



State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education

# 2022 Annual Report State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education

Submitted to:

**Colorado State Board of Education  
Colorado Commission on Higher Education  
Colorado House Education Committee  
Colorado Senate Education Committee**

By:

**The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education  
Yoni Dobie-Geffen, Chair  
Dr. Angie Frank, Vice Chair**

Prepared by:

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December 2022

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The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education is staffed by the  
Colorado Department of Education.

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**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

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## Table of Contents

SACPIE Structure and Membership	3
SACPIE Advisory Duties	4
Next Steps	9
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Appendices	11
• Appendix A: SACPIE Membership List	11
• Appendix B: SACPIE Membership Application	14

The State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) is a legislated body of diverse stakeholders charged to advise state organizations and school districts on issues related to increasing parent involvement<sup>1</sup> in education. The premise is that by promoting family-school partnerships, the quality of public education will improve and the level of students' academic performance throughout the state will increase (C.R.S. § 22-7-301 and C.R.S. § 22-7-304). This responsibility specifically includes involving families in programs to increase high school and college graduation rates, decrease drop-out rates, and close the achievement and growth gaps between learner groups in the state. A listing of the current SACPIE membership and the groups they represent can be viewed in Appendix A.

Pursuant to Senate Bill 13-193, the purpose of this report is to outline SACPIE's progress in promoting family-school partnerships in the state and in fulfilling the duties specified in [C.R.S. § 22-7-304 from SB 09-090 and SB 13-193](#). This report includes a description of SACPIE's structure and membership, a list of advisory duties,<sup>2</sup> SACPIE's progress in fulfilling those duties, and next steps.

### SACPIE Structure and Membership

The 22-member council, along with Colorado Department of Education (CDE) support staff, meet quarterly. In 2022, the February and May meetings were held virtually for 2.5 hours. The group then unanimously decided to reconvene in-person moving forward. In August and November, the group met in-person, with a hybrid option, for five hours. Each meeting has time dedicated for organization presentations and member resource sharing, which support the council's primary legislated responsibility to learn and share about best practices of family partnerships.

In 2022, SACPIE continued to complete subcommittee work through an ad hoc format based on topic, need, and interest. This year, SACPIE members formed ad hoc subcommittees to update the [SACPIE website](#) and to draft a [Communications Toolkit](#) for Family and School Partnership in Education Month.

The Council also still had an Executive Committee, comprised of the SACPIE Chair, Vice-Chair, and the CDE Director of Family, School, and Community Partnerships. The purpose of the Executive Committee is to:

- Plan SACPIE meetings;
- Lead SACPIE meetings;
- Recruit and interview new members; and
- Check-in with current members.

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<sup>1</sup> In an effort to align state and national language, based on current research, this report uses the word "family" as opposed to "parent" and "engagement" or "partnering" instead of "involvement." This is done purposefully to be more inclusive and suggest a higher level of collaboration beyond involvement.

<sup>2</sup> C.R.S. § 22-7-304 outlines 15 recommendations for advisory duties and technical assistance for SACPIE to conduct in Colorado. This report includes the recommendations that SACPIE is currently implementing.

In 2022, the SACPIE Executive Committee filled four vacancies. A copy of the SACPIE parent member application can be viewed in Appendix B. This basic application is adapted for other representatives when vacancies for other membership roles arise on the council.

The Council continues to work with Dr. Lisa Escárcega as a liaison with the State Board of Education (SBE). Dr. Escárcega attends every council meeting, shares SBE updates, and answers questions from Council members. She regularly includes information about family, school, and community partnerships during her report at state board meetings.

SACPIE's operating procedures state that each year, the council will select a Chair and Vice Chair. Yoni Dobie-Geffen, a nonprofit representative representing traditionally underserved populations, continues to be the Chair and Angie Frank, a parent representative from Congressional District 6, remains the Vice Chair.

