

EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF MEETING

February 15, 2017

The regular board meeting for the East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held at the East Central office on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Members present: Jill Louters, Tom Tracy, Brian Duchscherer, Natalie Becker, Lane Azure and Nancy Bollingberg.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by vice chairman Louters.

Others Present: Denise Brandvold, director; Samantha Pfeiffer, business manager; DeVon Allmaras, County Superintendent of Schools; and Vikki Cartwright, teacher's representative.

Addition to the Agenda: The items of Preschool screenings and Negotiations seminar were added to the established agenda.

Minutes: A motion was made by Bollingberg, seconded by Duchscherer, to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 18th, 2017. Motion carried.

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

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

Director's Reports to the Board:

Fund Balance: Mrs. Brandvold reported that the budget is in line with expected expenditures and revenue at this time. Figures for the end of January reflected expenditures at 53.39% and revenue received at 72.63%.

Preschool Screenings: Mrs. Brandvold informed the board that Preschool Screenings were held and attendance was higher than last year, with 10 children being screened in Carrington, 10 children being screened in Fessenden, and 4 children being screened in New Rockford. Attendance was up to 24 compared to last year's 22 children. There was also discussion on having a preschool screening for Pingree Buchannan in addition to Fessenden, Carrington, and New Rockford next year. Tracy suggested possible having the screening in Kensal since the Kensal School has a daycare facility in the school. The screening team also suggested moving screening times to the afternoon to see if that increases attendance.

Open Positons: Mrs. Brandvold informed the board that the unit will be advertising, looking to fill four open positions, all full time positions. The suggestion was made to advertise on the University advertising website. Mrs. Bollingberg uses the website herself and agreed to get the information to Mrs. Brandvold.

Teacher's Transfer: Mrs. Brandvold informed the board that Lori Richter had requested to transfer from Pingree Buchanan School to the Carrington School. Mrs. Richter has discussed this decision with Pingree Buchanan School's administration.

Direct Deposit for Paras: Mrs. Brandvold and Ms. Pfeiffer informed the board that there had been some issues with mailing staff paychecks. In January, 2 staff members' paychecks were lost in the mail and took approximately 10 days to 2 weeks to arrive. For this reason, the board was presented with information to move all East Central staff to direct deposit as soon as possible. This change will not be difficult and will save East Central money by cutting postage, check usage, and envelopes. The board agreed, Mrs. Brandvold and Ms. Pfeiffer will send an email to staff letting them know about the change and to obtain the information required for direct deposit.

Medicaid – Mrs. Brandvold and Ms. Pfeiffer explained that the Medicaid/SEEC program has been going very well.

Mileage – Mrs. Brandvold informed the board that the state mileage rate had decreased to \$0.535 from \$0.54 in December 2016.

SB 2038 – Mrs. Brandvold informed the board that this particular bill was not passed. Because of this, there was discussion on what could be done with children that are severe cases. Possible para training was an option discussed. There will be training for paras on March 1, 2017.

New Hires: The board discussed East Central's policy on hiring teachers. Duchscherer discussed the possibility of amending board policy on new hires to allow districts the option to hold the contracts on newly hired teachers. Some board members feel that this could be a benefit to the districts, others felt it would not. After a lengthy discussion, Duchscherer suggested that a potential revision of board policy be brought to the March meeting.

Policy C-440, item #3: Mrs. Brandvold asked the board to revised policy, to include a payment date of July 1, XXXX. This would allow the unit to budget for retiring teachers. After discussion, Duchscherer explained that policy states "may" not "shall". Due to this wording, there is no need to revise the policy.

Director's Evaluation: It was noted that the appropriate paperwork was given to board members for the director's second portion of her evaluation. All board members are to have their portion to President Short by February 27th, 2017 so that Mrs. Short can compile the information and meet the March 15th deadline for the director's evaluation.

Negotiation Recognition: A board motion was made by Becker, seconded by Bollingberg to recognize the East Central Education Association (ECEA) for negotiations. Motion carried.

ECEA Petition: A motion was made by Azure, seconded by Bollingberg to accept and acknowledge the East Central Education Association's petition for negotiations. Motion carried.

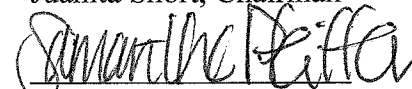
Negotiation's Team: A motion was made by Azure, seconded by Becker, that Dr. Azure and Mrs. Bollingberg will be East Central's board negotiation team for the 2017-18 negotiations. Motion carried.

The next scheduled meeting of the East Central board will be on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 10am, at the East Central office.

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



Juanita Short, Chairman



Samantha Pfeiffer, BsMgr.

3-22-17

Date approved