

### **MY Academy**

#### **Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Published on October 5, 2024 at 8:22 AM PDT

#### **Date and Time**

Tuesday October 8, 2024 at 10:22 AM PDT

#### Location

Regus - Gateway Chula Vista 333 H Street, Suite 5000 Chula Vista, CA 91910

#### MISSION STATEMENT

MY Academy believes in diversity, inclusivity, academic excellence, hope, service, feedback, and gratitude. Our mission is to create a diverse and individualized learning environment that supports every student and strengthens relationships between families, programs, authorizers, and the community.

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#### REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY

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#### REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

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#### Agenda

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
I.	Opening Items			10:22 AM
	A. Call the Meeting to Order		Board President	1 m
	B. Record Attendance		Board President	1 m
	Roll Call: William Hall, President Michael Humphrey, Vice President Steve Fraire, Clerk Peter Matz, Member Larry Alvarado, Member			
II.	Pledge of Allegiance			10:24 AM
	A. Led by Board President or designee		Board President	1 m
III.	Land Acknowledgement			10:25 AM
	A. Land Acknowledgment	FYI	Bill Dobson	1 m
IV.	Approve/Adopt Agenda			10:26 AM
	A. Approve Agenda	Vote	Board President	1 m
	It is recommended the Board of Directo Regular Board meeting of October 8, 20	•	the agenda for the	
	Roll Call Vote: William Hall Michael Humphrey Steve Fraire Peter Matz Larry Alvarado Moved by Seconded by	_ Ayes Nays	Absent	
V.	Approve Minutes			10:27 AM

		Pı	ırpose	Presenter	Time
A.	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Boa Directors that was held on September 12,		pprove inutes	Board President	1 m
	Roll Call Vote: William Hall				
	Michael Humphrey				
	Steve Fraire				
	Peter Matz				
	Larry Alvarado				
	Moved by Seconded by Ay	yes	Nays A	Absent	

#### VI. Public Comments/Recognition/Reports

VIII. Consent

Please submit a Request to Speak to the Board of Directors using the chat feature on the right hand side of the Zoom platform. Please state the agenda item number that you wish to address prior to the agenda item being called by the Board President. Not more than three (3) minutes are to be allotted to any one (1) speaker, and no more than twenty (20) minutes on the same subject. This portion of the agenda is for comments, recognitions and reports to the Board and is not intended to be a question and answer period. If you have questions for the Board, please provide the Board President with a written statement and an administrator will provide answers at a later date.

VII.	I. Correspondence/Proposals/Reports 10::									
	A.	Annual Goals 2024-2025 for Motivated Youth Academy, Presented by Bill Dobson, Interim Director	FYI	Bill Dobson	2 m					
	B.	School Highlights, Presented by Bill Dobson, Interim Director	FYI	Bill Dobson	4 m					
	C.	Financial Update, Presented by Roger Castillo, Director of Client Finance, Charter Impact	FYI	Roger Castillo	4 m					
	D.	Continuous School Improvement Plan for 2024- 2025, presented by Melissa Lato, Assistant Director	FYI	Melissa Lato	4 m					

10:42 AM

Purpose Presenter Time

Items listed under Consent are considered routine and will be approved/adopted by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items; however, any item may be removed from the Consent upon the request of any member of the Board, discussed, and acted upon separately.

A. Consent - Business/Financial Services Vote Board President 1 m

- 1. Check Register September 2024
- 2. Approval of Cook Center for Human Connection (Renewal)
- 3. Approval of GoGuardian Beacon
- 4. Approval of Regus Premier Office Space Lease Agreement (Renewal)
- 5. Approval of Vector Solutions (Renewal)
- 6. Approval of Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) (Renewal)
- B. Consent Education/Student Services Vote Board President 1 m
  - 1. Approval of 2024-2025 TSW Service Agreement (Renewal)
    - 2. Approval of 2024-2025 Title I School and Educational Partner Compact
    - 3. Approval of 2024-2025 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Esco Kids
    - 4. Approval of 2024-2025 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with YMCA
- C. Consent Personnel Services Vote Board President 1 m
  - 1. Approval of Certificated Personnel Report
  - 2. Approval of 2024-2025 Employee Handbook
- D. Consent Policy Development Vote Board President

Approval of existing board policies revised, reviewed, and eliminated by staff for the 2024-2025 school year.

#### **Board Policies Revised:**

The following are current policies that have been revised to provide clarity or alignment with changes in law or procedures.

1. Approval of Fourth Amended Bylaws

Consent items listed under A through D are considered routine and will be approved/adopted by a single motion.

Roll Call Vote:

William Hall

Michael Humphrey

1 m

				Purpose	Presenter	Time
	Steve Fraire Peter Matz Larry Alvarado					
	-	_ Seconded by	Ayes	Nays	Absent	
IX. Ed	ducation/Student \$	Services				10:46 AM
A.	. Approval of Bring	g Change 2 Mind Servic	e	Vote	Bill Dobson	2 m
	It is recommende	ed the Board approve th	ne Bring C	hange 2 Mind	Service Agreement	:
	Fiscal Impact:	None				
	Roll Call Vote: William Hall Michael Humphr Steve Fraire Peter Matz Larry Alvarado Moved by	ey _ Seconded by	Ayes	Nays	Absent	
В.	. Approval of 2024 Rights Holder Ha	1-2025 Student and Edu andbook	ıcational	Vote	Bill Dobson	2 m
	It is recommend Holder Handboo	ed the Board approve th k	ne 2024-20	025 Student a	nd Educational Righ	nts
	Fiscal Impact:	None				
	Roll Call Vote: William Hall Michael Humphr Steve Fraire Peter Matz Larry Alvarado					
	Moved by	_ Seconded by	Ayes	Nays	Absent	

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**Policy Development** 

10:50 AM

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	Approval of New Policy	Vote	Bill Dobson	2 m
	It is recommended the Board approve the adoption policy will allow the Board to address any related raised in the school/work environment.		• •	
	6000 Series - Instruction 6005-MYA Educational Rights Holders and Far	nily Engagemen	t Policy	
	Fiscal Impact: None			
	Roll Call Vote: William Hall Michael Humphrey Steve Fraire Peter Matz Larry Alvarado Moved by Seconded by Ayes _	Nays	Absent	
Cal	endar			
202	e next scheduled Study Session of the Board of E 4. e next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directo			
Coi	nments			10:52 AM
A.	Board Comments	Discuss	Board President	5 m
В.	Interim Director and CEO Comments	Discuss	Bill Dobson	2 m
Clo	sing Items			10:59 AM
A.	Adjourn Meeting  Roll Call Vote:  William Hall  Michael Humphrey  Steve Fraire  Peter Matz	Vote	Board President	1 m
	Larry Alvarado			

XI.

XII.

XIII.

			Purpose	Presenter	Time
Moved by	_ Seconded by	Ayes	Nays	Absent	

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information concerning this agenda, contact Motivated Youth Academy.

### Coversheet

### Land Acknowledgment

Section: III. Land Acknowledgement Item: A. Land Acknowledgment

Purpose: FY

Submitted by:

Related Material: Land Acknowledgement.pdf

# Land Acknowledgement

It is important that we demonstrate respect for the historic and contemporary presence of Indigenous peoples in California and particularly the San Diego area. It is important for us to recognize that our school resides on what were historically the traditional territories of indigenous peoples who were dispossessed of their homelands.

We are grateful and appreciative to the indigenous peoples, the traditional caretakers of the land, for the use of their lands on which we work, study, and learn. In this spirit, we would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to the Luiseno, Cahuilla, Cupeno, Kumeyaay, Northern Diegueño tribes and all the American Indian and Indigenous peoples and communities who have been or have become part of these lands and territories in California.



### Coversheet

# Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors that was held on September 12, 2024

Section: V. Approve Minutes

**Item:** A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors that was held

on September 12, 2024

Purpose: Approve Minutes

Submitted by: Related Material:

Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on September 12, 2024



## MY Academy

#### **Minutes**

#### Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

#### **Date and Time**

Thursday September 12, 2024 at 10:14 AM

#### Location

This meeting will be held virtually.

Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6224484724

#### **Teleconference Locations:**

1545 Apache Drive Unit A, Chula Vista, CA 91910

39251 Camino Las Hoyas, Indio, CA 92203

25 Kingston Court East, Coronado, CA 92118

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#### **Directors Present**

L. Alvarado (remote), M. Humphrey (remote), P. Matz (remote), S. Fraire (remote)

#### **Directors Absent**

W. Hall

#### **Guests Present**

G. Lenz (remote)

#### I. Opening Items

#### A. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Fraire called a meeting of the board of directors of MY Academy to order on Thursday Sep 12, 2024 at 10:18 AM.

#### **B.** Record Attendance

#### II. Approve/Adopt Agenda

#### A. Approve Agenda

- P. Matz made a motion to Approve Agenda.
- L. Alvarado seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

W. Hall AbsentS. Fraire AyeP. Matz AyeM. Humphrey Abstain

#### **III. Approve Minutes**

A.

# Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors that was held on August 8, 2024

- L. Alvarado made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on 08-08-24.
- P. Matz seconded the motion.

Absent

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

W. Hall

P. Matz Aye
M. Humphrey Abstain
L. Alvarado Aye
S. Fraire Aye

#### IV. Reconvene Regular Meeting

#### A. Report out any action taken in closed session

No action taken during the Closed Session

#### V. Consent

- A. Consent Business/Financial Services
- B. Consent Education/Student Services

#### C. Consent - Personnel Services

- L. Alvarado made a motion to Approve items A through C in a single motion.
- P. Matz seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

M. Humphrey AbstainS. Fraire AyeW. Hall AbsentL. Alvarado AyeP. Matz Aye

#### VI. Business/Financial Services

#### A. Approval of 2023-2024 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report

- P. Matz made a motion to Approved item A. Approval of 2023-2024 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report including the EPA report.
- L. Alvarado seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

W. Hall Absent
S. Fraire Aye
M. Humphrey Abstain
L. Alvarado Aye
P. Matz Aye

#### B. Approval of 2024-2025 Consolidated Application and Reporting System (CARS)

P. Matz made a motion to Approved Agenda item B. Approval of 2024-2025 Consolidated Application and Reporting System (CARS).

L. Alvarado seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

W. Hall AbsentM. Humphrey AbstainL. Alvarado AyeP. Matz AyeS. Fraire Aye

#### C. Approval of Chase Bank Signature Authorization for Motivated Youth Academy

L. Alvarado made a motion to Approve Agenda item C. Approval of Chase Bank Signature Authorization for Motivated Youth Academy.

P. Matz seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

W. Hall AbsentS. Fraire AyeM. Humphrey AbstainP. Matz AyeL. Alvarado Aye

#### VII. Education/Student Services

#### A. Approval of eDynamic Learning Curriculum

P. Matz made a motion to Approve Agenda item A. Approval of eDynamic Learning Curriculum.

L. Alvarado seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

S. Fraire Aye
P. Matz Aye
W. Hall Absent

#### **Roll Call**

L. Alvarado Aye

M. Humphrey Abstain

#### **VIII. Comments**

#### A. Board Comments

Board Vice President, Mike Humphrey: Great kick-off to the school year.

**Board Member, Larry Alvarado**: Financials are looking good, and the year is off to a great start.

Board Member, Pete Matz: Great job to the Director and the MYA team.

Board Clerk, Steve Fraire: Keep up the great work.

#### **B.** Interim Director and CEO Comments

**Director, Bill Dobson**: Great start to the new school year, and I'd like to acknowledge the staff for all their hard work.

#### IX. Closing Items

#### A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. Lenz

#### Documents used during the meeting

None

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information concerning this agenda, contact Motivated Youth Academy.

### Coversheet

# Annual Goals 2024-2025 for Motivated Youth Academy, Presented by Bill Dobson, Interim Director

Section: VII. Correspondence/Proposals/Reports

Item: A. Annual Goals 2024-2025 for Motivated Youth Academy, Presented by

Bill Dobson, Interim Director **Purpose:** FYI

Submitted by:

Related Material: MY Academy School Goals 2024-2025.pdf

## Goal #1



We will collaborate with the Board, Charter Impact representatives, and Educational Partners to ensure Motivated Youth Academy is working toward maintaining good fiscal health, which includes a balanced budget with no deficit spending, cash flow of no less than 15 days per month, and a projected fund balance of 10%, being attentive to the implications of possible state deferrals, while meeting the academic needs of MYA students and the social/emotional needs of all Educational Partners.

#### No deficit Spending 15 Day Cash Flow 10% Fund Balance

	7/23	8/23	9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24
No Deficit Spending	Y	Y										
15 Day Cash Flow	Υ	Υ										
10% Fund Balance	Υ	Y										

### Goal #2



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# Increase the % of students meeting the Alternative Metrics for Charter Renewal in the DASS MOU with MEUSD

Average attendance rate of 85% or higher

Graduation Rates: Compulsory School-aged student population - 90%, (ages 19 - 25) - 85%

Course Completion Rates: The Charter School shall maintain an average course completion rate of 85% or higher

College/Career Indicators for WIOA Students

	7/26	8/25	9/22	10/20	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/17	5/24	6/24
Attendance %	86.35	85.93	95.53									
Graduation %	N/A	N/A	N/A									
Course Completion %	N/A	N/A	N/A									
CCI / WIOA %	N/A	N/A	N/A	Pov	ered by Bo	ardOnTrac	k					

## Goal #3



# Increase student enrollment by 10%, focusing on high-risk student groups having Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS)

#### Increase student enrollment by 10%

	7/23	8/23	9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24
Enrolled SY 22-23	36	170	194	200	214	227	233	246	257	260	260	N/A
Enrolled SY 23-24	27	19	204	230	243	254	257	273	280	280	285	N/A
Enrolled SY 24-25	29	15	243									
% Change Enrolled	7%	-21%	19%									

### Coversheet

### School Highlights, Presented by Bill Dobson, Interim Director

**Section:** VII. Correspondence/Proposals/Reports

Item: B. School Highlights, Presented by Bill Dobson, Interim Director

Purpose: FY

Submitted by:

Related Material: School Highlights - 2024.10.08 .pdf



### Enrollment

2024-2025 Enrollment (as of 09/30/2024)

**Total Enrolled - 251** 

Track E - July 1, 2024 - March 28, 2025

- 15 Enrolled
  - 0 Imperial County
  - 2 Orange County
  - 2 Riverside County
  - 11 San Diego County

Track F - August 26, 2024 - June 2, 2025

- 236 Enrolled
  - 11 Imperial County
  - 16 Orange County
  - 46 Riverside County
  - 163 San Diego County

The Motivated Youth Academy (MY Academy) (MYA) School Highlights are aligned with the ACS WASC/CDE School Criteria. This will guide MYA as the school continues to:

- · develop the engagement of Educational Partners in Continuous School Improvement
- monitor progress on the implementation of the Schoolwide Action Plan
- review the action plan frequently during the school year
- · celebrate all that has been accomplished

### Organization for Student Learning:

# WY Academy - Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors - Agenda - Tuesday October 8, 2024 at 10:22 AM Vision and Purpose, Governance, Leadership, Staff, & Resources

#### Shared by Operations and Program Manager, Mrs. Lenz:

There's something special about gathering together for in-person team meetings, brainstorming, and problem-solving. As a primarily remote team, we cherish these moments of connection, collaboration, and creativity when we can be together. Teamwork thrives on these opportunities, allowing us to bond, share ideas, and work towards common goals. Whether we're brainstorming the next big idea or simply enjoying each other's company, these moments remind us that collaboration is at the heart of what we do. Looking forward to more in-person moments!













# Curriculum

# Teaching and Learning

#### Shared by Teacher, Ms. Hensley:

During a Horizontal Homeroom meeting, students expressed interest in running a Cooking Club, where they would take turns teaching each other how to cook something that they eat at home. During one of the meetings an MYA student led a class and taught us how to make fresh pasta with home-made marinara sauce!







This MYA student did the Elephant toothpaste experiment to have hands on experience in conducting an experiment and seeing the results in person. The student enjoyed watching what happened as the chemicals reacted. It was great to see her excitement in doing the lab.







# Assessment and Accountability School Culture and Support

for Student Personal, Social-Emotional, and Academic Growth

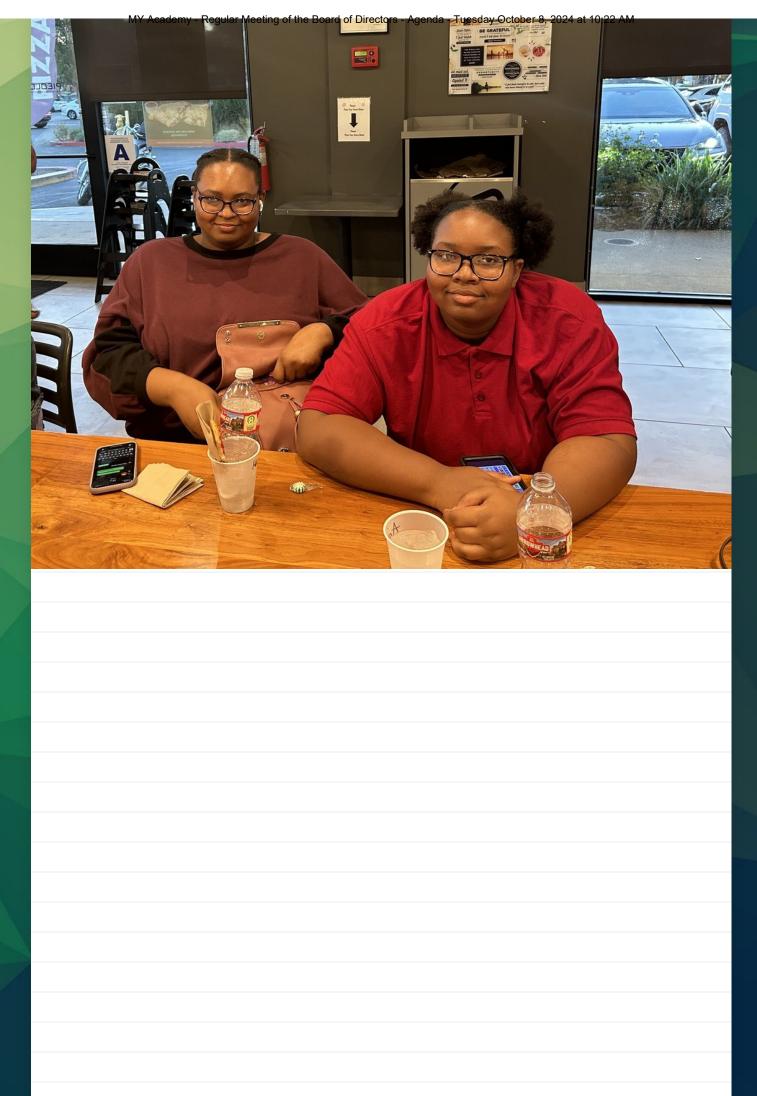
Shared by Assistant Director, Ms. Lato:

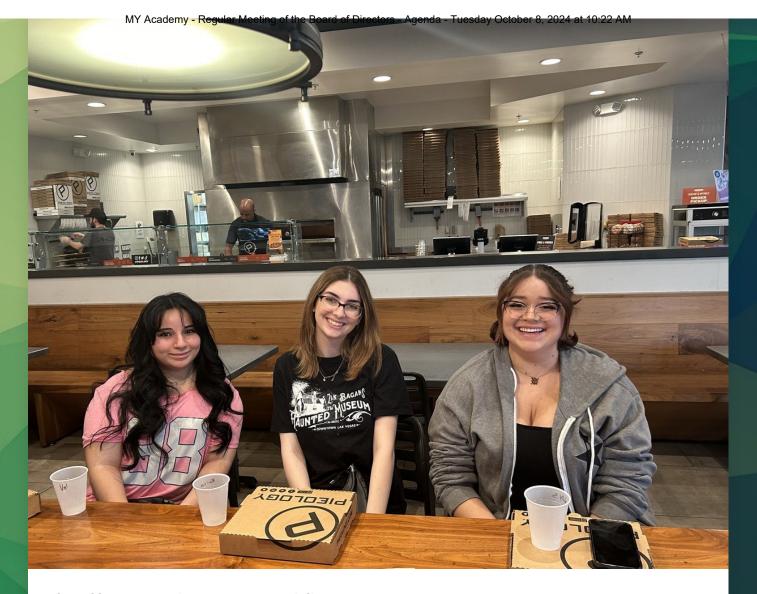
The Menifee Open House was a great way for folks to interact with staff, students, and families! Students discussed their interests and new school clubs that will start next week.











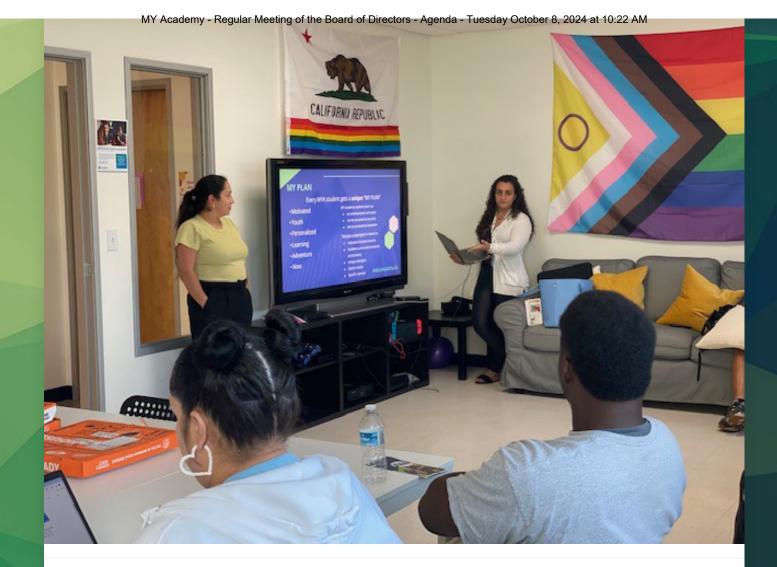
#### **Shared by Community Program Specialist, Ms. Gaona:**

In September, MYA engaged with various organizations and attended numerous community meetings. School presentations were conducted for the following agencies:

- Community Resource Center
- North County Juvenile Probation
- Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC)
- YMAC TAY Programs
- Victory Outreach Mentoring

Some of these presentations have led to new partnerships, enhancing MYA's ability to connect with the student population. Presentations are scheduled into the coming month, and working with a team at outreach and networking events has boosted the school's visibility while expanding knowledge of services for MYA youth.

The MYA Student Community Support team has also provided enrollment support to students requesting in-person enrollment meetings, particularly those from partnering programs or those in the process of becoming partners. Inviting potential students to Back to School Night events has helped them gain a clear understanding of what MY Academy is all about.



#### Shared by Marketing Assistant, Mrs. Phillips:

I attended a Back to School Night event in San Marcos, hosted by Ms. Sullivan, where I met incredible students and their families. One student shared that she had fallen significantly behind in credits before joining MYA. Thanks to MYA's focused, one-on-one support, she has improved her study skills and is now on track to graduate early! Another student, initially shy, opened up about her passion for automotive painting. Her mother praised her mural work, and they are both excited about her future in art.

I was also grateful to attend a Back to School Night in Temecula Valley, hosted by Ms. Fredericks. I met wonderful students and families, and I was impressed by the students' confidence as they introduced themselves and shared their goals for the year. They expressed enthusiasm for student get togethers and group projects, clearly enjoying the time spent together.

Finally, I attended the Menifee Back to School event, which was a great opportunity for staff, students, and families to connect. Students eagerly discussed their interests and the new school clubs starting next week.





















#### Shared by Student Success Coordinator, Mrs. Yousif:

A standout moment this month was a Back to School Night I attended, where we had the opportunity to meet numerous talented and ambitious students. Their diverse aspirations, ranging from fashion design to professional gaming and careers in the beauty industry, were truly inspiring. Getting to know MYA students on a personal level was both enlightening and exciting!



#### **Shared by Student Success Coordinator, Ms. Bravo:**

One of my most memorable moments at MYA was attending a Back to School Night for the first time. I met two students with completely different personalities—one was very shy with a quiet voice but a big personality, while the other was outgoing and a total jokester. Seeing them together was amazing. Moments like that truly capture what MYA is all about: bringing people together and allowing them to grow at their own pace.







Community events play a vital role in solidifying MYA's commitment to integrating into the culture and societal needs of the communities we serve. By engaging with students, meeting organizations, and finding valuable resources, we build connections that support the holistic development of MYA students. These interactions reinforce MYA's mission to serve students as a whole, ensuring they are supported both academically and personally, while fostering relationships that allow MYA staff to grow alongside the communities we are a part of.

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# Get Social with us!

## STAY UP TO DATE ON MY ACADEMY







# **@MYACADEMYCA**







#### **Contact Us**

Email: info@myacademy.org
Website: www.myacademy.org

Location: 500 La Terraza Boulevard, #150 Escondido, CA, USA

**Phone:** 619-343-2048

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/MyAcademyCA/">https://www.facebook.com/MyAcademyCA/</a>

Instagram: @myacademyca



**MY Academy** 

MY is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

### Coversheet

# Financial Update, Presented by Roger Castillo, Director of Client Finance, Charter Impact

Section: VII. Correspondence/Proposals/Reports

Item: C. Financial Update, Presented by Roger Castillo, Director of Client

Finance, Charter Impact

Purpose: FYI

Submitted by:

Related Material: Financial Report for July and August 2024.pdf



# **Motivated Youth Academy**

August 2024 Financials

10/08/2024 Board Meeting

# Highlights

- R
- All variance analysis includes changes for the months of July and August.
- Enrollment is at 249, ADA is 231.57 and the Attendance Yield is at 93% which means all remain aligned with original budget.
- Personnel costs added back an in-house Counselor position under Pupil Support.
- The Days cash on hand projection for year-end is measuring at 112 days.
- Forecast includes updated ERTC revenues & costs in FY24-25, as cash is arriving.
- The FY23-24 CSI award of \$164K is part of revenues for FY24-25.
- Year-end surplus is forecasting at \$3K, compared to a budget surplus of \$63K.

# **Compliance and Reporting**

- 12.52 : 1 Pupil to Teacher compliant
- 40/80 currently supports an 85% funding determination: FY24-25 is NOT a funding determination year but we will track anyway.

Pupil:Teacher Ratio								
12.52	i	1						

Cert.	Instr.
54.0%	77.8%
659,525	(104,970)



# Revenue



- Revenues are forecasting at \$4.82M & \$112K more than budget.
- State Aid Revenue remains unchanged compared to budget at \$3.56M.
- Federal Revenues added \$21K more than budget and are at \$268K. Title I increased by \$19K & Title II increased by \$2K.
- Other State Revenue is forecasting at \$982K and increased \$90K from budget.
   \$84K is from more ERTC revenues expected and \$6K is from higher Lottery rates.
- Other Local Revenue remains as budgeted at \$7K.

	Year-to-Date									
	Actual		Budget	Fav/(Unf)						
Revenue										
State Aid-Rev Limit	\$ 330,201	\$	181,713	\$	148,488					
Federal Revenue	55		1,507		(1,452)					
Other State Revenue	-	_	10,610		(10,610)					
Other Local Revenue	 1,449	_	1,167		282					
Total Revenue	\$ 331,705	\$	194,998	\$	136,707					

Annual/Full Year								
Forecast			Budget	Fav/(Unf)				
					_			
\$	3,566,893	\$	3,566,893	\$	-			
	267,664		246,381		21,283			
	982,190		892,164		90,026			
	7,501		7,000		501			
\$	4,824,248	\$	4,712,438	\$	111,810			



# Expenses

- Expenses are projecting \$172K more than budget and at \$4.82M.
- Personnel costs are \$102K higher and mostly attributed to adding the Pupil Support
   Salary and benefits costs for 1 FTE counselor position that has been filled.
- Operational costs have increased by \$70K and resulted mostly from the following:
  - \$55K more for Gen. consulting costs for CFOMW for 10% of ERTC funds.
  - \$8K more in IT costs for Keyn Group, LLC.
  - \$5K more in a deposit for a Kickoff Training this year.
- All other expenses are currently trending close to budget.

	Year-to-Date					
	Actual Budget		Fav/(Unf)			
Expenses						
Certificated Salaries	\$	266,604	\$	251,428	\$	(15,176)
Classified Salaries		149,221		115,471		(33,750)
Benefits		88,398		127,103		38,705
Books and Supplies		75,803		31,276		(44,528)
Subagreement Services		462		7,400		6,938
Operations		49,796		19,795		(30,002)
Facilities		5,774		5,200		(574)
Professional Services		109,850		78,480		(31,371)
Depreciation		-		-		-
Interest			_		_	
Total Expenses	\$	745,909	\$	636,152	\$	(109,758)

Annual/Full Year								
	Forecast		Budget	Fav/(Unf)				
\$	1,966,811	\$	1,881,250	\$	(85,561)			
	762,414		728,663		(33,750)			
	850,573		867,374		16,801			
	292,109		292,181		72			
	184,842		184,842		-			
	123,502		118,767		(4,735)			
	31,774		31,200		(574)			
	609,475		544,911		(64,564)			
	-		-		-			
				_				
\$	4,821,501	\$	4,649,189	\$	(172,312)			



# **Fund Balance**



- The \$3K forecasted year-end surplus is 0.1% of total expenses.
- The fund balance is projecting at 24.2% of annual expenses.
- MYA continues this fiscal year with a healthy fund balance.

	Year-to-Date					
	Actual		Budget		Fav/(Unf)	
Total Surplus(Deficit)	\$	(414,204)	\$	(441,154)	\$	26,950
Beginning Fund Balance		1,164,947	_	1,164,947		
Ending Fund Balance	\$	750,743	\$	723,793		
As a % of Annual Expenses		15.6%		15.6%		

Annual/Full Year							
Forecast		Budget	Fav/(Unf)				
\$ 2,747	\$	63,249	\$	(60,502)			
 1,164,947		1,164,947					
\$ 1,167,694	\$	1,228,196					
24.2%		26.4%					



## **Appendices**



- Monthly Cash Flow / Forecast 24-25
- Budget vs. Actual
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Check Register
- AP Aging
- Compliance Reminders



#### **FY24-25 Motivated Youth Academy**

#### Monthly Cash Flow/Forecast 24/25

Revised 09/27/2024

Actuals Through:



Actuals Through:	:																
ADA	= 231.57	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Year-End Accruals	Annual Budget	Original Budget Total	Favorable / (Unfav.)
Revenues																ADA = 2	31.57
State Aid - Rev	venue Limit																
8011	LCFF State Aid	149,060	149,060	149,157	268,483	268,483	268,483	268,483	268,483	237,816	237,816	237,816	237,816	237,815	2,978,774	2,978,774	-
8012	Education Protection Account	-	-	11,579	-	-	11,579	-	-	11,579	-	-	-	11,579	46,314	46,314	-
8096	In Lieu of Property Taxes	-	32,081	65,112	43,408	43,408	43,408	43,408	43,408	75,857	37,929	37,929	37,929	37,929	541,805	541,805	-
		149,060	181,141	225,848	311,891	311,891	323,470	311,891	311,891	325,252	275,745	275,745	275,745	287,322	3,566,893	3,566,893	-
Federal Reven	ue		·														
8181	Special Education - Entitlement	-	-	1,507	2,713	2,713	2,713	2,713	2,713	3,006	3,006	3,006	3,006	3,006	30,104	30,104	-
8290	Title I, Part A - Basic Low Income	-	-	14,165	-	-	42,494	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56,659	37,280	19,379
8291	Title II, Part A - Teacher Quality	-	-	1,851	-	_	5,552	_	_	-	_	-	-	-	7,402	5,553	1,849
8296	Other Federal Revenue	-	-	-	43,361	-	-	43,361	-	-	43,361	-	-	43,361	173,444	173,444	-
8299	Prior Year Federal Revenue	-	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	-	55
		-	55	17,523	46,074	2,713	50,759	46,074	2,713	3,006	46,367	3,006	3,006	46,367	267,664	246,381	21,283
Other State Re	evenue															,	
8311	State Special Education	-	-	10,031	18,056	18,056	18,056	18,056	18,056	20,004	20,004	20,004	20,004	20,004	200,334	200,334	-
8520	Child Nutrition	-	-	-	628	1,193	1,193	1,193	1,193	1,193	1,193	1,193	1,193	2,385	12,553	12,553	-
8550	Mandated Cost	-	-	-	-	-	11,069	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,069	11,069	-
8560	State Lottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,828	-	-	15,828	-	-	31,563	63,219	57,661	5,558
8599	Other State Revenue	-	-	579	171,901	1,042	1,042	171,901	1,042	1,042	171,901	1,042	1,042	172,480	695,016	610,548	84,468
		-	-	10,610	190,585	20,291	31,360	206,978	20,291	22,239	208,926	22,239	22,239	226,432	982,190	892,164	90,026
Other Local Re	evenue															•	
8660	Interest Revenue	1,449	-	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	-	2,501	2,000	501
8980	Contributions, Unrestricted	-	-	1,250	417	417	417	417	417	417	417	417	417	-	5,000	5,000	(0)
		1,449	-	1,355	522	522	522	522	522	522	522	522	522	-	7,501	7,000	501
Total Revenue		150,509	181,196	255,336	549,073	335,418	406,111	565,466	335,418	351,018	531,559	301,511	301,511	560,121	4,824,248	4,712,438	111,810
			101,100		0 10,010	000,:20	,	000,.00	000,0	00-,0-0	002,000	00-,0	00-,0	000,	1,02 1,2 10	.,,, ==, :00	
Expenses																	
Certificated Sa	alaries																
1100	Teachers' Salaries	74,241	113,633	120,210	120,210	120,210	120,210	120,210	120,210	120,210	120,210	120,210	120,210	-	1,389,971	1,370,843	(19,128)
1175	Teachers' Extra Duty/Stipends	-	_	8,947	8,947	8,947	8,947	8,947	8,947	8,947	8,947	8,947	8,947	-	89,470	104,500	15,030
1200	Pupil Support Salaries	15,985	18,841	18,641	18,641	18,641	18,641	18,641	18,641	18,641	18,641	18,641	18,641	-	221,241	139,235	(82,006)
1300	Administrators' Salaries	21,764	22,139	22,223	22,223	22,223	22,223	22,223	22,223	22,223	22,223	22,223	22,223	-	266,130	266,672	542
		111,990	154,613	170,021	170,021	170,021	170,021	170,021	170,021	170,021	170,021	170,021	170,021	-	1,966,811	1,881,250	(85,561)
Classified Salar	ries			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						•	<u> </u>
2100	Instructional Salaries	20,976	19,698	18,470	18,470	18,470	18,470	18,470	18,470	18,470	18,470	18,470	18,470	-	225,377	214,475	(10,901)
2200	Support Salaries	52,149	44,717	25,261	25,261	25,261	25,261	25,261	25,261	25,261	25,261	25,261	25,261	-	349,479	303,135	(46,344)
2400	Clerical and Office Staff Salaries	4,595	7,085	17,588	17,588	17,588	17,588	17,588	17,588	17,588	17,588	17,588	17,588	-	187,558	211,053	23,495
		77,721	71,500	61,319	61,319	61,319	61,319	61,319	61,319	61,319	61,319	61,319	61,319	-	762,414	728,663	(33,750)
	•															<u> </u>	

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#### **FY24-25 Motivated Youth Academy**

## Monthly Cash Flow/Forecast 24/25 Revised 09/27/2024

Actuals Through:



ictuals Through:																	
ADA :	= 231.57	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Year-End Accruals	Annual Budget	Original Budget Total	Favorable / (Unfav.)
Benefits																	
3101	STRS	_	350	32,456	32,456	32,456	32,456	32,456	32,456	32,456	32,456	32,456	32,456	_	324,908	359,319	34,410
3301	OASDI	4,702	5,169	3,633	3,633	3,633	3,633	3,633	3,633	3,633	3,633	3,633	3,633	_	46,206	45,177	(1,029)
3311	Medicare	2,693	3,308	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	3,312	_	39,116	37,844	(1,272)
3401	Health and Welfare	28,366	29,812	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	-	320,679	303,750	(16,929)
3501	State Unemployment	284	427	1,349	1,349	1,349	1,349	6,744	5,396	2,698	1,349	1,349	1,349	-	24,991	26,453	1,461
3601	Workers' Compensation	13,287	-	3,197	3,197	3,197	3,197	3,197	3,197	3,197	3,197	3,197	3,197	-	45,261	36,539	(8,722)
3901	Other Benefits	-	-	4,941	4,941	4,941	4,941	4,941	4,941	4,941	4,941	4,941	4,941	-	49,412	58,293	8,882
		49,331	39,067	75,138	75,138	75,138	75,138	80,534	79,185	76,487	75,138	75,138	75,138	-	850,573	867,374	16,801
Books and Supp	olies																
4100	Textbooks and Core Curricula	-	-	1,667	967	667	667	667	667	667	667	667	667	-	7,967	8,000	33
4302	School Supplies	-	94	315	-	-	48	700	7,417	2,613	2,613	2,613	2,613	-	19,025	19,025	-
4305	Software	51,613	6,871	5,687	5,348	5,348	5,348	5,348	5,348	5,348	5,348	5,348	5,348	-	112,300	112,300	0
4310	Office Expense	298	8,298	3,904	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	4,167	-	50,000	50,000	0
4311	Business Meals	62	-	1,100	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	-	4,762	4,800	38
4400	Noncapitalized Equipment	-	8,567	1,280	-	-	194	2,846	30,141	10,619	10,619	10,619	10,619	-	85,503	85,503	-
4700	Food Services	-	-	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,255	1,255	-	12,553	12,553	<u>-</u>
		51,973	23,830	15,207	12,136	11,836	12,078	15,383	49,394	25,068	25,068	25,068	25,068	-	292,109	292,181	72
Subagreement	Services																
5102	Special Education	-	-	3,010	3,010	3,010	3,010	3,010	3,010	3,010	3,010	3,010	3,010	-	30,100	30,100	-
5104	Transportation	-	-	930	930	930	930	930	930	930	930	930	930	-	9,300	9,300	-
5106	Other Educational Consultants	-	462	2,328	-	-	353	5,179	54,840	19,320	19,320	19,320	19,320	-	140,442	140,442	-
5107	Instructional Services	-	-	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	-	5,000	5,000	-
		-	462	6,768	4,440	4,440	4,793	9,619	59,280	23,760	23,760	23,760	23,760	-	184,842	184,842	-
Operations and	l Housekeeping																
5201	Auto and Travel	19,427	1,606	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	-	23,536	18,800	(4,736)
5300	Dues & Memberships	3,286	-	856	856	856	995	1,142	1,142	1,142	1,142	1,142	1,142	-	13,700	13,700	-
5400	Insurance	11,481	2,110	992	1,620	1,620	1,620	1,620	1,620	1,620	1,620	1,620	1,620	-	29,168	29,167	(0)
5516	Miscellaneous Expense	-	-	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	-	5,000	5,000	-
5900	Communications	954	10,386	3,486	3,486	3,486	3,486	3,187	4,067	4,067	4,067	4,067	4,067	-	48,803	48,800	(3)
5901	Postage and Shipping	240	306	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	275	-	3,296	3,300	4
		35,388	14,408	6,360	6,988	6,988	7,127	6,974	7,854	7,854	7,854	7,854	7,854	-	123,502	118,767	(4,735)
•	irs and Other Leases																
5601	Rent	2,724	2,410	2,058	2,058	2,058	2,058	2,058	2,058	2,058	2,058	2,058	2,058	-	25,718	24,700	(1,018)
5602	Additional Rent	-	-	333	333	333	333	333	333	333	333	333	333	-	3,333	4,000	667
5604	Other Leases	320	320	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	208	-	2,723	2,500	(223)
		3,044	2,730	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	-	31,774	31,200	(574)

