



**The North Carolina Partnership for Children  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2025  
2-3 p.m.**

Members present: Charles Bowman - Chair, Cassandra Brooks, Madison Downing, Sherry Heuser, Page Lemel, Dr. Laurie Stradley, and Dr. Ereka Williams  
Others present: Amy Cabbage, Joe Brownlee, and Maura Pherson – recording secretary

The Executive Committee (Committee) of The North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. (NCPC) Board of Directors (Board) met on November 17, 2025 via Zoom video conference. Chair Bowman called the meeting to order. The presence of a quorum was established.

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

A motion was made by Page Lemel and seconded to approve the agenda for November 17, 2025 and the minutes of the August 18, 2025 Executive Committee meeting. **Motion carried.**

**Public Policy Update and Legislative Agenda of the Report to the General Assembly**

As part of legislation, NCPC is required to create a Report to the General Assembly which is due Dec. 1 every year. This Committee reviews the legislative agenda section prior to submission. The Committee reviewed the draft Legislative Agenda and discussed the specific requests for various programs including general funds, Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, and workforce supplements.

A motion was made by Page Lemel and seconded to approve the draft legislative agenda with the option for NCPC staff to make edits as appropriate. **Motion carried as a draft.**

**Update on Status of Board Reappointments**

All twelve of the Governor’s appointees to the NCPC Board are up for either renewal or replacement this year. Six current NCPC Board members have requested reappointment.

Member Name	Requirement
Cassandra Brooks	Child Care Provider
Khadijja Reid	Health Care Provider
Charles Bowman	Member of Business Community
Ereka R. Williams	Member representing a Philanthropic Agency
Anthony Jackson	Early Childhood Educator
Francesca Gary	At-Large

The names of six new members have been submitted to the Governor’s Office. That office has advised appointments are forthcoming. All six of the new members recommended by NCPC were sent a status update via email on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. The Governor makes appointments to more than 350 boards and commissions in North Carolina. There are more than 2300 active appointments within the state.

**Recent Legislative Updates**

With encouragement from NCPC’s attorneys, and review of an internal workgroup, some language on internal policies, such as the Core Values, is in the process of being revised to be in compliance with HB 171 if it passes in NC. The new language mirrors that of NCDHHS.

**Executive Session**

A motion was made by Page Lemel and seconded to go into closed session in accordance with §143-318.11 (a) (6) of the Open Meetings Law related to personnel.

Return to regular session.

**Meeting Recap**

- Reviewed the Legislative Agenda for the Report to the General Assembly
- Closed session

**Adjourn**

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

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 Amy Cabbage, Committee Liaison

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A16B35D954E4B1  
 Maura Pherson, Recording Secretary

2/16/2026 | 4:24 PM EST  
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 Date

