

Title I Newsletter



Access, Equity and Opportunity

As a department, we are looking forward to our upcoming spring budget meetings. We always appreciate the time to collaborate with Title I principals. As you look ahead, please reach out if you need support/guidance as you prepare for your budget meeting. And always, we are very fortunate to work with Josh Shoemaker and Chris Surratt from the Grants Accounting Office.

Coffeeology in March



We hope to see you at March's Coffeeology (invite previously sent) on 3/3/2020. We will gather prior to the All Leadership meeting to network as a Title I community. Our focus of conversation will be Teacher Induction and how to support teachers new to Title I schools. We want to discuss what district supports are in place and if Title I should enhance support for 2020-21. Come share your ideas!

SPED Conversation

At January's Coffeeology one of the "hot topics" discussed was the placement of SPED Center Programs in Title I Schools. Several principals asked about Jeffco's protocol of how schools were selected to house a center based program and what additional funding was available. These principals asked the department to serve as advocates to help answer these lingering questions. **UPDATE:** We are in the process of meeting with Community Superintendents, SPED and the Budget office to understand. In a system of Jeffco's size, it is a complicated endeavor. We will share what we learn soon --- stay tuned!





COMMUNITY & FAMILY CONNECTIONS



ARVADA HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP



Last Spring, Laura Monreal invited Rod Allmon and Jasmine Silverman (AP) at Arvada High School to be her thinking partners at CDE's Highly Mobile Summit. Through their partnership, they developed a database to avoid duplication of services, document Medicaid outreach and identi-

fy McKinney Vento students. Based on this successful relationship, they found that it was even more useful to have Laura in the building. She is now on site on Wednesdays and Thursdays working with Nina Russel (AHS new FEL). Laura is available for students, family and staff offering resources, completing Medicaid applications, connecting with McKinney Vento students and meeting with families privately if needed. Through this in-house partnership, Laura has also been able to connect with new students and their families immediately, connect with more outside community partners and provide valuable information for the administrative team. She has also been able to learn more about services offered at AHS, and how to get the in house supports students need.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE EVICTON PREVENTION

During the last Family Engagement Liaison Professional Learning (FEL PL), the Community and Family Connections (CFC) team provided information about rental assistance and eviction prevention.

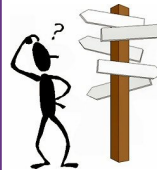


Families on the brink of homelessness is a growing concern throughout the Denver-Metro area and sadly many families in Jefferson County find themselves in this difficult position.

Our CFC liaisons are committed to providing the best possible support for students and families who are currently homeless. However, our CFC department does not have funds to provide rental assistance nor eviction prevention.

Below are resources that may be able to provide needed support. We understand how critical it is for a family to find funds to prevent eviction, but please be aware that most organizations able to provide financial support often exhaust their funds at the beginning of the month. Keep in mind that each family situation is unique and potential financial support is determined on a case-by-case basis.

In the event that the family does lose housing, please have them call our department to assist them with the educational support and rights their student has under the Federal Law McKinney Vento Assistance Act.



Funds are generally Federal grant dollars, and unfortunately, many of these grant amounts are being reduced. This, along with the increase of rent amounts, creates a very limited support system.

Mother Cabrini website (updated weekly)

<https://www.mothercabrinishrine.org/about-us/resources>

If the family is connected with Jefferson Center for Mental Health (JCMH) - please have them connect with the Navigation Team

<https://www.jcmh.org/navigation-services/>

United Way help center

<https://unitedwaydenver.org/2-1-1/> or from their phone 2-1-1

Families can also seek rental support at the Jefferson County Human Service Department

900 Jefferson County Parkway Golden, CO 80401—Room 119
<https://www.jeffco.us/human-services>

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

CDE features Alameda Jr.-Sr. High School in Family Engagement Video Series

Building Promising Futures for Families and Students



The Colorado Department of Education chose Alameda Jr. Sr. High School's Promising Partnership Practice as one of just a few in the state to be featured in a video series.

Family Engagement liaisons, Karla Kottom and Julie Arguello meet weekly with families. They note, *"Our most significant area of focus was providing workshops that targeted concerns from parents that directly affect their children. Mental health was the biggest concern this year."*

With this information, Karla and Julie saw an opportunity to collaborate with Alameda Social Emotional Learning Specialist, Jamie Brenner, to provide families with accurate information that would build their knowledge and confidence in talking with and supporting their children.



One participant commented: *"Working with our Family Engagement Liaisons and several mothers of current Alameda students this year was a special and unforgettable experience. I learned so much from the strength they exhibit daily...It was evident each month that their strength and resilience grew, and with this was the desire to create the best life possible for their family."*



Why RISE? An Interview with Instructional Coach Evelyn Jones

Why should families attend RISE? What do they leave a RISE meeting with (knowing)?

Families should attend RISE Night because it's a different school experience that allows them to interact with other families alongside their child's teacher(s). They have an opportunity to participate in instruction similar to what their child experiences on a regular basis, gain a deeper understanding of school-level data, explore their own child's data, converse with other families whose children are in the same grade-level, and try out activities that will support their child's academic success at home. Our hope is that families walk away from each RISE Night with new understanding of their child's school experience, ways to support them at home, and a deeper connection with the teacher and other families.



How has RISE strengthened family-school partnerships at Little?

RISE offers school staff and families a moment to share food together and talk. It provides an opportunity for families to be in a school setting where the teacher or administration is not the only voice in the room. When we do the student-led RISE Night in the spring, I believe it will be a space where students have the opportunity to share their school experience and learning with their families.



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