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**CASE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 17, 2025**

The December 2025 business meeting of the Cooperative Association for Special Education Executive Board was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 8:00 am in the CASE Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am and the following roll call was taken:

District #15 – Ms. Lucilla Davila, Superintendent, Arrived at 8:03am  
District #16 – Dr. Joseph Williams, Superintendent and Chairperson  
District #41 – Dr. Jeffrey McHugh, Superintendent  
District #44 – Dr. Ted Stec, Superintendent  
District #87 – Ms. Jessica Santee, Superintendent  
District #89 – Mr. Doug Eccarius, Superintendent  
District #93 – Dr. David Hill, Superintendent and Vice-Chairperson

**OTHER PRESENTERS/VISITORS**

Mari Carlson, CASE, AP/Payroll Coordinator  
Kyle Costello, CASE, Occupational Therapist, CEA Vice-President  
Catherine Dunlop, CASE, Speech Language Pathologist, CEA Regional Council  
Natalie Heinrich, CASE, Administrator for Low Incidence Services  
Kim Kearney, CASE, Assistive Technology Consultant, CEA Secretary  
Tracy Kunce, CASE, Instructional Support Team Coach, CEA President  
Carol Montgomery Fate, CASE, GPAT Program Supervisor  
Christina Morley, CASE, Instructional Support Team Coach  
Dr. Kristen Ninni, Incoming CASE, Executive Director  
Jane Ruge, CASE, Physical Therapist  
Tricia Sharkey, CASE, Assistant Director  
Jaime Tiesenga, CASE, Chief School Business Official  
Jeanine Woltman, CASE, GECC Program Supervisor  
Jeff Zimmerman, CASE, IT Coordinator

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, and/or FUTURE BOARD APPROVAL**

**ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION**

Dr. Hill moved, and Mr. Eccarius seconded a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

1. Approval of Minutes, November 14, 2025, Regular & Closed Session;
2. Approval of November 2025 Accounts Payable and Payroll Summary and Projected Payroll December 2025;
3. Treasurer's Report, September 2025;
4. Contracts: NA
5. Personnel Report
  - Employment: Licensed Personnel:
    - Jaime Klepacz, Special Education Teacher
    - Matthew Morgan (Morales), Teacher, Adapted Physical Education
  - Employment: Educational Support Personnel:
    - Gabriela Flores, Registered Behavior Technician
  - Separation: Licensed Personnel:
    - Banks, Brandon, Teacher, Adapted Physical Education, Resignation
  - Separation: Educational Support Personnel:

- Thermos, Betty, D87 Job Coach, Resignation

Discussion:

Roll Call: Ms. Davila D15, Absent  
Dr. Williams, D16, Yes  
Dr. McHugh, D41, Yes  
Dr. Stec, D44, Yes  
Ms. Santee, D87, Yes  
Mr. Eccarius, D89, Yes  
Dr. Hill, D93, Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Ms. Santee moved, and Dr. McHugh seconded a motion to approve the employment of Dr. Kristen Ninni as the Executive Director of CASE, 2026-2029.

Discussion: Dr. Hill thanked everyone involved in the Executive Director search process and expressed gratitude for Dr. Furbush's tenure at CASE. Dr. Williams indicated a timeline for Dr. Ninni's transition will be provided.

Roll Call: Ms. Davila D15, Yes  
Dr. Williams, D16, Yes  
Dr. McHugh, D41, Yes  
Dr. Stec, D44, Yes  
Ms. Santee, D87, Yes  
Mr. Eccarius, D89, Yes  
Dr. Hill, D93, Yes

MOTION CARRIED

At 8:09 am Dr. Hill moved, and Ms. Davila seconded a motion to move to closed session for the purpose of: Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5ILCS 120/2(C)(2).

Roll Call by Voice Vote:

Ms. Davila, D15, Yes  
Dr. Williams, D16, Yes  
Dr. McHugh, D41, Yes  
Dr. Stec, D44, Yes  
Ms. Santee, D87, Yes  
Mr. Eccarius, D89, Yes  
Dr. Hill, D93, Yes

MOTION CARRIED

At 8:36am Dr. Hill moved, and Dr. McHugh seconded a motion to reconvene to open session.

Roll Call by Voice Vote:

Ms. Davila D15, Yes  
Dr. Williams, D16, Yes  
Dr. McHugh, D41, Yes  
Dr. Stec, D44, Yes  
Ms. Santee, D87, Yes  
Mr. Eccarius, D89, Yes  
Dr. Hill, D93, Yes

MOTION CARRIED

There being no other business, at 8:36am Dr. Hill moved, and Dr. McHugh seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call taken by Voice Vote:

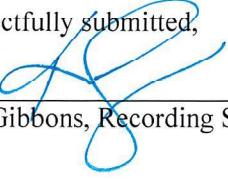
Ms. Davila, D15, Yes  
Dr. Williams, D16, Yes

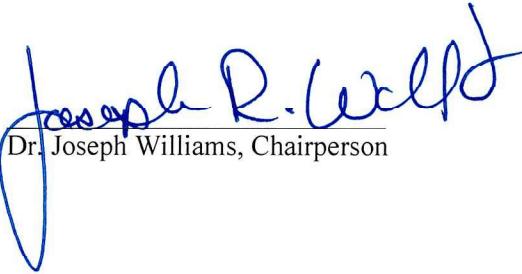
Dr. McHugh, D41, Yes  
Dr. Stec, D44, Yes  
Ms. Santee, D87, Yes  
Mr. Eccarius, D89, Yes  
Dr. Hill, D93, Yes

MOTION CARRIED

The next meeting of the CASE Board of Directors will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026, at 8:00am in person at the CASE Board Room. Recipients of this notice may request more information of these topics by calling CASE at 630-942-5600.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kari Gibbons, Recording Secretary

  
Dr. Joseph Williams, Chairperson