

**Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors Meeting
April 26, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Wake County SmartStart (WCSS) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 with WCSS Board Chair, Angie Welsh presiding. The meeting took place in Room 204, 4901 Waters Edge Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Board members present: Gail Austin, Kelly Caldwell, Dale Cousins, Liz Hamner, Sherry Heuser, Mark Langford, Carol Mitchell, Cathy Moore, Barbara Morales Burke, Patricia Ruppert, Camille Schaffer, Mike Smith, Kristi Tally, Angie Welsh and Tyrone Williamson

Board members absent and excused: Christine Alvarado, Jim Greene, Benita Jones, Susan McCullen, Regina Petteway, Kim Shaw, Mike Wasilick and Charlotte Turpin

Board members absent and unexcused: Ana Maria Bonell and Jessica Holmes

Staff members present: Phyllis Barbour, Gary Carr, Pam Dowdy, Bryce McClamroch, Nancy Peck, Melinda Schlesinger and Anna Troutman

Welcome/Call to Order/Adoption of Agenda

At 8:35 AM, Board Chair, Angie Welsh recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order. As the first order of business, Liz Hamner moved to adopt the agenda. Sherry Heuser seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-17-41)

Barbara Morales Burke moved to approve minutes from the previous meeting on February 22, 2017. Sherry Heuser seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-17-42)

Committee Reports

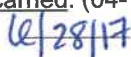
● **Allocations**

Committee Chair, Mark Langford provided a brief summary of the review process and criteria as a prelude to presenting the Allocations Committee funding recommendation for the first year of a new three year funding cycle. Mr. Langford referred Board members to Attachment B.2, a chart detailing recommended funding by board identified goal areas. Following questions and comments, Sherry Heuser moved to approve as a block allocation of \$12,077,433 in funding for nine providers to implement 17 program activities in FY 2017-18 as follows.

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>PROGRAM ACTIVITY</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED FUNDING</u>
Catholic Charities	Language is the Key	\$71,789
SAFEchild	The Nurturing Program for Spanish Speaking Families	\$82,490
Office of Early Learning/WCPSS	Parents as Teachers	\$553,168
Office of Early Learning/WCPSS	Triple P Positive Parenting	\$103,664
Child Care Services Association	Advancing School Readiness (formerly Administrator/Quality Development)	\$151,083
Wake County Human Services	Child Care Health Consultant Program	\$449,084
Wake County Human Services	Child Care Subsidy	\$4,894,672
Wake County SmartStart	Child Care Program Quality Supplements	\$1,254,796
Wake County SmartStart	Quality Enhancement	\$ 256,584
Family Resource Center of Raleigh	Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPIY)	\$247,461
Lucy Daniels Center	Social/Emotional Interventions For Young Children	\$352,100
Wake County Human Services	Nurse Family Partnership	\$82,500
Office of Early Learning/WCPSS	Supporting School Readiness	\$114,755
Wake County SmartStart	NC Pre-K	\$2,863,968
Catholic Charities	School Readiness for Hispanic Children	\$63,076
Community Care of Wake and Johnston	Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD)	\$43,380
Wake County SmartStart	Program Coordination and Evaluation/Community Outreach and Education	\$492,863

Dale Cousins seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, noting abstentions by Cathy Moore, and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (04-17-43)

 Initial

 Date

- **Board Development**

Board Development Committee Chair, Mike Smith announced that Arvelis Byrd has submitted her resignation from the Board due to increased job related travel and responsibilities in her new position as Deputy Executive Director for Telamon which conflicts with her ability to actively participate as a WCSS Board member. Dr. Smith acknowledged Ms. Byrd for her commitment to serving early education. Mark Langford moved to accept Arvelis Byrd's resignation from the WCSS Board of Directors effective April 26, 2017. Dale Cousins seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the vote was unanimous. (4-17-44)

Dr. Smith presented a Board Development Committee recommendation to elect current Telamon NC Head Start Director, LTeisha Curtis to the Board. Sherry Heuser made a motion to approve election of LTeisha Curtis to the Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors for a three year term expiring in 2020. Liz Hamner seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the vote was unanimous. (4-17-45)

- **Finance**

Finance Committee Chair, Kelly Caldwell said the Finance Committee did not meet in April, but has reviewed the financial reports for March 2017. She reported the following:

- WCSS has begun using Wake County funds for NC Pre-K
- fiscal year close out report
- WCSS has received the NCPC contract

Barbara Morales Burke moved to approve the March 2017 financial statements. Mark Langford seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the vote passed. (4-17-46)

- **20th Anniversary**

Co-Chair, Kristi Tally thanked the Board for the commitment and collective effort made to ensure the success of the anniversary events and invited them to enjoy breakfast treats provided by the Co-Chairs as appreciation.

