

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 online votes in September and the November 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

Strategic Plan

The Board approved a new Strategic Plan for 2022-2026, which includes a new vision and revised mission. The plan is the culmination of a nearly year-long process.

- February 2021: All-members were asked to provide input (1,886 Responses)
- April 2021: The board hosted focus groups with cross-section of members (15 groups)
- June 2021: An outside facilitator hosted focus groups with division/unit leaders (7 groups)
- July 2021: The Board held a retreat to identify key principles and draft of goals
- September 2021: The board provided additional feedback virtually
- September/October 2021: Staff fleshed out input and created a first draft
- October 2021: The CEC Presidential line revised draft, which was submitted to the board for finalizing

The new Strategic Plan will be unveiled at the CEC Convention & Expo in January 2022.

Division Name Change Process (Online)

The board approved the following process for Division name changes.

1. The division will inform the Division Relations Committee (DRC) of the intent to change the name of the division, and any suggested new name(s), and the rationale for doing so to ensure that there is no overlap with any other division.
2. Following a response from the DRC, the division will seek input and complete necessary steps per its divisions' bylaws, which may include a vote of the membership and/or a vote of the Board of Directors.
3. The division will submit the final name and rationale to the DRC for review. Following its review, the DRC will forward the request in the form of a motion to the CEC Board of Directors, along with a recommendation for approval or denial.
4. Divisions should plan for this process to take six (6) months from initial notification to the DRC to final CEC Board approval and implementation.

Policy & Advocacy

Following CEC's Procedures for Developing Policy and Position Statements, which include seeking input from members and divisions, the Policy Steering Committee (PSC) submitted the following updated position statements, which were approved by the board:

Strengthening the Teacher Workforce

This replaces position statements adopted by the Board in response to the implementation of the No Child Left Behind in 2001 and the later re-authorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. These statements included Academic Subject Matter Content of the General Curriculum (2004) and Special Educators and Teacher Evaluation (2004). It also aligns well with a number of documents adopted by the Board, including the Well-Prepared Special Education Teacher (2004), the Ethical Principles, Professional Practice Guidelines, and the Preparation Standards for special educators. All currently adopted standards are available on the CEC [website](#). [Read the full position statement.](#)

Multi-tiered System of Supports

CEC last updated its Policy on Response to Intervention (RTI) in 2009. Since then, RTI has evolved to Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). One of the initial tasks of the PSC was to bring it into alignment with practices in schools across the country. The team reviewed developments in schools throughout the nation, documents from the national U.S. Department of Education funded technical centers (e.g., National Center on Intensive Interventions [NCII], Center on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports [PBIS]), and resource documents from the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS) in the U.S. Department of Education. Each of these documents was used in the development of a draft version approved for review by the PSC. [Read the full position statement.](#)

Governance

Approved Bylaws Amendments

Following the 60-day comment period on revising the Powers and Duties of the Executive Director and the minimum membership criteria for the Leadership Development Criteria, the board finalized approval.

The Executive Director is now able to serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of all appointed bodies or designate a member of the staff to serve as an ex-officio non-voting designee. As with all matters, the ED is expected to recuse himself with matters that may present a conflict of interest.

The minimum membership criteria for the LDC changed from having to be a CEC member for the past three years, with a minimum total of five years membership to a minimum total of three years membership.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments

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, January 21, 2022. [Read the proposed revisions.](#)

Leadership Development Committee Chair Succession Model

Implement a process for a vice-chair(s) to become chair/co-chairs of the Leadership Development Committee through a succession model, allowing for the flexibility annually to select from either option below.

1. A Chair/Vice-Chair model where the chair would be a third-year committee member and the vice-chair a second-year committee member who would be learning the role.
2. A model for co-chairs from within the committee. Specifically, two members in their third year of service would serve as co-chairs for one year. The LDC has three members in each "class," so two would have to volunteer. The co-chairs would serve as vice co-chairs during their second year, being groomed/prepared for the co-chair position.

Honors Committee Restructure and Co-Chair Succession Model

Change the terms of appointment to the Honors Committee from two years to three years; reduce the number of members on the committee from seven to six; and to have the two members in their third year serve as co-chairs for one year.

Yes I Can Committee Restructure and Co-Chair Succession Model

Change the terms of appointment to the Yes I Can Committee from two years to three years; reduce the number of members on the committee from seven to six; and to have the two members in their third year serve as co-chairs for one year.

Election Voting Period (Online)

The voting period for the election of members of the Board of Directors was changed from four weeks to at least two weeks. The four-week policy was enacted prior to having the ability to vote online.

Finance

Revised Investment Policy (Online)

U.S. equities with favorable Environmental, Social & Governance practices (ESG stocks) have been added to diversified classifications of long-term investments in CEC's Investment Guidelines. ESGs are also now referenced in the Long-Term Investment Vehicles & Asset Mix.

2022 Budget

The approved 2022 operating budget forecasts a positive surplus for the third consecutive year.

Donation Matching

The board approve providing \$10K from the 2021 budget for donation-matching to support CEC's Giving Tuesday efforts in 2021.

Convention Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) (Online)

The process for naming (Co)Chair(s) for the LAC was revised from a recommendation by the host state unit and appointment by the board to identification by CEC staff, or recommendation by the unit leadership at the request of the new Staff Convention Committee (which includes the Executive Director), and selection by the Executive Director with input from the Staff Convention Committee.

Questions? Contact Executive Director [Chad Rummel](#).