In the fall of 2016, the Title I Elevate initiative began; the purpose of the Elevate initiative is to provide access, equity, and opportunity to ensure that every child achieves. Another purpose of the program is to support schools in planning for technology so that they can sustain the technology they already have in their building, obtain new and innovative technology and build a training plan to ensure their teachers are able to impact instruction with the technology.

During the first round of Elevate, Title I supported 22 schools with supplemental money to fund devices for students and professional learning for teachers.

Elevate has launched for the 2017-2018 school year; final drafts are due April 24th. Contact your DTL and Ed Tech Specialist for more information.

Since the start of the 2016-2017 school year, 12,559 students in our Title I schools have interacted with over 199,476 books so far (as compared to 256,182 books read during the 2015-2016 school year). This school year, students have read for more than 58,800 hours, exposing themselves to over 282,219,664 words. Foster (18,851), Lasley (15,512), Secrest (13,164), and Emory (13,324) elementary schools have read the most books for this year in the system.

Currently in the works is a webinar connecting the work behind 21st century HyperDocs blended learning utilizing MyOn books. This work was inspired by the work of the 1st/2nd grade Math/Science team at Swanson Elementary with their Digital Teacher Librarian. This work would apply to all grade levels and all contents.

The online reading RFI process for 2017-2018 closed on March 10, 2017. If you are interested in reviewing vendor bids, please contact the Title I Central Office.

New America School serves approximately 50 students and focuses on helping students who are behind in English Language Arts credits. Their goal is to help high school students stay on track for graduation.

Pennington Elementary serves approximately 144 students and helps students struggling with math and English Language Arts. Their interventionists work closely with teachers to help determine learning gaps and provide targeted intervention to help students reach grade level goals.

Vivian serves approximately 60 students and, like Pennington, give students targeted Math and English language arts interventions based on student needs.
Additional Title I Support Highlights

**ESL/Dual Language**

Jeffco Schools has the fourth highest population of English Language Learners, ELL, in Colorado.

1st- Denver Public Schools
2nd- Adams-Arapahoe 28J (Aurora Public Schools)
3rd- Adams 12 Five Start Schools
4th- Jefferson County Public Schools

There are 131 Different languages spoken in the district and there is an ELL enrolled at every Jeffco Schools.

**Neglected & Delinquent Programs**

As required by CDE, Jeffco Title I Department works to provide access to equitable services at the following neglected and delinquent institutions: Shiloh Home, Devereaux Cleo Wallace, Jefferson Hills and Betty K. Marler.

**Family School Partnership Teams**

Each month parents and Family Engagement Liaisons from all of the Title I schools come together for Family-School Partnership (FSP) trainings hosted in the Board Room at the Ed. Center. These FSP meetings address the PTA’s National Family-School Partnership Standard #5- Sharing Power. Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

**Research & Assessment Design (RAD)**

Title I funds three staff in Research and Assessment Design (RAD). The purpose of this partnership is to gather information and understand the effectiveness of Title I programs and initiatives. The research involves working closely with schools and families to use their perspectives and experiences to contextualize data and foster continuous learning and improvement of programs at a local level. The partnership between Title I and RAD has supported several different initiatives and programs including: Supplemental Education Services (e.g. tutoring/intervention), Elevate, Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT), and Family School Partnerships (FSP).

**Preschool, Head Start, & HIPPY**

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) improves 3-5 year olds’ academic readiness skills. Did you know that Jeffco HIPPY also uses practices to improve children’s social-emotional wellbeing? HIPPY training and materials give home visitors the knowledge and tools to build parents’ understanding of social-emotional development and the importance of structures and reciprocal interactions. For example, in week 13 home visitors explain to parents of 3 year olds how consistency in rules and expectations makes a child’s world predictable and less confusing. Home visitors do more than provide books and activities; they are coaches who come prepared with a deep toolbox! HIPPY by the numbers: 119 families enrolled; 126 children served; 1,300 home visits conducted since September; 10 referrals for additional family services.

**ESSA**

Every Student Succeeds Act

17-18 School Year Fiscal Changes & Comprehensive Needs Assessment

**School Improvement Set-Aside**

ESSA requires the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to reserve 7% of the total Title I, Part A allocation for school improvement activities, a considerable increase from No Child Left Behind (NCLB) 4% reserve. For school year 2017-2018 only, that reserve must be taken proportionately from all districts, even those experiencing a decrease in their allocations. In school year 2018-2019, the law reverts to the provision in effect under NCLB, which provides that the school improvement reserve is taken only from districts slated for a Title I increase. Therefore, CDE will allocate fewer Title I funds for our district next year.

**Proportionate Share for Private School Students**

There is a new ESSA formula for how private schools get Title I funds. The new formula will increase private schools share and is based on Jeffco’s total allocation before any allowable expenditures. Jeffco will no longer calculate the share by multiplying the district’s per-pupil allocation for each Title I attendance area by the number of private school students living in those neighborhood school areas. Now, all Free/Reduced Lunch students, including those who attend charter schools and live in the area, will be a part of the formula to determine the private school allocation.