### SACPIE Advisory Duties

**Advisory Duty:** Creating and implementing programs to effectively involve parents in improving their children's education and levels of academic achievement. To identify these best practices and strategies, the council shall review the programs implemented in other states and the results of state and national research conducted in this area (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(1)(a)).

SACPIE is driven by research and data. To that end, the council aligns its work with the [National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#) (PTA, 2022) and references those standards in its resources and presentations. Colorado's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President participated in several national meetings about the newly-revised Standards and shared those updates at the November 2022 SACPIE meeting. The Director of Family, School, and Community Partnerships (FSCP) at the Colorado Department of Education also discussed SACPIE's work around the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships in the [PTA Podcast Notes from the Back Pack](#).

SACPIE also aligns its work with the [Dual Capacity-Building Framework](#), a document published by the U.S. Department of Education in April 2014 and updated by Dr. Karen Mapp in July 2019.

SACPIE has identified resources for practitioners from nationally recognized organizations, including:

- [The Center on School, Family, and Community Partnerships at Johns Hopkins University](#);
- [The Global Family Research Project](#);
- [The Center for Universal Education at Brookings Institute](#);
- [The National Association of Family, School, and Community Engagement](#); and
- [The Flamboyant Foundation](#).

In 2022, SACPIE worked with CDE to expand the collection of [Promising Partnership Practices](#) from schools, districts, early childhood programs, and Institutes of Higher Education across Colorado. About 30 sites submitted a practice for the eighth annual publication. Each practice is aligned with the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships and [Colorado's Four Essential Elements](#).

To continually stay informed about new research findings and effective partnering programs, a SACPIE representative participates with CDE staff in a monthly national call with other state representatives, facilitated by the American Institutes for Research (AIR). In 2022, the CDE Director of Family, School, and Community Partnerships (FSCP) shared SACPIE's work regularly during the monthly calls.

"Resource Sharing" is a regular agenda item at every SACPIE meeting. This is an opportunity for members to share FSCP programs from their organizations and to form and deepen partnership with their fellow SACPIE colleagues. About 75 percent of current SACPIE members reported creating a new partnership that supports families in various programs as a result of this sharing opportunity in meetings.

**Advisory Duty:** Involving parents in programs to raise academic achievement, increase high school graduation rates, decrease student dropout rates, and close the achievement and growth gap (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(1)(b)).

SACPIE is committed to building capacity in school personnel and families to partner for student achievement. To this end, SACPIE regularly encourages family participation in programs that promote student success. For the tenth year, in November 2022, Governor Polis declared November as *Family and School Partnership in Education Month*. School districts and organizations across the state shared the proclamation with boards, educators, families, and community members.

As mentioned earlier in this report, SACPIE members worked with the CDE Communications Division to provide a [Communications Toolkit](#) for *Family and School Partnership in Education Month*. This Toolkit included information about the month, the history of FSCP in Colorado, and story ideas for local media. It also included Governor Polis' Proclamation in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, SACPIE partnered with CDE to host an in-person Kickoff of *Family and School Partnership in Education Month*. Over 100 attendees gathered at the Denver Zoo to celebrate partnerships. Promising Partnership Practice recipients showcased their work and Scholastic shared free resources and books with those in attendance. Speakers for the event included:

- Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado
- Dr. Lisa Escárcega, State Board of Education Representative, Congressional District 1
- Dr. Rhonda Haniford, Colorado Department of Education, Associate Commissioner of School Quality and Support

A compilation video of the event is available on the bottom of the Family, School, and Community Partnerships [website](#).

In 2022, SACPIE members had the opportunity to share their work at several conferences, including:

- The University of Denver ECHO Learning Series (approximately 100 participants)
- The American Education Research Association Annual Meeting (approximately 30 participants)

- The Migrant Education Conference (approximately 50 participants)
- The Colorado Association of School Boards Conference (approximately 80 participants)

**Advisory Duty:** Increasing parent involvement in education-related committees at the local and state levels (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(1)(e)).

