

**Wake County SmartStart
Board of Directors Meeting
June 22, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Wake County SmartStart Board of Directors occurred on Wednesday, June 22, 2011 in the conference room of the Wake County SmartStart offices located at 4901 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 101 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Board members in attendance were Arvelis Byrd (via conference phone), Dale Cousins, Sandy Dietrich, Donna Hargens, Mark Langford, Giang Le, Marcia Mandel, Carol Mitchell, Peter Morris, Camille Schaffer, Mike Smith, Joe Stewart and Tyrone Williamson.

Board members absent and excused were Lorie Barnes, Shirley Herndon, Fiorella Horna-Guerra, Shanté Martin, Susan McCullen, Michele Miller-Cox, Betty Lou Ward and Michael Weisel, Heather Wong and David Zonderman.

Staff members present were Louise Bannon, Debi Bartholomew, Gary Carr, Pat Clements, Pamela Dowdy, Executive Director, John Guenther, Melinda Schlesinger and Anna Troutman.

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

At 8:30 a.m. Board Vice-Chair, Dale Cousins, recognized a quorum, calling the meeting to order and welcoming those in attendance. Ms. Cousins shared with the board that this would be Donna Hargens' last meeting as she has accepted a new position as Superintendent of Jefferson County Public Schools in Kentucky. Ms. Cousins thanked Dr. Hargens for her service on the board over the last five years and presented her with a token of appreciation.

Joe Stewart moved to adopt the agenda, Carol Mitchell seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (06-22-56)

Joe Stewart moved to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes from the April 27, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting, the May 2011 Financial Reports, a WCSS Budget Amendment, Decommissioned Assets and Severance Policy. Tyrone Williamson seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections the motion carried. (06-11-57)

Committee Reports:

• **Allocations Committee – Chair Mike Smith:**

Recommendation for Funding, Attachments B.1, 1a: The recommendation outlined on attachment B.1 is to approve allocating up to \$12,395,138 to 10 providers to implement 15 activities, previously approved during the April Board meeting, based upon the establishment of continuing need within the community, satisfactory partner performance, alignment with board-identified priorities and the availability of WCSS Funding. Attachment B.1a outlines the providers, activities and the amount of funding for recommended for each. After a discussion of the process, Joe Stewart moved to approve allocating up to \$12,395,138 as outlined in attachment B.1a. Tyrone Williamson seconded. Calling for a vote and noting the following abstentions of members in attendance: Giang Le and Peter Morris regarding WCHS funding; Peter Morris for Lucy Daniels funding; Arvelis Byrd, Donna Hargens, Shirley Herndon and Shanté Martin regarding MAF funding; and Donna Hargens regarding Project Enlightenment Funding. Hearing no objections, the motion carried. (06-11-58)

• **Finance Committee – Chair Camille Schaffer:**

Fund Designation, Attachment B.2: Attachment B.2 outlined the committee's recommendation to designate MAF Operating and MAF Administrative unrestricted net asset fund balances as of July 1, 2010 to an unrestricted fund for future development, operation and administration of services targeting young children birth to 5. Future unrestricted net asset fund balances will rollover automatically to the board-designated fund after the end of each fiscal year unless the board takes other action. After a brief discussion of the supporting information, Joe Stewart moved to approve the Finance Committee recommendation outlined in attachment B.2. Tyrone Williamson seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (06-11-59)

AS Initial

8/24/11 Date

Chairman's Report:

• **Legislative Update – Executive Director Pam Dowdy:**

Ms. Dowdy provided a briefing on the recently passed state budget noting that MAF and Smart Start would both receive a 20% reduction in allocation for FY2011-12 and the move of MAF from the Office of Early Learning to the Division of Child Development becoming the North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten Program (NCPK). Special provisions to the legislation include Higher Quality of Child Care, maintaining the full spectrum of the Smart Start Mission, emphasis on literacy, a move toward evidence based programs and a staff salary cap of \$60,000 from Smart Start funds. The board participated in discussion of what the implications of these changes might be for WCSS.

• **Smart Start Policy & Allocation Considerations – Executive Director Pam Dowdy:**

Ms. Dowdy shared with the board a proposed motions document created by the NCPK Executive Committee in response to challenges and vulnerabilities of the Smart Start System as a whole raised during the 2011 legislative session. The document highlighted five key elements being: Allocation Methodology for FY2011-12; Program Implementation; In-house Services & Role of Smart Start; Consolidation of current MAC sites into 8 administrative hubs during FY2011-12 and the Consolidation of programmatic functions and establishing a convener role by FY2012-13.

Executive Directors Report – Executive Director Pam Dowdy:


• **Pre-K Program Letter of Intent to Administer – Attachment C.1.1a:**

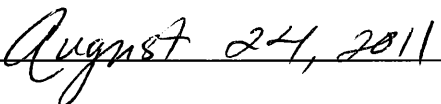
A letter from the DCD, outlined in attachment C.1, speaks to the acquisition of the current More at Four Program becoming the NC Pre-kindergarten Program (NCPK) as mandated by current legislation. Attachment C.1a is a letter of intent for local partnerships interested in continuing to administer the program. The board, who also acts as the More at Four Committee is asked to approve WCSS's submission of the letter of intent contracting with DCD to administer the NCPK program for FY2011-12. After a brief discussion, Joe Stewart moved to approve WCSS's submission of the letter of intent to contract with DCD to administer the NCPK program for FY2011-12. Carol Mitchell seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections, the motion carried. (06-11-60)

Partner Visit Updates:

Joe Stewart provided the board with an overview of his partner visits to Wake Meds Hospital-Home Intervention Program, The Salvation Army's Family Outreach and Resource Services Program and Project Enlightenment's Consultation and Support for Child Care Providers. Mr. Stewart noted that the visits were a very powerful experience and he highly encouraged other board members to make visits in the coming fiscal year.

With no other business to address, Vice Chair Dale Cousins entertained a motion made by Mark Lankford to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 am. Joe Stewart seconded. Calling for a vote and hearing no objections the motion carried. (06-11-61)


Secretary Signature


Date