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#### **FY24-25 Motivated Youth Academy**

#### Monthly Cash Flow/Forecast 24/25

Revised 09/27/2024

Actuals Through:



Actuals Through:																	
ADA =	= 231.57	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Year-End Accruals	Annual Budget	Original Budget Total	Favorable / (Unfav.)
Professional/Co	onsulting Services																
5801	IT	14,271	4,720	4,692	5,192	5,192	5,192	5,192	5,192	5,192	5,192	5,192	5,192	-	70,408	62,300	(8,108)
5802	Audit & Taxes	9,012	-	-	3,418	4,140	4,140	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,710	20,700	(10)
5803	Legal	-	4,152	8,223	4,125	4,125	4,125	4,125	4,125	4,125	4,125	4,125	4,125	-	49,500	49,500	-
5804	Professional Development	1,840	26,946	3,667	4,817	4,817	4,817	4,817	4,817	4,817	4,817	4,817	4,817	-	75,803	75,800	(3)
5805	General Consulting	16,700	9,050	62,244	11,167	11,167	11,167	11,167	11,167	11,167	11,167	11,167	11,167	-	188,494	134,000	(54,494)
5806	Special Activities/Field Trips	-	-	349	-	-	53	777	8,227	2,898	2,898	2,898	2,898	-	21,000	21,000	-
5807	Bank Charges	25	20	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	-	712	800	88
5808	Printing	-	452	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	452	-	(452)
5809	Other taxes and fees	13	176	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	283	-	3,023	3,400	377
5810	Payroll Service Fee	488	1,048	2,325	2,325	2,325	2,325	2,325	2,325	2,325	2,325	2,325	2,325	-	24,786	27,900	3,114
5811	Management Fee	7,854	10,812	7,533	7,533	7,533	7,533	7,533	7,533	7,533	7,533	7,533	7,533		93,999	88,444	(5,555)
5812	District Oversight Fee	-	-	2,033	2,807	2,807	2,911	2,807	2,807	2,927	2,482	2,482	2,482	5,558	32,102	32,102	-
5813	County Fees	2,271	-	<del>-</del>	1,100	-	-	1,100	-	-	1,100	-		1,100	6,671	4,400	(2,271)
5814	SPED Encroachment	-	-	404	727	727	727	727	727	805	805	805	805	805	8,065	8,065	-
5815	Public Relations/Recruitment	-		1,375	1,375	1,375	1,375	1,375	1,375	1,375	1,375	1,375	1,375		13,750	16,500	2,750
		52,474	57,376	93,195	44,935	44,557	44,714	42,294	48,644	43,514	44,169	43,069	43,069	7,463	609,475	544,911	(64,564)
Depreciation			-													-	
Interest		-	-	-		-	=-	-	=	=	-	-	-	-	-		<u> </u>
Interest			-			_		_				_		_			
				<u>-</u>									-		-		<u>-</u> _
Total Expenses		381,923	363,987	430,608	377,578	376,900	377,790	388,744	478,297	410,624	409,930	408,830	408,830	7,463	4,821,501	4,649,189	(172,312)
Monthly Surplus (D	peficit)	(231,414)	(182,790)	(175,272)	171,495	(41,482)	28,321	176,722	(142,879)	(59,606)	121,630	(107,318)	(107,318)	552,658	2,747	63,249	(60,502)
Cash Flow Adjustme	ents														0.1%		
Monthly Sur		(231,414)	(182,790)	(175,272)	171,495	(41,482)	28,321	176,722	(142,879)	(59,606)	121,630	(107,318)	(107,318)	552,658	2,747	Cert.	Instr.
	rom operating activities		, , ,	. , ,	•	, , ,	,	,	. , ,		,	, , ,				54.0%	77.8%
	Depreciation/Amortization	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	659,525	(104,970)
	Public Funding Receivables	14,446	-	-	85,255	-	-	587,516	-	-	-	-	-	(560,121)	127,096	-	-
	Grants and Contributions Rec.	23,440	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,440		
	Due To/From Related Parties	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Prepaid Expenses	59,116	(4,606)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54,510		
	Other Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Accounts Payable	(24,696)	1,550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,463	(15,682)	Pupil:Teac	her Ratio
	Accrued Expenses	(13,242)	(11,725)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(24,967)	12.52	: 1
	Other Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Deferred Revenue	2,667	2,667	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(122,240)	-	(116,906)		
Cash flows fr	rom investing activities																
	Purchases of Prop. And Equip.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
0 1 0 0	Notes Receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Cash flows fr	rom financing activities																
	Proceeds from Factoring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	Payments on Factoring Proceeds(Payments) on Debt	_	-	_	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-		-	_		
	Proceeds(Fayments) on Debt														_	_	
Total Change in	Cash	(169,683)	(194,904)	(175,272)	256,751	(41,482)	28,321	764,239	(142,879)	(59,606)	121,630	(107,318)	(229,558)		# Days Cash 112	-	
Cash, Beginning	of Month	1,429,289	1,259,606	1,064,702	889,431	1,146,182	1,104,700	1,133,021	1,897,259	1,754,380	1,694,774	1,816,404	1,709,086			<del></del>	
Cash, End of Mo	onth	1 259 606	1,064,702	889 431	1.146.182	1,104,700	1.133.021	1.897.259	1.754.380	1.694.774	1.816.404	1,709,086	1 479 527				

Powered by BoardOnTrack

Budget vs Actual

For the period ended August 31, 2024

	Current Period Actual	Current Period Budget	Current Period Variance	Current Year Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Variance	Total Budget
Revenues							
State Aid - Revenue Limit LCFF State Aid	\$ 149,060	\$ 149,157	\$ (97)	\$ 298,120	\$ 149,157	\$ 148,963	\$2,978,774
Education Protection Account	Ş 149,000 -	Ş 143,137 -	ر (عرب) -	Ş 298,120 -	۶ 14 <i>3,</i> 137 -	\$ 148,903 -	46,314
In Lieu of Property Taxes	32,081	32,556	(475)	32,081	32,556	(475)	541,805
Total State Aid - Revenue Limit	181,141	181,713	(572)	330,201	181,713	148,488	3,566,893
Federal Revenue	•	ŕ	` ,	,	·	•	. ,
Special Education - Entitlement	-	1,507	(1,507)	-	1,507	(1,507)	30,104
Title I, Part A - Basic Low Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	37,280
Title II, Part A - Teacher Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,553
Other Federal Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	173,444
Prior Year Federal Revenue	55	4 507	55	55_	- 4.507	55	- 246 204
Total Federal Revenue Other State Revenue	55	1,507	(1,452)	55	1,507	(1,452)	246,381
State Special Education	_	10,031	(10,031)	-	10,031	(10,031)	200,333
State Child Nutrition	_	10,031	(10,031)	_	10,031	(10,031)	12,553
Mandated Cost	-	_	-	-	-	-	11,069
State Lottery	-	-	-	-	-	-	57,661
Other State Revenue	-	579	(579)	-	579	(579)	610,547
Total Other State Revenue		10,610	(10,610)	-	10,610	(10,610)	892,164
Other Local Revenue							
Interest Revenue	-	167	(167)	1,449	333	1,115	2,000
Contributions, Unrestricted		417	(417)		833	(833)	5,000
Total Other Local Revenue	-	583	(583)	1,449	1,167	282	7,000
Total Revenues	181,196	194,414	(13,218)	331,705	194,998	136,707	4,712,438
Expenses							
Certificated Salaries							
Teachers' Salaries	113,633	120,210	6,577	187,874	168,746	(19,128)	1,370,843
Teachers' Extra Duty/Stipends	-	8,947	8,947	-	15,030	15,030	104,500
Pupil Support Salaries	18,841	11,603	(7,239)	34,826	23,206	(11,621)	139,235
Administrators' Salaries Other Certificated Salaries	22,139	22,223	83	43,904	44,445	542	266,672
Total Certificated Salaries	154,613	162,982	8,369	266,604	251,428	(15,176)	1,881,250
Classified Salaries	154,015	102,302	0,303	149,221	231,420	(13,170)	1,001,230
Instructional Salaries	19,698	18,470	(1,228)	40,674	29,773	(10,901)	214,475
Support Salaries	44,717	25,261	(19,456)	96,866	50,522	(46,344)	303,135
Supervisors' and Administrators' Salaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clerical and Office Staff Salaries	7,085	17,588	10,502	11,681	35,176	23,495	211,053
Total Classified Salaries	71,500	61,319	(10,181)	149,221	115,471	(33,750)	728,663
Benefits							
State Teachers' Retirement System, certificated positions	350	31,130	30,779	350	48,023	47,673	359,319
OASDI/Medicare/Alternative, certificated positions	5,169	3,802	(1,367)	9,871	7,159	(2,712)	45,177
Medicare/Alternative, certificated positions  Health and Welfare Benefits, certificated positions	3,308	3,252	(55) (4.500)	6,000	5,320	(680)	37,844
State Unemployment Insurance, certificated positions	29,812 427	25,313 1,323	(4,500) 895	58,179 711	50,625 2,645	(7,554) 1,934	303,750 26,452
Workers' Compensation Insurance, certificated positions	-	3,140	3,140	13,287	5,137	(8,150)	36,539
Other Benefits, certificated positions	-	5,010	5,010	-	8,195	8,195	58,293
Total Benefits	39,067	72,969	33,902	88,398	127,103	38,705	867,374
Books & Supplies							
Textbooks and Core Materials	-	667	667	-	1,333	1,333	8,000
Software	94	-	(94)	94	-	(94)	19,025
Office Expense	6,871	9,358	2,487	58,484	18,717	(39,768)	112,300
Business Meals	8,298	4,167	(4,131)	8,596	8,333	(263)	50,000
School Fundraising Expense	-	400	400	62	800	738	4,800
Noncapitalized Equipment	8,567	-	(8 <i>,</i> 567)	8,567	-	(8,567)	85,503
Food Compless	0,507	1 0 1 0	4 0				
Food Services		1,046	1,046	75.000	2,092	2,092	12,553
Total Books & Supplies	23,830	1,046 15,638	1,046 (8,192)	75,803	31,276	(44,528)	12,553 292,181
				75,803			

Budget vs Actual

For the period ended August 31, 2024

	Current Period Actual	Current Period Budget	Current Period Variance	Current Year Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Variance	Total Budget
Other Educational Consultants	462	-	(462)	462	-	(462)	140,442
Instructional Services				-	833	833	5,000
Total Subagreement Services	462	3,283	2,821	462	7,400	6,938	184,842
Operations & Housekeeping							
Auto and Travel	1,606	1,567	(39)	2,422	3,133	711	18,800
Dues & Memberships	-	1,142	1,142	3,286	2,283	(1,003)	13,700
Insurance	2,110	2,431	320	13,592	4,861	(8,730)	29,167
Miscellaneous Expense	-	417	417	-	833	833	5,000
Communications	10,386	4,067	(6,319)	11,340	8,133	(3,206)	48,800
Postage and Shipping	306	275	(31)	546	550	4	3,300
Total Operations & Housekeeping	14,408	9,897	(4,511)	31,186	19,794	(11,391)	118,767
Facilities, Repairs & Other Leases							
Rent	2,410	2,058	(352)	5,134	4,117	(1,018)	24,700
Additional Rent	-	333	333	_	667	667	4,000
Other Leases	320	208	(112)	640	417	(223)	2,500
Total Facilities, Repairs & Other Leases	2,730	2,600	(130)	5,774	5,200	(574)	31,200
Professional/Consulting Services							
IT	4,720	5,192	471	18,991	10,383	(8,608)	62,300
Audit & Taxes	-	-	-	9,012	-	(9,012)	20,700
Legal	4,152	4,125	(27)	4,152	8,250	4,098	49,500
Professional Development	26,946	6,317	(20,630)	47,397	12,633	(34,763)	75,800
General Consulting	9,050	11,167	2,117	25,750	22,333	(3,417)	134,000
Special Activities/Field Trips	-	-	-	_	-	-	21,000
Bank Charges	20	67	47	45	133	88	800
Printing	452	-	(452)	452	-	(452)	-
Other Taxes and Fees	176	283	107	189	567	377	3,400
Payroll Service Fee	1,048	2,325	1,277	1,536	4,650	3,114	27,900
Management Fee	10,812	7,370	(3,441)	18,666	14,741	(3,925)	88,444
District Oversight Fee		1,635	1,635	-	1,635	1,635	32,102
County Fees	_	_,	_,	2,271	_,	(2,271)	4,400
SPED Encroachment	_	404	404	_,_,_	404	404	8,065
Public Relations/Recruitment	_	1,375	1,375	_	2,750	2,750	16,500
Total Professional/Consulting Services	57,376	40,260	(17,117)	128,461	78,480	(49,981)	544,911
Total Expenses	363,987	368,948	4,962	745,909	636,152	(109,758)	4,649,187
Total Expenses		300,340		743,333	030,132	(103)/307	4,043,207
Change in Net Assets	(182,790)	(174,534)	(8,257)	(414,205)	(441,154)	26,949	63,251
Net Assets, Beginning of Period	933,533	(== 1,00 1)	(-,/	1,164,947	(,,	_2,2 .2	
Net Assets, End of Period	\$ 750,742			\$ 750,742			

#### Statement of Financial Position

August 31, 2024

	Current Balance	Be	ginning Year Balance	Y	TD Change	YTD % Change
Assets						
Current Assets						
Unrestricted Cash	\$ 1,064,702	\$	1,429,289	\$	(364,587)	-26%
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1,064,702		1,429,289		(364,587)	-26%
Accounts Receivable	76,689		100,129		(23,440)	-23%
Public Funding Receivables	227,267		241,713		(14,446)	-6%
Prepaid Expenses	82,953		137,463		(54,510)	-40%
Total Current Assets	1,451,612		1,908,595		(456,983)	-24%
Total Assets	\$ 1,451,612	\$	1,908,595	\$	(456,983)	-24%
Liabilities						
Current Liabilities						
Accounts Payable	\$ 4,676	\$	27,822	\$	(23,146)	-83%
Accrued Liabilities	95,633		120,600		(24,967)	-21%
Deferred Revenue	600,560		595,226		5,334	1%
Total Current Liabilities	700,870		743,648		(42,778)	-6%
Total Liabilities	700,870		743,648		(42,778)	-6%
Total Net Assets	750,742		1,164,947		(414,205)	-36%
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,451,612	\$	1,908,595	\$	(456,983)	-24%

#### Check Register

For the period ended August 31, 2024

Check Number	Vendor Name	Transaction Description	Check Date	Check Amount
20863	Charter Impact LLC	Business Management - 08/24	8/2/2024	\$7,854.00
20864	Lakehouse Hotel & Resort	Kickoff Training Deposit - 08/19/24 - 08/22/24	8/2/2024	18,610.29
20865	Securian Life Insurance Company	Life Ins 08/24	8/2/2024	866.29
20866	Alpha Vision, Inc.	License (1)	8/7/2024	50.00
20867	Procopio General	Legal Svcs - 06/24	8/7/2024	3,627.00
20868	Verizon Wireless	Communication Svcs - 06/02/24 - 07/01/24	8/7/2024	3,945.79
20869	Verizon Wireless	Communication Svcs - 06/06/24 - 07/05/24	8/7/2024	309.84
20870	Charter Impact LLC	Payroll Svcs - 07/24	8/15/2024	3,478.50
20871	Corodata Records Management, Inc.	Record Storage - 07/24	8/15/2024	63.28
20872	Forth and Sons	Consulting Svcs - Digital Business Card Design	8/15/2024	100.00
20873	Procopio General	Legal Svcs	8/15/2024	2,175.00
20874	R&B Communications	Communication Svcs - 07/24	8/15/2024	1,003.00
20875	San Diego County Office of Education	Fingerprints (1) - 07/24	8/15/2024	154.00
20876	Verizon Wireless	Communication Svcs - 07/02/24 - 08/01/24	8/15/2024	3,897.06
20877	Verizon Wireless	Communication Svcs - 07/06/24 - 08/05/24	8/15/2024	309.84
20878	2024 CSDC Conference Registration	Professional Development	8/23/2024	1,797.00
20879	Acacia HR Solutions	Consulting Svcs - 09/24	8/23/2024	4,800.00
20880	Law Office of Young, Minney & Corr. LLP	Legal Svcs - 08/24	8/23/2024	525.00
20881	School Pathways LLC	License (112) - 07/01/23 - 06/30/24	8/23/2024	552.29
20882	YMCA of San Diego County	Membership - 08/13/24 - 02/13/25	8/23/2024	462.00
20883	Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	8/29/2024	398.74
20884	California Schools VEBA	Health Ins 09/24	8/29/2024	34,324.89
20886	Instructure, Inc.	Subscription - 07/05/24 - 07/04/25	8/29/2024	919.00
20887	JD Learning Partners	Travel Expense	8/29/2024	12,148.29
20888	Kelvin Education	Family Pulse Subscription - 07/01/24 - 06/30/25	8/29/2024	1,500.00
20889	Pro Imprint	Office Supplies	8/29/2024	4,000.20
20890	Securian Life Insurance Company	Life Ins - 09/24	8/29/2024	878.29
20891	GHA Technologies, Inc.	Tablet (2) & ThinkBook (2)	8/29/2024	1,751.75
322271620000100	GHA Technologies, Inc.	License (100)	8/2/2024	3,191.00
322271620000101	Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	8/2/2024	396.42
322271620000102	GHA Technologies, Inc.	Levono Notebook (1) - Credit	8/7/2024	1,981.45
322271620000103	Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	8/7/2024	1,949.15
322271620000104	Peter Matz	Stipend - 08/24	8/15/2024	650.00
322271620000105	William W. Hall	Stipend - 08/24 - Additional	8/15/2024	1,100.00
322271620000106	Steve Fraire	Stipend - 08/24	8/15/2024	
322271620000107	Michael P. Humphrey	Stipend - 08/24 - Additional	8/15/2024	
322271620000108	Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	8/15/2024	
322271620000109	Larry Albert Alvarado	Stipend - 08/24	8/15/2024	
322271620000110	Lakehouse Hotel & Resort	Annual Kick Off - 08/19/24 - 08/22/24	8/23/2024	
322271620000111	Keyn Group, LLC	IT Svcs	8/23/2024	
322271620000112	Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	8/23/2024	•
ACH	Paylocity	Payroll Taxes PPE: 080224S	8/2/2024	
ACH	Chase	Service Charges	8/5/2024	
ACH	Paylocity	Payroll Taxes PPE: 080924	8/8/2024	
ACH	Paylocity	Federal & State Tax Payments for Pay Date 080824	8/8/2024	
ACH	OneBridge FSA	Admin Fees & Minimum Adjustment	8/16/2024	•
ACH	Chase	Chase Ink CC# 0904 Payment Aug24	8/20/2024	
ACH	Paylocity	Paylocity Software Fees	8/20/2024	
ACH	Chase	JP Morgan CC# 1398 Payment	8/20/2024	
ACH	Paylocity	Payroll Taxes PPE: 082324	8/23/2024	
ACH	Philadelphia Insurance Companies	Health Ins. 8/24	8/23/2024	
ACH	Chase	JP Morgan CC# 1398 Payment Aug24	8/27/2024	
ACH	Paylocity	Payroll Taxes PPE: 082824S	8/28/2024	
ACH ACH		Federal & State Tax Payments for Pay Date 080824		
АСН Voided - 20885	Paylocity GHA Technologies, Inc.	Tablet (2) & ThinkBook (2)	8/8/2024 8/29/2024	
v ulucu - 20000	OTIA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	rabici (Z) & HillikDOUK (Z)	0/29/2024	volu

Total Disbursements Issued in August \$ 211,321.38

# Motivated Youth Academy 60-Day Compliance Calendar August 31 2024

August 31, 2024		<b>-</b>				
Area	Due Date	Description	Completed By	Board Must Approve	Signature Required	Additional Information
FINANCE	-	The Educator Effectiveness Funds (EEF) Annual Report - Annual report due each year on Sep 30th through 2026. Funds may be expended during the 2021–22, 2022–23, 2023–24, 2024–25 and 2025–26 fiscal years. A final data and expenditure report will be due on or before September 30, 2026. Any funds not expended by June 30, 2026, must be returned to the CDE.	Charter Impact with MYA support	No	No	https://www2.cde.ca.gov/eefannual/
DATA TEAM	Oct-02	California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS) Information Day - The first Wed in Oct is CBEDS Information Day, used to collect information on student and staff demographics. Schools must complete the School Information Form (SIF). The SIF is used to report the count of classified staff, kindergarten program type, educational calendars, work visa applications, multilingual instructional programs, and languages of instruction. Data is due to CDE on October 31th.	MYA	No	No	http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/dc/cb/
FINANCE	Oct-11	Year-End Maintenance of Effort (Special Education) - Report due to Charter school's SELPA. Maintenance of Effort (MOE) is a requirement that you spend each year at least what you spent last year in the area of special education (with some exceptions). If you reduce your special education budget (or expenditures) in a given year, you need to be careful to ensure that you have met the MOE requirement. This does not mean you can't reduce costs, but you must do so within the guidelines of federal MOE.	Charter Impact	No	No	
FINANCE	Oct-11	Federal Stimulus Reporting- Local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to report to the California Department of Education (CDE) on funds received through the CARES Act, the CRRSA Act, and the ARP, including ESSER I, GEER I, ESSER II, ESSER III and ELO-G. Reporting for the preceding quarter (July 1 - Sep 30).	Charter Impact	No	No	https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/cr/reporting.asp
DATA TEAM	Oct-31	CBEDS-ORA - Collection of FTE of classified staff, estimated teacher hires, Kindergarten program types, H-1B work visa application, education calendar, multilingual instructional programs, languages of instruction and district of choice transfer requests and transportation data.	MYA	No	No	https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/dc/cb/
FINANCE	Oct-31	Federal Cash Management - Period 2 - Charter schools that are awarded a grant under any of these programs: Title I, Part A; Title I, Part D, Subpart 2; Title II, Part A; Title III LEP; and Title III Immigrant programs must submit the CMDC report for a particular quarter in order to receive an apportionment for that quarter; CDE will apportion funds to LEAs whose cash balance is below a certain threshold.	Charter Impact	No	No	http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/cm/
FINANCE	Oct-31	Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) Expenditure Reporting - 2023 Report 2 and 2022 Final Report - Actual expenditures for each performance period within the grant period shall be reported to the California Department of Education (CDE) as part of regular grant management and administration.	Charter Impact with MYA support	No	No	https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/csileagrantrpt.asp
DATA TEAM	Oct-31	Complete 20-Day Attendance Report - Charter schools in their first year of operation that begin instruction by September 30th, and continuing charter schools that are expanding by adding one or more grade levels, may apply for a special advance on their funding for LCFF State Aid and EPA State Aid. The special advance is based on actual ADA and pupil demographic data for the first 20 days of student instruction.	MYA	No	Yes	https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/pa/csfunding.asp?tabsection=2
FINANCE	Oct-31	Reporting Interest Earned on Federal Funds  CDE federal program grantees are required to report and remit interest earned on advances to the CDE at least quarterly. Although grantees are allowed to keep interest amounts up to \$500 per year for administrative purposes, the \$500 is in total for all federal programs, not for each federal program.	Charter Impact with MYA support	No	No	https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/ac/co/intfedfunds-calculating.asp
DATA TEAM		Collect Alternative Income Forms from Families  Alternative income forms can be used in place of, or in conjunction with, federal meal applications to determine students whose household income meets FRPM eligibility levels. Determination is required to calculate UPC (Unduplicated Pupil Count) for Supplemental and Concentration funding, as well as other state grants.	MYA	No	No	https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/pa/altincomeforms.asp
FINANCE	Nov-15	Review and/or Update Non-Profit IRS Form 990 Policies - although not required, it is recommended to review these policies annually. The IRS Form 990 is the annual information return filed by most non-profit charter schools. The IRS Form 990 includes a Governance, Management and Disclosure section. Charter Schools are required to disclose the following policies: Conflict of Interest Policy, Whistleblower Policy, Document Retention and Destruction Policy, Expense Reimbursement Policy, Gift Receiving Policy, and Compensation Approval Policy. A Form 990 must be filed by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of the NPO's fiscal year. Most schools extend this deadline to the following May 15th.	MYA	Yes	No	http://www.publiccounsel.org/useful_materials?id=0025_
FINANCE	Authorizer	1st Interim Financial Report - Local educational agencies (LEAs) are required to file two reports during a fiscal year (interim reports) on the status of the LEA's financial health. The first interim report for the period ending October 31 is due by the date set by the charter authorizer (no later than December 15th).	Charter Impact	Yes	Yes	https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fi/ir/interimstatus.asp

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#### Coversheet

## Continuous School Improvement Plan for 2024-2025, presented by Melissa Lato, Assistant Director

Section: VII. Correspondence/Proposals/Reports

Item: D. Continuous School Improvement Plan for 2024-2025, presented by

Melissa Lato, Assistant Director **Purpose:** FYI

Submitted by:

Related Material: Continuous School Improvement (CSI) Presentation.pdf

# Comprehensive Support and Improvement Plan 2024- 25



October 2024



# School-Level Needs Assessment & Root Cause Analysis

Determining Factor for CSI:
Graduation Rate

Student groups:
All Students,
Hispanic,
Socioeconomically
disadvantaged



**Credit Deficiency** 

Resource Inequities Indicated After Transcript Review

# Evidence Based Interventions and Monitoring the Plan

**Credentialed Math** Teacher for **Targeted** Interventions

**Student Success** Coordinators (SSC)

Small Class Sizes for 1:1 Support and **Interventions** 



Weekly monitoring of progress and course completion through multiple measures

**Support Team** including, teacher, educational partner, counselor, school psychologist, administrators

Measurable Metrics: attendance rate, course completion rate, graduation rate



# Questions?

-MY Academy-

Where we celebrate the small things.



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#### Coversheet

#### Consent - Business/Financial Services

Section: VIII. Consent

Item: A. Consent - Business/Financial Services

Purpose: Vote

Submitted by: Related Material:

Check Register - September 2024.pdf

Cook Center for Human Connection Services Agreement 2024-2025.pdf

GoGuardian Beacon quote 2024.10.08 .pdf

Regus Lease Agreement Jan 2025 - August 2025.pdf

Vector Solutions Contract for 2024-2025.pdf

Western Association of Schools and Colleges WASC Inv #1326563 (2024-25 Annual Accreditation

Membership Fee) \$1230 - 2024.09.06.pdf

**BACKGROUND:** 

Item: Approval of Cook Center for Human Connection (CCHC) (Renewal)

**Background:** CCHC provides essential mental health support, offering 50% of services at no cost. The program, which includes 1:1 coaching, access to therapists, a mental health series, and more, has proven valuable to both students and educational partners. This renewal ensures MYA can continue offering these important benefits. A 1-year contract has been negotiated, with the option to extend to 3 years while maintaining current pricing.

Item: Approval of GoGuardian Beacon module for Motivated Youth Academy (#1628)

**Background:** GoGuardian Beacon is a student safety tool designed to monitor online activity on school-issued devices, detecting warning signs of self-harm, suicide, or potential harm to others. By alerting school staff in real-time to concerning behavior, it enables early intervention, helping schools prevent potential crises. Incorporating GoGuardian Beacon into student device security would enhance the school's ability to protect students' mental health, ensuring a safer online environment and offering proactive support when students may be in distress.

**Item:** Approval of lease agreement renewal for Regus Premier Office Space for January - August 2025

**Background:** Regus Premier Office Space has served as MYA's dedicated office space at La Terraza Corporate Plaza. The contract provides a spacious office, complete with utilities, high-speed internet, and janitorial services. Tenants also enjoy access to lounges, meeting rooms, and shared workspaces throughout the region, making it an ideal solution for MYA's flexible work needs. This location offers a professional environment and essential services that support MYA's operations.

Item: Approval of lease agreement renewal of Vector Solutions

**Background:** Renewing the Vector Solutions subscription for school staff training offers significant benefits, as it provides a comprehensive library of compliance, safety, and professional development

modules tailored to educational environments. These online training modules ensure that staff stay up to date with important topics like student safety, mental health, and legal compliance, all through an easy-to-access platform. With automatic tracking of completed courses and certifications, it simplifies administrative oversight and helps ensure that all staff meet annual training requirements efficiently and effectively.

**Item:** Approval of lease agreement renewal of Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

**Background:** The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation is a critical marker of a school's commitment to high-quality education and continuous improvement. Being part of WASC ensures that the school meets rigorous academic standards, which fosters credibility and trust among parents, students, and the broader educational community. Maintaining this accreditation demonstrates a school's focus on accountability, self-assessment, and long-term development. Furthermore, WASC accreditation is often required for students' transcripts to be recognized by colleges and universities, providing crucial academic continuity for students pursuing higher education.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

**Recommendation:** It is recommended the Board approve the renewal agreement between CCHC and Motivated Youth Academy (#1628)

**Fiscal Impact:** \$5,000.00

**Recommendation:** It is recommended the Board approve the software platform GoGuardian Beacon for Motivated Youth Academy (#1628)

Fiscal Impact: \$1510.00

**Recommendation:** It is recommended the Board approve the lease agreement renewal for Regus Premier Office Space for Motivated Youth Academy (#1628)

**Fiscal Impact:** \$18,768.00

**Recommendation:** It is recommended the Board approve the subscription agreement renewal for Vector Solutions and Motivated Youth Academy (#1628)

Fiscal Impact: \$716.63

**Recommendation:** It is recommended the Board approve the renewal of the membership to WASC for Motivated Youth Academy (#1628)

**Fiscal Impact:** \$1,230.00

#### **Motivated Youth Academy**

#### **Prelim Check register**

#### For the Period Ended 9/30/2024

Document No.	Vendor	Memo	Check date	Amount
20898	ACCR000Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Assoc of Schools & Colleges	Membership Fee - 2024-2025	9/12/2024	1,230.00
20892	ALPH000Alpha Vision, Inc.	Software - Backupify G-Suite - 08/24	9/6/2024	70.00
20892	ALPH000Alpha Vision, Inc.	Cybersecurity Meeting - 08/14/24	9/6/2024	100.00
20892	ALPH000Alpha Vision, Inc.	Software - Backupify G-Suite - 09/24	9/6/2024	70.00
322271620000121	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/24/2024	28.00
322271620000121	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/24/2024	103.40
322271620000121	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/24/2024	84.00
322271620000121	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/24/2024	116.28
322271620000121	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/24/2024	3.85
322271620000121	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/24/2024	52.18
20903	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/19/2024	15.91
20903	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/19/2024	49.96
20903	AMAZ000 - Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/19/2024	17.98
20903	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies		17.98
	·		9/19/2024	
20903	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/19/2024	18.11
322271620000119	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/12/2024	32.09
322271620000119	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/12/2024	50.30
322271620000119	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/12/2024	28.96
20893	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	School Supplies	9/6/2024	12.78
20893	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Prime Membership Renewal	9/6/2024	104.53
20893	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Office Supplies	9/6/2024	19.04
20893	AMAZ000Amazon Capital Services	Document Scanner (1)	9/6/2024	161.60
20904	CACH000CA Charter Schools Conference Registration	Full Conference Registration (1)	9/19/2024	495.00
20909	CAMP000Campo Cafe	Meals - 09/24	9/24/2024	981.60
20909	CAMP000Campo Cafe	Meals - 05/24	9/24/2024	1,043.02
20899	CHAR000Charter Impact LLC	Payroll Svcs - 08/24	9/12/2024	554.00
E090524-01	CHAS000Chase	Service Charges	9/5/2024	25.90
20905	CORO000Corodata Records Management, Inc.	Record Storage - 08/24	9/19/2024	63.28
20906	KEYN000Keyn Group, LLC	IT Support - 07/24 - 09/24	9/19/2024	14,234.85
20906	KEYN000 - Keyn Group, LLC	••		669.15
	,	Website Update & Training	9/19/2024	
20906	KEYN000Keyn Group, LLC	Cybersecurity Training	9/19/2024	1,910.40
20894	LAKE001Lakehouse Hotel & Resort	Kickoff 2024 - 08/18/24 - 08/23/24 - Remaining Balance	9/6/2024	3,115.42
322271620000116	ALVA000Larry Albert Alvarado	Stipend - 09/24	9/12/2024	650.00
322271620000114	HUMP000Michael P. Humphrey	Stipend - 09/24 - Additional	9/12/2024	450.00
322271620000114	HUMP000Michael P. Humphrey	Stipend - 09/24	9/12/2024	650.00
20900	NCSP000NCS Pearson Inc	License (1)	9/12/2024	290.00
E091624-01	ONEB000OneBridge FSA	Admin Fees & Minimum Adjustment	9/16/2024	50.00
E092024-02	PAYL000Paylocity	Paylocity Fees 09/24	9/20/2024	525.71
oided - E090924-01/	PAYL000Paylocity	Payroll Taxes PPE: 091024	9/9/2024	-8,893.00
E090924-01	PAYL000Paylocity	Payroll Taxes PPE: 091024	9/9/2024	8,893.00
322271620000117	MATZ000Peter Matz	Stipend - 09/24	9/12/2024	650.00
20895	RBCO000R&B Communications	Website Svcs - 08/24	9/6/2024	2,503.00
20910	SAND004San Diego County Office of Education	Fingerprinting	9/24/2024	137.00
20896	SAND004San Diego County Office of Education	Learning & Innovation Summit (1) - 08/24/24	9/6/2024	100.00
322271620000120	SCHO002SchoolsFirst Plan Administration LLC	MYA 457b 7/26/24	9/16/2024	4,294.01
322271620000120	SCHO002SchoolsFirst Plan Administration LLC	MYA 403b 7/26/24	9/16/2024	350.00
322271620000123	SCHO002 - SchoolsFirst Plan Administration LLC	MYA 403b 8/26/24	9/12/2024	350.00
		·		
322271620000113	SCHO002 SchoolsFirst Plan Administration LLC	MYA 457b 8/9/24	9/12/2024	1,528.98
322271620000113	SCHO002SchoolsFirst Plan Administration LLC	MYA 457b 9/10/24	9/12/2024	2,242.82
322271620000113	SCHO002SchoolsFirst Plan Administration LLC	MYA 457b 8/26/24	9/12/2024	4,339.43
322271620000113	SCHO002SchoolsFirst Plan Administration LLC	MYA 403b 8/9/24	9/12/2024	100.00
20901	STAT001State of California Department of Justice	Fingerprint Svcs - 07/24	9/12/2024	32.00
322271620000118	FRAI000Steve Fraire	Stipend - 09/24	9/12/2024	650.00
20902	VERI001Verizon Wireless	Communication Svcs - 08/02/24 - 09/01/24	9/12/2024	3,828.82
322271620000115	HALL000William W. Hall	Stipend - 09/24 - Additional	9/12/2024	450.00
322271620000115	HALL000William W. Hall	Stipend - 09/24	9/12/2024	650.00
20908	YMCA003YMCA of San Diego County	Membership - 09/11/24 - 03/10/25	9/19/2024	582.00
20907	YMCA001YMCA of San Diego County	Membership - 08/30/24 - 02/28/25	9/19/2024	402.00
20907	YMCA001YMCA of San Diego County	Membership - 09/10/24 - 03/09/25	9/19/2024	294.00
	YMCA002YMCA of San Diego County	Membership - 08/30/24 - 02/28/25	9/6/2024	462.00

52,041.34

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#### **MY Academy**

500 LA Terraza Blvd, Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025 United States

#### **Bill Dobson**

bdobson@myacademy.org

**Quote Number**: 101732923

Quote created: October 4, 2023 Quote expires: January 2, 2024

#### **Cook Center for Human Connection**

1955 W Grove Pkwy #300 Pleasant Grove , UT 84062

#### **Prepared by: Nick Heath**

nick.heath@cookcenter.org

PRODUCTS & SERVICES	QUANTITY	PRICE
Parent Coaching  Any parents or caregivers in the district are eligible to participate.	1	\$5,000.00 for 1 year
SUBTOTALS		
One-time subtotal		\$5,000.00

Total \$5,000.00
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#### Comments

If MyAcademy receives board approval for multi-tiered support (Mental Health Series & Parent/Staff Coaching) on or before Dec 31st, 2023, this price will be honored with the standard 3-year agreement.

#### **Purchase Terms**

#### **Agreement Terms**

This purchase contract documents a purchase made by MY Academy from the Cook Center for Human Connection. In exchange for the consideration described in **101732923** (a copy which is combined hereto as "Quote"), and subject to the terms (including product information, payment amounts, payment deadlines and rates for future years, if applicable) listed thereon. Company will provide Customer access to the planning of named software and service products.

