

Governing Board Meeting

James Hixson Board Room

Thursday, April 9, 2026

6:00pm

Present: Cindy Payton, Business Manager, Central Nine Career Center; Dr. William Kovach, Executive Director; Dawn Downer, Franklin Township Community School Corporation; Brian Downard, Beech Grove City Schools; Ed Harvey, Nineveh Hensley Jackson United School Corporation; Sheila Martin, Greenwood Community School Corporation

Absent: Becky Nelson, Franklin Community School Corporation; Linda Polesel, Clark Pleasant Community School Corporation; Scott Alexander, Center Grove Community School Corporation; Chris Lewis, Perry Township Schools

1 Pledge and Welcome

Dawn Downer, President

This meeting is a meeting of the Governing Board in public for the purpose of conducting the Career Center's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be time for public participation as indicated by a specified agenda item.

Mission Statement: To engage, support, and empower students by providing active, career-based learning in an experiential environment.

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Dawn Downer. Mrs. Downer welcomed everyone and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance: Jack Russell, representing Center Grove Community School Corporation in the absence of Scott Alexander; Michelle Davis, Adult Education Director, and Mike Quaranta, Assistant Director.

Late arrivals due to traffic: Brian Downard at 6:08 p.m. and Sheila Martin at 6:19 p.m.

2 Program Showcase

Paul Vonderwell, Cyber Security Instructor

Minutes:

Mr. Paul Vonderwell, Cyber Security Instructor, introduced two of his current students. The students outline what they are learning and how it will benefit them in the future.

3 Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Minutes:

Ed Harvey moved for approval of the Consent Agenda Items as presented. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

3.1 Financial Report and Claims

Attachments:

[Check Date 3-13-26.pdf](#)
[Check Date 3-27-26 1 .pdf](#)
[Financial 1.pdf](#)
[Financial 2.pdf](#)
[Financial 3.pdf](#)

3.2 Personnel Recommendations

Attachments:

[HS Personnel Report 4.9.26.pdf](#)

3.3 Minutes for Approval

Attachments:

[Minutes 3.12.26.pdf](#)

4 Items of Action - ACTION

4.1 Request Approval of Perkins Grant

Allotment for 2025-2026: \$810,634

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach requested approval to submit the 2026-2027 Perkins Grant. He explained that he found out that day that the new amount is now \$835,972.

Jack Russell moved for approval to submit the 2026-2027 Perkins Grant in the amount of \$835,972. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

4.2 Request Approval of Overnight Travel

- Dr. Kovach to attend the Annual IACTED State Conference, French Lick, Indiana - June 8-10, 2026

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach requested approval to attend the Annual IACTED State Conference. He explained that it has been held in Brown County, Indiana, for years, but this year's conference will be in French Lick, Indiana.

Ed Harvey moved for approval of the overnight travel. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Attachments:

[Annual IACTED State Conference - Request for Approval of Out of State Travel - 06 08 2026 - 06 10 2026.pdf](#)

4.3 Request Approval of Out of State Travel

- Chef Brian Mendenhall to attend the American Culinary Federation Educator Summit, Grand Rapids, Michigan - June 27-29, 2026
- Jon Keen, Auto Collision Instructor to attend the Sema Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada - November 3-6, 2026

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach requested approval of two out-of-state travel requests. He explained the Chef Brian Mendenhall is requesting to attend the American Culinary Federation Education Summit in Grand Rapids, Michigan - June 27-29, 2026 and John Keen, Automotive Collision Instructor is requesting to attend the Sema Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada - November 3-6, 2026.

Brian Downard moved for approval of the out of state requests. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Attachments:

[American Culinary Federation Educator Summit - Request for Approval of Out of State Travel - 06 27 2026 - 06 29 2026.pdf](#)
[Sema - Request for Approval of Out of State Travel - 11 03 2026 - 11 06 2026 2 .pdf](#)

4.4 Request Approval of the Teacher Appreciation Grant

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach stated that the Teacher Appreciation Grant has been received. He explained the process for teachers to receive the grant was a lottery system. He explained that 7 teachers were selected to receive the grant of \$2,500 each.

Sheila Martin moved for approval to receive and pay the instructors selected for the Teacher Appreciation Grant. Jack Russell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

5 Director's Comments and Items of Information

Dr. Kovach, Director

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach shared with the Board that Cindy Payton has been doing a lot of work on the budgets for 2026-2027. He shared that it will be brought to the May 14, 2026, Governing Board Meeting for a 1st reading.

5.1 Students of the Month

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach shared the Students of the Month for April 2026 (attached).

Attachments:

[April 2026 SOTM.pdf](#)

5.2 Upcoming Dates and Events

- College/Career Day - April 16, 2026
- Awards Day - May 7, 2026
- Next Governing Board Meeting: May 14, 2026, Program Showcase: Veterinary Careers

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach shared the upcoming dates and events (listed above).

6 High School Division Update

Minutes:

Mike Quaranta shared the High School Division (attached).

Attachments:

[April 2026 High School Board Report Revised .pdf](#)

7 Adult Education Division Action Items

7.1 Approval of Adult Education Personnel Report

Minutes:

Michelle Davis requested approval of the Adult Education Personnel Report.

Brian Downard moved for approval of the Adult Education Personnel Report as presented. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Attachments:

[Adult Education Personnel Report for April. 2026.pdf](#)

8 Adult Education Items of Information

8.1 Monthly Budget Update

Minutes:

Michelle Davis presented the Adult Education Monthly Budget Update (attached).

Attachments:

[Board Report 04-09-26.pdf](#)

8.2 Monthly Enrollment Update

Minutes:

Michelle Davis shared the monthly Adult Education enrollment update (attached).

Attachments:

[April Board - March 2026 Enrollment.pdf](#)

8.3 Adult Education Success Story

Minutes:

Michelle Davis passed out a paper copy of the Adult Education Success Story.

9 Public Comments

Minutes:

None presented.

10 Board Member Comments

Minutes:

Brian Downard congratulated Chef Brian Mendenhall on the April Fool's Mystery Basket Competition that he won.

11 Adjournment

Minutes:

With no further business, Ed Harvey moved for adjournment at 6:49 p.m.