Family, School, and Community Partnerships: From Paper to Practice Darcy Hutchins, PhD Carrie A. Olson, PhD

Colorado Association of School Boards
December 2025



Family, School, and Community Partnerships



Session Objectives

Participants will:

- Learn the benefits of family, school, and community partnerships (FSCP).
- Discuss Colorado legislation that support FSCP.
- Share promising practices and challenges about FSCP.
- Identify statewide resources to help support FSCP.





Think Ahead to December 12, 2026

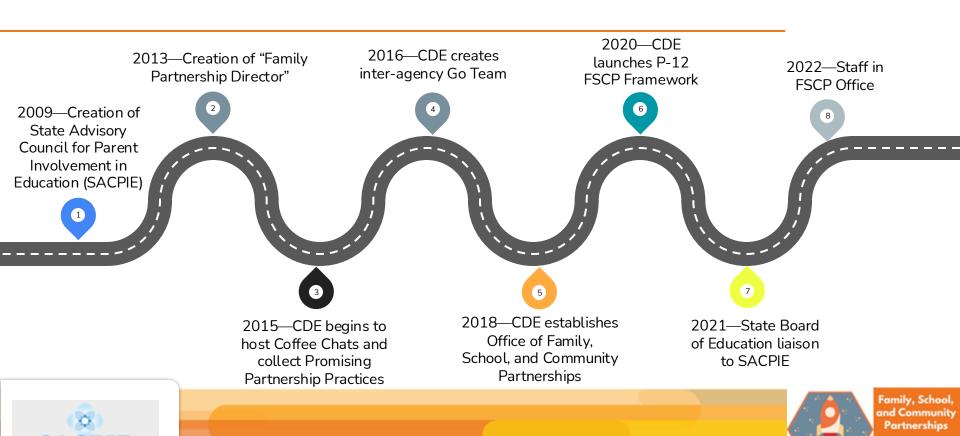
Your local paper is doing a feature story about family engagement in your district. What is the headline?







Evolution of Family Engagement in Colorado



SACPIE's Vision and Mission

VISION

All students' life goals are met through family, school, and community partnerships.

MISSION

To inform and advise education systems on best and promising practices that support family, school, and community partnerships.





SACPIE Membership

Parents on School or District Accountability Committees (one per congressional district)

Non-Profit Organizations That Support Families Who:

- Have Students with Disabilities
- Are Traditionally Underserved
- Need Health and Wellness Support

Expertise in Early Childhood

Statewide Organizations For:

- Counselors
- Teachers
- School Executives
- School Boards
- Charter Schools
- Parents and Teachers

Colorado Departments of:

- Early Childhood
- Education
- Higher Education
- Human Services







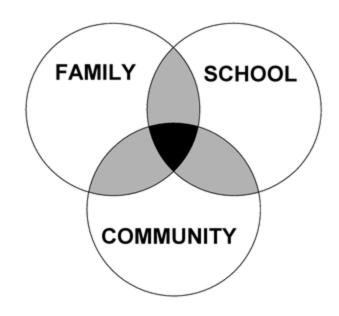
Research Base





Family, School, and Community Partnerships

Overlapping Spheres of Influence



Factors Influencing
Effective Partnering

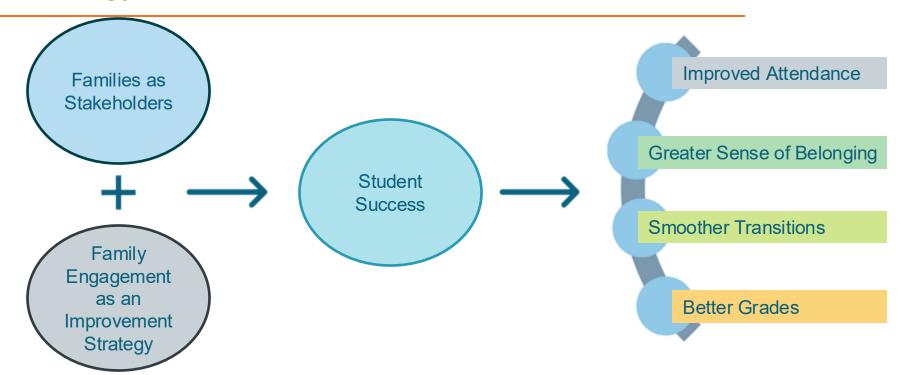
Experiences, Beliefs, Practices







A Strategy – Not a Goal!



Everyone Wins, 2022





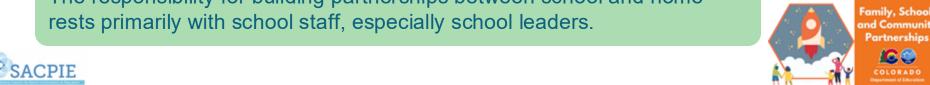
Four Core Beliefs

All families have dreams for their children and want the best for them.

All families have the capacity to support their children's learning.

Families and school staff should be equal partners.

The responsibility for building partnerships between school and home





State and Federal Family, School, and Community Partnership Policy





FSCP Title I Requirements (Section 1116)

Title I, Part A parent and family engagement is defined as the participation of parents and families in **regular**, **two-way**, **and meaningful communication** involving student academic learning and other school activities, ensuring that—

- Families play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
- Families are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
- Families are full partners in their child's education and are included in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and
- Other activities are carried out, such as those described in ESSA Section 1116.





State and Federal Legislation

Draft

ESSA Section 1116(a) and (b) policy is jointly developed with and distributed to families.

<u>Implement</u>

C.R.S. 22-11-302(g)(II) District Accountability Committee

C.R.S. 22-11-402 (h)(II) School Accountability Committee

Evaluate

ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(D) conduct, with the meaningful involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parent and family engagement policy





Policy Considerations



Policies should be:



Clear



Comprehensive



Flexible



Funded



Facilitated







Step 1: Form a Team





Step 4: Evaluate the Outcomes

Step 3: Write and Implement a Plan

Small Group Discussion

- What questions, challenges, or lessons learned can you share about FSCP, particularly when it comes to policy?
- What is your role as a school board member in promoting FSCP?







CONTINUUM OF IMPACT

Modeling of learning support strategies

Goal-setting Parent Family help on Relationship talks Celebrations training administrative tasks building events Regular, Back to Academic Parent resource **Fundraisers** personalized school night partnering rooms communication Home visits **Positive phone** Family support Interactive **Potlucks** calls home services homework **Ongoing** Performances & communications **Data sharing** Generic school





showcases

newsletters

Family, School, and Community Partnership Resources







Connect with the Office of FSCP



Review the <u>Year</u> at a Glance.

2

Read the Promising Partnership Practices.

3

Peruse the free online FSCP courses.

4

Explore the FSCP Trail Map.

5

Reach out to staff in the Office of FSCP any time!





Thank you!

Office of FSCP Website