This agreement may be revoked by Company if the conditions (such as deadlines for signature of this Agreement, deadlines for Company's receipt of a customer approved purchase order etc.) outlined on Quote are not met.

Implementation, Training and support Information: Implementation and Training Services. Customer's purchase of services includes virtual onboarding and training services. Any additional onsite training or professional development will be noted in Quote.

ACCEPTED AND AGREED

MY Academy	Cook Center for Human Connection
Signature:	Signature :
Print Name :	Print Name :
Title:	Title:
Date :	Date :

#### **Signature**

Before you sign this quote, an email must be sent to you to verify your identity. Find your profile below to request a verification email.

**Bill Dobson** 

bdobson@myacademy.org

William B. Dobson

John Cook

john.cook@cookcenter.org

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Audit trail

Title MY Academy - Parent Coaching

File name redir

Document ID dea88cf0042b013f560cf4127af81a2862c65529

Audit trail date format MM / DD / YYYY

Status • Signed

#### This document was signed on app.hubspot.com

#### **Document History**

SENT	<b>10 / 21 / 2023</b> 03:18:50 UTC	Sent for signature to Bill Dobson (bdobson@myacademy.org) and John Cook (john.cook@cookcenter.org) from esign@hubspot.com IP: 54.174.52.22
VIEWED	<b>10 / 21 / 2023</b> 03:19:11 UTC	Viewed by Bill Dobson (bdobson@myacademy.org) IP: 68.6.200.153
SIGNED	<b>10 / 21 / 2023</b> 03:19:49 UTC	Signed by Bill Dobson (bdobson@myacademy.org) IP: 68.6.200.153
VIEWED	<b>10 / 23 / 2023</b> 20:15:50 UTC	Viewed by John Cook (john.cook@cookcenter.org) IP: 205.197.216.130
SIGNED	<b>10 / 23 / 2023</b> 20:16:31 UTC	Signed by John Cook (john.cook@cookcenter.org) IP: 205.197.216.130
COMPLETED	<b>10 / 23 / 2023</b> 20:16:31 UTC	The document has been completed.

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#### ORDER FORM

QUOTE # Q-431998 DATE 10/2/2024 EXPIRATION DATE 10/31/2024



#### **Bill To**

Motivated Youth Academy (CA) 1782 La Costa Meadows Dr Ste 102 San Marcos, California 92078 United States

#### Ship To

Gigi Lenz Motivated Youth Academy (CA) 3291 Buckman Springs Rd Pine Valley, California 91962-4003 United States 619) 343-2048 glenz@myacademy.org

#### Liminex, Inc.

dba GoGuardian and Pear Deck Learning 2030 E Maple Avenue Suite 100 El Segundo, California 90245 United States

Thank you for your interest in our products! This order form ("Order Form") identifies the Liminex products you have selected for subscription ("Licensed Product(s)"), the term of your initial subscription(s) to the Licensed Product(s) ("Initial Term"), the number of licenses included in your base subscription(s) ("Licenses"), as well as the fees associated with your base subscription(s), any Licenses you add to your subscription(s) during the Initial Term, and support and professional services related to the Licensed Product(s).

This Order Form, once executed by authorized representatives of Liminex, Inc. dba GoGuardian ("GoGuardian") and Pear Deck Learning ("Pear Deck Learning") on behalf of itself and its family of company Affiliates and products including Pear Deck, Inc. ("Pear Deck"), Snapwiz, Inc. referred to herein as "Pear Assessment", Zorro Holdco LLC referred to herein as "Pear Deck Tutor", and Pear Practice ("Pear Practice") (together, "Liminex", "we", "us", "our"), and the organization listed below ("School," "you" or "your"), and together with the Liminex Product Terms of Service and End User License Agreement available at <a href="https://www.goguardian.com/policies/eula">https://www.goguardian.com/policies/eula</a> and <a href="https://www.peardeck.com/policies/product-terms-and-end-user-license-agreement">https://www.goguardian.com/policies/eula</a> and <a href="https://www.peardeck.com/policies/product-terms-and-end-user-license-agreement">https://www.peardeck.com/policies/product-terms-and-end-user-license-agreement</a> (the "Terms" and, together with this Order Form, the "Agreement"), forms a binding contract. All capitalized terms not defined in this Order Form will prevail, but solely with respect to this Order Form. We do not agree to any other terms, including without limitation any terms on your School's purchase order.

QTY	PART#	DESCRIPTION	START DATE	END DATE	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED
250	GG- BCN1Y- 000001	GoGuardian Beacon - Core	11/1/2024	10/31/2025	\$6.04	\$1,510.00

**TOTAL (USD):** \$1,510.00

Add-on Licenses. If during the Initial Term or during any Renewal Term, you would like to expand your base subscription(s) to include additional Licenses, please contact Liminex so that we can send you an additional Order Form for those 'add-on' Licenses ("Add-Ons"). If we do not hear from you and you deploy additional Licenses, we will send you an Order Form and invoice your Organization for subscriptions to the Add-Ons you use. Add-Ons, once deployed, will be rolled into your base subscription, and, collectively, are referred to as the "Subscription."

AZ/HI/SC/WA Customers: Sales tax will be added to the Fees quoted above.

#### RENEWAL SUBSCRIPTION TERM

Following the Initial Term, your Subscription (including any Add-Ons during the previous term) will automatically renew on an annual basis for successive 12-month periods (each, a "Renewal Term," and together with the Initial Term, the "Term") at our then-current fees (including an Innovation Increase as defined below) for such Subscription, unless you provide us with written notice of cancellation or written intent not to renew at least sixty (60) days prior to the end of the then-current Term. Your cancellation will take effect as of the last day of your then-current Term and you will not be charged for the upcoming Renewal Term. You will not be entitled to receive a refund or credit of any subscription fees paid for your then-current Term even if you elect not to use the Subscription for the remainder of that Term.

#### ORDER FORM

QUOTE # Q-431998 DATE 10/2/2024 EXPIRATION DATE 10/31/2024





#### **RENEWAL FEES**

We are dedicated to improving the Licensed Products on an ongoing basis through continued innovation in research and development. For this reason, following the Initial Term, the Subscription Fee-Per License Price for each Licensed Product will be subject to an automatic fee increase equal to 10% above the Subscription Fee-Per License Price you paid for the Licensed Product in the previous term ("Innovation Increase"). Order Forms and invoicing for Renewal Terms will reflect the Innovation Increase and your renewal subscription fees will be calculated using the increased fees for the number of Licenses included in your Subscription. You agree to pay the Subscription Fees, reflecting the Innovation Increase, due for each Renewal Term as described herein, unless you decide not to renew the Subscription with Liminex in accordance with this Order Form.

#### **PAYMENT**

Cianatura

Full payment of the Total Base Subscription Fees for Initial Term is required before access to the Subscription is provided for the Initial Term. Your School is responsible for all payment of fees associated with any Add-Ons. Payment for all fees, including any fees for Add-Ons, is due within thirty (30) days of invoice date. Payment of the applicable Total Base Subscription Fees (including fees for any Add-Ons) for each Renewal Term is also due up front in full in advance of each Renewal Term, Your School is responsible for all taxes and duties unless expressly included in this Order Form.

Signature.	
Name:	
Title:	
Email:	
Accounts Payable Name:	
Accounts Payable Email:	
PO Number (Optional):	
Additional Notes (requests for delayed invoicing, etc.):	



#### RENEWAL SERVICE **AGREEMENT**

AGREEMEI	NT DATE : SE	PTEMBER 9, 2024				
BUSINESS C	ENTER ADDRESS	3:	CLIENT ADI	DRESS (NOT ABUSIN	IESS CENTER ADDRESS):	
Dog:	I €™		Company N	ame	Motivated Youth Academy	_
Regus			Contact Nar	me	Gigi Lenz	
CA, Escondid	o - La Terraza Co	rporate Plaza	Address *		2825 Oak Hill Dr	
500 La Terraz	a Blvd.					
Suite 150						
Escondido			City *		Escondido	
California			State/ Coun	ty/ Province/	California 💠	
92025 United States	of America		Municipality	/ Governorate *	California	
Officed States	of America		Post Code *		92027	
			Country *		United States of America 💠	
			Phone num	ber*	United States of America +1♣	
					619-393-9378	
			Email *		glenz@myacademy.org	
RENEWAL PA	YMENT DETAILS (	EXCLUDING TAX AND OPT	(IONAL SERVICES)			
Office Number	Number of People	Total Monthly Office Price	Discount for Longer Term	Total Monthly Discount	Discounted Monthly Renewal Price	
147	2	\$ 2,470.00	\$ 124.00	\$ 124.00	\$ 2,346.00	
TOTALS	2	\$ 2,470.00	\$ 124.00	\$ 124.00	\$ 2,346.00	
				5.02%		
SERVICE PR	OVISION:	Start Date	January 1, 2025	End Date*	August 31, 2025	

- \* All agreements end on the last calendar day of the month. More info
- . Invoices/Fees are charged on a monthly basis which is calculated based on a 30-day month. More info
- Arefundable service retainer equivalent to 2 x monthly office fee will be payable. More info

Promotion: Any promotion or discount is for the initial term of the agreement.

We are Regus Management Group, LLC, please click the link below for terms and conditions.

AGREEMENT TO ARBITRATE/CLASS ACTION WAIVER: YOU AND WE MUTUALLY AGREE TO WAIVE OUR RESPECTIVE RIGHTS TO RESOLVE DISPUTES IN A COURT OF LAW BY A JUDGE OR JURY AND AGREE TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTE BETWEEN US BY BINDING ARBITRATION, except as expressly provided in this paragraph. Any dispute or claim relating in any way or arising out of this Agreement shall be resolved by binding arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in accord with its Commercial Arbitration Rules (available at www.adr.org), except that You or We may assert claims in small claims court and We may pursue a court action to remove You if You do not leave when this Agreement terminates (and You may pursue a court action to prevent Your removal). The arbitrator, and not a court of law, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, or formation of this agreement to arbitrate, and shall conduct the arbitration on an individual basis only and not as a class or representative action. You and We acknowledge that this Agreement is governed by the Federal Arbitration Act and will survive after this Agreement terminates or your relationship with Us ends.

CLASS ACTION WAIVER: YOU UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT YOU AND WE MAY EACH BRING CLAIMS AGAINST THE OTHER, WHETHER IN COURT OR ARBITRATION, ONLY IN AN INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AND NOT ON A CLASS, COLLECTIVE ACTION, OR REPRESENTATIVE BASIS, AND EXPRESSLY WAIVE THE RIGHT TO PURSUE OR HAVE A DISPUTE RESOLVED AS A PLAINTIFF OR CLASS MEMBER IN ANY PURPORTED CLASS, COLLECTIVE OR REPRESENTATIVE PROCEEDING.



Download the house rules

This website is secure. Your personal details are protected at all times.



CONFIRMATION NO: R-3071337

#### IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE CALL OUR HELPLINE ON +1-855-400-3575

These General Terms and Conditions apply to Office/Coworking, Virtual Office, Membership, and Workplace Recovery agreements for services We supply to You.

- 1. General Agreement
  - 1.1. Nature of an agreement: At all times, each Center remains in Our possession and control. YOU ACCEPT THAT AN AGREEMENT CREATES NO TENANCY INTEREST, LEASEHOLD ESTATE, OR OTHER REAL PROPERTY INTEREST IN YOUR FAVOR WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCOMMODATION.
  - 1.2. House Rules: The House Rules, which are incorporated into these terms and conditions, are primarily in place and enforced to ensure that all clients have a professional environment to work in.
  - 1.3. Company and Contact Information: It is Your responsibility to keep the information and key contact information We use to communicate with You up to date through the App or Online Account (or other customer portal as advised to you from time to time). This includes but is not limited to email addresses, phone numbers, company address, Tax/VAT, and registration details as locally applicable. Your contact address details must be a legitimate business address or residential address of the primary contact; it must not be an IWG Center address (or other business center address).
  - 1.4. Availability at the start of an agreement: If for any unfortunate reason We cannot provide the Virtual Office services or Office/Co-Working accommodation in the Center stated in an agreement by the start date, We will have no liability to You for any loss or damage, but You may either move to one of Our other Centers (subject to availability), delay the start of the agreement, or cancel it.
  - 1.5. **AUTOMATIC RENEWAL:** SO THAT WE CAN MANAGE YOUR SERVICES EFFECTIVELY AND TO ENSURE SEAMLESS CONTINUITY OF THOSE SERVICES, ALL AGREEMENTS WILL RENEW AUTOMATICALLY FOR SUCCESSIVE PERIODS EQUAL TO THE CURRENT TERM UNTIL BROUGHT TO AN END BY YOU OR US. ALL PERIODS SHALL RUN TO THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH IN WHICH THEY WOULD OTHERWISE EXPIRE. THE FEES ON ANY RENEWAL WILL BE AT THE THEN PREVAILING MARKET RATEIF YOU DO NOT WISH FOR AN AGREEMENT TO RENEW THEN YOU CAN CANCEL IT EASILY WITH EFFECT FROM THE END DATE STATED IN THE AGREEMENT, OR AT THE END OF ANY EXTENSION OR RENEWAL PERIOD, BY GIVING US PRIOR NOTICE. NOTICE MUST BE GIVEN THROUGH YOUR ONLINE ACCOUNT OR THROUGH THE APP. THE NOTICE PERIODS REQUIRED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Term Notice Period

Month-to-Month no less than 1 month's notice from the 1st day of any calendar month

months no less than 2 months' notice prior to the end of the term

More than 3 months no less than 3 months' notice prior to the end of the term

- 1.6. We may elect not to renew an agreement. If so, We will inform You by email, through the App or Your online account, according to the same notice periods specified above.
- 1.7. If the Center is no longer available: In the event that We are permanently unable to provide the services and accommodation at the Center stated in an agreement, We will offer You accommodation in one of Our other centers. In the unlikely event We are unable to find a nearby alternative accommodation, Your agreement will end, and You will only have to pay monthly fees up to that date and for any additional services You have used.
- 1.8. Ending an agreement immediately: We may terminate an agreement immediately by giving You notice if (a) You become insolvent or bankrupt; or (b) You breach one of your obligations which cannot be put right, or which We have given You notice to put right and which You have failed to put right within 14 days of that notice; or (c) Your conduct, or that of someone at the Center with Your permission or invitation, is incompatible with ordinary office use and, (i) that conduct continues despite You having been given notice, or (ii) that conduct is material enough (in Our reasonable opinion) to warrant immediate termination; or (d) You are in breach of the "Compliance With Law" clause below. If We terminate an agreement for any of the reasons referred to in this clause You must, within 30 days of the date of Our notice of termination, pay Us as a lump sum payment all sums that would otherwise have fallen due and payable by you during the remainder of the period for which Your agreement would have lasted if We had not terminated it. You agree that this payment reflects a reasonable estimate of the actual damages that We will sustain in the event of an early termination.
- 1.9. When an Office agreement ends: When an agreement ends You must vacate Your accommodation immediately, leaving it in the same state and condition as it was when You took it. If You leave any property in the Center, We may dispose of it at Your cost in any way We choose without owing You any responsibility for it or any proceeds of sale. If You continue to use the accommodation when an agreement has ended, You are responsible for any loss, claim or liability We may incur as a result of Your failure to vacate on time.

1.10. Transferability: Subject to availability (which shall be determined in Our sole discretion) You may transfer Your agreement to alternative accommodation in the IWG network of Centers provided that Your financial commitment remains the same (or increases) and such transfer is not used to extend or renew an existing agreement. Such a transfer may require entry into a new agreement.

#### 2. Use of the Centers:

2.1. Business Operations: You may not carry on a business that competes with Our business of providing serviced offices and flexible working. You may not use Our name (or that of Our affiliates) in any way in connection with Your business. You are only permitted to use the address of a Center as Your registered office address if it is permitted by both law and if We have given You prior written consent (given the administration there is an additional fee chargeable for this service which can be found in the House Rules). You must only use the accommodation for office business purposes. If We decide that a request for any particular service is excessive, We reserve the right to charge an additional fee. In order to ensure that the Center provides a great working environment for all, We kindly ask you to limit any excessive visits by members of the public.

#### 2.2. Accommodation

- 2.2.1. Alterations or Damage: You are liable for any damage caused by You or those in the Center with Your permission, whether express or implied, including but not limited to all employees, contractors and/or agents.
- 2.2.2. IT Installations: We take great pride in Our IT infrastructure and its upkeep and therefore You must not install any cabling, IT, or telecom connections without Our consent, which We may refuse in our absolute discretion. As a condition to Our consent, You must permit Us to oversee any installations (for example, IT or electrical systems) and to verify that such installations do not interfere with the use of the accommodation by other clients or Us or any landlord of the building. Fees for installation and de-installation will be at Your cost
- 2.2.3. Use of the Accommodation: An agreement will list the accommodation We initially allocate for Your use. You will have a non-exclusive right to the rooms allocated to You. Where the accommodation is a Coworking desk, this can only be used by one individual. It cannot be shared among multiple individuals. Occasionally to ensure the efficient running of the Centre, We may need to allocate different accommodation to You, but it will be of reasonably equivalent size, and We will notify You with respect to such different accommodation in advance.
- 2.2.4. Access to the Accommodation: To maintain a high level of service, We may need to enter Your accommodation and may do so at any time, including and without limitation, in an emergency, for cleaning and inspection or in order to resell the space if You have given notice to terminate. We will always endeavor to respect any of Your reasonable security procedures to protect the confidentiality of Your business.
- 2.2.5. Hybrid Working: You may use Your designated office for hybrid working (excluding Coworking desks). Hybrid working is defined as having more individuals registered with access to Your office than the specified maximum allowable occupants for that office at any one time. The management of individuals accessing your office is Your responsibility and should be managed through Your online account. At no time may the number of individuals working in Your accommodation exceed the maximum number of occupants allowed. A hybrid supplemental monthly fee will be payable by You for each individual registered above the maximum occupants allowed. This fee can be found in the House Rules.

#### 2.3. Membership:

- 2.3.1. If You have subscribed to a Membership Agreement You will have entry access to all participating centers worldwide during standard business working hours and subject to availability. If You would like to stay after hours, please speak to the Community Team for instructions on, and availability of, after hours use.
- 2.3.2. Membership Usage: Usage is measured in whole days and unused days cannot be carried over to the following month. A membership is not intended to be a replacement for a full-time workspace and all workspaces must be cleared at the end of each day. You are solely responsible for Your belongings at the center at all times. We are not responsible for any property that is left unattended. Should You use more than Your membership entitlement, We will charge You an additional usage fee. You may bring in 1 guest free of charge (subject to fair usage). Any additional guests will be required to purchase a day pass.
- 2.3.3. As a Member, You may not use any Center as Your business address without an accompanying office or virtual office agreement in place. Any use of the Center address in such a way will result in an automatic

- MY Academy Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Agenda Tuesday October 8, 2024 at 10:22 AM
- enrollment in the Virtual Office product for the same term as Your membership and You will be invoiced accordingly.
- 2.4. Workplace Recovery: The Workplace Recovery services are governed by these terms and conditions including, without limitation, Our liability to You and insurance. This service is detailed further in the Workplace Recovery Services Guide which is available upon request.
- 2.5. Compliance with Law: You must comply with all relevant laws and regulations in the conduct of Your business. You must not do anything that may interfere with the use of the Center by Us or by others (including but not limited to political campaigning or immoral activity), cause any nuisance or annoyance, or cause loss or damage to Us (including damage to reputation) or to the owner of any interest in the building. If We have been advised by any government authority or other legislative body that it has reasonable suspicion that You are conducting criminal activities from the Center, or You are or will become subject to any government sanctions, then We shall be entitled to terminate any and all of Your agreements with immediate effect. You acknowledge that any breach by You of this clause shall constitute a material default, entitling Us to terminate Your agreement without further notice.
- 2.6. Ethical Trading: Both We and You shall comply at all times with all relevant anti-slavery, anti-bribery, and anti-corruption laws.

#### 2.7. Data Protection:

- 2.7.1. Each party shall comply with all applicable data protection legislation. The basis on which we will process Your personal data is set out in our privacy policies (available on our website at www.iwgplc.com/clientprivacypolicy.)
- 2.7.2. You acknowledge and accept that we may collect and process personal data concerning You and/or your personnel in the course of our agreement for services with you. Such personal data will be processed in accordance with our privacy policy. Where you provide this data to us, you will ensure that you have the necessary consents and notices in place to allow for this.
- 2.8. Employees: We will both have invested a great deal in training Our staff. Therefore, neither of us may knowingly solicit or offer employment to the other's staff employed in any Center (or for 3 months after they have left their employment). To recompense the other for staff training and investment costs, if either of us breaches this clause the breaching party will pay upon demand the other the equivalent of 6 months' salary of any employee concerned.
- 2.9. Confidentiality: The terms of an agreement are confidential. Neither of us may disclose them without the other's consent unless required to do so by law or an official authority. This obligation continues for a period of 3 years after an agreement ends.
- 2.10. Assignment: An agreement is personal to You and cannot be transferred to anyone else without prior consent from Us unless such transfer is required by law. However, We will not unreasonably withhold our consent to assignment to an affiliate provided that You execute our standard form of assignment. We may transfer any agreement and any and all amounts payable by You under an agreement to any other member of Our group.
- 2.11. Applicable law: An agreement is interpreted and enforced in accordance with the law of the place where the Center is located other than in a few specific jurisdictions which are detailed in the House Rules. We and You both accept the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of that jurisdiction. If any provision of these terms and conditions is held void or unenforceable under the applicable law, the other provisions shall remain in force.

#### 3. Our liability to You and Insurance

- 3.1. The extent of Our liability: To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, We are not liable to You in respect of any loss or damage You suffer in connection with an agreement, including without limitation any loss or damage arising as a result of our failure to provide a service as a result of mechanical breakdown, strike, or other event outside of Our reasonable control otherwise, unless We have acted deliberately or have been negligent. In no event shall We be liable for any loss or damage until You provide written notice and give Us a reasonable time to put it right. If We are liable for failing to provide You with any service under an agreement, then, subject to the exclusions and limits set out immediately below, We will pay any actual and reasonable additional expense You have incurred in obtaining the same or similar service from elsewhere.
- 3.2. Your Insurance: It is Your responsibility to arrange insurance for property which You bring in to the Center, for any mail You send or receive and for Your own liability to your employees and to third parties. We strongly recommend that You put such insurance in place.

- 3.3. IT Services and Obligations: Whilst We have security internet protocols in place and strive to provide seamless internet connectivity, WE DO NOT MAKE ANY REPRESENTATION AND CANNOT GUARANTEE ANY MAINTAINED LEVEL OF CONNECTIVITY TO OUR NETWORK OR TO THE INTERNET, NOR THE LEVEL OF SECURITY OF IT INFORMATION AND DATA THAT YOU PLACE ON IT. You should adopt whatever security measures (such as encryption) You believe are appropriate to Your business. Your sole and exclusive remedy in relation to issues of reduced connectivity which are within Our reasonable control shall be for Us to rectify the issue within a reasonable time following notice from You to Us.
- 3.4. EXCLUSION OF CONSEQUENTIAL LOSSES: WE WILL NOT IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE ANY LIABILITY TO YOU FOR LOSS OF BUSINESS, LOSS OF PROFITS, LOSS OF ANTICIPATED SAVINGS, LOSS OF OR DAMAGE TO DATA, THIRD PARTY CLAIMS OR ANY CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU INSURE AGAINST ALL SUCH POTENTIAL LOSS, DAMAGE, EXPENSE OR LIABILITY.
- 3.5. Financial limits to our liability: In all cases, our liability to You is subject to the following limits:
  - 3.5.1. without limit for personal injury or death;
  - 3.5.2. up to a maximum of GBP 1 million (or USD 1.5 million or EUR 1 million or other local equivalent) for any one event or series of connected events for damage to Your personal property; and
  - 3.5.3. in respect of any other loss or damage, up to a maximum equal to 125% of the total fees paid between the date services under an agreement commenced and the date on which the claim in question arises; or if higher, for office agreements only, GBP 50,000 / USD 100,000 / EUR 66,000 (or local equivalent).

#### 4. Fees

- 4.1. Service Retainer/Deposit: Your service retainer / deposit will be held by Us without generating interest as security for performance of all Your obligations under an agreement. All requests for the return must be made through Your online account or App after which the service retainer/deposit or any balance will be processed within 30 days to You once your agreement has ended and when You have settled Your account. We will deduct any outstanding fees and other costs due to Us before returning the balance to You. We will require You to pay an increased retainer if the monthly office or virtual office fee increases upon renewal, outstanding fees exceed the service retainer/deposit held and/or You frequently fail to pay invoices when due.
- 4.2. Taxes and duty charges: You agree to pay promptly (i) all sales, use, excise, consumption and any other taxes and license fees which You are required to pay to any governmental authority (and, at Our request, You will provide to Us evidence of such payment) and (ii) any taxes paid by Us to any governmental authority that are attributable to Your accommodation, where applicable, including, without limitation, any gross receipts, rent and occupancy taxes, tangible personal property taxes, duties or other documentary taxes and fees.
- 4.3. Payment: We are continually striving to reduce our environmental impact and support You in doing the same. Therefore, We will send all invoices electronically and You will make payments via an automated method such as Direct Debit or Credit Card (wherever local banking systems permit). If You do not set up an automatic form of payment, You will be charged a refundable payment retainer equal to one time your monthly product fee. Invoices are due and payable on the due date stated in them.
- 4.4. Late payment: If You do not pay fees when due, a fee will be charged on all overdue balances. This fee will differ by country and is listed in the House Rules. If any part of an invoice is legitimately disputed, You shall give immediate written notice to Us, follow the requirements of the Disputes clause in the House Rules, and pay the amount not in dispute by the due date or be subject to late fees. We also reserve the right to withhold services (including for the avoidance of doubt, denying You access to the Center where applicable) while there are any outstanding fees and/or interest or You are in breach of an agreement.
- 4.5. Insufficient Funds: Due to the additional administration We incur, You will pay a fee for any returned or declined payments due to insufficient funds. This fee will differ by country and is listed in the House Rules.
- 4.6. Activation: An activation fee is payable in respect of each agreement You have with Us (including any new agreements entered into under clause 1.10 above). This fee covers the administrative cost of the client onboarding process and account setup. This fee is set out in each Local Services Agreement and is charged on a per occupant basis for Serviced Office and Coworking (dedicated desk), on a per location basis for Virtual Office, and on a per person basis for Membership. Further information is set out in the House Rules.
- 4.7. Indexation: If an agreement, including month to month agreements, continues for more than 12 months, We will increase the monthly fee on each anniversary of the start date in line with the relevant inflation rate detailed in the House Rules current at the time. If a country experiences high levels of inflation, indexation could be applied more frequently and is detailed in the House Rules current at the time.

#### MY Academy - Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors - Agenda - Tuesday October 8, 2024 at 10:22 AM

- 4.8. Office Restoration: Upon Your departure or if You choose to relocate to a different room within a Center, We will charge a fixed office restoration service fee to cover normal cleaning and any costs incurred to return the accommodation to its original condition and state. This fee will differ by country and is listed in the House Rules. We reserve the right to charge additional reasonable fees for any repairs needed above and beyond normal wear and tear.
- 4.9. Standard services: Monthly fees, plus applicable taxes, and any recurring services requested by You are payable monthly in advance. Where a daily rate applies, the charge for any such month will be 30 times the daily fee. For a period of less than one month, the fee will be applied on a daily basis.
- 4.10. Pay-as-you-use and Additional Variable Services: Fees for pay-as-you-use services, plus applicable taxes, are payable monthly in arrears at our standard rates which may change from time to time and are available on request.
- 4.11. Additional Fees: If Your use of the accommodation or treatment of the accommodation requires Us to incur additional costs for the provision of nonstandard service(s), including but not limited to deep cleaning, unusual rubbish removal, pest remediation, or additional security, We reserve the right to charge You for the cost of these services plus an additional 30% administration fee
- 4.12. Discounts, Promotions and Offers: If You benefited from a special discount, promotion or offer, We will discontinue that discount, promotion or offer without notice if You materially breach Your agreement.

Global Terms March 2024



#### **Renewal Notice**

This is not an Invoice

Date 09-06-2024

Contract Name	Account Manager	Billing Frequency	Renewal Start Date
Motivated Youth Academy	Nino Alcantara	Annual	11-05-2024

Quantit	y Product Code	Product Name	Former Product Name	Description	Unit Price	Total
1	SLSST	Vector Training, Employee Safety and Compliance Library	Formerly SafeSchools Training	Vector Training, K-12 Edition - Employee Safety and Compliance Library - Annual Subscription	\$716.63	\$716.63

Grand Total: \$716.63

Vector Solutions is improving our customer experience by unifying all of our brands under the Vector Solutions name. <u>Click here</u> for more information. Please contact your Renewal Manager with any questions you may have.

ACCREDITING COMMISSION

Accrediting Commission for Schools Western Assoc of Schools & Colleges 533 Airport Blvd., Ste. 200 Burlingame, CA 94010

**Telephone:** (650) 696-1060 **Fax:** (650) 696-1867

Bill To:

Motivated Youth Academy Charter School 500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025

**Telephone:** 760-494-9646

#### **INVOICE**

Invoice No.	1326563
Account No.	3768213668

Bill For:

Motivated Youth Academy Charter School 500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025

**Telephone:** 760-494-9646

Ship Via			Shipped By	Terms	Chairper	son
Invoice Date         Order Date           08/21/24         08/21/24			Ordered By	Net 30 Days	PO #	
Ord Qty S	Ship Qty	Tax	Item De	Number escription	Unit Price	Extended Price
1	1		MEMBER-SECONDARY Annual Accreditation Membership F	Fee: 2024-2025	\$1,230.00	\$1,230.00
					Subtotal Freight	\$1,230.00 \$0.00
		V	eep this portion for your records		Invoice Total	\$ 1,230.00

Invoice No.	Account No.	District #	Invoice Date	Invoice Total	Balance Due
1326563	3768213668		08/21/24	\$ 1,230.00	\$ 1,230.00
1326563	3768213668				

Accrediting Commission for Schools
Western Assoc of Schools & Colleges
533 Airport Blvd., Ste. 200
Burlingame, CA 94010

#### Coversheet

#### Consent - Education/Student Services

Section: VIII. Consent

Item: B. Consent - Education/Student Services

Purpose: Vote

Submitted by: Related Material:

TSW Master Contract.pdf

Title I School Educational Partner Compact - for board approval - 2024.10.08.pdf

MOU with Esco Kids 2024.10.08.pdf MOU with the YMCA 2024.10.08.pdf

# NONPUBLIC, NONSECTARIAN SCHOOL/AGENCY SERVICES

# **MASTER CONTRACT 2024-2025**

#### MASTER CONTRACT GENERAL AGREEMENT FOR NONSECTARIAN, NONPUBLIC SCHOOL AND AGENCY SERVICES

LEA:		Motivated Youth Academy	
Contract `	Year:	2024 -2025	
Nonpubli	c School:		
Nonpubli	c Agency:	TSW Therapy Inc.	
Type of C	Contract:		
X		stract for the fiscal year with Individual Service Agreeme aroughout the term of this contract.	nts (ISA) to be
		Master Contract for a specific student incorporating the In (ISA) into the terms of this Individual Master Contract specific student incorporating the Individual Master Contract specific student incorporation in the Individual Master Contract specific student incorporation in the Individual Master Contract specific specific student in the Individual Master Contract specific specif	
	contracts and	ntract: an extension of the previous fiscal years approved and rates. The sole purpose of this Interim Contract is to programme the prior year's rates for 90 days at the sole of the LEA.  Expiration	rovide
		cluded as part of any Master Contract, the changes spe m of Master Contract.	cified above shall

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EXHIBIT A: 2024-2025 RATES

2024 - 2025

**Local Education Agency: Motivated Youth Academy** 

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL/AGENCY/RELATED SERVICES PROVIDER: TSW

Therapy Inc.

### NONPUBLIC, NONSECTARIAN SCHOOL/AGENCY SERVICES MASTER CONTRACT

#### AUTHORIZATION FOR MASTER CONTRACT AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### 1. MASTER CONTRACT

This Master Contract (or "Contract") is entered into on, August 5, 2024, between Motivated Youth Academy, hereinafter referred to as the local educational agency ("LEA"), a member of the Sonoma County SELPA and TSW Therapy Inc. (nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency), hereinafter referred to as NPS/A or "CONTRACTOR" for the purpose of providing special education and/or related services to students with exceptional needs under the authorization of California Education Code sections 56157, 56361 and 56365 et seq. and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations section 3000 et seq., AB490 (Chapter 862, Statutes of 2003) and AB1858 (Chapter 914, Statutes of 2004). It is understood that this agreement does not commit the LEA to pay for special education and/or related services provided to any student, or CONTRACTOR to provide such special education and/or related services, unless and until an authorized LEA representative approves the provision of special education and/or related services by CONTRACTOR.

Upon acceptance of a student, LEA shall submit to CONTRACTOR an Individual Service Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "ISA") and a Nonpublic Services student Enrollment form as specified in the LEA Procedures. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, these forms shall acknowledge CONTRACTOR's obligation to provide all relevant services specified in the student's Individualized Education Program (hereinafter referred to as "IEP"). The ISA shall be executed within fifteen (15) days of a student's enrollment. LEA and CONTRACTOR shall enter into an ISA for each student served by CONTRACTOR. As available and appropriate, the LEA shall make available access to any electronic IEP system and/or electronic database for the development of the ISA and invoices.

Unless placement and/or services is made pursuant to an Office of Administrative Hearings (hereinafter referred to as "OAH") order, a lawfully executed settlement agreement between LEA and parent or authorized by LEA for a transfer student pursuant to California Education Code section 56325, LEA is not responsible for the costs associated with NPS placement or NPS/A services until the date on which an IEP team meeting is convened, the IEP team determines that a NPS placement is appropriate, and the IEP is signed by the student's parent.

#### 2. CERTIFICATION AND LICENSES

CONTRACTOR shall be certified by the California Department of Education (hereinafter referred to as "CDE") as <u>a NPS/A</u>. All NPS/A services shall be provided consistent with the area of certification and licensure specified by CDE Certification and as defined in California Education Code, section 56366 et seq and within the professional scope of practice of each provider's license, certification, and/or credential. A current copy of CONTRACTOR's NPS/A certification or a waiver of such certification issued by the CDE pursuant to Education Code section 56366.2 must be provided to LEA on or before the date this Agreement is executed by

CONTRACTOR. This Master Contract shall be null and void if such certification or waiver is expired, revoked, rescinded, or otherwise nullified during the effective period of this Master Contract. Total student enrollment shall be limited to capacity as stated on CDE certification, and in Section 24 of the Master Contract.

In addition to meeting the certification requirements of the State of California, a CONTRACTOR that operates a program outside of this State shall be certified and all staff persons providing services to pupils shall be certified and/or licensed by that state to provide, respectively, special education and related services and designated instruction and related services to pupils under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.).

If CONTRACTOR is a licensed children's institution (hereinafter referred to as "LCI"), CONTRACTOR shall be licensed by the state, or other public agency having delegated authority by contract with the state to license, to provide nonmedical care room and board to children, including, but not limited to, individuals with exceptional needs. The LCI must also comply with all licensing requirements relevant to the protection of the child, and have a special permit, if necessary, to meet the needs of each child so placed. If the CONTRACTOR operates a program outside of this State, CONTRACTOR must obtain all required licenses from the appropriate licensing agency in both California and in the state where the LCI is located.

With respect to CONTRACTOR's certification, failure to notify the LEA and CDE in writing of any changes in: (1) credentialed/licensed staff; (2) ownership; (3) management and/or control of the agency; (4) major modification or relocation of facilities; or (5) significant modification of the program may result in the suspension or revocation of CDE certification and/or suspension or termination of this Master Contract by the LEA.

# 3. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS, STATUTES, REGULATIONS

During the term of this Master Contract unless otherwise agreed, CONTRACTOR shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, laws, ordinances, rules, policies and regulations. CONTRACTOR shall also comply with all applicable LEA policies and procedures unless, taking into consideration all of the surrounding facts and circumstances, a policy or policies or a portion of a policy does not reasonably apply to CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR hereby acknowledges and agrees that it accepts all risks and responsibilities for its failure to comply with LEA policies and shall indemnify LEA under the provisions of Section 16 of this Agreement for all liability, loss, damage and expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees) resulting from or arising out of CONTRACTOR's failure to comply with applicable LEA policies (e.g., those policies relating to, the provision of special education and/or related services, facilities for individuals with exceptional needs, student enrollment and transfer, student inactive status, corporal punishment, student discipline, and positive behavior interventions).

CONTRACTOR acknowledges and understands that LEA may report to the CDE any violations of the provisions of this Master Contract; and that this may result in the suspension and/or revocation of CDE nonpublic school/agency certification pursuant to California Education Code section 56366.4(a).

## 4. TERM OF MASTER CONTRACT

The term of this Master Contract shall be from August 5, 2024 – July 31, 2025 (Title 5 California Code of Regulations section 3062(a)) unless otherwise stated. Neither the CONTRACTOR nor the LEA is required to renew this Master Contract in subsequent contract years. The parties acknowledge that any subsequent Master Contract is to be re-negotiated prior to July 31, 2025. In the event the contract negotiations are not agreed to by July 31, 2025, the most recently executed Master Contract will remain in effect for 90 days. (Title 5 California Code of Regulations section 3062(d)) No Master Contract will be offered unless and until all of the contracting requirements have been satisfied. The offer of a Master Contract to a CONTRACTOR is at the sole discretion of the LEA.

The provisions of this Master Contract apply to CONTRACTOR and any of its employees or independent contractors. Notice of any change in CONTRACTOR's ownership or authorized representative shall be provided in writing to LEA within thirty (30) calendar days of change of ownership or change of authorized representative.

# 5. INTEGRATION/CONTINUANCE OF CONTRACT FOLLOWING EXPIRATION OR TERMINATION

This Master Contract includes each ISA and they are incorporated herein by this reference. This Master Contract supersedes any prior or contemporaneous written or oral understanding or agreement. This Master Contract may be amended only by written amendment executed by both parties.

