

**Wakefield Community School  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Monday, February 16, 2026 5:30 PM  
Posted Locations:**

**Wakefield Post Office  
BankFirst  
Wakefield Republican  
School Main Entrance**

**Posted Date: 2/12/2026**

The Board of Education Regular Meeting convened in open and public session on Monday, February 16, 2026 at 5:30 PM in the Board of Education Room at the Media Center 802 Highland Street Wakefield, NE 68784.

President Brown informed the group of the Open Meetings Act posted in the room and accessible to all members of the public as required by law. All board members had received notice of the meeting and the meeting notice had been published/posted in a timely manner prior to the meeting date.

**ATTENDANCE TAKEN AT 5:30 PM:**

**Absent:** Jeffrey Keagle, Eric Riewer, **Present:** Josh Dorcey, Dex Driskell, Erik Haglund, Sherri Lundahl. Present: 4, Absent: 2.

Opening Procedures

Call to Order

Open Meetings Act

Pledge of Allegiance

School District Mission Statement

Roll Call

Recognition of Visitors/Communication from the Public

Discussion and Action Items

Hold for discussion and take appropriate action on an administrative recommendation to approve the initial certified employment contract:

Jessica Horsley - 5-12 Instrumental Music Education Teacher

Move to approve the initial certified employment contract for Jessica Horsley - K-12 Instrumental Music Education Teacher. This motion, made by Josh Dorcey and seconded by Erik Haglund, Passed.

Josh Dorcey:      Yea

Dex Driskell: Yea

Erik Haglund: Yea

Sherri Lundahl: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

Hold for discussion and take appropriate action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to purchase a [number] compliant student transportation vehicle(s), including Chevrolet Suburban(s) or equivalent, configured and certified for 10 or fewer passengers, to replace older, unsafe, and likely non-compliant passenger vans currently in the district fleet, and to authorize the Superintendent to complete all necessary purchasing and documentation to ensure compliance with Nebraska Department of Education and federal transportation requirements.

I move that the Board of Education approve the purchase of 2 compliant student transportation vehicle(s), including Chevrolet Suburban(s) or equivalent, configured and certified for 10 or fewer passengers, to replace older, unsafe, and likely non-compliant passenger vans currently in the district fleet, and to authorize the Superintendent to complete all necessary purchasing and documentation to ensure compliance with Nebraska Department of Education and federal transportation requirements. This motion, made by Josh Dorcey and seconded by Sherri Lundahl, Passed.

Josh Dorcey: Yea

Dex Driskell: Yea

Erik Haglund: Yea

Sherri Lundahl: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

Hold for discussion, consideration, and appropriate action to approve the 2026-2027 contract for special education services with Educational Service Unit (ESU) #1.

I move to approve the 2026-27 Service Contract with Educational Service Unit #1 for special education services, as presented, in the estimated amount of \$357,864.72, subject to final NDE-approved rates and any mutually agreed adjustments prior to execution; and authorize the Superintendent to sign the contract on behalf of the district following board approval. This motion, made by Erik Haglund and seconded by Dex Driskell, Passed.

Josh Dorcey: Yea

Dex Driskell: Yea

Erik Haglund: Yea

Sherri Lundahl: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

Take appropriate action to declare district items as surplus.

Move to declare the listed items as surplus property and authorize their sale through a school-sponsored silent auction consistent with Board policy governing the disposition of public property. This motion, made by Erik Haglund and seconded by Josh Dorcey, Passed.

Josh Dorcey: Yea

Dex Driskell: Yea

Erik Haglund: Yea

Sherri Lundahl: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

Consideration of Concrete Repair and Stabilization – Main Entrance and West Steps

I move that the Board of Education approve the proposal from Thrasher, Inc. for concrete repair and stabilization work at Wakefield Community Schools in the amount not to exceed \$27,525.00 as presented, and authorize Superintendent to execute the necessary agreements. This motion, made by Josh Dorcey and seconded by Erik Haglund, Passed.

