

South Valley Multi-District Special Education

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 15 , 2024 – 10:00 AM –Wyndmere

Directors Present: Chris Larson, President Chad Benson
Chris Bastian
Justin Fryer Ryan Moser
Steve Hall, zoom Phil French, absent
Jay DeCann Daniel Warcken, zoom
Britney Gandhi, zoom Steve Johnson, Zoom

Also Present: John Porter, Director Brenna Janke, Bus Mgr , zoom
Paula Fitzgerald, Dawn Miller, and Matt Ashburn

CALL TO ORDER: Chris Larson, Board President, called the South Valley Board meeting to order at 10:01

AGENDA APPROVAL: Addition to agenda: SEEC Lead Administrator position. A motion to approve the amended agenda is made by Benson/ Bastian. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Fryer/DeCann approve the Consent Agenda which includes the board meeting minutes, bills, check registers, and financial reports for March and April.

UNFINISHED & NW BUSINESS

Budget Draft/ Assessments- Porter presents a draft budget for 2024-25. The implementation and payment of the units shared Solutions Room in Kindred for next year is an item that is discussed. The board discusses if they would like the additional cost of the solutions room added into the current assessments or if it is preferred to have a separate assessment for the behavior room. Porter suggests the units could also use the Behavior Health Grant instead of using it toward the mental health counselors at each school. The board agrees that they would like to use the Behavior Health Grant toward the solutions room expenses.

New Assistant/ Co Director Approval- The committee discusses the interview process for the Assistant Co Director Position. The committee determined to offer Andrea Johnson a 12-month position at \$110k and pay a family health insurance premium in full. The position will begin July 1, 2024. DeCann says that the two internal candidates interviewed very well but are still gaining

experience. Andrea Johnson has experience, and it came through in her interview. Warcken/ Moser makes a motion to approve the employee contract for Andrea Johnson. Motion Passes.

Teacher Negotiations Insurance Increase- SV insurance increase for 24-25 will be 7.39%. The negotiations were re-opened for the unit to cover the increases over 3%. Bastian/ Moser make motion to approve covering the insurance expense for a single policy with the 7.39% increase. Motion passes.

PT Staffing Discussion- Heather Eken and OSTPI do the physical therapy for the units. OSTPI has a PT assistant, so Eken must rotate in for oversight. There is an opportunity for another PT to be hired. Shauna Lonski is a PT and is interested in a .6 FTE position. Eken would also move to a .6 position. Gandhi/Fryer motion to approve the hiring. Motion passes

DPI/ Teacher Recruitment/Retention Discretionary grant- The unit will receive 10k in 2024-25. The board discusses that this could be used for staff going back to school for more education.

Levels of Determination- Each district received their letters and Porter reviews these with them annually. Porter discusses the indicators and some things that can affect each indicator.

District staffing updates- Hankinson is interviewing for a high school position. There will be a new contract for speech at Fairmount. Lidgerwood is also hiring.

SEEC Lead Administrator Position- At the SEEC Spring Administrative meeting it was discussed that the Lead Administrator should be the president of south valley Special Education Board since the Sped Unit holds Porter's contract. The board discusses this and does not feel like it should restrict it to be narrowed a designated person. The discussion centered around the board wanting to find the right person to be the Lead Administrator.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy- No additional report

Personnel- No additional report

Finance- No additional report

Transportation- Information on mileage and vehicles is being put together on how to have that move forward with costs of cars and repairs. Three vehicles need to be sold as they are not being used because of age and repair needs. The transportation committee will bring a proposal to the July board meeting.

Negotiations- No additional report

The next South Valley meeting will be July 10th 11:00 am at Milnor Golf Course with lunch. Janke will send a calendar invite.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52.