

AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE AND ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH STUDENT TEACHER (Halie Helgeson)

Background Information:

Newly adopted South Dakota Administrative Rules permit school districts to hire and compensate student teachers to act as a teacher of record upon obtaining an Advanced Student Teacher Permit. The student teacher must be qualified for and obtain an "Advanced Student Teacher Permit" from the South Dakota Department of Education. This permit requires that the student teacher obtain permission from the college/university, complete certain tests (pedagogy, state-designated content test), complete suicide awareness training, participate in a mentor program, and adhere to the South Dakota Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers (among other requirements).

The Advanced Student Teacher Permit is a one-year, non-renewable permit.

Consistent with the administrative rules, the District has certain requirements, too. The District must document that it attempted to but was unable to hire a teacher with a professional or advanced teaching certificate prior to hiring the student teacher with the Advanced Student Teacher Permit. The District must obtain Board approval to hire the student teacher, provide student teacher with an assigned cooperating teacher for academic and classroom management support, provide regular observation, guidance, and evaluation of assigned duties (among other requirements).

Mrs. Roberts, Principal at Rapid City Alternative Academy, posted the position for English 10. Halie Helgeson, a student at Black Hills State University, was the only applicant. Ms. Helgeson has applied for the Advanced Student Teacher Permit.

Ms. Helgeson is on track to graduate from Black Hills State University in December of 2023. At the conclusion of her student teaching, the District has the option to offer Ms. Helgeson employment as a full-time, certified teacher.

The terms and conditions of Ms. Helgeson's student teaching experience and her option for a teaching contract at the conclusion of her student teaching are set forth in a Memorandum of Understanding between the District and Ms. Helgeson. Upon Board approval, Ms. Helgeson will be paid a daily rate of \$176.00 for days worked as the teacher of record.

Administrative Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Education authorize the hiring of Halie Helgeson as the teacher of record and approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and Halie Helgeson, subject to Ms. Helgeson obtaining the Advanced Student Teacher Permit.