

Canyon-Owyhee Student Service Agency,

We are writing at this time with regard to a proposal the District would like to advance to the COSSA board with regard to staffing. Specifically, our request is that COSSA release a number of personnel from their contracts with COSSA, specifically the IFRA/WAVE virtual special education teachers, and in place of these contracts, allow the Wilder School District to be the direct employer, who submits these personnel for reimbursement from the state. In such a circumstance, COSSA would remain the responsible party for providing and supervising special education services.

The basis for the District's request is as follows:


1. The MOU between COSSA and the District (all consortium member Districts) does not indicate that staff be directly hired or directly paid by COSSA.
2. The Wilder District's MOA for the Virtual School Program indicates that Wilder Agrees to pay 100% of the cost for the virtual special education program.
3. This methodology of payment/employment will provide a greater reimbursement figure for the Wilder School District associated with staffing.
4. This methodology of payment/employment will not be a financial negative impact to COSSA.

As the Wilder School District is already responsible for and paying for 100% of the virtual special education staff, it is logical that the District be the employer, source of compensation and be able to submit the names of such individuals for reimbursement from the state.

We would appreciate if the COSSA board would place this matter onto its upcoming regularly scheduled June 2024 meeting agenda for discussion and possible action item in order to allow for the necessary contracting and payroll modifications to occur.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Dillon at the District's Office. He has been asked to provide you with assistance in responding to any inquiries and providing any publicly available information that you may seek to address this request.

We thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.


Wilder School Board of Trustees,
Chairman Bechtel