CONTRACTOR shall provide the LEA with information as requested in writing to secure a Master Contract or a renewal.

At a minimum, such information shall include copies of current teacher credentials and clearance, insurance documentation and CDE certification. The LEA may require additional information as applicable. If the application packet is not completed and returned to District, no Master Contract will be issued. If CONTRACTOR does not return the Master Contract to LEA duly signed by an authorized representative within ninety (90) calendar days of issuance by LEA, the new contract rates will not take effect until the newly executed Master Contract is received by LEA and will not be retroactive to the first day of the new Master Contract's effective date. If CONTRACTOR fails to execute the new Master Contract within such ninety-day period, all payments shall cease until such time as the new Master Contract for the current school year is signed and returned to LEA by CONTRACTOR. (California Education Code section 56366(c)(1) and (2)). In the event that this Master Contract expires or terminates, CONTRACTOR shall continue to be bound to all of the terms and conditions of the most recent executed Master Contract between CONTRACTOR and LEA for so long as CONTRACTOR is servicing authorized students at the discretion of the LEA.

# <u>6. INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AGREEMENT; EXHIBIT B ("ISA")</u>

This Agreement shall include an ISA developed for each student to whom CONTRACTOR is to provide special education and/or related services. An ISA shall only be issued for students enrolled with the approval of the LEA pursuant to Education Code section 56366 (a)(2)(A). An ISA may be effective for more than one contract year provided that there is a concurrent Master Contract in effect. In the event that this Master Contract expires or terminates, CONTRACTOR, shall continue to be bound to all of the terms and conditions of the most recent executed ISAs between CONTRACTOR and LEA for so long as CONTRACTOR is servicing authorized students.

Any and all changes to a student's educational placement/program provided under this Master Contract and/or an ISA shall be made solely on the basis of a revision to the student's IEP or by written agreement between the parent and LEA. At any time during the term of this Master Contract, a student's parent, CONTRACTOR, or LEA may request a review of a student's IEP subject to all procedural safeguards required by law.

Unless otherwise provided in this Master Contract, the CONTRACTOR shall provide all services specified in the IEP unless the CONTRACTOR and the LEA agree otherwise in the ISA. (California Education Code sections 56366(a) (5) and 3062(e)). In the event the CONTRACTOR is unable to provide a specific service at any time during the life of the ISA, the CONTRACTOR shall notify the LEA in writing within five (5) business days of the last date a service was provided. CONTRACTOR shall provide any subsequent compensatory service hours awarded to a student as a result of lack of provision of services while student was served by NPS/A.

If a parent or LEA contests the termination of an ISA by initiating a due process proceeding with the OAH, CONTRACTOR shall abide by the "stay-put" requirement of state and federal law unless the parent agrees otherwise or an Interim Alternative Educational Setting is deemed lawful and appropriate by LEA or OAH consistent with Section 1415 (k)(1)(7) of Title 20 of the United States Code. CONTRACTOR shall adhere to all

LEA requirements concerning changes in placement.

Disagreements between LEA and CONTRACTOR concerning the formulation of an ISA or the Master Contract may be appealed to the County Superintendent of Schools of the County where the LEA is located, or the State Superintendent of Public Instruction pursuant to the provisions of California Education Code section 56366(c) (2).

# 7. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply for purposes of this contract:

- a. The term "CONTRACTOR" means a nonpublic, nonsectarian school/agency certified by the California Department of Education and its officers, agents, and employees.
- b. The term "authorized LEA representative" means a LEA administrator designated to be responsible for NPS/A. It is understood, a representative of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) of which the LEA is a member is an authorized LEA representative in collaboration with the LEA. The LEA maintains sole responsibility for this Contract, unless otherwise specified in this Contract. [SELPA Member LEA's (Alexander Valley Union SD, Bellevue Union SD, Bennett Valley Union SD, CA Virtual Academy, Cinnabar SD, Cloverdale Unified SD, Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified SD, Dunham SD, Forestville Union SD, Fort Ross SD, Geyserville Unified SD, Gravenstein Union SD, Guerneville SD, Harmony Union SD, Healdsburg Unified SD, Horicon SD, Kashia SD (c/o SCOE), Kenwood SD, Liberty SD, Mark West Union SD, Monte Rio Union SD, Montgomery SD, North County Consortium, Oak Grove Union SD, Old Adobe Union SD, Pathways Charter, Petaluma City SD, Petaluma Joint Union HSD, Piner-Olivet Union SD, Rincon Valley Union SD, Roseland SD, Santa Rosa City Elementary SD, Santa Rosa City High SD, Sonoma County Office of Education Special Education, Sonoma County Office of Education Court & Community School, South County Consortium, Sebastopol Union SD, Sebastopol Independent Charter, Sonoma Valley Unified, Twin Hills SD, Two Rock Union SD, Waugh SD, West County Consortium, West Side Union SD, West Sonoma County Union HSD, Wilmar Union SD, Windsor Unified SD, Wright SD)]
- c. The term "credential" means a valid credential, life diploma, permit, or document in special education or pupil personnel services issued by, or under the jurisdiction of, the State Board of Education if issued prior to 1970 or the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, which entitles the holder thereof to perform services for which certification qualifications are required as defined in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations section 3001(g).
- d. The term "qualified" means that a person holds a certificate, permit or other document equivalent to that which staff in a public school are required to hold to provide special education and related services and has met federal and state certification, licensing, registration, or other comparable requirements which apply to the area in which the individual is providing special education or related services, including those requirements set forth in Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations sections 200.56 and 200.58, and those requirements set forth in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations Sections 3064 and 3065, and adheres to the standards of professional practice established in federal and state law or regulation, including the standards contained in the California Business and Professions Code.

Nothing in this definition shall be construed as restricting the activities in services of a graduate needing direct hours leading to licensure, or of a student teacher or intern leading to a graduate degree at an accredited or approved college or university, as authorized by state laws or regulations. (Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations Section 3001 (r)).

e. The term "license" means a valid non-expired document issued by a licensing agency within the Department of Consumer Affairs or other state licensing office authorized to grant licenses and authorizing the bearer of the document to provide certain professional services or refer to themselves using a specified professional title including but not limited to mental health and board and care services at a residential placement. If a license is not available through an appropriate state licensing agency, a certificate of registration with the appropriate professional organization at the national or state level which has standards established for the certificate that are equivalent to a license shall be deemed to be a license as defined in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations section 3001(1).

#### f. "Parent" means:

- i. a biological or adoptive parent; unless the biological or adoptive parent does not have legal authority to make educational decisions for the child,
- ii. a guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent or authorized to make educational decisions for the child,
- iii. an individual acting in the place of a biological or adoptive parent, including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative with whom the child lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the child's welfare,
- iv. a surrogate parent,
- v. a foster parent if the authority of the biological or adoptive parent to make educational decisions on the child's behalf has been specifically limited by court order in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations 300.30(b)(1) or (2).

Parent does not include the state or any political subdivision of government or the NPS/A under contract with the LEA for the provision of special education or designated instruction and services for a child. (California Education Code section 56028).

- g. The term "days" means calendar days unless otherwise specified.
- h. The phrase "billable day" means a school day in which instructional minutes meet or exceed those in comparable LEA programs.
- i. The phrase "billable day of attendance" means a school day as defined in California Education Code Section 46307, in which a student is in attendance and in which instructional minutes meet or exceed those in comparable LEA programs unless otherwise stipulated in an IEP or ISA.
- j. It is understood that the term "Master Contract" also means "Contract" and is referred to as such in this document.

# ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACT

# 8. NOTICES

All notices provided for by this Contract shall be in writing. Notices shall be emailed, mailed or delivered by hand and shall be effective as of the date of receipt by addressee.

All notices mailed or emailed to LEA shall be addressed to the person and address as indicated on the signature

page of this Master Contract. Notices to CONTRACTOR shall be addressed as indicated on signature page of this Master Contract.

# 9. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

All records shall be maintained by CONTRACTOR as required by state and federal laws and regulations. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, CONTRACTOR shall maintain all records for at least five (5) years after the termination of this Master Contract. For purposes of this Master Contract, "records" shall include, but not be limited to student records as defined by California Education Code section 49061(b) including electronically stored information; registers and roll books of teachers and/or daily service providers; daily service logs and notes and other documents used to record the provision of related services including supervision; daily service logs and notes used to record the provision of services provided through additional instructional assistants, NPA behavior intervention aides, and bus aides; behavior emergency reports (BER); incident reports; notification of injuries; absence verification records (parent/doctor notes, telephone logs, and related documents) if the CONTRACTOR is funded for excused absences, however, such records are not required if positive attendance is required; bus rosters; staff lists specifying credentials held and documents evidencing other staff qualifications, social security numbers, dates of hire, and dates of termination; records of employee training and certification, including verification of behavior training consistent with 56366.1; staff time sheets; non-paid staff and volunteer sign-in sheets; transportation and other related services subcontracts; school calendars; bell/class schedules when applicable; liability and worker's compensation insurance policies; state NPS/A certifications; by-laws, if applicable; lists of current board of directors/trustees, if incorporated; statement of income and expenses; general journals; cash receipts and disbursement books; general ledgers and supporting documents; documents evidencing financial expenditures; federal/state payroll quarterly reports; evidence of electronic payments; and bank statements and canceled checks or facsimile thereof.

CONTRACTOR shall maintain student records in a secure location to ensure confidentiality and prevent unauthorized access. CONTRACTOR shall maintain a current list of the names and positions of CONTRACTOR's employees who have access to confidential records. CONTRACTOR shall maintain an access log for each student's record which lists all persons, agencies, or organizations requesting or receiving information from the record. Such log shall be maintained as required by California Education Code section 49064 and include the name, title, agency/organization affiliation, date/time of access for each individual requesting or receiving information from the student's record, and a description of the record(s) provided. Such log needs to record access to the student's records by: (a) the student's parent; (b) an individual to whom written consent has been executed by the student's parent; or (c) employees of LEA or CONTRACTOR having a legitimate educational interest in requesting or receiving information from the record. CONTRACTOR/LEA shall maintain copies of any written parental concerns granting access to student records. For purposes of this paragraph, "employees of LEA or CONTRACTOR" do not include subcontractors. CONTRACTOR shall grant the following access to student records, (a) the student's parent; (b) employees of LEA or CONTRACTOR having a legitimate educational interest in requesting or receiving information from the record, and comply with parents' requests for copies of student records, as required by state and federal laws and regulations. CONTRACTOR agrees, in the event of school or agency closure, to forward student records within ten (10) business days to LEA. These shall include, but not limited to, current transcripts, IEP/IFSPs, BER's, incident reports, notification of injuries and all other relevant reports. LEA and/or SELPA shall have access to and receive copies of any and all records upon request within five (5) business days.

# 10. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

If any provision of this agreement is held, in whole or in part, to be unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of that provision and of the entire agreement shall be severable and remain in effect.

## 11. SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST

This contract binds CONTRACTOR's successors and assignees. CONTRACTOR shall notify the LEA of any change of ownership or corporate control.

# 12. VENUE AND GOVERNING LAW

The laws of the State of California shall govern the terms and conditions of this contract with venue in the County where the LEA is located.

# 13. MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS REQUIRED TO CONFORM TO LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

This Master Contract may be modified or amended by the LEA to conform to administrative and statutory guidelines issued by any state, federal or local governmental agency. The party seeking such modification shall provide the LEA and/or CONTRACTOR thirty (30) days' notice of any such changes or modifications made to conform to administrative or statutory guidelines and a copy of the statute or regulation upon which the modification or changes are based. Both parties shall meet to negotiate any amendments or modifications to the Master Contract.

# 14. TERMINATION

This Master Contract or ISA may be terminated for cause. The cause shall not be the availability of a public class initiated during the period of the contract unless the parent agrees to the transfer of the student to the public school program at an IEP team meeting. To terminate the contract either party shall give no less than twenty (20) days prior written notice (California Education Code section 56366(a)(4)). At the time of termination, CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA any and all documents CONTRACTOR is required to maintain under this Master Contract. ISAs are void upon termination of this Master Contract, as provided in Section 5 or 6. CONTRACTOR or LEA may terminate an ISA for cause. To terminate the ISA, either party shall give twenty (20) days prior written notice.

# **15. INSURANCE**

CONTRACTOR shall, CONTRACTOR'S sole cost and expense, maintain in full force and effect, during the term of this Contract, the following insurance coverage from a California licensed and/or admitted insurer with an A minus (A-), VII, or better rating from A.M. Best, sufficient to cover any claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including counsel fees) arising out of or in connection with CONTRACTOR's fulfillment of any of its obligations under this Agreement or either party's use of the work or any component or part thereof:

# PART I- INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS AND AGENCIES

A. Commercial General Liability Insurance, including both bodily injury and property damage, with limits as follows:

\$2,000,000 per occurrence \$500,000 fire damage \$5,000 medical expenses \$1,000,000 personal & adv. injury \$3,000,000 general aggregate \$2,000,000 products/completed operations aggregate.

The policy may not contain an exclusion for coverage of claims arising from claims for sexual molestation or abuse. In the event that CONTRACTOR's policy should have an exclusion for sexual molestation or abuse claims, then CONTRACTOR shall be required to procure a supplemental policy providing such coverage.

B. Workers' Compensation Insurance in accordance with provisions of the California Labor Code

adequate to protect the CONTRACTOR from claims that may arise from its operations pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Act (Statutory Coverage). The Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage must also include Employers Liability coverage with limits of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000/\$1,000,000.

C. **Commercial Auto Liability Insurance** for all owned, non-owned or hired automobiles with a \$1 million combined single limit.

If no owned automobiles, then only hired and non-owned is required.

If CONTRACTOR uses a vehicle to travel to/from school sites, between schools and/or to/from students' homes or other locations as approved service locations by the LEA, CONTRACTOR must comply with State of California auto insurance requirements.

D. Errors & Omissions (E & O)/Malpractice (Professional Liability) coverage,

<u>including</u> Sexual Molestation and Abuse coverage, unless that coverage is afforded elsewhere in the Commercial General Liability policy by endorsement or separate policy, with the following limits:

\$1,000,000 per occurrence

\$2,000,000 general aggregate

- E. CONTRACTOR, upon execution of this contract and periodically thereafter upon request, shall furnish the LEA with certificates of insurance evidencing such coverage. The certificate of insurance shall include a ten (10) day non-renewal notice provision. The Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability policy shall name the LEA and the Board of Education additional insured's premiums on all insurance policies and shall be paid by CONTRACTOR and shall be deemed included in CONTRACTOR's obligations under this contract at no additional charge.
- F. Any deductibles or self-insured retentions above \$100,000 must be declared to and approved by the LEA. At its option, LEA may require the CONTRACTOR, at the CONTRACTOR's sole cost, to: (a) cause its insurer to reduce to levels specified by the LEA or eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retentions with respect to the LEA, its officials and employees, or (b) procure a bond guaranteeing payment of losses and related investigation.
- G. For any claims related to the services performed in connection with this Master Contract, the CONTRACTOR's insurance coverage shall be the primary insurance with respect to the LEA, its subsidiaries, officials and employees. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the LEA, its subsidiaries, officials and employees shall be excess of the CONTRACTOR's insurance and shall not contribute with it.
- H. All Certificates of Insurance must reference the contract number, name of the school or agency submitting the certificate, and the location of the school or agency submitting the certificate on the certificate.

# PART II - INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS AFFILIATED WITH A RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITY ("RTC")

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS affiliated with a residential treatment center (NPS/RTC), the following insurance policies are required:

- A. Commercial General Liability including both bodily injury and property damage, with limits as follows: \$3,000,000 per Occurrence and \$6,000,000 in General Aggregate.

  The policy shall be endorsed to name the LEA and the Board of Education as *named* additional insured and shall provide specifically that any insurance carried by the LEA which may be applicable to any claims or loss shall be deemed excess and the RTC's insurance primary despite any conflicting provisions in the RTC's policy. Coverage shall be maintained with no Self-Insured Retention above \$100,000 without the prior written approval of the LEA.
- B. **Workers' Compensation Insurance** in accordance with provisions of the California Labor Code adequate to protect the RTC from claims that may arise from its operations pursuant to the Workers' Compensation

- Act (Statutory Coverage). The Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage must also include Employers Liability coverage with limits of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000.
- C. Commercial Auto Liability coverage with limits of \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit per Occurrence if the RTC does not operate a student bus service. If the RTC provides student bus services, the required coverage limit is \$5,000,000 Combined Single Limit per Occurrence.
- D. **Fidelity Bond** or **Crime Coverage** shall be maintained by the RTC to cover all employees who process or otherwise have responsibility for RTC funds, supplies, equipment or other assets. Minimum amount of coverage shall be \$250,000 per occurrence, with no self-insured retention.
- E. **Professional Liability/Errors & Omissions/Malpractice** coverage with minimum limits of \$3,000,000 per occurrence and \$6,000,000 general aggregate.
- F. **Sexual Molestation and Abuse Coverage**, unless that coverage is afforded elsewhere in the Commercial General Liability or Professional liability policy by endorsement, with minimum limits of \$3,000,000 per occurrence and \$6,000,000 general aggregate.
  - If LEA or CONTRACTOR determines that a change in insurance coverage obligations under this section is necessary, either party may reopen negotiations to modify the insurance obligations.

# 16. INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS

To the fullest extent allowed by law, CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold LEA and its Board Members, administrators, employees, agents, attorneys, volunteers, and subcontractors ("LEA Indemnities") harmless against all liability, loss, damage and expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees) resulting from or arising out of this Master Contract or its performance, to the extent that such loss, expense, damage or liability was proximately caused by negligence, intentional act, or willful act or omission of CONTRACTOR, including, without limitation, its agents, employees, subcontractors or anyone employed directly or indirectly by it (excluding LEA and LEA Indemnities). The duty and obligation to defend shall arise immediately upon tender of a claim or lawsuit to the CONTRACTOR. The Member District(s) shall have the right in their sole discretion to select counsel if it's choice to provide the defense at the sole cost of the CONTRACTOR or the applicable insurance carrier.

To the fullest extent allowed by law, LEA shall indemnify and hold CONTRACTOR and its Board Members, administrators, employees, agents, attorneys, and subcontractors ("CONTRACTOR Indemnities") harmless against all liability, loss, damage and expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees) resulting from or arising out of this Master Contract or its performance thereof, to the extent that such loss, expense, damage or liability was proximately caused by the negligent, intentional act or willful act or omission of LEA, including, without limitation, its agents, employees, subcontractors or anyone employed directly or indirectly by it (excluding CONTRACTOR and/or any CONTRACTOR Indemnities).

LEA represents that it is self-insured in compliance with the laws of the State of California, that the self-insurance covers district employees acting within the course and scope of their respective duties and that its self-insurance covers the LEA's indemnification obligations under this Master Contract.

# 17. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

Nothing herein contained will be construed to imply a joint venture, partnership or principal-agent relationship between the LEA and CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR shall provide all services under this Contract as an independent contractor, and neither party shall have the authority to bind or make any commitment on behalf of the other. Nothing contained in this Contract shall be deemed to create any association, partnership, joint venture or relationship of principal and agent, master and servant, or employer and employee between the parties or any affiliates of the parties, or between the LEA and any individual assigned by CONTRACTOR to perform any services for the LEA.

If the LEA is determined to be a partner, joint venture, co-principal, employer or co-employer of CONTRACTOR, CONTRACTOR shall indemnify and hold harmless the LEA from and against any and all claims for loss, liability, or damages arising from that determination, as well as any expenses, costs, taxes, penalties and interest charges incurred by the LEA as a result of that holding.

# 18. SUBCONTRACTING

CONTRACTOR shall provide written notification to LEA before subcontracting for special education and/or related services pursuant to this Master Contract.

In the event LEA determines that it can provide the subcontracted service(s) at a lower rate, LEA may elect to provide such service(s).

If LEA elects to provide such service(s), LEA shall provide written notification to CONTRACTOR within five (5) days of receipt of CONTRACTOR's original notice and CONTRACTOR shall not subcontract for said service(s).

CONTRACTOR shall incorporate all of the provisions of this Master Contract in all subcontracts, to the fullest extent reasonably possible. Furthermore, when CONTRACTOR enters into subcontracts for the provision of special education and/or related services (including; but not limited to, transportation) for any student, CONTRACTOR shall cause each subcontractor to procure and maintain insurance during the term of each subcontract. Such subcontractor's insurance shall comply with the provisions of Section 15. Each subcontractor shall furnish the LEA with original endorsements and certificates of insurance effecting coverage required by Section 15. The endorsements are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The endorsements are to be on forms as required by the LEA. All endorsements are to be received and approved by the LEA before the subcontractor's work commences. The Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability policies shall name the LEA/SELPA and the LEA Board of Education as additional insured.

As an alternative to the LEA's forms, a subcontractor's insurer may provide complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements affecting the coverage required by this Master Contract. All Certificates of Insurance must reference the LEA contract number, name of the school or agency submitting the certificate, indication if NPS or NPA, and the location of the school or agency submitting the certificate. In addition, all subcontractors must meet the requirements as contained in Section 44 Clearance Requirements and Section 45 Staff Qualifications of this Master Contract.

# 19. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA upon request a copy of its current bylaws and a current list of its Board of Directors (or Trustees), if it is incorporated. CONTRACTOR and any member of its Board of Directors (or Trustees) shall disclose any relationship with LEA that constitutes or may constitute a conflict of interest pursuant to California Education Code section 56042 and Government Code Section 1090 including, but not limited to, employment with LEA, provision of private party assessments and/or reports, and attendance at IEP team meetings acting as a student's advocate. Pursuant to California Education code section 56042, an attorney or advocate for a parent of an individual with exceptional needs shall not recommend placement at CONTRACTOR's facility if the attorney or advocate is employed or contracted by the CONTRACTOR, or will receive a benefit from the CONTRACTOR, or otherwise has a conflict of interest.

The LEA shall neither execute an ISA with CONTRACTOR nor amend an existing ISA for a student when a recommendation for special education and/or related services is based in whole or in part on assessment(s) or reports provided by CONTRACTOR to the student without prior written authorization by LEA. This paragraph shall apply to CONTRACTOR regardless of when an assessment is performed or a report is prepared (i.e. before or after the student is enrolled in CONTRACTOR's school/agency) or whether an assessment of the student is

performed or a report is prepared in the normal course of the services provided to the student by CONTRACTOR. To avoid conflict of interest, and in order to ensure the appropriateness of an Independent Educational Evaluation (hereinafter referred to as "IEE") and its recommendations, the LEA may, not fund an IEE by an evaluator who provides ongoing service(s) or is sought to provide service(s) to the student for whom the IEE is requested. Likewise, the LEA may, in its discretion, not fund services through the evaluator whose IEE the LEA agrees to fund. When no other appropriate assessor is available, LEA may request and if CONTRACTOR agrees, the CONTRACTOR may provide an IEE.

CONTRACTOR shall not admit a student living within the jurisdictional boundaries of the LEA on a private pay or tuition free "scholarship" basis and concurrently or subsequently advise/request parent(s) to pursue funding for the admitted school year from the LEA through due process proceedings.

# 20. NON-DISCRIMINATION

CONTRACTOR shall not, in employment or operation of its programs, unlawfully discriminate on the basis of gender, nationality, national origin, ancestry, race, color, ethnicity, ethnic group affiliation, religion, age, marital status, pregnancy or parental status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or expression, physical or mental disability, genetic information or any other classification protected by federal or state law or the perception of one or more of such characteristics or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

# 21. FREE AND APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION (FAPE)

The LEA shall provide CONTRACTOR with a copy of the IEP including the Individualized Transition Plan (hereinafter referred to as "ITP") of each student served by CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR shall provide special education and/or related services (including transition services) to each student within the NPS/A consistent with the student's IEP and as specified in the ISA. If CONTRACTOR is a NPS, CONTRACTOR shall not accept a student if it cannot provide or ensure the provision of the services outlined in the student's IEP. If student services are provided by a third party (i.e. Related Services Provider), CONTRACTOR shall notify LEA if provision of services cease.

Unless otherwise agreed to between CONTRACTOR and LEA, CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for the provision of all appropriate supplies, equipment, and/or facilities, as specified in the student's IEP and ISA. CONTRACTOR shall make no charge of any kind to parents for special education and/or related services as specified in the student's IEP and ISA (including, but not limited to, screenings, assessments, or interviews that occur prior to or as a condition of the student's enrollment under the terms of this Master Contract). LEA shall provide low incidence equipment for eligible students with low incidence disabilities when specified in the student's IEP and ISA. Such equipment remains the property of the SELPA/LEA and shall be returned to the SELPA/LEA when the IEP team determines the equipment is no longer needed or when the student is no longer enrolled in the NPS. CONTRACTOR shall ensure that facilities are adequate to provide LEA students with an environment which meets all pertinent health and safety regulations. CONTRACTOR may charge a student's parent(s) for services and/or activities not necessary for the student to receive a free appropriate public education after: (a) written notification to the student's parent(s) of the cost and voluntary nature of the services and/or activities; and (b) receipt by the LEA of the written notification and a written acknowledgment signed by the student's parent(s) of the cost and voluntary nature of the services and/or activities. CONTRACTOR shall adhere to all LEA requirements concerning parent acknowledgment of financial responsibility.

Voluntary services and/or activities not necessary for the student to receive a free appropriate public education shall not interfere with the student's receipt of special education and/or related services as specified in the

student's IEP and ISA unless the LEA, CONTRACTOR, and PARENT agree otherwise in writing.

# 22. GENERAL PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION

All NPS/A shall be provided consistent with the area of certification specified by CDE Certification and as defined in California Education Code section 56366 et seq.,.

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, CONTRACTOR's general program of instruction shall: (a) utilize evidence-based practices and be consistent with LEA's standards regarding the particular course of study and curriculum; (b) include curriculum that addresses mathematics, literacy and the use of educational, assistive technology and transition services; (c) be consistent with CDE's standards regarding the particular course of study and curriculum; (d) provide the services as specified in the student's IEP and ISA. Students shall have access to: (a) State Board of Education (SBE) - adopted Common Core State Standards ("CCSS") for curriculum and the same instructional materials for kindergarten and grades 1 to 8, inclusive; and provide standards — aligned core curriculum and instructional materials for grades 9 to 12, inclusive, used by an LEA that contracts with the NPS: (b) college preparation courses; (c) extracurricular activities, such as art, sports, music and academic clubs; (d) career preparation and vocational training, consistent with transition plans pursuant to state and federal law and; (e) supplemental assistance, including individual academic tutoring, psychological counseling, and career and college counseling.

When CONTRACTOR serves students in grades 9 through 12 inclusive, LEA shall provide to CONTRACTOR a specific list of the course requirements to be satisfied by the CONTRACTOR leading toward graduation or completion of LEA's diploma requirements. CONTRACTOR shall not award a high school diploma to students who have not successfully completed all of the LEA's graduation requirements.

When CONTRACTOR is an NPA and/or related services provider, CONTRACTOR's general program of instruction and/or services shall utilize evidence-based practices and be consistent with LEA and CDE guidelines and certification, and provided as specified in the student's IEP and ISA. The NPA providing Behavior Intervention services shall develop a written plan that specifies the nature of their NPA service for each student within thirty (30) days of enrollment and shall be provided in writing to the LEA. School-based services may not be unilaterally converted by CONTRACTOR to a substitute program or provided at a location not specifically authorized by the IEP team. Except for services provided by a CONTRACTOR that is a Licensed Children's Institution (LCI), all services not provided in the school setting require the presence of a parent, guardian or adult caregiver during the delivery of services, provided such guardian or caregiver have a signed authorization by the parent or legal guardian to authorize emergency services as requested.

LCI CONTRACTORS shall ensure that appropriate and qualified residential or clinical staff is present during the provision of services under this Master Contract. CONTRACTOR shall immediately notify LEA in writing if no parent, guardian or adult caregiver is present. CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA a written description of the services and location provided prior to the effective date of this Master Contract. CONTRACTORS providing Behavior Intervention services must have a trained behaviorist or trained equivalent on staff. It is understood that Behavior Intervention services are limited per CDE Certification and do not constitute as an instructional program.

When CONTRACTOR is a NPA, CONTRACTOR shall not provide transportation nor subcontract for transportation services for students unless the LEA and CONTRACTOR agree otherwise in writing.

#### 23. INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, the total number of instructional minutes per school day provided by CONTRACTOR shall be at least equivalent to the number of instructional minutes per school day provided to students at like grade level attending LEA schools and shall be specified in the student's ISA developed in accordance with the student's IEP.

For students in grades kindergarten through 12 inclusive, unless otherwise specified in the student's IEP and ISA, the number of instructional minutes, excluding breakfast, recess, lunch and passing time shall be at the same level that Ed. Code. prescribes for the LEA.

The total number of annual instructional minutes shall be at least equivalent to the total number of annual instructional minutes provided to students attending LEA schools in like grade level unless otherwise specified in the student's IEP.

When CONTRACTOR is a NPA and/or related services provider, the total number of minutes per school day provided by CONTRACTOR shall be specified in the student's ISA developed in accordance with the student's IEP.

# 24. CLASS SIZE

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, CONTRACTOR shall ensure that the number of pupils loaded to a class shall not exceed twelve (12) pupils for grades K - 5, and fourteen (14) pupils for grades 6 - 13. CONTRACTOR shall provide written notice to each LEA with students enrolled in a class for grades K - 5 that exceeds twelve (12) pupils.

If CONTRACTOR provides special education for individuals with exceptional needs between the ages of three (3) and five (5) years, inclusive, CONTRACTOR shall comply with the appropriate instructional adult to child ratios pursuant to California Education Code § 56440 et seq.

In the event a NPS is unable to fill a vacant teaching position responsible for direct instruction to students, and the vacancy has direct impact on the CDE Certification of that school, the NPS shall develop a plan to ensure appropriate coverage of students by first utilizing existing certificated staff. The NPS and the LEA may agree to one 30 school day period per contract year where class size may be increased to ensure coverage by an appropriately credentialed teacher. Such an agreement shall be in writing and signed by both parties. This provision does not apply to a NPA.

CONTRACTOR providing special education instruction for individuals with exceptional needs between the ages of three and five years, inclusive, shall also comply with the appropriate instructional adult to child ratios pursuant to California Education Code sections 56440 et seq.

## 25. CALENDARS

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, CONTRACTOR shall submit to the LEA/SELPA a school calendar with the total number of billable days not to exceed 180 days, plus extended school year billable days equivalent to the number of days determined by the LEA's extended school year calendar. Billable days shall include only those days that are included on the submitted and approved school calendar, and/or required by the IEP (developed by the LEA) for each student. CONTRACTOR shall not be allowed to change its school calendar and/or amend the number of billable days without the prior written approval of the LEA. Nothing in this Master Contract shall be interpreted to require the LEA to accept any requests for calendar changes.

Unless otherwise specified by the student's' IEP, educational services shall occur at the school site. A student shall only be eligible for extended school year services as determined by the IEP team and the provision of such is specifically included in the ISA. Extended school year shall consist of twenty (20) instructional days, unless otherwise agreed upon by the IEP team convened by the LEA. Any days of extended school year in excess of twenty (20) billable days must be mutually agreed to, in writing, prior to the start of the extended school year.

Student must have actually been in attendance during the regular school year and/or during extended school year and received services on a billable day of attendance in order for CONTRACTOR to be eligible for payment. It is specifically understood that services may not be provided on weekends/holidays and other times when school is not in session, unless agreed to by the LEA, in writing, in advance of the delivery of any NPS service. Any

instructional days provided without this written agreement shall be at the sole financial responsibility of the CONTRACTOR.

CONTRACTOR shall observe the same legal holidays as LEA. Those holidays are Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth and Independence Day. With the approval of LEA, CONTRACTOR may revise the date upon which CONTRACTOR closes in observance of any of the holidays observed by the LEA.

When CONTRACTOR is a NPA, CONTRACTOR shall be provided with a LEA- developed/approved calendar prior to the initiation of services. CONTRACTOR herein agrees to observe holidays as specified in the LEA-developed/approved calendar. CONTRACTOR shall provide services pursuant to the LEA-developed/approved calendar; or as specified in the LEA student's IEP and ISA. Unless otherwise specified in the LEA student's ISA, CONTRACTOR shall provide related services to LEA students on only those days that the LEA student's school of attendance is in session and the LEA student attends school. CONTRACTOR shall bill only for services provided on billable days of attendance as indicated on the LEA calendar unless CONTRACTOR and the LEA agree otherwise, in writing. Student must have actually been in attendance and/or received services on a billable day of attendance in order for CONTRACTOR to be eligible for payment. It is specifically understood that services may not be provided on weekends/holidays and other times when school is not in session, unless agreed to by the LEA, in writing, in advance of the delivery of any NPA service provided by CONTRACTOR. Any instructional days provided without this written agreement shall be at the sole financial responsibility of the CONTRACTOR.

# 26. DATA REPORTING

CONTRACTOR shall agree to provide to the LEA all data related to student information and billing information with LEA. CONTRACTOR shall agree to provide data related to all\_sections of this contract, including student discipline as noted below, and requested by and in the format required by the LEA. It is understood that all NPS/A shall utilize the LEA approved electronic IEP system for all IEP development, service tracking documentation, and progress reporting, unless otherwise agreed to by the LEA. Additional progress reporting may be required by the LEA. The LEA shall provide the CONTRACTOR with appropriate software, user training and proper internet permissions to allow adequate access.

Using forms developed by the CDE or as otherwise mutually agreed upon by CONTRACTOR and LEA, CONTRACTOR shall provide LEA, on a monthly basis, a written report of all incidents in which a statutory offense is committed by any LEA student, regardless if it results in a disciplinary action of suspension or expulsion. This includes all statutory offenses described as described in Education Codes sections 48900 and 48915. CONTRACTOR shall also include incidents resulting in the use of a behavioral restraint and/or seclusion even if they were not a result of a violation of Education Code sections 48900 and 48915.

The LEA shall provide the CONTRACTOR with approved forms and/or format for such data including, but not limited to, invoicing, attendance reports and progress reports. The LEA may approve use of CONTRACTOR'S provided forms at their discretion.

# 27. LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT/DUAL ENROLLMENT

CONTRACTOR and LEA shall follow all LEA policies and procedures that support Least Restrictive Environment ("LRE") options and/or dual enrollment options if available and appropriate, for students to have access to the general curriculum and to be educated with their nondisabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate.

CONTRACTOR and LEA shall ensure that LRE placement options are addressed at all IEP team meetings regarding students for whom ISAs have been or may be executed. This shall include IEP team consideration of supplementary aids and services, goals and objectives necessary for placement in the LRE and necessary to

enable students to transition to less restrictive settings.

When an IEP team has determined that a student should be transitioned into the public school setting, CONTRACTOR shall assist the LEA in implementing the IEP team's recommended activities to support the transition.

# 28. STATEWIDE ACHIEVEMENT TESTING

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, per implementation of Senate Bill 484, CONTRACTOR shall administer all statewide assessments within the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress ("CAASPP"), Desired Results Developmental Profile ("DRDP"), California Alternative Assessment ("CAA"), achievement and abilities tests (using LEA-authorized assessment instruments), the Fitness Gram, the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California ("ELPAC"), the Alternative English Language Proficiency Assessments for California ("Alternative ELPAC"), and as appropriate to the student, and mandated by LEA pursuant to LEA and state and federal guidelines.

CONTRACTOR is subject to the alternative accountability system developed pursuant to Education Code section 52052, in the same manner as public schools. Each LEA student placed with CONTRACTOR by the LEA shall be tested by qualified staff of CONTRACTOR in accordance with that accountability program. LEA shall provide test administration training to CONTRACTOR'S qualified staff. CONTRACTOR shall attend LEA test training and comply with completion of all coding requirements as required by LEA.

# 29. MANDATED ATTENDANCE AT LEA MEETINGS

CONTRACTOR shall attend District mandated meetings when legal mandates, and/or LEA policy and procedures are reviewed, including but not limited to the areas of: curriculum, high school graduation, standards-based instruction, behavior intervention, cultural and linguistic needs of students with disabilities, dual enrollment responsibilities, LRE responsibilities, transition services, data collection and standardized testing and IEPs. LEA shall provide CONTRACTOR with reasonable notice of mandated meetings. Attendance at such meetings does not constitute a billable service hour(s).

## 30. POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

CONTRACTOR shall comply with the requirements of Education Code section 49005, et seq., 56521.1 and 56521.2. LEA students who exhibit behaviors that interfere with their learning or the learning of others must receive timely and appropriate assessments and positive supports and interventions in accordance with the federal law and it's implementing regulations. If the IEP determines that a student's behavior impedes his or her learning or the learning of others, the IEP team is required to consider the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports, and other strategies, to address that behavior, consistent with Section 1414(d)(3)(B)(i) and (d)(4) of Title 20 of the United States Code and associated federal regulations. This could mean that instead of developing a Behavior Intervention Plan ("BIP"), the IEP team may conclude it is sufficient to address the student's behavioral problems through the development of behavioral goals and behavioral interventions to support those goals.

CONTRACTOR shall maintain a written policy pursuant to California Education Code section 56521.1 regarding emergency interventions and behavioral emergency reports. CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all of its staff members are trained in crisis intervention, emergency procedures, and evidence-based practices and interventions specific to the unique behavioral needs of CONTRACTOR's pupil\_population. The training shall be provided within 30 days of employment to all new staff who have any contact or interaction with pupils during the school day. The CONTRACTOR shall select and conduct the training in accordance with California Education Code section 56366.1. CONTRACTOR shall maintain written records of the training and provide written verification of the training annually and upon request.

Pursuant to Education Code section 56521.1, emergency interventions shall not be used as a substitute for a BIP, and shall not be employed longer than necessary to contain the behavior. Emergency interventions may only be used to control unpredictable, spontaneous behavior that poses clear and present danger of serious physical harm to the individual with exceptional needs, or others, and that cannot be immediately prevented by a response less restrictive than the temporary application of a technique used to contain the behavior. If a situation requires prolonged use of emergency intervention, staff must seek assistance from the school site administrator or a law enforcement agency.

