

## August 2023 Special Education Board Report

### Staffing Update

We worked to find teachers throughout the summer to staff all the positions within the consortium. As the summer drew to an end we reached out to Soliant and ProCare to see if we could contract positions to support our students with special needs. In that search the request was made for in-person staffing for all the positions that needed staffed. Unfortunately, neither company could find staff that were available to provide in-person teaching services. ProCare was able to find us applicants who could do virtual support of the classrooms. August 7-8 Interviews were held with 4 online candidates to provide support to our classrooms, of those 4 candidates, 2 were selected. These teachers have experience with special education and they are:

#### **K'Ann Sanchez – Special Ed. Teacher**

- Active Idaho Special Education Teaching licensure for Grades K-12
  - Crisis Prevention Trained - Active
- Masters Degree in Education, Curriculum & Instruction
- 9+ years of relevant experience in Special Education
  - 1+ year of virtual Special Ed. Teaching experience during the pandemic
- Relevant Experience: Classroom Instruction, Writing IEP goals & objectives, Case Management, etc.

#### **Brooke Matsui - Special Education Teacher**

- Active Idaho Special Ed. Teaching licensure
- Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instructions, Bachelor's Degree in Special Education
- 4 years of relevant education experience in Schools
  - 2 years of virtual Special Ed. Teaching experience w/ 35 student caseload
  - Experienced as an ABA therapist, social and emotional behaviors
  - Experienced with K-8 age range teaching math, English, & study skills
- Experienced & comfortable working with Resource & Inclusion models
- Comfortable working with all age groups K-12<sup>th</sup>

Both teachers were contracted when there was no one interested in either of the Marsing Special Education Middle School positions. At the time they were contracted there were also no applicants for paraprofessionals in the building and school started in Marsing in just 10 days. In the best interest of the students, it was imperative that even with paraprofessionals hired, they would need a special education supervising teacher to support lesson plan development, IEP case management, student assessment, and the other roles a certified teacher provides. We then hired two paraprofessionals (one still finishing up her two weeks at her previous employment) to support the classrooms. Although this was not the ideal situation for teaching, this provided compliance with the IEPs and allowed students to have services. Unlike last year where we went months having a paraprofessional run a classroom with no teacher support, this was a more unique and compliant way to meet our students' needs. In addition, the one TLC student remaining in Marsing is being reviewed to transition to COSSA Academy to ensure that behavioral support for that student will be provided through CBRS support. A meeting is being scheduled with the Marsing team for that transition.

As of August 15, 2023 we had a teacher request a transition from another district into the Marsing Middle Resource Room position, giving an in-person teacher for that classroom. Leaving only one online teacher in Marsing Middle School who is already working with the school counselor and paraprofessional on student schedules, and setting up the classroom as she was in-person to train last week at COSSA and do leg work to set up her classroom with centers which will include small group instruction directly from the teacher through chromebooks, and the classroom projector.

COSSA has reached out to any paraprofessional applicant or current employee with a degree if they would like to transition to a teaching position within any of the districts. One applicant filled out the alternative

authorization, showed up for the first half of our COSSA training, and never returned. Phone calls were attempted to see what had happened, but none were returned. No other employees or applicants are interested in any open positions available at this time.

COSSA continues to work on Alternative Authorizations for new teachers, contracts cannot be offered until their certification requests have been approved.

Marsing Elementary: Julie Koehnlein  
 Wilder High School Dominic Tartini

Dominic's hire creates a BI position at Wilder that is currently unfilled.

In addition I have been interviewing and hiring classified staff.

School	Teacher	Paras/CBRS/BI
COSSA Academy TLC	Open	Staffed: 1 Para 1 CBRS 1BI Need: 1 CBRS
COSSA ERR	Filled	Filled
Homedale Elementary RR	Filled	Filled
Homedale Elementary ERR	Filled	Staffed 4 Para and two 1:1's
Homedale SDC	Filled	Filled
Homedale MMS	Filled	Filled
Homedale HS	Staffed: 1 Teacher Need: 1 Teacher	Filled
Marsing Elementary RR	Pending	Staffed 1.5 Para
Marsing MS RR	Filled	Pending
Marsing ERR	Online Teacher	Filled 1 Para
Marsing HS	Filled	Filled
Marsing PK	Filled	Staff 1 Para need 1 Para
Notus Elementary	Filled	Filled
Notus High School	Filled	Filled
Notus PK	Filled	Filled
Parma High School	Filled	Filled
Parma MS ERR	Filled	Staffed: 2 Para Need: 1 Para
Parma MS RR	Filled	Filled

Parma Elementary ERR	Filled	Filled
Parma Elementary RR	Open	Filled
Wilder Elementary TLC	Filled .5	Staffed: 2 Para Need: 1 CBRS
Wilder Elementary RR	Filled	Filled
Wilder MS/HS	Filled	Staffed 1 Para Need: 1 BI
Wilder SDC	Filled	Filled
IFRA	Filled	
SLP Marsing	Online	
School Psych Homedale	Online	