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

EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

September 11, 2026

The board meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 9.11.26

Members Present Roll Call:

- Lindsay Widicker, Fessenden-Bowdon-President-Present
- Natalie Becker-New Rockford-Sheyenne -Present
- Laura Hager-New Rockford-Sheyenne- Present
- Jenna Helseth-Carrington-Vice President -Present
- Kristi Halvorson-Midkota -Present

Members Present on Zoom:

- Jordan Brown-Oberon
- Matt Lokemoen-Kensal
- Denise Harrington- Pingree-Buchanan -Joined via phone 10:54, missed 2 votes

Members Absent:

- Janelle Helm-Carrington

Others Present:

- Ashly Wolsky, East Central Director
- Melanie Quinton, East Central Business Manager
- Kelly Rosenau, East Central Teacher Representative, via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 10:38 am by Board President Lindsay Widicker, and a quorum was established.

Additions or Changes to the agenda: None

A motion was made by Kristi Halvorson and seconded by Natalie Becker to approve August 27th, 2026, board minutes. With no further discussion, a roll call vote was held:

- Jordan Brown-Aye
- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Matt Lokemoen-Aye
- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Laura Hager-Aye

The motion passed (7-0).

A motion was made by Jenna Helseth and seconded by Laura Hager to approve the September 2026 financial report as presented. no further discussion, a vote was held:

- Lindsay Widicker-Aye
- Jenna Helseth-Aye
- Kristi Halvorson-Aye
- Matt Lokemoen-Aye
- Natalie Becker-Aye
- Laura Hager-Aye
- Jordan Brown-Aye

The motion passed (7-0).

Bills payable including payroll be sent for approval via email and final approval at the October board meeting due to this meeting being early in the month.

Directors Report:

Director Wolsky discussed upcoming Regional Directors Meetings and ND DPI Fall Leadership. Also discussed a meeting she attended with legislator and state representative and some of the issues the state faces including Medicaid, student/family needs, and high cost students.

2026 STARS reports have all been submitted.

Grants were discussed, still no information on receiving the Mental Health & Suicide Prevention grant. Discretionary grant in the amount of $5000 was submitted to help cover RT program.

Goalbook training is being held on 10/20/26 in person in Jamestown.

Finance Committee was discussed; an additional board member is needed to fill the empty spot. Kristi Halvorson has offered to join the committee. The first meeting will consist of future budget planning.

The State Funding Committee discussed with the weighted factor and students in residential. The goal would be to try to get more funding by lowering the threshold for high cost students.

State Per Diem rates have increased from $.725 to $.76 starting July 1st, 2026. Lodging and meal Per Diem rates remained the same.

A donation was discussed that was received, a stand-alone SensoryRX swing. Discussion was held on the best location for it.

Board Action: None

Next board meeting date: Thursday, October 29th, 2026 at 10:00am

Next Finance Committee: September 28th, 2026 10:00am

The meeting adjourned at 11:14am.

Lindsay Widicker, Board President

Melanie Quinton, Business Manager

10-29-26

Date Approved