CONTRACTOR shall complete a behavior emergency report when an emergency occurs that is defined as a serious, dangerous behavior that staff has determined to present a clear and present danger to others. It requires a non-violent physical intervention to protect the safety of student, self, or others and a physical intervention has been used; or a physical intervention has not been used, but an injury or serious property damage has occurred. Personal Safety Techniques may or may not have been used. Emergencies *require* a behavior emergency report form be completed and submitted to the LEA within twenty-four (24) hours for administrative action. CONTRACTOR shall notify Parent within twenty-four (24) hours via telephone.

If the student's IEP does not contain a BIP an IEP team shall schedule a meeting to review the behavior emergency report, determine if there is a necessity for a functional behavioral assessment, and to determine an interim plan.

If the student already has a BIP, the IEP team shall review and modify the BIP if a new serious behavior has been exhibited or existing behavioral interventions have proven to be ineffective. CONTRACTOR shall schedule with LEA an IEP meeting within two (2) days.

Pursuant to Education Code section 56521.2, CONTRACTOR shall not authorize, order, consent to, or pay for the following interventions, or any other interventions similar to or like the following:

- 1. any intervention that is designed to, or likely to, cause physical pain, including, but not limited to, electric-shock;
- 2. an intervention that involves the release of noxious, toxic, or otherwise unpleasant sprays, mists, or substances in proximity to the face of the individual;
- 3. an intervention that denies adequate sleep, food, water, shelter, bedding, physical comfort, or access to bathroom facilities:
- 4. an intervention that is designed to subject, used to subject, or likely to subject, the individual to verbal abuse, ridicule, or humiliation, or that can be expected to cause excessive emotional trauma;
- 5. restrictive interventions that employ a device, material, or objects that simultaneously immobilize all four extremities, including the procedure known as prone containment, except that prone containment or similar techniques may be used by trained personnel as a limited emergency intervention;
- 6. locked seclusion, unless it is in a facility otherwise licensed or permitted by state law to use a locked room:
- 7. an intervention that precludes adequate supervision of the individual;
- 8. an intervention that deprives the individual of one or more of his or her senses.

CONTRACTOR shall comply with Education Code section 49005.8. Specifically, Contractor shall not do any of the following:

- 1. Use seclusion or a behavioral restraint for the purpose of coercion, discipline, convenience, or retaliation.
- 2. Use locked seclusion, unless it is in a facility otherwise licensed or permitted by the state law to use a locked room.
- 3. Use a physical restraint technique that obstructs a pupil's respiratory airway or impairs the pupil's breathing or respiratory capacity, including techniques in which a staff member places pressure on a pupil's back or places his or her body weight against the pupil's torso of back.
- 4. Use a behavioral restraint technique that restricts breathing, including, but not limited to, using a

- pillow, blanket, carpet, mat, or other item to cover a pupil's face.
- 5. Place a pupil in a facedown position with the pupil's hands held or restrained behind the pupil's back.
- 6. Use a behavioral restraint for longer than is necessary to contain the behavior that poses a clear and present danger of serious physical harm to the pupil or others.

CONTRACTOR shall keep constant, direct observation of a pupil who is in seclusion, which may be through observation of the pupil through a window, or another barrier, through which the educational provider is able to make direct eye contact with the pupil. This observation shall not be through indirect means, including through a security camera or a closed-circuit television.

CONTRACTOR shall afford pupils who are restrained the least restrictive alternative and the maximum freedom of movement, and shall use the least number of restraint points, while ensuring the physical safety of the pupil and others.

If prone restraint techniques are used by CONTRACTOR, a staff member shall observe the pupil for any signs of physical distress throughout the use of prone restraint. Whenever possible, the staff member monitoring the pupil shall not be involved in restraining the pupil.

In the case of a child whose behavior impedes the child's learning or that of others, the IEP team shall consider the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports, and other strategies, to address that behavior, consistent with Section 1414(d)(3)(B)(i) and (d)(4) of Title 20 of the United States Code and associated federal regulations.

All restraint practices must be reviewed and revised when they have an adverse effect on a student and are used repeatedly for an individual child, either on multiple occasions within the same classroom or multiple uses by the same individual. CONTRACTOR shall notify the student's parent/guardian when any type of physical or mechanical restraint or seclusion has been used. Upon the use of any type of physical or mechanical restraint or seclusions of a LEA student, CONTRACTOR shall complete a BER per the reporting and notification requirements listed above.

## 31. STUDENT DISCIPLINE

CONTRACTOR shall maintain and abide by a written policy for student discipline that is consistent with state and federal law and regulations. Using forms developed by the California Department of Education or as otherwise mutually agreed upon by CONTRACTOR and LEA, CONTRACTOR shall provide LEA, on a monthly basis, a written report of all incidents in which a statutory offense is committed by any LEA student, regardless if it results in a disciplinary action of suspension or expulsion. This includes all statutory offenses as described in Education Code 48900 and 48915. CONTRACTOR shall also include incidents resulting in the use of a behavioral restraint and/or seclusion even if they were not a result of a violation of Education Code Sections 48900 and 48915.

When CONTRACTOR seeks to remove a student from his/her current educational placement for disciplinary reasons, CONTRACTOR shall immediately submit a written discipline report to the LEA. Written discipline reports shall include, but not be limited to: the student's name; the time, date, and description of the misconduct; the disciplinary action taken by CONTRACTOR; and the rationale for such disciplinary action. A copy of the student's behavior plan, if any, shall be submitted with the written discipline report. CONTRACTOR and LEA agree to participate in a manifestation determination at an IEP meeting no later than the tenth (10th) day of suspension.

## 32. IEP TEAM MEETINGS

An IEP team meeting shall be convened at least annually to evaluate: (1) the educational progress of each student placed with CONTRACTOR, including all state assessment results pursuant to the requirements of

Education Code section 52052; (2) whether or not the needs of the student continue to be best met at the NPS; and (3) whether changes to the student's IEP are necessary, including whether the student may be transitioned to a public school setting. (California Education Code sections 56366 (a) (2) (B) (i) and (ii)) and pursuant to California Education Code section 56345 (b) (4).)

If the LEA student is to be transferred from a NPS setting into a regular class setting in a public school for any part of the school day, the IEP team shall document, a description of activities provided to integrate the student into the regular education program, including the nature of each activity as well as the time spent on the activity each day or week and a description of the activities provided to support the transition of the student from the special education program into the regular education program. Each student shall be allowed to provide confidential input to any representative of his or her IEP team. Except as otherwise provided in the Master Contract, CONTRACTOR and LEA shall participate in all IEP team meetings regarding students for whom ISAs have been or may be executed. At any time during the term of this Master Contract, the parent, the CONTRACTOR or the LEA may request a review of the student's IEP, subject to all procedural safeguards required by law, including reasonable notice given to, and participation of, the CONTRACTOR in the meeting. Every effort shall be made to schedule IEP team meetings at a time and place that is mutually convenient to parent, CONTRACTOR and LEA. CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA assessments and written assessment reports by service providers upon request and/or pursuant to LEA policy and procedures. It is understood that attendance at an IEP meeting is part of CONTRACTOR'S professional responsibility and is not a billable service under this Master Contract.

It is understood that the CONTRACTOR shall utilize the approved electronic IEP system of the LEA for all IEP planning and progress reporting at the LEA's discretion. The LEA or SELPA may provide training for any CONTRACTOR to ensure access to the approved system. The CONTRACTOR shall maintain confidentiality of all IEP data on the approved system and shall protect the password requirements of the system. When a student dis-enrolls from the NPS/NPA, the NPS/NPA and LEA shall discontinue use of the approved system for that student.

Changes in any student's educational program, including instruction, services, or instructional setting provided under this Master Contract, may only be made on the basis of revisions to the student's IEP. In the event that the CONTRACTOR believes the student requires a change of placement, the CONTRACTOR may request a review of the student's IEP for the purposes of consideration of a change in the student's placement. Student is entitled to remain in the last agreed upon and implemented placement unless parent agrees otherwise or an Interim Alternative Educational Setting is deemed lawful and appropriate by LEA or OAH consistent with Section 1415 (k)(1)(7) of Title 20 of the United States Code.

## 33. SURROGATE PARENTS AND FOSTER YOUTH

CONTRACTOR shall recognize LEA appointed surrogate parent assignments for students without parental representation, including unaccompanied homeless youths, in special education procedures pursuant to California Government Code Section 7579.5. Surrogate parents shall serve as the child's parent and have all the rights relative to the student's education that a parent has under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act pursuant to 20 USC 1414-1482 and 34 CFR 300.1-300.756. A pupil in foster care shall be defined pursuant to California Education Code section 42238.01(b). The LEA shall annually notify the CONTRACTOR who the LEA has designated as the educational liaison for foster children. When a pupil in foster care is enrolled in a NPS by the LEA any time after the completion of the pupil's second year of high school, the CONTRACTOR shall schedule the pupil in courses leading towards graduation based on the diploma requirements of the LEA unless provided notice otherwise in writing pursuant to Section 51225.1.

# 34. DUE PROCESS PROCEEDINGS

CONTRACTOR shall fully participate in special education due process proceedings including mediations and

hearings, as requested by LEA. Participation further includes the willingness to make CONTRACTOR's staff available for witness preparation and testimony as is necessary to facilitate a due process hearing. CONTRACTOR shall also fully participate in the investigation and provision of documentation related to any complaint filed with the State of California, the Office of Civil Rights, or any other state and/or federal governmental body or agency. Full participation shall include, but in no way be limited to, cooperating with LEA representatives to provide complete answers raised by any investigator and/or the immediate provision of any and all documentation that pertains to the operation of CONTRACTOR's program and/or the implementation of a particular student's IEP/Individual and Family Service Plan ("IFSP").

# 35. COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

CONTRACTOR shall maintain and adhere to its own written procedures for responding to parent complaints. These procedures shall include annually notifying and providing parents of students with appropriate information (including complaint forms) for the following: (1) Uniform Complaint Procedures pursuant to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations section 4600 et seq.; (2) Nondiscrimination policy pursuant to Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations section 4960 (a); (3) Sexual Harassment Policy, California Education Code 231.5 (a) (b) (c); (4) Title IX Student Grievance Procedure, Title IX 106.8 (a) (d) and 106.9 (a); and (5) Notice of Privacy Practices in compliance with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"). CONTRACTOR shall include verification of these procedures to the LEA. CONTRACTOR shall immediately notify LEA of any written complaints filed against it related to LEA students and provide LEA with all documentation related to the complaints and/or its investigation of complaints, including any and all reports generated as a result of an investigation.

# 36. STUDENT PROGRESS REPORTS/REPORT CARDS AND ASSESSMENTS

Unless LEA requests in writing that progress reports be provided on a monthly basis, CONTRACTOR shall provide to parents at least four (4) written progress reports/report cards. At a minimum, progress reports shall include progress over time towards IEP goals and objectives. A copy of the progress reports/report cards shall be maintained at the CONTRACTOR's place of business and shall be submitted to the LEA and LEA student's parent(s) quarterly. Or as required by a pupils IEP.

The CONTRACTOR shall also provide an LEA representative access to supporting documentation used to determine progress on any goal or objective, including but not limited to log sheets, observation notes, data sheets, pre/post tests, rubrics and other similar data collection used to determine progress or lack of progress on approved goals, objectives, transition plans or behavior intervention plans. The LEA may request such data at any time within five (5) years of the date of service. The CONTRACTOR shall provide this data supporting progress within five (5) business days of request. Additional time may be granted as needed by the LEA.

CONTRACTOR shall complete academic or other evaluations of the student ten (10) days prior to the student's annual or triennial review IEP team meeting for the purpose of reporting the student's present levels of performance at the IEP team meeting as required by state and federal laws and regulations and pursuant to LEA policies, procedures, and/or practices. CONTRACTOR shall provide sufficient copies of its reports, documents, and projected goals to share with members of the IEP team five (5) business days prior to the IEP meeting. CONTRACTOR shall maintain supporting documentation such as test protocols and data collection, which shall be made available to LEA within five (5) business days of request.

The CONTRACTOR is responsible for all evaluation costs regarding the updating of goals and objectives, progress reporting and development of present levels of performance. All assessments resulting from an assessment plan shall be provided by the LEA unless the LEA specifies in writing a request that CONTRACTOR perform such additional assessments. Any assessment and/or evaluation costs may be added to the ISA and/or approved separately by the LEA and at the LEA's sole discretion.

It is understood that all billable hours must be in direct services to pupils as specified in the ISA. For NPA

services, supervision provided by a qualified individual as specified in Title 5 Regulation, subsection 3065, shall be determined as appropriate and included in the ISA. Supervision means the direct observation of services, data review, case conferencing and program design consistent with professional standards for each professional's license, certification, or credential.

CONTRACTOR shall not charge the student's parent(s) or LEA for the provision of progress reports, report cards, evaluations conducted in order to obtain present levels of performance, interviews, and/or meetings. It is understood that all billable hours have limits to those specified on the ISA consistent with the IEP. It is understood that copies of data collection notes, forms, charts and other such data are part of the pupil's record and shall be made available to the LEA upon written request.

# 37. GRADES, HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CREDITS & TRANSCRIPTS

When CONTRACTOR is an NPS, CONTRACTOR is responsible for assigning grades for any course of instruction taught at the NPS. Then grades determined by the pupil's teacher, in the absence of clerical or mechanical mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency, shall be final and consistent with the provisions specified in *EC* Section 49066. The grades each pupil receives in all courses of instruction taught by the NPS shall be reported to the parents and the LEA on a quarterly basis. Consistent with the LEA, should it become evident to the NPS the pupil is in danger of failing a course, the CONTRACTOR must initiate a parent conference, and the LEA representative must be in attendance.

When CONTRACTOR serves students in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) inclusive, LEA shall provide to CONTRACTOR a specific list of the course requirements to be satisfied by the CONTRATOR leading toward graduation or completion of LEA's diploma requirements. CONTRACTOR shall not recommend awarding a high school diploma to students who have not successfully completed all of the LEA's graduation requirements.

Pupil enrolled in high school during the 2020-2021 academic year may request a Pass or No Pass grade as permitted in *EC* Section 49066.5, which may be reflected on the student's transcript and shall not negatively affect the pupil's grade point average.

CONTRACTOR shall prepare transcripts at the close of each semester, or upon student transfer, for students in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) inclusive, and submit them on LEA approved forms to the LEA for evaluation of progress toward completion of diploma, or alternate process requirements as specified in LEA Procedures. CONTRACTOR shall submit to the LEA names of students and the LEA for whom transcripts have been submitted as specified by the LEA.

# 38. STUDENT CHANGE OF RESIDENCE

Within five (5) school days from the date CONTRACTOR becomes aware of a student's change of residence, CONTRACTOR shall notify LEA, in writing, of the student's change of residence. Upon enrollment, CONTRACTOR shall notify parents in writing of their obligation to notify CONTRACTOR of the student's change of residence. CONTRACTOR shall maintain, and provide upon request by LEA, documentation of such notice to parents.

If CONTRACTOR had knowledge or should reasonably have had knowledge of the student's change of residence boundaries and CONTRACTOR fails to follow the procedures specified in this provision, LEA shall not be responsible for the costs of services delivered following the student's change of residence.

## 39. WITHDRAWAL OF STUDENT FROM PROGRAM

CONTRACTOR shall immediately report electronically and in writing to the LEA within five (5) business days when an LEA student is withdrawn without prior notice from school and/or services, including student's change of residence to a residence outside of LEA service boundaries, and parent/guardian withdrawal of student against

professional advice from a NPS/RTC.

# **40. PARENT ACCESS**

CONTRACTOR shall provide for reasonable parental access to students and all facilities including, but not limited to, the instructional setting, recreational activity areas, meeting rooms and student living quarters, when applicable CONTRACTOR shall comply with any known court orders regarding parental visits and access to LEA students.

CONTRACTOR operating programs associated with a NPS/RTC shall cooperate with a parent's reasonable request for LEA student therapeutic visits in their home or at the NPS/RTC. CONTRACTOR shall require that parents obtain prior written authorization for therapeutic visits from the CONTRACTOR and the LEA at least thirty (30) days in advance. When requested CONTRACTOR shall facilitate all parent travel and accommodations and for providing travel information to the parent as appropriate. Payment by LEA for approved travel-related expenses shall be made directly through the LEA consistent with LEA Procedures.

CONTRACTOR providing services in the student's home as specified in the IEP shall ensure that at least one parent of the child, or an adult caregiver with written and signed authorization to make decisions in an emergency, is present. The names of any adult caregiver other than the parent shall be provided to the LEA prior to the start of any home based services, including written and signed authorization in emergency situations. The parent shall inform the LEA of any changes of caregivers and provide written authorization for emergencies. The adult caregiver cannot also be an employee or volunteer associated with the NPS/NPA service provider.

All problems and/or concerns both verbal and written reported to pupil's parents, shall also be provided, in writing, to the LEA.

# 41. LICENSED CHILDREN'S INSTITUTION ("LCI") CONTRACTORS AND RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER ("RTC") CONTRACTORS

If CONTRACTOR is a LCI, CONTRACTOR shall adhere to all legal requirements regarding educational placements for LCI students as stated in Education Code 56366 (a) (2) (C), 56366.9 (c) (1), Health and Safety Code section 1501.1 and any other applicable laws and/or regulations, including LEA guidelines or procedures. An LCI shall not require that a pupil be placed in its NPS as a condition of being placed in its residential facility.

If CONTRACTOR is a nonpublic, NPS/RTC, CONTRACTOR shall adhere to all legal requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. section 1400 et seq. including the federal regulations 34 C.F.R section 300 et seq. and Education Code section 56000 et seq. including Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations section 3000 et seq. CONTRACTOR shall comply with all monitoring requirements set forth in Section 43 below.

If CONTRACTOR is a NPS that is owned, operated by, or associated with a LCI, CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA, on a quarterly basis, a list of all students, including those identified as eligible for special education. For those identified as special education students, the list shall include: 1) special education eligibility at the time of enrollment and; 2) the educational placement and services specified in each student's IEP at the time of enrollment. A copy of the current IEP shall be provided to the LEA.

Unless placement is made pursuant to an Office of Administrative Hearings order or a lawfully executed agreement between LEA and parent, LEA is not responsible for the costs associated with NPS placement until the date on which an IEP team meeting is convened, the IEP team determines that a NPS placement is appropriate, and the IEP is signed by the student's parent or another adult with educational decision-making rights.

In addition to meeting the certification requirements of the State of California, a CONTRACTOR that operates a program outside of this State shall be certified or licensed by that state to provide, respectively, special

education and related services and designated instruction and related services to pupils under the federal IDEA Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.) and shall be certified or licensed by the state to provide nonmedical care, clinical services, or short-term residential therapeutic programs, as applicable to the facility type.

## **42. STATE MEAL MANDATE**

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, CONTRACTOR and LEA shall satisfy the State Meal Mandate under California Education Code sections 49005 et seq.; 49501.5, the universal meal mandate enacted by AB 130 (2021-2022); 49530 et seq; and 49550 et seq.

## \*OPTIONAL

LEA, at its sole discretion, may elect to directly provide meals to CONTRACTOR for distribution to LEA students at the nonpublic school on its own or by another local school district.

CONTRACTOR acknowledges that the LEA does not receive any state or federal reimbursement for any meals CONTRACTOR provides to LEA students and that CONTRACTOR is only eligible to receive direct reimbursement if it is an approved site under the National School Lunch Program.

In the event the LEA requests CONTRACTOR to provide meals to LEA students, CONTRACTOR will provide breakfast and lunch to the LEA students in compliance with the meal pattern requirements under the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program nutritional standards. LEA shall reimburse CONTRACTOR for each meal made available at a mutually agreed upon rate. In the event CONTRACTOR is unable to provide meals, the LEA and CONTRACTOR will work collaboratively to find a solution. In the event CDE determines that meals do not need to be provided, this paragraph shall not apply.

CONTRACTOR shall maintain all documentation of meals provided to LEA students, CONTRACTOR shall comply with record keeping requirements under the School Breakfast Program and the National School Lunch Program or LEA template. Upon request, CONTRACTOR shall provide copies of such records to LEA. CONTRACTOR shall also allow LEA to conduct site monitoring visits as deemed necessary by the LEA.

If CONTRACTOR uses a third-party vendor to provide meals, CONTRACTOR will assure that the third-party vendor agrees to comply with all meal pattern requirements of the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program nutritional standards. Upon request, CONTRACTOR shall provide LEA with any contracts it has with third-party vendors providing meals for students.

#### 43. MONITORING

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction ("Superintendent") through the delegated monitoring activities to the California Department of Education (CDE), shall monitor CONTRACTOR'S facilities, the educational environment, and the quality of the educational program, including the teaching staff, the credentials authorizing service, the standards-based core curriculum being employed, and the standard focused instructional materials used on a three-year cycle, as follows: (1) CONTRACTOR shall complete a self-review in year one; (2) the Superintendent shall conduct an onsite review in year two; and (3) the Superintendent shall conduct a follow-up visit in year three.

CONTRACTOR shall participate in any LEA or CDE compliance review, if applicable, to be conducted as aligned with the CDE Onsite Review and monitoring cycle in accordance with California Education Code section 56366.1(j). This review will address programmatic aspects of the NPS, compliance with relevant state and federal regulations, and Master Contract compliance. CONTRACTOR shall conduct any follow-up or corrective action procedures related to review findings.

If CONTRACTOR is also an LCI and/or NPS/RTC, the CDE shall annually evaluate whether CONTRACTOR

is in compliance with Education Code section 56366.9 and Health and Safety Code section 1501.1(b).

The LEA or SELPA shall conduct an onsite visit to the NPS before placement of a pupil if the LEA does not have any pupils enrolled at the school at the time of placement.

The LEA or SELPA shall conduct at least one onsite monitoring visit during each school year to the CONTRACTOR site certified as an NPS where the LEA has placed a pupil and entered a master contract. The monitoring visit shall include, but is not limited to, a review of services specified on the ISA and provided to the pupil, a review of progress the pupil is making toward the goals set forth in the pupil's IEP, a review of progress the pupil is making towards the goals set forth in the pupil's behavioral intervention plan, if applicable, an observation of the pupil during instruction, and a walkthrough of the facility. The LEA or SELPA shall report the findings resulting from the monitoring visit to the CDE within 60 calendar days of the onsite visit. A copy of the report will be given to the NPS.

CONTRACTOR shall allow LEA representatives access to its facilities for additional periodic monitoring of each student's instructional program. LEA shall have access to observe each student at work, observe the instructional setting, interview CONTRACTOR employees, and review each student's records and progress. Such access shall include unannounced monitoring visits. When making site visits, LEA shall initially report to CONTRACTOR's site administrative office. CONTRACTOR shall be invited to participate in the review of each student's progress.

CONTRACTOR understands that LEA reserves the right to institute a program audit with or without cause. The program audit may include, but is not limited to, a review of core compliance areas of health and safety; curriculum/instruction; related services; and contractual, legal, and procedural compliance.

When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, CONTRACTOR shall collect all applicable data and prepare the applicable portion of a School Accountability Report Card as appropriate in accordance with California Education Code Section 33126.

#### **PERSONNEL**

# 44. CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

CONTRACTOR shall comply with the requirements of California Education Code sections 44237, 35021.1, 35021.2, and 56366.1 including, but not limited to: obtaining clearance from both the California Department of Justice (hereinafter referred to as "CDOJ") and clearance from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (hereinafter referred to as "FBI") for CONTRACTOR's employees and volunteers who will have or likely may have any direct contact with LEA students. CONTRACTOR hereby agrees that CONTRACTOR's employees and volunteers shall not come in contact with students in person or virtually until CDOJ and FBI clearance are ascertained. CONTRACTOR shall certify in writing to LEA that none of its employees, and volunteers, unless CONTRACTOR determines that the volunteers will have no direct contact with students, or subcontractors who may come into contact with students have been convicted of a violent or serious felony as those terms are defined in California Education Code section 44237(h), unless despite the employee's conviction of a violent or serious felony, he or she has met the criteria to be eligible for employment pursuant to California Education Code section 44237 (i) or (j). Upon requests, clearance certification shall be submitted to the LEA. CONTRACTOR shall make a request for subsequent arrest service from CDOJ as required by California Penal Code section 11105.2 CONTRACTOR shall certify to LEA that they have successful background checks and enrolled in subsequent arrest notification service for all employees who may come into contact with students. Notwithstanding the restrictions on sharing and destroying criminal background check information,

CONTRACTOR, upon demand, shall make available to the LEA evidence of a successful criminal background check clearance and enrollment in subsequent arrest notification service, as provided, for each owner, operator, and employee of the NPS/A. CONTRACTOR is required to retain the evidence on-site, as specified, for all staff,

including those licensed or credentialed by another state agency. Background clearances and proof of subsequent arrest notification service, as required by California Penal Code section 11105.2, for all staff shall be provided to the LEA upon request.

# **45. STAFF QUALIFICATIONS**

CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all individuals employed, contracted, and/or otherwise hired by CONTRACTOR to provide classroom and/or individualized instruction or related services hold a license, certificate, permit, or other document equivalent to that which staff in a public school are required to hold in the service rendered consistent with Education Code section 56366.1(n)(1) and are qualified pursuant to Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations sections 200.56 and 200.58, and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations sections 3001(r), 3064 and 3065. Such qualified staff may only provide related services within the scope of their professional license, certification or credential and ethical standards set by each profession, and not assume responsibility or authority for another related services provider or special education teacher's scope of practice.

CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all staff are appropriately credentialed to provide instruction and services to students with the disabling conditions placed in their program/school through documentation provided to the CDE (5 CCR 3064 (a)).

In accordance with California Education Code section 56366.1(a)(5) when CONTRACTOR is a NPS, an appropriately qualified person shall serve as curricular and instructional leader, and be able to provide leadership, oversight and professional development. The administrator of the NPS holds or is in the process of obtaining one of the following: (A) An administrative credential granted by an accredited postsecondary educational institution and two years of experience with pupils with disabilities. (B) A pupil personnel services credential that authorizes school counseling or psychology. (C) A license as a clinical social worker issued by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. (D) A license in psychology regulated by the Board of Psychology. (E) A master's degree issued by an accredited postsecondary institution in education, special education, psychology, counseling, behavioral analysis, social work, behavioral science, or rehabilitation. (F) A credential authorizing special education instruction and at least two years of experience teaching in special education before becoming an administrator. (G) A license as a marriage and family therapist certified by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. (I) A license as an educational psychologist issued by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. (California Education Code Section 56366.1 (a)(5)) CONTRACTOR shall maintain, and provide the LEA upon request, documentation of its administrator's qualification in accordance with the above.

CONTRACTOR shall comply with personnel standards and qualifications regarding instructional aides and teacher assistants respectively pursuant to federal requirements and California Education Code sections 45340 et seq. and 45350 et seq. Specifically, all paraprofessionals, including but not limited to, instructional aides and teacher assistants, employed, contracted, and/or otherwise hired or subcontracted by CONTRACTOR to provide classroom and/or individualized instruction or related services, shall possess a high school diploma (or its recognized equivalent) and at least one of the following qualifications: (a) completed at least two (2) years of study at an institution of higher education; or (b) obtained an associate's (or higher) degree; or (c) met a rigorous standard of quality and can demonstrate, through a formal state or local assessment (i) knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing, reading, writing, and mathematics; or (ii) knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing, reading readiness, writing readiness, and mathematics readiness, as appropriate. CONTRACTOR shall comply with all laws and regulations governing the licensed professions, including but not limited to, the provisions with respect to supervision.

In addition to meeting the certification requirements of the State of California, a CONTRACTOR that operates a program outside of this state and serving a student by this LEA shall be certified or licensed by that state to provide special education and related services to pupils under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.).

## 46. VERIFICATION OF LICENSES, CREDENTIALS & OTHER DOCUMENTS

CONTRACTOR shall submit to LEA a staff list, and copies of all current licenses, credentials, certifications, permits and/or other documents which entitle the holder to provide special education and/or related services by individuals employed, contracted, and/or otherwise hired or sub-contracted by CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all licenses, credentials, permits or other documents are on file at the office of the County Superintendent of Schools. CONTRACTOR shall provide the LEA with the verified dates of fingerprint clearance, Department of Justice clearance and Tuberculosis Test clearance for all employees, approved subcontractors and/or volunteers prior to such individuals starting to work with any student.

CONTRACTOR shall monitor the status of licenses, credentials, certifications, permits and/or other documents for all individuals employed, contracted, and/or otherwise hired by CONTRACTOR. CONTRACTOR shall notify LEA and CDE in writing within forty-five (45) days when personnel changes occur which may affect the provision of special education and/or related services to LEA students. CONTRACTOR shall notify LEA within forty-five (45) days if any such licenses, certifications or waivers are expired, suspended, revoked, rescinded, challenged pursuant to an administrative or legal complaint or lawsuit, or otherwise nullified during the effective period of this Master Contract. The LEA shall not be obligated to pay for any services provided by a person whose such licenses, certifications or waivers are expired, suspended, revoked, rescinded, or otherwise nullified during the period which such person is providing services under this Master Contract. Failure to notify the LEA and CDE of any changes in credentialing/licensed staff may result in suspension or revocation of CDE certification and/or suspension or termination of this Master Contract by the LEA.

# 47. STAFF ABSENCE

When CONTRACTOR is a nonpublic school, and CONTRACTOR's classroom teacher is absent, CONTRACTOR shall provide an appropriately credentialed substitute teacher in the absent teacher's classroom in accordance with California Education Code section 56061. CONTRACTOR shall provide to the LEA documentation of substitute coverage. Substitute teachers shall remain with their assigned class during all instructional time.

#### \*OPTIONAL

The LEA shall not be responsible for any payment for instruction and/or services when an appropriately credentialed substitute teacher is not provided in accordance with California Education Code section 56051.

When CONTRACTOR is a NPA and/or related services provider, and CONTRACTOR's service provider is absent, CONTRACTOR shall provide a qualified (as defined in Section 7 of this agreement and as determined by LEA) substitute, unless LEA provides appropriate coverage in lieu of CONTRACTOR's service providers. It is understood that the parent of a student shall not be deemed to be a qualified substitute for their student. LEA will not pay for services unless a qualified substitute is provided and/or CONTRACTOR provides documentation evidencing the provision of "make-up" services by a qualified service provider within thirty (30) calendar days from the date on which the services should have been provided. CONTRACTOR shall not "bank" or "carry over" make up service hours under any circumstances, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by CONTRACTOR and authorized LEA representative.

# 48. STAFF PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR WHEN PROVIDING SERVICES AT SCHOOL OR SCHOOL RELATED EVENTS OR AT SCHOOL FACILITY AND/OR IN THE HOME

It is understood that all employees, subcontractors, and volunteers of any certified NPS/A shall adhere to the customary professional and ethical standards when providing services. All practices shall only be within the scope of professional responsibility as defined in the professional code of conduct for each profession as well as

any LEA professional standards as specified in Board policies and/or regulations when made available to the CONTRACTOR.

For services provided on a public school campus, sign in/out procedures shall be followed by NPS/A providers working in a public school classroom along with all other procedures for being on campus consistent with school and district policy. Such policies and procedures shall be made available to the CONTRACTOR upon request. It is understood that the public school credentialed classroom teacher is responsible for the instructional program.

CONTRACTOR providing services outside of the student's school as specified in the IEP shall ensure that at least one parent of the child or an adult caregiver with written and signed authority to make decisions in an emergency is present during provision of services. The names of any adult caregiver other than the parent shall be provided to the LEA prior to the start of any home-based services, including written and signed authorization in emergency situations. The adult caregiver cannot also be an employee or volunteer associated with the NPS/NPA service provider. All problems and/or concerns reported by CONTRACTOR to parents or guardians, in either verbal or written form, shall be reported to the LEA.

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY MANDATES

## 49. HEALTH AND SAFETY

CONTRACTOR shall comply with all applicable federal, state, local, and LEA laws, regulations, ordinances, policies, and procedures regarding student and employee health and safety. CONTRACTOR shall comply with the requirements of California Education Code sections 35021 et. seq. and, 49406, regarding the examination of CONTRACTOR's employees and volunteers for tuberculosis. CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA documentation for each individual volunteering, employed, contracted, and/or otherwise hired by CONTRACTOR of such compliance before an individual comes in contact with a student.

CONTRACTOR shall comply with OSHA Blood-Borne Pathogens Standards, 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) section 1910.1030, when providing medical treatment or assistance to a student. CONTRACTOR further agrees to provide annual training regarding universal health care precautions and to post required notices in areas designated in the California Health and Safety Code.

## **50. FACILITIES AND FACILITIES MODIFICATIONS**

CONTRACTOR shall provide special education and/or related services to students in facilities that comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances related, but not limited to: disability access; fire, health, sanitation, and building standards and safety; fire warning systems; zoning permits; and occupancy capacity. When CONTRACTOR is a NPS, CONTRACTOR shall conduct fire drills as required by Title 5 California Code of Regulations section 550. CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for any structural changes and/or modifications to CONTRACTOR's facilities as required complying with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances. Failure to notify the LEA and CDE of any changes in, major modification or relocation of facilities may result in the suspension or revocation of CDE certification and/or suspension or termination of this Master Contract by the LEA.

## 51. ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

CONTRACTOR shall comply with the requirements of California Education Code section 49422 et seq. when CONTRACTOR serves a student that is required to take prescription and/or over-the-counter medication during the school day. CONTRACTOR may designate personnel to assist the student with the administration of such

medication after the student's parent(s) provide to CONTRACTOR: (a) a written statement from a physician detailing the type, administration method, amount, and time schedules by which such medication shall be taken; and (b) a written statement from the student's parent(s) granting CONTRACTOR permission to administer medication(s) as specified in the physician's statement. CONTRACTOR shall maintain, and provide to LEA upon request, copies of such written statements. CONTRACTOR shall maintain a written log for each student to whom medication is administered. Such written log shall specify the student's name; the type of medication; the date, time, and amount of each administration; and the name of CONTRACTOR's employee who administered the medication. CONTRACTOR maintains full responsibility for storing medications in a secure location and ensuring appropriate staff training in the administration of such medication consistent with physician's written orders. Any change in medication type, administration method, amount or schedule must be authorized by both a licensed physician and parent.

# 52. INCIDENT/ACCIDENT REPORTING

CONTRACTOR shall submit within 24 hours, electronically, any serious accident or incident report to the LEA. CONTRACTOR shall properly submit required accident or incident reports pursuant to the procedures specified in LEA Procedures.

# 53. CHILD ABUSE REPORTING

CONTRACTOR hereby agrees to annually train all staff members, including volunteers, so that they are familiar with and agree to adhere to its own child and dependent adult abuse reporting obligations and procedures as specified in California Penal Code section 11164 et seq. and Education Code 44691. To protect the privacy rights of all parties involved (i.e., reporter, child and alleged abuser), reports will remain confidential as required by law and professional ethical mandates. A written statement acknowledging the legal requirements of such reporting and verification of staff adherence to such reporting shall be submitted to the LEA.

# 54. SEXUAL HARASSMENT

CONTRACTOR shall have a Sexual and Gender Identity harassment policy that clearly describes the kinds of conduct that constitutes sexual harassment and that is prohibited by the CONTRACTOR's policy, as well as federal and state law. The policy should include procedures to make complaints without fear of retaliation, and for prompt and objective investigations of all sexual harassment complaints. CONTRACTOR further agrees to provide annual training to all employees regarding the laws concerning sexual harassment and related procedures pursuant to Government Code 12950.1.

# 55. REPORTING OF MISSING CHILDREN

CONTRACTOR assures LEA that all staff members, including volunteers, are familiar with and agree to adhere to requirements for reporting missing children as specified in California Education Code section 49370. A written statement acknowledging the legal requirements of such reporting and verification of staff adherence to such reporting shall be properly submitted to the LEA. The written statement shall be submitted as specified by the LEA.

#### FINANCIAL

# 56. ENROLLMENT, CONTRACTING, SERVICE TRACKING, ATTENDANCE REPORTING, AND BILLING PROCEDURES

CONTRACTOR shall assure that the nonpublic school or nonpublic agency has the necessary financial resources to provide an appropriate education for the students enrolled and will distribute those resources in such a manner to implement the IEP and ISA for each and every student.

CONTRACTOR shall comply with all LEA procedures concerning enrollment, contracting, attendance reporting, service tracking and billing including requirements of electronic billing as specified by the LEA Procedures, as well as provide all such records requested by LEA concerning the same. CONTRACTOR shall be paid for the provision of special education and/or related services specified in the student's IEP and ISA. All payments by LEA shall be made in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Master Contract and governed by all applicable federal and state laws.

CONTRACTOR shall maintain separate registers for the basic education program, each related service, and services provided by instructional assistants, behavior intervention aides and bus aides. Original attendance forms (i.e., roll books for the basic education program, service tracking documents and notes for instructional assistants, behavioral intervention aides, bus aides, and each related service) shall be completed by the actual service provider whose signature shall appear on such forms and shall be available for review, inspection, or audit by LEA during the effective period of this contract and for a period of five (5) years thereafter. CONTRACTOR shall verify the accuracy of minutes of reported attendance that is the basis of services being billed for payment.

CONTRACTOR shall submit invoices and related documents to LEA for payment, for each calendar month when education or related services were provided. Invoices and related documents shall be properly submitted electronically and in addition, on an LEA form with signatures in the manner prescribed by LEA. At a minimum, each invoice must contain the following information: month of service; specific days and times of services coordinated by the LEA approved calendar unless otherwise specified in the IEP or agreed to by the LEA; name of staff who provided the service; approved cost of each invoice; total for each service and total for the monthly invoice; date invoice was mailed; signature of NPS/NPA administrator authorizing that the information is accurate and consistent with the ISA, CDE certificates and staff notification; verification that attendance report is attached as appropriate; indication of any made-up session consistent with this contract; verification that progress reports have been provided consistent with the ISA (monthly or quarterly unless specified otherwise on the ISA); and name or initials of each student for when the service was provided.

In the event services were not provided, rationale for why the services were not provided shall be included.

