

# COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MINUTES

January 18, 2008 – 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
January 19, 2008 – 8:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m.  
January 20, 2008 – 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

Arlington, Virginia

Day One – January 18<sup>th</sup>

#### 1.0 Introduction

President Susan A. Fowler welcomed Board members and introduced new officers and members.

#### 2.0 Call to Order and Official Items

##### Record of Attendance; Determination of Quorum (Agenda Item 2.1)

President Susan A. Fowler called the meeting of the Board of Directors (BOD) to order at 8:30 a.m. President Fowler then asked Secretary, Bruce Ramirez, to call the roll. A quorum of the following members was present:

Susan Fowler	President
Kathleen Puckett	President-Elect
Mary Ruth Coleman	Immediate Past President
Carol Eisenbise	Treasurer
Marci Brauchie	Member-at-Large
Pamela Coe	Member-at-Large
Elizabeth Drame	Member-at-Large
Raquel Gonzales	Member-at-Large
Patricia Hensley	Member-at-Large
Amanda Hopkins	Member-at-Large
Sharon Ishii-Jordan	Member-at-Large
Barbara Kozma	Member-at-Large
Beverly McCoun	Member-at-Large
Sherry Meschko	Member-at-Large
Monika Williams Shealey	Member-at-Large
James Siders	Member-at-Large
Trisha Steinbrecher	Student Member
Jennifer Tong	Member-at-Large
Louis Tutt	Member-at-Large

Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda Item 2.2)

**MOTION: Patricia Hensley moved to adopt the agenda. Sharon Ishii-Jordan seconded.**

Motion carried.

**3.0 Strategic Planning (2009-2011)**

President Susan Fowler reviewed the strategic planning progress including approval of the core values, mission, and vision statements during this meeting of the Board. Bill Kruidenier, strategic planning facilitator, discussed the outcomes and process for developing strategic plan goals, outcomes, issue statements, and success indicators. The Board divided into four small groups to discuss and propose goals, including issue statements and related outcomes; each group reported back to the full Board and Board dialogue followed on a set of common goals and outcomes. Goal areas included: (a) teaching and learning conditions; (b) evidence-based special education practice; (c) enhancing the association's international presence and influence; (d) support for members, units, and community-building; and (e) influencing special education and general education public policy. Subgroups of the Board were asked to review these goals in terms of their relationship to ten special education critical issues and to consider the inclusion of diversity and financial and organizational health as a prelude to a Board e-Community discussion.

# COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

January 18-20, 2008

Arlington, Virginia

Day Two – January 19<sup>th</sup>

### 1.0 Introduction

#### Board Meeting Expectations and Protocols (Agenda Item 1.2)

President Fowler discussed Board expectations and protocols.

#### Board-Staff Partnership (Agenda Item 1.3)

Bruce Ramirez discussed the Board-staff partnership under a knowledge-based governance strategy.

#### Board Ethics and Code of Conduct; Annual Disclosure Statement (Agenda Item 1.4)

President Fowler reviewed the ethics and code of conduct with the Board and distributed the conflict of interest annual disclosure statement for Board members to complete.

### 2.0 Call to Order and Official Items

#### Record of Attendance; Determination of Quorum (Agenda Item 2.1)

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Sherry Meschko	Member-at-Large

Monika Williams Shealey	Member-at-Large
James Siders	Member-at-Large
Trisha Steinbrecher	Student Member
Jennifer Tong	Member-at-Large
Louis Tutt	Member-at-Large
Roberta Unger	Member-at-Large

Approval of Board October 5,6,7, 2007 Meeting Minutes (Agenda Item 2.3)

**MOTION: Jennifer Tong moved to approve the October 5-7, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Jim Siders seconded.**

Motion carried.

Consent Topics (Agenda Item 2.4)

The consent topics included the November 14, 2007 Information Conference Call Notes; electronic motions appointing Sherry Meschko to serve a one-year term to fill a Board vacancy; and approval of Michelle McCollin to serve a three-year term as Chair of the Diversity Committee.

**MOTION: Pat Hensley moved to approve the consent topics. Lou Tutt seconded.**

Motion carried.

#### **4.0 New Business**

Core Values, Mission, and Vision (Agenda Item 4.1)

The Board discussed the motion to revise CEC's core values, mission, and vision statements and made several revisions to the proposed statements.

**MOTION: Barbara Kozma moved to approve the Core Values, Mission, and Vision as revised. Jim Siders seconded.**

Motion carried.

2009 Annual Convention Local Arrangements Committee Chairperson (Agenda Item 4.2)

**MOTION: Sharon Ishii-Jordan moved to approve Jessica Soliday to serve as the Local Arrangements Committee Chair for the 2009 Annual CEC Convention. Jennifer Tong seconded.**

Motion carried.

