



Dear FSCP Friends,

Happy *Family and School Partnership in Education Month*. I really miss the days of celebrating in person, but in the meantime, we'll honor the month virtually.

Throughout October, CDE will highlight [Promising Partnership Practices](#) and new resources on social media and in [The Scoop](#).

Foothills Elementary School, in Jeffco Public Schools, kicked off the month with Family-School Partnership Day. Students, staff, and families celebrated four consecutive years of Promising Partnership Practice recognition. Families left with Foothills yard signs to display their partnership pride.

How are you celebrating *Family and School Partnership in Education Month*? Will your local board highlight the importance of family engagement liaisons? Maybe you can practice [FSCP framing strategies](#). Let me know how you're recognizing partnerships in October. I'd love to hear all about it!

In Partnership,

*Darcy*

## UPDATES

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

**October**, all month long, *Family and School Partnership in Education Month*. Watch social media throughout the month for highlights and new resources.

**October 12**, 5:30-6:30pm, SAC/DAC Networking Series. Topic will be about DAC and Local School Board Relationships. Open to anyone currently or interested in being on an accountability committee. Register [here](#).

**October 15**, 10-noon, Coffee Chat for district staff. The D11 team will host this coffee chat. Join the zoom meeting [here](#).

**January 13-14**, Annual FSCP District Leaders Retreat. More information forthcoming, but save the date!

**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

D6 (Greeley) Paints provided parents with a space to speak about mental health, specifically about the importance of taking time for themselves within the context of COVID-19 in which work, chores, and childcare have taken front and center.

D6 Paints was an art class for families which included two time slots to best fit parent’s schedules—10AM on Wednesdays and 5PM on Thursdays. The art class started at the beginning of the spring semester and lasted for six weeks. Some parents painted a canvas of themselves (self-portraits) and others drew something they identified with or felt represented themselves.

After the six-week course, parents provided feedback to include another course for the whole family. Therefore, D6 partnered with the Motherread program and added a second class focused on children’s books. Families read a different book each week and then created art with their children related to the book. Parents reported that creating art about the books with their children helped them feel more involved with their children’s reading.

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

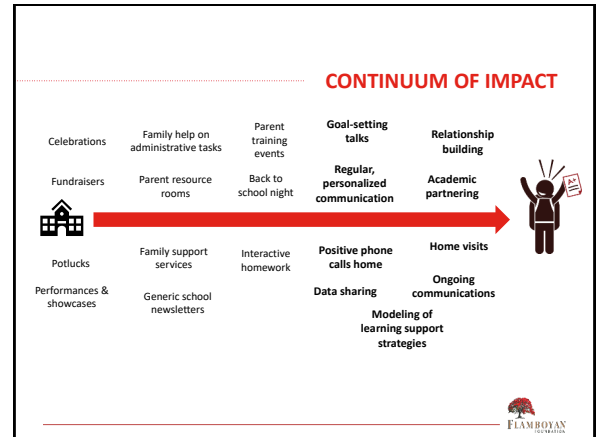
# SAC/DAC ON TRACK

The Accountability Committee Networking Series met on September 14 to discuss stakeholder engagement in the Unified Improvement Planning process. Superintendent Elsie Goines highlighted how she uses formal (e.g., DAC meetings) and informal (e.g., dinner nights) structures to gather feedback. Superintendent Goines shared many tips, including how to leverage your “well-connected” DAC members and the importance of building community relationships.

Erin Loftan, a representative from CDE’s School Improvement and Planning Office, shared an overview of planning

# RESEARCH BRIEF

Communication can make or break partnerships. Most of us already know that positive phone calls home and regular, personalized communication are high-impact strategies.



But what is the best way for staff to communicate with families about academics? The Flamboyant Foundation has a checklist of [communication Do’s and Don’ts](#). Flamboyant recommends that communication be:

- Manageable for teachers and families.
- Regular.
- Explicitly explained to families.
- Positive.
- Transparent and placed in context.
- Clear.
- Actionable.
- Comprehended.

expectations and the importance of listening to every voice.

The next networking meeting, October 12th from 5:30-6:30pm, will focus on SAC, DAC, and local school board relations. Dr. Dan Jorgensen, former Adams-Arapahoe board member, current charter school board member, and Accountability Support Manager at CDE, will facilitate the meeting. The discussion will include how district and school committees can work together and how local boards can leverage the DAC for stakeholder feedback.

Go [here](#) to review materials from past sessions and view upcoming topics.

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

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