Such an invoice is subject to all conditions of this contract. At the discretion of the LEA, an electronic invoice may be required provided such notice has been made in writing and training provided to the CONTRACTOR at no additional charge for such training.

Invoices shall be submitted no later than thirty (30) days after the end of the attendance accounting period in which the services were rendered. LEA shall make payment to CONTRACTOR based on the number of billable days of attendance and hours of service at rates specified in this contract within forty-five (45) days of LEA's receipt of properly submitted hard copy of invoices prepared and submitted as specified in California Education Code Section 56366.5 and the LEA. CONTRACTOR shall correct deficiencies and submit rebilling invoices no later than thirty (30) calendar days after the invoice is returned by LEA. LEA shall pay properly submitted re-billing invoices no later than forty-five (45) days after the date a completely corrected re-billing invoice is received by LEA.

Upon approval of said payment demand, LEA shall make payment in an amount equal to the number of creditable days of attendance multiplied by the agreed upon unit amount. Payment shall be made within forty-five (45) days of LEA's receipt of payment demand except when approval is denied and LEA exercises its right to withhold. Should the LEA or SCOE fail to comply, the nonpublic nonsectarian school or nonpublic

agency may require the LEA, or county office to pay an additional amount of 1 1/2 percent of the unpaid balance per month until full payment is made.

In no case shall initial payment claim submission for any Master Contract fiscal year (August-July) extend beyond December 31st after the close of the fiscal year. In no case shall any rebilling for the Master Contract fiscal year (August-July) extend beyond six (6) months after the close of the fiscal year unless approved by the LEA to resolve billing issues including re-billing issues directly related to a delay in obtaining information from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing regarding teacher qualification, but no later than twelve (12) months from the close of the fiscal year. If the billing or re-billing error is the responsibility of the LEA, then no limit is set provided that the LEA and CONTRACTOR have communicated such concerns in writing during the 12-month period following the close of the fiscal year. LEA will not pay mileage for NPA employee.

# 57. RIGHT TO WITHHOLD PAYMENT

LEA may withhold payment to CONTRACTOR when: (a) CONTRACTOR has failed to perform, in whole or in part, under the terms of this contract; (b) CONTRACTOR has billed for services rendered on days other than billable days of attendance or for days when student was not in attendance and/or did not receive services; (c) CONTRACTOR was overpaid by LEA as determined by inspection, review, and/or audit of its program, work, and/or records; (d) CONTRACTOR has failed to provide supporting documentation with an invoice, as required by EC 56366(c)(2); (e) education and/or related services are provided to students by personnel who are not appropriately credentialed, licensed, or otherwise qualified; (f) LEA has not received prior to school closure or contract termination, all documents concerning one or more students enrolled in CONTRACTOR's educational program; (g) CONTRACTOR fails to confirm a student's change of residence to another district or confirms the change of residence to another district, but fails to notify LEA within five (5) days of such confirmation; or (h) CONTRACTOR receives payment from Medi-Cal or from any other agency or funding source for a service provided to a student. It is understood that no payments shall be made for any invoices that are not received by six (6) months following the close of the prior fiscal year, for services provided in that year.

Final payment to CONTRACTOR in connection with the cessation of operations and/or termination of a Master Contract will be subject to the same documentation standards described for all payment claims for regular ongoing operations. In addition, final payment may be withheld by the LEA until completion of a review or audit, if deemed necessary by the LEA. Such review or audit will be completed within ninety (90) days. The final payment may be adjusted to offset any previous payments to the CONTRACTOR determined to have been paid in error or in anticipation of correction of documentation deficiencies by the CONTRACTOR that remain uncorrected.

The amount which may be withheld by LEA with respect to each of the subparagraphs of the preceding paragraph are as follows: (a) the value of the service CONTRACTOR failed to perform; (b) the amount of overpayment; (c) the portion of the invoice for which satisfactory documentation has not been provided by CONTRACTOR; (d) the amount invoiced for services provided by the individual not appropriately credentialed, licensed, or otherwise qualified; (e) the proportionate amount of the invoice related to the applicable pupil for the time period from the date the violation occurred and until the violation is cured; or (f) the amount paid to CONTRACTOR by Medi-Cal or another agency or funding source for the service provided to the student.

If LEA determines that cause exists to withhold payment to CONTRACTOR, LEA shall, within ten (10) business days of this determination, provide to CONTRACTOR written notice that LEA is withholding payment. Such notice shall specify the basis or bases for LEA's withholding payment and the amount to be withheld. Within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of such notice, CONTRACTOR shall take all necessary and appropriate action to correct the deficiencies that form the basis for LEA's withholding payment or submit a written request for extension of time to correct the deficiencies or submit to LEA written documentation demonstrating that the basis or bases cited by the LEA for withholding payment is unfounded. Upon receipt of CONTRACTOR's written request showing good cause, LEA shall extend CONTRACTOR's time to correct deficiencies (usually an additional thirty (30) days), otherwise payment will be denied.

If after subsequent request for payment has been denied and CONTRACTOR believes that payment should not be withheld, CONTRACTOR shall send written notice to LEA specifying the reason it believes payment should not be withheld. LEA shall respond to CONTRACTOR's notice within thirty (30) business days by indicating that a warrant for the amount of payment will be made or stating the reason LEA believes payment should not be made. If LEA fails to respond within thirty (30) business days or a dispute regarding the withholding of payment continues after the LEA's response to CONTRACTOR's notice, CONTRACTOR may invoke the following escalation policy.

After forty-five (45) business days: The CONTRACTOR may notify the Authorized LEA's Representative of the dispute in writing. The LEA Authorized Representative shall respond to the CONTRACTOR in writing within fifteen (15) business days.

After sixty (60) business days: The LEA or CONTRACTOR may appeal to the County Superintendent of Schools so long as the County Superintendent of Schools is not participating in the Local Plan involved in the NPS/A contract, or a mutually agreed upon mediator. Both parties agree to pay for their own costs and expenses arising out of such mediation. Each party agrees to act in good faith in participating in any mediation process agreed to by the parties.

# 58. PAYMENT FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES

CONTRACTOR shall notify LEA when Medi-Cal or any other agency is billed for the costs associated with the provision of special education and/or related services to students. Upon request, CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA any and all documentation regarding reports, billing, and/or payment by Medi-Cal or any other agency for the costs associated with the provision of special education and/or related services to students. CONTRACTOR shall provide prior written notice of the rights and protections required by Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations section 300.154(d) whenever it seeks to use the LEA students' public benefits to pay for special education and related services. Such notice shall be provided before seeking payment from Medi-Cal for the first time and annually.

# **59. PAYMENT FOR ABSENCES**

## NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STAFF ABSENCE

Whenever a classroom teacher employed by CONTRACTOR is absent, CONTRACTOR shall provide an appropriately credentialed substitute teacher in the absent teacher's classroom in accordance with California Education Code section 56061. CONTRACTOR shall provide to LEA documentation of substitute coverage pursuant to the LEA Procedures. Substitute teachers shall remain with their assigned class during all instructional time. LEA will not pay for instruction and/or services unless said instruction or service is provided by an appropriately credentialed substitute teacher.

Whenever a related service provider is absent, CONTRACTOR shall provide a qualified (as defined in Section 7 of this agreement and as determined by LEA) substitute. LEA will not pay for services unless a qualified substitute is provided and/or CONTRACTOR provides documentation evidencing the provision of "make-up" services by a qualified service provider within thirty (30) calendar days from the date on which the services should have been provided unless otherwise agreed in student's IEP.

#### NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT ABSENCE

If CONTRACTOR is a nonpublic school, no later than the tenth (10th) cumulative day of a student's unexcused absence, CONTRACTOR shall notify the LEA of such absence.

#### **Excused Absence Method**

- A. LEA shall not be responsible for payment for more than 8 cumulative days of absences, for each of the first ninety days and second ninety days of the school year (i.e., semester), unless a written time extension is granted by LEA. No more than three of the 8 cumulative absences shall be unexcused. Reimbursements for Related Services cannot be claimed except in the case of a Bundled tuition rate.
- B. On the 4th consecutive day of a pupil's absence, CONTRACTOR shall notify LEA of such absence. If CONTRACTOR fails to provide such notice by the 4th day of consecutive absence, CONTRACTOR shall not be compensated for services delivered during continuing absence after the 4th consecutive day of excused absence.
- C. All excused absences must be verified and a copy must be submitted to LEA with the monthly invoice. All documentation must be kept for at least five (5) years from the date of origination.
- D. Only the individuals listed below may verify the reason for absence:
  - 1. School or public health nurse
  - 2. Physician
  - 3. Principal
  - 4. Teacher
  - 5. School employee assigned to make such verification
  - 6. Student eighteen years of age or over
  - 7. Parent
- E. Any reasonable method which established the reason for the absence may be used:
  - 1. Written note from parent, guardian, representative or adult pupil (over 18 or emancipated)
  - 2. Telephone conversation with parent, guardian, representative, or adult pupil (over 18 or emancipated)
- F. Standards for excused absences are defined in the education code. Contractor is responsible for verification of excused absence in accordance with current requirements.

Criteria for a billable day for payment purposes is one (1) day of attendance as defined in California Education Code, sections 46010, 46010.3 and 46307. LEA shall not pay for services provided on days that a student's attendance does not qualify for Average Daily Attendance (ADA) reimbursement under state law. Per Diem rates for students whose IEPs authorize less than a full instructional day may be adjusted on a pro rata basis in accordance with the actual proportion of the school day the student was served. LEA shall not be responsible for payment of related services for days on which a student's attendance does not qualify for Average Daily Attendance ("ADA") reimbursement under state law, nor shall student be eligible for make-up services.

For student absences beginning on the first day of quarantine or isolation consistent with public health protocol, when student's symptoms allow for participation in instruction, CONTRACTOR shall receive payment consistent with the student's approved ISA, contingent upon the provision of agreed upon services consistent with the Emergency Circumstances documented in the pupil's IEP in accordance with Education Code section 56345(a)(9). In the event that a student's symptoms do not allow participation in instruction, they shall be considered absent due to illness.

## **NONPUBLIC AGENCY STAFF ABSENCE**

When CONTRACTOR is a nonpublic agency and CONTRACTOR's service provider is absent, CONTRACTOR shall provide a qualified (as defined in Section 7 of this agreement and as determined by LEA) substitute, unless LEA provides appropriate coverage in lieu of CONTRACTOR's service providers. LEA shall not pay for services unless a qualified substitute is provided and/or CONTRACTOR provides

documentation evidencing the provision of "make-up" services by a qualified service provider within thirty (30) calendar days from the date on which the services should have been provided. CONTRACTOR shall not "bank" or "carry over" make up service hours under any circumstances, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by CONTRACTOR and LEA. In the event services were not provided, reasons for why the services were not provided shall be included.

# NONPUBLIC AGENCY STUDENT ABSENCE

If CONTRACTOR is a nonpublic agency, it shall notify LEA of the absence of a student no later than the fifth (5th) consecutive service day of the student's absence. LEA shall not be responsible for the payment of services when a student is absent.

## 60. LEA and/or NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CLOSURE DUE TO EMERGENCY

The following shall apply in the event of a LEA or NPS school closure due to an emergency consistent with guidelines followed by LEAs under Education Code sections 41422 and 46392:

- a) If CONTRACTOR remains open, if allowed, during an emergency and serves students appropriately as delineated in the ISA, CONTRACTOR shall receive payment, regardless of whether a sending LEA is open or closed.
- b) NPS School Closure In the event of a NPS School Closure for the reasons set forth in Education Code section 41422, if the LEA is able to obtain alternative placement for the student, CONTRACTOR shall not receive payment for days the student is not in attendance due to CONTRACTOR's school closure. If the LEA is unable to obtain alternative placement, CONTRACTOR shall receive payment consistent with the student's approved ISA, as though the student were continuing his/her regular attendance, until an alternative placement can be found and implement LEA student IEP in accordance with Education Code section 56345(a)(9) pertaining to emergency conditions.
- c) LEA and NPS School Closure- In the event of the LEA and NPS School Closures, on days the LEA is funded, CONTRACTOR shall receive payment consistent with the student's approved ISA, until an alternative placement can be found and implement LEA student IEP in accordance with Education Code section 56345(a)(9) pertaining to emergency conditions. If the LEA is able to obtain alternative placement for the student, CONTRACTOR shall not receive payment for days the student is not in attendance with CONTRACTOR due to CONTRACTOR'S school closure.

When the emergency school closure is lifted, CONTRACTOR shall notify the LEAs it serves of any lost instructional minutes. CONTRACTOR and LEAs shall work collaboratively to determine the need for make-up days or service changes, and shall work together to amend IEP and ISA paperwork as appropriate.

# **61. INSPECTION AND AUDIT**

The CONTRACTOR shall maintain and the LEA shall have the right to examine and audit all of the books, records, documents, accounting procedures and practices and other evidence that reflect all costs claimed to have been incurred or fees claimed to have been earned under this Agreement.

CONTRACTOR shall provide access to LEA to all records including, but not limited to: student records as defined by California Education Code section 49061(b); registers and roll books of teachers; daily service logs and notes or other documents used to record the provision of related services; Medi-Cal/daily service logs and notes used to record provision of services provided by instructional assistants, behavior intervention aides, bus aides, and supervisors; absence verification records (parent/doctor notes, telephone logs, and related documents);

bus rosters; staff lists specifying credentials held, business licenses held, documents evidencing other qualifications, , dates of hire, and dates of termination; staff time sheets; non-paid staff and volunteer sign-in sheets; transportation and other related service subcontracts; school calendars; bell/class schedules when applicable; liability and worker's compensation insurance policies; state NPS/A certifications; by-laws; lists of current board of directors/trustees, if incorporated; other documents evidencing financial expenditures; federal/state payroll quarterly reports Form 941/DE3DP; and bank statements and canceled checks or facsimile thereof. Such access shall include unannounced inspections by LEA. CONTRACTOR shall make available to LEA all budgetary information including operating budgets submitted by CONTRACTOR to LEA for the relevant contract period being audited.

CONTRACTOR shall make all records available at the office of LEA or CONTRACTOR's offices (to be specified by LEA) at all reasonable times and without charge. All records shall be provided to LEA within five (5) working days of a written request from LEA. CONTRACTOR shall, at no cost to LEA, provide assistance for such examination or audit. LEA's rights under this section shall also include access to CONTRACTOR's offices for purposes of interviewing CONTRACTOR's employees. If any document or evidence is stored in an electronic form, a hard copy shall be made available to the LEA, unless the LEA agrees to the use of the electronic format.

CONTRACTOR shall obtain from its subcontractors and suppliers written agreements to the requirements of this section and shall provide a copy of such agreements to LEA upon request by LEA.

If an inspection, review, or audit by LEA, a state agency, a federal agency, and/or an independent agency/firm determines that CONTRACTOR owes LEA monies as a result of CONTRACTOR's over billing or failure to perform, in whole or in part, any of its obligations under this Master Contract, LEA shall provide to CONTRACTOR written notice demanding payment from CONTRACTOR and specifying the basis or bases for such demand. Unless CONTRACTOR and LEA otherwise agree in writing, CONTRACTOR shall pay to LEA the full amount owed as a result of CONTRACTOR's over billing and/or failure to perform, in whole or in part, any of its obligations under this Master Contract, as determined by an inspection, review, or audit by LEA, a state agency, a federal agency, and/or an independent agency/firm. CONTRACTOR shall make such payment to LEA within thirty (30) days of receipt of LEA's written notice demanding payment.

## 62. RATE SCHEDULE; EXHIBIT A

The attached rate schedule (EXHIBIT A) limits the number of students that may be enrolled and maximum dollar amount of the contract. It may also limit the maximum number of students that can be provided specific services. Per Diem rates for students whose IEPs authorize less than a full instructional day may be adjusted proportionally. In such cases only, the adjustments in basic education rate shall be based on the required minimum number of minutes per grade level as set forth in paragraph 23, above, and in California Education Code Section 46200-46208.

Special education and/or related services offered by CONTRACTOR shall be provided by qualified personnel as per State and Federal law, and the codes and charges for such educational and/or related services during the term of this contract, shall be as stated in Exhibit A.

# **63. DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION**

By signing this agreement, the CONTRACTOR certifies that:

- (a) The CONTRACTOR and any of its shareholders, partners, or executive officers are <u>not</u> presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any Federal agency, and
- (b) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this contract, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining,

attempting to obtain, or performing a Federal, state or local government contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; and are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a Government entity with, commission of any of these offenses.

## **CONTRACT SIGNATURE PAGE:**

This Contract includes the attached General Provisions, **Exhibits A – B**, and any ISAs executed by CONTRACTOR and SELPA Member Districts. No payment shall be due under this Contract for special education or DIS provided to any pupil unless and until a SELPA member district and CONTRACTOR execute an ISA for such pupil.

Date:Date:Signature:Signature:Bill DobsonMolly CoteDirectorTSW Therapy Inc.500 La Terraza Blvd #15030151 Avenida des Las Banderas STE 100Escondido, CA 92025Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688619-343-2048 ext.: 103949-322-7289

# **Contract Submittal Requirements**

- 1.) Please sign and return original contract with the following documents by : 08/09/2024
- 2) Description of any changes to the crisis intervention training, including restraint procedures, or a statement that they have not changed (Section 30).
- 3) Current Staff List with annual training data.
- 4) EXHIBIT A, rate schedule, with initials.



EXHIBIT A
RATE SHEET 2024-2025

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES:

#### SPEECH AND LANGUAGE:

- \$140.00/hour for direct and consult speech therapy services for individual therapy sessions, assessment, assessment report writing, IEP attendance, consultation, collaboration, documentation, progress reports, case management, staffing, staff meetings, SEIS tracker (or other attendance monitoring system). Services may be virtual, or in-person person based on location and availability. Services provided by TSW Therapy, Inc staff SLP/SLPA.
- \$90/hour for group therapy sessions. Services may be virtual, or in-person based on location and availability. Services provided by TSW Therapy, Inc staff SLP/SLPA.
- Expert Witness Testimony at Due Process Hearing- \$450.00 per hour.

# Occupational Therapy:

- \$140.00/hour for direct and consult occupational therapy services for individual therapy sessions, assessment, assessment report writing, IEP attendance, consultation, collaboration, documentation, progress reports, case management, staffing, staff meetings, SEIS tracker (or other attendance monitoring system). Services may be virtual, or in-person person based on location and availability. Services provided by TSW Therapy, Inc staff OT/COTA.
- \$90/hour for group therapy sessions. Services may be virtual, or in-person based on location and availability. Services provided by TSW Therapy, Inc staff OT/COTA.

# Cancellation Policy:

If a student cancels with less than 24-hour notice, Provider will bill the Charter School for the missed session and the session will not be made- up. If an IEP Meeting is cancelled with less than 24-hour notice, Provider will bill the Charter School. If services are due to the absence of Provider, a make-up session will be offered for the time indicated on the student's IEP.

TSW Therapy, Inc (949)322-7289 molly@tswtherapy.com



# **School / Educational Partner Compact**

This Compact is distributed to all Educational Partners in the school handbook and at Teacher/Educational Rights Holder/Student meetings.

This Compact outlines how Motivated Youth Academy (School) and Educational Partners (Educational Partner is defined as School staff, educational rights holders, and students) will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. This Compact describes the responsibilities and specific ways the School and Educational Partners will partner together to help students achieve the state's high academic standards.

# School Responsibilities

The School's responsibility is to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction (Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Section 1116[d][1]). The School will provide support for Educational Partners and students by:

- Supporting a partnership among the School and Educational Partners to improve student academic achievement;
- Providing Educational Partners with assistance in understanding the state's academic content standards, assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of their students (ESSA Section 1116[e][1]);
- Reviewing of local and state assessments and performance scores;
- Use of the School's Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS) program which provides support for students that are struggling academically;
- Providing Educational Partners with materials and training to help them improve the achievement of their students (ESSA Section 1116[e][2]); and
- Providing Educational Partners with training and webinars, and teacher professional development to support student performance in the academic state standards.

The School understands the importance of ongoing communication between educational rights holders and family members, and teachers through:

- At a minimum, monthly learning period meetings;
- Frequent reports on student progress; and
- Access to School staff (ESSA Section 1116[d][2]).

The School engages Educational Partners to improve the achievement of their student(s) in meaningful interactions with the School by:

**School/Educational Partner Compact** 

Policy Adopted: January 7, 2023 Policy Revised: Month, Day, Year Page 1 of 2

- Frequent reports to educational rights holders on their student's progress (ESSA Section 1116[d][2][B]);
- Reasonable access to staff, opportunities for educational rights holders and family members to
  participate in their students education (ESSA Section 1116[d][2][C]). (Communication and
  access to the staff are conducted and available through monthly learning period meetings,
  School email communication, and School social media outlets.);
- Distributing information related to School and educational rights holders programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I, Part A educational rights holders and family members in a format and language that the educational rights holders and family members can understand (ESSA Section 1116[e][5]);
- Presenting information in a way that is understandable to educational rights holders;
- With the assistance of Educational Partners, the School educates School staff on the value of educational rights holder and family member contributions, and how to work with educational rights holders and family members as equal partners (ESSA Section 1116[e][3]); and
- The School coordinates and integrates the Title I, Part A programs with other programs, and conducts other activities, such as educational rights holder training and access to resources, to encourage and support educational rights holders and family members in more fully participating in the education of their students (ESSA Section 1116[e][4]).

# **Educational Partner Responsibilities (Educational Rights Holders)**

Educational Rights Holders will support their student's learning in the following ways:

- Monitor student attendance and completion of coursework;
- Participate in teacher meetings;
- Participate, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups; and
- Participate in school input opportunities such as surveys.

# **Student Responsibilities**

Students will share in the responsibility to improve their academic achievement through:

- Regular school attendance;
- Course completion; and
- Participating in teacher/educational rights holder/student meetings.

**School/Educational Partner Compact** 

Policy Adopted: January 7, 2023 Policy Revised: Month, Day, Year

#### MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING

#### 1) Purpose of Memorandum

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish a collaborative relationship between Motivated Youth Academy (MY Academy) and ESCOKIDOS. This MOU will document the details of their partnership.

# 2) Description of Partner Agencies

MY Academy is a flex-based California public charter school. MYA has been supporting successful student outcomes through independent study programs since 2014. MY Academy offers a unique approach to education that combines the flexibility of online learning with the benefits of personalized face-to-face instruction. The design of MYA's "No Walls Approach" is for students seeking both virtual and in-person learning. Teachers meet students once per week, in person, in the communities where students live at mutually agreed upon public locations such as libraries, community centers, career centers and tribal halls. The foundation of these one on one meetings are MYA's core values; All Are Welcome, We Celebrate The Small Things, We Choose Hope, We Are Servant Leaders, Feedback Is Critical, We Pursue Gratitude.

Implementing an Enriched Virtual model of instruction, each student has access to individualized curriculum, personalized teacher guidance, and scheduling flexibility. MYA allows students to learn at their own pace while receiving one on one support from credentialed teachers. This setup is designed to meet the needs of students who choose a more personalized educational experience compared to traditional classroom settings.

MYA focuses on serving At-Promise youth and young adults. Enrollment includes many students who have experienced significant barriers in accessing public education. The school has Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) indicating at least 70% of the student population has been identified as members in one of twelve high risk student groups. MY Academy enrolls traditional age students in grades 6-12 and young adults age 19-24 seeking to earn a high school diploma.

ESCOKIDOS is a program designed to provide culturally sensitive child abuse prevention services (CAPS) to families that have been identified by other organizations and/or the community, as needing these interventions. We are a recognized 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt, non-profit corporation.

ESCOKIDOS receives referrals from these organizations, requesting specific services that could provide the families with the necessary tools to prevent the children from growing up in an abusive environment. These services are geared primarily toward Hispanic families that may be struggling to acculturate into a challenging, fast-paced society that demands full awareness and immersion to better provide their children with basic concepts of safety and protection. These services and interventions are determined initially based on child abuse trends described in national and regional data found in public records.

ESCOKIDOS works with partners across the northern region of San Diego County to identify families and their needs, in order to provide necessary preventive child abuse interventions and services. As a former Child Protective Services Supervisor for the County of San Diego, as well as having been a Social Services Manager and Director for nonprofit organizations, the Executive Director of ESCOKIDOS is familiar with the needs of the community and the gaps that currently exist in the field of child abuse prevention.

ESCOKIDOS conducts screenings to determine whether the referred families might benefit from our preventive services. Should the families' needs require interventions beyond the preventive scope of our agency, appropriate referrals will be generated to other agencies to support the families in their current circumstances. When a family is accepted into our program, a case worker is assigned to help map out their needs, thereby creating a conjoint plan to tailor a personalized intervention. The duration of services provided is three months, with possible extensions contingent upon the family's progress, level of engagement, and assessment of ongoing needs.

Although services are best suited for face-to-face contact, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, services can be provided "virtually" (online) and/or in person in safe, open spaces, such as parks. Interventions are financed by government grants and private donations while following privacy and confidentiality standards, including, but not limited to, the Child Abuse Reporting Law and any other applicable federal mandates.

ESCOKIDOS maintains financial and client specific records (data) in secure, encrypted systems in compliance with HIPPA and reporting party confidentiality laws and regulations. Additionally, quality assurance assessments are conducted at specific intervals to determine the efficacy of the services provided and the program overall.

ESCOKIDOS works in the designated Escondido zip codes (unincorporated and incorporated areas). Occasionally ESCOKIDOS can take on families who reside within a 20 miles radius from Escondido proper. ESCOKIDOS will not work with families that have previous open Juvenile Court cases with Child Welfare Services or the Juvenile Probation Department, more than two police interventions (excluding calls for service), and/or families who have been deemed uncooperative by the referring party (schools, clinics, churches, social service agencies). Appropriate referrals to alternate providers will be generated as needed.

# 3) Roles and Responsibilities

It is agreed by, and between, partners as follows:

MY	Acad	emv	wil	l:
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	Provide appropriate client referrals to the ESCOKIDOS.
	Provide student contact information as needed, to meet with mutual clients, in accordance with FERPA
	Provide information on community-based events and provide registration opportunities to referrals from ESCOKIDOS.
	Provide access to data on dual relationship clients.
ESCO	KIDS will:
	Provide resources and support to client referrals from MY Academy.
	List MY Academy as an organizational partner.

□ Provide client contact information as needed, to meet with potential students, in accordance with HIPPA

#### 4) All three organizations will:

Identify a single point of contact for communication with the other about this partnership:

Support MY Academy attending partner-sponsored community-based events.

- MY Academy: Bill Dobson, Director, bdobson@myacademy.org or their designee
- ESCOKIDS: Tatiana Rosenborg, executive Director, tati@escokidos.org or their designee

# 5) Timeline

The roles and responsibilities under this MOU will be in effect for 12 months from the time of execution. At the end of the 12 months, MY Academy and ESCOKIDOS will meet to review the terms and conditions and address any concerns from both parties. Upon meeting, both parties may choose to renew the current MOU. Any extensions or addendums must be made in writing and agreed upon by both parties.

#### 6) Conditions and Termination

- Either organization may terminate this MOU at any time by giving 30 days written notice to the other organization.
- Neither organization shall share client information with any person or organization outside of the respective organizations with written notice and consent.

# 7) Commitment to Partnership

We, the undersigned, have read and agree with this Memorandum of Understanding.

Bill Dobson, Director, and Date: Motivated Youth Academy

Tatiana Rosenborg, Executive Director, and Date: ESCOKIDOS

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN Motivated Youth Academy and YMCA

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made and entered into this **September 9, 2024** by and between the **Motivated Youth Academy** (hereinafter "School") and **YMCA** (hereafter "Provider"). The parties agree as follows:

#### Term:

This Memorandum of Understanding shall begin on **October 1**, **2024** and will extend through **June 30**, **2030** unless terminated at an earlier date by either party providing the other with fifteen (15) days written notice of its intention to terminate the MOU, with or without cause.

#### Scope of Work:

YMCA will assist students ages:

- a) 16-21 regardless of housing status.
- b) 18-24 who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless with navigating housing options and assist with financial resources.

The services with the students will take place at the YMCA Escondido Drop-In Center, and YMCA Oceanside Drop-In Center.

# YMCA will provide:

- Provide relevant MY Academy staff with an orientation to YMCA Transitional Age Youth (TAY) programs and resources available to unhoused/unstably housed students, and general student body.
- Deliver age-appropriate case management support and social-emotional resources to MY Academy youth, at venues and events per the discretion of MY Academy staff and in conformity with MY Academy programming schedules.
- Provide MY Academy representatives with opportunities to give input in the development and implementation of this collaborative venture through collaborative meetings, and/or other means of communication and interaction.

#### MY Academy will provide:

- Scheduling with school social worker
- Assist in arranging a location for the YMCA staff and the student to meet.
- 1. This is an Agreement between the School and the Provider. The purpose of this Agreement is to provide services as listed above.
- 2. This Memorandum of Understanding can be modified in writing provided that both parties agree to the modifications.

- 3. Mandatory Reporting Laws: School staff, as well as Provider employees, are mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect. Individuals who have contact with a suspected victim of abuse or neglect should make the report within the required period of time, Mental health clinicians will comply with CA statute.
- 4. The parties agree not to compensate each other for the mutual goals and tasks set forth in this MOU. The parties also agree that the relationship between the School and the Provider is voluntary in nature, and is not an employment or Independent Contractor relationship. The Provider and its employees shall not be employees, agents, or independent contractors of the School and are not entitled to participate in any School pension plans, retirement, health and welfare programs, or any similar programs or benefits, as a result of the MOU.
- 5. Contractor agrees that it will not engage in unlawful discrimination in employment of persons because of race, color, religious creed, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, or sexual orientation, or a perception that a person has or is associated with a person who has, or is perceived to have, any of these characteristics.
- 6. Provider will not hire any subcontractors for this project without the School's written consent.
- 7. It is expressly understood and agreed to by both parties hereto that the Provider, while engaged in performing and complying with any of the terms and conditions of this MOU, is an independent Provider and is not an officer, agent or employee of the aforesaid School.
- 8. Provider hereby warrants that it will carry the required Insurance the School requests as follows:
  - General Liability Insurance: One million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage, Two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) aggregate.
  - On the General Liability Insurance, the School, its officers, agents, and employees must be named as Additionally Insured and will need to be named on the Endorsement page(s) (not a blanket endorsement).
  - Automobile Insurance: One (1) million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage.
  - Workers Compensation: One (1) million dollars minimum (if you have employees).
  - Provider may also be asked to provide One (1) million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) professional liability (errors and omissions) insurance.
  - Provider shall provide the School with a certificate of insurance and endorsements evidencing this coverage. Provider agrees to provide an endorsement to this policy stating, "Such insurance as is afforded by this policy shall be primary, and any insurance carried by School shall be excess and noncontributory."
- Cyber Risk//Cloud Coverage. Subject to the limit of \$1,000,000 per claim to be maintained for the duration of the agreement/contract and three years following its termination, to respond to privacy and network security liability claims including but not limited to:

- (a). Liability arising from theft, dissemination, and/or use of School confidential information including, but not limited to, bank, credit card account, and personally identifiable information such as name, address, social security numbers, student records, etc., regardless of how the information is stored or transmitted.
- (b). Network security liability arising from (i) the unauthorized access to, use of or tampering with computer systems, including hacker attacks; or (ii) the inability of an authorized third party to gain access to supplier systems and/or School data, including denial of service, unless caused by a mechanical or electrical failure.
- (c). Liability arising from the introduction of a computer virus into, or otherwise causing damage to, an employee's or third person's computer, computer system, network, or similar computer-related property and the data, software and programs thereon.
- (d). Crisis-management expenses (i.e. notification, public relations, reputation damage, forensics, etc.) for a data breach.
- 10. Vaccination Certification. Pursuant to the provision of the State Public Health Office Order issued on August 11, 2021 (Order of the State Public Health Officer Vaccine Verification for Workers in Schools) individuals who are working on School property are required to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination or must be tested once weekly with either PCR testing or antigen testing verification as defined in (EXHIBIT B).
- 11. Indemnity and Hold Harmless. Provider HEREBY RELEASES, WAIVES, DISCHARGES AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE Motivated Youth Academy, its directors, officers, employees, and agents (hereinafter referred to as "releasees") from all liability to the undersigned, his personal representatives, assigns heirs, and next of kin for any loss or damage, and any claim or demands therefore on account of injury to the person or property or resulting in death of the undersigned, whether caused by the negligence of the releasees or otherwise while the undersigned is in, upon, or about the premises or any facilities or equipment therein or participation in any program affiliated with Motivated Youth Academy, with the sole exception of injuries or death which arise out of the sole negligence or willful misconduct of Motivated Youth Academy.

Provider HEREBY AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS the releasees and each of them from any loss, liability, damage or cost they may incur due to the presence of the undersigned in, upon or about Motivated Youth Academy premises or in any way observing or using any facilities or equipment of Motivated Youth Academy or participation in any program affiliated with Motivated Youth Academy whether caused by the negligence of the releasees or otherwise, with the sole exception of injuries or death which arise out of the sole negligence or willful misconduct of Motivated Youth Academy.

Provider HEREBY ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND RISK OF BODILY INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE due to negligence of releasee or otherwise while in, about or upon the premises of Motivated Youth Academy and/or while using the premises or any facilities or equipment thereon or participation in any program affiliated with Motivated Youth Academy with the sole exception of injuries or death which arise out of the sole negligence or willful misconduct of Motivated Youth Academy.

THE UNDERSIGNED further expressly agrees that the foregoing RELEASE, WAIVER AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of California and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect

- In accordance with Education Code Section 45125.1, School may determine that fingerprinting and certification may be required of the Provider under this contract. (Exhibit C)
- 13. It is understood and agreed that this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California both as to interpretation and performance.
- 14. Administrator of Agreement. This Agreement shall be administered on behalf of, and any notice desired or required to be sent to a party hereunder shall be addressed to:

SCHOOLI	PROVIDER
Bill Dobson	Ahni Rocha-Redmond
Name	Name
Interim Director	Associate Executive Director
Title	Title
500 La Terraza Blvd. #150	215 Barnes Street
Escondido, CA 92025 +	Oceanside, CA 92054
Address	Address
bdobson@myacademy.org	arocha-redmond@ymcasd.org
Email	Email
(619) 343-2048	<u>(760)703-3756</u>
Telephone	Telephone

- 15. Contractor shall hold in trust for the School, and shall not disclose to any person any confidential information. Confidential information is information which is related to the School's research, development, trade secrets and business affairs; but does not include information which is generally known or easily ascertainable by nonparties through available public documentation.
- 16. Contractor shall advise School of any and all materials used, or recommended for use by Contractor to achieve the project goals, that are subject to any copyright restrictions or requirements. In the event Contractor shall fail to so advise School and, as a result of the use of any programs or materials developed by Contractor under this Agreement, School should be found in violation of any copyright restrictions or requirements, or School should be alleged to be in violation of any copyright restrictions or requirements, Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless, School against any action or claim brought by the copyright holder.
- 17. School is a tobacco-free (smoked and smokeless) and drug-free facility. Use is prohibited at all times on all areas of School property. Provider and his/her employees agree to adhere to this regulation.

AGREED:	
YMCA Youth & Family Services	
Ahni Rocha-Redmond, Associate Executive Director	
Date	
arocha-redmond@ymcasd.org Email	
For MY Academy	
Bill Dobson, Interim Director	
Date	
Principal/Site Administrator Signature	

#### **EXHIBIT C**

# CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATION FORM CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO EDUCATION CODE SECTION 45125.1

The School has determined under Education Code Section 45125.1, subdivision (c), that in performing services to this contract, Contractor's employees may have contact with pupils. As required under Education Code Section 45125.1, subdivision (a), Contractor shall require their employees, including the employees of any subcontractor, who will provide services pursuant to this contract to submit their fingerprints in a manner authorized by the Department of Justice in order to conduct a criminal background check to determine whether such employees have been convicted of or have charges pending for a felony as defined under Education Code Section 45122.1.

Contractor shall not permit any employee to perform services who may come in contact with pupils under this contract until the Department of Justice has determined that the employee has not been convicted of a felony or has no criminal charges pending for a felony as defined in Section 45122.1.

Contractor shall certify in writing to the School that all of its employees who may come in contact with pupils have not been convicted of or have no criminal charges pending for a felony, as defined in Education Code Section 45122.1.

Contractor shall defend, indemnify, protect and hold the School and its agents, officers and employees harmless from and against any and all claims asserted or liability established for damages or injuries to any person or property which arise from or are connected with or are caused or claimed to be caused by Contractor's failure to comply with all of the requirements contained in Education Code Section 45125.1, including, but not limited to, the requirements prohibiting Contractor for using employees who may have contact with pupils who have been convicted or have charges pending for a felony in Education Code Section 45122.1.

It is understood that by signing this document Contractor agrees that they are familiar with Education Code Section 45122.1. The following individuals are employees of contractor who may come in contact with pupils in the performance of services in this contract.

Name	Social Security No. (last 4 digits or complete CA DL #	.)
------	--	----

I certify that none of the individuals identified above has been convicted of a felony as defined in Education Code Section 45122.1.

Dated:	(Company) YMCA Youth & Family Ser <u>vices</u>	
(Signature)	(Title) Associate Executive Director	

# Coversheet

# Consent - Personnel Services

Section: VIII. Consent

Item: C. Consent - Personnel Services

Purpose: Vote

Submitted by:

Related Material: MYA Handbook 2024-2025 - Redlined 2024.10.08.pdf

MYA Handbook 2024-2025 - For Board Approval 2024.10.08.pdf

#### BACKGROUND:

The Employee Handbook has been updated to reflect the new school year and to incorporate previously approved changes. These revisions include updated dates, policy adjustments, and clarifications that were necessary for the current academic year. All changes align with prior Board approvals and ensure compliance with updated organizational and legal standards.

