

**Washoe County School District
Council on Family Resource Centers
Meeting Minutes**

January 18, 2023

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Council on Family Resource Centers was called to order at 6:00 P.M. at the WCSD Administration Building, 425 E. 9th St., Board Room, Reno, NV 89512 and via ZOOM Meetings for those unable to meet in person.

1.02 ROLL CALL

Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo conducted roll call. Board members Sherilyn Elcano, Susan Severt, Scott Benton, Rebecca Pairis, and Vanessa Vancour were present at roll call. Rachel Kingham was not present during roll call.

2. DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION AND ACTION ITEMS

**2.01 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2022, MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL ON FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS (FOR
POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Board member Rachel Kingham arrived late via TEAMS but was present for this item. **On Motion by Susan Severt, second by Rebecca Pairis the Council on Family Resource Centers approved the minutes as presented.** No public comment.

(Yea: Scott Benton, Susan Severt, Rebecca Pairis, Sherilyn Elcano, Vanessa Vancour and Rachel Kingham). Final Resolution: Motion Carries 6-0.

**2.02 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE WASHOE COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS FUNDING
STATUS, INCLUDING THE STATUS OF GRANT APPLICATIONS,
AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO
STAFF ON SCHEDULING FUTURE FUNDRAISING AND PUBLICITY
ACTIVITIES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo shared a brief update, our 5 Family Resource Center locations are still open and actively working with clients. Recently our Family Resource Centers received a generous donation from a private funder for about \$50,000.00. This fund is shared with our used mostly for emergency rental assistance and other basic needs requests that are not supported under grant funding.

It was also shared that quite a few of our FRC staff members are funded through ESSER funds, and we also have staff that are funded through the Department of Health

and Human Services and a variety of other grants that will continue. Gift and gas cards were identified as an ongoing need as they are not allowable expenses in FRC grants.

Rachel Kingham asked for information on previous fundraising activities. Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo clarified that historically we did not have any fundraising activities, we apply for grants and most of the funding we receive are from state & federal grants along with some foundation grants.

Rachel Kingham requested clarification about how to avoid council members meeting as a group at a fundraising event and follow the open meeting law rules, Scott Benton clarified that all council members if attending the fundraising event avoid discussions on any type of future agenda items and if all council members present at any events in attendance avoid making decisions and/or discussions on future agenda items.

FRC Specialist Brenda Costello made additional suggestions on fundraising ideas based on needs such as laundry, transportation, rental assistance, and possibly a staff position.

Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo reported that the Communities in Schools grant was not funded. Some staff positions are potentially scheduled to end on June 30th, 2023.

Scott Benton suggested to meet with the staff of WCSD Grants Department regarding the need for more grant funding availability for the FRCs. Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo stated that the Grants Department is supportive of the FRC and helps seek available funding opportunities that align with the FRC mission. Additionally, she clarified that while the FRC does not receive funding from WCSD, we do receive support such as Grants, HR, IT, Communications, Risk Management, etc.

A discussion occurred regarding potential fundraising efforts involving the schools. Staff Liaison Rechelle Murillo stated that the WCSD Communications Department is very supportive of the FRC and suggested identifying areas and needs of the community as a preliminary step. Rebecca Pairis asked how the fundraising funds would be used and if the funds would be split throughout all the 5 FRC locations. Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo clarified that it is based on what the council decides on how the funds will be utilized. Scott Benton proposed that the council to have a concrete action by the upcoming council meeting in May.

Rachel Kingham requested a public list of FRC funding sources. Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo offered to send the list over to Rachel as they are not posted on a public list. Scott Benton also suggested to Rachel to review previous minutes from previous council meetings.

Vanessa Vancour proposed to bring concrete fundraising ideas for March 15th meeting. Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo requested guidance from legal and it was suggested that we have the agenda item added once more for the March 15th council meeting.

No Motion was made from the Council on Family Resource Centers. (Final Resolution: Agenda item will be revisited once more on March 15th meeting. (For the record Vanessa Vancour council member showed up to the meeting in person at 6:18pm no longer present virtually on TEAMS)

2.03 Presentation and discussion of new Washoe County Family Resource Center sites at William O'Brien Middle School and Procter R. Hug High School, to include the cost of funding a Family Resource Center site (FOR PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ONLY)

Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo shared details of the North Valleys Family Resource Center at O'Brien Middle School and updates on the recent sponsorship of the Food Pantry at that site. Updates were also shared for the Feemster FRC at High High. Staff from the FRC, Hug, and Community in Schools are working together to collectively to support the families in the community.

The actual cost of a Family Resource Center site is about \$120,000.00 for one school year, with the majority of the cost being for staff salaries.

2.04 Presentation and discussion of the Washoe County School District Family Resource Center 2022-23 School Year data and outreach events, including future community outreach events and volunteer opportunities (FOR PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION)

FRC Specialist Lisa Guzman shared information on the FRC's extensive outreach activities. Scott Benton asked if we have approached the Medicaid MCOs regarding available funding. FRC Specialist Jessenia Segura (Jessie) shared North Valleys outreach efforts at the area schools. The partnership with Medicaid MCOs has been supportive with the North Valleys Food Pantry and conversations have also started on expanding the same funding sponsorship with the other 4 Family Resource Center locations.

Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo shared the continued partnership between "The Big Reno Coat Drive" which has donated about 4,000 coats for students and families this year and last year.

FRC Specialist Wylie Evanson presented Family Resource Center data for the 2022-2023 school year. It was highlighted that the most notable need was Food and Nutrition, which is addressed through food pantries at each FRC site. Other high need areas are utility assistance and hygiene items. Call Rail data was also shared. Approximately 1,800 calls were received on the platform from September through December 2022. This does not include calls coming directly to center landlines. Google data was also shared, with Google Business being an effective tool to monitor traffic on the FRC websites.

CLOSING ITEMS

3.01 Public Comment

No public comment.

3.02 Next Meeting Announcement – Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

The next meeting of the Council on Family Resource Centers is scheduled for Wednesday, March 15th, 2023, at 6 PM in the WCSD Administration Building Board Room, 425 East 9th St. Reno, NV 89512.

3.03 Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.