**Comprehensive Needs Assessment**

Determining how to spend Title I funding is just as important as knowing what’s not allowable. To help make those decisions, the Title I central office developed and shared the School Planning Form to identify improvement strategies and align supplemental supports for attaining desired outcomes. The plan emphasizes that spending must comply with the school’s Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA).

The CNA is informed by all the school stakeholders and:
- is based on a school-level needs assessment;
- includes evidence-based interventions;
- is approved by the school, Jeffco, and CDE; and
- is monitored by the school while the Jeffco ensures plans are fully developed and implemented with fidelity.
The McKinney-Vento Act is a federal law that protects the educational rights of students who do not have a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Jeffco Schools Community and Family Connections (CFC) is here to help identify students experiencing homelessness and remove barriers that prevent students from obtaining a free, appropriate education.

Do you know the signs of a student experiencing homelessness? Here are a few that may help you reach out to a student and connect him/her with our services:

- **Lack of preparedness in class**
- **Poor nutrition, health, and hygiene**
- **Transportation problems**
- **Lack of continuity in education**
- **Social and behavioral cues**
- **Reactions of parents/guardians/students**

  - (inability to contact parents/guardians, numerous absences/school enrollments, lack of participation in school events and activities)
  - (changes in behavior, extreme shyness, clingy behavior, “wise” beyond years, and/or aggression)
  - (talk of living in motels or in doubled-up situations, anger or embarrassment when asked for current address)


If you suspect that a student or family is experiencing homelessness, please make a referral to our CFC liaisons online or by calling our intake line at 303-982-1144.

**Community & Family Connections Staff Highlight**

For our second newsletter, we will highlight two more of our CFC rock stars: Laura and Oscar. Get to know your school’s CFC liaison if you don’t already!

**Oscar Fonseca**

Covering the Jefferson articulation area and most option/charter schools

*What Makes Me Great at My Job:*

“I’m compassionate and truly care about helping others, especially when children are involved. I understand that at any moment ANYONE can end up in a hardship situation. I enjoy problem-solving and making sure that our students are getting services that they have the right to.”

*How Can I Help Students and Families in Your School:*

“We can help with school supplies, credit recovery, transportation assistance, Medicaid/CHP/Food Assistance, clothing, school fees, and someone to navigate through our school system. We have a large district with a lot of moving parts and it can be confusing to advocate for students if you do not know who to go to. I can help guide parents, guardians, and students in the right direction to help their student’s needs.”

*Cool Fact About Myself:*

I’m a huge Los Angeles Dodgers fan. I can watch all 162 games and not get bored.”

**Laura Monreal Herrera**

Covering Standley Lake, Ralston Valley, Arvada, and Arvada West articulation areas

*What Makes Me Great at My Job:*

“I know my resources and have great connections with my schools. I value communicating and listening.”

*How Can I Help Students and Families in Your School:*

“I can help them access services within and outside of the school district.”

*Cool Fact About Myself:*

“I’m a Colorado native. I don’t meet many anymore!”
Kullerstrand Family Engagement Highlights

Promising Practices

In line with the national standards for family – school partnerships, Kullerstrand Elementary School in Wheat Ridge, CO is excelling in the area of community collaboration. Students are provided unique learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation. These experiences and events have helped tremendously in families becoming more engaged with their student and the school. For example, here is a list of some of the events and classes that have taken place this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Literacy Night</th>
<th>Math Night</th>
<th>Colorado Symphony</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stock Show Field Trip</td>
<td>4H Embryology Unit</td>
<td>Magician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Food Bags</td>
<td>All Pro Dad’s Day</td>
<td>Mentor Night (Pic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado ACTS Performance</td>
<td>Dental Day</td>
<td>Rockies Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Symphony Tickets</td>
<td>Fun Run</td>
<td>Shakespeare Anti-Bullying</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kullerstrand is committed to giving back to the community. Their school has hosted volunteer appreciation assemblies, raised money for the Children’s Hospital (Leukemia and Lymphoma Society), and organized many events such as:

- Book Drive for Family Literacy Night
- Clothing Drive for The Serving Kids Program
- Sock Drive for the Jeffco Action Center
- School Supplies Drive for Students in Belize
- Food Drive to Help Families in Need
- Hat, Glove and Underwear Drive during Winter

Kullerstrand has completely embraced the opportunities to collaborate with their amazing community. They will continue this vital aspect of family engagement and are constantly looking for new ways to expand their community involvement.

Promotions and New Hires

Our NEW Title I Family Engagement Coordinator

Sean Kovar
Sean.Kovar@jeffco.k12.co.us
303-982-1747

- Former Family Engagement Liaison at Kullerstrand Elementary School in Wheat Ridge.
- MS Counseling and Guidance from Texas A&M University – Kingsville.
- BA History from Dickinson State University North Dakota.
- JEFFCO alumni and graduate from Dakota Ridge High School.
- Married to Sunni Kovar and expecting a child in April.
- Worked in education and with kids for the past seven years.

NEW School-Based Family Engagement Liaisons

Swanson Elementary - Family Engagement Liaison- Zenaida Ramirez
Lumberg Elementary - Family Engagement Liaison- Maria Pilar Del Castro-Renia
Kullerstrand Elementary - Family Engagement Liaison- Tim Weaver