

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*

Last updated on Wednesday, November 21st at 8:41 a.m.

DATE: Tuesday, November 12th, 2024

TO: East Central Board Members

FROM: Ashly Wolsky, Director

RE: Board Meeting

WHEN: Wednesday, November 27th, 2024

TIME: 10 a.m.

WHERE: East Central Center for Exceptional Children

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

- **Establish quorum**
- **Welcome**
- **Additions to Agenda**
- **Approval of Minutes**
- **Financial Reports and Bills**

2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting minutes from October 15th, 2024 and Policy Committee minutes from November 13th, 2024.

a. Information: a copy of Regular Board Meeting minutes from September 18th and Policy Committee minutes from November 13th are provided.

b. Recommendation: I recommend the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting from October 15th to be approved as presented.

b. Recommendation: I recommend the minutes from the Policy Committee Meeting from November 13th to be approved as presented.

3. Review of Financial Reports

- a. Information: a copy of the financial report from November is provided.
- b. Recommendation: I recommend the financial report for November to be approved as presented.

4. Approval of Bills Payable

- a. Information: a copy of the bills from October and November are provided.
- b. Recommendation: I recommend the bills from October and November to be paid as presented.

5. Approval of Payroll

- a. Information: a copy of the payroll from November is provided.
- b. Recommendation: I recommend the payroll from November to be paid as presented.

II. REPORTS TO BOARD

Director's report:

Director attend the Regional Directors meeting in Grafton on 10/23
Next Regional Directors Meeting in Mayville has been moved to Jamestown
11/21 (joint meeting)

New 'Para project' for training opportunity separate from Master Teacher (funds available to train/pay 150 paras) SEEC, paras need 20 hours of training annually—good option for snow days and/or early outs

- 2024-25 build courses and processes
- 2025-26 launch para training opportunities
- project is moving ahead slowly due to lack of State funds
- courses can be built locally (1 hour course—loadable for paras)
- paid for your time and effort through SEEC \$300-500 per course; the course becomes the property of Ed Hub

Certificate Allows High Schools to work as classroom aides:

<https://rebrand.ly/vham8pg>

ND Train the trainer for Safety Care is not an option
Schedule ADOS training after January (booking 3-6 months out)

ED label, proposing label changes to Emotional Impairment or Emotional Disability as nearly half of the 50 states have already done so as there can be a stigma associated with the ED label and parents/guardians are refusing services

- committee sent out 2 surveys (115 responses and 120 responses) and the majority are 'in favor' or 'neutral' in changing the label
- 4% feel that ED is an accurate description and by changing the label it would be 'sugar coating it'

Possible label change to deaf and vision disability category
Committee will propose an update to legislatures in order to have a change in Century Code (CC)

Programming and interventions should be for all students: for example, high truancy students vs. students of a specific race ex-Native American students or students that qualify for free and reduced lunch.

School district had good intentions to increase graduation rates but would be 'risky' as it would be a privacy concern and it is important to be culturally sensitive. You also can't tell students 'you can't come' but rather stating, 'students who didn't pass the math test must report to room 206 and provide food' reaching the majority of your targeted audience.

960 for neglect for not administering medication; parents have the right to govern their child's medication but you should file if it is 'life threatening.' Medication administering is a 'gray area' when you discuss meds for mental health—recommended you 'work with the family.'

Shortened school day—be careful—should not be due to 'parent request.' Show your documentation for a need, remind parents that you stand to serve (full day). If there is a shortened day you must provide all special ed services during that time.

Suspensions: 10 consecutive days or a pattern cumulative of removal up to 10 days, constituting a change of placement requires a manifestation of determination meeting

- IEP within 10 days (day 11)
- 504 before 10 days
- hours vs. day (how to count)--when in doubt 'overly include'
- must have meticulous records, record keeping is key

-bus suspension does not count, but it could be if the child doesn't come to school and they show low/poor progress (must consider special ed busing).

-if the child is not allowed to ride/suspended-parent needs to pick up the district is responsible for mileage

-HARD DAY=suspension (removal even though it's not discipline)

-ex: field trip 'too dangerous to let child go/parent must attend with child' or 'call police if you don't pick up'

-'parent will be notified after 20 minutes or 3 work harders in a row'

-phone call to notify parents

-provide FAPE

-he/she is welcome to stay in school or leave and come back

-follow up with an email (send right away)

In-school suspension should be counted the same as out of school suspension

-half day of ISS if they are away from their class in the a.m. but in the afternoon they are in the resource room according to the schedule

-ISS room: access to the right amount of time with non-disabled peers and you're still providing special ed services (allowed). ISS packets, room by themselves, provide lunch, and monitoring them in the office

-'in good faith effort' must have good record keeping (parent and school attendance should match)

Title IX: new regulations require training to be held annually for all staff; updated language of a 'hostile work environment' to 'sex based harassment' (OCR)-regs on hold for ND

Current court cases—8th Circuit, right before the Supreme Court

Paperwork—must clean up 'leaving old stuff in IEP,' not updated/individualized.

Found at fault for leaving in old info as it wasn't being provided (ex-recess in HS IEP). "Recycling" and not updating—not providing the accommodations 'we don't do that anymore.' Accommodations and modifications should not be vague—do not use 'as needed,' but rather, 'determined by a teacher if necessary.' "Do what you mean and mean what you do." Important for regular education to understand they are required to follow the IEP—get them a copy of updated Snap Shots ASAP after the IEP meeting.

Double down on paperwork—meeting notes must tell a story not just the outcome. Do not copy and paste.

Behavioral Health-Medicaid Billing (old vs. new-umbrella, monies belong to the Unit); Units are using the monies as funding to lessen assessment. The current set up the Unit is losing revenue and paying the deduct (recommendation to bill the district if they chose to keep the funds locally)

Interest in creating an equipment database—online format—equipment would be stored at the district/unit and you could check out the equipment

ND DPI is expanding GoalBook to the entire State—East Central inquired about joining this year with upcoming training opportunities in January (Kensal, PB, FB)

Student contract system will continue as is for the current school year, will be looking at an 'average' for next year

Career View Virtual Reality—every school district should have a VR device and code to access the careers, great resource for special education students
<https://careerviewxr.bemorecolorful.com/>

ND DPI Special ed awarded 2.1 million dollars of 5 years (transition)

Early Childhood Committee meeting (see attachments)

Indicator 11: Child Find % of children evaluation within 60 days of parental consent or state time frame—100% compliance

Application submitted for a high cost student in FB to attend Luther Hall, Fargo
Hired additional para 1:1/semi self contained setting in Carrington (previously in residential facility)

Board President report:

III. OTHER

Updated East Central Comprehensive Plan submitted to ND DPI on October 21st

NRS payment from true-up (June) received 10/17/24

Transition Coordinator job description and wage scale (draft)-attachment to view

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vDenOrAM77kRK5cls421MPQeTD4kNkDRZHxK3L7F4FY/edit?tab=t.0>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1I47N2bCRo-axL97WcBy5Rn4VqmZDJRLGXN0ZKfUreCE/edit?usp=sharing>

Audit

IV. ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

B-453 Delete (1st and Final)

C-110 Accreditation Requirements (1st Reading)

C-300.2 Administering Medication to students (1st Reading)

D-200 General Employment Requirements (1st Reading)

Delete D-201 Work Schedules (1st and Final)

D-202 PTO Benefits (1st Reading)

D-203 Disassociation (1st Reading)

Transition Coordinator Work Agreement and Job Description

V. ADJOURNMENT

Next Board Meeting date: Wednesday, December 18th, 2024

Upcoming Policy Committee Meeting TBA