



## EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

### FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Finance Committee meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on **4.17.2026**.

**Members Present:** Jenna Helseth- Carrington, Lindsay Widicker-Fessenden-Bowdon, Ashly Wolsky-Director, Melanie Quinton-Business Manager

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

Meeting called to order at 10:50 am.

Lindsay Widicker left@12:00pm.

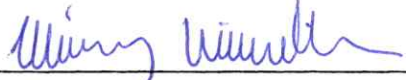
Discussion held:

- Student contract funds with state aid vouchers were discussed. Funds taken at the state level from the schools for Medicaid have affected the student contract income. It is the finance committees recommendation the end of fiscal year Medicaid match will take the total deducts from the student contracts and use the weight/percentage per school to minus that amount from their Medicaid match payment. Melanie will bring policy/procedure on Medicaid match to the next Finance Committee meeting, to update with further recommendations.
- Dental plans were discussed; as there are 2 different plans, 1 for teachers and 1 for paras. Recommendations by Melanie to streamline policies. Melanie will bring a comparison of the 2 plans for the next meeting. No change will be made until Spring/Summer 2027 after negotiations.
- Vision plans have no percentage change for the upcoming year.
- Teacher substitute pay was discussed. Finance committee's recommendation is to have the districts pay the direct cost employees substitutes for daily and long-term Subs. Shared cost certified East Central employees such as but not limited to, preschool Special Education teacher will remain paid by the unit. Sick leave bank was discussed. Each district will communicate at the district level new information to substitutes who will be paid at the district's rate, not the EC rate. Policy updates on substitute pay will be brought to the district boards and business managers by East Central Board Members of their districts.

- The budget was discussed and the potential of raising mills due to Medicaid and student contract loss of income.

The next committee meeting date: TBD

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm



Lindsay Widicker, Board President



Melanie Quinton, Business Manager