



EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

March 19th, 2025

The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 3.19.25.

Members Present: Board President, Jenna Helseth-Carrington, Natalie Becker-New Rockford-Sheyenne, Laura Hager-New Rockford-Sheyenne, Stacy Benz- Fessenden, Jordan Brown-Oberon

Zoom: Amber Krapp-Pingree-Buchanan, Matt Lokemoen-Kensal

Absent: Janelle Helm-Carrington

Others Via Zoom: Teacher representative Rosie Mozelle

Others Present: Ashly Wolsky- East Central Director, Melanie Quinton- East Central Business Manager

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Board President Mrs. Helseth, and a quorum was established.

Additions/ amendments: Contracts for approval for the 2025-26 school year: School Psychologist Tara Hanson, Jason Grover and Shauna Fetch, EC Special Education Teachers.

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Laura Hager to approve February 15, 2025, board minutes. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Stacy Benz to approve March 4, 2025, Special Board Meeting Minutes. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Jordan Brown to approve the March 2025 financial report and March 2025 payroll reports as presented. Discussion was held on temporary salaries with long term substitutes in that line item. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Laura Hager to approve the March 2025 bills payable. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Directors Report:

Director Wolsky discussed the upcoming All State Directors meeting in Carrington, ND March 27th. This is East Central's second year hosting.

Laura Booth, School Law Attorney at 1 p.m. today, this meeting aligns with EC Board meetings. Any questions can be directed to Director Wolsky.

GoalBook–MTSS: Carrington and NRS were in the pilot program and were given a survey on this program. Currently all East Central case managers are using this program.

Director Wolsky is part of the Infinite Campus-ND DPI pilot program committee. This will transition from TieNet to Infinite Campus.

Parent Survey-Indicator 8 has been distributed to parents.

Preschool Screenings have been completed all except for Fessenden on 3/28.

Early Childhood Grant opportunity (\$3,000) grant was submitted for Autism testing materials.

Behavioral Health monies will be spent on testing materials. Carrington (\$622.43) and Fessenden (\$13,088.59) allocated monies to the Unit in the amount of \$13,711.02. NRS (\$17,768.34), Kensal (667.44) and Oberon (\$664.64) have not yet requested monies as of 3/17/25, grant due 3/31/25.

Teacher evaluations to be completed by 4/15/25 please provide feedback. Transition Coordinator and Business Manager evaluations are also coming up, Director Wolsky requested feedback from board members.

Staffing 2025-26 is in the planning stages. Director Wolsky stated that there is a Midkota-interview tomorrow for the high school teacher position.

Para return forms- were sent out on 2/19/25. Para evaluations to be completed by case managers.

Director Wolsky discussed OT and PT services. We have discontinued PT services with ACC and opted to use local PT. OT hospital prices have increased, we are working with our current OT provider and using her services directly.

Transportation reimbursement needs to be provided to parents/guardians if the district is placing the student outside of the home district, for example: ACC current practice is public transportation leaving from Carrington.

Board president report:

Health Insurance renewal 9.63% for next year.

Behavioral Health Grant monies: 2 options, monies at unit level or monies at district level. (see attachment in agenda for specific information)

Negotiations: step 6 of negotiations, we need to schedule our first negotiations meeting by April 3rd.

Board Action:

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Laura Hager to approve the BOB account to have online access with Bank Forward. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Discussion was held on the different options on how to use the Behavioral Health (BH) funds. A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Amber Krapp to approve the BH monies **Recommendation #2:** East Central Special Education Unit continues to bill Medicaid for School Districts in order to receive the Behavioral Health School Grant (BHSG). East Central Special Education Unit receives the BHSG. ND DPI deducts the Medicaid State match from the Unit through the state school aid payment voucher. East Central pays back the School Districts the cost of their deduct from their state school aide payment throughout the school year AND they will have the deduct from ND DPI from the remaining dollars. These BH monies will go toward the shared cost of the school psychologist. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Amber Krapp and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve new contract: School Psychologist Tara Hanson. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Stacy Benz to approve new contract: Special Education Teacher Jason Grover. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Laura Hager and seconded by Jordan Brown to approve new contract: Shauna Fetch upon obtaining certified teacher license. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Section 15.1-16-22 - Negotiation strategy and instructions - Executive session

A motion was made by Stacy Benz and seconded by Natalie Becker to enter executive session, starting at 11:14am:

Natalie Becker: Yes

Jordan Brown: Yes

Laura Hager: Yes

Stacy Benz: Yes

Jenna Helseth: Yes

Amber Krapp: Yes

With no further discussion the motion carried.

12:03 Executive session ended.

The Next Board Meeting date: April 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Mrs. Helseth, Board President

Melanie Quinton, Business Manager

Date Approved