



## **EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN**

### **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

**August 12th, 2024**

**The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held 8.12.24.**

**Members Present:** Board President, Jenna Helseth-Carrington, Stacy Benz- Fessenden, Janelle Helm-Carrington, Laura Hager- New Rockford, Natalie Becker- New Rockford-Sheyenne, Matt Lokemoen-Kensal

**Absent:** Jordon Brown-Oberon, Amber Krapp- Pingree-Buchanan

**Others Present:** Ashly Wolsky- East Central Director, Melanie Quinton- East Central Business Manager, Elizabeth Ihiringer, Teacher representative

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am by Board President Mrs. Helseth and a quorum was established.

Additions/ amendments: Remove the policy committee meeting minutes as they were approved In June.

Election of officials was held, Natalie Becker nominated Jenna Helseth to remain in the president position, Matt Lokemoen seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried. Matt Lokemoen nominated Amber Krapp as the vice president, Janelle Helm seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Stacy Benz to approve the June 17th, 2024, board minutes. Noted to change on the meeting minutes C-250 policy to read 2<sup>nd</sup> and final reading. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve the July and August 2024 Financial Report as presented. Matt Lokemoen asked about the increase in costs to the budget. WSI and Farmers union Insurance rates increased. Matt Lokemoen asked if we were seeing a trend in increases. Ashly Wolsky discussed the service costs. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to approve June and July 2024 bills payable. A discussion was held on the presence learning bill and what month it was from. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Director Wolsky gave an update on staffing. We are fully staffed across all districts. NRS position is filled by a 2<sup>nd</sup> year Resident Teacher.

Safety Care refresher is being held today by our trainers Megan Thompson and Rosie Mozelle. Director Wolsky discussed opening the training to staff at the district level if it is needed.

- Fessenden/Bowden, Pingree-Buchanan, Kensal, Oberon: August 12<sup>th</sup> (EC)
- Carrington: August 13<sup>th</sup> (Carrington)
- New Rockford: August 14<sup>th</sup> (EC)

Star Autism Training was held August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> with a virtual 2-day training. Case managers, SLPA, SLPP, RT and some of our paraprofessionals took the training. A full recording was sent out to case managers to see if there was any other paraprofessionals or staff that would like to watch it. Star Autism curriculum was purchase with the behavioral health funds last year, a kit is in all of the districts and online curriculum is also available.

GoalBook is a pilot program that East Central has joined and is using for paperwork. Training is being held August 12<sup>th</sup>, virtually for staff from Carrington & NRS if they have missed it or need a boost in the training they are required to attend. This program should be available statewide within the next year Ashly Wolsky stated.

IDEA B and Preschool grant has been submitted for the 2024-25 school year. Child count will be updated in December. These funds help offset our unit costs. Here are the funds that were awarded to us for the 2024-25 school year: \$407,361.14 (Increased \$6,587.48). Preschool: 2024-25: \$15,014.74 (Increase of \$268.23).

Indicator 11 and 14 have been submitted. 14 we have chosen to do it locally versus in the mail. Vickie Becvar calls our graduated students and has them fill out this survey data for post school outcomes.

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter assessments and the reconciliation of direct costs were sent out based on actual costs. New Rockford Sheyenne was discussed on the increase of speech costs. Direct Wolsky discussed how these costs can rise over the year. Presence Learning costs were discussed with the contract for 2024-25 also presented.

Fall leadership for Director Wolsky is NDDPI September 10<sup>th</sup>

PT/OT contracts have been signed for the 2024-25 school year.

Speech contract for Presence Learning with NRS were presented and discussed. Ashly Wolsky noted that she will wait to sign off on the contracts until NRS reviews and responds.

Ashly Wolsky has been reelected as president for the director's group for 2024-25 school year.

SEEC meeting with Brook Tayer is being held today, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 discussing Medicaid.

Director Wolsky discussed now being able to enroll our School Psychologists as medical providers, and we are now able to bill Medicaid for their services.

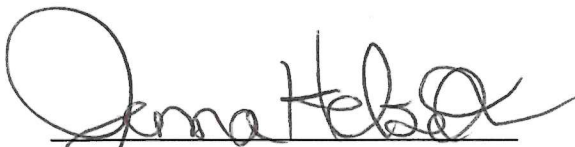
Vision and dental insurance for paras and the switch to NDPHIT vision for teachers and admin staff takes place after open enrollment Oct 1<sup>st</sup>.

Stacy Benz made a motion to approve the amended 2024-25 Budget, Janelle Helm seconded. With no further discussion, the motion carried.


The Next Board Meeting date: September 18th, 2024, 10:00am.

The policy committee will reconvene in the Fall, new member needed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 am



Mrs. Helseth, Board President



Date Approved



Melanie Quinton, Business Manager