

**June 18, 2024**

**EE/NCPK Meeting Minutes**

**10:30am-11:02am**

The Cabarrus Partnership for Children's local NC Pre-K Committee Meeting was called to order at 10:30am by Ann Benfield, NC Pre-K Committee Co-Chair, with a quorum present throughout the meeting.

**Committee Members:** Trina Wenzel, Ann Benfield, Teresa Aldridge, Lashonda Houston, Jennifer Baucom, Starr Batts, Elizabeth Heston, Debra Pless, Erin Anderson, Deborah Beatty, Lora Lipe, Nicole Sessoms, Sue Rebich, Waynett Taylor, Wynter Sexton

**Committee Members Present:** Trina Wenzel, Ann Benfield, Elizabeth Heston, Lora Lipe, Nicole Sessoms, Waynett Taylor, Starr Batts

**Committee Members Absent:** Debra Pless, Erin Anderson, Wynter Sexton, Teresa Aldridge, Lashonda Houston, Jennifer Baucom, Deborah Beatty, Sue Rebich, Wynter Sexton

**Guest Present:** Dana Stikeleather

**Staff Members Present:** Patricia Sehorn, Tu'Nicquia Bradley

**Welcome and Introduction:**

Ann Benfield, committee co-chair, welcomed everyone.

**Action Items:**

**Request of CCS to Relocate Slots**

Ann Benfield asked if everyone has received the new Budget Proposal. Ann informed the committee that there was a request from Cabarrus County Schools to move 15 slots from the Mary F. Wall Center to Rocky River Elementary School. Ann asked Dana Stikeleather to explain the rationale behind moving the slots. Dana informed the committee that there are usually two PreK classes at Rocky River, but now there will only be one classroom with barely enough slots to fill it. By transferring the slots over to Rocky River from the Mary F. Wall Center, there will now be enough slots for them to have two classrooms.

Ann Benfield explains how she hopes that there are enough children to fill up the two classrooms, but some of the children that were placed at Mary F. Wall Center, would have a 10-mile commute to Rocky River. She informed the committee that Patricia Sehorn would have to do a reshuffle to see how many slots they would have to fill at Rocky River and still meet eligibility order.

Ann Benfield asked if there were any thoughts.

Nicole Sessoms asked if there were 18 applications at Mary F Wall Center and 22 applications at Rocky River. Ann confirmed, and informed that some of those applicants that are at the Mary F Wall Center would have too far of a drive to ask the families to go to Rocky River and that they requested the Wall Center. She also stated that many of them had IEPs.

Nicole Sessoms expressed that her concerns were about if we would be able to place the 18 completed that were at Mary F Wall Center.

Patricia stated that there 15 slots and that there was a typo on the new proposed budget.

A discussion was had.

Ann Benfield asked Trina Wenzel if she was willing to take fewer slots at Rocky River if we were not able to fill the slots. Trina Wenzel replied no less than 9. Ann stated that it could be possible and that the other slots could be allocated elsewhere. A discussion was had around the topic.

Ann Benfield asked if anyone had a motion. Waynett Taylor motioned for the 15 slots to be moved from the Mary F. Wall Center possibly to Rocky River. We will reshuffle applications by eligibility order and place them to what is most convenient to the families. If we cannot move all 15 slots to Rocky River, then any remaining slots will go back to Mary F. Wall. Nicole Sessoms second the motion. Ann Benfield asked if everyone agreed. Everyone agreed.

With there being no other Committee business, the meeting concluded at 11:02 am. The next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Minutes taken by Tu'Nicquia Bradley.