Thinking About 2018-19 and Planning for 2019-2020

Thank you to the amazing Title I Principals, financial secretaries and Community Superintendents who joined us for spring budget meetings. At this time, we have met (almost) with all schools. A HUGE shout out to Josh Shoemaker and Chris Surrat, Grants Accounting, for their ongoing work to align budgets and respond to individual school needs. We value our partnership!

We also appreciate feedback from principals related to Family Engagement Liaisons (FELs), MyON reading, site tech support and the Family School Partnership (FSP). Since December we have actively collected feedback/input from Title I’s three stakeholder groups: families, principals, and teachers. As we look ahead to 2019-2020, these three groups all agreed that funding for the FEL program was essential. Results of our stakeholder input is listed below:

As a reminder, in 2019-2020, CDE will monitor for Meaningful Stakeholder Engagement. Principals: Please make sure you are sharing your Title I budget that is aligned to your school’s UIP with families and staff. Please keep the agenda of this meeting/sharing, as well as an attendance sheet. (Remember, your FEL can scan your documents and include them in your school’s Google Portfolio/Folder.)
Hello, I am the new Community and Family Connections Liaison for Bear Creek, Wheat Ridge, Dakota Ridge, Chatfield, and Columbine articulation areas. I have worked in Jeffco for 3 years, and was a student in Jeffco for my entire K-12 career. I will complete my Master’s in Social Work degree in December from Colorado State University. I am the Varsity Head Pom Coach at Arvada West High School, and created their Adaptive Cheer Team the Arvada West Sparkles. I am excited to serve in this new position and look forward to working with all of you!

ALEX ESPINOZA

We are excited to roll out an exciting partnership between the CFC Liaison, Oscar Fonseca, and Damien Lopez, Family Engagement Liaison, at Jefferson JR./SR. High (JJSH). During the next few months, Oscar and Damien will be working side by side on a weekly basis reaching out to families experiencing homelessness and offering additional support and resources. Oscar will be at JJSH on Thursday afternoons and will be available to provide assistance for Medicaid, SNAP and TANF to all families in the Jefferson Articulation area. This intentional partnership holds much possibility as we continue to refine and strengthen outreach to McKinney Vento families. We look forward to updating you on this initiative in the next newsletter.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the CFC team is a Certified Application Assistance Site (CAAS) for Medicaid, TANF, and SNAP? We are happy to meet with families at schools, or anywhere convenient for them to help with the application process to get our students the coverage they need. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your liaison or share your liaison’s info to your families.
Recently, I found myself reflecting on the question, “Why do we have Title I Family School Partnership meetings throughout the year?”

My short answer is, I believe in families leading family engagement. What does that look like? Family School Partnership meetings give families a voice in decision making and leadership by involving them in the process of planning, implementing and evaluating family engagement ‘best practices’ in their schools. By connecting families across all Title I schools, we create opportunities for families to share their knowledge, ideas, and feedback. By doing so, we build capacity within our families to take their learning back to their individual schools.

But then it occurred to me that it’s not only ‘my why’ that matters! At a recent FSP meeting, a parent from Fitzmorris shared his why - “My kids deserve this!”

We invite you to see for yourself! Our last meeting for this year will be on 4-2-19 from 5:30 to 7:00 at the Ed Center Board Room.
1. This was the first year of RISE at Little and you hosted two RISE meetings for families. What did both you and your families enjoy most about the meetings?

We enjoyed the interaction between ourselves and the parents while we shared the type of work we do in first grade at Little Elementary. We had parents working on phonics as they sounded out words and solving multi step math problems.

2. RISE is a family engagement strategy that is designed to increase school and academic success for students. How have RISE meetings, which include data literacy and targeted take-home activities, help families to support school success for their children?

Parents are talking about words and reading books together. They are also talking about numbers and playing math games together. RISE night helps build a picture for parents on how to support their first grader at home.

3. How has RISE helped you to strengthen relationships/partnerships with your families?

RISE night connects families to families, teachers to families, and builds positive and supportive connections.

4. What did you learn about families from implementing RISE this year?

Families are eager to know what their first graders are doing at school. They want to support their children at home but just need some tips.

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