Josh Dorcey: Yea

Dex Driskell: Yea

Erik Haglund: Yea

Sherri Lundahl: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

Consideration of Master Boiler Pump Replacement

I move that the Board of Education approve the proposal from Rasmussen Mechanical Services for the replacement of the master boiler pump in the amount of \$5,442.00, and authorize the Superintendent to execute all necessary agreements and arrangements for completion of the work. This motion, made by Erik Haglund and seconded by Dex Driskell, Passed.

Josh Dorcey: Yea

Dex Driskell: Yea

Erik Haglund: Yea

Sherri Lundahl: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10pm. This motion, made by Erik Haglund and seconded by Josh Dorcey, Passed.

Josh Dorcey: Yea

Dex Driskell: Yea

Erik Haglund: Yea

Sherri Lundahl: Yea

Yea: 4, Nay: 0

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## Jessica Horsley

508 Highland Street,

Wakefield, NE 68784

Dear Hiring Committee,

I am writing to express my interest in the 5–12 Band Director position with Wakefield Public Schools. With 13 years of experience as a music educator, I bring a deep commitment to building strong, student-centered band programs that support musical growth, discipline, and a lifelong appreciation for the arts.

Throughout my career, I have taught students across upper elementary, middle, and high school levels, guiding them from foundational instrumental skills to advanced ensemble performance. I emphasize strong fundamentals, intentional rehearsal structure, and differentiated instruction to meet the needs of diverse learners. My goal is to create a supportive and engaging rehearsal environment where students develop confidence, accountability, and pride in their ensemble.

I value the role of band programs in strengthening school culture and community. In addition to daily instruction, I have experience preparing ensembles for performances, collaborating with colleagues, and maintaining open communication with families. Classroom management and positive rehearsal culture are central to my teaching practice, ensuring students feel respected, motivated, and challenged to grow both musically and personally.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute my experience and passion for music education to Wakefield Public Schools. Thank you for your time and consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to further discuss how my background and teaching philosophy align with the goals of your district.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Horsley

[horsljes@gmail.com](mailto:horsljes@gmail.com)

712-212-3750

# Jessica Horsley

508 Highland Street, Wakefield, NE

712-212-3750

horsljes@gmail.com

## Profile

Seeking a position teaching instrumental music to grades 5-12.

Other interests include marching band, concert band, symphony, small ensembles, and private lessons. I am passionate about music education, with the belief that experiencing music assists students in reaching their full academic potential.

## Education

**Bachelor of Music Education**, Morningside College, Sioux City, IA - May 2011

- **Certified K-12 Music with specialization in Instrumental Music**

**High School Diploma**, West High School, Sioux City, IA - May 2007

## Field Experience

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Director and High School Assistant Director

**Norfolk Public Schools, Norfolk Nebraska**, Fall 2015 - Present

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band. - Directed whole group and conducted small group lessons
- Assist the High School director with marching band, pep band, honor band, and lessons.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Orchestra - conducted small group lessons

### PK-5 Elementary Music and Beginning Band

**North Union Schools, Fenton Iowa**, Fall 2013-2015

- Taught elementary general music grades Pk-5.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band. - Directed whole group and conducted small group lessons

### Substitute Teacher, Fall 2011- May 2013

- Sioux City Schools, South Sioux City Schools, Sergeant-Bluff Schools, Dakota Valley Schools, and Kingsley-Pierson Schools.
- Long term – Kingsley-Pierson, 5 -12 band, November 3rd 2011 – December 22nd 2011
  - Conducted two concerts. Rehearsed concert band, jazz band, and pep band. Provided private lessons and taught a music appreciation class.

### Student Teaching:

Dakota Valley Elementary, Spring 2011

- Executed lesson plans
- Assisted in honor choir rehearsals after school
- Dakota Valley Middle and High School, Spring 2011

- Planned large ensemble projects for the middle and high school bands
- Conducted selected repertoire at Spring Concert
- Aided in large ensemble rehearsals, individual student lessons, small ensemble contests, honor band auditions, pep band, jazz band competition, and marching band prep.

