

Governing Board Meeting

James Hixson Board Room
Thursday, July 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; Becky Nelson, Franklin Community School Corporation; Linda Polesel, Clark Pleasant Community School Corporation; Scott Alexander, Center Grove Community School Corporation; Brian Downard, Beech Grove City Schools; Chris Lewis, Perry Township Schools; Ed Harvey, Nineveh Hensley Jackson United School Corporation; Sheila Martin, Greenwood Community School Corporation

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 by Dawn Downer, President. Mrs. Downer welcomed everyone and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance: Michelle Cooper, Legal Counsel; Alvin Bible, C9TA Representative; Joe Preda, Dean of Students; Mike Quaranta, Assistant Director; Michelle Davis, Adult Education Director; and Laura Showalter, Executive Assistant/Benefits Coordinator.

Dawn Downer asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda.

Scott Alexander moved to strike item 3.1, Teacher Contract Cancellation, from the agenda and to add Tammy Watson's resignation to Item 2.2, High School Personnel Report. Linda Polesel seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Dr. Kovach requested to add the following action items to the agenda: Item 2.3; Item 3.4; Item 3.6 and Item 3.7.

Scott Alexander moved for approval to add the action items to the Agenda. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

2 Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Minutes:

Scott Alexander moved for approval of the amended Consent Agenda Items. Ed Harvey seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

2.1 Financial Report and Claims

Attachments:

[PAYROLL REPORTS 6-5-26.pdf](#)

[PAYROLL REPORTS 6-19-2026.pdf](#)

[Financial_1.pdf](#)
[Financial_2.pdf](#)
[Financial_3.pdf](#)

2.2 Personnel Recommendations

Attachments:

[AMENDED_HS_Personnel_Report_7.9.26.docx](#)

2.3 Minutes for Approval

Attachments:

[Minutes_6.11.26.pdf](#)

3 Items of Action - ACTION

3.1 Teacher Contract Cancellation

Minutes:

This item was struck from the agenda.

3.2 Request Approval of the 2026-2027 Staff Handbook

Minutes:

Mike Quaranta presented the Board with the 2026-2027 Staff Handbook. Mike Quaranta explained that the main change was stronger language regarding social media.

Ed Harvey moved for approval of the 2026-2027 Staff Handbook. Brian Downard seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[Staff_Handbook_2026-2027_DRAFT_.pdf](#)
[Staff_Handbook_2026-2027_FINAL_.pdf](#)

3.3 Request Approval of the 26-27 Student Handbook

Minutes:

Joe Preda presented the Board with the 2026-2027 Student Handbook. He explained that the new cell phone usage policies are included in the handbook.

Scott Alexander moved for approval of the 2026-2027 Student Handbook. Brian Downard seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[2026-2027_Student_Handbook_DRAFT.pdf](#)
[2026-2027_Student_Handbook_FINALDRAFT.pdf](#)

3.4 Request Approval of Pay Rate Increases for Administration and Non Certified

Employees

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach requested approval of the Pay Rate Increases for Administration and Non-Certified Employees. He stated that Highly Effective Employees will receive a 2% increase if approved.

Sheila Martin moved for approval of the Pay Rate Increases for Administration and Non-Certified Employees. Scott Alexander seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[26.27 Rate Increase Proposal Admin Non Cert.pdf](#)

3.5 Request Approval of School Billings

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach requested approval of the School Billings. He explained that this initial billing is based upon pre-enrollment. The remainder of the billings will be adjusted after count day.

Scott Alexander moved for approval of the School Billings. Linda Polesel seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[Pre-Enrollment 2026-2027.pdf](#)

3.6 Request Approval of Insurance Rates for 2026-2027

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach shared the South Central Indiana School Trust Insurance Rates for 2026-2027. He explained that this year there is a 9 percent increase in premiums. He stated that 4% was built into this year's budget, leaving the other 5% to be passed on to the employees. He did share that the employees have not had an increase in their premiums for the last five years.

Linda Polesel moved for approval of the Insurance Rates for 2026-2027. Ed Harvey seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[New Rates Effective 11.1.26 with VISION.pdf](#)

3.7 Request Approval to use Cash Balance to pay PIPE Inc. for work related to the installation of the Paint Booth. This request includes permission for Central Nine to pay the invoice before the August 13, 2026 Governing Board Meeting.

