



EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

November 27, 2024

The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 11.27.24

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

Zoom: Amber Krapp- Pingree-Buchanan

Absent: Jordon Brown-Oberon

Others Present: Ashly Wolsky- East Central Director, Melanie Quinton- East Central Business Manager, Teacher representative McKenzie Davis (Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by Board President Mrs. Helseth, and a quorum was established.

Additions/ amendments: None

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve the October 15, 2024, board minutes. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Hager and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve the November 13th, 2024, Policy Committee Meeting. Discussion was held on the process of the new manual putting together the final booklet. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Stacy Benz to approve the November 2024 Financial Report as presented. Discussion was had about investments and about investing into CD's with our fund balance in the future. CD rates will be brought to the next meeting. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jordan Brown and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to approve the November 2024 bills payable. With no further discussion, the motion carried (approved via email: Matt Lokemoen, Jordan Brown, Laura Hager, Jenna Helseth, Natalie Becker, Janelle Helm).

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve the July-November 2024 payroll. The process in which payroll is approved was discussed. Moving forward payroll will be included with accounts payable for approval. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Directors Report:

Director Wolsky discussed the Regional Directors Meeting that she attended in Grafton and in Jamestown where some of the following topics were discussed:

- "Para project" through SEEC. The next year is building the program and launching it the following year.
- New certification for high school students is available. It allows them to work as classroom aides in the schools.
- ND Train the trainer for Safety Care and how it is not an option to have our own trainer in ND. So instead, she has scheduled ADOS training in the spring and potentially having our preschool teacher take the training to become the trainer.
- Proposed ED label changes to potentially Emotional Impairment or Emotional Disability. She stated that nearly half of the 50 states have already changed the label.

Director Wolsky discussed legal advice/updates including school district and the good intentions to increase graduation rates. shortened school days and urged board members to be careful, as they should not be due to 'parent request', suspensions with Special Education children, and Title IX.

Director Wolsky discussed the Behavioral Health Grant and how it is related to Medicaid billing. Most of the other Special Education units that receive BH funds are using it as funding to lessen assessment. With the current set up the unit is losing revenue and paying the Medicaid bills which is where the BH grant funds come from. EC Districts are keeping the funds locally. More information will be provided.

Director Wolsky discussed that the state is working on creating an equipment database, which would use an online format, and the equipment would be stored at the district/unit and you could check out or rent the equipment from that unit/district.

Other Discussion:

Director Wolsky discussed GoalBook and how it is being offered to the entire State. East Central inquired about joining this year with Kensal, PB, and FB for the upcoming training in January, the student contract system and how it will continue as is for the current school year. She also mentioned Career View Virtual Reality as a great resource for special education students and how ND DPI Special ed was awarded 2.1 million dollars over 5 years to (transition) hopefully increase graduation rates.

Early Childhood Committee meetings will be held 2/7 and 2/9. Indicator 11: Child Find % of children evaluation within 60 days of parental consent or state time frame—100% compliance.

Director Wolsky discussed that an application was submitted for a high-cost student to attend a residential facility, who was recently transitions from DGR and it was also noted that Carrington hired an additional paraprofessional for a 1:1 that was needed.

Child count is due the 30th.

Director Wolsky stated that she submitted the East Central Comprehensive Plan to ND DPI on October 21st.

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

Transition Coordinator Work Agreement and Job Description was discussed. The position will open up for a long-term substitute and hope to fill permanently for the 25-26 school year.

Jonathan from Widmer Roel stated the audit is almost complete and they will be able to present at the December board meeting.

Board Action:

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to approve the deletion of policy B-453 (1st and Final). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jordan Brown and seconded by Stacy Benz to approve C-110 Accreditation Requirements (1st Reading). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Hager and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve C-300.2 Administering Medication to students (1st Reading). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jordan Brown and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to approve D-200 General Employment Requirements (1st Reading). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to approve the deletion of D-201 Work Schedules (1st and Final). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Matt Lokemoen and seconded by Larua Hager to approve D-202 PTO Benefits (1st Reading). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Jordan Brown to approve D-203 Disassociation (1st Reading). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.


Mrs. Helseth, Board President

12-18-24
Date Approved


Melanie Quinton, Business Manager