

# Liaison Advisory Committee

## Jeffco Public Schools

### Golden, CO



Meaningful stakeholder engagement is essential Jeffco Public Schools' Title I Department. Over the years, Jeffco has improved opportunities for families, school staff, and community partners to provide feedback and guidance on everything from budget to professional development ideas. The established Principal Advisory Committee (TI-PAC) and Teacher Advisory Committee (TI-TAC) are structured to include Articulation area representatives that meet on a regular basis—typically monthly. In 20-21, the district added a Liaison Advisory Committee (TI-LAC) to include Family Engagement Liaisons. TI-LAC was created to:

1. Stand united in the districts efforts to provide access, equity and opportunity so all students can achieve their best,
2. Provide reflection, perspective, feedback, ideas and guidance in sharing recommendations to Title I leadership, and
3. Create processes so work is streamline and efficient.

Launching the TI-LAC has allowed the district to build leadership and ownership within the Family Engagement Liaison (FEL) program. Through this tiered meeting process, liaisons in the Articulation group, which are schools in a geographic area that typically feed into the same high school, are more connected to and have influence in decisions that impact the FEL program, Title I department, and schools. During monthly meetings, they have an opportunity to collaborate across schools, build synergy, and share neighborhood/community resources. Most importantly, each can elevate the voice of the families with whom they work. One idea that percolated this year was an articulation Parent Academy that would bridge elementary and middle school families.

Although various families participated in several district-level learning events this year, ultimately, the goal next year is to have families attend the articulation meetings alongside their FEL, as 'family voice' is best when they can directly participate in the decision making. As for FEL participants, the entire team responded favorably to the TI-LAC/ Articulation meeting structure. In this inception year, TI-LAC representatives were chosen by the Title I Admin team. Next year, a simple 'nomination' process will be used, as the consensus was this leadership opportunity should be offered to all.

For districts that already have a Family Engagement Liaison program, Jeffco recommends considering this type of stakeholder group. The benefits are multifaceted. This shared-leadership model provides an opportunity for communication and feedback to flow. It also serves as an incubator for FELs to hone their facilitation, organization, communication, and leadership skills. In addition to adding families to the Articulation meetings for the upcoming year, the district would also like to build upon the TI-LAC leadership and have them rotate planning and facilitating meetings themselves in collaboration with Title I leaders.