



EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

November 19, 2025

The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 11.19.25

Members Present: Jenna Helseth-Carrington, Board President Lindsay Widicker-Fessenden-Bowdon, Matt Lokemoen-Kensal, Natalie Becker-New Rockford-Sheyenne, Kristi Halvorson-Midkota

Phone: Janelle Helm-Carrington

Zoom: Jordan Brown-Oberon

Absent: Chris Triggs-Pingree-Buchanan, Laura Hager-New Rockford-Sheyenne

Others Present: Ashly Wolsky- East Central Director, Melanie Quinton- East Central Business Manager, Teacher Representative-Megan Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by Board President Lindsay Widicker, and a quorum was established.

Additions: Policies AAC and AAC-BR1, BCBA first and final using BDA.C-431 to be tabled.

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to approve October 14th, 2025 board minutes. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Kristi Halvorson and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve the November 2025 financial report as presented. Discussion was held on continued education line regarding speech and a TFFR adjustment showing as income was discussed on the revenue page. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve the October and November bills presented, including payroll. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Directors Report:

Health Technology and Trades Career Fair was in Jamestown last week, Director Wolsky noted she attended along with students from FB, NRS, PB, Carrington and Midkota.

Hiring a Transition Coordinator position has been tabled due to lack of applicants. Transition are still taking place and case managers will be submitting for the grant funds. If the position is not filled we will look at additional training for HS case managers in the future.

Behavioral Health Grant has been submitted yesterday in the amount of \$59,299.73. Director Wolsky discussed how the funds have been used in the past. This spring the board approved for the grant funds to go towards the units School Psychologists. Discussion was held on how the funds flow and how they are used with the BH grant and the contracted time out to cover the school Psychologist salary/benefits package. Director Wolsky discussed Medicaid flow of funds at the state level and how it correlates to BH grant. Currently BH funds come to the unit based off Medicaid billing EC providers submit to SEEC and the pool of money at ND DPI for these high-cost students. If further discussion is needed it will be brought to the finance committee.

Laura Booth law meeting is 11/19/25 at 1:00pm, send any questions you have to Director Wolsky.

ND DPI state meeting was on 11/13/25. They are preparing for federal and state changes potentially, new guidance to come.

Regional Directors meeting is being held in Mandan on 11/20/25.

Residential facilities and Job Corp, we have had multiple students placed over the last few weeks. Director Wolsky stated that it is considered a drop out when a student completes a GED, although it can be a 'win' for the student.

NDAA- North Dakota state alternative assessment, we have 1 student AA and is only used for 1%. Most are taking NDSA+ with accommodations.

Paraprofessional PD was discussed by Business Manager Melanie Quinton as the goal is to streamline the courses (both required and elective courses) by setting hours associated with them. The high average of the class is the amount of hours EC will pay once a para submits their completion certificate. Paras should not be punched in for trainings, they punch out for early outs and storm days and submit for payment once course work is complete.

Special Ed Funding Committee was held on 11/5, Director Wolsky attended virtually. There was 3 options discussed on the funding formula for special ed: leave it alone, tweak it, or come up with a new one. A weighted factor was discussed on the disabilities of students. The tentative date for next meeting is in February.

BOB: First upcoming BOB event is 11/20/25 at East Central making Tie Blankets to donate to Social Services.

The Caring Cabinet is a new initiative created by Director Wolsky to help with food and essential needs for the Carrington and surrounding communities. It is in The Humble Pearl and is open 24/7.

Director Wolsky thanked the local communities for their donations towards the BOB fund. \$7800 was donated for the 2025/26 school year.

Harvey Eagles \$500

Binford area event \$300

Fessenden Thrift Shop: \$1000

New Rockford Eagles: \$1000

New Rockford Lions: \$500

Carrington Lions: \$500

Aggie Foundation (Bremen Bar): \$4000

Certified staff will attend Professional Development on 1/19/25 (MLK Day) at Ann Carlsen for Joy Lab.

Child Count is due December 1st.

ND DPI will visit Carrington on 12/10/25 for observation, interviews, and file reviews. There is nothing that staff need to do to prepare for this.

Compliance report:

Megan Thompson gave a report on paperwork compliance and reminds teachers monthly that child count is due December 1st. Paperwork is 93% compliant. Progress report reminders have been sent.

Melanie Quinton has scheduled the shred truck to come to East Central on November 26th. An estimated 4-5 shred bins will be needed to eliminate the boxes that have come from the back storage room; documents back to 1986 are being shredded. The cost for the 1-time truck will range from \$330-\$430. After this having a bin on site being picked up bi-monthly for \$35 until the excess paperwork has been removed. We anticipate this project will go into the summer months; once completed we will no longer have a shred bin on site but just use our personal shredder.

ND MAC-Medicaid Administrative Claiming Program is wrapping up funding for the first quarter of January 2025-June 2025. From the information provided, Melanie believes that we are receiving \$7,341.97. This comes from providers and case managers completing moment-in-time studies on specific dates/times that is sent to them from ND MAC.

Board Action:

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve the second and final reading of policy ABCD Records Retention. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve the second and final reading of policy ACBF- Medical Marijuana. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Kristi Halvorson to do a first and final reading using BDA policy to approve updated policy AAC-Nondiscrimination & Anti-Harassment Policy. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Janelle Helm to do a first and final reading using BDA policy to approve updated policy AAC-BR1-Nondiscrimination & Anti-Harassment Policy. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

BCBA Policy was discussed, the Board agreed upon the following 1. 20 minutes 2. 3 minutes. 3. preceding board meeting. Page 2 is Option 2. and will keep "and the director" in the policy. A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Kristi Halvorson to do a first and final reading using BDA policy to approve policy BCBA-Public Participation in Board Meetings. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

C431 will be tabled for the next board meeting.

A motion was made by Natalie Becker and seconded by Jenna Helseth to approve the destruction of records. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

Director Wolsky's review was discussed. A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Matt Lokemoen to approve the Evaluation of Director Wolsky. With no further discussion, the motion carried.

The next board meeting date: December 17th at 10:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

Jenna Helseth
Board President

12-17-25
Date Approved

Melanie Quinton
Melanie Quinton, Business Manager