Dale Cousins summarized highlights of the Garden Party on April 1 attended by approximately 100 participants, including several state and county elected officials. She noted that Jim Goodman, CEO and President of Capitol Broadcasting Company presented an award to Former Governor James B. Hunt as a visionary for early childhood education and a charter member of the 1996 Society which was officially launched at the Garden Party.

Staff member, Anna Troutman provided a brief recap of the Bright Futures Forum sponsored by Kaplan and Ready Rosie on April 5 at the JC Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh.

Kelly Caldwell reported on the Birthday Blast event held at Marbles Kids Museum on April 22. She said 500 free museum entrance tickets were given out to local young children and families who celebrated with activities including cookie decoration, book raffle and visiting mascots provided by UNC-TV. Ms. Caldwell acknowledged the volunteers, including students from Wake Tech Early Education program, for their help with the event.

Co-Chair, Liz Hamner reviewed the agenda for the 20th Anniversary Storybook Gala on April 27. Sherry Heuser announced 41 raffle packages will be available at the Gala. She explained how the raffle will work and encouraged purchase of additional tickets.

Liz Hamner asked the Board to support a one-time exception to WCSS's long standing practice of disallowing the purchase of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of having wine available for dinner and toasts at the Gala. Sherry Heuser made a motion to approve the purchase of wine from private funds for the 20th Anniversary Storybook Gala on April, 2017. Kelly Caldwell seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the vote passed (04-17-47)

Chair's Report:

Carol Mitchell reported on a recent event by Advocates for Health in Action (AHA), Wake County and Triangle YMCA, targeted to community leaders which included a screening of the film, *Resilience* and conversation about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Ms. Mitchell said AHA is forming a steering committee to identify ways the community can support improved health outcomes through the use of trauma informed care. She recommended WCSS involvement in this initiative, and suggested allocating time at a future Board meeting to view the film.

EA Initial

6/28/17 Date

Executive Director's Report:

Pam Dowdy announced staff is in the process of replacing the current network printer/copier/fax machine due to its age, loss of some functionality and increasing maintenance cost. She presented a staff recommendation to decommission the current equipment as a capital asset. Liz Hamner moved to decommission the following capital asset: Ricoh Aficio MP5000B Network Copier and Fax. Mike Smith seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing none opposed, the vote passed. (04-17-48)

Pam Dowdy reported that Wake County has confirmed plans to include up to \$100,000 in their budget as a matching grant for Pre-K services funding. She said that Triangle Community Foundation and NC Community Foundation have agreed to share communication about this opportunity with their fund holders in Wake County. Ms. Dowdy reported that WCSS has contacted Wake County Public Schools System to submit a joint proposal to North Carolina Early Childhood Foundation for a \$1000 grant to facilitate community conversations around the Pathways Initiative.

Ms. Dowdy asked the Board to mark their calendars June 28 Board meeting which will include required action on the NC Pre-K Plan.

Pam Dowdy informed the Board of a legislative proposal to operate the Office of Early Learning through the NC Department of Instruction. She reported that Representatives Dollar and Malone are sponsoring a Child Care Subsidy bill that would increase market rate reimbursement for 3, 4 and 5 year olds receiving subsidy in Tier III counties. Ms. Dowdy also shared information about a pending early literacy project bill for increased statewide access to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program and a nurse home-visiting program for parents of newborns. She said if passed, the bill be a potential complement to the ABCD and Reach Out and Read programs.

Carol Mitchell announced A Safe Place Child Enrichment Center, owned by WCSS Board member, Kim Shaw, has received a 2017 Urban Agriculture award from the City of Raleigh.

no further business to address, Sherry Heuser made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 AM. Kristi Tally seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion was unanimous. (4-17-49)


Elizabeth Hamner
Secretary

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