- Invoice Amount: \$85,870.00

Minutes:

In the process of using Grant Money to purchase a paint booth, we have found that there are other costs involved in getting the old paint booth removed and the new one installed, including mechanical, electrical, and fire safety protocols. The original paint booth we were looking at was compatible with our domestic water line; however, we moved to a more complicated booth and found out that we needed to have a riser installed for fire suppression. We have been working with P.I.P.E. Inc. to have the riser

installed. Dr. Kovach stated that this is the cause for this request to pay P.I.P.E, Inc. \$85,870.00. Dr. Kovach then requested to be able to use the cash balance to pay for the invoice.

A discussion was held regarding the cost originally presented to the Board versus the current cost. Dr. Kovach explained it was due to the upgrading of the paint booth, which also has a mixing room attached. He explained that the actual grant covers the paint booth but not all of the additional costs associated with that booth.

Scott Alexander moved for the approval of the additional appropriations. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

4 Director's Comments and Items of Information

Dr. Kovach, Director

4.1 Upcoming Dates and Events

- July 27-29, 2026 - New Teacher Orientation
- August 3 & 4, 2026 - Teacher In-Service Days
- August 5, 2026 - First Day for Students
- August 13, 2026 - Meet the Instructor Night
- August 13, 2026 - Next Governing Board Meeting

Minutes:

Dr. Kovach shared the Upcoming Dates and Events.

5 Adult Education Division Action Items

5.1 Approval of Adult Education Personnel Report

Minutes:

Michelle Davis requested approval of the Adult Education Personnel Report.

Ed Harvey moved for approval of the Adult Education Personnel Report as presented. Scott Alexander seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

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

5.2 Request Approval of Expenditures Moved from Fund to Fund

- These funds were moved in June, 2026.

Minutes:

Michelle Davis requested approval of Expenditures that had been moved in June from Fund to Fund.

Scott Alexander moved for approval of the Expenditures moved from fund to fund. Sheila Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[June 30 transfers 2 .pdf](#)

5.3 Request Approval of Change to Adult Education Continuing Education Coordinator Contract Days

- Contract Days from 240 to 220 days.

Minutes:

Michelle Davis requested approval to change the Adult Education Coordinator Contract Days from 240 to 220 days. She explained that this was the request from the employee.

Scott Alexander moved for approval to change the Adult Education Continuing Education Coordinator contract days from 240 to 220. Ed Harvey seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[AE Continuing Education coordinator contract change 1 .pdf](#)

5.4 Request Approval of Overnight Travel

- 4 Adult Education Employees to attend the IAACE Conference, Belterra Resort Convention Center, Florence, Indiana, September 30-October 2, 2026

Minutes:

Michelle Davis requested approval of overnight travel for 4 Adult Education employees to attend the IAACE Conference at Belterra Convention Center, Florence, Indiana, September 30 - October 2, 2026.

Linda Polesel moved for approval of the overnight travel. Brian Downard seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[Request for Approval of 4 Adult Education staff members to attend the IAACE conference fall 2026.pdf](#)

5.5 Request Approval of Out of State Travel

- 2 Adult Education Employees to attend the HISET Roadshow Conference, Wojcik Conference Center, Chicago, Illinois, October 7-9, 2026

Minutes:

Michelle Davis requested approval for 2 Adult Education employees to attend the HISET Roadshow Conference, Wojcik Conference Center, Chicago, Illinois, October 7-9, 2026.

Ed Harvey moved for approval of the Out-of-State Travel. Linda Polesel seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Attachments:

[Request for Approval of out of state travel 2026 HSET chicago IL. .pdf](#)

6 Adult Education Items of Information

6.1 Monthly Budget Update

Minutes:

Michelle Davis presented the Board with the Adult Education Monthly Update.

Attachments:

[Monthly Board Report 1 .pdf](#)

6.2 Monthly Enrollment Update

Minutes:

Michelle Davis presented the Board with the monthly Adult Education enrollment update.

Attachments:

[July Board - 2025-2026 Total Enrollment.pdf](#)

6.3 Adult Education Success Story

Minutes:

Michelle Davis shared the Adult Education Success Story.

Attachments:

[Diana Frazier Success Story 1 1 .png](#)

6.4 Adult Education Allocations from Department of Workforce Development 2026-2027

Minutes:

Michelle Davis shared the Adult Education Allocations from the Department of Workforce Development for 2026-2027.

Attachments:

[2627 budget from dwd.pdf](#)

7 Public Comments

Minutes:

None presented.

8 Board Member Comments

Minutes:

None presented.

9 Adjournment

Minutes:

With no further business, Ed Harvey moved for adjournment at 7:26 p.m.