Several of SACPIE's parent representatives serve on a school and/or district accountability committee. One parent representative is also a local school board member. These council members take information from SACPIE back to their local accountability committees to strengthen implementation. Three parent representatives presented research-based partnering strategies that they learned from SACPIE meetings to their District Accountability Committees.

Another parent representative is helping School Accountability Committees in her district ensure that families constitute the largest group on the team (per legislative requirements) and that families and school staff have the tools to effectively partner. This support generally occurs through personal invitations from the school to work with the SACPIE parent representative.

Other parent representatives regularly discuss FSCP with their superintendents and are helping to inform strategic plans, because of their role on SACPIE.

**Advisory Duty:** The council shall inform, at a minimum, the early childhood councils and the early childhood care and education councils created pursuant to article 6.5 of title 26 (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(1)).

The SACPIE representative from the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) leads the Family Voice Council housed within CDHS. This representative regularly shares research-based FSCP strategies she learns in SACPIE meetings with the Family Voice Council listserv.

At the February 2022 SACPIE meeting, staff from the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) at CDHS shared a near-final draft of the upcoming early childhood framework, funded by the Preschool Development Grant. SACPIE members provided feedback about strengthening family voice in the framework and prioritizing research-based strategies to improve partnerships in early childhood education.

In 2022, staff from CDHS, CDE, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and the newly created Department of Early Childhood (DEC) continued to hold bi-monthly meetings to ensure inter-departmental collaboration around family partnerships in early childhood programs. Members of this group include the CDHS SACPIE representative and the CDE FSCP Director.

**Advisory Duty:** Initiatives to increase admissions to institutes of higher education and the degree-completion rate and to reduce the need for remediation (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(2)(b)).

In 2022, CDE, CDHE, and Fort Lewis College entered its third year of preservice educator work. In 2020, Colorado was selected, by the National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE) as one of seven states to be part of a [Pre-service Family Engagement Consortium](#). This consortium, ending in 2022 with the culmination of the [Educator Preparation](#)

[Framework for Family and Community Partnerships](#), has both national and Colorado-specific implications.

Nationally, the initiative has three intended outcomes:

- Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs) across the country will address family, school, and community engagement (FSCE) in meaningful and effective ways within their educator and administrator preparation programs.
- State agencies with pre-service oversight and key stakeholder groups across the country will address family and community engagement in meaningful and effective ways within their educator and administrator preparation program requirements, standards, and accreditation regulations.
- Educators and administrators will have the preparation, exposure, and support needed to effectively put in place teaching practices, organizational infrastructure, and policies that create equitable and meaningful opportunities for families to engage in their children’s education, to support child development, student achievement, and school improvement, as well as overall teacher quality.

Beginning in February 2021, CDHE, CDE, and SACPIE convened monthly Community of Practice (CoP) meetings with education preparation program (EPP) faculty and staff to continually discuss and improve FSCP in prep programs. Each meeting consists of a promising practice presentation from someone currently working in the field, opportunities for Q&A, and sharing updates. CoP members select the topic and co-present with the featured guests.

In 2022, six IHEs that regularly attend the CoP meetings, worked together to submit a grant proposal for NAFSCE’s Family Engagement and Educator Preparation Innovation Project. This grant was awarded to Colorado in December 2022 and will elevate the family and teacher voice in how FSCP is taught in Educator Preparation Programs. The six IHEs working with CDE, CDHE, and SACPIE on this initiative are:

- Colorado College;
- Colorado State University, Pueblo;
- Fort Lewis College;
- University of Denver;
- University of Northern Colorado; and
- Western Colorado University.

**Advisory Duty:** The council shall work with the department to provide regional training programs for school district accountability committees and school accountability committees. At a minimum, the training programs must address parent leadership and increasing parent engagement with school district accountability committees and school accountability committees, including best practices for parent engagement with school district accountability committees and school accountability committees (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(3)(b)).

