



Dear FSCP Friends,

Happy *Family and School Partnership in Education* Month! Governor Hickenlooper has proclaimed October as partnership month for the seventh consecutive year.

How are you celebrating the month? Some districts read the official proclamation at October's Board of Education meeting. Others have special columns in their district or school newsletters. One year, the town of Aurora wrote its own proclamation in addition to the state's proclamation.

Regardless of how you celebrate locally, I hope that your plans include attending the Kickoff on October 4th at the PACE Center in Parker. Over 60 schools and districts will show their promising partnership practices with poster displays and we will celebrate all things FSCP.

If you have other celebrations planned for October, please let me know. I'd love to share and be a part of it. Happy FSCP-ing (yes, I just turned FSCP into a verb!).

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 4, Family and School Partnership in Education Month, 6:30pm-8:00pm, PACE Center, Parker, CO. All are welcome.

October 19, FSCP Coffee Chat, 10am-noon, virtual participation only through Zoom. For district contacts.

November 1-3, 2018, Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP) Conference, Fort Collins, CO. Click [here](#) for more information.

November 13, 2018, State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education, 11am-3pm, Location TBD. All are welcome.

FSCP Coffee Chats for 2018-19, 10-noon, Third Friday of each month. Half of the chats will be in-person and half will be virtual. Mark your calendars now!

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

Slater Elementary School implements a prevention-based framework by organizing evidence based behavioral supports to enhance academic and social outcomes for all students. Using the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework, Slater staff have organized a PBIS School Store.

Slater students earn GATOR stickers based on the GATOR matrix of expectations, which includes Goals, Attitude, Teamwork, On-time, and Respect. Students who exemplify one or more of these attributes can potentially earn a GATOR sticker to put on their GATOR card. Each card holds 10 stickers and students can then choose to save up their stickers to “purchase” items at the School Store. The last Friday of each month classroom teachers sign up to bring their students to the store.

The Slater PTA partnered with the school to support the store. Parent volunteers (both PTA and non-PTA members) set-up and close-up the store, as well as run the store throughout the day. Volunteers also have the opportunity to give input on how the store operates, what type of merchandise is available, and how to talk with students about what they earn.

For more examples of Promising Partnership Practices, click [here](#).

SACPIE SPOTLIGHT

The SACPIE Elementary Committee recently completed a brochure about overcoming hurdles of Family-School-Community Partnering to promote students’ literacy development. The brochure aligns with the National Standards for Family-School Partnership (PTA, 2008).

One portion of the brochure highlights opportunities for engagement and leadership that highlight culture:

- Understand that families want to partner with the school but may not know how to contribute.
- Seek out families as opposed to waiting for families to offer help.
- Suggest a few different --but specific-- options for families to volunteer.

RESEARCH BRIEF

This research brief sticks with the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) theme of this FSCP Key edition. Family-School-Community Partnering is an integral component of PBIS.

Andy Garbacz and his colleagues in Florida, Oregon, and Rhode Island recently conducted a study to identify the “barriers and facilitators” to family engagement in schools implementing schoolwide PBIS. School staff from 204 schools in Colorado, Florida, and Illinois participated in the research project.

“Barriers” of partnering fell in one of two categories—structural or psychological. Lack of resources (time, multi-lingual supports, staffing) was the greatest structure barrier while perceived lack of families’ willingness in partnering was the greatest psychological barrier.

Research noted: “The assumption that not attending a school-sanctioned activity equates to lack of desire to be involved in their children’s education overlooks the myriad ways that families can support their children.”

“Facilitators” of family engagement included building positive relationships with families through a welcoming school climate and communicating effectively and clearly. This study highlights the importance of putting structures in place to continually welcome families to the school community.

For more information, click [here](#).

- Provide funding to support events.
- Identify family leaders from each community that represent the student population.
- Survey families for how they would like to engage with the school and then set community goals.
- Empower families and support them in goals that they want to accomplish with engaging with the school.

The Elementary Committee will share this new resource at the Kickoff on October 4th. It will then be available [here](#).

For questions, contact committee co-chairs Joyce [Thiessen-Barrett](#) or [Leslie Levine](#).

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

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