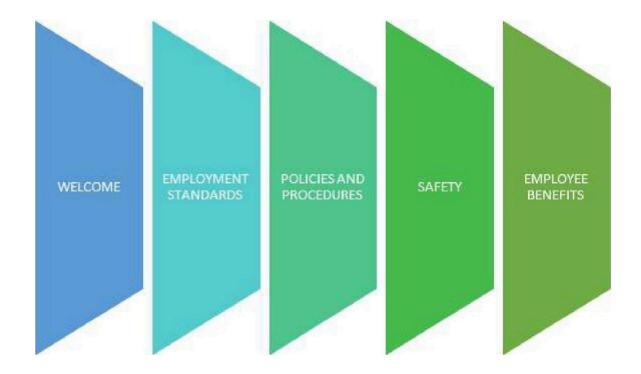
#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the revised Employee Handbook as presented.

Fiscal Impact: None

# **Employee Handbook**

2024 - 2025<del>2023 - 2024</del>



The Employee Handbook may not be changed in any way without express written approval from the Board of Directors.

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# Welcome

We are glad to have you on our team! You have joined an organization that focuses on the execution of high-quality personalized learning models that allow a flexible environment using innovative delivery methods and technology to foster empowered, life-long learners. As an organization we seek to hire and retain high caliber individuals to meet our vision of extraordinary education.

We truly value our employees and have developed this Employee Handbook (handbook) to assist you with understanding our policies, procedures, and performance expectations. Keep in mind that it is the employee who is responsible for reading and understanding the handbook as well as any posted revisions; however, if anything is unclear to you, please discuss the matter with your supervisor or a member of HR.

As a team member we want you to have a long and successful career with us - where you can make an impact on student education. We sincerely hope that you will find your employment here to be one of enrichment, collaboration, and an overall professionally rewarding experience.

Best wishes for a wonderful school year! The Leadership Team

#### Right to Revise

This handbook is the employee's guide to understanding the provisions of their employment with Motivated Youth Academy ("School"). Please be advised that written employment agreements between the School and individuals may replace some policies/procedures in this handbook. This handbook supersedes all prior published handbooks and any policy, memoranda, or benefits statements that are contrary to the policies that are outlined here.

The School reserves the right to revise, modify, delete, or add to any and all policies, procedures, work rules, or benefits stated in this handbook or in any other document, except for the policy of at-will employment. Any such changes must be in writing and must be signed by the CEO or designee.

Any written changes to this handbook will be distributed to all employees, so that employees will be aware of the new policies or procedures. No oral statements or representations can in any way alter the provisions of this handbook.

This handbook sets forth the policies and procedures applicable to employees of the School. Employees are expected to abide by all policies in this handbook. Nothing in this handbook or in any other personnel documents creates or is intended to create a promise or representation of continued employment for any employee. Nothing in this at-will statement is intended to interfere with an employee's rights to communicate or work with others toward altering the terms and conditions of their employment.

#### At-Will Employment Status

School personnel are employed on an at-will basis. Employment at-will means that the employment relationship may be terminated, with or without cause and with or without advance notice at any time by the employee or the School. Nothing in this handbook shall limit the right to terminate at-will employment. No manager, supervisor, or employee of the School has any authority to enter into an agreement for employment for any specified period of time or to make an agreement for employment on other than at-will terms. Only the School has the authority to make any such agreement, which is binding only if it is in writing and approved by the Board of Directors.

Though many items surrounding employment may be changed or updated (such as the eligibility of benefits, promotion, or leaves) the status as an at-will employee does not change - the employment relationship may be terminated with or without cause and with or without advance notice, at any time by the employee or the School.

# **Section I: Nondiscrimination Policies**

# A. Equal Employment Opportunity

The School is an equal opportunity employer and makes employment decisions on the basis of merit. Selections for employment focus on the candidates whose training and experience most closely align with the position requirements, and fit with the School's mission, vision, and values. School policy prohibits unlawful discrimination based on actual or perceived race (including traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles such as braids, locks and twists), color, creed, actual or perceived gender (including gender identity and gender expression), religion (all aspects of religious beliefs, observance or practice, including religious dress or grooming practices), marital status, registered domestic partner status, status as a victim of domestic violence, assault or stalking, age (40 and over), ethnicity, national origin or ancestry (including language use restrictions), citizenship, physical, intellectual or mental disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (including cancer or a record or history of cancer, and genetic characteristics), family or medical leave status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding or a related medical condition), genetic information, sexual orientation, political affiliation, military and veteran status or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. It also prohibits unlawful discrimination based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

Discrimination can also include failing to reasonably accommodate religious practices or qualified individuals with disabilities where the accommodation does not pose an undue hardship. The School's management is responsible for adherence to this policy; however, in the final analysis, attainment of this goal of equal employment opportunity and enrichment through diversity depends on the commitment and good faith effort of everyone.

The School will comply with all applicable equal employment and discrimination laws, including Title IX, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and all other applicable laws. Additionally, Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities by recipients of federal financial assistance. The School does not discriminate in the educational program or any activities which it operates, including employment in such programs and activities.

The School will continually strive to recruit and retain highly qualified employees and remain a competitive public school employer, including examining employee evaluation and compensation, and discipline/dismissal practices annually.

In accordance with the School's Equal Employment and Nondiscrimination Policies, the School designates the following position(s) as the Title IX Coordinator and Coordinator for Nondiscrimination in Employment:

Marie Rolston, Human Resources Partner 500 LaTerraza Blvd. BLVD Suite#150 Escondido, CA 92025 HR@myacademy.org Any employee or job applicant who believes they have been or are being discriminated against or harassed in violation of School policy should, as appropriate, immediately contact their supervisor, the Title IX coordinator, or the CEO, or any person they feel comfortable going to who shall advise the employee or applicant about the School's procedures for filing, investigating, and resolving any such complaint.

Complaints regarding employment discrimination or harassment shall immediately be investigated in accordance with School policy and regulation. Individuals may use the School's Uniform Complaint Procedures to address complaints of discrimination and harassment, including sex discrimination under Title IX. Annual notice of such policies will be provided to all employees, and a copy of such policies and procedures are available by contacting the Title IX coordinator or Human Resources (HR).

Discrimination is considered a form of employee misconduct. Disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, will be taken against any employee engaging in this type of behavior. Any supervisor or manager who has knowledge of such behavior, yet takes no action to end it, is also subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

#### **B.** Disability Accommodation

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and all applicable laws ensuring equal employment opportunities to qualified individuals with a disability, the School will make reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or an employee unless undue hardship would result.

Any applicant or employee who requires an accommodation in order to perform the essential functions of the job as outlined in the applicable job description should contact the HR department and discuss the need for an accommodation. The School will engage in an interactive process with the employee to identify possible accommodations, if any, which will help the applicant or employee perform the job. The School will implement reasonable accommodations that do not impose undue hardship.

#### C. Anti-Harassment

The School is committed to providing a work environment free of harassment, discrimination, retaliation and abusive conduct as that term may be defined by statute or regulation then in effect at the time of the conduct. School policy prohibits conduct that is disrespectful, unprofessional as well as harassment based on actual or perceived race (including traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles such as braids, locks and twists), color, creed, actual or perceived gender (including gender identity and gender expression), religion (all aspects of religious beliefs, observance or practice, including religious dress or grooming practices), marital status, registered domestic partner status, status as a victim of domestic violence, assault or stalking, age (40 and over), ethnicity, national origin or ancestry (including language use restrictions), citizenship, physical, intellectual or mental disability(including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (including cancer or a record or history of cancer, and genetic characteristics), family or medical leave status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, decision making around reproductive health, or a related medical condition), genetic information, sexual orientation, political affiliation, military and veteran status or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. It also prohibits unlawful

discrimination based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

All such conduct violates school policy. The School's anti-harassment policy applies to all persons involved in the operation of the School and prohibits harassment, disrespectful or unprofessional conduct by any employee of the School, including supervisors and managers, as well as vendors, community providers, customers, independent contractors, and any other persons. It also prohibits harassment, disrespectful or unprofessional conduct based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or 1s associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

Prohibited harassment, disrespectful or unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following behavior:

- 1. Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, slurs or unwanted sexual advances, invitations or comments;
- 2. Visual displays such as derogatory and/or sexually-oriented posters, photography, cartoons, drawings or gestures;
- 3. Physical conduct including assault, unwanted touching, intentionally blocking normal movement or interfering with work because of sex, race or any other protected basis;
- 4. Threats and demands to submit to sexual requests as a condition of continued employment, or to avoid some other loss and offers of employment benefits in return for sexual favors;
- 5. Retaliation for reporting or threatening to report harassment; and
- 6. Communication via electronic media of any type that includes any conduct that is prohibited by state and/or federal law, or by the School policy.

Sexual harassment does not need to be motivated by sexual desire to be unlawful or to violate this policy. For example, hostile acts toward an employee because of their gender can amount to sexual harassment, regardless of whether the treatment is motivated by any sexual desire.

Harassment is considered a form of employee misconduct. Disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, will be taken against any employee engaging in this type of behavior, yet takingtakes no action to end it, is also subject to disciplinary action.

It is the policy of the School that no one will be retaliated against for making a good faith complaint of harassment or for cooperating in the investigation of a complaint.

An employee who believes they have been harassed, discriminated against or retaliated discriminated or retaliated against may initiate the reporting process by contacting their supervisor, or, if appropriate, the next level of management (see Reporting procedure, which follows), any team member they feel most comfortable reporting to, or the HR department. All discrimination, harassment and retaliation complaints will be promptly investigated and will be treated confidentially to the extent possible, and appropriate action taken where warranted. Complaints made in good faith are protected from retaliation of any kind.

#### 1. Sexual Harassment

The School is committed to providing a work environment that is free from sexual harassment and retaliation. Under no circumstances will sexual harassment be tolerated.

"Sexual harassment" means any unwelcome sexual advance, unwelcome requests for sexual favors, or other unwelcome verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone from or in the educational or work setting, whether it occurs between individuals of the same sex or individuals of opposite sexes, under any of the following conditions:

- 1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's academic status, employment, or progress.
- 2. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic or employment decisions affecting the individual.
- 3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance, work, or progress or has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or working
- 4. environment. The conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, pervasive or
- 5. objectively offensive, so as to create a hostile or abusive educational or working environment or to limit the individual's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity.
- 6. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the local agency.

"Verbal sexual harassment" includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome epithets, comments, or slurs of a sexual nature.

"Physical sexual harassment" includes, but is not limited to, assault, impeding or blocking movement, or any physical interference with work or school activities or movement when directed at an individual on the basis of sex.

"Visual sexual harassment" includes, but is not limited to, derogatory posters, cartoons, drawings, obscene gestures, or computer-generated images of a sexual nature.

"Educational environment" includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. The main administration offices of the local agency.
- 2. Properties controlled or owned by the local agency.
- 3. Off-campus, if such activity is sponsored by the local agency, or is conducted by organizations sponsored by or under the jurisdiction of the local agency.

Sexual harassment has no place in the work environment and is prohibited by the School. Specifically, it must in no way be exercised for purposes of an intimidating effect on employment decisions such as promotion, dismissal, hiring, training, wage and salary increases, transfer, or any other matter that affects the ability of an employee to perform job duties.

Any employee who engages or participates in sexual harassment, or who aids, abets, incites, compels or coerces another to commit sexual harassment or retaliates against another individual is in violation of this policy and subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Managers and supervisors are to ensure that no such intimidation or harmful atmosphere of unwelcome sexual overtones exist in their workplaces. Every effort should be made to sensitize themselves and their employees to the differences between purely social overtones and those intended to affect working

conditions. Also, employees are responsible for respecting the rights of their co-workers. Any employee who feels they have been harassed or retaliated against or has knowledge of any incident of harassment or retaliation on any protected basis shall immediately report such incidents to their immediate supervisor, HR, the CEO or the Title IX Coordinator and Coordinator for Nondiscrimination in Employment. If the supervisor is the harasser or has not responded to the complaint, or if not an employee, then the complainant should complain to any administrator without fear of reprisal. Employees may also report instances of sexual harassment through the School's Uniform Complaint Procedure without fear of reprisal.

## 2. Reporting

The School has an affirmative duty to take reasonable steps to prevent and correct discrimination and harassment. Supervisors, co-workers, and third parties are prohibited from engaging in unlawful behavior under the Fair Employment and Housing Act or any other applicable law. Please see the list of protected categories as stated in the Equal Employment Opportunity and Anti-Harassment sections of the handbook.

The School encourages reporting of all perceived incidents of discrimination, harassment or retaliation, regardless of the offender's identity or position. Individuals who believe that they have been the victim of such conduct should discuss their concerns with their immediate Director, supervisor, manager, HR, or person they feel most comfortable and may file a complaint. The Uniform Complaint Procedures may be used for this purpose. Employees are entitled to report harassment to someone other than their direct supervisor. Supervisors are required to report all complaints to HR. In addition, the School encourages individuals who believe they are being subjected to such conduct to promptly advise the offender that their behavior is unwelcome and request that it be discontinued. The School recognizes, however, that an individual may prefer to pursue the matter through informal or formal complaint procedures. Every effort will be made to keep such reports as confidential to the extent possible, although it is understood that an investigation will normally require the involvement of third parties. The School is serious about enforcing its policy against harassment, discrimination and retaliation. However, the School cannot resolve a harassment, discrimination or retaliation problem that it does not know about. Therefore, employees are responsible for bringing any such problems to the School's attention so it can take the necessary steps to correct the problem.

# 3. Investigation/Complaint Procedure

All complaints of harassment, including sexual harassment, discrimination or retaliation may be addressed through the School's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complaint will be followed by prompt and thorough investigation conducted by an impartial and qualified individual. If the investigation substantiates the accusations, the appropriate corrective action will be taken. This may include, but not be limited to, reprimand, suspension or dismissal, depending on the nature and severity of the offense.

Complaints will be documented and the Schooland School will designate a qualified individual to track the complaint process.

#### a. Informal Procedure

If for any reason an individual does not wish to address the offender directly, or if such action does not successfully end the offensive conduct, the individual should notify their immediate

supervisor and/or the HR department who may, if the individual so requests, talk to the alleged offender on the individual's behalf. In addition, there may be instances in which an individual seeks only to discuss matters with one of the HR designated representatives, and such discussion is encouraged. An individual reporting harassment, discrimination or retaliation should be aware, though, that the School may decide it is necessary to take action to address such conduct beyond an informal discussion. This decision will be discussed with the individual. The best course of action in any case will depend on many factors and, therefore, the informal procedure will remain flexible. Moreover, the informal procedure is not a required first step for the reporting individual.

#### b. Formal Procedure

As noted above, individuals who believe they have been the victims of conduct prohibited by this policy statement or believe they have witnessed such conduct should discuss their concerns with their supervisor or the HR department. The School encourages the prompt reporting of complaints or concerns so that rapid and constructive action can be taken before relationships become irreparably strained. Therefore, while no fixed reporting period has been established, early reporting and intervention have proven to be the most effective method of resolving actual or perceived incidents of harassment. Any reported allegations of harassment, discrimination or retaliation will be investigated promptly and thoroughly. The investigation may include individual interviews with the parties involved and, where necessary, with individuals who may have observed the alleged conduct or may have other relevant knowledge. Confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigation process to the extent consistent with adequate investigation and appropriate corrective action. Misconduct constituting harassment, discrimination or retaliation will be dealt with appropriately. Responsive action may include, training, referral to counseling and/or disciplinary action such as warning, reprimand, withholding of a promotion or pay increase, reassignment, temporary suspension without pay or termination, as the School believes appropriate under the circumstances.

#### 4. Retaliation

Employees will not be retaliated against for complaining or participating in an investigation. Retaliation against an individual for reporting harassment or discrimination or for participating in an investigation of a claim of harassment or discrimination is a serious violation of this policy and, like harassment or discrimination itself, will be subject to disciplinary action. Acts of retaliation should be reported immediately and will be promptly investigated and addressed.

#### 5. Conclusion

This policy was developed to ensure that all employees can work in an environment free from harassment, discrimination and retaliation. The School will make every reasonable effort to ensure that all concerned are familiar with these policies and aware that any complaint in violation of such policies will be investigated and resolved appropriately. Any employee who has any questions or concerns about these policies should talk with their supervisor or the HR department. Finally, these policies should not, and may not, be used as a basis for excluding or separating individuals of a particular gender, or any other protected characteristic, from participating in business or work-related social activities or discussions. In other words, no one should make the mistake of engaging in discrimination or exclusion in order to avoid allegations of harassment. The law and the policies of the School prohibit disparate treatment on the basis of sex or any other protected characteristic, with regard to terms, conditions, privileges and prerequisites

of employment. The prohibitions against harassment, discrimination and retaliation are intended to complement and further those policies, not to form the basis of an exception to them.

None of the procedures listed are intended to preclude an employee from pursuing claims of discrimination and/or harassment in any other forum available to the employee, including making reports of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation to the Department of Fair Employment and Housing and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

# **D.** Diversity Policy

The School is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity and inclusion.

Our staff is the most valuable asset we have. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our employees invest in their work represents a significant part of not only the School's culture, but its reputation and achievement as well.

We embrace and encourage our employees' differences in age, color, disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, and other characteristics that make our employees unique.

The School's diversity initiatives are applicable but not limited to our practices and policies on recruitment and selection; compensation and benefits; professional development and training; promotions; terminations; and the ongoing development of a work environment built on the premise of gender and diversity equity that encourages and enforces:

- Respectful communication and cooperation between all employees.
- Teamwork and employee participation, permitting the representation of all groups and employee perspectives.
- Work/life balance through flexible work schedules to accommodate employees' varying needs.
- Employer and employee contributions to the communities we serve to promote a greater understanding and respect for diversity.

All employees of the School have a responsibility to treat others with dignity and respect at all times. All employees are expected to exhibit conduct that reflects inclusion during work, at work functions on or off the work site, and at all other school-sponsored and participative events.

Any employee found to have exhibited any inappropriate conduct or behavior against others may be subject to disciplinary action up to termination.

Employees who believe they have been subjected to any kind of discrimination that conflicts with the School's diversity policy and initiatives should seek assistance from an HR representative.

# **Section II: Employment Requirements**

#### A. Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

Any employee who knows or reasonably suspects a child has been the victim of child abuse shall report the instance to a child protective agency. School employees are mandated reporters and are required to report instances of child abuse when the employee has a "reasonable suspicion" that child abuse has occurred. Reasonable suspicion arises when the facts surrounding the incident or suspicion could cause another person in the same situation to suspect child abuse.

Child abuse should be reported immediately by phone to a child protective agency. Call the local Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) to report child abuse and neglect. If there is a life-threatening emergency to a child however, call 9-1-1. The phone call to the DFCS is to be followed by a written report within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. There is no duty for the reporter to contact the child's parents. In fact, if a child is released to a peace officer or a child protective agency agent, the reporter shall not notify the parent as required in other instances of removal.

Child abuse is broadly defined as "a physical injury that is inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person." Child abuse can take the following several forms:

- 1. Sexual abuse: Sexual abuse means, in general, sexual assault or sexual exploitation. Sexual abuse does not include children who voluntarily engage in sexual activity with children of a similar age. Pregnancy of a minor does not, in and of itself, constitute suspicion of child abuse.
  - a. Neglect: Neglect occurs when a child's custodian has failed to provide adequate "food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision" that may or may not have resulted in any physical injury.
- 2. Unlawful corporal punishment: Unlawful corporal punishment occurs when any person willfully harms or injures a child to such a degree that results in a traumatic condition.
- 3. Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment: Child abuse also includes the situation where any "person willfully causes or permits any child to suffer unjustifiable pain or mental suffering" or when any person endangers a child's health.

#### **Confidentiality**

A mandated reporter is required to give their name. The identity of all persons who report shall be confidential. Violation of statutory confidentiality is a misdemeanor. DFCS may reveal the names of reporting parties only to other investigative agencies as specified by law. No person required to report abuse will bear criminal liability for reporting. No supervisor or administrator may impede or prohibit reporting.

All employees, prior to commencing employment, are required to acknowledge the provisions of Penal Code Section 11166 regarding mandated reporting and will comply with those provisions as outlined in the employment agreement. All employees will also be subject to annual training as required by law.

#### Failure to Report

Failure to report suspected abuse is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment/fine. Any person who fails to report an instance of child abuse or neglect as required by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act is guilty of a misdemeanor with a punishment not to exceed six months in jail or \$1,000 or both.

# **B.** Employee Access to Confidential Information

Each employee is responsible for safeguarding confidential information obtained during employment. In the course of the employee's work, the employee may have access to confidential information regarding students, parents, suppliers, other customers, or perhaps even fellow employees without consent from that individual. The employee has the responsibility of preventing the revealing or divulging of any such information unless it is necessary for the employee to do so in the performance of their duties and in accordance with law. Access to confidential information should be on a "need-to-know" basis and must be authorized by the CEO or designee. Any breach of this policy will not be tolerated and will lead to disciplinary action and possible legal action.

Please note the release of unauthorized confidential information may result in immediate dismissal and the filing of criminal charges. Confidentiality of student information is a requirement of the law and great care must be taken to ensure it is protected. No student information will be released without the specific authorization of the CEO or designee. Employee information may be released as part of a Public Records Act request, for the purpose of employment verification with prior written approval by the employee, or as required by law.

#### C. Student Data/FERPA

All information contained in a student's records, including information contained in an electronic database, is confidential and maintained in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). These records are the property of the School, whose responsibility it is to secure the information against loss, defacement, tampering or use by unauthorized persons. Staff is prohibited from discussing students' academic or personal information outside the scope of performing the duties of one's position. No student's files are to be taken off premises unless granted permission by the CEO or designee. Only teachers, administrative, and office personnel are permitted to review student's files. When a file is requested from the School office, it must be signed out and returned the same day. No student files, records, forms, communication or reports may be copied without express authorization from the Director. Under no circumstances may student information be used for an employee's personal use.

Employees may not remove any materials from any student's file. Files may not leave the office without specific written authorization from the CEO or designee. Employees who access student files are responsible to secure their contents and maintain confidentiality.

#### **D.** Conflict of Interest

Employees have an obligation to conduct business within guidelines that prohibit actual or potential conflict of interest. Such a conflict occurs when an employee is in a position to influence a decision that may result in a personal gain for the employee or for a relative as a result of the School's business dealings.

#### 1. Personal Financial Interest

All such persons shall be neither personally nor financially interested in any contract made by them or by the school that employs them. For purposes of this policy,

- a. "Personally interested" shall mean any situation where private and/or personal interests conflict with official duties and shall include non-economic interests such as familial relationships.
- b. "Financially interested" shall mean any contract with an individual, entity, or company in

which any such person related by blood, marriage or civil partner, any other person with a close personal relationship to any such person who has an ownership interest, an investment interest, or a familial interest, and encompasses any situation where any such person's official judgment may be influenced by personal consideration or expectation of financial gain or any compensation or consideration of any kind other than that officially provided to any such person by the School.

# 2. Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700)

Board members and staff who make or influence governmental decisions or financial decisions of the organization are designated in the Conflict of Interest Code adopted by the Board. These individuals must complete and file a Statement of Economic Interest, Form 700. The Form 700 ensures transparency and accountability in alignment with the Political Reform Act.

It is the policy of this School that elected or appointed school governance body members, school administrative officers, and school employees shall not place themselves in any position where their private or personal interests may conflict with their official duties, or where they may directly or indirectly receive personal financial gain through direct or indirect personal influence.

#### 4. 3. Personal Relationship

Personal or romantic involvement with a competitor, supplier or employee of the School may create an actual or potential conflict of interest. Management-subordinate romantic or personal relationships can lead to issues such as claims of discrimination or favoritism, issues with performance evaluation, possible claims of sexual harassment, and morale issues. It is the responsibility of the employees involved in romantic or personal relationships with subordinates, or other personal or romantic relationships that give rise to a conflict of interest, to disclose and discuss all relevant circumstances with the supervisor or HR and possibly request a change in assignment to avoid potential problems as appropriate. Failure to disclose such circumstances may cause the School to impose disciplinary action. Moreover, any romantic or personal relationships between employees must not harm the work environment in any way. Regardless of an employee's relationship with another employee outside of work, employees are expected to remain professional at all times during work hours. The School will not discriminate on the basis of marital or relationship status, except that the School may reasonably regulate the working of spouses or relatives in the same department, division, or facility for reasons of supervision, safety, security, or morale in accordance with applicable law.

No "presumption of guilt" is created by the mere existence of a professional or personal relationship with outside firms; however, if such employees have any influence on transactions involving purchases, contracts, or leases, it is imperative that such be disclosed so that safeguards can be established to protect all parties.

#### E. Anti-Nepotism Policy

The School recognizes there may be situations in which spouses or other relatives may be employed by the School at the same time. The School permits the employment of qualified family members, domestic partners, significant others and/or similar personal relationships of employees as long as such employment does not create a conflict of interest. Relationships by family, marriage, domestic partnership and/or similar personal relationship shall constitute neither an advantage nor a disadvantage to selection, promotion, salary, or other conditions of employment. The School may consider a member of an

employee's immediate family for employment if the applicant possesses the qualifications for employment for the position.

The School does not prohibit the employment of relatives in the same department. However, the School does prohibit any preferential treatment toward spouses or relatives or an improper influence impacting a spouse's or relative's terms or conditions of employment. The School recognizes that at times, employees and their family members, domestic partners, significant others and/or personal relationships may be assigned to positions that create a coworker or supervisor-subordinate relationship. The School will, in its discretion, exercise sound judgment with respect to the placement of employees in these situations in order to avoid the creation or appearance of a conflict of interest, avoid favoritism or the appearance of favoritism, and decrease the likelihood of harassment in the workplace.

Employees should neither initiate nor participate, directly or indirectly, in employment actions (initial employment or appointment, retention, evaluation, promotions, salary, work assignments, leave of absence, etc.) involving family members, domestic partners, significant others and/or similar personal relationships.

The School will make reasonable efforts to assign job duties to minimize the potential for creating conflicts of interest. Notwithstanding the above, the School retains the right where such placement has the potential for creating conflicts of interest, to refuse to place immediate family members in the same department. The School retains the right to reassign or transfer any person to eliminate the potential for creating conflicts of interest. Any potential preferential treatment or improper influence should be reported immediately to HR.

#### F. Employment Eligibility Verification Document

The School will only employ individuals who are authorized to work in the United States in compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

All newly hired employees must complete, as a condition of employment, the Employment Eligibility Verification Form 1-9 and provide documentation establishing identity and proof of work eligibility and identification at time of hire, but no later than three (3) days of hire. If the employee is unable to produce the required documentation or a receipt/letter requesting appropriate documentation within three days, the employee will be dismissed from employment. If, after 90 days of hire, the employee has not submitted the original documents to replace the receipt/letter or, in the meantime, some other acceptable document(s), the employee will be dismissed from employment.

Former employees who are rehired must also complete the form if they have not completed an 1-9 for the School within the past three years or if their previous 1-9 is no longer retained or valid.

#### G. Fingerprinting

Each employee will be fingerprinted in conformance with legal requirements and as a condition of employment. Fingerprints are submitted to the appropriate State and Federal agencies for screening to assure that no employee has been convicted of a crime that would preclude employment by the School.

# H. Criminal Background Checks

As a condition of employment, all employees are required to submit to a criminal history review through the Department of Justice. The review shall include fingerprint submission to the DOJ. The School follows the guidelines of the California Fair Chance Act, and will conduct an individualized assessment on all background check results. The School will make hiring determinations based on California law. Certain types of criminal background findings may prevent the employer from hiring the candidate or continuing employment with a current employee. The School will factor in the nature and gravity of the crime, when the crime occurred, rehabilitation and the nature of the position all in accordance with applicable law. All results will be discussed with the applicant and/or employee before making a hiring or dismissal decision. No person employed or otherwise associated with the School, including members of the Board of Directors, who have been convicted of or have pleaded nolo contendere to a crime related to misappropriation of funds or theft shall be engaged in direct processing of charter school funds.

#### I. Employment Application/Data

The School relies upon the accuracy of the information presented during the application process, as well as the accuracy of other data presented throughout the hiring process and employment relationship. As such, any omission or misstatement of material fact in any of this information may result in the School excluding the individual from further consideration for employment or, if already hired, termination of employment.

#### J. Employment Verifications

The School will only respond to employment verification inquiries that are received in writing. All such inquiries, whether for current or former employees, must be directed to HR. Generally, responses will be limited to information concerning wages, employment dates, positions held, and eligibility for rehire. Release of any additional information will require that the employee execute a release. Letters of recommendation must be approved by HR to ensure the accuracy and appropriateness of the information being released.

#### K. Certification and Licensing

Teachers are required to hold a current California Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other commission approved document for the assignment held ("Certificated Employee"). In addition, teachers serving students identified as English Language Learners must possess the proper EL authorization. If a teacher has not received this authorization, the School will allow them one year from date of hire to obtain it and will not assign English Language Learners during that time.

It is the responsibility of each certificated employee to ensure that credentials and permits are renewed in a timely manner and remain current. The School highly encourages all certificated staff to keep their contact information current with the Commission on Teacher Credentialing in order to receive pertinent notifications. Upon renewal of credentials or certificates, proof is to be submitted to the HR department to be copied and filed in the employee's personnel file.

#### L. Mandatory Tuberculosis Testing

In order to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff of the School, all newly hired employees must submit proof of a negative TB Risk Assessment or TB test by a licensed healthcare provider that has been administered within sixty (60) days prior to hire. A TB test may include an intradermal skin test or an X-ray of the lungs. An individual hired from another California School may request their prior school provide proof of the individual's TB Risk Assessment or TB test. TB Risk Assessments and TB tests are considered expired after four (4) years from the date they are administered and a proof of a new

assessment or test must be submitted to HR in order to continue in employment. Pregnant employees are exempt from providing proof of a TB test for at least sixty (60) days from the end of their pregnancy.

The School will reimburse the cost of the tuberculosis risk assessment and/or the test for all current employees with proof of receipt.

[See also Board Policy 4013]

# Section III: Standards of Conduct

The School expects all employees to comply with School rules, policies, and regulations as set forth in this handbook. Any employee who fails to do so will be subject to disciplinary action at the School's sole discretion, which management deems appropriate under the circumstances. Such disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, oral and written warnings, mandatory training, or termination of employment. Any employee's receipt of, participation in or completion of School-required disciplinary action shall not, under any circumstances, limit or alter the School's at-will employment policy, which allows either the School or the employee to terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without notice, and with or without cause.

#### A. Freedom from Violence

The School expressly prohibits any acts or threats of violence by any School employee or former employee against any other individual. The School will also not condone any acts or threats of violence against school employees, students or affiliates while engaged in business with or on behalf of the School.

To ensure that the School's objective in this regard is attained, it is the commitment of the School:

- 1. To provide a safe and healthful work environment, in accordance<del>m accordance</del> with the School's safety and health policy.
- 2. To take prompt remedial action up to and including immediate termination, against any employee who engages in any threatening behavior or acts of violence or who uses any obscene, abusive, or threatening language or gestures.
- 3. To take appropriate action when dealing with customers, former employees, or visitors to school functions who engage in such behavior. Such action may include notifying the police or other law enforcement personnel and prosecuting violators of this policy to the maximum extent of the law.
- 4. To prohibit employees, former employees, students, and visitors from bringing unauthorized firearms or other weapons to school, work and non-work-related gatherings, meetings and functions.
- 5. To establish viable security measures to ensure that school meetings and gatherings are safe and secure to the extent possible and to properly handle access to school facilities by the public, off-duty employees, and former employees.

The School will not tolerate any type of workplace violence committed by or against its employees. Employees who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- 1. Causing physical injury to another person.
- 2. Making threatening remarks.
- 3. Aggressive or hostile behavior that creates a reasonable fear of injury to another person or

- subjects another person to emotional distress.
- 4. Possession or threat of using a weapon on the premises and/or at work related events, meetings and gatherings.

Employees who display a tendency to engage in violent, abusive, or threatening behavior, as determined by the School, in its sole discretion, may be referred for counseling or other appropriate treatment.

In furtherance of this policy, employees have a "duty to warn" their supervisors or a HR representative of any suspicious workplace activity or situations or incidents that they observe or that they are aware of that involve other employees, former employees, customers, or visitors and that appear problematic. The welfare of all employees depends upon the alertness and sensitivity of every individual to potential security risks. Employee reports made pursuant to this policy will be held in confidence to the extent possible. The School will not condone any form of retaliation against any employee for making a report under this policy.

The School has developed guidelines to help maintain a secure workplace.

- 1. Every employee is directed to report any suspicious persons or activities to the Director or designee:
- 2. Such as persons loitering for no apparent reason in parking areas, walkways, entrances and exits, and service areas.
- 3. Persons who make threats or acts of violence, aggressive behavior, offensive acts, discussion of bringing weapons into the workplace, threatening or offensive comments or remarks, and the like.
- 4. Employees should immediately notify the Director or designee when other employees or outsiders express anger and make threats against the School or behave in a manner suggesting the possibility of violent activity.
- 5. Finally, those working in the School's office must also ensure that doors are locked and alarms are activated when applicable.

#### **B.** Prohibited Conduct

Employees are expected to conduct themselves in a manner to further the School's objectives.

The following conduct is prohibited and will not be tolerated by the School. This list of prohibited conduct is illustrative only; other types of conduct that threaten security, personal safety, employee welfare and School operations may also be prohibited and will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

- 1. Falsifying employment records, employment information, or other School records;
- 2. Inefficient or careless performance of job responsibilities or inability to perform job duties satisfactorily;
- 3. Falsifying any time cardtimecard Recording the work time of another employee or allowing any other employee to record another employee's work time, either one's own or another employee's;
- 4. Theft and deliberate or careless damage or destruction of any School property, or the property of any employee or customer;
- 5. Removing or borrowing School property without prior authorization;
- 6. Unauthorized use or misuse of School equipment, time, materials, or facilities;
- 7. Provoking a fight or fighting during working hours or on School property;

- 8. Participating in horseplay or practical jokes on School time or on School premises;
- 9. Carrying firearms or any other dangerous weapons on School premises at any time;
- 10. Engaging in criminal conduct whether or not related to job performance;
- 11. Causing, creating, or participating in a disruption of any kind during working hours on School property;
- 12. Insubordination, including but not limited to failure or refusal to obey the orders or instructions of a supervisor or member of management, or the use of abusive or threatening language toward a colleague;
- 13. Using abusive, threatening or intimidating language at any time on School premises;
- 14. Initiating or participating in gossip or slander of other employees, parents, or students;
- 15. Failing to notify a supervisor when unable to report to work;
- 16. Unreported absence of three (3) days;
- 17. Failing to obtain permission to leave work for any reason during normal working hours;
- 18. Failing to observe working schedules, including rest breaks and meal periods;
- 19. Failing to provide a physician's certificate when requested or required to do so;
- 20. Sleeping or malingering on the job;
- 21. Making or accepting personal phone calls, text or email messages during working hours to the extent that it interferes with the performance expectations of the assignment, except in cases of emergency or extreme circumstances;
- 22. Working overtime without authorization or refusing to work assigned overtime;
- 23. Violation of dress standards;
- 24. Violating any safety, health, security or School policy, rule, procedure or violation of the School's drug and alcohol policy;
- 25. Committing a fraudulent act or a breach of trust under any circumstances;
- 26. Committing or involvement in any act of unlawful harassment of another individual;
- 27. Failing to promptly report work-related injury or illness;
- 28. Any other action or behavior, which could harm the School's, parents', or students' interest

This statement of prohibited conduct does not alter the School's policy of at-will employment. Either the employee or the School remains free to terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without reason or advance notice.

#### C. Physical Contact with Students and Other Staff Members

It is the policy of the School that no staff member will use corporal punishment against a student. This prohibition includes: spanking, slapping, pinching, hitting or the use of any other physical force as retaliation or correction for inappropriate behavior. While the use of appropriate touching is part of daily life and is important for student development, a teacher and staff member must ensure that they do not exceed appropriate behavior. If a child or other staff member specifically requests that the individual not be touched, then that request must be honored without question.

The following forms of touching are never appropriate:

- 1. Sexually motivated physical conduct or touching
- 2. Angry or violently motivated touching
- 3. Inappropriate or lengthy embraces
- 4. Kissing of any kind
- 5. Corporal punishment

- 6. Sitting student on one's lap
- 7. Touching buttocks, chests or genital areas
- 8. Pushing a person or another person's body part
- 9. Showing affection in isolated areas
- 10. Wrestling with students or other staff members
- 11. Bench-pressing another person
- 12. Tickling
- 13. Piggyback rides
- 14. Massages
- 15. Any form of unwanted affection
- 16. Any form of sexual contact
- 17. Poking fingers at another person that results in an offensive contact
- 18. Having a student in an employee's vehicle or transporting a student
- 19. Intentionally being alone with a student
- 20. Any touching that would lead a responsible person to suspect inappropriate behavior.

For additional examples of unacceptable and acceptable Staff/Student Behaviors, see the School's Professional Boundaries Policy.

Restraining a child who is trying to engage in violent or inappropriate behavior may be permitted. Only such force as necessary to defend one's self or another or to protect property is legally allowed. Excessive force is prohibited. Violation of this policy could subject the teacher or staff member to discipline to include termination for cause. Additionally, the victim may choose to bring civil or criminal charges against the violator.

When interacting with younger children or children with a disability, an appropriate physical touch may sometimes be necessary. A touch for the purpose of redirecting or refocusing, assisting with physical care (i.e. cleaning up a small child after a bathroom accident) may be appropriate in limited circumstances although clearly inappropriate in more general circumstances.

It is impossible to define each and every instance when touching is inappropriate. Employees must use professional judgment and discretion related to physical touch.

This policy does not prevent appropriate forms of touching a student, including for the purpose of guiding them along a physical path, helping them up after a fall, engaging in a rescue or the application of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) or other emergency first-aid. Nor does it prohibit the use of reasonable force and touching in self-defense or in the defense of another.

#### D. Off-duty Conduct

While the School does not seek to interfere with the off-duty and personal conduct of its employees, certain types of off-duty conduct may interfere with the School's legitimate business interests. For this reason, employees are expected to conduct their personal affairs in a manner that does not adversely affect the School's or their own integrity, reputation or credibility. Illegal or immoral off-duty conduct by an employee that adversely affects the School's legitimate business interests or the employee's ability to perform their job may result in disciplinary action and/or dismissal as allowed by law.

