

# **CANNON VALLEY SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE (CVSEC)**

## **Independent School District 6094-52**

### **Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 8:30 AM, CVSEC District Office  
200 Western Avenue NW  
Faribault, MN 55021

Board Members Present: Amberg, Mohs, Robicheau  
Board Members Absent: Goerwitz  
Staff Members Present: Bente, Elstad, McGuire, Washa

#### **1) Call to Order/Adoption of Agenda:**

Motion to Call the Meeting to Order and Approve the Agenda: Robicheau  
Second: Mohs

AYE: All  
NAY: None

The meeting was opened at 8:30 AM.

#### **2) Consent Agenda:**

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda: Amberg  
Second: Robicheau

AYE: All  
NAY: None

*A) Approval of the Minutes from the Regular and Organizational Board Meetings on April 23, 2024*

*B) Approval of Claims*

*C) Staff Updates*

(1) New Hires:

Depone, Maria Cristina S - Special Education Teacher at ALEX, MA Step 10 -  
Effective 08/14/2024

Hanson, Krystal - Special Education Teacher at ALEX, BA Step 1 - Effective  
01/17/2025

Johnson, Nicole - EA at STEP - Effective 05/13/2024

Pagel, Marie - Nurse, BA+6 - Effective 07/15/2024

Paires, Maria Jiji P - Special Education Teacher at ALEX, MA Step 10 - Effective 08/14/2024

**ESY 2024 (07/15/2024 - 07/26/2024)**

Arends, Chelsey - Special Education Teacher

Boehme, Nicole - Educational Assistant

Budahl, Cassi - Mental Health Professional

Callahan, Cory - Lead Behavior Interventionist

Clinton, Amber - Lead Behavior Interventionist

Cross, Perla - Educational Assistant

Dalland, Taylor - Mental Health Professional

Dehnert, Diane - Speech and Language Pathologist

DeLair, John - Special Education Teacher

Ferris, Ava - Educational Assistant

Fredrickson, Amber - Educational Assistant

Fredrickson, Tina - Educational Assistant

Gross, Amy - Special Education Teacher

Grubish, Margie - Educational Assistant

Hanson, Krystal - Educational Assistant

Hausen, Hayli - Educational Assistant

Hayes, Mackinzee - Special Education Teacher

Hill, Tammy - Special Education Teacher

Howard, Elizabeth - Behavior Interventionist

Johnson, Nicole - Educational Assistant

Keppers, Taylore - Educational Assistant

Marks, Tia - Mental Health Professional

Mendoza, Jazzlynn - Educational Assistant

Miller, Delaney - Special Education Teacher

Missling, Nycole - Educational Assistant

Mjelleli, Emily - District Nurse

Neitzell, Hannah - Educational Assistant

Randt, Nicole - Educational Assistant

Reindl, Erica - Special Education Teacher

Scheiber, Jocelyn - Educational Assistant

Simon, Brooke - Special Education Teacher

Theis, Jennifer - Special Education Teacher

Thibodeau, Melissa - Educational Assistant

Thurrow, Sawyer - Special Education Teacher

Tillman, Karleigh - Special Education Teacher

Tratz, James - Special Education Teacher

Vargo, Jennifer - Educational Assistant

Verlautz, James - Educational Assistant

Wagner, Samuel - Educational Assistant

(2) Transfers:

(3) Resignations, Retirements, and Terminations:

Songer, Christina - Special Education Teacher at STEP - Effective 06/03/2024

Thom, Austin - EA at ALEX - Effective 05/31/2024

(4) Leaves of Absence:

(5) Other:

3) **Public Input:**

There was no Public Input.

4) **Reports and Communication:**

A) *Executive Director's Report*

Graduation is today! Students and staff are very excited. ESY will take place the last two full weeks in July. Referrals remain high: 22 new student referrals to STEP, 11 new student referrals to ALEX, and 3 new student referrals to SUN. CVSEC administration will be meeting with member district superintendents and special education directors in June to talk about capacity issues and planning for the future. Staffing continues with four open teaching positions still to fill for 24-25. International hiring continues with very highly qualified candidates. EA recruitment for 24-25 starts in early June. There are general repairs going on this summer in addition to the buildout. Smart Boards are also being installed over the summer. CVSEC worked with CESO to map out a Human Resources plan. CVSEC is currently contracting with CESO for an HR Director and is pursuing hiring a dedicated HR person.

B) *Enrollment Report*

Enrollment has remained steady and will increase substantially in the fall.

5) **Old Business:** There was no Old Business.

6) **New Business:**

A) *Approve Second Addendum of Lease: Action*

Mohs felt that the 10.4% interest rate being charged is too high and asked if there could be a conversation with the landlord regarding a lower interest rate. Mohs also asked what growth looks like at CVSEC for the next 3-5 years and will this buildout address this issue. McGuire replied that CVSEC focus and growth is main reason for the upcoming meeting with superintendents and directors. The buildout will accommodate the growth in STEP,

especially with the large number of incoming students with severe and profound needs. SUN and ALEX will remain the same because there are only so many classrooms. CVSEC only has so much capacity to serve students. Mohs asked if the Board could pause on this approval and have a different conversation regarding terms and conditions of the second addendum. Robicheau asked if there was an urgency to approve the second addendum at this meeting. McGuire responded that there is some urgency as CVSEC needs construction completed before school begins in September; plumbing is the bulk of it. McGuire said another option is CVSEC can pay for the buildout using the fund balance, therefore eliminating the need for financing through the landlord. Elstad added that the both superintendents and finance directors felt including the buildout in the lease was the most amenable option, but people were unhappy with the interest rate. Robicheau asked if the Board could pause until next week and schedule a Special Board Meeting to address this issue. Washa said that while paying the costs upfront from additional MA billing cash flow would require no interest, it would delay the repayment of \$1M loan to member districts. If member districts are OK with that scenario, CVSEC can pay the buildout costs up front. Mohs indicated that she doesn't know what that looks like for each member district's budget. She added that she was not comfortable to approve the second addendum at this time without more conversation. Mohs suggested a possible caveat: if interest rates decline, CVSEC benefits from that decrease as well. CVSEC is the largest tenant in the mall.

Robicheau made a motion to table Item 6A: Approval of the Second Addendum of Lease until a special meeting date can be established, with the provision that the interest rate be discussed with the landlord beforehand.

Second: Amberg

AYE: All

NAY: None

*B) Approve 2024-2025 Preliminary Budget: Action*

Motion to Approve 2024 – 2025 Preliminary Budget: Amberg

Second: Robicheau

AYE: All

NAY: None

*C) Approve the Interagency Agreement with the Rice County Family Service Collaborative*

Motion to Approve the Interagency Agreement with the Rice County Family Service Collaborative: Mohs

Second: Robicheau

AYE: All

NAY: None

*D) Resolution of Nonrenewal of Probationary Teacher/Licensed Staff: Action*

Motion to Approve Resolution of Nonrenewal of Probationary Teacher/Licensed Staff:  
Robicheau

Second: Amberg

Amberg: Aye

Mohs: Aye

Robicheau: Aye

7) **Other:** There was no Other Business.

8) **Comments: Board/Director:**

There were no comments.

9) **Next Meeting Date:**                      **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING   June 4, 2024 at 4:00 PM**  
200 Western Ave NW Faribault, MN 55021

Regular Meeting Date:                      June 25, 2024, at 4:00 PM  
200 Western Ave NW Faribault, MN 55021

10) **Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourn:    Mohs

Second:                      Amberg

AYE:                      ALL

NAY:                      NONE

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE:    06/25/2024

Amy Goerwitz, Board Secretary