

**Wake County Smart Start  
NC Pre-K Committee Meeting  
February 24, 2021**

A meeting of the Wake County Smart Start (WCSS) NC Pre-K Committee was held on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 with WCSS Board Vice Chair, Sherry Heuser presiding. The meeting was held via Zoom conference

Committee members present: Christine Alvarado, Maria Cervania, Dale Cousins, Veronica Creech, L'Teisha Curtis, Dawn Dawson, Heather Drennan, Matthew Glova, Sherry Heuser, Leslie Ann Jackson, Catherine Lassiter, Cathy Moore, Kimberly Shaw, Angie Welsh, Joe White and Katherine Williams

Committee members absent: Liz Hamner, Tonya Kangkolo, Katie King, Sharon Loza, Barbara Morales Burke, Antonia Pedroza, Charlotte Turpin and Michael Wasilick

Guests: Susan Evans

Staff members present: Gary Carr, Gayle E. Headen, Joan Crutchfield, Sasha Gomez, Bryce McClamroch, Carol Orji, Phyllis Barbour, Nancy Peck and Anna Troutman

**Call to Order/Announcements/Adoption of Agenda**

At 8:34 AM, Vice Chair, Sherry Heuser recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order. Ms. Heuser welcomed Commissioner Maria Cervania, newly appointed Wake County Commissioners liaison to the WCSS Board and NC Pre-K Committee and alternate liaison, Commissioner Susan Evans. A round of introductions by committee members and staff followed. After introductions, Dale Cousins moved to adopt the agenda. Matthew Glova seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and with none opposed, the vote was unanimous. (02-21-49)

NC Pre-K Committee members reviewed minutes from previous meeting. Dale Cousins moved to adopt the minutes from the NC Pre-K Committee meeting on December 2 2021. Catherine Lassiter seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objection, the motion carried. (02-21-50)

**Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director, Gayle E. Headen introduced a staff recommendation and supporting information to formally present the NC Pre-K Committee meeting schedule for vote in compliance with NC Pre-K plan requirements. Katherine Williams made a motion to approve WCSS NC Pre-K Committee meeting calendar for FY20-21 as detailed on Attachment B.2. Kimberly Shaw seconded the motion. Calling for a committee vote and hearing none opposed, the vote to approve was unanimous. (02-21-51)

Ms. Headen provided the following NC Pre-K program updates:

- Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year is currently at 992 children, approximately 60% of funded slots and continuing to increase despite being a time of year when enrollment has historically plateaued.
- Pre-K registration process is underway for the 2021-2022 school year. As members of the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) and WCSS are each planning briefing sessions for interested families. Program promotion will start earlier than usual, March instead of June and will include radio and Google ads as well as boosted social media posts.
- WCSS and WCPSS are working together to collaboratively present NC Pre-K funding projections for the next several years to the Wake County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Cervania offered assistance to promote the NC Pre-K program through Wake County.

With no further business to address, Christine Alvarado made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 AM. Matthew Glova seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the vote passed. (02-21-52)

*Kimberly Shaw*

Secretary

05 / 21 / 2021

Date