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

EAST CENTRAL CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Finance Committee meeting of East Central Center for Exceptional Children was held on 9.28.2026.

Members Present: Jenna Helseth- Carrington, Laura Hager-New Rockford-Sheyenne, Ashly Wolsky-Director, Melanie Quinton-Business Manager

ZOOM: Lindsay Widicker-Fessenden-Bowdon

Absent: Kristi Halvorson- Midkota

Meeting called to order at 10:13am

Changes/Additions to the agenda: None

Discussion held:

Professional Development that is required by schools but not budgeted for by EC. The negotiated agreement states each teacher gets 1 training within the state per year. EC will continue paying any Professional Development opportunity that is required by schools for the 2026-27 school year.

Preschool students not open enrolled that are age 3 were discussed. These students will continue to be served in their home district, if there is an exception agreed upon by district admin and the Director using itinerant staff the home district still pays for costs.

Investment interest was discussed; with the fund balance lowered there are concerns of not earning the budgeted amount of interest. This will cause our income over expenses at the end of the year to be less and potentially. The committee discussed using the fund balance to cover expenditures.

Cost savings unit wide was discussed, such as limit travel, using online resources versus traveling to conferences, sending W-2s via email versus mailing to save on postage, BOB supplies recommendation is to use/solicit donations.

Donations/ grants were also discussed to repair face of building front. Obtaining bids to have it replaced and once they are all in, we will see if there are any grants through programs or even asking for donations from community gaming such as, but not limited to The Eagles, NDTC, and/or any other smaller grants we can find.

Out of district students showing an increase in need of assessments. Discussion was held on charging the resident district a set amount for an assessment or having the home district do the assessment.

Wage scale for long term substitutes was discussed. The current procedures will remain in place.

Credit Card policy was asked for by the auditors for the 2025-26 audit. EC does not currently have a policy, but rather procedures. There is 1 credit card account, and the Director and Business Manager only have access to the cards. Melanie will submit procedures as is and if the auditors request a policy, we will create one.

The next committee meeting date: TBD

The meeting adjourned at 12:48 pm

Lindsay Widicker, Board President

Melanie Quinton, Business Manager