In 2022, the CDE staff continued to facilitate the [SAC and DAC Networking Series](#), in collaboration with SACPIE. These monthly meetings are intended for current and prospective accountability committee members to learn the ins and outs of leading and participating on an effective SAC or

DAC. Every session includes brief content about the highlighted topic, a presentation from the field, and breakout sessions for participants to network with other SAC and DAC members.

SACPIE continues to provide feedback about CDE’s [SAC and DAC website](#). The website provides resources for SAC and DAC members aligned with their statutory responsibilities. SACPIE and CDE staff are also collecting promising practices about committee functioning to assist other schools and districts across the state to support and sustain membership.

**Advisory Duty:** The council shall work with the department to provide regional training programs for school districts and charter schools concerning best practices and skills for district and school personnel in working with parents (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(3)(c)).

SACPIE and CDE collaborated to plan and implement regional trainings for Family Partnership Liaisons, SACs and DACs, and other interested school and district stakeholders about promising practices and skills in working with families. The overall purpose of the trainings was to help schools and districts implement comprehensive, sustainable structures for student success. The four components of this structure are:

- The Framework of the National Family-School Partnership Standards;
- Sharing leadership;
- Action planning; and
- Evaluation.

Historically, these sessions were held regionally for any interested stakeholder group. Over time, as need and readiness in the field evolves, training sessions often occur by invitation from districts and organizations.

Last year, the FSCP Director at CDE sought to increase SACPIE members’ capacity to conduct their own training sessions. To accomplish this goal, three of the four SACPIE meetings in 2021 included a “train the trainer” model or theoretical frameworks, research, and high-impact FSCP strategies. As SACPIE continues to transition members on and off the Council, meetings continue to have a “train the trainer” component so that every member has the capacity to serve as a FSCP leader and advocate in Colorado.

**Advisory Duty:** The council, in consultation with the department of education and the department of higher education, shall identify key indicators of successful parent engagement in education and use the indicators to develop recommendations for methods by which the department of education and the department of higher education may measure and monitor the level of parent engagement with elementary and secondary public schools and with institutions of higher education in Colorado (C.R.S. § 22-7-304(4)).

Colorado’s Preschool-12<sup>th</sup> Grade [FSCP Framework](#) and corresponding [User’s Guide and Rubrics](#) continue to guide and strengthen partnerships across the state, with SACPIE’s assistance. The purpose of the framework is to develop systemic and sustainable state- and district-level structures that integrate and elevate FSCP, leading to positive student outcomes and an inviting school culture. District-level staff are the primary audience for this resource.



SACPIE, along with many other stakeholders across Colorado, worked with CDE staff throughout the process to provide feedback and help draft a statewide FSCP definition and four essential elements for district-level staff to implement to improve partnering for student outcomes. Below is the overview of the definition and essential elements.

**FSCP Definition:**

Families, early childhood programs, schools, and communities actively partnering to develop, implement, and evaluate effective and equitable practices to improve educational outcomes for children and youth.

**Essential Elements:**

Create an inclusive culture that honors the lived experience of families in early childhood programs and/or the school community.

Build trusting relationships that enable families and programs/schools to partner about the education outcomes for children and youth.

Design capacity building opportunities for staff and families that promote shared leadership about educational outcomes for children and youth.

Dedicate necessary resources that integrate and elevate partnering practices to scale.

The rubrics, developed in collaboration between CDE, SACPIE, and Johns Hopkins University, serve as a tool for schools and districts to identify FSCP starting points and measure progress. Dozens of districts across Colorado are implementing the Framework to guide their FSCP work.

In 2022, the Center for Universal Education at Brookings Institute partnered with the Colorado Department of Education to globalize the P-12 FSCP Framework and Rubrics. Currently, eight countries on five continents are piloting the current iteration of this Framework, that all began in Colorado, with SACPIE's feedback and leadership.

