

East Central Center for Exceptional Children

A Special Education Cooperative Serving the School Districts of: Carrington Kensal, Fessenden-Bowdon, New Rockford-Sheyenne, Oberon, Pingree-Buchanan

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Ashly Wolsky, Director*

DATE: Tuesday, September 8, 2020

TO: East Central Board Members

FROM: Ashly Wolsky, Director

RE: Board Meeting

WHEN: Wednesday, September 16, 2020

TIME 10 a.m.

WHERE: East Central Center for Exceptional Children-New Rockford, ND

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Establish quorum
- Welcome
- Additions to Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Financial Reports and Bills---the following items are in your board packets and are submitted for Board approval

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting on August 26th.

a. Information: a copy of minutes from August 26th provided.

Recommendation: I recommend the minutes of August 26th to be approved as presented.

2. Review of Financial Reports

a. Information: A list of expenditures is provided.

Recommendation: I recommend the financial report be approved as presented.

3. Approval of Bills Payable

- a. Information: A list of bills is provided

Recommendation: I recommend the bills be paid as presented.

II. REPORTS TO BOARD

Director's report:

- Due to low numbers across the Unit in preschool special education, the sped pre k teacher will directly serve students at NR-S (2.5 days, Mon-Fri afternoons-direct bill)
- 2020-21 IDEA-B and Preschool Grant applications have been submitted, waiting on approval from DPI. The available funds are listed below:
 - IDEA-B: \$350,553.76
 - Preschool: \$13,921.12
- Speech Language Pathologist Paraprofessionals (SLPPs) across the Unit will serve the following districts: Carrington, Fessenden-Bowdon, Kensal, New Rockford-Sheyenne, Oberon. Presence Learning will be used for supervision and case management in Fessenden-Bowdon, New Rockford-Sheyenne, and Oberon.
- Preventative measures are being taken to ensure services and assessments continue no matter what the year brings. Our Speech Language Pathologist (SLPP) will complete training through Presence Learning (\$600 per person, and an additional \$100 per month when services are needed to use their platform). This training will ensure our SLP can complete assessments and continue therapy sessions to bill for Medicaid in the case of closure due to COVID-19. The other costs that our Unit will endure is a shared cost to train our school psychologists and OT (contracted services from Lake Region and Harvey Hospital; we will be billed a percentage of the training costs for two psychologists and OT) in the case of closure. If there is no closure, the additional costs will not be endured (\$450 a month-school psych, \$100 a month, OT). We are also discussing contracting services from Lake Region for achievement testing in the case of a school closure to avoid additional costs to our Unit. **Just a reminder, our Unit is not receiving funds to cover COVID costs.**
- Due to the loss of the social worker portion case managers are determining how to meet the needs of each student; we have students that are needing services beyond social skills. Please remember students that need counseling services will need to be provided by the district, if services are not available, we will need to look at contracting services.
- Please notify East Central of any changes or updates to your district's Health and Safety plan and/or school schedule to ensure special ed services continue.

Board President report:

III. ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

Updated Budget and assessments (next assessment October 1st)

IV. OTHER

Financial Audit scheduled for the week of October 12th

Paraprofessional Benefits Discussion

V. ADJOURNMENT

Next Board Meeting date: Wednesday, October 28, 2020

East Central Retreat to follow Board Meeting on 9/16