

**Wake County Smart Start  
Board of Directors Meeting  
April 25, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Wake County Smart Start (WCSS) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 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, Jim Greene, Liz Hamner, Sherry Heuser, Leslie Ann Jackson, Mark Langford, Carol Mitchell, Cathy Moore, Barbara Morales Burke, Regina Petteway, Patricia Ruppert, Mike Smith, Kristi Tally, Charlotte Turpin, Angie Welsh and Tyrone Williamson

Board members absent and excused: Christine Alvarado, Dale Cousins, L'Teisha Curtis, Jessica Holmes, Benita Jones, Kim Shaw and Michael Wasilick

Staff members present: Phyllis Barbour, Gary Carr, Joan Crutchfield, Pam Dowdy, Bryce McClamroch, Carol Orji, Nancy Peck and Anna Troutman

**Call to Order/Adoption of Agenda**

At 8:35 AM, Board Chair, Angie Welsh recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order. Sherry Heuser moved to adopt the agenda. Mark Langford seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the vote was unanimous. (4-18-40)

The Board reviewed items on the consent agenda. Leslie Ann Jackson moved to approve the consent agenda including: minutes from the previous meeting on February 28, 2018, April 2018 financial reports, a recommendation to amend the WCSS 401k plan to allow contributions on a quarterly basis and a summary of current Board Conflicts of Interest. Carol Mitchell seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (4-18-41)

**Committee Reports**

● **Advancement Committee**

Committee Chair, Sherry Heuser announced WCSS has met the goal of matching contributions to \$100,000 offered by Wake County. She requested board assistance with hand written thank you notes to the highest level donors and distributed stamped addressed note cards to those who volunteered. Ms. Heuser said Advancement Committee will update the Board on future activity.

● **Allocations Committee**

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 second year of the three year funding cycle. Mr. Langford referred Board members to Attachment B.2, a chart detailing recommended funding by board identified goal areas. Pam Dowdy commented on the rationale for not recommending funding to Supporting School Readiness as due to changing community need. As an Allocations Committee member, Angie Welsh commented on the ease and efficiency of the electronic review and scoring process. Following questions and further comments, Jim Greene moved to accept as a package the allocation of \$11,886,212 in funding for nine providers to implement 16 program activities in FY 2018-19 as follows:

<u>AGENCY</u> <u>FUNDING</u>	<u>PROGRAM ACTIVITY</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED</u>
Catholic Charities	Language is the Key	\$74,943
SAFEchild	The Nurturing Program for Spanish Speaking Families	\$84,015
Office of Early Learning/WCPSS	Parents as Teachers	\$572,810
Office of Early Learning/WCPSS	Triple P Positive Parenting	\$100,000
Child Care Services Association	Advancing School Readiness	\$158,637
Wake County Human Services	Child Care Health Consultant Program	\$460,986
Wake County Human Services	Child Care Subsidy	\$4,968,810

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Wake County SmartStart	Child Care Program Quality Supplements	\$1,036,705
Wake County SmartStart	Quality Enhancement	\$262,136
Family Resource Center of Raleigh	Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)	\$262,536
Lucy Daniels Center	Social/Emotional Interventions For Young Children	\$371,810
Wake County Human Services	Nurse Family Partnership	\$82,500
Wake County SmartStart	NC Pre-K	\$2,841,700
Catholic Charities	School Readiness for Hispanic Children	\$65,879
Community Care of Wake and Johnston	Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD)	\$45,431
Wake County SmartStart	Program Coordination and Evaluation/ Community Outreach and Education	\$497,314

Sherry Heuser seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, noting abstentions by Cathy Moore and Regina Petteway, and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (4-18-42)

