

EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF MEETING

November 18, 2021

The regular board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held November 18, 2021

Members Present: Jenna Helseth, Robert Toso, Avolt Baumbach, Kent Dennis, Matt Lokemoen, Jordan Brown, Jill Louters, Kris Kuehn.

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

Others Present: Ashly Wolsky, Director; Renae Duchscherer, Business Manager, Amanda Hegland, Jake Hegland, Alyson Myhre, Patti Larson, Allison Haley, Morgan Wetzal, Ken Astrup.

Additions to Agenda: No additions to the agenda.

Minutes: A motion was made by Kris Kuehn, seconded by Kent Dennis, to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2021 board meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Report and Monthly Bills: Reviewed financial report and monthly bills. A motion was made by Jill Louters, seconded by Robert Toso, to approve the financials. Motion carried.

Bills Payable: A motion was made by Kris Kuehn, seconded by Avolt Baumbauch, to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

REPORTS TO BOARD

Child Count: Director Wolsky noted Child count is being worked on and is due December 1, 2021.

Staff Evaluations: Director Wolsky reported that observations for evaluations are being completed and will meet December 15, 2021 deadline. She noted that she was also reaching out to administration for their input as well.

STAR Autism Support Training: Director Wolsky reported that 6 East Central Staff members from New Rockford-Sheyenne, Carrington and Pingree-Buchanan are attending this training on November 18 and 19th. This was at no cost to the Unit thanks to James River Special Ed Unit. We will look into purchasing curriculum after training, if teachers that attended feel it would be beneficial to our students.

Director Meetings Attendance: Director Wolsky noted that she had attended the following meetings since last board meeting.

- DPI Directors meeting 11/10, via Zoom.
- State Directors meeting on 11/10, via Zoom
- Regional Director's meeting on 11/17 in Hankinson, ND.

ARP Funds: Looking into using these funds for FBA/BIP training and monitoring, updating curriculum to align with needs, curriculum training, visual phonics training, sensory items that are student specific and social emotional learning curriculum and supplies. Director Wolsky encouraged board members to reach out if they recommendations or other needs at their locations.

Board President's Report: No report this month.

OTHER BUSINESS

NRS Board Meeting 11/15: Dr. Louters proposed withdrawing from the unit. The NR-S Board tabled their decision until Feb 2022 at this meeting. The East Central Board inquired what NR-S Board's intention was on this matter? Due to policy change B-126 Withdrawal, that was amended December 16, 2020, for the withdrawal to be effective for the 22/23 school year, the Unit will need to be notified by January 1, 2022. Schools need to have their plan into the state by March of each year, so the decision of NR-S School Board affects all participating schools in the Unit. Duchscherer was directed to look at the assessment for 2022/23 without NR-S.

- Morgan Wetzel , Special Education Teacher at NR-S, spoke in support of the Unit and shared that her interaction with the Unit, Director Wolsky and fellow staff members has always been very supportive and positive.

Audit 10/13/2021: Duchscherer will arrange via Zoom for the December or January Board Meeting, pending auditors schedule.

Policy Committee: President Helseth noted that the Policy Committee will meet Monday November 22, 2021 at East Central Office.

Board Training(Ken Astrup): Board members will be participating in training following this meeting, and also the December 15, 2021 meeting.

School Board Training: President Helseth attended the NDSBA Board Training for new members on 10/28/21 in Bismarck held during their Annual Convention. She noted that she thought it was beneficial.

Business Manager Training: Duchscherer attended Business Manager training at the NDSBA Annual Convention in Bismarck October 28 and 29. Duchscherer also attended SUI Year End training in Bismarck on 11/16/21.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

Director Evaluation

Director Wolsky's evaluation was presented by President Helseth including the ratings in each of the 5 Expectation categories. Helseth explained that each Expectation is rated on a scale of 1-4, with 1 being low

and 4 being high. Director Wolsky ratings were 3.5 in 4 of the 5 categories, and 3 in one. A motion was made by Kris Kuehn to approve the evaluation. Director Kent Dennis 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment: With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

The next regular board meeting will be held December 15th, 2021 at 9:00am., with Board Training to follow.

Jenna Helseth, Board President

Rena Duchscherer, Business Manager

Date approved