

**Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors Meeting
February 24, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors took place on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 in Room 204, 4901 Waters Edge Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Board members in attendance: Christine Alvarado, Lorie Barnes, Arvelis Byrd, Kelly Caldwell, Dale Cousins, Jim S. Greene, Mark Langford, Carol Mitchell, Cathy Moore, Barbara Morales Burke, Camille Schaffer, Kim Shaw, Mike Smith, Kristi Tally, Mike Wasilick and Angie Welsh.

Board members absent as excused: Ana Maria Bonell, Sandy Dietrich, Liz Hamner, Jessica Holmes, Susan McCullen and Regina Petteway, Charlotte Turpin and Tyrone Williamson.

Staff members present: Phyllis Barbour, Debi Bartholomew, Gary Carr, Pamela Dowdy, Carol Orji, Nancy Peck, Melinda Schlesinger and Anna Troutman.

Welcome/Call to Order/Adoption of Agenda:

At 8:30 AM, Board Chair, Mike Smith recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order. Kristi Tally moved to adopt the agenda. Jim Greene seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (2-16-33)

Camille Schaffer moved to approve the consent agenda including minutes from the previous meeting on December 2, 2015 and the January 2016 Financial reports. Kelly Caldwell seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (2-16-34)

Committee Reports

• **Board Development Committee**

Board Election: Cathy Moore introduced a recommendation from the Board Development Committee to elect a candidate to the WCSS Board of Directors. Carol Mitchell moved to approve election of Benita Jones to the WCSS Board of Directors for a three year term expiring in 2019. Kelly Caldwell seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the vote was unanimous. (2-16-35)

Ashley Thrift Award: Cathy Moore announced NCPD is accepting nominations of current or past local partnership board chairs for a leadership volunteer award that will be announced at the 2016 Smart Start Conference. She asked for Board support to nominate David Zonderman for his exceptional leadership. Mike Smith moved to support the nomination of David Zonderman for the 2016 Ashley O. Thrift Volunteer Award. Christine Alvarado seconded the motion. Calling for a vote, and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (2-16-36)

• **Executive Committee**

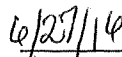
Mike Smith provided a highlights of the January 27 Executive Committee meeting. His highlights included a summary of the discussion and action regarding the following:

- Presentations by the Executive Directors of NC Child Care Coalition and Business Leaders for Smart Start and Jobs to provide their advocacy group overview and agendas.
- Approval to exercise the option to renew the lease of the current office space occupied by WCSS.
- Approval to support inclusion of 3% merit increase pool and a 15% increase for health insurance cost in the planning budgets for 2016-17.
- Adoption of the standardized NC-Pre K site selection process and 2016-18 site selection committee.
- Approval to allocate additional \$14,600 to NC Pre-K program services for children who are TANF/CCDF eligible from funds granted by NCPD from prior reversions.

Chair's Report:

- Chair, Mike Smith announced that Liz Hamner and Kristi Tally have agreed to co-chair a steering committee to plan for the 20th anniversary of WCSS tentatively planned for April 2017. He said Executive Committee members, Kelly Caldwell, Dale Cousins and Angie Welsh have also volunteered to participate with planning. The committee will kick off with a brainstorming session in March to determine the direction to take with the celebration.

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- Dr. Smith provided an update on Board Giving. He thanked all who participated in the match challenge issued by an anonymous donor during November & December. He said the board giving participation rate is currently 67% and invited members who have not yet contributed to help reach the goal of 100% participation.

Strategic Planning

Executive Director, Pam Dowdy introduced context for a strategic planning exercise to focus on examination of the WCSS Vision and Mission statement. Dale Cousins provided background and an explanation of the activity. She then led board members in an exercise to interact one on one with each other to connect the work of WCSS with their reason for commitment to serve on the WCSS Board. At the conclusion of the activity, board members reported feedback on what they'd learned. Pam Dowdy said staff would create a word visualization from the feedback. She asked the Board to hold the 4th Wednesday of August, 2016 for an extended meeting, and said staff will work to secure a location and facilitator.

Executive Director's Report:

- Pam Dowdy announced that WCSS has nominated Commissioner Jessica Holmes for the Child Care Services Association Triangle Child Care Awards Public Service award. She also informed the Board that WCSS has nominated Senator Tamara Barringer for the NC Child Care Coalition Legislator of the Year award for her leadership to develop recommendations for state policies that support and elevate quality early childhood education programs.
- Ms. Dowdy presented the final 2014-15 Performance Based Incentive System (PBIS) results for Wake County SmartStart. She reviewed how PBIS data indicators are used as an accountability measure, and summarized WCSS's progress over time for each of the mandatory and selected indicators. Ms. Dowdy commented on the challenges posed by diminishing access to data and emphasized the need for conversation with state partners to gain access to important data. She informed the Board that indicator standards have never been increased since PBIS inception, but NCPC is working on what new standards should look like.

With no further business to address, Camille Schaffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 AM. Barbara Morales Burke seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion was unanimous. (2-16-37)

Louie C Barnes

Secretary Signature

6/27/16

Date