Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative
Dr. Marianne Fidishin, Executive Director
1304 Ronzheimer Avenue
St. Charles, IL   60174
Phone: 331-228-4873
Fax: 331-228-4874

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative Executive Advisory Board

FROM: Marianne Fidishin, PhD, Executive Director

DATE: November 7, 2018

RE: Instructure User Agreement

The Executive Director recommends approval of the Instructure User Agreement.

The agreement with Instructure, and its Canvas eLearning platform is designed to increase accessibility and participation in cooperative-wide professional development. Not only is the use of eLearning a contemporary best practice, it also allows the Mid-Valley Behavior Interventionists to conduct more face-to-face instruction, coaching and student/teacher support.

Instructure was founded in 2008 by two graduate students who were studying software usability on unusable learning software. They set out to design and build a learning platform that would make teaching, learning, and employee development easier.

In 2010, Instructure won a major contract with the Utah Education Network (UEN) to provide Canvas as the statewide LMS at all Utah public schools and state-funded colleges and universities. Selected as the most innovative of eight systems in a highly-competitive evaluation process, Canvas became the new online learning platform for more than 100,000 Utah students.

Instructure formally launched Canvas in February 2011. As open-source software and the only true, native cloud LMS, it set a new, open standard for education technology. The benefits of staff incorporating eLearning into their professional development includes 24/7 accessibility, enhanced engagement in retention improvement, enhanced collaboration and reach, including internationally, and its greener (less paper) and cheaper (less instructor/speaker fees).

The agreement spans three years at a cost of $7,000 per year with a total cost not to exceed $21,000.