



EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

August 5th, 2025

The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 8.5.25.

Members Present: Jenna Helseth-Board President-Carrington, Lindsay Widicker-Fessenden-Bowdon, Janelle Helm-Carrington, Kristi Halvorson-Midkota

Zoom: Matt Lokemoen-Kensal, Natalie Becker-New Rockford-Sheyenne, Jordan Brown-Oberon, Chris Triggs-Pingree-Buchanan

Absent: Laura Hager-New Rockford-Sheyenne

Others Present: Ashly Wolsky- East Central Director, Melanie Quinton- East Central Business Manager, Lauren Pederson (Intern under Jenna Helseth)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Board President Jenna Helseth, and a quorum was established.

Additions/ amendments: None

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Kristi Halvorson to approve June 11th, 2025, board minutes. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Chris Triggs to approve the June and July 2025 financial report as presented. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Matt Lokeomoen to approve the June and July bills presented including payroll reports for June and July. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Directors Report:

Staffing 2025-26:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xEAdAz_Z957GtmkAOgvFuK57P9LIBzO0UrmBgkH8Lh0/edit?usp

Board president report:

Director Wolsky would like to form a finance committee. To set a plan in place for the fund balance or set a percentage. Director Wolsky stated that it is recommended to have funds available for future high-cost students as they can arise unexpectedly; if not the schools would need to be prepared for EC to request additional funds if not budgeted/available. Janelle Helm stated that she would prefer to plan for the high-cost students and watch our carry over fund balance. Kristi Halvorson asked about how much funding we want to keep in our fund balance. Director Wolsky discussed how grants have helped fund us but if we lost grant funding, we would need the funds to cover expenses. Director Wolsky discussed the transportation costs to Anne Carlson Center. Jenna Helseth and Chris Triggs offered to join the finance committee. This committee will start following the audit.

Board Action:

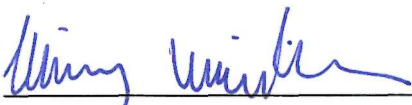
A motion was made by Kristi Halvorson and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve the teaching contract for Lori (Deal) McConnaughey (FB). With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Chris Triggs to approve the 2025-26 budget. Natalie Becker asked about the changes from the June draft budget to the current draft budget. Director Wolsky explained the additional speech costs that have been accumulated come from hiring new staff, including a 'buy out.'

With no further discussion, the motion carried.

The next board meeting date: August 27th, 2025: 10:00 am

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 am



Board President



Melanie Quinton, Business Manager

8-27-25

Date Approved