The research is in…. family partnerships matters!

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2. Higher graduation rates
3. **Increased student achievement**
4. Reduced absenteeism
5. **Better student attitudes towards learning**
6. Stronger social skills
7. **Less discipline issues**
8. Better student-teacher relationships
9. **Higher trust in schools**
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*Source*: Research summary by the Flamboyan Foundation - “*Family Engagement Matters*”
Involvement vs. Partnership: What’s The Difference?

**Involvement**
- One-way
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*Adapted from Scholastic’s “Foundations of Family Engagement”*
Impact of Family Engagement Strategies On Student Learning

Holistic Family Engagement

Community Building
- Celebrations
- Fundraisers
- Potlucks
- Performances and showcases
- Parent resource rooms
- Family support services
- School-wide newsletter
- Classroom newsletter

Student Learning
- Regular, personalized communication
- Positive phone calls home
- Home visits
- Parent help on learning projects
- Modeling of learning support strategies
- Weekly data-sharing folders
- Classroom observations
- Interactive homework
- Parent training events
- Back to School Night
- Parent-teacher conferences

Lower impact

Higher impact

Trusting Relationships with ALL Families
Family Partnerships Key Projects

- Home Visits - 180+ educators and school leaders trained and participating
Latino Parent Advisory Council (CAPL)
1. Families Educators Together (FET)
2. Latino Parent Advisory Council (CAPL)
3. Bridging the Digital Divide
4. PARITY
5. Convening of Latinx Allies
6. Community Roundtables

A collection of initiatives from districts and schools about working with families and community partners for student learning

Promising Partnerships Practices

2019
Other Important Initiatives

- Bilingual Family Retreat
- PD for stakeholders: Principals, New Educators, Office Professionals, PTO, 360 Leaders
- CU Renee Crown Institute Partnership
- Latino Parent Summit
- ISE Blog for Educators
- Positive Communication Systems
BVSD Equity Commitments

- removing institutional barriers to success
- providing intentional support for each student, staff member and family or community member so that each has opportunity to achieve at the highest levels
- embracing and respecting the dignity and diversity of each individual within our community
- questioning assumptions and examining our own biases
- challenging systems of power and oppression
- creating counter-narratives to the common habits and assumptions that inhibit inclusion
- confronting discrimination against our own or another person’s identity
- committing to building our own and others’ capacity for culturally responsive teaching, learning, and leading
“Involving Families: A Relationship Centered Approach”
by Ari Gerzon-Kessler
Educational Leadership magazine, January 2020

“BVSD looking at stronger family partnerships to help close achievement gap” in Daily Camera, November 2019
“The more the relationship between families and the school is a real partnership, the more student achievement increases. When schools engage families in ways that are linked to improving learning, students make greater gains. When families are engaged in positive ways, rather than labeled as problems, schools can be transformed from places where only certain students prosper to ones where all children do well.”

- from Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships
The Different Ways that Families Engage

It’s not just about who shows up at school.

Seven roles families play when they are engaged:

1. **Supporters** of their children’s learning
2. **Encouragers** of an achievement identity, positive self-image, and a “can-do” spirit
3. **Monitors** of their children’s time, behavior, boundaries and resources
4. **Models** of lifelong learning and enthusiasm for education
5. **Advocates** for improved learning opportunities for their children and at their school
6. **Decision-makers** and choosers of educational options for their child, school and community
7. **Collaborators** with school staff and members of the community.
BVSD Family Partnerships
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State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education

COLORADO Department of Education
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