

**Wake County SmartStart
Board of Directors Meeting
February 24, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors occurred on Wednesday, February 24, 2010 in the conference room of the Wake County SmartStart offices located at 1121 Situs Court, Suite 250 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Board members in attendance were Mary Ellen Anderson, Nell Barnes, Dale Cousins, Sandy Dietrich, Donna Hargens, Shirley Herndon, Giang Le, Marcia Mandel, Michele Miller-Cox, Carol Mitchell, Camille Schaffer, Mike Smith, Joe Stewart, Michael Weisel and David Zonderman.

Board members absent and excused were Arvelis Byrd, Randy Innes, Shanté Martin, Peter Morris, Donna Rutowski, and Jerraé Williams.

Board members absent and unexcused included Betty Lou Ward.

Guest in attendance was Louise Bannon.

Staff members present were Gary Carr, Pat Clements, Pamela Dowdy, Executive Director, John Guenther, Amy Hall, Richelle Johnson, Elizabeth Santana, Melinda Schlesinger and Anna Troutman.

Welcome/Call to Order/Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda:

At 8:35 a.m. Board Chair, David Zonderman, recognized a quorum calling the meeting to order. Dr. Zonderman recognized board member Nell Barnes as a recipient of the Legacy Leaders award given by the Triangle Business Journal in recognition of her many contributions to the community. She along with NCPC President, Stephanie Fanjul and 13 others received awards at a luncheon held on February 18, 2010. Next Dr. Zonderman introduced guest Louise Bannon to the board who will start as WCSS Communications Director on March 8, 2010.

Sandy Dietrich moved to adopt the agenda, Michele Miller-Cox seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (2-10-41)

Dr. Zonderman turned the floor over to board members making presentations on their recent partner visits. Mary Ellen Anderson presented on her visit to the Literacy Council's LIFT (Literacy Instruction for Families Together) program, Sandy Dietrich presented on her visit to Project Enlightenment's Consultation and Support for Child Care Providers program, Shirley Herndon presented on her visit to Project Enlightenment's PAT (Parents as Teachers) program and Dr. Mike Smith presented on his visit to CCSA's Choosing and Using High Quality Child Care and Professional Development Planning for Child Care Providers programs.

Michael Weisel moved to adopt the consent agenda which included minutes from the December 9, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting, the January 2010 Financial Reports, an updated Conflict of Interest Master List, and DSP Decommissioned Assets. Dale Cousins seconded. Calling for a vote, noting the abstention of Donna Hargens, the motion carried without objection. (2-10-42)

Chairman's Report:

•**Legislative Update:**

Board Chair, David Zonderman briefed the board on the current status of the state budget noting that we are being advised by NCPC that it does not appear that more cuts will be coming this fiscal year. He reminded the board that this information could change. He shared that next fiscal year's budget more than likely would be cut by 10% from the current year's initial allocation. Past Chair, Michael Weisel then provided insight into other happenings within state government that may have an impact on the budget situation.


Initial

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Executive Director's Report:

•Consolidation Task Force Update:

Executive Director, Pam Dowdy briefed the board that the CTF is not limiting the look at consolidating just SmartStart, More at Four and Subsidy but for all programs within DHHS including the Public Health Department. There was significant conversation among the board on this issue recognizing that there is a number of cost saving measures under consideration, some of which may overlap. The DSS Directors are recommending to the CTF that childcare subsidy funds managed by Smart Start go directly to DSS. Board Chair, David Zonderman noted this appeal, if approved, would affect the WCSS Administration budget and have a significant impact on our ability to do our work. She shared that Executive Directors of local partnerships are in discussion and are drafting communication strategies in opposition to this recommendation. Our local DSS Director, Ramon Rojano, spoke at the last meeting of DSS Directors in support of the relationship between the DSS and SmartStart but expressed the minority opinion.

•PBIS Update:

Evaluation Manager, Melinda Schlesinger provided the board with a presentation, outlining key highlights from the WCSS FY2008-09 PBIS report. She noted that WCSS had met or exceeded minimum standards. She also provided a comparison of WCSS results with those of the State, Cumberland, Durham, Forsyth, Guilford and Mecklenburg Counties. The presentation was well received with good dialogue among board members regarding the results.

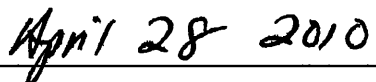
•Other Updates:

Ms. Dowdy concluded her report with attachment D.1 outlining the most current dashboard data and attachment D.2 outlining her ED Highlights. The Board reviewed the information with no questions rendered.

With no other business to address Chair, David Zonderman entertained a motion to adjourn at 9:57 a.m. from Nell Barnes, Camille Schaffer seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (2-10-43)



Board Secretary Signature



Date