

Parent Teacher Home Visit Program

Denver Public Schools
Denver, CO



COLORADO
Department of Education

To fully engage and partner with families, Denver Public Schools believes that home visits are a powerful tool. The goal of their home visit program is to establish meaningful relationships between school and family, and to establish the expectation for joint responsibility for student achievement. In the past year alone, teachers and other educators in the district completed 9,437 visits.

The Denver Public Schools home visit program is modeled off a national model for family outreach, but is unique in the fact that it trains and compensates teachers across all grades. Their home visit program allows families and schools to build trust, share hopes and dreams, form relationships, and discuss expectations and resources in regards to student achievement. The program began with five pilot schools and has since expanded to 77 schools. Each school that participates receives professional development from a training team.

This program has shown to be experiencing great success thus far. Teachers report that they have gained new skills in cultural awareness and cultural sensitivity. They report improved relationships with students, and the majority of teachers would recommend the home visit program to colleagues interested in improving relationships. Parents also report success with this program – 91% say they are more comfortable with teachers after a home visit is conducted.

Going forward, to further assess the benefits of this program, the district plans to examine direct correlations between student outcomes and the home visiting. Other student data that will be examined includes reading scores, parent volunteerism, student attendance, and referrals/suspensions.