Title I Principal Advisory Committee

In our continued effort to move from relationships to authentic partnerships, Title I Achievement Directors recommended a principal from each of the five Title I articulation areas to participate on a principal committee. Thank you to Jeff Gomez, Esther Valdez, Stacy Bedell, Rhonda Hatch-Rivera, and Natalie Berges-Tucker for participating on this committee.

The Title I Principal Advisory Committee (TI–PAC) met to determine its role. Based on the brainstorming work of the first meeting, the following strategies were identified as potential work:

Possible Strategies for Advisory Team to Address:

- Communication/marketing campaign to support shifting mindsets around Title I schools
- Advocacy group for Title I equitable resources
- Network of support for Title I leaders
- Problem-solving group for HR concerns (recruit, retain Title I teachers)
- Professional learning/support for Title I teachers
- Design for differentiated instructional supports for Title I schools
- Develop best practice networks/share what’s working/strengths

The TI–PAC met again in January to continue their work around a model of advocacy and advisory. Currently, the team is communicating with their colleagues to collect feedback to determine next steps. If you have not provided input, please contact a member of TI–PAC.

Feedback collection:
- Title I wide initiative for professional learning
- Opportunities for networking
- Support for Title I principals
Unaccompanied Youth: District FAQs
(from NAEHCY’s FAQs on the Education Rights of Children in Homeless Situations)

- **What is an “unaccompanied youth” according to educational law?**
  - According to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, unaccompanied youth is defined as a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

- **Must schools enroll youth in school without proof of guardianship?**
  - Yes. Lack of a legal guardian or guardianship documents cannot delay or prevent the enrollment of unaccompanied youth. Youth must be immediately enrolled, either by the student enrolling herself, or by allowing an adult caregiver to enroll the student.

- **Do schools have to contact the police when enrolling unaccompanied youth?**
  - No, absent other circumstances. While state law determines the obligations of school staff to contact child protective services (CPS) or law enforcement if they suspect abuse, the McKinney-Vento Act requires states and LEAs to eliminate barriers to identification, enrollment and retention of students experiencing homelessness.

- **What if an unaccompanied youth gets injured in school? How will the child receive medical care without a parent? Will the school be liable?**
  - If an unaccompanied youth has a medical emergency, the school can contact the local emergency room. Medical professionals should be familiar with the rules to treat minors and will respond appropriately to medical emergencies. Liability for injuries is based on a party’s failure to exercise reasonable care. By exercising reasonable care in creating a safe environment and responding appropriately to medical emergencies, the school can help protect itself from liability. In any event, such concerns do not relieve the school of its responsibilities under the McKinney-Vento Act. Indeed, if a school violates the Act by refusing to enroll an unaccompanied youth in school, and the youth is subsequently injured off school grounds, a parent or guardian could have a cause of action to sue the school for having turned the youth away.

Want more information, or do you need to refer a student experiencing homelessness? Email the CFC coordinator at rebecca.dunn@jeffco.k12.co.us or call our intake line at 303.982.1144
Family School Partnership

The February 6th Family School Partnership (FSP) meeting was again well attended by families across our Title I community. We were close to 100 participants again and the energy was amazing! Families gathered to continue planning and prepping for our April 3rd FSP celebration. During February’s meeting, members of Jeffco CDAC (Community Diversity Advisory Committee) joined us for dinner and engaged in conversations to understand the powerful work of our FSP group. We are excited to explore how these two groups might consider collective work for 2018-19.

For the April 3rd, meeting, schools will be showcasing their Promising Partnership Practice. We anticipate a celebratory evening that highlights the essential link of student success and family engagement.

Fathers and father figures are vital to creating healthy, inclusive school communities. When we value the skills and knowledge they bring, they can enrich the learning experience for all students. While Fathers and father figures are unique, the effort schools invest in reaching them pays off by creating pathways for all families where there may have been roadblocks before.

Programs such as Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students), matches willing participants front and center creating a presence on campuses that promotes inclusion and encouragement for both adults and children.

On Wednesday, January 31st Foothills Elementary hosted their 2nd Annual Dads of Great Students Pizza Party.
RISE Newsletter

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What Is RISE?

RISE is a model that brings families and educators together to learn and collaborate around academic goals. Families learn how to read and interrupt data from district or classroom assessments, experience a typical classroom lesson, set academic goals with their child, and walk away from the evening with ideas on how to help their child at home. Educators and families working together for students!

RISE at Allendale

Allendale hosted their second RISE night in January and it was a huge success! Over three nights, families came together to review academic goals set in October, look at current data, and learn new activities to help their child at home. Before the RISE meeting started, families were treated to a dinner from On The Border. At the end of the meeting, one parent commented, "It was great to see my child’s progress!"

RISE at Stevens

The January RISE night at Stevens was a successful community event! Along with RISE, community partners such as Family Tree and Adventure Dental were invited to participate in the event. Families learned about services available in their community and met a representative from each organization. Families attended two RISE sessions to learn about their child’s academic progress and how to help at home.

Important Dates

April 10th & 11th—RISE @ Wilmore-Davis—6:00-7:00

April 12th—RISE @ Pennington—4:30-7:00

For more information about RISE, contact Susie Kirvin at susan.kirvin@jeffco.k12.co.us