



EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

January 15th, 2025

The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 1.15.25

Members Present: Board President, Jenna Helseth-Carrington, Natalie Becker-New Rockford-Sheyenne, Matt Lokemoen-Kensal, Laura Hager-New Rockford-Sheyenne, Amber Krapp-Pingree-Buchanan, Stacy Benz- Fessenden

Zoom: Jordon Brown-Oberon, Janelle Helm-Carrington

Absent:

Others Present: Ashly Wolsky- East Central Director, Melanie Quinton- East Central Business Manager, Teacher representative Roberta Gleason

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Board President Mrs. Helseth, and a quorum was established.

Additions/ amendments: None.

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Laura Hager to approve December 18, 2024, board minutes. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Amber Krapp to approve the January 2024 financial report and payroll report as presented. Natalie Becker inquired about open enrollee budget line. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Amber Krapp and seconded by Stacy Benz to approve the January 2024 bills payable. Stacy Benz inquired about mileage for Jaclyn Martinson. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Directors Report:

Director Wolsky discussed the Regional Directors meeting dates and locations.

Child count was submitted by Director Wolsky to NDDPI and is 177.

Professional Development for certified staff is being held virtually on Monday January 20th focusing on Transition Training for Indicator 13 and 14 and GoalBook. After this training all EC staff will be trained and using GoalBook.

Transition Coordinator position has been filled by Kathleen Eggermont starting next week with a home base of Carrington.

Director Wolsky meets today with School Law Attorney Laura Booth and the Study Council board.

Director Wolsky will be presenting at NDASA-Superintendents-March 23rd, 2025 in Valley City. She will present on her role as a Director and the purpose of Study Council.

Preschool screenings were discussed, dates have been shared with schools. Mariah Weber EC Pre-school teacher is doing the screenings.

Juvenile Justice Grant proposal was discussed. Director Wolsky is submitting a request for \$80,000 to cover Safety Care, Transition, School Psych, ADOS training and Goalbook. This proposal is due by January 24th. Director Wolsky discussed the School Psych who is currently contracted from Lake Region SPED 2 days a week and on bringing her on as an EC employee.

Board Action:

A motion was made by Amber Krapp and seconded by Janelle Helm to amend policy B-125 New Members (1st and final reading). Using policy BDA to make an amendment with first and final reading. Director Wolsky discussed the Midkota district and presented a rough draft budget to bring them into the EC Unit. The potential to go down 1 mill with the funds that Midkota will bring in. Director Wolsky discussed the staffing that Midkota would need to fill and is a concern. Janelle Helm inquired about Director Wolsky and Melanie Quinton, Business managers' time and effort and if there is available time to give to the additional district. Director Wolsky stated she planned roughly 2 days a month.

Roll Call vote was held:

Laura Hager: Yes

Amber Krapp: Yes

Matt Lokemoen: Yes

Jordan Brown: No

Stacy Benz: Yes

Jenna Helseth: Yes

Janelle Helm: Yes

Natalie Becker: Yes

Motion carried 87.5%

Behavioral health grant was discussed and how the flow of Medicaid funds goes to the until. This discussion was tabled until further information comes back on some of the grants that have been applied for.

PTO Leave Donation form for Non-Certified Staff was discussed.

A motion was made by Laura Hager and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to invest \$300,000 in a CD with 4.05% for 11 months at First Community Credit Union. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Amber Krapp and seconded by Laura Hager to approve the 2023-24 Widmer Roel Audit. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Speech costs shared unit wide versus speech costs that are direct billed were presented and discussed. To move to shared unit wide speech the budget would need to increase to 9 mills from the current 5 mills. It was discussed how it would work to make this a weighted percentage in the assessment. In the spring a potential budget with this information will be presented.

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Laura Hager to approve the new transition coordinator work agreement to follow paraprofessional benefits package. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Director Wolsky presented a proposal to hire a School Psychologist. Discussion was had on the timeline of when this could be a potential option.

The Next Board Meeting date: February 19, 2025, 10:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.



Mrs. Helseth, Board President



Melanie Quinton, Business Manager



Date Approved