

EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 24, 2016

The regular board meeting for the East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held at the East Central Office on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 10:00 AM.

Members Present: Natalie Becker, Brian Duchscherer, Tom Tracy, Jill Louters, Daren Christianson, and Nancy Bollingberg.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Louters.

Others Present: Denise Brandvold, Director; Laurene Heintz, teachers' representative; and DeVon Allmaras, County Superintendent of Schools were also present.

Minutes: A motion was made by Daren Christianson, seconded by Nancy Bollingberg to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 20, 2016. Motion carried.

Financial Report: A motion was made by Nancy Bollingberg, seconded by Brian Duchscherer to accept the monthly financial report. Motion carried.

Board Expenditures: A motion was made by Nancy Bollingberg, seconded by Daren Christianson to accept the bill listing as reviewed by the Board. Motion carried.

Other: Additions to the agenda included the second reading of H-200 (Medicaid Reimbursement) and the resignation/retirement of a staff member.

Director's Reports to the Board:

Fund Balance: Mrs. Brandvold reported that the close of January 2016 reflected 72.93% of the revenues have been received and 46.83% of expenditures reached. Percentages were in line with the revenues/expenditures for the year.

Preschool Screenings: Screenings are in the process as follows:

Carrington – screened four children

NR-S – 10 children scheduled for February 25th

F-B - Five children scheduled for February 25th

Blue Cross/Blue Shield Bidding:

Kari Hunt from BC/BS informed the business manager the increase would be 1-5% for the upcoming year. Cindy Johnson, business manager, contacted Randy Hooey to inquire about bids for insurance plan options for School year 2017-18. He advised Mrs. Johnson to send a letter to him by February 2017 and he would request bids from Sanford, Medica, and BC/BS.

Medicaid Billing:

Mrs. Johnson is attending a meeting in Jamestown regarding Medicaid billing and a company (Compu Claim) through SEEC that is doing the billing for some of the special education units in North Dakota. More information will be provided to the Board at the next meeting in March 2016.

Resident Teacher Program:

Information was given to all the Board members regarding the Resident Teacher Program through UND in Grand Forks. If there are any teachers interested in the program, Dr. Amy Jacobson should be contacted at UND.

Director's Evaluation:

A reminder that the second evaluation for the Director should be completed and submitted to Juanita Short by March 4, 2016 so she will be able to compile the information. Forms were included in the Board packet. Mrs. Short will meet with the director prior to March 15, 2016.

State Improvement Goal:

The information/goal was sent to all of the school districts in ECSE unit.

H-200 Medicaid:

The second reading took place. The Board had some questions as to the percentage of Federal and/or State dollars that would be reimbursed to the school districts. Brian Duchscherer made a motion to table the draft policy and Natalie Becker seconded the motion. The draft policy was tabled until the next meeting. There will be a third reading in March 2016.

Resignation:

Kathryn Johnson, ED consult/strategist, submitted her letter of resignation. Natalie Becker made a motion to accept the resignation and a second from Nancy Bollingberg. Motion approved. The Board wanted to thank Mrs. Johnson for her years of service with ECSE and her dedication to providing quality services to the students in the Unit. There will be an open house for Mrs. Johnson in May 2016.

SLD Position in Carrington:

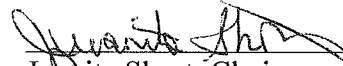
A second interview via Skype was completed with Amira Kutz. The director is recommending that she be hired for the SLD high school position at Carrington. Salary would be \$42,060.00 with a \$2,000.00 sign on bonus. Tom Tracy made a motion to hire Ms. Kutz with a second from Nancy Bollingberg. Motion approved.

ID Resource Room in Carrington:

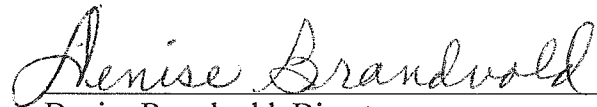
The Director and Mrs. Short completed interviews. The Director is recommending that Leah Thoms be approved to move into that position. Brian Duchscherer made a motion to hire Ms. Thoms with a second from Natalie Becker. Motion approved. Ms. Thoms is currently the preschool teacher and this position will now be vacant. The Director will advertise to fill this position.

The next Board meeting was scheduled for March 14th at 1:00 PM. Members will have the option to participate via telephone conference or in person at the ECSE office. Instructions will be sent to each Board member for the process to access the telephone conference.

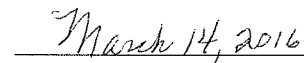
With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.



Juanita Short, Chairman



Denise Brandvold, Director



Date Approved