

28E Sharing Agreement with West Fork for ELL Services

Background:

The State of Iowa provides financial incentives for school districts to share programs and resources with other districts. Belmond-Klemme has doing no sharing for many years now. When I arrived here, most of the schools in the area had paired up and are now at their legal limit for sharing money. But I continue to try to find ways to cooperate with our neighbors.

Last spring, we arranged to share ten percent of one of our English Language Learner (ELL) teachers with West Fork; however, they hired a Spanish language teacher who was also certified in ELL. They declined our offer last spring. But then their new teacher walked away from her job last month. They are scrambling for a Spanish teacher and have again asked to share ELL services with us.

Cost/benefit Analysis:

I drafted a sharing agreement for our two districts. Under the terms of the agreement, we would provide them with a licensed ELL for half a day each week. This would be 0.1 FTE. The teacher will serve in the West Fork building for the equivalent of 18 work days, or 36 half-days, during the year.

The Belmond-Klemme district will retain the authority to hire, train, and dismiss the employee employed as a result of this Agreement. According to the agreement, the West Fork district shall be responsible for reimbursing Belmond-Klemme for West Fork's proportionate share of all expenses including

- Salary,
- Fringe benefits,
- IPERS,
- FICA, and
- Professional development.

The travel expenses for the full time English language teacher will be borne by West Fork.

The term of this Agreement shall be for one year, ending June 30, 2021. The parties may mutually agree to terminate the contract at any other time during the contract year.

The contract appears on the next page.

The West Fork school board has already approved this 28E sharing contract with us for ten percent of one of our ELL teachers.

Recommended Action:

I recommend the board move to approve the 28E sharing agreement with West Fork to share one of our ELL teachers with them.