

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

June 21, 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. Council Chair Scott Benton was present in person at roll call. Board members Rebecca Pairis, Rachel Kingham, and Sherilyn Elcano were present virtually via TEAMS at roll call.

Board members Susan Severt and Vanessa Vancour were not present at roll call.

2. DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION AND ACTION ITEMS

**2.01 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15, 2023, MEETING OF
THE COUNCIL ON FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS (FOR POSSIBLE
ACTION)**

On Motion by Rebecca Pairis, second by Sherilyn Elcano, the Council on Family Resource Centers approved the minutes as presented. No public comment.

(Yea: Scott Benton, Rebecca Pairis, Rachel Kingham, and Sherilyn Elcano). Final Resolution: Motion Carries 4-0.

**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)**

Council Chair Scott Benton suggested reopening the conversation about the fundraising goals when there is a full member council to then include everyone's input and/or ideas.

Staff liaison Rechelle Murillo shared the following information regarding the most recent grants that have been awarded to the FRCs, starting with "Title IV B grant", which was

funded 94% in one area and 79% in another; "Funds for Healthy Nevada" grant, "Cortez Mastro" grant, "WCHSA" grant awarded \$98,000.00 which recognizes the need for staff at the Feemster Family Resource Center; and "Children's Trust Fund" grant which supports parenting to prevent child abuse and neglect. FRCs also receive funding for assisting clients with the SNAP application assistance process. Currently we are fully funded for the 2023-2024 school year for all the staff that we now have working at each of our 5 FRC locations. Ideally our 5 FRC locations would be staffed with at least 2 to 3 full-time Family Advocates at each location. However, that is currently only the case at one of our sites.

It was also shared that FRCs have partnered with the University of Nevada Reno's School of Social Work to host student interns for approximately 15 hours per week. This helps fill FRC staffing shortages and provides an excellent learning opportunity for the students.

Council member Rebecca Pairis asked for a designated timeframe and planning for an upcoming fundraising event. Council Chair Scott Benton clarifies that this will be an ongoing discussion at each agenda, being that there are only 4 council meetings per year. Perhaps at the upcoming meeting plans could be more solidified.

(See meeting video for additional details posted on WCSD YouTube channel).

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

FRC Specialist Wylie Evanson shared FRC data information for the year from July 1, 2022, through May 31st, 2023. Data shows that the highest need was for utilities during this period. Food and Nutrition was also another high need being requested at each of our FRC locations, along with basic needs such as clothing and hygiene items. We were able to have some additional funding through Health Plan of Nevada to purchase basic needs which included food and hygiene items. We also assist clients with applications for the Energy Assistance and SAFE utility assistance programs, as well as SNAP. We do receive compensation for this assistance.

Council Chair Scott Benton requested for future meetings to separate data between SAFE and EAP as the reimbursements are different between both and in order to have a better understanding of the time spent on each application. Chair Benton also requested the cost of bringing a client from crisis to stability for each FRC.

FRC Specialist Wylie Evanson shared that Elogic has a new feature that we are implementing and tracking all this information and varies on each family's needs. The data can be pulled and shared at upcoming council meetings.

Council member Rachel Kingham asked if there was a way to collect family stories. Staff Liaison Rechelle Murillo shared that we are currently already recording this information for one of our grants.

FRC Specialist Jessenia Segura shared all the past and upcoming FRC outreach events, including future community outreach events and volunteer opportunities.

(See meeting video for additional details posted on WCSD YouTube channel).

****The meeting took a 5-minute recess at 6:35PM due to 3 board members Rebecca Pairis, Rachel Kingham, and Sherilyn Elcano losing virtual connection. Meeting resumed at 6:40PM and board members are back online****

2.04 Review and Possible Action to Approve the Washoe County School District Family Resource Center Action Plan (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

FRC Specialists Brenda Costello and Lisa Guzman shared the FRC Action Plan.

The FRC Action plan consists of 8 pages currently; it starts with our mission; "the mission of the Family Resource Center is to strengthen families by improving access to needed resources and building a network of support to increase overall family stability". Our vision "All families are connected with resources and opportunities that promote healthy lives and strong communities. The FRC operates under the guiding principals that families who have support reach their goals and strengthen their resiliency as a family unit, students learn better when their families are involved, and children flourish in a safe and healthy family and community."

On Motion by Scott Benton, requesting to allow staff to make corrections and updates to the Action Plan, including the grants and member list changes as appropriate. Second by Rachel Kingham. No public comment.

(Yea: Scott Benton, Rebecca Pairis, Rachel Kingham, and Sherilyn Elcano). Final Resolution: Motion Carries 4-0.

(See meeting video for additional details posted on WCSD YouTube channel).

2.05 Review of meeting dates for Council on Family Resource Centers for the 2023-24 School Year – September 20, 2023; January 17, 2024; March 20, 2024; and June 20, 2024* Thursday meeting due to holiday; notification of 3 vacancies on the Council and importance of regular attendance at meetings (FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION)

Council Chair Scott Benton emphasized the importance of attendance in order to meet the Council's quorum as well as the 3 available vacancies as of July 1, 2023. It was also clarified that this is a 7-member council, which means that if we are not able to fill the 3 vacancies, all 4 current members must be present in order to meet quorum.

(See meeting video for additional details posted on WCSD YouTube channel).

CLOSING ITEMS

3.01 Public Comment

2 public comments. Trustee Colleen Westlake and Trustee Vice President Dr. Diane Nicolet.

3.02 Next Meeting Announcement – Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

The next meeting of the Council on Family Resource Centers is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th, 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 at 7:22 PM.