

**Smart Start of Forsyth County
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, October 11th, 2021
12:05 p.m. – 12:58 p.m.**

VIA ZOOM URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85996524365>

Members Present via Zoom: (Board Chair) **Reggie McCaskill**, (Board Vice Chair) **Tembila Covington**, (Chief Executive Officer of Smart Start of Forsyth County) **Louis Finney Jr.**, (Board Secretary) **Sabrina Hinton**, (MALea Committee Chair) **Jessica McCrory**, (Past Board Chair) **Sheryll Strode**, (Treasurer) **Bennett Bruff**,

Members Absent via ZOOM: (NC PreK Committee Chair) **Effie McMillan**

Staff Present via ZOOM: (Human Resources Manager) Joanna Brim

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by the (Board Chair), Reginald McCaskill. The roll call and quorum were established at 12:07 p.m. by the Board Chair.

Review and Adopt Agenda:

A motion was made to adopt the agenda by Jessica McCrory. The motion to adopt the agenda was seconded by Sheryl Strode. All members present voted unanimously to adopt the agenda. Motion Carries.

Intro of visitors and opportunity for public comment:

Visitors Present:

Public Comments: N/A

Committee Approval/Receipt:

- **For Consent:**
- September 13th, 2021, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – *attached*
- **For Receipt:**
- August Treasurer's Report and Finance Summary – *attached*

Board Chair Update: Board Chair, Reginald McCaskill

Reginald McCaskill began the Board Chair update by discussing meeting location & frequency and proposed that the Executive Committee meet every other month and in person. The Executive Committee also discussed the importance of maintaining the Hybrid option for Committee and Board meetings. A motion was made by Sabrina Hinton to meet bimonthly. The motion to approve this change was seconded by Jessica McCrory. All members present voted unanimously to adopt the agenda. Motion Carries.

Reginald McCaskill discussed soliciting board members to join a standing committee. Smart Start of Forsyth County staff member, Joanna Brim, will provide the contact information for all board members to the Executive Committee. Jessica McCrory stated that it would be best to provide a synopsis of the committee & commitment hours to the board members so they know how much time will be needed to join. Louis Finney agreed to provide this information to the Executive Committee. This concluded the Board Chair update.

CEO Corporate Update: Presented by CEO Louis Finney

(Chief Executive Officer) Louis Finney began by giving a legislative update. There is a projected Medicaid expansion of roughly 15 million dollars set to be voted on by the Legislative conference the week of October 18th. Louis also discussed an update regarding Governor Leandro's push for Universal Pre-K, there are funding issues with the progression of this change. Judge Lee is set to vote on Universal Pre-K on October 15th with a scheduled hearing set on October 18th.

Louis Finney discussed a Federal update regarding the Democratic party not accepting the \$3.5 Trillion Build Back Better bill. The upside is that the Democratic party is looking to ensure that no parent pays more than 7% of their income for childcare. Louis also provided an update regarding upcoming grants that Smart Start will be applying for. Among these grants will be the County ARPA Grant, KBR Grant, & Winston Salem Foundation Grant which will increase salaries. This concluded the CEO Corporate Update

Finance Committee Update: Treasurer, Bennett Bruff

(Finance Committee Chair) Bennett Bruff stated that the Finance committee has not met since the last Board meeting. Bennett reviewed the August 2021 Treasurers report and there are no new updates other than what was provided during the September Board meeting. This concludes the Finance update.

Development Committee Update: Sabrina Hinton.

(Development Committee Chair) Sabrina Hinton informed the Executive Committee that the Development Committee has no updates since the last executive meeting. This concluded the Development Committee update.

Human Resourcing Committee Report: Louis Finney

(CEO of Smart Start of Forsyth County) Louis Finney discussed that the first round of team members involved in the Leadership training will be graduating in October and there will be second round of team members participating in November. Louis also discussed providing a wage audit and updated salary schedule to the Executive Committee in November for consideration. This concluded the HR Committee Update.

MALea Committee Report: Jessica McCrory

(MALea Committee Chair) Jessica McCrory indicated that the Committee met in September. The Committee is welcoming new committee member Effie McMillian. The MALea have had each provider speak on what they are doing to tackle the challenges of the pandemic. The MALea committee had two CAD updates regarding the Educator Scholarship Program to be voted on by the Executive Committee. The MALea committee proposed the following two changes:

- Per semester, scholarship awards may cover books and course-required materials, and unmet tuition costs not covered by the TEACH scholarship.
- In the event they are denied for the TEACH scholarship and/or if they are awarded a TEACH scholarship that does not fully cover the cost of the tuition, they may be eligible to receive the SSFC Educator Scholarship to cover or offset the balance. Smart Start of Forsyth County (SSFC) will award Educator Scholarships to eligible childcare teachers and directors who are enrolled into an Early Childhood Education program to increase their level of education and meet the scholarship criteria.

Sabrina Hinton made a motion to approve the CAD changes. The motion to approve this change was seconded by Tembila Covington. All members present voted unanimously to adopt the agenda. Motion Carries.

NC Pre-K Committee Report: Sheryl Strode

(Past Board Chair) Sheryl Strode stated that the NC Pre-K Committee has not met and indicated that there are no updates to the Executive Committee.



Adjournment:

A motion was made to adjourn the Executive Committee Meeting at 12:58 p.m. by Sabrina Hinton. The motion to adjourn the Executive Committee Meeting was seconded by Tembila Covington. Motion Carries. Meeting adjourned.