

**Wake County Smart Start  
Board of Directors Meeting  
August 24, 2022**

A meeting of the Wake County Smart Start (WCSS) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, August 24, 2022, with WCSS Board Chair, Sherry Heuser presiding. The meeting was held via Zoom conference

Board members present: Christine Alvarado, Nikia Coates, Veronica Creech, Heather Drennan, Matt Ellinwood, Matt Glova, Liz Hamner, Sherry Heuser, Mickey Holt, Leslie Ann Jackson, Tonya Kangkolo, Catherine Lassiter, Cathy Moore, Barbara Morales Burke, Colleen Roache, Kimberly Shaw, Tonya Venable, Michael Wasilick, Joe White and Katherine Williams

Board members absent: Maria Cervania, Antonia Pedroza and Sharon Loza

Staff members present: Gary Carr, Diana Fenves, Sasha Gomez, Alex Livas-Dlott, Jennifer MacPherson, Bryce McClamroch, Carol Orji and Nancy Peck

Guest present: Dawn Dawson

**Call to Order/Announcements**

At 9:00 AM, Board Chair, Sherry Heuser recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order. She announced the meeting is being recorded for the purpose of accurate note taking and the presence of Dawn Dawson and staff as non-board members in attendance. Ms. Heuser turned the floor over to Director of Early Childhood Initiatives, Carol Orji who presented the "Mission Moment" with a PowerPoint presentation focusing on Wake ThreeSchool (WTS). Ms. Orji provided an overview of the program – what it is, the need it fills, who is served, and the timeline of the pilot, from initial planning to the first day of school. Following the presentation, Liz Hamner moved to adopt the agenda. Joe White seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and with none opposed, the motion carried. (08-22-08)

The Board reviewed items on the consent agenda. Christine Alvarado moved to approve items on the consent agenda including minutes from the June 22, 2022 Board meeting, June 2022 financial reports, July 2022 financial reports, check signer authorization and Conflict of Interest disclosures. Matt Glova seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objection, the motion carried. (08-22-09)

Before moving into Committee reports, Sherry Heuser commented on the agenda's new written report model. She reminded board members that they may raise any questions about the reports to the committee chairs, who are present.

**Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee**

Finance Committee Chair, Joe White presented a committee recommendation for using carryover Pre-K grant funding for making a onetime payment to private providers to provide some upfront cash flow at the start of the year to help them readjust to the attendance-based reimbursement system. There being no questions, a motion coming from Finance Committee was made to authorize the use of available carryover County Pre-K grant funds to pay private Pre-K providers a one-time COVID bridge payment for the 2022-2023 school year. (08-22-10)

**Chair's Report**

Chair, Sherry Heuser reported that the Executive Committee did not meet in July. She called on Matt Ellinwood who provided an update on the Leandro Case hearing going before the NC Supreme Court on August 31. Mr. Ellinwood summarized what has led up to the planned hearing and spoke about a brief filed by the North Carolina Justice Center and Every Child NC Coalition and endorsed by numerous organizations across NC to argue how full funding of the Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan will benefit and ensure the constitutional rights of all children to a quality education. Mr. Ellinwood shared a PowerPoint presentation detailing upcoming community education and engagement opportunities to advocate for the Leandro Plan. A link to the presentation will be sent to all Board members following today's meeting.

 Initial

11/1/2022 | 7:12 AM EDT  
Date

**Executive Director's Report**

In the absence of Executive Director, Gayle E. Headen, Carol Orji drew attention to Ms. Headen's written report included in the meeting agenda and entertained questions about any of the topics.

Ms. Orji invited all those with interest in attending the Wake ThreeSchool launch and media event on August 29, to contact Nancy Peck who will provide information and logistical details.

Chair, Sherry Heuser thanked all present for their time and discussion and reminded them that the October meeting will be extended in length. She invited feedback on the new agenda format. With no other business to discuss, Matt Glova moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 am. Cathy Moore seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the vote passed. (08-22-11)

DocuSigned by:

*Leslie Ann Jackson*

9F878EFED0574A8...

Secretary

11/1/2022 | 7:12 AM EDT

Date