

# Bi-Weekly FSCP Tip

## Englewood School District

### Englewood, CO



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

Englewood School District recognizes the importance of having a staff member designated to support family-school-community partnerships. As a result, the Englewood has a district-level Family-School-Community Liaison. This staff member attends the Colorado Department of Education's (CDE) Coffee Chats; an opportunity for district staff from across the state share family engagement strategies. Based on advice from other school districts and feedback from Englewood school leaders, the liaison instituted Bi-Weekly Tips.

The goal for the Bi-Weekly Tips and reminders is to build the capacity of school leaders about best practices for successful family, school, and community partnership. The hope is that the quick tips will remind leaders to keep partnering in the forefront when thinking of ways to improve student outcomes.

Many of the tips come directly from School Accountability Committee (SAC) meetings. This is a time when families and community partners have a voice about how they would like to be involved and support student success. The tips follow the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships and are sent to district-wide principals from early childhood to high school. Other tips are related to specific, timely happenings within the district (i.e., parent teacher conferences). Finally, some of the tips, ideas, and questions come from CDE's monthly Coffee Chats.

Englewood's liaison offers the following advice for replicating the communication strategy: "Building and administrative leaders are BUSY. They do not want to read a novel, so a quick FSCP tip is all that is needed to get them thinking. Really listen at your parent meetings. Families are the best advocates for their students. Sharing their thoughts across the district may prompt ideas that one may never have thought of before."

Below is an example of one Bi-Weekly Tip.

*Our favorite time of year is upon us...state testing. As we know this may be an anxious time for students. This is a perfect time to help parents support student success. Start with a quick positive reminder to families on why we give state tests. This may alleviate some issues with the importance of test taking. Examples below, but feel free to use your own.*

- *Testing helps teachers and administration measure student achievement.*
- *Testing helps prepare students with real world skills for college or beyond, etc.*
- *Testing indicates how the Colorado Dept. of Education establishes district ratings, etc.*