

Welcome to *Board Brief*, a summary of recent decisions of the CEC Board of Directors. Following are key actions taken at its November 2026 meeting.

Governance

Approved the **2027–2031 CEC Strategic Plan**, which will guide the organization's priorities and strategic direction over the next five years. The previous Strategic Plan, developed in 2022, covered five years and expires at the end of 2026. Throughout 2026, the Board engaged in multiple feedback sessions with CEC members and worked collaboratively to update the plan to reflect the organization's evolving priorities and needs. The new strategic plan will be revealed at the 2027 CEC Convention.

Approved the rechartering of the **Student and Early Career Committee (SECC)**. Also approved the rechartering of the **Division Relations Committee (DRC)**. Updates to the committee's charter include clarifying committee membership composition and formally recognizing its role in the interdivisional grant process. The Board also discussed the rechartering of the **Publications Committee**.

Approved the creation of a **CEC Leadership Development Advisory Committee (LDAC)**. Following the Board's November 2025 decision to move the Board candidate slating process from the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) to a Board-led Nominations Subcommittee, the Board has been evaluating the LDC's future role. The new advisory committee will partner with the Board and designated CEC staff leadership to provide strategic guidance and stewardship for leadership development and succession sustainability within CEC.

Preliminarily approved proposed **revisions to the CEC Bylaws** to remove the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) as a standing committee. This change reflects the Board's decision to establish the new Leadership Development Advisory Committee. P The proposed bylaw changes will be shared with CEC members during the required 30-day comment period before final consideration.

Began work on **the 2027 CEO goal-setting** as part of the Board's annual executive leadership oversight and evaluation responsibilities.

Membership & Divisions

Approved a name change for the **Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD)** to the **Division for Learning and Attention Disabilities (DLAD)**. The updated name reflects the division's expanded focus on individuals with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), in addition to those with learning disabilities. ADHD affects more than 7 million children ages 3–17 in the United States and frequently co-occurs with learning disabilities. The change recognizes the overlapping academic and executive functioning needs of these learners and creates a more inclusive professional community focused on evidence-based practices and supports.

Approved adding **Early Intervention Service Coordinator** as a new CEC membership category. Service coordination is a distinct role mandated under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), but has not previously been represented among CEC's membership designations. The new category, proposed by the Division for Early Childhood (DEC), will help CEC better recognize and engage this workforce, which represents an estimated 9,000–12,000 professionals nationwide.

Strategic Programs and Initiatives

CEC Past President Julie Bost and Board Member Adam Moore facilitated a comprehensive discussion on **teacher support and retention**. Following small-group discussions, the Board brainstormed how CEC can help create conditions in which educators can thrive professionally, protect their well-being, and choose to stay in the profession. They also considered resources, programs, and initiatives CEC currently has that support educator wellness and retention, as well as what more CEC could do in this space.

Following this conversation on teacher support and retention, the Board voted to create an Educator Wellness and Retention Work Group to focus more closely on the issue.

Approved two **2027 Interdivisional Grants of $5,000 each**, as recommended by the Division Relations Committee. The grants are intended to encourage collaboration and engagement across CEC divisions, strengthen divisional viability, and develop resources that can benefit the broader special education community. The two funded projects are *Developing Technology Quality Indicators for Special Education Research and Practice* and *Leading Across Differences: An Interdivisional Emerging Leaders Collaborative*.

Approved **Legacy Proclamations** for Ms. Hellen Bogie, Dr. Lyndal M. Bullock, and Dr. Linda Strickland Marsal. The Legacy Proclamation recognizes outstanding CEC members who have demonstrated sustained leadership and made significant contributions to CEC and the field of special education throughout their careers. The recognition honors individuals whose work exemplifies CEC's core values and has made a lasting impact on the profession.

Finance

Approved the **2027 CEC Program Plan and Budget**, as recommended by the Finance and Audit Standing Committee. The committee reviewed the proposed budget during its October 28, 2026, meeting before bringing it forward to the Board for approval. Under CEC's Bylaws, the Board is responsible for adopting an annual program plan and budget within the organization's anticipated means of financing.

Questions? Contact Chief Executive Officer Chad Rummel.