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**Meeting Notes**  
**Family Success Alliance Council Meeting**  
**Monday, August 17, 2015**  
**Carrboro Century Center**

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**In attendance:**

**Council:** Ardith Brooks, Alice Denson, John Dorward, Debra Farrington, Liska Lackey, Robin Pulver, Nate Broman-Fulks, Luke Smith, Angela Wilcox, Aviva Scully, Sharon Freeland, Nancy Coston, Cordelia Heaney, James Davis, Miguel Munoz, Katrina Solomon

**Absent:** Delores Bailey, Colleen Bridger, Loryn Clark, Mack Koonce, Bernadette Pelissier, Charles Blackwood, Mark Dorosin, Jake Henry, Angie Welsh, Sheldon Lanier, Eric Peterson, Michael Steiner

**Staff:** Meredith Stewart, Melvyn Blackwell, Meredith McMonigle, Stacy Shelp, Beatrice Parker, Angela Clapp, Alizarina Rojas, Mariela Hernandez

**Guests:** Melanie Jones, Ambra Wilson

**Welcome**

Liska Lackey, Vice-Chair, started the meeting by introducing new members to the Council. She introduced the zone parent representatives; Miguel Munoz (Zone 4) and Katrina Solomon (Zone 6). She also introduced Cordelia Heaney as the new Compass Center representative. Heaney will be replacing Ardith Burkes on the Council.

**Project Updates**

Meredith McMonigle welcomed Ambra Wilson, Assistant Principal, to discuss the results from the New Hope Kindergarten Readiness Program. Ambra reported that their program was aimed at assisting kids with developing academically, socially, and emotionally in preparation for kindergarten. She noted that there were 21 kids enrolled into the program. She described the program as successful. She explained that attendance for students was 93%.

Alice Denson gave an update on the Parent Literacy Program. Parents that were interested were given an assessment test. She noted there was a small sample size of parents at the Frank Porter Graham site there were not enough parents at New Hope Elementary site to run literacy classes there.

Meredith Stewart informed the Council that the FSA will be receiving an invitation to the Promise Network Institute. She noted that this is an opportunity to learn from initiatives and organizations across the country that are doing similar work as the FSA.

### **Strategic Planning Update and Feedback**

Meredith Stewart introduced the newest navigator, Mariela Hernandez. She explained Mariela will be the second navigator for Zone 6.

Meredith discussed planning and ways to spend the United Way grant funds, which were awarded to the collaborative. She reviewed the funding allocations among the agencies that are within the collaborative. She noted the three priorities that were identified by the community were: Kindergarten Readiness, Parenting Support/Engagement, and Out of School Time. She explained that the planning for program spending would be concentrated among one of, if not all, of these three areas.

Alice Denson made a motion and John Dorward seconded the proposed motion that the FSA administrative staff will develop two strategic plans (short term and long term) geared towards program spending. As a part of program planning, the FSA staff will get more input from selected experts and zone communities on a strategic plan as it relates to the three identified priorities or pipeline sections. All Council members present were in favor of the motion. The motion was passed.

### **Media Training**

Melanie Jones of the United Way of the Greater Triangle presented techniques on how to discuss the FSA with others. She read and discussed a sample FSA elevator speech with the Council. She encouraged the Council to find ways to personalize their discussions while maintaining a consistent message about the FSA. Stacy Shelp prompted Council members to arrange themselves into small groups to practice the FSA elevator speech talking points amongst one another.

Stacy chose a few Council members to share their pitch and/or talking points with the group.

Liska closed the meeting by reminding the Council of the next meeting on October 19, 2015. She reminded the Council of the importance of attendance at Council meetings.