**Private Lessons**, Summer 2011 - Present

### References

Chuck Hughes, Director of Safety, Norfolk Public Schools

402-750-6610

[chuckhughes@npsne.org](mailto:chuckhughes@npsne.org)

Amy Brown, Principal of Norfolk Middle School

402-640-7628

[amybrown@npsne.org](mailto:amybrown@npsne.org)

Katie Wright-Oswald, 5th Grade ELA Teacher Norfolk Middle School

402-929-0370

[katiwrightoswald@npsne.org](mailto:katiwrightoswald@npsne.org)

Carrie Jensen, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Director, Norfolk Junior High School

402-640-2148

[carriejensen@npsne.org](mailto:carriejensen@npsne.org)

Kimberly Erickson, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Orchestra Director, Norfolk Middle School

402-750-4399

[kimberlyerickson@npsne.org](mailto:kimberlyerickson@npsne.org)



February 10, 2026

Dear Wakefield Schools,

Thank you for considering Gregg Young for your 2025 Suburban LS 4WD purchase. Please review and upon acceptance of this quote then please sign this sheet and return with a purchase order as this vehicle is currently in stock with stock#C30853.

2025 Suburban LS 4x4	\$66,495.00 EACH
Bucket Seat (1 <sup>st</sup> row)	
Bench Seat (2 <sup>nd</sup> row)	
Trailer Package	
Running Boards	
Remote Start/Keyless Entry	

Government and GM Incentive off	(\$ 5,495.00 EACH)
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,000.00 EACH</b>
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**Options to Consider for add-on's:**

Extra Key and Fob	\$	400.00 Each
All Weather Floor Mats	\$	450.00 Per Set

Thank you and please let me know if you have further questions.

Pamela Kulhanek  
 Commercial and Government Account Manager  
 402-301-7044 (direct cell)  
[Pamela.Kulhanek@gyautogroup.com](mailto:Pamela.Kulhanek@gyautogroup.com)



February 10, 2026

Dear Wakefield Schools,

Thank you for considering Gregg Young for your 2026 Suburban LS 4WD purchase. Please review and upon acceptance of this quote then please sign this sheet and return with a purchase order as this vehicle is currently in stock with stock#C30853.

2026 Suburban LS 4x4	\$68,995.00 EACH
Bench Seat (1 <sup>st</sup> row)	
Bench Seat (2 <sup>nd</sup> row)	
Trailer Package	
Running Boards	
Remote Start/Keyless Entry	

Government and GM Incentive off	(\$ 3,600.00 EACH)
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$65,395.00 EACH</b>
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**Options to Consider for add-on's:**

Extra Key and Fob	\$	400.00 Each
All Weather Floor Mats	\$	450.00 Per Set

Thank you and please let me know if you have further questions.

Pamela Kulhanek  
 Commercial and Government Account Manager  
 402-301-7044 (direct cell)  
[Pamela.Kulhanek@gyautogroup.com](mailto:Pamela.Kulhanek@gyautogroup.com)

## **Subject: Student Transportation Vehicles – 10-Passenger vs. 12-Passenger Vans and Compliance Requirements**

Nebraska pupil transportation is governed by Title 92, Chapters 91 and 92 of the Nebraska Administrative Code, which define vehicle classifications and establish minimum safety standards for transporting students. Under these rules, a “small vehicle” is defined as a motor vehicle designed or properly modified to carry **10 or fewer passengers**, excluding the driver, that meets NDE equipment and inspection standards. Seating capacity must be posted inside the vehicle, and if seats are reduced to qualify, federal recertification requirements may apply

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

. Vehicles whose original manufacturer classification identifies them as a “bus,” or that were designed for up to 15 passengers, do not qualify as small vehicles under Rule 92 and are generally excluded from student transportation use

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

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The Nebraska Department of Education has issued specific guidance regarding 12- and 15-passenger rated vans. These vehicles are considered non-compliant for student transportation if the original manufacturer’s Tire and Loading Information sticker indicates a seating capacity of 11–15 passengers, commonly referred to as the “sticker rule”

