



Meeting Notes
Family Success Alliance Council Meeting
Monday, June 17th, 2019
Whitted

In attendance:

Council: Delores Bailey, Nancy Coston, Alice Denson, Rev. Sharon Freeland, Cordelia Heaney, Jakie Jenks, Liska Lackey, Mark Marcoplos, Beatrice Parker, Renee Price, Sammy Slade, Quintana Stewart, Jenn Weaver, Michele Woodson

Absent: Charlos S. Banks, Charles Blackwood, Ric Bruton, Rani Dasi, Martha Durhal, Eric Guckian, Sherrill Hampton, Annette Lafferty, Robin Pulver, Rachel Schaevitz, Aviva Scully, Luke Smith, Michael Steiner, Brenda Stephens, Jen Della Valle, Sarah Viñas,

Staff: Erika Cervantes, LaKaya Craig, Dominika Gazdzinska, Mariela Hernandez, Meredith McMonigle, Rhonda Morales, Ling Oy, Kristin Prelipp, Claudia Yerena

Guests: Sarah Patterson, Janet Davis-Castro

Welcome and Introductions

Jenn Weaver began the meeting by welcoming everyone at the table, everyone went around and introduced themselves. Consent Agenda Approval – motion to approve made by Liska Lackey, second by Michele Woodson – vote did not pass, *Council did not meet the quorum.*

Approval of previous meeting minutes for posting on FSA Website - *Council did not meet the quorum, voting moved to August*

Announcements:

1. Compass Center is searching for a Part-Time Support Group Coordinator, please send your recommendation to the staff or visit their website <https://compassctr.org/about-cc/employment/>

Innovation Grant Reports

Sarah Patterson presented on behalf of New Hope Elementary School, Sarah partnered up with UNC intern to evaluate how the school is already taking action towards a trauma-informed approach. They have found that teachers did not receive a lot of information about childhood trauma and they decided to address it by creating a series of trainings in partnership with Kelly Underwood. The first training took place in February 2019 with a turnout of 60 participants. The first training focused on what is trauma, how does it occur and how does it affect children's life. Teachers became more aware of different types of traumas and were able to identify students struggling with it. 2nd training focused on self-care and how to manage the problems students were struggling with. 3rd training will take place in Fall 2019 and will focus on Resilience and showing the documentary. School has not made a decision what exactly 4th training will focus on. With the extra funds provided, school will organize a Parent



Council group in Fall 2019 to help school staff understand how they could improve and what resources would be the most useful for families. School plans to also provide some trauma-informed training to the Parent Council and screen Resilience Documentary in March 2020. In order to better support all students and families, school focuses on 3 tiers. Tier 1: Building awareness in all students, families and staff – every morning each class sits in Group Circles. Tier 2: work in smaller groups, closely working with teachers focusing on the resources needed for students, school is hoping to hire another council starting this upcoming school year. Tier 3: highest-level of need where school-resources are not sufficient. The school partners with outside counseling agency that can provide support within and outside of school based on parent’s preference. Renee Price stated that it is important to focus on all types of traumas, including being different and racism. Aside from trauma-informed training, the school will provide optional professional development training that will focus on how to set up trauma sensitive classrooms and focus on racial bias. School currently only provides assistance to children experiencing trauma, but hopefully with more staff and time available they will be able to provide services to the whole family and not just a child.

Janet Davis-Castro represented Carrboro Elementary School and their focus is on making their institution more culturally responsive and representative of the diverse student population. Social Justice has been added to the curriculum, with the fund provided school was able to set aside 168 teacher planning hours (total of 12 days), several teachers were chosen to focus on social justice in the school, looking broadly on all the units and then focusing closely on what each grade could improve on. Examples include: 5th Grade: focused on Slave Heroes and how they survived day-to-day. 4th Grade: Wish Tree book and focus on Equity. 3rd Grade: Focused on Civil Movement and that everyone is able to make a change, 2nd Grade: Studied Black Musicians and Singers who also made a difference in the world, 1st Grade: Students compared their live at school and home, and realized that we all have several identities, and that we are all similar and different in all kinds of ways, and K Grade: focused on visual arts – what do you feel your community looks like?. School also spent around \$10,000 to fill up classrooms with diversity text (school found there was a high need for non-fiction text). Janet mentioned that the only archive of their work is the presentation with their accomplishments. Janet has done several presentations for the district and other schools - the feedback she received was great but no other schools are interested in expanding this system into their own schools. FSA Council expressed interest in pushing this approach into other schools, Sammy Slade mentioned that we should be using our connections for this kind of work so we can make a difference in the community as a whole.

Orange County Schools expressed interest in collecting an inventory of the changed and implementations they have achieve at their schools in order to know what else the schools can improve on.

Strategic Plan Implementation

Quintana began the conversation by informing the Council that there are two phases planned to expand the reach of FSA that are anticipated by the current strategic plan. Phase I will focus on opening FSA up in fall 2019 to families who live in the Zones but their children do not attend Zone Schools. Phase II will take place over the next couple of years and will focus on expending the navigator program to other zones within the county.

Resources are limited, but by evaluating the navigator program we have noticed that there are a lot of families who are low-touch and less of the ones who are high-touch. We want to have a chance of



helping more families and using the extra resources and time not needed by the low-touch families. There is a high need of expansion into the Northern part of the county. Council is open to expending FSA to other non-zone schools at the time. *Council Quorum not met – vote moved to August meeting.*

System Change Strategies – we want to help all families of Orange County and not just FSA families. Council is encouraged to use their voices to influence other agencies to make change. Mark Marcoplos recommended that we make an inventory of the systems change accomplishments to motivate the group on making more chances and realizing everyone's voice is important.

Council Business

Starting in August 2019 – Beatrice Parker will be the Council Chair, with Michele Woodson as a Vice Chair – Michele has been attentive and committed to this work and would be a great candidate for the Vice Chair position - *Council Quorum not met – vote moved to August meeting.*

Coby Jansen Austin has served as a Director since summer 2016, and her final day was June 7th. In the interim, Health Director Quintana Stewart will work more closely with staff to support the Family Success Alliance until a new Director is hired.

FSA Team would like to recognize Delores Bailey and Rev. Sharon Freeland and thank them for hosting the navigators at their locations. Dana Crews and Quintana Stewart presented both organizations with a Thank You Gift. Quintana wanted to apologize afterwards for slight confusion. Although, not official under budget gets approved by County Commissioners, the navigators will become Health Department Employees starting July 1st.

Approval of FY 2019-2020 Meeting Scheduled - *Council Quorum not met – vote moved to August meeting.*