

- The committee discussed and agreed upon the following areas of representation to prioritize during recruitment: local organization providing mental health, family child care home and other local community agency serving children and families. These areas satisfy compliance with NCPC and NC Pre-K requirements.
- BoardLead update: WCSS did not receive any matches with interested candidates for this cycle.

Sherry Heuser presented a committee recommendation for changing the model of Board composition used by WCSS. She offered background information and reasons for making the change and drew attention to a comparison chart of the two Board composition options.

A motion coming from Board Governance Committee was made to approve moving from Board Composition Option 1 to Board Composition Option 2 to remain in compliance with Board composition guidelines and NC Pre-K Plan requirements. Mickey Holt seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no opposition, the motion passed unanimously. (2-24-58)

Ms. Heuser presented a committee recommendation to accept the resignations of two Board members who have recently submitted their intention to resign from the WCSS Board.

- Tonya Kangkolo has family obligations that are keeping her from actively engaging and serving as a WCSS Board volunteer.
- Amelia Muse is moving out of state before the end of February, 2024 to start a new job. WCSS Bylaws require all Board members to be residents of North Carolina, however there are no residency requirements for community members serving on committees. Dr. Muse will continue to serve on the Allocations Committee as a community member through the end of the current funding process cycle.

A motion coming from Board Governance Committee was made to accept the resignations of Tonya Kangkolo and Amelia Muse effective February 28, 2024. Nikia Coates seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing none opposed, the motion passed unanimously. (2-24-59)

Finance Committee

Finance Committee Chair, Matt Glova provided a summary walk through of the reversion and carryforward allocations as shown on Attachment D.1. He noted that NCPC is implementing a cap of approximately 3% on carryforward funds going forward.

Mr. Glova reported the Finance Committee did a annual review of the WCSS 401k plan at their February 8 meeting with a representative from the Plan provider, American Funds; investment advisors from Heirloom Advisors; and the Plan Administrator, Retirement Plan Solutions, Inc. The review included a thorough look at Plan assets, employee participation, Plan costs and potential changes to the plan available through the Secure Act 2.0.

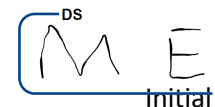
Chair's Report

Chair, Katherine Williams acknowledged Joe White for acting as a sponsor for the Board retreat at the NC State University Club. His sponsorship allowed for the waiver of a meeting space rental fee. She yielded the remainder of the time allotted to her report to Gayle Headen for the Executive Director's report.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director, Gayle E. Headen encouraged Board members to read the written ED Highlights to learn about upcoming events and information on the spectrum of work being done by WCSS staff. She reported with the following updates:

- *Wake Early Childhood Action Plan (ECAP):*
A local draft plan to address the needs of early childhood developed based on feedback and guidance from the local ECAP committee, parents, and staff, is now at the point to present in a final version to the ECAP Executive Committee at a scheduled appreciation event. At the same time, a Steering Committee is being formed to begin implementing the action items included in the ECAP. Although there is a wide spectrum of needs, the plan will focus on a narrower range of items that are determined to best address the greatest needs.


Initial

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- **Participatory Research Project:**

The Community-Based Participatory Research Project on Child Care Quality, led by UNC Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute and a research team including parents, providers and WCSS staff was completed earlier in February and presented at a bilingual webinar on Feb. 8 to share learnings and recommendations.

Under the guidance of the WCSS Strategic Framework and Action Plan, one of the project goal was defining “quality” and what is “culturally affirming” from the community perspective. Going forward, the Early Childhood Initiatives (ECI) team will use these findings to shape their work. Another part of the project aligned to the Strategic Framework priorities, was determining the data needed by Program Coordination and Evaluation staff to create community defined metrics of success around child care access and quality.

- **Racial Equity:**

Following the first phase of Racial Equity work that focused on the funding process, the second phase, focusing on staff and board members has begun. In December, WCSS went into contract with Dr. Ashley Gaddy Robbins to support the agency’s racial equity work for the next three years. The scope of work also incorporates phases and components, including a staff racial equity assessment that began in January, 2024 and includes a confidential survey, interviews and focus groups. Additionally, the contract includes consultation for the Executive Director, Equity Leadership Team, staff, Leadership Team and Board Training.

- **Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL):**

Ms. Headen clarified that the DPIL program is continuing. She explained that in December 2023, WCSS applied for expansion funding that was offered to all Smart Start local partnerships (LPs) through an award from the General Assembly. Demand exceeded the amount of available funding, with the result that not all local partnerships who applied, including WCSS, received a portion of the expansion funds. Currently, WCSS is at the program enrollment cap of 24,796 children and will only be able to enroll new children as the actively enrolled children age out of the program at age 5 yrs.

- **Tri-Share:**


Three local partnerships have been selected as regional hubs to lead the Tri-Share pilot program.

- Cleveland County Partnership for Children and Families to serve Cleveland, Rutherford, Henderson, Lincoln, and Gaston Counties.
- Martin-Pitt Partnership for Children to serve Martin and Pitt Counties.
- Partners for Children and Families of Moore County to serve Moore, Chatham, Cumberland, Hoke, Montgomery, Richmond, and Scotland Counties.

- **Wake ThreeSchool (WTS):**

WTS is in preparation for making a funding presentation to the Wake County Board of Commissioners’ Education Committee in April.

With no further business to discuss, Matt Glova moved to adjourn the meeting. Nikia Coates seconded the motion. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 AM. (2-24-60)

DocuSigned by:

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Secretary

4/26/2024 | 6:42 PM EDT

Date