

Early Education/NC Pre-Kindergarten Committee

Wednesday June 15, 2016

10am

The Early Education/ NC Pre-Kindergarten Committee met on Wednesday July 15, 2016 at the office of Cabarrus Partnership for Children. Ann Benfield led the meeting that was attended by Debra Pless, Debbie Johnson, Skylya Solomon, Deborah Beatty, Ashley Reid, QuWanya Thompson, Tanisha Jones, Jamie Clark and Elizabeth Albright.

Welcome

Ann Benfield welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There was a brief discussion about recruitment efforts to add non-conflicted members to the committee. We will continue to use our social media efforts and if anyone has a suggestion please forward their information to Elizabeth. We are currently looking for a Preschool parent that doesn't participate any of our funded programs to add to the committee as well.

Approval of April 20, 2016 Minutes

Minutes from the May 18, 2016 meeting were distributed to the committee for any necessary corrections. We waited for arrival of Ashley Reid to vote.

Motion: Ashley Reid

2nd: QuWanya Thompson

The Budget and Slot Recommendation for 16-17 was passed out. Ann discussed with the group that due to the numbers on the wait list, the recommendation was to keep the slot allotment the same as the 15-16 school year. Ann shared that the Partnership will apply for any expansion slots that are available to be able to add additional classrooms in the areas of the county that we need.

Motion: QuWanya Thompson

2nd: Ashley Reid

Information/Updates

PORCh

Jamie shared with the committee that Partnership is still referring all families to the PORCh system when they call our office. Once a family is in the system, then reports are generated twice a week and Jamie asks Lissy to contact those families for appointments.

NC Pre-K

We are still taking in applications, Lissy has agreed to schedule one day a week for Preschool application appointments during the summer while the other staff works on placement for NC Pre-K. We are currently planning to begin placement the last week of June.

Head Start

Ann informed the committee that are currently renovating the Long school location and they will be moving all staff to the pod unit. So the new front of the building will be on Ann Street. The new sign is in place now.

Smart Start

Ann shared that that board approved the current allocation, so 75% will be put into contract. They had an increase in \$90,000 in new program allocations. So there may be different allocations for program going forward.

She also stated that they will start the bidding process for 17-19 earlier than normal. They are looking to begin as early as October and having the final requests due before Christmas.

Smart Start Scholarship

Jamie Clark shared that the Partnership is in the middle of recertification appointments with the current voucher recipients are complete. Several families did not reapply and several no longer qualify for the program. So their vouchers will end on June 30th. Monday and Tuesday appointments were held all day for families to apply for the wait list. Those families will be presented to finance so it can be determined how many can begin in July.

DHS Subsidy

Lora Lipe was not able to attend.

Cabarrus Partnership Family Support

Elizabeth Albright shared information the drop in grand opening for My Father's House. It will be on June 23rd from 11-2 and 6-8. This location can now serve 8 families.

Elizabeth is currently working on compiling a complete list of the food programs in our county. She will forward that to the committee once it's complete.

The NC Pre-K year is wrapped up and now she is working on restructuring the fall workshops due to low numbers for the past few years.

Training Opportunities

Ann shared that due to the amount of time that the Emergency Preparedness has taken away from the Nurses. The board is looking at ways to increase training opportunities for the providers. The first step will be to send out a survey of the training needs in the county. More information will follow soon.

Community Updates

KCS

Skylia Solomon shared they will be hosting outreaches this summer to recruit for NC Pre-K. They have one as early as tomorrow.

Childcare Health Consultants

Debra shared that the Emergency Preparedness is going on again this month and next. They have to continue to increase the size of the class based on the need to get folks in the class.

CCRI

Debbie Johnson shared they have hired the 2nd Behavioral Specialist. She will be released to Region 6 as of July 1st. Her name is Terri Brooks, she has been with CCRI for 8 years but served in a different area.

She also shared that there will be a statewide institute in Durham this summer. IT will focus on the (CSEFEL) pyramid. This is funded by Race to the Top funds, it will be provided for free and the participants will be given a stipend.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Clark

We will not meet in July

Next Meeting: August 18th at 10am