

**CABARRUS PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING & ANN BENFIELD'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION
TUESDAY, February 24, 2026**

The Board of Directors of the Cabarrus Partnership for Children met on Tuesday February 24th 2026 at 1pm at the Milestones Building, which was advertised on our website. Pam Smith, the board chair, presided over the meeting.

The following board members were present:

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| 1. Gil Small | Community/Faith Community |
| 2. Pam Smith | CCM/Community/Services |
| 3. Lora Lipe | Cabarrus County Department of Human Services Economic Services/Government |
| 4. Dr. Aalece Pugh | Assistant Cabarrus County Manager |
| 5. Rev. Jacqueline Whitfield | Retired Educator/Community |
| 6. Melanie Hollis | Director of Cabarrus County Libraries/Government |
| 7. Dr. Jessica Grant | Executive Director Healthy Cabarrus |
| 8. Samantha Moose | Parent/Community Representative |

These board members were absent:

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| 1. Stacy Fackler | Advocate Health Assistant VP, Patient Care |
| 2. Jeff Jones | Cabarrus County Commissioner – Chair |
| 3. Malisha Ross | Partners Behavioral Health |
| 4. Dr. Sara Newell | Superintendent of Kannapolis City Schools |
| 5. Beth Street, District Court Judge | District Court Judge/Attorney/Government |

Quorum was established

The following staff members were present: Ann Benfield, Patricia Sehorn, Tu’Nicquia Bradley, Melissa Jones, Starla Hatley, Lauren Westin, Ariel Ayers, and Debra Pless.

The board and community members thanked Ann Benfield for her many years of service to the Partnership and early childhood community.

Without any other business, Pam Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,
Ann Benfield, Executive Director