MOVING AHEAD...

By the beginning of this month all 2019-20 Fall Title I Budget Meetings were completed. Thank you so much for your active participation. As a department we value your input and appreciate the open dialogue and reflection that began each meeting. Kudos and thanks to Josh Shoemaker and Chris Surratt, Grants Accounting, for the seamless management of Title I funds.

Moving forward, if for any reason you need to alter your current 2019-20 budget, please reach out to Linda or Carrie for approval. Please do this prior to contacting Josh or Chris. Thank you!

A REQUEST

The Consolidated Application, sent to CDE, each June requires our department to crosswalk the use of Title I funding to schools’ UIPs. As we shared at your budget meeting, knowing how your school is aligning the work of your Family Engagement Liaison (FEL) to a major improvement strategy or action plan in your UIP is essential. If you have not already, please send us (Linda, Carrie or Jenn Munoz) a ‘cut and paste’ of your MIS/Action Plan related to family engagement. We have received several of these already, thank you!!
COMMUNITY & FAMILY CONNECTIONS

HEALTHCARE OUTREACH PARTNERSHIP

Last year at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High, families were connected with healthcare coverage through collaborative efforts between the Community and Family Connections Liaison and the Family Engagement Liaison. Following that successful model for this year, Beatriz Monsalve has partnered with Family Engagement Liaisons Karla and Julie at Alameda High School, to offer these services to our Alameda community.

Susie and the staff at AHS, embraced the idea of having Beatriz there weekly and have been very supportive due to the school’s community and needs. They have provided an office space that is easily accessible to staff, students and families. Beatriz is housed at AHS on Fridays from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. We look forward to a great year of connecting students and families with resources that fits their needs.

PROJECT PENCIL

Last Spring, Amy McDaniel invited Bob Giusto (Dean) from Lakewood High School to be her thinking partner at CDE’s Highly Mobile Summit. Lots of learning took place and a rich partnership formed. As a follow up to their learning, Amy and Bob meet with Dan Bock, Principal at Lakewood High School. At their first meeting, Amy provided Dan with the “Cuz I Ain’t Got No Pencil,” poem which highlights a mobile student’s morning. Over the summer Dan decided that not having a pencil would not be a barrier LHS students face so he purchased pencils and pencil cups for each classroom. Motivated by Dan’s commitment to students, Amy thought about the sustainability of his initiative and started Project Pencil in partnership with Kris Kochevar (registrar). Project Pencil evolved from a thought that a pencil can be so much more, and with that, they have started to reach out to colleges, trades, and employers to collect pencils that are already used for outreach, and put them into students hands to open doors to options after high school. Thank you LHS for your commitment to all students.

PROJECT PENCIL

Last Spring, Amy McDaniel invited Bob Giusto (Dean) from Lakewood High School to be her thinking partner at CDE’s Highly Mobile Summit. Lots of learning took place and a rich partnership formed. As a follow up to their learning, Amy and Bob meet with Dan Bock, Principal at Lakewood High School. At their first meeting, Amy provided Dan with the “Cuz I Ain’t Got No Pencil,” poem which highlights a mobile student’s morning. Over the summer Dan decided that not having a pencil would not be a barrier LHS students face so he purchased pencils and pencil cups for each classroom. Motivated by Dan’s commitment to students, Amy thought about the sustainability of his initiative and started Project Pencil in partnership with Kris Kochevar (registrar). Project Pencil evolved from a thought that a pencil can be so much more, and with that, they have started to reach out to colleges, trades, and employers to collect pencils that are already used for outreach, and put them into students hands to open doors to options after high school. Thank you LHS for your commitment to all students.