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

. Federal law requires vehicles designed for 11 or more occupants and used for school purposes to meet full school bus safety standards, which standard passenger vans do not meet

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

. Removing seats or limiting the number of riders does not change a vehicle’s legal classification, and vans with attachment points for additional seating beyond ten passengers remain prohibited

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

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Recertification of higher-capacity vans is allowed only under limited conditions. It must be completed by a licensed second-stage manufacturer on a new vehicle before the district takes

possession. The manufacturer must modify the vehicle to meet all Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and apply a new certification label that reclassifies it as a 10-passenger small vehicle

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

. Used vans that have been altered after purchase, such as through seat removal, are generally not acceptable without proper second-stage certification.

Properly certified 10-passenger vehicles, including some vans and multipurpose passenger vehicles, are legal for pupil transportation when they are originally designated for 10 or fewer passengers or have been lawfully recertified. These vehicles must meet NDE equipment and inspection standards, are typically classified as multipurpose passenger vehicles rather than buses, and do not require commercial driver licensing in most cases

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

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NDE communications and national transportation standards indicate that Nebraska is moving toward stricter enforcement of these rules. Guidance circulated to school leaders strongly recommends that districts remove 11- and 12-passenger vans from student service by spring 2026. Once revised rules are adopted, only vehicles carrying 10 passengers or fewer will be permitted, with no grandfathering provisions

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

. Many districts have already begun phasing out larger vans in anticipation of these changes.

District records and correspondence indicate that several existing vans continue to display 12-passenger manufacturer ratings and lack documented recertification. Even where seats have been removed, these vehicles were originally designed to carry more than 10 passengers and therefore do not meet current or forthcoming NDE standards

Current Nebraska Regulations on...

. Continued use of such vehicles exposes the district to compliance violations, liability risks, and potential insurance coverage issues.

Chevrolet Suburbans and similar SUVs, when properly configured, provide a compliant alternative. These vehicles typically seat seven to eight passengers plus the driver and are factory-classified as multipurpose passenger vehicles rather than buses. When equipped and labeled for 10 or fewer occupants, they meet the definition of a “small vehicle” under NDE rules and require no recertification

## Current Nebraska Regulations on...

. Replacing non-compliant vans with these vehicles improves safety, simplifies regulatory compliance, and aligns the district with upcoming rule changes.

Given current procurement timelines, timely action is critical. Delays in replacing non-compliant vehicles may result in service disruptions, increased liability exposure, and difficulty maintaining adequate transportation capacity as new regulations take effect. Securing compliant vehicles now positions the district to remain fully compliant, protect students and staff, and demonstrate responsible governance and risk management.

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**2025-26**

**SCHOOL:** WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**DATE:** February 10, 2025

<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b>CURRENT CONTRACT</b>		<b>RATE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
VISION/ O&M TEACHER	35.00	HOURS	\$100.00	\$3,500.00
SPED CONSULTANT		FTE	\$127,275.00	\$0.00
SPEECH THERAPY	1.00	FTE	\$86,000.00	\$86,000.00
RESOURCE TEACHER		FTE	\$91,550.00	\$0.00
DEAF EDUCATOR		HOURS	\$116.00	\$0.00
AUDIOLOGIST	27.00	HOURS	\$133.00	\$3,591.00
PSYCHOLOGIST		FTE	\$107,500.00	\$0.00
PHYSICAL THERAPIST	16.00	HOURS	\$140.00	\$2,240.00
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	140.00	HOURS	\$135.00	\$18,900.00
TRANSITION SERVICES		FTE	\$105,250.00	\$0.00
REGULAR ED NURSE		FTE	\$113,000.00	\$0.00
TOWER OUTREACH		HOURS	\$98.00	\$0.00
IN-SERVICE	10.00	DAYS	\$50.00	\$500.00
ECSE CENTERBASE		FTE		\$0.00
PSP/EARLY INTERVENTION	450.00	HOURS	\$129.00	\$58,050.00
PROGRAM SUPERVISION				\$13,822.48

