Goodwill Workforce Enterprises, Excel Center of West Central Indiana

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2026

Welcome

Roll Call

Betsy Peperak conducted a roll call.

Members present: David Friedrich, Ryan Keller, Betsy Peperak, Nina Storey, Chris Williams, and Meredith Osburn

Members absent: Kristin Craig, Rene Hankins.

Staff present: Carl Conwell, Dan Davis, Rodney Hendricks, Darin May, Michael Powell, Lisa Walker.

Guests present: Michelle Smith and Abrey Eblen of Kemper CPA, Darin Greggs and Danielle Elliott of Greggs & Reid, Ryan Preston of ICSB.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Minutes Approval

Approval of February 18, 2026, minutes.

- Motion - Ryan Keller, seconded by Nina Storey. Unanimous motion passed.

Financial Review

Michelle Smith of Kemper CPA presented an Audit Review.

The audit report, along with all required letters and state board of account requirements, was reviewed with the remediation and corrective action plans.

- Motion to accept the audit report: Dave Friedrich, seconded by Chris Williams. Unanimous motion passed.

- Motion to retain Kemper CPA as the auditing firm: Ryan Keller, seconded by Dave Friedrich. Unanimous motion passed.

Monthly Financial Statements & APVs

- Account Payable Vouchers and Financial Statements were distributed for review. There was a brief discussion and no questions regarding these reports. The APV reports were distributed to the present board members for signing.
- Motion to approve the financial statements and APVs: Chris Williams, seconded by Ryan Keller. Unanimous motion passed.

READI Grant Update

- The expected completion for document submissions and final approval of fund disbursement is anticipated within four to six weeks, around August 1st, with a disbursement of $950,000.

Financial Metrics & Authorizer Review

- Ryan Preston, CFO, ICSB, presented updates to the ICSB metric reporting platform over the summer, with a hard launch date of 7/1-the beginning of the new fiscal year for all ICSB authorized schools.
- A new scorecard system, Epicenter, is being introduced. It will facilitate regular and effective monitoring of the metrics.
- Epicenter will provide quarterly results by allowing schools to input financial data, which will automatically determine performance metrics and provide a visual, color-coded performance indication.
- The role of the authorizer, ICSB, emphasizes intervention and support before the renewal point to prevent negative surprises and to assure continuous school improvement.

Budget Review

- A budget review was conducted, highlighting various revenue sources, including a projection of 175 students for the first October count, amounting to a budget of $1.181 million.
- The CSP grant will end in September of the current year.
- The budget includes a small projected shortfall of $236.59, which is considered negligible.
- Motion to approve 2026/2027 budget: Ryan Keller, seconded by Dave Friedrich. Unanimous motion passed.

Director's Report

- Continued efforts to be present at as many community functions as possible, and ongoing input from the EEP committee.
- The student count increased from 159 in February to 179, with upcoming orientations in August.
- Graduation will take place on Friday, May 29, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Ivy Tech auditorium.
- There are currently 12 graduates, with 11 planning to participate in the graduation ceremony.

School Calendar & Student Handbook Review

- The school calendar has been distributed and designed to align with the Vigo County School Corporation calendar.
- Discussion about potentially implementing evening classes for working students and exploring models learned at the National conference in Memphis.
- Our seat count goal is ultimately 300 students. We are continuing our engagement with local outreach, community partnerships, and working with all justice systems.
- WV Community Foundation grant was submitted on May 1st, to expand our certification offerings onsite.
- Student Handbook review: There were no major updates, only date changes.
- Motion to approve the 2026-2027 calendar and handbook: Nina Storey, seconded by Chris Williams. Unanimous motion passed.

Board Term Renewals & Thanks

- Ryan Keller and Betsy Peperak, founding board members, have chosen not to renew their terms. We thank them for their contributions and service.
- Kristin Craig has agreed to continue her role as board chair. The process of replacing Ryan and Betsy is underway.
- Motion to approve the new slate of board members starting July 2026: Nina Storey, seconded by Chris Williams. Unanimous motion passed.

EEP Committee Update & Partner Engagement

- Several individuals attended the EEP committee meeting, including representatives from Work One, Saturn Pet Care, and others.
- The meeting discussions surrounded student referrals, graduate placements, student certifications, internships, shadowing opportunities, and anything to entice a student to support selecting their pathway.
- Action Item - Efforts are ongoing to arrange visits for manufacturing representatives to the school.

Operational Updates

- A new attendant has been hired for the drop-in center, bringing our total to two YLCC workers in August (we currently have one).
- Action Item - There is an intention for staff, including Carl and Ashlee, Lead Teacher, to present at the next meeting.
- The partnership with the Vigo County School Corporation has been positive, potentially allowing 52 students who failed to meet graduation requirements to complete through the Excel Center and still be part of the class of 2026.
- Action Item – Opportunities to have a table at VCSC elementary school open houses, where the highest concentration of adults without their high school diplomas lives and have children attending.
- Rodney Hendricks, the new bookkeeper, is working on supporting compliance efforts to be a supportive entity for the school in the future.

Meeting Wrap-up & Adjournment

- The next board meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2026.
- Members were reminded to sign the annual disclaimer and conflict of interest forms, noting 'no changes' if applicable.
- Motion to adjourn: Betsy Peperak, seconded by Ryan Keller. Unanimous motion passed.