Council for Exceptional Children

BOARD BRIEF - JULY 2021

Welcome to *Board Brief*, a summary of recent decisions and actions from the CEC Board of Directors. The following is a brief summary of key outcomes from the May and July 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

Strategic Planning (July)

The Board of Directors participated in a one and one-half day facilitated retreat to discuss strategic planning using feedback from data collected from focus groups and other sources in the Spring and Summer.

Governance

President Elect Appointment (July)

The Board appointed Andrea "Angie" Jasper, Ph.D., to the position of 2022 President Elect. Dr. Jasper is Chair of the Department of Counseling and Special Education at Central Michigan University. She served on the Board of Directors from 2016 through 2018.

Bylaws Revisions (July)

Following the 60-comment period on adding an Affiliate Membership, the board finalized approval. Affiliate membership does not include the right to vote or petition, but it includes the right to serve as public members or thought leaders at the local, state, provincial, division or international level for such committees or appointed bodies which have those positions and those bodies allow for affiliate membership, and to benefit from such other privileges as may be authorized.

The Board approved the following motions, which would require revising CEC Bylaws. Members can submit comments on the proposed revisions by 11:59 pm Eastern, September 28, 2021.

Allow the Executive Director to serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of all appointed bodies, including those making nominations or conducting elections, or designate a member of the staff to serve as an ex-officio non-voting designee.

Revise the minimum membership criteria to serve on the Leadership Development Committee from being a member for the past three years, with a minimum total of five years membership, to a minimum total of three years membership.

Project 20/20 (July)

A Diversity Travel Stipend to support travel to CEC's annual Convention & Expo for student and early career (first five years in role) members from Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) backgrounds was established.

Chair Endia Lindo provided an update on the work of the three Project 20/20 subgroups.

Membership

- Used data from focus groups to model CEC lifespan engagement of diverse professionals.
- Surveyed members to assess nature of barriers and incentives for engagement across the life span (in concert with Engagement subgroup).
- Creating an annual self-audit tool for organizational use.

Engagement

- Surveyed (with the Membership subgroup) engagement across the membership lifespan.
- Conducted research regarding developing a leadership identity.

- Met with CEC and division publications chairs/editors regarding increase DEI in journals (editorial representation, authors, and content) and held an equity audit information session.
- Promoting advocacy for DEI emphasis in funding/supports, including IES and NCSER.

Programming

- Asset mapping to catalogue what resources CEC already has in support of DEI, for what audiences, its accessibility, and to determine what is still needed and how these resources can best be stored, sustained and updated.
- Calls for targeted resources will be issued.

Committees

Division Relations Committee (July)

The charter for a new Division Relations Committee was approved. The purposes of the committee are:

- 1. Represent all CEC divisions by serving as in advisory capacity to the Board of Directors and staff on the mutual implication and impact of activities of CEC and divisions.
- 2. Facilitate collaboration and communication among divisions and between divisions and CEC.
- 3. Provide leadership to enhance the functioning and benefits offered by divisions and the diversity of the association's members.
- 4. Make proposals to enhance structural, functional and policy relations between CEC and divisions and among/within divisions.
- 5. Support division member recruitment, engagement and retention initiatives.
- 6. Act as a facilitator in resolution of disputes among divisions.
- 7. Review division annual reports and ensure compliance with all CEC policies.

Leadership Development Committee Appointments (May)

The following individuals were appointed to a three-year term (Sept. 1, 2021 – Aug. 31, 2024) on the Leadership Development Committee.

Angie Jasper Kim Moffett Wendy Gonzales Wendy Otheim

Robin Brewer's term was extended by one year, to end August 31, 2022, to fill a mid-term vacancy.

Standards (May)

Toni Franklin Ph.D. and Maria Peterson-Ahmad Ph.D., were appointed as Co-Chairs of the Advanced Standards Development Workgroup, as recommended by the Professional Standards and Practice Committee.

Committee Liaisons (July)

A policy for the President to appoint members of the Board of Directors to serves as liaisons to committees was established.

Finance

2020 Audit (May)

Following a review by CEC's outside auditor, the board accepted CEC's 2020 Audited Financial Statements and IRS Form 990.

Investments (July)

In addition to the Treasurer's quarterly financial report, the board received an update from CEC's investment advisor and approved a motion to expand the asset classes of electronically traded funds allowed for long-term investments.

Questions? Contact Executive Director Chad Rummel.