TOWER SCHOOL	2.00	FTE	\$45,500.00	\$91,000.00
NONREIMBURSABLE	2.00	FTE	\$1,225.00	\$2,450.00

Other Services				
SPED NURSE		FTE	\$113,000.00	\$0.00

**TOTAL CONTRACT:** \$280,053.48



# Educational Service Unit #1

"Providing Innovation, Leadership and Service"

211 10th Street Wakefield, NE 68784-5014

[402.287.2061](tel:402.287.2061) | [Fax 402.287.2061](tel:402.287.2061) | [www.esu1.org](http://www.esu1.org)

Dr. Bill Heimann, Administrator

Serving Cedar, Dakota, Dixon, Knox, Thurston, Wayne Counties

## 2025-26 SERVICE CONTRACT

This Agreement is made and entered into by and between District No. 560 a/k/a WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL ("School District") and Educational Service Unit #1 ("ESU #1").

For good and valuable consideration, School District and ESU #1 agree as follows:

**1. Term of Agreement.** The term of this Contract shall commence August 1, 2025 and end July 31, 2026. In the event of a material breach of this Contract by either of the parties, the non-breaching party may give a notice of the breach to the other party and, in the event the breach is not cured within twenty days of the notice, immediately cancel or rescind this Contract.

**2. Services.** ESU #1 shall deliver the services described in the attached Exhibit "A" to the School District. The services shall be provided in compliance with applicable legal requirements. ESU #1 reserves the right to assign such personnel to deliver the contracted services as it determines appropriate and reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to make all personnel, administrative, and operational decisions with respect to ESU #1 operations and services which do not directly impair it from providing the contracted services pursuant to this Contract. It is agreed that in the event ESU #1 determines, in its discretion, that it is not able to reasonably provide a particular service(s) set forth in Exhibit "A," ESU #1 may give notice of such to the School District and cease providing such service(s), in which event School District shall not be required to pay for such service(s) to the extent such are not delivered. Such event shall not affect the responsibilities of ESU #1 or School District related to providing and paying for the other services set forth in Exhibit "A."

**3. Payment for Services.** ESU #1 shall, in good faith, determine its costs incurred or to be incurred in connection with the contracted services in accordance with internal cost accounting systems, methods and techniques deemed appropriate by ESU #1. The estimated costs set forth in the attached Exhibit "A" are estimates only and shall not serve as a limit to the amount due to ESU #1. Upon determination of such costs, ESU #1 shall submit to School District a quarterly statement setting forth the amount due to ESU #1 from the School District in accordance with this Contract. Such amount shall be due and payable upon receipt by the School District. Additional statements for supplemental services may be incurred.

**4. Indemnification.** School District hereby agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold ESU #1 harmless from any and all costs and liabilities arising from performance under this Contract, including but not limited to damages and other monetary remedies, and attorney fees and costs incurred, except for intentional wrongdoing or negligence by ESU #1 or its employees or agents. The foregoing indemnification obligation shall continue notwithstanding the expiration or termination of this Contract.

**5. E-Verify.** ESU #1 shall use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska.

**6. Relationship.** It is agreed that the parties are independent contractors and that neither party or their employees or agents shall be deemed by virtue of this Contract to be employees of the other party.

**7. Authority.** The terms of this Contract set forth the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Contract; there are no other agreements, written or oral, except those which are set forth or specifically referenced in this Contract. This Contract may be amended only by a duly approved written amendment or addendum. This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska and be binding upon the parties hereto and their successors. Each party acknowledges and represents that the persons executing this Contract have full, unconditional authority to execute the Contract on the behalf of the entity for which they are signing.

Educational Service Unit 1	<b>WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL</b>	
By: <u>Bill Heimann</u>	Title: _____	Date: _____
Administrator	Signature: _____	Print Name: _____
Dated: February 10, 2025		



211 Tenth Street  
Wakefield, NE 68784  
Phone: (402) 287-2061  
Fax: (402) 287-2065  
[www.esu1.org](http://www.esu1.org)

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**TO:** ESU1 Area Superintendents  
**FROM:** Stuart Clark  
Director of Special Education  
**DATE:** February 6, 2026  
**RE:** 2026-27 Service  
Contract

Attached please find the 2026-27 Service Contract. Pleaes note that the dollar amounts are estimates, as approved Special Education rates from NDE will not be available until next fall.

