

## EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

### MINUTES OF MEETING

April 22, 2020

**The regular board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held via Zoom (video conference due to Covid-19 pandemic) on April 22, 2020, at 10:00 am.**

**Members Present:** Nancy Bollingberg, Mary Ann Broe, Jill Louters, Natalie Becker, Kurt Hayes, Sara Bilden, Brian Duchscherer, Jenna Helseth, Matt Lokemoen

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bollingberg.

**Others Present:** Ashly Wolsky, Director; Susette Allmaras, Business Manager; Megan Thompson, ECEA Representative,

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Louters, seconded by Becker to approve the minutes of the March 18<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, April 9<sup>th</sup> and April 14, 2020 board meetings. Motion carried.

**Financial Report and Monthly Bills:** Reviewed financial report and monthly bills. A motion was made by Duchscherer, seconded by Hayes, to approve the financials. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Louters, seconded by Bilden to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Director's Report:**

**Weekly Staff Meetings and Professional Development:** Weekly Zoom meeting are being held with all staff with professional development each week. Current presenters scheduled are Brian Mendler, Author; Kathy Gewont, School Psychologist, Tara Hanson, School Psychologist and Shauna Erickson, licensed therapist.

**Cognia Training:** The director training originally scheduled in February/March was condensed into a 1.5 hours training via Zoom on April 20. Districts will be receiving special education plans from Cognia.

**2020-21 Budget:** Discussion was held regarding the 2020-21 approved budget and the related assessment. No changes will be made at this time.

**East Central Staffing:** Wosky provided a list of the proposed teacher assignments for the 2020-21 school year. The following positions are currently open: Full-time Special Ed teacher in Kensal, Full-time SLP in New Rockford-Sheyenne, Part-time SLP in Fessenden-Bowdon, Full-time Special Ed teacher in Oberon and Part-time SLP in Oberon.

**Speech Language Assistant:** With the lack of SLPs across the state and the need to use speech teletherapy services, a Speech Language Assistant position has been created during the 2019-20 school year to assist with the teletherapy services currently being utilized in the New Rockford-Sheyenne School. Wolsky presented a job description for this position. A motion was made by Louters, seconded by Helseth to approve the Speech Language Assistant with a pay of \$1.00 more than the paraprofessional pay. The motion was amended to state this cost is a direct billable cost to the school(s). Motion carried.

**Retirement:** A motion was made by Helseth and seconded by Becker to accept the retirement of Laurene Heintz, SLP serving Fessenden-Bowdon and Kensal schools. Motion carried.

**Executive Session:** A motion was made by Duchscherer, seconded by Helseth to move to executive session under NDCC 44-04-19.1(9). Motion carried. Board members in attendance were Bollingberg, Louters, Becker, Broe, Duchscherer, Lokemoen, Helseth, and Hayes. Also in attendance were Wolsky, Director and Allmaras, Business Manager.

A motion was made by Duchscherer and seconded by Helseth to adjourn the executive session and return to the regular open meeting. Motion carried.

**Teacher Negotiations:** A meeting with the ECEA will take place on April 24, 2020 at 11 am via Zoom.

The next regular board meeting will be held May 20, 2020 at 10:00 am by Zoom video conference.

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

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Nancy Bollingberg, Board President

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Susette R. Allmaras, Business Manager

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Date approved