schools' and districts' work with families for student success.

Last week, I heard a story about how one small district recently had to cut a family liaison position because of a tight budget. The families in the community, many of whom had participated in a free public advocacy course, worked with this district to save the position and find continued funding to support family-school-community partnership efforts. What a wonderful example of Speaking Up for Every Child and Sharing Power!

The Call for Submissions of Promising Partnership Practices is open now until June 1. More information is in the UPDATES section of this newsletter.

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 16, FSCP Coffee Chat, 10am-noon, Douglas County School District is hosting. For district contacts.

April 2, The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) has two position vacancies. The positions are for a teacher and a nonprofit representing traditionally underserved populations. Applications will be available [here](#) by March 12.

May 15, State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education meeting, 11am-3pm, Location TBD. Open to the public.

June 1, Promising Partnership Practices, submissions due for consideration. All institutions P-20 are invited to submit. A copy of the application is [here](#) under "News."

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

Growing Together Family Day, sponsored by the San Juan BOCES, is an event that promotes a time for individuals with disabilities and their parents and families to network, gather information on topics of interest, and learn about community and school resources.

The event started with a welcome and keynote entitled Growing Up and Growing Strong- Living with a Disability. Participants then chose from a wide array of informational and interactive 45-minute sessions. Session breakout topics included:

- Get Present! The Science and Application of Mindfulness Awareness in Parenting
- The Pitfalls and Victories of Advocating for Youth
- Financial Planning for the Future
- Happy Graduation! Now What?
- Self-Advocacy 101

The majority of participants requested having even more breakout session options in the future. Parents left the family day empowered to advocate for their children in school and beyond.

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

SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

In addition to focusing on family partnerships in P-12 education, FSCP practices and the study of FSCP within higher education has proven to be an asset *for students attending colleges and for faculty who prepare educators*. The Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) SACPIE sub-committee has collected and/or created materials to support thinking about (a) the bonds of college students with their families and (b) effective approaches to instruction of FSCP content within college programming.

- A) Family engagement in college can lead to multiple benefits. In the 2015 *ASHE Higher Education Report*, it states, "There is evidence that parental/familial support is significantly associated with college students' developmental, academic, and social/emotional outcomes" (p. 38). For the citation to this article (*Family Engagement and Involvement in College*) or

RESEARCH BRIEF

Preparing, recruiting, and sustaining membership of accountability committees can be a very difficult task. It is particularly important to build capacity of family members who step into leadership roles on School or District Accountability Committees.

In August 2016, the Anne E. Casey foundation developed a planning tool for "Engaging Parents, Developing Leaders." This toolkit is based on a literature review, one-on-one interviews with over 40 leaders in the field, and three parent focus groups.

The research indicated four domains that represent "building the organizational capacity needed to better serve parents." The four domains are:

- Build a culture of respect, inclusion, and equity.
- Coach parents on their competence and confidence in their roles.
- Listen to and collaborate with parents.
- Work with other organizations and communities to benefit parents.

The tool contains self-assessments and planning documents to best satisfy the four domains.

To read the study in its entirety, go to, click [here](#).

other related sources, download the: [SACPIE IHE Reference List](#).

B) Representatives from [Fort Lewis College](#) (Durango, CO) and [College in Colorado](#) collaborated on a brief 10-minute narrated slideshow on *FSCP Considerations within Higher Education*. Access at: <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/p9vtvqix5us5/>. Additionally, Dr. Tracy Mueller of the [University of Northern Colorado](#) describes *Family-Professional Partnerships and What IHEs Can Do* in this 37-minute recording: <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/pfprkehit8sj/>.

Note: All included links are also on the [CDE MTSS FSCP webpage](#).

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

