

UPPER VALLEY SPECIAL EDUCATION BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Chase Building Conference Room

PRESENT: Aaron Schramm, Kristine Dale, Jill Olson, Darren Albrecht, Shane Robinson, Matt Ford, Steve Swiontek, Dan Juve. **Guests Present:** Jessica Pankow, Shelly Henke, Mitch Jorgenson, Mickey Berry, and Dave Wheeler (via Zoom).

President Olson called the meeting to order.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: **MSC:** Schramm-Albrecht to approve minutes of both the February 20th Regular Meeting and March 13th, 2024 Special Meeting as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The February 29, 2024 report was reviewed. **MSC:** Dale-Ford to approve the February 29th Treasurer's Report as presented.

FEBRUARY BILLS: **MSC:** Schramm-Albrecht to approve payment of all bills presented.

STAFFING UPDATES:

- **Resignations:** Juve presented written resignations from the following special education teachers: 1) Amber Doll, Cavalier School, 2) Laura Wollmann, Larimore School, 3) Greta Sobolik, Park River School and 4) Robin Finley, Midway/Fordville Schools.
- **Unsigned Contracts:** Juve reported three special education teachers with outstanding/unsigned contracts, which are to be considered to be rejected: 1) Jeremy Manstrom, Minto School, 2) Julie Jenson, Emerado School, and 3) Beth Suelzle, Midway School
- Discussion followed. **M/S:** Albrecht-Ford to accept each of these seven resignations. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURNING 2024-2025 TEACHER CONTRACTS: Signed contracts from returning teachers were presented for approval. **M/S:** Albrecht-Robinson to approve each of these contracts. Motion carried unanimously.

403-B MATCH DISCUSSION: Juve asked that the Board readdress the proposal to increase the 403-B employer match from a maximum of 4% to 9.26% for qualifying classified staff members working a minimum of 50%. This match increase would align with the current NDPERS employer contribution that member districts provide to their classified staff members. Discussion followed regarding upcoming changes the State is proposing regarding NDPERS contributions which will go into effect in January of 2025. **M/S:** Dale-Albrecht to approve the proposed 403-B match increase for the 2024-2025 school year, with the understanding that any new hires after January 1, 2025 will follow the new State Guidelines for employer and employee contribution amounts. Employees hired prior to January 1, 2025, will remain grandfathered in at their current rate. Motion carried unanimously.

UVSE COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL PLAN: Juve presented a revised UVSE Comprehensive General Plan for review. The document was reviewed and discussed at length, with specific discussion regarding procedures for districts wishing to join or withdraw from the Unit. **M/S:** Schramm-Dale to approve this document. Motion carried unanimously.


DRAYTON:

- A copy of Drayton School District's official request to join the UVSE Unit was shared and reviewed.
- Projected Expenses/Revenue – The projected expenses and revenue that Drayton would create were reviewed.
- Drayton's current special education expenses were reviewed.
- Assessment Scenarios were reviewed with the addition of Drayton
- UVSE Board Structure Scenarios were reviewed with the addition of Drayton.
- 2024-2025 staffing needs at the Drayton School were discussed. It was noted by the Board that no current UVSE special education teachers should be transferred to the Drayton School in order to fill positions currently open in that District.
- Discussion followed regarding each of these items. Juve will meet with Drayton administration to review UVSE's General Comprehensive Plan and further discuss the above-mentioned topics.

With no other additional agenda items, the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, APRIL 22ND – 10:00 A.M.
CHASE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM

Respectfully submitted,



Renae Grinde, Business Manager

Jill Olson, Board President