East Central
Center for Exceptional Children
16 8th Street South · New Rockford, ND 58356

EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

May 18th, 2026

The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 5.18.26.

Members Present:

- Lindsay Widicker, Fessenden-Bowdon-President
- Janelle Helm-Carrington-Vice President
- Natalie Becker-New Rockford-Sheyenne
- Jenna Helseth-Carrington
- Gilbert Black-Kensal Superintendent
- Kristi Halvorson-Midkota

Members Absent:

- Chris Triggs-Pingree-Buchanan
- Laura Hager-New Rockford-Sheyenne
- Jordan Brown-Oberon

Others Present:

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

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

Additions or Changes to the agenda: None

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve April 15th, 2026, board minutes. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Janelle Helm-Aye
- Natalie Becker-Aye

- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Gilbert Black-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye

The motion passed (6-0).

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve April 17th, 2026, fiancé committee minutes. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Gilbert Black-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Aye

The motion passed (6-0).

A motion was made by Kristi Halvorson and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve May 12th, 2026, finance committee minutes. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Gilbert Black-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Aye
- Natalie Becker-Aye

The motion passed (6-0).

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve the May 2026 financial report as presented. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Gilbert Black-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye

- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Aye

The motion passed (6-0).

A motion was made by Janelle Helm and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve the May bills presented, including payroll. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Aye
- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Gilbert Black-Aye

The motion passed (6-0).

Directors Report:

Staffing for 2026-27 school year was discussed, Director Wolsky anticipates being fully staffed. Long term substitute work agreement/contract was discussed, along with speech positions and paraprofessional staffing. A new full-time SLPA was hired for 2026-27 school year.

Paperwork was discussed; to ensure indicators are met. Paperwork needs to be completed by the last day of school.

Indicator 7 and 11 were discussed, Director Wolsky will be submitting.

SSIP Report (Zones of Regulation) will be submitted by Director Wolsky; Zones of regulation is the states initiative to improve social emotional learning(SEL) and are to help increase graduation rates.

Pre-Ets- additional grant funds for the 2025-26 school year have been received in the amount of $50,000 which will increase revenue. The 2026-27 grant was approved in the amount of $134,400, an $85,920.00 increase from last year.

Behavioral Health Grant was discussed. The preliminary number for 2026-27 is $22,771.36 with quarter 4 Medicaid numbers not in the formulation yet. East Centrals Medicaid income is down due to the number of students qualifying and a change in reimbursement amounts from last year roughly $100,000 which effects the BH grant numbers.

Medicaid Match will potentially change for the end of year reconciliation. As no Medicaid Match funds have been pulled from the district schools, only from East Central reimbursement on student contracts.

Director Wolsky has upcoming meetings: ND DPI 5/14, Summer Leadership 6/8 & 6/9, Laura Booth and Study council 5/20.

Safety Care Training will take place at East Central on 5/26 & 5/27 along with NDPHIT Wellness screenings. Safety Care for new staff will take place in the fall on 8/5.

ESY was discussed, contracts will go out this week. Transportation costs were also discussed, with the potential of districts getting reimbursement from the state for students that bus to ACC.

Other:

Levels of Determination were presented, all districts and the unit passed (green)Discussion was held on the alternative assessment and the standard assessment, along with medical opt out.

Well wishes to Mr. Chris Triggs as he leaves the EC board and Pingree-Buchanan.

NDPHIT increase of 18% was discussed. The increase is caused by staff utilization.

Megan Thompson gave an update on paperwork, was 71% completed in April/May. All paperwork is due on Friday. The change over from Tienet to Infinite Campus was discussed and staff making sure cum files are up to date.

Board Action:

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Janelle Helm to approve the destruction of records for 5.28.26. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Gilbert Black-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Aye
- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye

The motion passed (8-0).

A motion was made by Jenn Helseth and seconded by Kristi Halvorson to approve the first reading of new Policy C-430. This policy moves pay of substitutes for contracted staff to the districts. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Absent
- Natalie Becker-Aye

- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Gilbert Black-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye

The motion passed (5-0).

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Kristi Halvorson to approve the first and final reading of amended Policy C-431. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Gilbert Black-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Absent
- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye

The motion passed (5-0).

A motion was made by Gilbert Black and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve Heather Hall long term work agreement and contract for the 2026-27 school year, contingent upon receiving her teacher's license. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Absent
- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Gilbert Black-Aye

The motion passed (5-0).

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve all ESY contracts for 2026 for Leah Thoms, Mariah Weber, Megan Thompson, Roberta Gleason, Roslynn Mozelle. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Janelle Helm-Absent
- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye

- Gilbert Black-Aye

The motion passed (5-0).

Next board meeting date: Wednesday, June 24th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at East Central.

Next Finance Committee will reconvene in the fall.

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 p.m.

Lindsay Widicker, Board President

Melanie Quinton

Melanie Quinton, Business Manager

6-24-26

Date Approved