Please return a signed copy of your contract by **February 28, 2026.**

*(Please put ATTN: Brittney Hampl on the envelope or email [bhampl@esu1.org](mailto:bhampl@esu1.org))*

If a change is necessary in your contract that would affect the amount of time ESU1 personnel serves your district, please contact me.

Thank you!



211 Tenth Street  
Wakefield, NE 68784  
Phone: (402) 287-2061  
Fax: (402) 287-2065  
[www.esu1.org](http://www.esu1.org)

2026-27  
SERVICE CONTRACT

This Agreement is made and entered into by and between District No. 560 aka WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL ("School District") and Educational Service Unit 1 ("ESU 1").

For good and valuable consideration, School District and ESU 1 agree as follows:

**1. Term of Agreement.** This Contract shall commence on August 1, 2026, and shall terminate on July 31, 2027. In the event of a material breach of this Contract by either party, the non-breaching party may provide written notice of the breach. If the breach is not cured within twenty (20) days of such notice, the non-breaching party may immediately cancel or rescind this Contract.

**2. Services.** ESU 1 shall deliver the services described in the attached Exhibit "A" to the School District. The services shall be provided in compliance with applicable legal requirements. ESU 1 reserves the right to assign such personnel to deliver the contracted services as it determines appropriate and reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to make all personnel, administrative, and operational decisions with respect to ESU 1 operations and services which do not directly impair it from providing the contracted services pursuant to this Contract. It is agreed that in the event ESU 1 determines, in its discretion, that it is not able to reasonably provide a particular service(s) set forth in Exhibit "A," ESU 1 may give notice of such to the School District and cease providing such service(s), in which event School District shall not be required to pay for such service(s) to the extent such are not delivered. Such event shall not affect the responsibilities of ESU 1 or School District related to providing and paying for the other services set forth in Exhibit "A."

**3. Payment for Services.** ESU 1 shall, in good faith, determine its costs incurred or to be incurred in connection with the contracted services in accordance with internal cost accounting systems, methods and techniques deemed appropriate by ESU 1. The estimated costs set forth in the attached Exhibit "A" are estimates only and shall not serve as a limit to the amount due to ESU 1. Upon determination of such costs, ESU 1 shall submit to School District a quarterly statement setting forth the amount due to ESU 1 from the School District in accordance with this Contract. Such amount shall be due and payable upon receipt by the School District. Additional statements for supplemental services may be incurred.

**4. Indemnification.** School District hereby agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold ESU 1 harmless from any and all costs and liabilities arising from performance under this Contract, including but not limited to damages and other monetary remedies, and attorney fees and costs incurred, except for intentional wrongdoing or negligence by ESU 1 or its employees or agents. The foregoing indemnification obligation shall continue notwithstanding the expiration or termination of this Contract.

**5. E-Verify.** ESU 1 shall use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the State of Nebraska.

**6. Relationship.** It is agreed that the parties are independent contractors and that neither party or their employees or agents shall be deemed by virtue of this Contract to be employees of the other party.

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Educational Service Unit 1

WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

By: Bill Hamann  
Administrator

Signature / Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_



Here is a **comparison and contrast report** on Wakefield Community Schools' special education service contracts with **Educational Service Unit #1 (ESU #1)** for the last three years (2024-25, 2025-26, and 2026-27). This focuses on total contracted amounts, key service expenditures, notable changes in services/hours/FTE, and overall trends. All figures are based on the provided contract documents (estimated costs where noted, especially for 2026-27, as NDE-approved rates were pending at the time of the document).