Reporting of State/Provincial Affiliate and Division Representatives (Agenda Item 4.3)

**MOTION:** Beverly McCoun moved to approve changing the date for reporting Unit Representative Assembly Representatives from December 31 to January 1<sup>st</sup> or prior to the beginning of the unit's administrative year if it differs from the January 1-December 31 CEC administrative year. Carol Eisenbise seconded.

Motion carried.

Student Board Member Term of Office (Agenda Item 4.4)

**MOTION:** Amanda Hopkins moved to provide notice to the CEC general membership of a proposed amendment to the CEC Constitution and Bylaws to increase the term of office for the Student Member of the Board of Directors from one year to two years. Roberta Unger seconded.

Motion carried.

School Climate Policy (Agenda Item 4.5)

The Board reviewed the draft CEC Policy on Safe and Positive School Climate from the Diversity Committee. Discussion identified areas requiring further refinement and clarification. The Board determined that the revised draft would be posted for a Representative Assembly e-Community discussion prior to final Board consideration at its April meeting.

Diversity Terminology (Agenda Item 4.6)

The Board reviewed the recommendations from the Diversity Committee to update diversity related terms in the glossary of the *CEC Policy Manual*. After discussion and suggested revisions, the Board referred the proposed revisions to the Diversity Committee for review and comment prior to further Board consideration and action.

Dates for Reporting Unit Officers and Submitting Unit Assurances (Agenda Item 4.7)

**MOTION:** Sharon Ishii-Jordan moved to approve standardizing the reporting of unit officers (January 1 or prior to the beginning of the unit's administrative year if it differs from the January 1-December 31 CEC administrative year) and submittal of unit assurances (January 1) to provide consistency for all units. Beverly McCoun seconded.

Motion carried.

## **5.0 Discussion Topics and Emerging Issues**

### International Role of CEC (Agenda Item 5.1)

The Board had significant discussion on the findings of the Ad Hoc Work Group.

### Board Approval of Committee Recommendations (Agenda Item 5.2)

The Board reviewed and discussed the Council's governance structure and the relationship of committees to the Board in terms of the Board's general legislative and policy making responsibilities.

### Response to Intervention Position; CASE Concerns (Agenda Item 5.3)

The Board reviewed the widespread dissemination of the *CEC Position on Response to Intervention (RTI): the Unique Role of Special Education and Special Educators* and discussed a letter from CASE expressing concern about an aspect of the position. The Board discussed the January/February 2008 *TEACHING Exceptional Children* article Implementation of Response to Intervention at Middle School: Challenges and Potential Benefits as a part of its ongoing development.

## **6.0 Governance and Organizational Reports**

### Representative Assembly Workgroup (Agenda Item 6.1.1)

The Board discussed the year end report and proposed objectives for 2008 from the Representative Assembly Work Group.

### U.S./Canada Workgroup (Agenda Item 6.1.2)

The Board discussed the workgroup final report and recommendation to establish a seven member Canadian/U.S. Standing Committee to advise the CEC Board on ways to meet the needs of Canadian members.

### Committees, Workgroups, and Other Advisory Groups Workgroup (Agenda Item 6.1.3)

Co-Chairpersons Liz Drame and Sherry Meschko presented the workgroup year end report and proposed objectives for 2008.

### Awards Workgroup (Agenda Item 6.1.4)

Chairperson Jim Siders presented an oral report on the workgroup's activities.

### Diversity (Agenda Item 6.1.5)

The Board discussed the Diversity Standing Committee year end report and proposed objectives for 2008.

### Elections (Agenda Item 6.2.2)

The Board discussed the Elections Committee year end report and proposed objectives for 2008.

Honors (Agenda Item 6.2.3)

The Board discussed the Honors Committee year end report and proposed objectives for 2008.

Professional Standards and Practice (Agenda Item 6.2.4)

The Board discussed the PSP Committee year end report and proposed objectives for 2008.

Student (Agenda Item 6.2.5)

The Board discussed the Student Committee year end report and proposed objectives for 2008.

**7.0 Executive Session**

Without objection, President Fowler declared an Executive Session to discuss legal, personnel, and financial matters. The BOD then met in Executive Session.

# COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

January 18-20, 2008

Arlington, Virginia

Day Three – January 20<sup>th</sup>

### 2.0 Call to Order and Official Items

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#### 4.0 New Business

##### Core Values, Mission, and Vision (Agenda Item 4.1)

**MOTION:** Beverly McCoun moved to approve the Mission Statement as follows:

**CEC is an international community of educators who are the voice and vision of special and gifted education. Our mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals with exceptionalities and their families worldwide through professional excellence and advocacy. Liz Drame seconded.**

Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Amanda Hopkins moved to approve the Vision Statement to read as follows:

**CEC is a diverse, vibrant professional community working together and with others to ensure that individuals with exceptionalities are valued and included in all aspects of life. CEC is a trusted voice in shaping education policy and practice and is globally renowned for its expertise and leadership. CEC is one of the world's premiere education organizations. Carol Eisenbise seconded.**

Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Beverly McCoun moved to approve the Core Values Statement as amended as follows:

**CEC values:**

- \* **The dignity and worth of all individuals.**
- \* **Social justice, inclusiveness, and diversity.**
- \* **Professional excellence, integrity, and accountability.**
- \* **Rich and meaningful participation in society for all individuals with exceptionalities.**
- \* **Effective individualized education for all individuals with exceptionalities.**
- \* **The importance of families in the lives and education of all individuals with exceptionalities.**
- \* **Collaboration and community building to improve outcomes.**

**Sherry Meschko seconded.**

Motion carried.

Diversity Terminology (Agenda Item 4.6)

The Board reviewed the recommendations from the Diversity Committee to update diversity related terms in the glossary of the *CEC Policy Manual*. After discussion and suggested revisions, the Board referred the proposed revisions to the Diversity Committee for review and comment prior to further Board consideration and action.

**5.0 Discussion Topics and Emerging Issues**

International Role of CEC (Agenda Item 5.1)

**MOTION:** Pat Hensley moved to establish a Workgroup to develop recommendations for CEC (a) regarding the Council's international roles and responsibilities and (b) its global presence as a professional organization in special education. As part of this work, in collaboration with CEC's divisions, the workgroup should review past reports, recommendations, and actions taken by CEC and the divisions (especially DISES) that have supported international efforts. Specific areas to be addressed include: 1) Options for affiliation that would provide for international participation; 2) Collaboration with other international entities; 3) Opportunities to make CEC products, services, information, and resources available and/or accessible internationally; 4) Opportunities for CEC members to engage in reciprocal learning. Jennifer Tong seconded.

Motion carried.

**6.0 Governance and Organizational Reports**

U.S./Canada (Agenda Item 6.1.2)

**MOTION:** Monika Williams Shealey moved to establish a seven member Canadian/US Standing Committee to include three CEC members who reside in Canada; three CEC members who reside in the US; and the CEC Board of Directors Member-at-Large Canada. The chair will be appointed from within this group. The committee will advise the Board on communication, networking, and liaising; professional knowledge and skills; advocacy. Elizabeth Drame seconded.

Motion carried.

BOD Unit Liaison Contacts (Agenda Item 6.3.1)

The BOD reviewed Unit Liaison Contact assignments and expectations for contacting state/provincial affiliate and division presidents.

Nominations Committee (Agenda Item 6.5.1)

Mary Ruth Coleman announced that the leadership brochure and journal ads for encouraging nominations are being updated.

Finance and Audit Committee (Agenda Item 6.6.1)

Treasurer Carol Eisenbise referred to the Finance and Audit Committee Year End Report and discussed activities for 2008. A new auditing firm, Tate and Tryon, had been selected to conduct CEC's 2008-2009 audits.

November 2007 Finance Report (Agenda Item 6.6.2)

The November 2007 financial statement was then reviewed.

Canada CEC (Agenda Item 6.7)

Jennifer Tong reported that the Widening Circles Conference held in Winnipeg, Manitoba was extremely well attended. The Board also discussed correspondence from Canada CEC regarding its intent to dissolve. CEC will follow-up with CCEC on the establishment of the Canadian/U.S. Standing Committee and its purposes.

Secretary (Agenda Item 6.8)

Bruce Ramirez referred to the updated Board Handbook inserts and the 2008 updated Policy Manual.

## **8.0 Management Reports**

Executive Director Update (Agenda Item 8.1)

Executive Director Bruce Ramirez and senior executive staff highlighted key accomplishments and activities in membership and conventions; marketing and communications; public policy and advocacy; publications, continuing education, and professional standards; and administration, finance and operations.

Strategic Plan 2008 Action Plan Strategies (Agenda Item 8.2)

The Board reviewed and discussed progress under the 2006-08 Strategic Plan based on the success indicators for 2006 and 2007 and Action Plan Strategies for 2008.

## **9.0 For the Good of the Order and Adjournment**

Upcoming Meetings (Agenda Item 9.2)

President Fowler announced the dates for the upcoming meetings.

Acknowledgements and Appreciations (Agenda Item 9.3)

President Fowler thanked the staff for setting the framework for the meeting and the committee chairs for the insightful discussions. She then declared the Board of Directors Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. on January 20, 2008.