**Next Steps**

SACPIE will continue to increase and broaden the implementation of its legislated responsibilities in 2022. These efforts include, but are not limited to:

- Gathering resources that support implementation of Colorado's Family-School-Community Partnerships Framework;
- Using FSCP data collected from CDE-supported grants (e.g. State Personnel Development Grant, School Climate and Transformation Grant) and monitoring (e.g. Every Student Succeeds Act, Exceptional Student Services Unit) to guide SACPIE's continued family partnership initiatives;
- Implementing trainings about best practices and skills to improve home-school partnering for student achievement in districts and schools in collaboration with CDE;
- Implementing trainings for SACs and DACs about family recruitment, retention, and participation on accountability committees in collaboration with CDE;
- Collecting and publishing promising practices from schools, districts, and organizations across Colorado;

- Developing online learning modules on the CDE Office of FSCP LearnWorlds platform;
- Working with the Department of Higher Education and the Institutes of Higher Education Community of Practice to develop a survey and focus group protocol about better preparing future educators to work with families;
- Working with the Department of Human Services and the new Department of Early Childhood to foster effective family-school partnerships, particularly in early childhood education;
- Working with national and international FSCP leaders and researchers to continue to bring high-impact FSCP resources to Colorado; and
- Seeking additional opportunities to promote family-school partnership practices in Colorado.

**Appendix A**  
**SACPIE Membership 2022**

SACPIE Membership 2022			
Member Name	SACPIE Role	Organization	Congressional District of Parent Representatives
Ayde Avila	State-based nonprofit organization specializing in promoting the involvement of families of traditionally underserved populations	RISE Colorado	--
Kim Chatman	Parent Representative serving on a school or district accountability committee	--	Congressional District 1
Brooke Coté	Parent Representative serving on a school or district accountability committee	--	Congressional District 5
Dr. Angie Frank, Vice Chair	Parent Representative serving on a school or district accountability committee	--	Congressional District 6
Yoni Dobie-Geffen, Chair	State-based nonprofit organization specializing in promoting the involvement of families of traditionally underserved populations	Climb Higher Colorado	--
Dr. Kris Greer	Representative from higher education	Teacher Education Department/Fort Lewis College	--
Chelsey Hall	Representative of the department of human services appointed by the executive director of said department	Colorado Department of Human Services	--
Jenny Lerner	Colorado Department of Education-Migrant Education Program	Colorado Department of Education	--
Dee Leyba	Parent Representative serving on a school or district accountability committee	--	Congressional District 3

Mary McNeill	Expertise in early childhood care and education	Denver Great Kids Head Start	--
Staci Ruddy	Statewide organization that represents parents and teachers.	Colorado Parent Teacher Association	
Mark Sass	Statewide organization that represents teachers	Teach Plus Colorado	--
Emily Shore	Nonprofit organization that partners with funding providers, state agencies, and service providers to assist organizations in providing services to improve the health and well-being of families and children	RMC Health	--
Jason Taylor	Statewide organization that represents school executives	Platte Valley Middle School	
Michael Vente	Representative from higher education	Colorado Department of Higher Education	--
Jess Welch	Statewide organization that represents charter schools	Charter School Institute	--
Michelle Zeles-Hahn	Parent Representative	--	Congressional District 8
Stacey Zis	Statewide organization that represents members of school district boards of education	Colorado Association of School Boards	--
Vacant	Parent Representative serving on a school or district accountability committee	--	Congressional District 2
Vacant	Parent Representative serving on a school or district accountability committee		Congressional District 4
Vacant	Parent Representative serving on a school or district accountability committee		Congressional District 7
Vacant	Nonprofit organization that specializes in		--

	<p>promoting the involvement of families of students with disabilities</p>		
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SACPIE Advisory Members and CDE Support 2022	
Name	Organization
Dr. Darcy Hutchins, SACPIE Staffer	Colorado Department of Education-Office of Family, School, and Community Partnerships
Dr. Lisa Escárcega	Colorado State Board of Education

**Appendix B**  
**SACPIE 2022 Parent Membership Application**

# 2022 Application for State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education

## Overview of SACPIE

On behalf of the Colorado Board of Education, the State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE) invites applications from candidates to fill three (3) Parent Representative vacancies. Two of these vacancies are for parents who currently serve as the parent representatives on a District Accountability Committee (DAC) or School Accountability Committee (SAC).