## Total Contracted Amounts (Expenditures/Charges)

- **2024-25** (August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2025): **\$497,264.94**
- **2025-26** (August 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026): **\$280,053.48**
- **2026-27** (August 1, 2026 – July 31, 2027): **\$357,864.72** (estimated; final rates pending NDE approval in fall 2026)

**Key trend:** Total costs dropped significantly (~44% decrease) from 2024-25 to 2025-26, then increased (~28% from 2025-26) in 2026-27 but remained well below the 2024-25 level. The high 2024-25 amount was driven largely by **Tower School** placement (3.0 FTE). The 2025-26 reduction reflects cuts in Tower School FTE and some rate adjustments. The 2026-27 uptick comes from increased hours in certain therapies and higher per-unit rates in some areas.

## Major Service Changes and Comparisons

Many core services (e.g., Psychologist, SPED Consultant, Resource Teacher, Transition, Nursing) show **\$0** allocation across years, because they are provided in-house, not needed, or bundled elsewhere. Focus on consistently or variably utilized services:

- **Speech Therapy** (1.00 FTE each year):
  - 2024-25: \$107,750
  - 2025-26: \$86,000 (notable ~20% decrease, possibly due to rate adjustment or staffing efficiencies)
  - 2026-27: \$103,000 (increase from 2025-26 but still below 2024-25)
  - **Trend:** Fluctuating but overall downward pressure; this is a major ongoing cost (~20-38% of non-Tower subtotal in recent years). Since you're actively seeking your own Speech-Language Pathologist, this could be a prime area for adjustment or removal in negotiations for 2026-27.
- **Occupational Therapy** (hours-based):
  - 2024-25: \$19,145 (140 hours @ \$136.75/hr)
  - 2025-26: \$18,900 (140 hours @ \$135.00/hr) — slight rate drop
  - 2026-27: \$28,930 (220 hours @ \$131.50/hr) — hours up ~57%, rate slightly down
  - **Trend:** Stable hours initially, then significant increase in 2026-27 (likely reflecting higher student needs).
- **Physical Therapy** (hours-based):

- 2024-25: \$2,288 (16 hours @ \$143/hr)
- 2025-26: \$2,240 (16 hours @ \$140/hr)
- 2026-27: \$9,425 (65 hours @ \$145/hr) — hours up ~300%
- **Trend:** Sharp rise in 2026-27, indicating increased demand.
- **PSP / Early Intervention** (hours-based):
  - 2024-25 & 2025-26: \$58,050 (450 hours @ \$129/hr)
  - 2026-27: \$74,250 (550 hours @ \$135/hr) — hours up ~22%, rate up slightly
  - **Trend:** Steady, then moderate increase.
- **Tower School** (placement at ESU's Tower School):
  - 2024-25: \$150,000 (3.00 FTE @ \$50,000/FTE) + \$14,700 Nonreimbursable (3.00 FTE @ \$4,900)
  - 2025-26: \$91,000 (2.00 FTE @ \$45,500/FTE) + \$2,450 Nonreimbursable (2.00 FTE @ \$1,225)
  - 2026-27: \$114,000 (2.00 FTE @ \$57,000/FTE) + \$9,900 Nonreimbursable (2.00 FTE @ \$4,950)
  - **Trend:** Major driver of 2024-25 high total; reduced FTE in 2025-26 lowered costs significantly. 2026-27 shows higher per-FTE rate but stable at 2.00 FTE.
- **Program Supervision** (8% overhead, typically on subtotal):
  - 2024-25: \$20,334
  - 2025-26: \$13,822
  - 2026-27: \$11,831
  - **Trend:** Decreased proportionally with lower subtotals.
- **Vision/O&M Teacher** (hours-based):
  - 2024-25: \$3,605 (35 hours @ \$103)
  - 2025-26: \$3,500 (35 hours @ \$100)
  - 2026-27: \$104 (appears as 1.00 FTE @ \$104 or minimal hours; document shows low total)
  - **Trend:** Minor, slight decrease then apparent sharp drop.

Other services (e.g., Audiologist, In-Service, Deaf Educator) remain low or \$0 across years with minor fluctuations.

