

**CALUMET COUNTY
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION BOARD
FEBRUARY 18, 2025
THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED**

1. Meeting Announcement and Posting

The meeting was properly announced and posted. Johnston called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Schwalenberg, Kees, Jones, Johnston, Kolb

Staff Members Present for All or Part of the Meeting: Piper, Metzen

Others Present for All or Part of the Meeting: Alice Connors, Lindsey Roehrig

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Introductions

Introductions were made.

5. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Schwalenberg and seconded by Kolb to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of Minutes from November 26, 2025, Committee Meeting

Motion by Jones and seconded by Schwalenberg to approve the minutes from the November 26, 2025, Committee Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Public Participation (if requested by Committee Chair)

None

8. Report of Committee Members

Schwalenberg- asked about the Department of Education/Special Education status as related to federal grants, Metzen responded.

9. Communications

None

10. Items for Action or Discussion strategic plan

Metzen facilitated discussion on trends in education to aid in strategic planning for the county along with goals.

Metzen provided a handout- attached.

11. Report of Department



Joanne Metzen- Metzen, Director of Special Education, Department Report

- **Provide an update on staffing-** Metzen provided an update that there was an Elementary ED and Elementary ID position filled. She also shared that there has been an increase in quality of onboarding. The department currently has one opening that will be posted for an Early Childhood Paraprofessional in the New Holstein School District due to a resignation.
- **Share information about professional development sessions-**Metzen shared that she will host a summer paraprofessional conference. She also shared that she is offering online professional development sessions for all education staff that started in February and will be running through March.
- **Provide an update on progress toward a system for funding-** Metzen has been working on a system for funding for the county special education program. She has drafted a system and is working with representatives from Baker Tilly on the draft plan.

12. Discuss Next Meeting – Proposed- April 29, 2025; 2:30 p.m.

13. Adjournment- Johnston adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Piper
Recording Secretary

To: CCDEB Members

From: Joanne K. Metzen, Director of Special Education

Date: 2-18-25

RE: Trends to support strategic planning

Calumet County is updating the Strategic Plan. I have been asked to consider current trends that impact education to support the next steps in the strategic planning process. These trends could be internal or external to Calumet County. The trends will develop into goals for the special education department that will be included on the updated strategic plan.

The 16 trends in the table below were developed with the opportunity for input from all five directors/coordinators of special education in the county and some teachers and specialists. The three trends, highlighted in green below, are the trends currently recommended for the next steps with the strategic plan. I welcome your input.

Educators leaving the profession	Culturally Responsive Teaching	Focus on health for students through food choices and activity	Being prepared for catastrophic events in schools
Scarcity of applicants for all education positions	Increased professional Development needed for teachers, specialists and paraprofessionals	Truancy increasing	Equity
Increased behavioral concerns with students	Referendums to fund operations	Connecting with community resources for special education	High needs students who require educator collaboration and individualized programming
Providing mental health services in schools	Focus on reading instruction	Families requesting Compensatory Services	Independent Educational Evaluations

You are welcome to reach out to me if you would like to discuss this or any other topic further.

Sincerely,


