

UPPER VALLEY SPECIAL EDUCATION BOARD MEETING

April 16, 2026 – 10:00 A.M.

Chase Building Conference Room

PRESENT: Aaron Schramm, Darren Albrecht, Shane Robinson, Jill Olson, Austin Salyer, Steve Swiontek, Dan Juve. Members Absent: Matt Ford. Guests Present: Jason Keating, Jessica Pankow, Mitch Jorgenson

President Olson called the meeting to order.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: The March 31, 2026 report was presented. Discussion followed. **MSC:** Schramm-Albrecht to approve this report.

FEBRUARY BILLS: **M/S:** Schramm-Albrecht to approve payment of all bills presented. Motion carried 5-1. Swiontek opposed.

STAFFING UPDATES:

- Juve presented a pro-rated teaching contract for Lysa Wright beginning on April 1, 2026. Wright has been servicing as a year-long substitute in Grafton while working on her special education degree. **M/S:** Albrecht-Robinson to approve Wright's contract beginning April 1st through the remainder of this school term. Motion carried unanimously.
- Juve presented 2026-2027 contracts for the following:
 - 1) Brittney Wolter, Speech-Language Pathologist. Brittney will be serving at the Manvel Elementary School replacing ND Connect virtual services.
 - 2) Elizabeth Nice, Occupational Therapist. As OTR Ashley Mathiason reduced to 50%, and COTA Brenna Schmidt resigned, Elizabeth will fulfill service needs in those schools. Her contract will begin October 1, 2026 after the completion of her board exam.
 - 3) Lysa Wright, special education teacher in Grafton**M/S:** Schramm-Albrecht to approve each of these contracts. Motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED WORK AGREEMENTS: A listing of returning classified staff was provided for review. Work agreements have all been accepted and signed by staff.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Preschool Data and Trends** – Pankow provided current trends within the Unit regarding preschool special numbers, disability areas, and other detailed data. Discussion followed.
- **NDPHIT Options** – Health plan options were provided by NDPHIT and shared with the Board, as the current policy currently held by UVSE will no longer be offered beginning 2027-2028. Discussion followed.
- **Projected Ending Budget** – The preliminary ending budget was presented. Currently the deficit ending is projected at -\$168,510.43. Schramm reported the Finance Committee had previously met and reviewed ending figures as well as reviewed 2026-2027 budget projections. Discussion followed. Updates will be provided in the following months.

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

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE CHASE BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Renae Grinde, Business Manager

Jill Olson, Board President