



# Family Resource Centers in Nyack Public Schools

*Over 25 Years of Connecting Families to Schools and Community*

**Timeline of  
History**

**Where We Are  
Now**

**Some Data  
Points**

**Recommendations  
to the BOE**

**Sustaining  
Our Legacy**

**Dr. James  
Montesano**

**Lizzette  
Ruiz-  
Giovinazzi**

**Bryan  
Burrell**

**Stalina  
Hernández-  
Feliciano**

**Julie Kassel**

**Wanda  
Octaviano**

**Yesenia  
Polanco**

**Ellen  
Rechenberger**

**Lisa  
Mininger  
Retallack**

**Joanne  
Wallace**

***January 10, 2023  
Presentation to  
the Board of  
Education***

# FRC Timeline

## Nyack Public Schools

Milestones in Our History



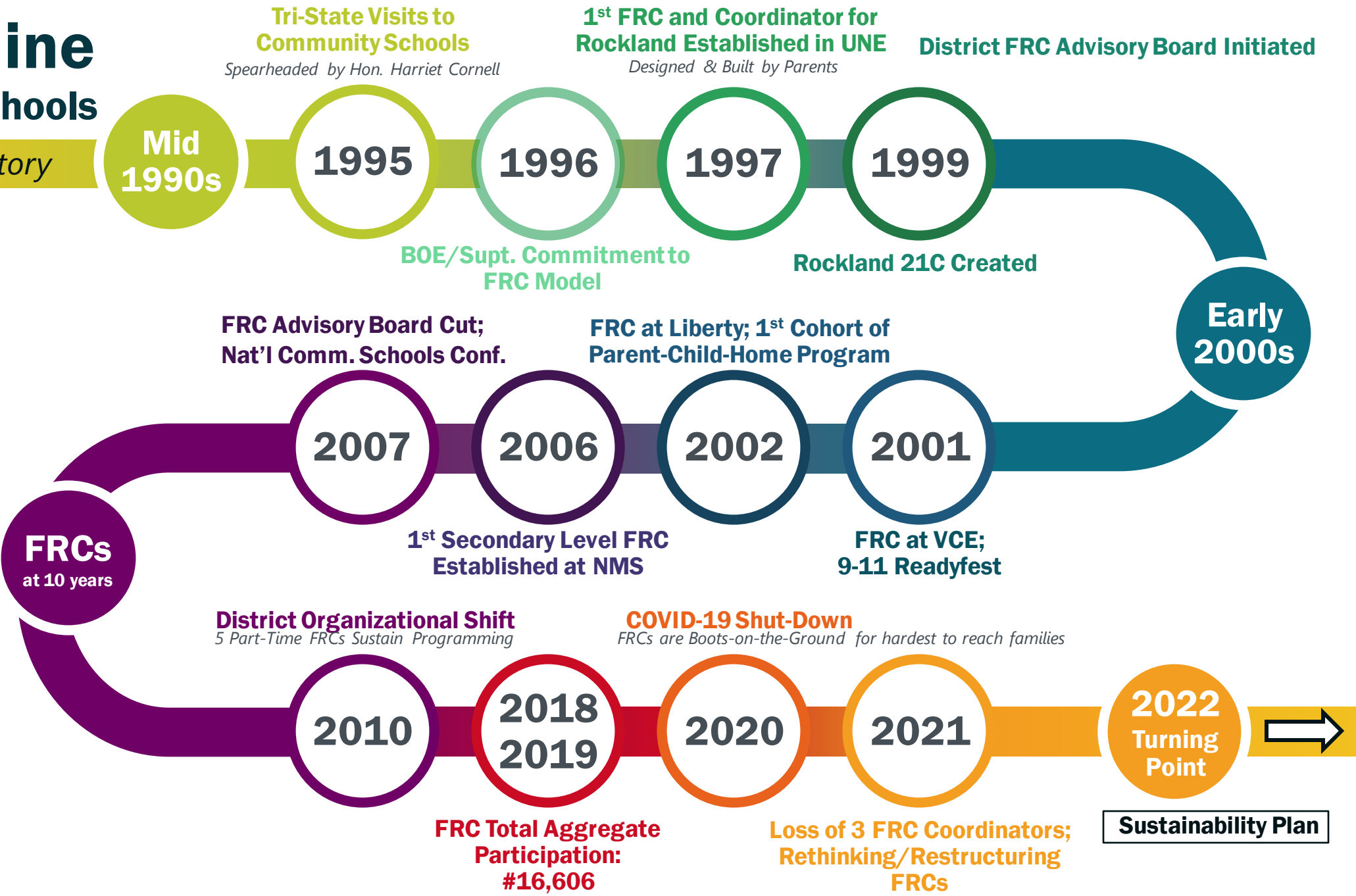
Storytime with Miss Julie



FRC Advisory Board, Early Years



Readyfest with Community Partners



# Where We Are Now

## FRCs in Nyack Public Schools



### *A Collaboration, Committee and Cross-Section of Commitment*

2021

- **Pandemic; Loss of 3 veteran FRC Coordinators**
- **Changes in leadership lead to rethinking/restructuring FRCs**
- **Partnered with Rockland 21C to fill vacant coordinator positions resulted in inequitable pay among District FRCs**