In accordance with SB09-090, 22-7-301 C.R.S., the Council has been charged with the task of informing public education entities concerning best practices and strategies, aligned with National Standards for Family-School Partnerships, for increasing parent involvement in public education and promoting family and school partnerships in order to help improve the quality of public education and raise the level of students' academic achievement throughout the state.

As required by State law, parent membership appointments must be filled by parents of children who are:

- 1) Enrolled in a publicly funded preschool program; or
- 2) In any of grades kindergarten through twelve; or
- 3) In a state supported institution of higher education; and
- 4) Who represent student populations that are significantly represented in the state.

As required by State law, the State Board of Education, in appointing members to the Council, shall, to the greatest extent possible, select persons who will reflect the gender balance and ethnic and racial diversity of the state and will provide representation from throughout the state.

Membership appointments will begin in November 2022 and continue for three years, with an opportunity to continue for another term.

### Application Summary

*Complete applications should include:*

- Contact and Background Information Form*
- Statement of Interest*
- Current CV, Resume, or Background Summary*
- Contact for Two References*

## SACPIE Responsibilities

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*Time Commitment.* Members are expected to be active participants in the Council and attend at least 75% of monthly meetings in the metro Denver area, or by audio conference call-in. Meetings are currently held quarterly on the third Tuesday of February, May, August, and November from 9:00am-2:00pm.

*Compensation.* SACPIE members can be reimbursed for mileage and meals (related to SACPIE business) and some required activities (e.g., trainings for the field).

*Application Process.* Completed Applications must be submitted to Darcy Hutchins by September 30, 2022 ([hutchins\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hutchins_d@cde.state.co.us); 303-562-8175).

Please see the SACPIE website (<http://www.cde.state.co.us/sacpie>) for more information about the Council.

## Application Checklist

	Completed Contact Information/Background Form
	Completed Statement of Interest
	Current Curriculum Vitae, Resume, or Background Summary
	Contact Information for Two References

## Contact and Background Information Form

SACPIE Application  
(Please Type)

### Contact Information

First Name:	
Last Name:	
Preferred Title (Mr., Ms., Mr., Dr.):	
Mailing Address:	
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Gender:	
Ethnicity:	
Congressional District of Residence:	
Child's Grade:	
Child's School:	
Congressional District (if known):	

Are you currently serving on a School Accountability Committee (SAC) or District Accountability Committee (DAC)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to do so in the future? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### References

Please provide contact information for two references that would be able to speak to skills/tasks needed of SACPIE applicants.

First Name:	
Last Name:	
Current Title:	
Organization:	
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Relationship:	



First Name:	
Last Name:	
Current Title:	
Organization:	
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Relationship:	

## Statement of Interest

### SACPIE Application

Provide a brief description of why you are interested in serving on the State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education. The response should not take more than one full typed page. Type your response below:

## Return of Applications

Please email applications to Darcy Hutchins at [hutchins\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hutchins_d@cde.state.co.us) and note in the subject line: "SACPIE Application." Emailed applications are preferred.

To apply by mail, send to:

Darcy Hutchins  
Colorado Department of Education  
201 E. Colfax, Room 409  
Denver, Colorado 80203

All applications and supporting material must be received at the email or U.S. mail address above no later than 5:00 p.m. September 30, 2022. Questions regarding the application process may be directed to Darcy Hutchins at 303.562-8175.

SACPIE will review application materials and recommend candidates for the vacant positions to the State Board of Education by September 30, 2022.