

**Wake County Smart Start  
NC Pre-K Committee Meeting  
April 28, 2021**

A meeting of the Wake County Smart Start (WCSS) NC Pre-K Committee was held on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 with WCSS Board Chair, Barbara Morales Burke presiding. The meeting was held via Zoom conference

Committee members present: Maria Cervania, Dale Cousins, Veronica Creech, L'Teisha Curtis, Dawn Dawson, Heather Drennan, Matthew Glova, Liz Hamner, Sherry Heuser, Leslie Ann Jackson, Tonya Kangkolo, Katie King, Catherine Lassiter, Sharon Loza, Barbara Morales Burke, Antonia Pedroza, Kimberly Shaw, Angie Welsh, Joe White and Katherine Williams

Committee members absent: Christine Alvarado, Cathy Moore, Charlotte Turpin and Michael Wasilick

Guests: Susan Evans

Staff members present: Gary Carr, Joan Crutchfield, Gayle E. Headen, Bryce McClamroch, Carol Orji and Nancy Peck

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

At 8:34 AM, Chair, Barbara Morales Burke recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order. She advised those present of the possibility that a community citizen will be joining to observe the meeting. Sherry Heuser moved to adopt the agenda. Catherine Lassiter seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and with none opposed, the vote was unanimous. (04-21-61)

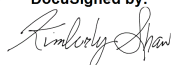
NC Pre-K Committee members reviewed minutes from previous meeting. Joe White moved to adopt the minutes from the NC Pre-K Committee meeting on February 24 2021. Katherine Williams seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objection, the motion carried. (04-21-62)

**Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director, Gayle E. Headen provided the following NC Pre-K program updates:

- Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year is 942 children, approximately 61% of funded slots.
- 1553 Pre-K program applications have been received as of April for 2021-2022 school year. The majority of these are online applications. Program promotion has included information sessions conducted in English and Spanish, now accessible on agency website, radio spots, Latinx TV and print advertising, Google ads and boosted social media posts. Community Relations and Development Director, Phyllis Barbour reported on the integrated marketing approach across departments resulting in nearly 8,000 clicks to NC Pre-K page in Google ad traffic.
- Legislative update: The recently released proposed Governor's budget includes increased NC Pre-K funding in administration rate, slot reimbursement rate and overall funding for slot expansion.

Sherry Heuser made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 AM. Dale Cousins seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the vote passed. (04-21-63)

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Secretary

6/23/2021 | 9:08 AM PDT

Date