

RM ECE July 2016 Update

The school district is meeting with all of the Pre-k teachers the week of July 18th

They are going to have a **Ready Freddy kick-off party** the first day of school to welcome children and families outside as they enter the school with music and Freddy the frog mascot. Ready Freddy is a program from the University of Pittsburgh that encourages attendance for children in pre-k and k, and this is the first year McDowell County Schools has used the Ready Freddy program. A researcher from Pittsburgh has come down and met with Amanda and he is willing to do free workshops.

At the celebration, they will have a few graduates in cap and gowns, to serve as role models for children and parents. From there, parents will meet with the principal to discuss expectations for their child or children and the importance of attendance. Next parents will do classroom visits where they will ask teachers any questions they have about the upcoming year. The morning will end with a “boo hoo” breakfast for parents before they leave their children at the school.

FirstBook –The first order for FirstBook has been placed. These books will restock family libraries, as well as the WIC and Southern Highlands shelves.

- Books will be distributed at the Color Run, held on August 27, and they will receive a book to distribute for each color band they receive.

Energy Express – Energy Express is a 5 week summer reading program. College Mentors work with kids, as well as a certified teacher who acts as a site supervisor. The kids go home from the program at 1:30p.m., and then the college mentors and site supervisors have a team meeting. Three of these mentors are now McDowell County Teachers. The program supports learning for upcoming K-5 students at Anawalt, Bradshaw, Fall River, Kimball, and Welch (30-40 students in each school). FirstBook resources are used in this program as well.

Amanda, HeadStart, and Save the Children still meet every other Tuesday.

Monthly ECE meetings start back up in September.