



Ripon Area School District

1120 Metomen St., Ripon, WI 54971

www.ripon.k12.wi.us

Area School District

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Education

From: Dr. Mary Whitrock, Superintendent; Jonah Adams, Business Manager

Date: July 12, 2024

Subject: Career Fair Stipend, Alternative School Support Staff Wages for 2024-2025

Background

In the 2024-2025 school year, the Ripon Area School District will operate its own alternative school for students in special education. To attract and retain student support staff for this school, and to support them in working with a challenging student population, we propose offering both support staff members a starting wage of \$18.46 per hour, placing them at Step 3 on the wage schedule for Special Assignment Special Education Support Staff.

Additionally, we seek approval from the Board for a \$500 stipend for a teacher to run the career fair for Ripon High School students. In May 2024, the Ripon High School Career Fair attracted 30 speakers and 24 businesses. The RHS business education teacher has historically organized this important event and received a stipend through a grant. Now that the grant no longer supports this work, we propose formally adding the stipend to our handbook and compensating the teacher for last year's efforts. Moving forward, the career fair may be offered every other year, along with the stipend.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Board approve the student support staff initial wage placement at Step 3 for the two positions at the new alternative school and add a teacher stipend for work on the Ripon High School Career Fair. We look forward to discussing this matter further at your convenience.