## Overall Synopsis and Trends

- **Expenditure trajectory:** Peaked in 2024-25 due to higher Tower School utilization. Sharp decline in 2025-26 from reduced placements and some rate efficiencies. Partial rebound in 2026-27 from increased therapy hours (OT, PT, PSP) and higher rates in select areas, but total still ~28% below 2024-25.
- **Drivers of change:** Student needs (hours/FTE in therapies and placements), rate adjustments (some decreases in 2025-26, increases in 2026-27), and ESU cost accounting. ESU contracts note estimates are not fixed limits, with quarterly billing based on actual costs.

- **Core contract terms:** Largely identical across years (term Aug-Jul, breach provisions, indemnification by district, independent contractor status, E-Verify, Nebraska law governance). No major structural changes.
- **Negotiation opportunity for 2026-27:** The 2026-27 contract is still in proposal/estimate stage (memo dated Feb 6, 2026; return by Feb 28, 2026). The cover memo explicitly states amounts are estimates pending final NDE-approved rates (expected fall 2026), and districts can request changes affecting ESU personnel time/service levels. This window allows negotiation, particularly around **Speech Therapy** (as you're pursuing an in-house SLP — potentially removing or reducing the 1.00 FTE line item). Other adjustable areas include therapy hours or Tower-related needs if student placements change.

This report highlights cost volatility tied to specific services and student-driven needs. If you'd like a table format, deeper dive on a service, or projections assuming certain adjustments (e.g., removing Speech), provide more details!



January 21, 2026

Quote Number: Q2600422

**RON LEWON**

Rasmussen Mechanical Services  
2425 East 4th Street  
Sioux City, Iowa 51101

**PAUL GOTHIER**

WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
802 HIGHLAND  
WAKEFIELD, Nebraska  
68784

**Proposal**

**Subject: Pump replacement**

**Paul Gothier,**

Rasmussen Mechanical Services is pleased to quote the following scope of work during normal working conditions unless specified otherwise in the scope below.

**Inclusions:**

Replace defective Taco pump model 1935.

- Lock out power to pump.
- Close pump isolation valves.
- Relieve pressure from pump and close piping.
- Replace Taco pump with new.
- Open pump isolation valves.
- Check for leaks.
- Unlock power to pump and check for proper operation.
- Clean up work area.

**Exclusions:**

All other defective items found will be quoted separately and are not included in this quote.

**Clarifications:**

Pump has a Five (5) week lead time.

All valves must hold tight.

Clear access to work area.

## Price

Rasmussen Mechanical Services will furnish the Equipment, Materials, Tools, Labor, Supervision and Services as outlined in the above Scope of Work for the net sum of:

*Five Thousand Four Hundred Forty Two Dollars and No Cents....\$5,442.00*

## Terms and Conditions

- **Price Changes.** Due to market constraints, all prices provided by Rasmussen Mechanical Services are subject to change to the prices in effect at the time of customer acceptance.
- Any tariff costs or fees associated with the equipment or materials included in this proposal, which are not anticipated or accounted for in the initial pricing, will be added to the final invoice.
- Sales Tax is not included in price.
- Invoices to be paid, Net 30 Days per Seller's Terms and Conditions, <https://www.rasmech.com/terms>

Rasmussen Mechanical Services is grateful for the opportunity to be of service. Thank you for considering our Proposal and we look forward to working with you. If there are any question, please contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

## Ron Lewon

*Project Manager*

### Rasmussen Mechanical Services

**Phone:** 712.252.4613 ex. 210

**Mobile:** +1 7128985880

**Email:** ron.lewon@rasmech.com

**Boiler Repair | Burner Services | HVAC | Industrial Air | Mechanical Construction | Temperature Controls**

**Confidentiality Note:** This Proposal may contain confidential and/or private information. If you received this Proposal in error please delete and notify sender.

**Buyer's Acceptance**

**Approved by Seller**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature for: WAKEFIELD  
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rasmussen Mechanical Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Acceptance

**QUOTE NUMBER: Q2600422**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Acceptance



**+20,000 Parts in Stock!**  
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