Colorado’s Effort to Develop a School Health Policy and Practice Data Collection System

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NACDD’s School Health Project is a resource for people who have ever wondered how to tap into the resources of a health department and for those who currently work in a health department and want to know how to expand their reach in school health.
The National Association of State Boards of Education exists to serve and strengthen State Boards of Education in their pursuit of high levels of academic achievement for all students.
Colorado School Health Policy and Practice Data Collection System

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Colorado Legacy Foundation

流水线 We are an independent 501 (c) (3) that serves as a critical friend and partner to the Colorado Department of Education in the effective implementation of good public policy.

流水线 We identify promising practices, invest in innovative work, recommend policy, evaluate results, and share our findings with all Colorado school districts and schools.

流水线 We believe that increased student achievement for all Colorado students requires effective leaders in every school, effective educators in every classroom, and healthy and engaging environments that ignite a passion for learning in every student.
Strategically Align H&W Efforts To Boost Academic Performance For All Students

Leverage Promising Practices & Evidence-Based Strategies

Foster Collaborative Partnerships

Inform Supportive Policies

Promote Data and Accountability Systems

Common Understanding of School Health & Wellness

Capacity Building
Project Vision

Streamline the process of collecting school-level health policy and practice data with a consistent, coordinated, statewide system

Increase the number of schools and districts in Colorado participating in collection
Project Objectives

🌟 Consistent school health data available to schools, districts, partners, and funders

🌟 Reduced burden and duplication of data collection

🌟 Increased number of schools and districts finding value and using health data as part of accountability systems related to academic achievement
Project History

🌟 School Policy Indicator (SPI) Group
- Led by Colorado Department of Education (CDE), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and University of Colorado Denver’s Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center
- Meeting since 2006 to focus on school level physical activity and nutrition indicators in the state

🌟 Colorado Coalition for Health Schools
- Led by CDE and CDPHE with the vision that all school-aged children and youth in Colorado will be healthy and learn at their full potential
- The Coalition began to work to align school health funding streams, streamline data collection, promote consistent communications and messaging, and coordinate professional development
Project History

Creation of the Proposal
- Worked with multiple partners, mostly SPI members to create a state-wide vision of collecting school health indicators

Funding of the Proposal
- Limited funding at state agencies, but support from staff
- CLF was able to be the fiscal agent after agreement with partners
- Colorado has a number of supportive school health partners
- Kaiser Permanente has a national interest in health and wellness in schools
- Saw the collaboration and potential impact of data system as beneficial and invaluable to school health efforts
Project Overview

5 Year Grant from Kaiser Permanente

3 Main Phases
- Planning/Creation Period
- Pilot/Modification Period
- Scaling/Promotion Period

Collection/Analysis

Key Messages:
- School-level indicators
- Encompasses all school health components
- Creating a system to streamline existing data and collect missing data items
Opportunities Identified

- Data collection efforts are fragmented, often duplicative, and burdensome on schools and districts.

- Data are not readily accessible to researchers, stakeholders, parents, schools, or districts.

- CDE is updating its data systems.

- CDE focus on improvements to school and district accountability offers unique opportunity to explore ways to integrate school health indicator data with student outcome data.

- Limited ability to track and inform state legislation and policies, funding decisions and school practice implementation.
Critical Partnerships

- **Colorado Coalition for Healthy Schools (CCHS)**
  - Education stakeholders throughout Colorado

- **Colorado Department of Education (CDE)**
  - Information Management Services Unit
  - Office of Health and Wellness

- **Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)**
  - Epidemiology, Planning and Evaluation (EPE) and others Units in Prevention Services Division (PSD)

- **Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS)**
  - Lead agencies: CDE, CDPHE, CDHS
Critical Partnerships

Steering Committee
- Guides the work through approval of proposed indicators, methodologies and data sharing protocols

Advisory Council:
- Consists of multiple external stakeholders across Colorado committed to actively informing and advancing the work

Stakeholder Feedback Sessions
- Opportunity for any education stakeholder to voice opinion, get involved and provide valuable feedback
Staff Supported

🌼 Andrea Pulskamp, Manager of Initiatives, CLF
🌼 Brett Trani, Data and System Design Specialist, CDE
🌼 TBD, Strategic Data Fellow, CDE
Major Activities – Year 1

1. Develop documentation for how data is compiled and reported at CDE
2. Conduct Research Scan of international, national, state and local school health policy data collection efforts
3. Conduct outreach to various stakeholders involved in school-level data collection
4. Develop protocols for data sharing & confidentiality protections
5. Identify indicators for pilot period
Research Scan

International Research:
- World Health Organization
- European Network of Health Promoting Schools

National Research:
- Multiple tools and models have been found including instruments from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Limited state-wide data collection models

State Research:
- Multiple tools are currently being used, mostly for grant funding purposes
- Identifying data collection efforts taking place at CDE
Questions

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