

**CABARRUS COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
Tuesday, April 22, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Cabarrus County Partnership for Children met on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 1:00 p.m., at the Cabarrus County Partnership for Children Office, which was advertised on our website and in our newsletter. Board Vice Chair Marcella Beam presided over the meeting.

These board members were present:

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| 1. Gil Small | Community/Faith Community |
| 2. Jackie Whitfield | Community/Faith Community |
| 3. Kevin Garay | Government/Previous Superintendent Kannapolis City Schools |
| 4. Malisha Ross | Services/Partners BHM |
| 5. Lora Lipe | Government/DHS/Subsidy |
| 6. Judge Beth Street | Government/Judge (Virtual) |
| 7. Marcella Beam | Government/Assistant City Manager |
| 8. Aalece Pugh | Government/Assistant County Manager (Virtual) |
| 9. Stacy Fackler | Atrium Health/Community/Services (Virtual) |
| 10. Melanie Holles | Government/Libraries |
| 11. Danielle Mauldin | Owner of Kids Korner/Services (Virtual) |

These board members were absent:

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| 1. John Kopicki | Government/Superintendent Cabarrus County Schools |
| 2. Chris Measmer | County Commissioner/Government |
| 3. Pam Smith | CCM/Community/Services |

A quorum was present.

These staff members were present: Ann Benfield, Lauren Westin, and Patricia Sehorn (Virtual)

Welcome:

Marcella Beam welcomed board members and thanked them for attending the board meeting. Marcella asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

Approval of Agenda:

The Board reviewed the agenda for today's meeting.

Kevin Garay made a motion to approve the agenda.

2nd: Malisha Ross

All were in favor.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

The board reviewed the consent agenda documents that were emailed to members prior to the meeting, including: Minutes of February 25, 2025 board meetings April 2025 ED Report, FY24-25 SS Expenditures, FY24-25 NCPK Expenditures, FY24-25 Other Funds Report, FY24-25 State Directed Grant Expenditures, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2025

Gil Small made a motion to approve the consent agenda items.

2nd: Lora Lipe

All were in favor.

ED Succession Planning Committee:

Ann Benfield reported that the current succession plan is in the packet for today's meeting for the board to review with a projected exit date of June 30, 2026. According to this plan the process should already be underway. Ann asks for feedback about the plan and recommendations for who will serve on the committee to be brought to the next Board Meeting in June. Robbie Furr has offered to be a community representative on the committee.

Flex Plex Initiative Update:

Ann Benfield reported that this project has been extremely difficult. They realized that the legislation needed to be modified to get a child care license for multi-use space, and Paul Newton was assisting with the process, but then exited his Senate seat. There is support through Senator Burgin, and the modified language in another bill, but unsure if it will pass. Meanwhile, McGill Baptist

Church, which was going to be the local site for Flex Plex is undergoing a transition with their Pastor, Steve Ayers, retiring and have put the breaks on their involvement. There is another property off of Old Charlotte Highway that is owned by Rhoda Waters and her husband that has shown interest, but there would be much more upfit needed at this location. A third property is also interested, St. James Lutheran Church on Corbon and Union. They have two to three classrooms currently occupied by Families First that could be used, and Ann has spoken with Cabarrus County and Concord City Governments about zoning and planning to transform McGill and St. James site. Ann will provide more updates on the initiative as they become available.

Strategic Plan FY25-28, review:

Over the next two months, Lauren Westin and Ann Benfield are putting the final touches on the new Strategic Plan, incorporating the data that Robbie Furr collected in February at the Board of Directors Strategic Planning retreat. They plan to provide the final copy for review to the Board at the June Board Meeting.

Support the Partnership:

Marcella Beam reminded the Board Members to donate this fiscal year to the Partnership, and that grants we are trying to apply for want 100% participation from the applicant's board.

With no further business, Malisha Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

2nd: Kevin Garay

All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Westin