

UPPER VALLEY SPECIAL EDUCATION BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.

Chase Building Conference Room

PRESENT: Darren Albrecht, Jill Olson, Shane Robinson, Aaron Schramm, Matt Ford, Austin Salyer, Dan Juve. Guests Present: Jami Frize, Jessica Pankow, Mitch Jorgenson, Mike Babinski. Absent: Steve Swiontek

President Olson called the meeting to order.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: **MSC:** Schramm-Albrecht to approve minutes of the January meeting as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The February 28th report was presented for review. **MSC:** Schramm-Ford to approve the report as presented.

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

STAFFING

- Juve presented a resignation from Ruth Huff (Dutch) after the completion of this school year. **M/S:** Schramm-Robinson to accept this resignation. Motion carried unanimously.
- Juve presented a 2025-2026 contract for Julia Swanson who will serve as a Speech/Language Pathologist in the Grafton Schools. **M/S:** Albrecht-Robinson to approve this contract. Motion carried unanimously.
- SLP Options in Cavalier/Drayton. Juve discussed the possibility of contracting through a local hospital to provide SLP services in lieu of a virtual teacher, however the hospital just reached out and confirmed that this is no longer a possibility for next school year. The need for in-person services was stressed. Juve will continue working toward that goal.

J1- RENEWAL FEE: Juve presented a request from UVSE's two international teachers that UVSE assist in paying for the renewal of their J1 Visa. The annual cost is \$1900 per teacher for each of the five years they will be working in the USA. Discussion followed. **M/S:** Schramm-Ford to allow for the following: *YEAR 1 – International Teachers will be responsible for paying for their VISA fee prior to coming to the US. YEAR 2 and YEAR 3 – UVSE will be financially responsible for paying for their renewal fees. YEAR 4 and YEAR 5 – International teachers will be responsible for paying their own renewal fees.* Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD AGENDA TEMPLATES/RECOMMENDATIONS: Juve asked for Board recommendations regarding the format of the Board Agendas. Discussion followed. Going forward the template of the agenda will remain as is, however an attached narrative will be provided to provide more in-depth detail of specific agenda items.

BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE TEAM: Juve asked for a volunteer to serve on the Board Policies Committee as he would like to review and update policies as needed. Darren Albrecht volunteered for this role. Committee members will be Albrecht, Juve, Pankow and Grinde.

NDPHIT RENEWAL RATES: The new health insurance rates for the 2025-2026 year were reviewed and discussed. Rates will be increasing by 13.63% in comparison to the 2024-2025 plan year.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Child Count Breakdown: As requested, Pankow presented a breakdown over 5 years, comparing trends in numbers and disabilities by district. Discussion followed.

With no other additional items, the meeting was adjourned.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT 10:00 A.M., TUESDAY APRIL 15, 2025 AT THE CHASE BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM.

Respectfully submitted,


Renae Grinde, Business Manager

Jill Olson, Board President