

**Polk County Schools  
Head Start Policy Council Agenda  
Wednesday, March 12, 2025 12 pm  
Stearns Education Center & Virtual**

**Meeting Call to Order**

The Head Start Policy Council Meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Margit Nelson with a quorum present and maintained throughout the meeting.

Members present: Cindy Allen virtually: Margit Nelson, Donna Wood, and Dena Pfister

Staff present: Renee Souther, Jan Crump, Debbie Lovelace, Laura Jane Howald, Lisa Brown, and Amy Scott

**Welcome and Introductions**

Margit welcomed us all. There were no new members or visitors present.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the February 12, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Cindy Allen moved to approve the minutes, Donna Wood seconded and the motion carried.

**Reports and Information**

**Preschool Monthly Report** - a quick review of the February attendance was discussed by Amy Scott. There was a lot of sickness in the schools and the attendance numbers were lower than normal in February.

**Financial Reports**

Debbie Lovelace reviewed the financial report and noted that at the end there is still \$460,000 in playground grant money. A vendor has been selected and approved and that project is underway.

**Credit Card Reports**

There were no charges in the month of February.

**New Business**

**Family Survey results** as of today - Amy Scott, Family Services Specialist  
22% return rate to date. Amy read and discussed 2 of the open-ended responses on the survey, highlighting specific family comments about the program.

**Slide show** of classroom events. There were photos of the "Beauty Salon" in one classroom, a family engagement end-of-study celebration, a family Valentine's Day craft event, and a family Valentine's Day party.

**2025-2026 enrollment activities** - Amy Scott, ERSEA

A 2-week long enrollment event was held as enrollment for next year continues. A total of 54 new families and 33 returning families have been enrolled thus far.

**Old Business**

Update on the 2025-2030 Head Start 5 Year Baseline Grant.

The grant has been presented to the Polk County Schools Board of Education for approval.

**Community Updates**

Donna Wood - The Hope Chest - The new building is still being remodeled, they will be participating in the upcoming "Baby Shower" at the Polk County Health Department and the "Spring Fling" Family Resource Fair in April.

Margit Nelson - WNC Source - Columbus Children's Center is now fully enrolled, although they are always accepting applications.

**Next meeting date and time**

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 12 noon

Cindy Allen moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:27pm, Dena Pfister seconded, and the motion carried