

Kids Central, Inc.  
Board of Director's Meeting  
February 1, 2005

The Board of Director's met February 1, 2005 at the Kids Central, Inc. administrative building in Esserville.

Board members present: George Aichel, Dr. Jewell Askins, Donald Baker, Paul Buchanan, Edward Hutchinson, Donna Raines, and Shirley Rogers.

Others present: Heather Strong, Board representative to the Policy Council, Chris Austin, Lisa Barton, Donna Meade, Darrell Edwards, and Hilary Chandler.

Chairman Donald Baker called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.

II. Mr. Baker presented the minutes from the December 9th meeting of the Board for approval in the absence of Edward Hutchinson, Secretary. George Aichel made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Shirley Rogers seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed; motion carried.

Edward Hutchinson arrived at the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

III. Lisa Barton, Comptroller, presented the December finance report. As of the end of December, approximately 54% of Head Start funds have been spent and approximately 50% of Early Head Start funds have been spent. Ms. Barton said that we are holding some money back to due under enrollment. There is approximately \$150,000 in reserve. Ms. Barton said Carolyn Pierce suggested that we request to purchase some new buses to replace some of the older model buses that we now have. Early Head Start has already obtained their in-kind goal for the year. Head Start is behind its targeted in-kind amount at the end of December. This can be attributed to decreased property space and the loss of the blended program. Ms. Barton said that we should not have any difficulty obtaining our in-kind goal this year, but it is an issue that needs to be addressed. Shirley Rogers made a motion to accept the finance report. Paul Buchanan seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed; motion carried.

IV. Heather Strong gave the Policy Council report. The Policy Council approved the 2005-2006 recruitment plan. Ms. Strong said that the council formed their committees at the Executive Committee meeting on January 26th

#### Old Business

Darrell Edwards officially informed the Board that we received notification from the Regional Office that we have corrected our deficiencies and we are no longer on high risk. Mr. Edwards again expressed his appreciation for the work the Board has done and their commitment Kids Central. Donald Baker said that he felt Mr. Edwards and the staff have worked well with the Regional Office and communication is flowing more freely with the Regional Office than in the past.

Donna Meade reported that we took over 500 children, parents, and staff members to Sesame Street Live on January 12th. She said it was a good experience for the children and families that participated in the event.

Chris Austin, Director of Operations, gave an update on the Appalachia II center. Mr. Austin had been given the authority by the Board to explore the possibility of purchasing the Appalachia Presbyterian Church-taking into account, among other things-the cost of repair and maintenance of that facility. Mr. Austin made a formal proposal to the Abingdon Presbytery and was contacted by Dr. Bill Deprater who expressed interest in transferring ownership of the building. Dr. Deprater is working on an offer and as soon as it is received, it will be presented to the Board for consideration.

Lisa Barton stated the state after school program that we have operated for 6 ½ years at Dogwood Terrace has been terminated after conferring with the program consultant regarding the program. This termination is due to changing guidelines and decreased participation that can be attributed to an after school program at Powell Valley Primary School and residency changes at the housing complex.

Mr. Edwards informed the Board that the Regional Office notified us in early January that the blended program was no longer a program option and we had to terminate the program within the same week that we were notified. Mr. Edwards said that the review team seemed to focus on last year's blended program and based on those findings made the decision to terminate the program.

When the review team came in November, we had only been providing services to Dickenson County Schools for a little over a month and only a few weeks in Norton City Schools. We did not have enough time to show the improvements made with the blended program for the 2004-2005 school year. Mr. Edwards said that he contacted Donald Baker concerning this matter, but unfortunately there was no time to discuss it with the entire Board because of the deadline to cancel blended services immediately.

#### New Business

A. Donna Meade presented new hire information concerning individuals to fill a full-time temporary teaching position and 3 substitute positions to the Board for their approval. George Aichel made the motion to approve Eric Vitatoe as a full-time teacher in a temporary position at Appalachia II. Shirley Rogers seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed; motion carried. Paul Buchanan made a motion to approve the substitute hires. George Aichel seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed; motion carried.

B. Mr. Edwards stated that we were asked to create a proposed budget based on 356 children and \$2.7 million dollars and send it to the Regional Office. We did this per their request stated that this was for a non-specific operational year. Our re-funding application is still based on 449 children and we will turn our budget in based on that number by March 1st.

C. Ms. Barton asked that the Board give her permission to submit our re-funding application based on 449 children similar to our 2004-2005 operating budget for submission on March 1st. Ms. Barton said that she feels like the finance committee should concentrate on working on the budget after we know what enrollment will be for next year. The Finance Committee will consist of the following Board members: George Aichel, Donald Baker, Paul Buchanan, and Edward Hutchinson. Paul Buchanan made a motion to authorize Ms. Barton to prepare the budget to turn in by March 1st. Shirley Rogers seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed; motion carried.

Dr. Jewell Askins expressed a desire to find out what happened with the blended program. Mr. Edwards said that he would give the Board members a copy of the letter that instructed us to terminate the blended program. There was some further discussion as to how the Board could find out what was wrong with the blended program. George Aichel made a motion to authorize the Program Committee along with staff to investigate the cancellation of blended services and what if anything can be done to implement the blended program again. Paul Buchanan seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed; motion carried.

D. Mr. Edwards gave out 2005-2006 goals and objectives. He asked the members to review the document for the February 15th meeting. Board recruitment is an area that needs to be focused on. Mr. Edwards said that he would like for each Board member to recruit 2 new members. He said the Board needs to grow in order to get the work of Kids Central done. He talked about the committee system and how it could increase efficiency and involvement.

Dr. Askins said that there should be criteria for selecting Board members. We need people with talents and expertise in different areas willing to make a commitment to serve on the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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Edward Hutchinson

Secretary

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Hilary Chandler

Bookkeeper/Special Projects