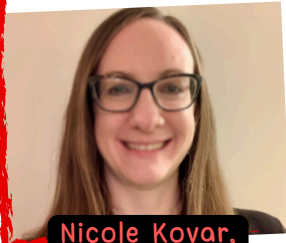


# Special Education Board Report

## August 2024

Submitted by Elizabeth Jorgensen, Director of Special Education

### Welcome New Special Education Staff Members!



Nicole Kovar,  
School  
Psychologist

My name is Nicole Kovar, and I am excited to be working as a school psychologist at the Unity School District! I have over ten years of experience in school psychology. I have worked at Unity in the past, and I am excited to be coming back! I received my undergraduate degree in Psychology from UW-Madison. I received my Masters and Educational Specialist degrees in School Psychology from UW-Whitewater. As a school psychologist, I aim to work closely with families and educational teams to identify students' learning needs and support students' growth. Outside work, you will find me spending time with my family, going for hikes, and cheering on the Badgers and Packers!

I have been teaching special education for two years, going on three. I started my first two years teaching K-1 special education and moved to high school special education. I'm so excited! I grew up in Abbotsford, Wisconsin, a small town in central Wisconsin. I enjoy the outdoors, sports, and family and friends. I recently married in July, which has been a fun adventure so far! My family is full of passionate teachers and that is why I became a teacher. They all taught me so much through the years. I am very excited to be a part of the Unity community!



Elli Garvey, High  
School Special  
Education

### Reading Drives Achievement: Procedural Compliance Self-Assessment

Unity School District collaborates with the Department of Public Instruction every five years to conduct the Reading Drives Achievement: Procedural Compliance Self-Assessment (RDA: PCSA). This five-year review aims to enhance compliance with essential legal requirements and improve outcomes for students with disabilities. The process is thorough and takes over a year to complete. The district is preparing and training staff, with a half-day training session scheduled during August 2024 Inservice. In September and October, special education staff will review special education records to identify any areas for improvement in the paperwork, ensuring all legal requirements of the IEP are met. Staff will have until mid-January 2025 to implement any necessary corrections. The Department will then select IEPs for review in the spring and collaborate with the district by providing valuable technical assistance until fall 2025, ensuring that our practices and documentation are fully compliant.