



**South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Haynesworth, Sinkler, Boyd Offices
1201 Main Street, Columbia
23rd Floor

December 5, 2013
2 p.m.

MINUTES

Voting Directors Present: Mr. Lewis Smoak, Vice-Chair
Ms. Lisa Van Riper, Secretary
Senator Joel Lourie
Representative Jerry N. Govan
Mr. Reece Yandle
Ms. Linda O'Quinn
Ms. Julia-Ellen Davis
Ms. Judith Aughtry
Dr. Francis Rushton
Ms. Julie Hussey
Mr. Rick Noble

Voting Directors Present via phone:
Ms. Evelyn Patterson

Voting Directors Absent: Governor Nikki Haley, excused
Superintendent Mick Zais, excused
Senator Mike Fair, excused
Representative Rita Allison, excused
Mr. Walter Fleming, excused

Non-Voting Directors Present: Ms. Kelly Cordell, designee for Ms. Lillian Koller, SC DSS
Ms. Rosemary Wilson, designee for Ms. Catherine Templeton, SC DHEC
Ms. Kim Aydlette, designee for Supt. Mick Zais, SCDE
Ms. Jennifer Buster, designee for Ms. Beverly Buscemi, SC DDSN

Ms. Susan Jones, designee for Mr. Robert St. Onge, SC DOT
Ms. Samantha Eastman, designee for Dr. Darrell Staat, SC Technical Colleges
Mr. Tim Ervolina, United Way Association of SC, Inc.
Dr. Floyd Creech, Florence School District 1

Non-Voting Directors Absent: Mr. John Magill, DMH Director
Mr. Tony Keck, SC DHHS Director
Mr. Bob Toomey, SC DAODAS, excused
Mr. Richard C. Sutton, SC Commission on Higher Education, excused
Ms. Sarah Crawford, designee, SC Office of Research and Statistics, SC Budget and Control Board

Others Present: Dr. Bill Brown, University of SC
Dr. Leigh D'Amico, University of SC
Ms. Jenny May, University of SC
Ms. Donna White, The NC Partnership for Children, Inc.
Ms. Susan DeVenny, SC First Steps
Dr. Dan Wuori, SC First Steps
Ms. Mary Anne Mathews, SC First Steps
Ms. Betty Gardiner, SC First Steps
Ms. Kristie Musick, SC First Steps
Ms. Christie Duke, SC First Steps
Ms. Betsy Marshall, SC First Steps
Ms. Debbie Robertson, SC First Steps
Mr. Russell Brown, SC First Steps
Ms. Samantha Ingram, SC First Steps
Ms. Jeanie Herrod, SC First Steps

MINUTES

Call to Order

Mr. Lewis Smoak called the meeting to order on behalf of the chair and asked those on the phone to identify themselves for record of attendance. Mr. Smoak noted that those in attendance either in person or by phone had met the quorum requirements.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the June 20, 2013 and the minutes from the Oct. 23-24, 2013 were unanimously approved

Committee Reports

Program and Grants Committee

Ms. Julia-Ellen Davis reported that the Program and Grants committee met by conference call and webinar on Dec. 2, 2013 to review the team's seven recommendations. The following recommendations were presented to the board for approval: 1) Published standards for partnerships (no action required), 2) Evidence-informed vs. promising practice terminology – the board approved a legislative amendment in current version of S.291 and H3428 to replace the term "promising practice" with the more accurate term "evidence-informed". It was noted that the Legislative Committee would make the final decision. 3) Providing flexibility for new strategies and innovation from local communities (no action required), 4) 70/30 vs. 75/25 funding split – the board approved the funding split to allow for greater flexibility but suggests maintaining the bill's existing 75%-25% split and adding board waiver language. It was noted that the Legislative Committee would make the final decision. 5) Core partnership funding (no action required), 6) Community engagement standards – the board approved the recommendation to develop written standards for community mobilization consistent with First Steps' legislative goals. 7) Population-level measures (no action required).

As information, the Program and Grants Committee received updates on the three recommendations of the Technical Assistance Work Team, currently being implemented by staff.

The recommendations of the Program and Grants committee requiring board action were unanimously approved.

Finance and Administration Committee

Ms. Judith Aughtry reported for the Finance and Administration Committee. Ms. Aughtry stated that the committee met with staff and co-chairs of the Funding Work Team on Dec. 3, 2013 to review the team's 16 recommendations.

The committee brought the following recommendation to the board for action: 1) Increase First Steps' Formula Communications, 2) Separate funding source for promising programs and special early childhood initiatives, with higher priority funding for preschool initiatives 0-5 in SC, 3) Formula update and resource availability factor research.

After full board discussion today, the Finance Committee of the board, staff and Funding Work Team leaders will meet with the Legislative Committee (upon request) to serve as a resources. All input will be offered with the best interests of children in mind, and in consideration of our unique communities.

Mr. Russell Brown gave a finance summary report, as of November 2013, to the full board

Director's Report

Ms. Susan DeVenny introduced Ms. Donna White, Deputy Director, The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. Ms. White presented to the board, "Developing the Resource Guide of Evidence-Based and Evidence-Informed Program and Practices".

After Ms. White's presentation, Ms. DeVenny introduced, Dr. Francis Rushton, SC First Steps Board Member, American Academy of Pediatrics Board Member, and SC QTIP Medical Director. Dr. Ruston gave the board a presentation on the "Quality through Technology and Innovation in Pediatrics" – a partnership between DHHS, SC AAP, USC Institute for Families in Society, SCORE, Care Evolution and Thomson Reuters.

Ms. DeVenny invited the board to an event at Brookland Baptist Child Development Center to celebrate the South Carolina General Assembly's Expansion of CDEPP (First Steps 4K).

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: April 10, 2014



**South Carolina First Steps Board of Trustees
Executive and Finance Committees**

Tuesday, July 16, 2013, 2pm via conference call

Minutes

Trustees Present:

Lewis Smoak
Lisa Van Riper
Judith Aughtry
Walter Fleming
Linda O'Quinn

Staff Present:

Susan DeVenny
Dan Wuori
Russell Brown

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Smoak called the meeting to order and welcomed participants. The committee approved minutes from the June 13, 2013 Executive and Finance Committee meeting.

County Partnership FY13 Budget Adjustment

Ms. DeVenny reviewed the staff recommendation to restore funding to local county partnerships whose budgets were negatively affected by the broken demographic link in the original FY13 formula worksheet. The 12 partnerships affected would receive a combined total of \$198,590 in restoration funding within their FY14 budgets (equal to the amount withheld as a result of this technical error). This amount represents 1.56% of our total funds to local partnerships in FY13. Ms. DeVenny further noted that the 13 local partnerships who receive subsidies from the board (the minimum counties) were unaffected by the disabled link, while 20 local partnerships received slightly more in funding due to the disabled link (also \$198,590 in total, or 1.56% of total partnership funding). Upon a motion by Ms. Aughtry and a second from Ms. Van Riper, the staff recommendation was adopted.

CDEPP FY14 Budget

Dr. Wuori walked the committee through the staff's proposed CDEPP 4K budget for FY14, which prioritizes funding for direct classroom expenses. Upon a motion from Ms. Van Riper and a second from Ms. Aughtry the committee adopted the document as proposed.

Statewide Meeting and Work Teams 2013

Ms. DeVenny provided the committee an update on plans for a statewide meeting and work teams being seated to address LAC recommendations and prepare for reauthorization. Ms. VanRiper will be the facilitator with pro bono support from SmoakPR, public relations firm in Greenville.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.