

# Parent and Family Partnerships

## Action Design Team

Boulder Valley School District  
Boulder, CO



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education

To implement sustainable and comprehensive family-school partnering practices across a school district, it is beneficial for leadership to create a plan to guide and unify efforts. In the Boulder Valley School District (BVSD), the Parent and Family Partnerships Action Design Team was responsible for creating their comprehensive strategic plan, which is part of a larger overall strategic plan.

Parent and Family Partnerships was one of 17 design teams to provide feedback to the district. It was then chosen as one of six priority areas to include on the district's strategic plan for the 2015-16 school year.

The process to create the partnerships strategic plan lasted over 4 months, and involved community, staff, and parents. The team created a draft, which was then approved by the Steering Committee and Executive Committee. The design team drafted the plan in order to provide guidelines for several areas, including engaging families of diverse backgrounds, consulting and collaborating with families in school planning, providing training for families, and evaluating the effectiveness of engagement strategies. Within the plan were key actions and performance indicators that could be referenced.

In addition to providing feedback for the BVSD strategic plan, the Action Design Team also recommended the district hire a Director of Family Partnerships, a position which was created and filled over the summer of 2015. This full time position provides district-level leadership and director facilitation of schools to ensure the implementation of a comprehensive and sustainable partnership structure for student success.

Having this focused strategic plan allows Boulder Valley School District to unify their partnering efforts across the district. By doing so, they can help to improve student achievement, homework completion, attendance, and student retention.