2022

- **Embarked on District FRC Committee through leadership of Interim Superintendent Montesano to brainstorm FRC viability and sustainability**
- **Sub-Groups created for gathering and documenting feedback from staff and key stakeholders in the district**

Current  
Status  
of FRCs

- **3 FRC Coordinators: 1 In-house FRC II at NMS; 3 FRC I Coordinators via Rockland 21C/BOCES; 1 in-house Assistant to FRC**
- **Feedback compiled and applied to listing of recommendations to the BOE towards creating an FRC sustainability plan**

# Some Data Points

## FRCs in Nyack Public Schools



### Information Compiled from Staff & Key Stakeholders:

#### Staff Survey

**FRCs Are...** *"extremely vital, Incredibly Invaluable, always proactive and responsive, THE BEST! ... a must-have position"*

- 121 Staff Responded; rate from all 5 buildings was very even
- 45% of responders have been employed in-district over 15 years
- 30% of responders had consistent interaction with FRC Coordinators beyond one school year
- Majority surveyed contacted FRC Coordinators for Family/Student Support; Family Engagement, Information & Referrals

#### Principal Interviews

##### FRC Coordinators ...

- *"Go above and beyond for our families– they work around the clock, meeting parents in supermarkets or wherever they need to"*
- *Understand the "pulse of the families"*
- *"Connect families to guidance counselor"*

##### Students, families, staff would benefit more from FRCs if...

- *"they had more hours, not just part time..."*
- *"make sure equity happens for the students, they level the plane at home with school supplies free and reduced lunch application."*
- *"Paid a competitive salary and one that represents the important work they do"*

#### PPS Interviews

##### FRCs Are...

- *"A bridge between home and school"*
- *"A conduit to build better, stronger relationships with families"*
- *"A lifeline" and "one-stop-shop of information for families"*

##### Students, families, staff would benefit more from FRCs if...

- *They were full-time "to ensure we are doing a warm handoff"*
- *"Their roles/responsibilities were clear" and "everyone know[s] that they can use them – especially families".*

#### FRC Coordinator Feedback

##### FRC Coordinators Are...

- *"Boots on the ground with families"*
- *"First to welcome and establish trust with families"*

##### The District would benefit more from FRCs with...

- *Bolstered support of coordinators and the FRC model, elevated through strategic planning between administrators, principals and coordinators*
- *Centralized, cohesive support aligned to district*
- *Greater clarity of roles, expectations and responsibilities*
- *Integration of building level teams (IST, RTI, Equity) for holistic approach and coordination of service*

# Recommendations to the BOE

## FRCs in Nyack Public Schools



*Submitted by the District FRC Committee for FRC Sustainability:*

### FRC Job Description

- Increase FRC Coordinator hours; ensure flexibility for weekly schedule/hours
- Implement equitable pay scale for all FRC
- Gather input and share the wealth of FRC data from end-of-year annual reports for district database
- Exit Interviews from FRC coordinators who left in 2021

### BOCES Partnership

- Continuing Rockland 21C contract via Rockland BOCES
- Ensure tailored FRC Coordinator responsibilities and expectations to fit NPS

### District Restructure

- Establish an FRC II position as district liaison to ASI
- Create and implement training for incoming FRC coordinators
- Reorganization of District FRCs through the Office of the ASI
- District FRC Coordinators will report directly to principals to ensure shared vision for each school

### Sustainability

- Create a District FRC Advisory Board
- Provide "a system and a rhythm"
- Initiate monthly FRC Meetings with ASI
- Finalize and Adopt a Sustainability Plan for FRCs



# Sustaining Our Legacy

## FRCs in Nyack Public Schools



*Looking Forward: The FRC Four Pillars in Collaboration with Rockland 21C*

1

**Family Support**

2

**Family and Community Engagement**

3

**Early Childhood Development**

4

**School-Age Programs**

# Family Resource Centers in Nyack Public Schools

*Connecting Families to Schools and Community*



**Thank You!**