Cause I Ain’t Got a Pencil

By Joshua T. Dickerson

I woke myself up
Because we ain’t got an alarm clock
Dug in the dirty clothes basket,
Cause ain’t nobody washed my uniform

Brushed my hair and teeth in the dark,
Cause the lights ain’t on
Even got my baby sister ready,
Cause my mama wasn’t home.
Got us both to school on time,
To eat us a good breakfast.
Then when I got to class the teacher fussed
Cause I ain’t got no pencil
Hosting Family Workshops are an excellent way to provide an understanding of how school looks in the 21st Century! When looking for relevant topics to present, families understandably want to know, “How is my child doing socially at school?”

During a conversation, Zenaida Ramirez, Family Engagement Liaison and Stephanie Becker, JCMH in-school Clinician sparked an idea. The two had to look no farther than down the hall to tap into the expertise in their building. Swanson developed a comprehensive mental health team. The Social Emotional Learning Specialist (SEL) Melissa Hosa, Social Worker Amber Cross, Jefferson Center for Mental Health (JCMH) in-school clinician Stephanie Becker, and Family Engagement Liaison (FEL), meet every other week to collaborate to meet the needs of their students and community. Stephanie Becker, JCMH in-school clinician says, “We do a ton of overlap so it only made sense to make our parent nights related to SEL, FEL and mental health. It’s a collaborative effort.” Amber, Melissa and Stephanie work together to determine a tiered continuum of support. Zenaida Ramirez sees the benefit of the team, “...I have a ton of information about families and a different relationship and experience with families than they do. We all work to meet the needs of the whole school/whole child…”

Swanson has layered their communication to families about social emotional learning in their Colt News. Information about the 7 Mindsets, how they are used in school and questions parents can ask their children at home. “It helps set the tone and our hope is that parents will use the same language/messaging at home so there is consistency across environments,” says Melissa Hoza, Swan-son’s half-time SEL.

Knowing that great leadership creates an environment for great collaborations, when asked, How have you successfully integrated family engagement at Swanson with your entire staff and family stakeholders? Principal Kristina Carothers replied, “Our Family Engagement Liaison, Zenaida, is a member of our school Culture and Community committee. There, she works alongside classroom teachers and other staff to determine the best ways to reach and support our students and families. We try to think outside the box and provide families with multiple entry points to access our school....It must also be added that I am fortunate to have Zenaida as our liaison. She is always looking for opportunities to collaborate and work with her colleagues. She has our families best interest at heart, and will go above and beyond to make them feel welcome at Swanson.”
RISE at Little Elementary
Congratulations to Little for being featured in the Arvada Press!

Class is in session for Little Elementary parents

At RISE nights, parents gain skills to promote learning at home

Casey Van Divier

When Little Elementary School kindergarten teachers talk with parents, they don't shy away from using words like schema, metacognition and phonemic awareness — and it doesn't take long for parents to realize elementary school isn't quite what it used to be.

It's 2019, and Jeffco educators believe family engagement is more important than ever, serving as a tool to help parents understand how the academic landscape has changed for every student in every grade.

That's why the schools have launched new strategies, like RISE nights. The events take place in seven Jeffco schools and are somewhat similar to parent-teacher conferences, though schools typically use them in addition to conferences and not as a replacement, said RISE coordinator Susie Kirvin.

To view full article please visit http://arvadapress.com/stories/class-is-in-session-for-little-elementary-parents,288447

RISE UPDATES

- Thank you to all RISE schools for hosting successful Fall RISE events! Allendale, Parr, Stevens, Westgate, Little, Wilmore Davis, and Elk Creek all had RISE events where families came together to partner with teachers to increase student school success.
- Title I is very interested in continuing to learn from RISE stakeholder groups about how to improve the RISE experience for families. This year, the Jeffco Interpreters, ELL Resource Teachers, and FELs will meet throughout the school year to share ideas and to learn from each other how to enhance the RISE event for our Jeffco ELL families. We want to ensure that all families feel comfortable at school during a RISE meeting, and are walking away with the knowledge on how to help their child at home. Thank you to our stakeholder groups for your time, ideas, and commitment to Jeffco families!

For information, contact Susie Kirvin at 303-982-0835 or email at susan.kirvin@jeffco.k12.co.us.