

**BOARD DATE:**  
August 19, 2021

**Item:** 6.d.5.

**AGENDA ITEM:**

Ratify Client Staffing Agreement–Pioneer Healthcare Services, LLC

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Board ratification is requested for client staffing agreement between Pioneer Healthcare Services, LLC and Alvord Unified School District for the 2021-2022 school year. This agreement allows Pioneer Healthcare to recruit and provide contract healthcare professionals including speech/language pathologist or assistant, school psychologist, occupational therapist or assistant, physical therapist or assistant and/or licensed vocational nurse to provide therapy services and/or assessments for special needs students as required by their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

**RATIONALE:**

The Special Education Department wishes to contract with Pioneer Healthcare Services for speech/language pathologists, speech/language pathology assistants, school psychologists and special circumstance aides when a short-term staffing need arises. In addition, there continues to be a need for speech/language pathologist assistants due to high caseloads and the lack of qualified applicants to fill our speech/language pathologist openings. The District does not have substitutes readily available for long-term absences of School Psychologists or Speech/Language Pathologists. The Special Education Department will require contracted personnel to cover these services due to current speech/language pathologists and school psychologists taking child-bonding/FMLA during the 2021-2022 school year.

Board ratification is requested to approve the client staffing agreement with Pioneer Healthcare Services, LLC for the 2021-2022 school year. This would allow the District to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for students based on their Individualized Education Program (IEP) while still in the process of recruitment of new staff or during long-term absences.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** \$100,000.00 (General Fund/Restricted-Special Education)

**ATTACHMENTS:** Pioneer Healthcare Services Client Staffing Agreement

**CONSENT ITEM**