



Mercer County Intermediate School
1101 Moberly Road
Harrodsburg, Kentucky 40330
Phone 859-733-7080 Fax 859-733-7084



January 10, 2020

Dear Mercer Board of Education:

I have been contacted by two groups asking that I submit mini-grants to fund programming which our Family Resource programs are sponsoring.

Cradle School

Mercer County Intermediate School and the Elementary School Family Resource Centers host Cradle School, a 0-4 year old learning program in which parents and caregivers bring their children to the Harlow Education Center twice a month. During the 2 ½ hour session children and care givers participate in story time, musical learning, centers which encourage the development of fine motor skills, gymnasium play time in which gross motor skills are used during play time and finally everyone enjoys a healthy snack before heading home. Each child and caregiver receives repeat lessons that may be performed at home to continue the learning activities. Cradle School is solely sponsored through the Family Resource Centers which will share the certified teacher's salary, however there is no current funding stream for refreshing the materials and consumables, manipulatives as needed for development of fine motor skills and literacy in both school and home, and field trip support for families.

MCIS FRC and MCES FRC will request \$500.00 from the Mercer Community Endowment for the Cradle School Project.

Community Baby Shower

The Mercer County FRYSC coordinators host a biannual Community Baby Shower in which community members who are pregnant or have children up to three years of age. This program is held during April to focus attention on Child Abuse Prevention Awareness through formal programming and a vendor fair which provides informational sessions and services to the family members. During the baby shower participants will be eligible to receive "door prizes" of safety items such as car seats, baby monitors, baby gates, door knob covers and cabinet door closures, pac-n-plays and high chairs.

MCES, MCIS, KMS, and MCSHS FRYSC's will request 500.00 from the Mercer Community Endowment to sponsor the purchase of safety items for the door prizes.



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MCIS Kids After-School Cooking Club

MCIS FRC created a Kids Cooking Club focusing on children who receive the weekend nutritional support through the backpack program. MCIS's FRC Coordinator, Amy Matthews and the University of Kentucky Mercer County Extension Service SNAP Education provider Bobbie Hancock, have developed a Family Literacy style program in which children and parents are learning about nutrition and food safety. Once a month cooking club members join Bobbie, Amy and recently Chris Minor, in the home economics room for a cooking class. The program is emphasizing recipes that contain the nutritional foods that are being sent home on the weekends in order for our families to learn how to use what they receive as well as stretch their food further. Our young Chefs prepare a full meal for their families who join the group at 5:00. Our young chefs are learning how to cook with fresh ingredients, to serve others, and food safety to name a few learning outcomes. We have seen this group grow exponentially in their culinary skills confidence and bravery at trying new foods! While our Chefs are completing the finishing touches on their meals our parents Our Chefs serve their families and join them for the meal they have prepared and during meal time Bobbie shares a nutritional education lesson with the group.

MCIS FRC will request funding for Mercer County Farmer's Market Vouchers for the Cooking Club members in order to support them nutritionally during the summer.

United Way request- 500.00

Mercer County Community Endowment request- \$500.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Matthews

MCIS FRC Coordinator