

**COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Board Business Session
January 24, 2015
Conference Call - 9:30 a.m. EST**

Minutes
(Approved April 7, 2015)

1.0 Call to Order

President Jim Heiden called to order the regular meeting of the Council for Exceptional Children Board of Directors at 9:32 a.m.

2.0 Record of Attendance; Determination of Quorum

Board Secretary Alexander Graham called the roll. A quorum of the following Directors was present.

Jim Heiden
Robin Brewer
Antonis Katsiyannis
Sharon Raimondi
Joni Baldwin
Jennifer Britton
Yvonne Bui
Lauren Delisio
Jannis Floyd
Annette Gaitan
John Hess
Laural Jackson
Debbie Metcalf
Jane Quenneville
Claudia Rinaldi
Anne Sloboda
Scott Sparks
George Van Horn
Phyllis Wolfram

3.0 Adoption of Board Business Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Robin Brewer moved to adopt the agenda. Antonis Katsiyannis seconded.

Motion carried.

4.0 Board Operational Guidelines

President Heiden reminded the Board that it is critical to adhere to the Guidelines to ensure effectiveness and productivity, and that, as a unified board, once a decision is made, it is each director's duty to support that decision regardless of personal feelings.

He further reminded directors that each was elected by the membership to represent the membership and, even though they may fill a designated position, their duty is to the entire membership.

5.0 Board Ethics and Code of Conduct; Director Annual Disclosure Statement

6.0 Consent Agenda

MOTION: Antonis Katsiyannis moved to adopt the agenda. John Hess seconded.

The reports from the Professional Standards and Practice Committee and Student Committee were moved to New Business.

Motion carried.

7.0 President's Report

Heiden reported that all members have been appointed to the Educators with Disabilities Policy workgroup and existing vacancies on what is the new Yes I Can committee have been filled.

On Friday, January 23, the officers made visits to their Congressional Representatives to discuss primarily appropriations and ESEA reauthorization. The officers also met with Michael Yudin, Assistant Secretary, and Melody Musgrove, Director, of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. Heiden also reported that he will be attending and presenting at Michigan CEC in March.

8.0 Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Alexander T. Graham provided updates on staffing issues; CEC's lease of 2900 Crystal Drive; the disposition of property in Maryland willed to CEC a number of years ago; operational issues; training projects with Tatweer for Education in Saudi Arabia; and partnership projects with the Division for Early Childhood (joint membership promotion), the Council of Administrators of Special Education (symposia based on *A Principal's Guide to Special Education*), and the California Association of Charter Schools (promoting CEC 2015 to California charter school teachers and administrators).

9.0 Financial Reports and Updates

9.1 Finance and Audit Standing Committee 2014 Year-End Report

Treasurer Sharon Raimondi offered to entertain questions regarding the report.

9.2 Financial Update

Executive Director Alex Graham and Interim CFO Ruby Aggarwal provided an updated on CEC's finances and provided a timeline regarding the upcoming 2014 audit.

(Ed Schultz joined the call during this agenda item.)

10.0 Nominations Standing Committee Year-End Report

Immediate Past President Robin Brewer, 2015 Chair of the Nominations Standing Committee, reviewed highlights of the year-end report of the 2014 committee.

11.0 Policy and Advocacy Presentation

Joel Packer, Executive Director, Committee on Education Funding, made a presentation to the board regarding federal education funding.

12.0 Workgroup Reports

12.1 Bylaws Workgroup Interim Report

John Hess, Chair, reviewed highlights of the report and entertained questions.

MOTION: Anne Sloboda moved to receive the report. Debbie Metcalf seconded.

Motion carried.

12.2 Convention Workgroup Interim Report

Christy Chambers, Chair, reviewed highlights of the report and entertained questions.

MOTION: Sharon Raimondi moved to receive the report. John Hess seconded.

Motion carried.

12.3 Diversity Workgroup Final Report

Patricia McHatton, member of the workgroup, reviewed highlights of the report and entertained questions.

MOTION: George Van Horn moved to receive the report. Jannis Floyd seconded.

Motion carried.

13.0 Discussion Items

13.1 Division of Visual and Performing Arts Education

Beverly Gerber, member of the organizing committee, reviewed the proposal for a new CEC division, the Division of Visual and Performing Arts Education (DARTS) and responded to directors' questions.

(Annette Gaitan rejoined the meeting during this discussion.)

13.2 Director Unit Liaison Contacts

President Heiden described the nature and purposed of the Director Unit Liaison contact program. It is expected that directors will reach out to their assigned units monthly.

Director assignments and unit president and executive director (where one exists) contact information will be provided shortly after the meeting. Talking points will be sent to Board members after each meeting.

13.3 2015 Convention Update

Carol Serrano and Diane Shinn provided an update on various aspects of the convention.

13.4 2016 Local Arrangements Committee Chair

MOTION: Robin Brewer moved to appoint Vicki McNamara as Chairperson of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2016 CEC Convention & Expo. Sharon Raimondio seconded.

Motion carried.

14.0 New Business

14.1 Professional Standards and Practice Committee 2014 Year-End Report

MOTION: John Hess moved to receive the report. Laural Jackson seconded.

Motion carried.

14.2 Student Committee 2014 Year-End Report

MOTION: John Hess moved to receive the report. Laural seconded.

Motion carried.

14.3 Executive Director Authority – Right to Sell Property

MOTION: Scott Sparks moved to authorize Executive Director Alexander T. Graham to act on behalf of CEC to negotiate, execute, and deliver the Deed and such other instruments as may be required in connection with the sale of the Jackson Property and to take or cause to be taken all such further actions and to execute and deliver or cause to be executed and delivered all such further agreements, documents, certificates, filings and undertakings and to incur all such fees and expenses as in his judgment shall be necessary, appropriate or convenient to carry into effect the purpose and intent of any and all of the foregoing resolutions in connection with the sale of the Jackson Property.

Joni Baldwin seconded.

Motion carried.

15.0 Executive Session

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

16.0 For the Good of the Order and Adjournment

Without objection, President Heiden adjourned the Board of Directors meeting at 2:42 p.m.