

**The Bridge at McFerran Early Childhood
Family Resource Center Advisory Council Meeting**

December 7, 2023 Hybrid meeting 2-3pm

[Meeting Agenda Link](#)

[Meeting Slide Link](#)

1. Introduction- Quiarra Dennis (parent room 131), Broquel Sutton (District ECH), Brooke Wilson (Comprehensive Services Liaison), Rebecca Johns (FRC) .
2. Reviewed Mission of FRC- To remove non cognitive barriers to the education of the children in our building. This includes but is not limited to food, clothing, diapers, housing assistance, emergency assistance, connecting families to holiday assistance and more.
3. FRC Action Component- Health Update
 - a. Provided 30 families with food for Thanksgiving, serving a total of 110 people and over 550 meals.
 - b. We received a winter coat grant that provided 48 students with new winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves and winter activities. This donation came from Foresters Financial and was around \$2,000 in items.
 - c. We are continuing to make clothing requests to CAP for families as needs arise.
4. FRC Action Component- Families in Training update
 - a. Community Baby Shower is January 27, 2024 from 10am-12pm. This is an opportunity for families who are currently expecting a new baby or has had a baby within the last year to obtain resources that they may need. We are taking donations of new and gently used baby items to provide to families at this event.
 - b. Career and Community Fair will be held March 2, 2024 from 10am-1pm. We will have employers who are looking to hire along with community partners who are looking to provide information about their programs to the community at this event.
 - c. FRC will continue to send home information in the school newsletter that is emailed out to families by the school.
 - d. Kindergarten applications closes on December 22, 2023. We have several families who have not applied for kindergarten however we are working on contacting those families to assist them.
5. FRC Action Component- Family Literacy
 - a. FRC received a donation of 250 board books and 250 sets of Little People Toys from We Need Diverse Books however the toys are all for girls so we are looking into ways to either obtain the boy toys or to provide these toys to the girls in our building and something different to our boys.
 - b. Planning is underway for a Partnership with Georgia's Sweet Potato Pie Co. to read books to our students during Women's History Month which is in March. We will be working on getting the appropriate volunteer forms completed for this to occur.
 - c. FRC is in the early stages of planning a Family Literacy Night around International Mother Language Day in 2025 with the help of the MLL staff on the Elementary School Side of McFerran. We would like to have several storytellers in attendance and have the same book read to students in various languages along with having other activities/food from around the world.
6. Budget Review- This school year we were allotted \$7,029.57 to view the budget log [click here](#)
 - a. We reviewed the current budget and all items that have been purchased to date.
 - b. We discussed the current remaining budget and discussed that the FRC computer may need to be replaced. This is something that could take up most of the remaining budget. We already have budgeted for \$420 to be used on Farmer Steve for the Kids Expo in April, \$500 will be spent with Materials and Production on the school yearbook/ family activity book and these two items will account for \$920 of the remaining budget.
 - c. The only expense we have occurred since the last meeting was packing supplies that we use for the diaper bank and food pantry which cost \$158.71
 - d. To date we have \$2,509.77 left to spend this school year.
7. Items to purchase:
 - a. Service Fee for the Diaper Bank- we are waiting for their vendor approval, no progress has been made to obtaining this vendor approval due to Accounts Payable focusing their efforts on paying parents the transportation stipend.

- b. School yearbooks will be purchased in the spring, we have budgeted \$500 for this project.
- 8. National Family Support Standards of Quality Review- reviewed the standards and why we use them.
- 9. Projects already scheduled include:
 - a. Dec. 21-22- Providing Families with Winter Food Boxes
 - b. Dec 25-January 5, 2024 Winter Break
 - c. January 27- Community Baby Shower from 10am-12pm
 - d. Jan. 31- Farmer Steve and Barnyard Animals
 - e. March 2- Career and Community Fair
 - f. Mar. 4-8 Book Fair
 - g. Mar. 12-13 Spring Picture Days
 - h. Apr. 17- Animal Tales
 - i. May 1- Derby Parade
 - j. May 16- Field Day
- 10. Reviewed the meeting dates for the FRC Advisory Council for the 2023-2024 school year. The next meeting will be held on January 18, 2024 from 2-3pm.
- 11. We had open discussion around the plans for this school year.