

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 April 2022 Board of Directors meeting.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility

New White Paper Approved

The white paper, “*Responding Responsibly to Diverse Exceptional Learners in Funded Research*,” developed by the [Project 20/20](#) Engagement Subcommittee, was approved. This was developed out of a concern regarding the insufficient attention given to the ways the profession of special education inadvertently reinforces systems of racism and marginalization. The recommendations are intended to lead to more equitable research practices and encourage national funding organizations to institutionalize practices that deliberately enhance diversity requirements among research teams and necessitate data reporting procedures that feature within-group learning differences. The white paper will be posted on the [CEC website](#) in the coming weeks.

BIPOC Travel Award

In 2021, as part of its commitment to upholding the vision of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and to support all of our members, volunteers, and staff as well as the infants, toddlers, and students with exceptionalities and families we serve—especially those differentially impacted by systemic racism, CEC established a BIPOC Travel Award. There are two award categories: birth to grade 12 practitioners and early career higher education faculty (in the first five years of higher education)

Winners of the award received a \$500 travel stipend as well as complimentary registration to the [CEC 2022 Convention & Expo](#) in Orlando and the CEC 2022 Virtual Convention.

The board discussed the outcomes from 2022 and asked [Project 20/20](#) to make some revisions and to submit those for consideration as the 2023 budget is developed.

Caucuses

As President-Elect, one of Angie Jasper’s priorities is focusing on sustaining CEC’s legacy through caucuses. To that end, the board discussed the future of caucuses and how to reinvigorate them. The board asked Jasper and Executive Director Chad Rummel to bring forward a proposal for consideration at the board’s the July meeting.

Professional Development

Nicole Barrion, M.Ed., a Special Education Instructional Specialist with Alexandria (VA) City Public Schools, was appointed to the position of CEC Convention Program Advisory Committee Co-Chair for the 2023 and 2024 conventions. [Read more about CEC 2023.](#)

Governance

Strategic Plan

The board received an update on current activities related to the [Strategic Plan](#), reviewed and revised the Success Metrics for the plan, and prioritized input received from the [Representative Assembly](#) to be placed into CEC's 2023 Operating Plan. The board also asked staff to provide a three- to five-year projection of operations as it relates to the Strategic Plan at the July meeting.

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, June 10, 2022. [Read the proposed revisions.](#)

60-Day Member Comment Period on Proposed Bylaws Revision(s) Motion

Revise Bylaws Article XI, Amendments, Section 2. Procedure to Amend, as follows:

- b. The President shall ensure that notice of any proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws is provided to the CEC membership at least ~~60~~ **30** days prior to the consideration of **action implementation** on the proposed amendment by the Board of Directors. The notice shall be placed in one of The Council's official publications. At the President's discretion, the notice may include the complete text of the proposed amendment(s) but must include a summary of the intent of the proposed amendment(s) with administrative and financial implications.

Board Thought Leader Revision Motion

Revise the Bylaws Article V (Board of Directors) as indicated below:

Section 1. Composition.

- a. The board will consist of no fewer than 12 members and no more than 15, including the four officers (specifically, the President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, and Treasurer). **In addition**, the board may appoint up to three voting Thought Leaders to serve on the board each year as needed. The board has the authority to determine annually the number of board members necessary to fulfill the mission of the organization based on a needs assessment performed by the Leadership Development Committee. In addition, the CEC Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of the Board.
- b. The board may, in its sole discretion, not more than three Thought Leaders to serve on the board each year. A Thought Leader is an individual who **is may or may not be** a member of CEC and may be outside of the field of special education, education, or disabilities. These individuals may be recruited and selected by the board or LDC at the request of the Board. Thought Leaders bring in-depth knowledge and expertise in one or more areas that represent a pressing need of the board. Thought Leaders are voting members of the Board but are not eligible to become officers.

Section 3. Selection of Members of the Board of Directors.

- a. Board members will be elected in a contested election by a majority vote of the membership from the slate of candidates developed and presented by the Leadership Development Committee.

- b. The President Elect shall be either an existing board member and have served as a member of the board for a minimum of two years or will have served on the board within the past five years. The President Elect will be appointed by simple majority of the board from a slate of at least two candidates developed and presented by the LDC.
- c. The Treasurer will be appointed by simple majority of the board from a slate of at least two candidates developed and presented by the LDC.

d. Thought Leaders will be appointed by simple majority of the board.

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