Mark Langford summarized the NC Pre-K site selection process before presenting a recommendation from Allocations Committee for selected sites for the next two school years, and staff authorization to place slots in these sites. Pam Dowdy said staff will send the Board two maps showing the geographic distribution of Pre-K sites and total population under 200% poverty guidelines, with one map layered to show current enrollment and the other layered to show the density of children birth to five under 200% poverty guidelines. Following comments and questions about non-selected sites, Sherry Heuser moved to approve 54 sites, as listed on Attachment C.2, for placement of NC Pre-K slots the 2018-20 school years; and authorization of staff to place slots in approved sites according to geographic needs of applicants before bringing slot placement to the Board for approval in August 2018. Regina Petteway seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and noting abstention by Cathy Moore, the vote was unanimous. (04-18-43)

#### **Board Development Committee**

Committee Chair, Mike Smith presented a Board Development Committee recommendation for election of a candidate to the Board. Mark Langford made a motion to approve election of Joe R. White to the Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors for a three year term expiring in 2021. Barbara Morales Burke seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the vote was unanimous. (04-18-44)

Dr. Smith informed the Board that Benita Jones has submitted her resignation from the Board due to schedule conflicts increased job responsibilities that will deter her ability to actively participate as a WCSS Board member. Pam Dowdy addressed a question about Board capacity and remarked that Board Development will prioritize finding a candidate to fill the vacant position of legal representation. Barbara Morales Burke moved to accept Benita Jones's resignation from the WCSS Board of Directors effective April 25, 2018. Patricia Ruppert seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the vote was unanimous. (04-18-45)

#### **Finance Committee**

Finance Committee Chair, Kelly Caldwell presented a recommendation authorizing staff to allocate unexpended Smart Start funds that must otherwise be reverted to NCPC at the end of the fiscal year. Following questions, Jim Greene made a motion to authorize staff to fully allocate unexpended Smart Start funding within the 17-18 fiscal year to WCSS funded in-house or approved activities. Liz Hamner seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing none opposed, the motion passed. (04-18-46)

#### **Chair's Report**

Chair, Angie Welsh called on Kelly Caldwell, who reported on the April 14 Storybook Play Date outreach event at Marbles Kids Museum highlighting the Imagination Library program. In response to Board request, Pam Dowdy said staff will re-send Imagination Library information and an electronic version of a flyer to Board members to share within their networks.

Ms. Welsh reported on her recent participation in an NCAEYC "train the trainer" training, "Nurturing the Brain: Risk and Resilience in Early Childhood" focusing on brain development, early experiences and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES).

EA Initial

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In other updates, Angie Welsh announced that a number of staff as well as WCSS Board members will be attending the Smart Start Conference May 1- 3 during which several staff will make presentations on topics that include: Kaleidoscope Project, Wake Connections and Healthy Initiatives. Ms. Welsh also announced the Wake County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing for the County Manager's recommended budget 7:00 PM, Monday, May 21.

#### Executive Director's Report

Executive Director, Pam Dowdy provided an update on the partnership rebranding process. She drew attention to a projection of the finalized logo and color palette that will be integrated into all partnership materials and samples of what it will look like on business cards and letterhead. She reported that staff has completed a rebranding style guide and is currently conducting training for staff and partners to be ready for the go live date of June 15.

Pam Dowdy shared the current status of pledged support from business leaders for the Blue Ribbon Commission findings that will be used to reinforce. Staff will send the Board a current list of business leaders who have signed the BRC pledge of support.

Pam Dowdy shared the following updates:

- Key legislative priorities recommended by the NC Early Education Coalition include: a push to increase child care subsidy market rates for children three to five years of age in three, four and five-star licensed child care programs in Tier 3 Counties; addressing challenges to Pre-K expansion with adjustment of NC Pre-K rates to meet current costs and expanded funding. Ms. Dowdy commented on the potential opportunity to blend Pre-K funding with new subsidy funding for wrap around care
- Ms. Dowdy is meeting with other North Carolina urban counties including Durham and Mecklenburg to learn more about their county initiatives.
- The Wake County Manager budget will be finalized May 9

Cathy Moore reported on Wake County Public School System's budget request of \$58 million submitted to Wake County Commissioners.

With no further business to address, Kristi Tally made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 AM. Charlotte Turpin seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion was unanimous. (04-18-47)

  
Secretary

11-27-18  
Date