#### E. Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace and Awareness Program

The School will comply with all federal and state regulations regarding drug and alcohol use while employees are on the job. This policy covers all School employees and violation of the School's policy related to drug use is grounds for immediate termination. The School is concerned about the use of alcohol, illegal drugs and controlled substances as it affects the workplace, the School community and students. Though marijuana is legal in many California cities, it is still considered an illegal substance under Federal law and therefore considered an illegal substance for this policy. Use of these substances whether on or off the job can adversely affect an employee's work performance, efficiency, safety, and health and therefore seriously impair the employee's value to the School and its students. In addition, the use or possession of these substances on the job constitutes a potential danger to the welfare and safety of other employees and students and exposes the School to the risks of property loss or damage or injury to other persons. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace.

Conduct against this policy includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Driving a School vehicle, or a vehicle designated for school business, while under the influence of alcohol or an illegal or controlled substance;
- 2. Selling or purchasing an illegal or controlled substance, including while on the job, on school property, or in the presence of students;
- 3. Possessing or using alcohol or an illegal or controlled substance while on the job, on school property, or in the presence of students,
- 4. Under the influence of alcohol or an illegal or controlled substance while on the job, on school property, or in the presence of students.

The School will provide information to employees about:

- 1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
- 2. The policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
- 3. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and assistance programs; and
- 4. The penalties that the School may impose upon them for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.

Violation of these rules and standards of conduct will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. The School may also bring the matter to the attention of appropriate law enforcement authorities. The School may terminate an employee who is convicted of a controlled substance offense to the extent allowed by law. Alternatively, the School may, as required or allowed in accordance with applicable law, require the employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for these purposes by a Federal, State or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

As a condition of employment, employees are required to notify the School in writing of any conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute. Such notification must be made no more than five (5) calendar days after the conviction. The School may, as required by applicable law, notify federal or state agencies of any applicable employee convictions if such a report is required by law.

The School will provide reasonable accommodation to an employee who voluntarily requests an accommodation or leave of absence to voluntarily participate in a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program. Please note that the request must be made before the employer learns of a violation of the Drug and

Alcohol Free Workplace policy. Any employee who participates in a rehabilitation program would still be responsible for following all other School policies. Employees returning from a voluntary rehabilitation program will be required to comply with a return-to-work agreement addressing the terms and conditions of continued employment.

In order to enforce this policy, the School reserves the right to conduct legal searches of school property and to implement other measures, which are in accordance with law and necessary to deter and detect violation of this policy. As a condition of employment, the employee agrees to abide by the terms of this policy.

The School will abide by all relevant laws, including laws regarding employee disability and reasonable accommodations in implementing this policy.

# F. Tobacco Free Workplace

The School is a tobacco free workplace. No tobacco products are to be used in the workplace or at work functions. This includes all VAPE and e-cigarette products. Additionally, employees are required to adhere to any building and site policies regarding designated areas for smoking.

#### G. Punctuality and Attendance

Employee punctuality and consistent attendance contributes to the positive operations of the School. As such, attendance and punctuality are performance expectations and are measured on the overall job performance. Employee tardiness or chronic absenteeism causes unnecessary problems for students and fellow employees. While an employee is absent, other employees may be burdened with performing additional duties in order to maintain operations. Further, employees are expected to report to the workplace and be prepared to begin work at their scheduled reporting times. To avoid conflict with the daily operations of the School, employees should schedule personal affairs outside of regular working hours.

If an employee is unable to report for work on any particular day, they must call their supervisor or HR at least one hour before the time they were scheduled to begin working on that day in order to obtain pre-approval for the absence. An employee may be excused from this one hour notice requirement if extenuating circumstances prevented them from contacting the supervisor. In all cases of absence or tardiness, employees must provide the School with an honest reason or explanation.

Employees must inform HR or designee of the expected duration of any absence. Excessive absences, lateness or failure to give the supervisor advance notice for absence or lateness can result in disciplinary action or dismissal from employment. Excessive absenteeism or tardiness, whether excused or not, will not be tolerated.

If the employee fails to report for work without any notification to their supervisor or to HR, and the absence continues for a period of three days, the School will consider it a voluntary resignation unless a written medical excuse is provided by a physician to confirm that the employee has not abandoned their employment.

Employees with emergencies or situations that do not allow them to do their job, must inform their

supervisor or HR within 24 hours. Failure to return phone calls or emails within 24 hours during workdays requires an explanation to the employee's supervisor. Failure to inform a supervisor of an expected absence, failure to return phone calls or emails for three (3) workdays without notice, and missing required deadlines or meetings constitutes abandonment of employment.

Please refer to the policies related to leaves of absence and paid sick days in the handbook for more information.

#### H. Attendance at Mandatory School Activities

Employees are required to attend scheduled staff meetings, professional development sessions, graduations, kick-off week activities, and other mandatory events as noted on the school calendar. Should an employee be unable to attend a mandatory event, they will need to utilize a day's worth of their sick or vacation leave, adjusted according to their Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) status. During the time of the missed mandatory event, staff should refrain from arranging meetings or participating in work-related tasks and will not be required to engage in any such activities at these times. Employees must notify their direct supervisor of their absence. Notice via email one-hour prior to the start time of the mandatory activity is requested to facilitate adjustments in planning and collaboration

#### I. Professionalism

The success of the School depends upon the quality of the relationships between the School, its employees, students, parents and the general public. The public impression of the School and its interest will be formed, in part, by their interactions with employees. The more goodwill an employee promotes, the more employees, students, parents and the general public will respect and appreciate the employee, the School, and the Schools' services.

Employees are encouraged to help make a good impression of the School by:

- 1. Communicating regularly.
- 2. Acting competently and dealing with others in a courteous and respectful manner.
- 3. Communicating pleasantly and respectfully with others at all times.
- 4. Following up on requests and questions promptly, providing professional replies to inquiries and requests.
- 5. Responding to email and voicemail within 24 business hours, or within a reasonable period of time depending on the assignment (employees should discuss this with their supervisor).
- 6. Taking pride in performing duties in an exceptional manner.

Employees may not bring their own children to school events (learning period meetings, assessments, school meetings, etc.) unless they are a student participant in the events or it is a general school event open to all students or employee families. The CEO or designee may grant an exception.

#### J. Dress Code

Each employee is a representative of the School in the eyes of the public. Therefore, each employee must report to work properly groomed and dressed in professional attire in a manner consistent with the nature of the work performed. Employees who report to work inappropriately dressed may be asked to clock out and return in acceptable attire.

Violation of the dress code is determined by the CEO or designee. The CEO or designee may issue more specific dress code guidelines at any time, which shall be in accordance with law. The standards of grooming and hygiene outlined below set the minimum requirements to which all employees, contract workers, and temporary staff are required to adhere.

Employee dress is described as business casual, which includes:

- Slacks, dockers and other office style pants,
- Skirts and dresses to or below the knee,
- Button down shirts, blouses, and sweaters.
- All clothes are to appear clean, pressed and without stains or holes.
- Inappropriate attire:
- Spaghetti straps or strapless tops,
- Overly baggy or tight so as to be revealing,
- Plunging necklines, midriff revealing tops, or any clothing that exposes the employee inappropriately,
- Clothing with offensive words or pictures,
- Any clothing that is overly casual (shorts, tank tops, athletic wear), appears dirty, wrinkled, or has stains or holes.

Overall grooming - Grooming standards for everyone includes the appearance of care and proper hygiene. Hair, makeup, and jewelry may not interfere with an employee's ability to perform the job duties or pose a safety issue. Facial piercings should be removed and tattoos should be covered during work hours. Excessive piercings or offensive tattoos may prohibit an individual from being considered for a customer facing assignment. The School reserves the right to ask any employee to cover inappropriate tattoos or remove any piercings that are not reflective of the school culture.

Exceptions - The School recognizes some events as acceptable for casual dress. The majority of the same dress and grooming standards apply, however employees may wear jeans, seasonally appropriate clothing, and more casual shoes. Requests for an exception to the dress code policy for religious beliefs or practices must be addressed to the CEO or designee or an HR representative. Each request will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Supervisors are expected to inform employees when they are violating the dress code. Employees in violation are expected to immediately correct the issue. This may include having to leave work to change clothes. Repeated violations or violations that have major repercuss 10ns may result in disciplinary action being taken up to and including termination.

## K. Gifts to Employees

It is the policy of the School that no employee may accept any gift from an outside party, client, contractor, vendor, community provider, business associate, parent or student that is of such nature that it could affect their impartiality with regard to decisions or actions affecting school operations. Gifts with a value of less than \$50 are excluded from this policy.

## L. Fee and Cash Collection

No staff member, other than specifically authorized individuals, is permitted to accept cash and/or checks.

All school events, for which money is collected, must be approved by the Director or designee who will supervise the collection of all fees and will be responsible for managing the receipts. Cash and/or checks should not be stored or locked in staff offices or desks. All financial transactions should be coordinated with the Director or designee. Employees must obtain approval from the Director prior to soliciting staff for donations or financial support for any outside event/activity.

## M. Building Security

Building security is the responsibility of all staff. The last employee, or a designated employee, who leaves the office at the end of the business day assumes the responsibility to ensure that the office is secure; for example, all doors are securely locked, the alarm system is armed, thermostats are set on appropriate evening and/or weekend setting, and all the appliances and lights are turned off with the exception of the lights normally left on for security purposes. Employees are not allowed on properties or leased facilities after hours without prior authorization from the Director, CEO or designee. All employees who are issued keys to the office are responsible for their safekeeping and will sign for receipt of such key.

# **Section IV: Personnel Policies and Procedures**

The School will continually strive to recruit and retain highly qualified employees and remain a competitive public school employer, including examining employee evaluation, compensation, and discipline/dismissal practices periodically.

## A. New Employee Orientation

Orientation is a formal welcoming process that is designed to make the new employee feel comfortable, informed about the School, and prepared for their position. New employee orientation, includes an explanation of the core values, vision, mission, goals, and objectives of the School. In addition, the new employee will be given an overview of benefits and complete any necessary paperwork through the HR department.

## **B.** Remote Work Policy

MYA is a remote workplace that will require in-person attendance. This is stated in an employee's Job Description. Employees must adhere to all policies and procedures regardless of their remote work status.

#### **Definitions**

Remote work, working remotely, telework, telecommute, or work-from-home are defined as any work arrangement that allows employees to work outside of a primary worksite at an alternate location.

## **Remote Work Policy**

Employees who work remotely are expected to maintain normal productivity and performance as if they were conducting business onsite. They may not carry out work for anyone other than MYA during this time. Employees must use approved time off for absences. Employees must accommodate themselves for any of the following, but not limited to, on-site meetings, conferences, retreats, state testing, team-building days, and/or training.

## **Availability and Communications**

Because we have a flexible work environment, we ask that employees be available to take work related

calls and attend meetings as needed with minimum disruption, Monday through Friday. The only requirements put in place around work location and time are that timelines are met, and student/School needs are tended and responded to in a reasonable time frame.

## Workspace

Employees should establish a workspace that is safe and conducive to conducting day to day business. Employees are responsible for maintaining adequate and reliable internet service regardless of where they sit. Employees should seek a quiet and distraction-free working space, to the extent possible. MYA issues all employees the necessary equipment and software licenses to do their job effectively.

# **Equipment**

MYA will determine and approve, with information supplied by the employee and the supervisor, the appropriate equipment needed for each employee. Equipment supplied by MYA will be maintained by MYA. Equipment supplied by the employee, if deemed appropriate by MYA, will be maintained by the employee. MYA accepts no responsibility for damage or repairs to employee-owned equipment. MYA reserves the right to make determinations as to appropriate equipment, subject to change at any time. Equipment supplied by MYA is to be used for business purposes only. The employee must sign an inventory of all MYA property received and agree to take appropriate action to protect the items from damage or theft. Upon termination of employment, all MYA property will be returned, unless other arrangements have been made.

MYA does not provide employees with office furnishings for their home offices. Employees are responsible for equipping and maintaining their home offices so that they can accomplish their work in an efficient and expeditious manner.

MYA will supply the employee with appropriate office supplies (pens, paper, etc.) as deemed necessary. Occasionally, when pre-approved by the Director, employees will be reimbursed for business-related expenses that are reasonably incurred in carrying out the employee's job.

## **Virtual Meetings**

While distractions are sometimes unavoidable, try to keep them to a minimum. No music or television in the background during meetings. Keep yourself muted during group video or audio conferencing unless you are speaking. Turning on video is required. We understand there may be rare occasions where you are unable to utilize your video, however, this should be the exception rather than the norm. Avoid eating a meal during a virtual meeting unless invited to do so by the meeting host. Smoking or vaping is not permitted during a video conference. Casual dress is acceptable; however, use discretion. We are a business casual environment. Avoid multitasking. Give your full attention to the meeting as if you were face to face.

## Timekeeping

Hourly employees must accurately record all working time and may not work "off the clock." Hourly employees must use timesheets approved by MYA and are required to log out for lunch as required by law.

## **Confidentiality**

MYA employees must adhere to policies as they relate to client and proprietary information even while working remotely. Employees agree to maintain confidentiality and keep passwords and other information safe at their remote work area

#### Security

Remote employees will be expected to ensure the protection of proprietary information accessible from their home office. Steps include the use of regular password maintenance and any other measures appropriate for the job and the environment.

## **Workers Compensation**

In the event of a job-related injury, employees should report the incident to their direct supervisor as soon as possible. Note that workers' compensation does not apply to injuries to any third parties or members of Employee's family on Employee's premises. Furthermore, workers' compensation does not apply to injuries incurred outside of working hours/outside of the remote workspace.

# C. Employee Status

Employees may include exempt, nonexempt, regular full-time, regular part-time, and seasonal persons employed with the School who are subject to the control and direction of the School in the performance of their duties.

- a. Exempt: Employees whose positions meet specific criteria established by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and who are exempt from overtime pay requirements.
- b. Nonexempt: Employees whose positions do not meet FLSA criteria and who are paid one and one-half their regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week. Nonexempt employees are also subject to meal period and rest break regulations.

Employee Status	Teacher Facilitator	Exempt Certificated and Classified	Non-Exempt Classified	Benefits
	(Student Caseload per Month)	(FTE)	(Hours per Week)	
Regular Full Time	19+ students	.75+ FTE	30+ hours	Eligible
Regular Part Time	10-18 students	.5074 FTE	20-29 hours	Eligible
Non-Regular	9 or less students	.49 FTE or less	19 hours or less	Not Eligible

#### **D.** Student Counts

The teacher may indicate their desired student count with the School as a request, however, the needs of the School will determine the number of students assigned to the teacher.

#### E. Job Duties

The assigned supervisor will clarify the job duties and the expectations for behavior and job performance. The employee's job responsibilities and tasks are subject to change and update during employment as stated in the at-will employment agreement and job description and job description. On occasion, the employee may be asked to work on projects, or to help with other work necessary or important to the operation of their department or the School. The employee's cooperation and assistance in performing such additional work is expected. The School reserves the right, at any time, with or without notice, to

alter or change job responsibilities, reassign or transfer any employee's job positions, or assign additional job responsibilities.

## F. Nonexempt Employees

## 1. Work Schedules

Business hours of school sites and offices (if any) shall be established by the CEO or designee. The CEO or designee will assign the classified staff's individual work schedule to ensure staffing throughout the workday. Employees are expected to be online or at their desks or workstations when ready to work.

For the purposes of pay and leave accrual calculations, full-time for classified employees, is defined as 2,080 working hours. The workweek begins at 12:01 a.m. Monday and ends at midnight on Sunday.

#### 2. Rest Breaks and Meal Periods

#### a. Rest Breaks

Rest breaks are on the clock and duty-free. Employees are expected to return to work promptly at the end of any rest breaks.

#### b. Number of Rest Breaks

Nonexempt employees are provided one (1) paid ten-minute rest break for every four (4) hours worked (or major fraction thereof, which is defined as any amount of time over two (2) hours). A rest break is not authorized for employees whose total daily work time is less than three and one half (3.5) hours.

If the employee works a shift from three and one-half (3.5) to six (6) hours in length, they will be entitled to one (1) paid ten-minute rest break. If they work more than six (6) hours and up to 10 hours, they will be entitled to two (2) paid ten-minute rest breaks. If the employee works more than 10 hours and up to 14 hours, they will be entitled to three (3) paid ten-minute rest breaks.

## c. Timing of Rest Breaks

The employee is authorized and permitted to take a rest break in the middle of each four-hour work period. There may be practical considerations that make this general timing infeasible and that require the School to deviate from this general rule. The employee will be informed if there are practical considerations that make this timing infeasible. In the event of these considerations, the immediate supervisor may need to schedule the rest breaks.

#### d. Meal Period

All nonexempt employees will be provided an uninterrupted unpaid meal period of at least 30 minutes if working more than five (5) hours in a workday. The employee must clock out for the meal period and will be permitted a reasonable opportunity to

take this meal period. During the meal period, the employee is relieved of all duty and is free to leave the premises. The employee is expected to return to work promptly at the end of the meal period. If the total work period for the day is more than five (5) hours, but no more than six (6) hours, the meal period may be waived. This cannot be done without the mutual consent of the employee and HR. Any such waiver must be requested and approved with HR and supervisor in advance.

## e. Timing of Meal Period

As with rest breaks, the employee is authorized and permitted to take a meal period.

The meal period will be provided no later than the end of the fifth hour of work. For example, if work begins at 8:00 a.m., the meal period must begin by 12:59 p.m. (which is four hours and 59 minutes into the shift).

There may be practical considerations that make this general timing infeasible and that require the School to deviate from this general rule. The immediate supervisor may need to schedule the timing of an employee's meal period to ensure efficient business operations.

## f. Second Meal Period

If the employee works more than 10 hours in a day, they will be provided a second, unpaid meal period of at least 30 minutes. Again, the employee must clock out for the meal period and will be permitted a reasonable opportunity to take this meal period; the employee will be relieved of all duty. During the meal period, the employee is relieved of all duty and is free to leave the premises. The employee is expected to return to work promptly at the end of the meal period.

Depending on the circumstances, the employee may be able to waive the second meal period if the first meal period was taken and if the total hours worked for the day is no more than twelve hours. This cannot be done without the mutual consent of the employee and HR. Any such waiver must be requested and approved with HR and supervisor in advance.

## g. Timing of Second Meal Period

As with rest breaks, the employee is authorized and permitted to take a meal period. A second meal period is required if the employee's hours exceed 10 hours in one workday.

This second meal period will be provided no later than the end of the 10th hour of work. For example, if work begins at 8:00 a.m., the employee must start the second meal period by 5:59 p.m. (which is 9 hours and 59 minutes into the shift).

There may be practical considerations that make this general timing infeasible and that require the School to deviate from this general rule. The immediate supervisor may need to schedule the timing of an employee's meal period to ensure business operations.

## h. Recording Meal Periods

The employee must clock out for any meal period and record the start and end of the meal period. Employees are not allowed to work "off the clock." Work time must be accurately reported on the time record.

## i. Missed Rest Breaks and Meal Periods

If for any reason the employee is not provided a rest break or meal period in accordance with the policy, or if they are in any way discouraged or impeded from taking their rest break or meal period, or from taking the full amount of time allotted to them, the employee may be eligible for a missed rest break or meal period remedy and should immediately notify HR.

Anytime the employee misses a rest break or meal period that was provided to them (or they work any portion of a provided meal period), they will be required to report the time to HR and document the reason for the missed rest break and meal period.

Please also refer to the School's Timekeeping Policy.

## j. Timekeeping

All nonexempt employees are required to record time worked for payroll purposes. Employees must record their own time at the start and at the end of each work period, including before and after the meal period. Altering with this procedure in any way is not permissible and is subject to disciplinary action. Time cards in the payroll system are to be approved by the employee and the supervisor prior to each payroll. Any errors on the time card should be reported immediately to HR. Employees with consistent patterns of not following time recording responsibilities are subject to disciplinary actions.

All communication between the nonexempt employee and management concerning work related issues is not permitted after hours. Once the nonexempt employee has recorded the end of a work period at the end of the day, that employee is no longer clocked in. All work related correspondence will resume the next work day except in the case of an emergency or at the direction of the supervisor. Nonexempt employees will be compensated at the appropriate rate of pay for any additional time worked outside of their work day.

## k. Pay for Mandatory Meetings & Training

The School will pay nonexempt employees for attendance at meetings, lectures, and training programs when attendance is mandatory, and the meeting, course, or lecture is directly related to the job and is outside of the regular schedule. Unless otherwise noted, trainings and meetings are included as part of an exempt employee's regular pay.

#### l. Overtime

All overtime work must be requested in advance by the employee and authorized by

the supervisor prior to the time to be worked. Nonexempt classified employees may be directed to work overtime as necessary. Only actual hours worked in a given workday or workweek can apply in calculating overtime. The School provides compensation for all overtime hours worked by nonexempt employees in accordance with state and federal law. All hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in one workday or 40 hours in one workweek will be treated as overtime. A workday begins at 12:01 a.m. and ends at midnight 24 hours later. The work week begins at 12:01 a.m. Monday and ends at midnight on Sunday.

Compensation for hours in excess of 40 hours for the workweek, or in excess of eight (8) hours and not more than 12 hours for the workday, and for the first eight hours on the seventh consecutive day of work in one workweek, shall be paid at a rate of one-and-one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay. Compensation for hours in excess of 12 hours in one workday and in excess of eight (8) hours on the seventh consecutive workday in a workweek shall be paid at double the regular rate of pay.

#### G. Exempt Employees

The School will pay exempt employees a salary rather than by the hour. Once an employee's sick days have been exhausted or are otherwise unavailable, the School will deduct pay from an exempt employee's salary under the following circumstances: (i) one or more full days absences for personal reasons; (ii) one or more full day absences for illness, injury, or sickness, (iii) one or more full work weeks disciplinary suspensions; and (iv) partial (for intermittent leave) or full day absences during an approved family or medical leave in accordance with law. Exempt employees who believe that the School made an incorrect or improper salary deduction should promptly report the deduction to their supervisor or the HR department. If the School incorrectly or improperly made a deduction from an exempt employee's salary, it will reimburse the employee for the deducted pay as soon as possible.

#### H. Salary Overpayments

Because the School receives public funds, the School is obligated by law to seek reimbursement for any salary overpayment and cannot waive the recovery of the overpayment. Employees who receive excess pay as a result of a payroll error are required to return the funds to the School. The School will provide the employee with the correct salary calculation and the amount that is owed to the School. The employee may return the overpayment in full through a cashier's check or money order or allow the School to deduct the overpayment from the next paycheck. The School may arrange for a repayment plan that is mutually agreeable to both the School and the employee and does not exceed one calendar year from the date of the overpayment. Should an employee resign prior to completing the repayment, the full amount shall become due upon termination. A repayment plan may be offered to a terminated employee not to exceed three (3) months in duration.

# I. Employee Evaluation

Supervisors will conduct performance reviews with all regular full-time and regular part-time employees annually. Supervisors may conduct informal performance reviews and goal setting sessions more often if they choose.

Performance reviews are designed for the supervisor and the employee to discuss their current job tasks, encourage and recognize attributes, and discuss positive, purposeful approaches for meeting work-related goals. Together, the employee and supervisor will discuss ways in which the employee can accomplish goals and/or learn new skills.

Performance review and goal setting sessions may or may not have a direct effect on any changes in salary compensation. For this reason, among others, it is important to prepare for these reviews carefully and participate in them fully. Additional details on employee evaluations will be provided by Human Resources upon hire.

#### J. Corrective Action

All employees are expected to meet School standards of work performance. Work performance encompasses many factors, including attendance, punctuality, personal conduct, job proficiency and general compliance with School policies and procedures. If an employee does not meet these standards, the School may or may not, at its sole discretion, take corrective action, other than immediate dismissal. Employees have no entitlement to corrective action or progressive discipline prior to dismissal.

The intent of corrective action is to formally document problems while providing the employee with a reasonable time within which to improve performance. The School holds each of its employees to certain work rules and standards of conduct. When an employee deviates from these rules and standards, the employee may be terminated, or, at the School's discretion, be subject to corrective action by a supervisor.

Corrective actions may include, but are not required to include, an oral warning, a written warning, probation, suspension, and termination of employment. In deciding which initial corrective action would be appropriate, a supervisor may consider the seriousness of the infraction, the circumstances surrounding the matter, and the employee's previous record. As an at-will employer, the School may use all, some or none of the corrective actions described and will handle corrective action based on its own discretion.

Though the School will try to find paths for improvement whenever possible, the School considers certain rule infractions and violations of standards as grounds for immediate termination of employment. These include but are not limited to: theft in any form, insubordinate behavior, any misconduct concerning a child/student, vandalism or destruction of School property, trespassing, the use of School equipment without prior authorization, untruthfulness about personal work history, skills, or training, divulging proprietary information, and misrepresentations of the School to another employee, a prospective employee, or the general public.

Nothing in this section or any other section alters an employee's status as an at-will employee who may be terminated, with or without cause and with or without advance notice at any time by the School. Nothing in this section is intended to interfere with an employee's rights to communicate or voice concerns that are protected by Federal and State law.

#### K. Procedure for Disciplinary Action

The corrective action process is designed to encourage development by providing employees with guidance in areas that need improvement such as poor work performance, attendance problems, personal conduct, general compliance with School policies and procedures and/or other disciplinary problems.

Corrective actions may be taken at the discretion of management and include any of the following:

- a. Verbal counseling, which may be confirmed in writing by the supervisor
- b. Written warning, which will be placed in the personnel file
- c. Suspension, which will be confirmed in writing for the personnel file. Suspension is normally used to remove an employee from the organization premises during an investigation, or as a disciplinary action. This may be paid or unpaid. If the employee is suspended, it will be documented in the personnel file.
- d. Discharge, which will be documented in the personnel file.

The corrective action process will not always commence with verbal counseling or include every step. The above options are not to be seen as a process in which one step always follows another. Some acts, particularly those that are intentional or serious, warrant more severe action on the first or subsequent offense. Consideration will be given to the seriousness of the offense, the intent and motivation to change the performance, and the environment in which the offense took place. As a reminder, employment remains at-will before, during, and after a disciplinary action.

#### L. Terminations

There are two types of terminations that may affect employees. Voluntary termination results when an employee voluntarily resigns their employment. Involuntary terminations result when the School makes the decision to end the at-will employment agreement.

Regardless of the reason for termination, all school-owned property, including vehicles, keys, credit cards, student files, or school property in the possession of the employee must be returned to the School immediately upon termination from employment, within 72 hours from the final date of employment with the School. Employees are not to recruit students from the School to a new place of employment.

All wages owed will be paid out upon the date of termination for involuntary terminations or within 72 hours after an employee's resignation if the employee gave 72 hours or less notice.

#### M. Personnel Records

Employees have a right to inspect certain documents in the personnel file as provided by law. The contents of personnel records will be available for inspection to the current or former employee, or their representative, at reasonable intervals and at reasonable times, but not later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date the School receives a written request. However, the employee, or their representative, and the School agree in writing to a date beyond thirty (30) calendar days to inspect the records, and the agreed-upon date does not exceed thirty-five (35) calendar days from receipt of the written request. Additionally, the School shall provide a copy of the personnel records, at a charge not to exceed the actual cost of reproduction, to a current or former employee, or their representative, no later than thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of the request, unless the current or former employee, or their representative, and the School agree in writing to a date beyond thirty (30) calendar days to produce a copy of the records, as long as the agreed-upon date does not exceed thirty-five (35) calendar days from the employer's receipt of the written request.

The employee may add comments to any disputed item in the file. Only HR, the CEO or designee is

authorized to release information about current or former employees. Disclosure of personnel related information to agencies or individuals outside the School will be limited and in accordance with law; however, the School will cooperate with requests from authorized law enforcement or local, state or federal agencies conducting official investigations and as otherwise legally required. The School is required by law to keep current all employees' names and addresses. Employees are responsible for notifying the School in the event of a name or address change.

#### N. Destruction of Personal Information Records

In the course of the employee's duties at the School, they may encounter records which contain personal information (i.e., a person's name and Social Security Number, driver's license number, state identification number or any account number, credit or debit card number, access code or passwords that may permit access to an individual's financial account, payroll, or personal health information). The School expects all employees to take appropriate measures to maintain the confidentiality and integrity of such information and prevent unauthorized access. Employees must ensure hard copies of documents are stored securely, such as in a locked file cabinet, with access provided only to authorized individuals with a need to know. Electronic media must be encrypted or password protected. Passwords should never be included in any transmission that also contains the data. Employees should dispose of data no longer needed by shredding paper documents and properly erasing electronic media to ensure that the personal information cannot be read or reconstructed. Failure to follow proper storage and disposal procedures may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

## O. Employment Posters

The School maintains bulletin boards in School offices and on the HR information system that contain important information about employment. In addition to federal and state required notices, school-related information will also be available in these locations. All employees are encouraged to look at the online bulletin board regularly and to read all of the information displayed and made available in detail. Any questions about the information should be directed to the supervisor or HR. These bulletin boards are reserved for School use only; employees may not post or remove any information from them.

#### P. Outside Employment

This policy is not intended to prohibit an employee from working an appropriate second job. Employees are permitted to engage in outside work or hold other jobs, subject to certain restrictions as outlined below.

- 1) Activities and conduct away from the job must not compete, conflict with or compromise the school interests or adversely affect an employee's job performance and the ability to fulfill all responsibilities to the School. Employees are prohibited from performing any services for customers on non-working time that are normally performed by the School. This prohibition also extends to the unauthorized use of any school tools or equipment and the unauthorized use or application of any confidential information. In addition, employees are not to solicit or conduct any outside business during paid working time.
- 2) Employees are cautioned to consider carefully the demands that additional work activity will create before accepting outside employment. Outside employment will not be considered an excuse for poor job performance, absenteeism, tardiness, leaving early, refusal to travel or refusal to work overtime or different hours. If outside work activity causes or contributes to job-related

- problems, it must be discontinued, and, if necessary, normal disciplinary procedures will be followed to deal with the specific problem.
- 3) In evaluating outside work, the following guidelines will be considered to determine whether the proposed employment is allowed. Employees may not engage in outside employment that:
  - a) involves working for a competing or similar model School;
  - b) occurs during work hours without the use of appropriate leave;
  - c) actually or potentially results in a conflict of interest with or interfere with the employee's responsibilities to the School;
  - d) involves working for an organization that does business with the School, such as contractors, community providers, suppliers and customers;
  - e) may adversely affect the School's image.
- 4) Employees who have accepted outside employment may not use paid sick leave to work on the outside job. Fraudulent use of sick leave will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination

If it is determined that the outside employment constitutes a conflict of interest or disruption of the School's operation, the employee will be asked to limit or restrict the outside employment. Disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment may be taken for outside employment that is inconsistent with this policy unless otherwise approved.

## Q. Whistleblower Policy

It is the policy of the School to encourage its employees and applicants for School employment to disclose improper governmental activities, based in part on California Education Code Section 44110 et. seq. and to address written complaints that allege acts or attempted acts of interference, reprisal, retaliation, threats, coercion or intimidation against employees or applicants who disclose improper governmental activities. School management has the responsibility to seek out and correct any and all abuses resulting from improper governmental activities, and to protect those who come forward to report improper governmental activities.

Concerns that may be raised include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Reporting suspected violations of local, state, and federal law, including but not limited to federal laws and regulations;
- b. Providing truthful information in connection with an inquiry or investigation by a court, agency, law enforcement, or other governmental body; and
- c. Identifying potential violations of School policy, specifically the policies contained in the handbook with reference to employee safety or health, unsafe working conditions or work practices in the employee's employment or place of employment.

A whistleblower can also be an employee who refuses to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute, or a violation of or non-compliance with a local, state or federal rule or regulation.

The School may not:

a. Make, adopt, or enforce any rule, regulation, or policy preventing an employee from

- being a whistleblower;
- b. Retaliate against an employee who is a whistleblower;
- c. Retaliate against an employee for refusing to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute, or a violation or noncompliance with a state or federal rule or regulation; or
- d. Retaliate against an employee for having exercised their rights as a whistleblower in any former employment.

# **R.** Complaint Procedure

The School encourages employees to resolve issues or concerns at the lowest level possible to ensure a positive and professional work environment. When issues cannot be successfully resolved or the issue is serious in nature against the supervisor, the employee should bring the matter to the attention of HR for assistance. The complaint procedure approved by the Board of Directors is as follows:

- 1. The complainant will bring the matter to the attention of the Human Resources manager as soon as possible after attempts to resolve the complaint with the immediate supervisor have failed or were not appropriate; and
- 2. The complainant will reduce their complaint to writing, indicating all known and relevant facts, in the School's Internal Complaint Form. The Human Resources manager or designee will then investigate the facts and provide a solution or explanation
- 3. If the complaint is about the Human Resources manager, CEO, or Director, the complainant may file their Internal Complaint Form with the President of the School's Board of Directors, who may then confer with the Board and may conduct a fact-finding investigation or authorize a third party investigator on behalf of the Board. The Board President or investigator will report their findings to the Board for review and action, if necessary.

This policy cannot guarantee that every problem will be resolved to the employee's satisfaction. However, the School values each employee's ability to express concerns, and the need for resolution without fear of adverse consequences consequences to employment.

- 1. Confidentiality: All complainants will be notified that information obtained from the complainants and thereafter gathered will be maintained in a manner as confidential as possible, but in some circumstances absolute confidentiality cannot be assured.
- 2. Non-Retaliation: All complainants will be advised that they will be protected against retaliation as a result of the filing of any complaint or participation in any complaint process.
- 3. Resolution: The School will investigate complaints appropriately under the circumstances and pursuant to the applicable procedures, and if necessary, take appropriate remedial measures to ensure effective resolution of any complaint.

#### S. Uniform Complaint Procedures

The School will provide annual notice to all employees of the Uniform Complaint Procedures that may be used to allege a violation of federal or state laws governing certain educational programs. Copies of the Uniform Complaint Procedures and additional information may be found in the board policy section on the School's website or by contacting HR.

# T. Arbitration Agreement

# **Agreement to Arbitrate Disputes and Claims**

The School and employee mutually agree to submit to binding arbitration any and all disputes or claims they could otherwise pursue in court arising from or relating to employee's recruitment to or employment with the School, or the termination of that employment, including claims against any current or former agent or employee of the School, whether the disputes or claims arise in tort, contract, or pursuant to a statute, regulation, or ordinance now in existence or which may in the future be enacted or recognized, including, but not limited to, the following:

- claims for fraud, misrepresentation, promissory estoppel, fraudulent inducement of contract
  or breach of contract, whether such alleged contract or obligation be oral, written, or express
  or implied;
- claims for wrongful termination of employment, violation of public policy and constructive discharge, infliction of emotional distress, interference with contract or prospective economic advantage, defamation, unfair business practices, invasion of privacy;
- claims for employment discrimination, retaliation or harassment
- claims for violation of local, state or federal wage and hour laws, such as non-payment or incorrect payment of wages, sick pay, commissions, bonuses, severance, employee fringe benefits, or stock options.

The School and employee understand and agree that the arbitration of the disputes and claims covered by this Agreement shall be the sole and exclusive mechanism for resolving any and all existing and future disputes or claims arising out of employee's recruitment to or employment with the School or the termination thereof, except as set forth below.

## **Claims Not Covered by this Agreement**

The following claims are not subject to arbitration under this Agreement:

- 1) claims for workers' compensation benefits, state or federal disability benefits or state unemployment benefits;
- administrative charges or claims filed with a federal, state or local government office or agency, such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") or any comparable state anti-discrimination agency, or the National Labor Relations Board ("NLRB");
- 3) any claims that, as a matter of law, cannot legally be subject to arbitration;
- 4) claims under an employee benefit or pension plan that specifies a different arbitration procedure;
- 5) litigation pending in a state or federal court as of the date Employee signs this Agreement; or
- 6) claims brought pursuant to the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004.

#### Waiver of Right to Trial

The School and employee understand and agree that the arbitration of disputes and claims under this Agreement shall be instead of a trial before a judge or jury. The School and employee understand and agree that, by signing this Agreement, they are expressly waiving, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any and all rights to a trial before a judge or jury, regarding any disputes and claims they may have that

are subject to arbitration under this Agreement.

#### No Consolidation of Claims / Waiver of Class Claims

The School and employee agree to individualized arbitration, with claims pertaining to different employees to be heard in separate proceedings. This means that no other person shall be entitled to join or consolidate in arbitration any claim by or against other current or former School employees. As such, except as set forth above, the School and employee agree that both the School and employee hereby waive any right to bring on behalf of other persons, or to otherwise participate in, a class, collective or representative action (i.e. a type of lawsuit in which one or several persons sue on behalf of a larger group of persons).

#### **Arbitration Procedures; Final and Binding Award**

The arbitration shall be conducted by a single neutral arbitrator in accordance with the then-current Employment Arbitration and Mediation Procedures of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), which can be viewed at <a href="http://www.adr.org/employment">http://www.adr.org/employment</a>. The School will provide the employee with a copy of these rules upon request. The arbitration shall take place in the county of the state in which the employee is or was last employed by the School, unless the School and the employee mutually agree on a different location. All parties shall be entitled to engage in reasonable pre-hearing discovery to obtain information to prosecute or defend the asserted claims. Any disputes between the parties regarding the nature or scope of discovery shall be decided by the arbitrator. The arbitrator shall hear and issue a written ruling upon any motions brought by either party, including but not limited to, motions for summary judgment or summary adjudication of issues.

After the hearing, the arbitrator shall issue a written decision setting forth the award, if any, and explaining the basis therefore. The arbitrator shall have the power to award any type of relief that would be available in court. The arbitrator's award shall be final and binding upon the parties and may be entered as a judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction. In the event of any conflict in the arbitration procedures set forth in this Agreement and the AAA rules specified above, the AAA rules shall control.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, and regardless of what is provided by AAA's rules, the arbitrator will not have authority or jurisdiction to consolidate claims of different employees into one proceeding, nor shall the arbitrator have authority or jurisdiction to hear the arbitration as a class, collective or representative action.

#### **Governing Law**

The School and employee understand and agree that any disputes and claims to be arbitrated under this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state in which the employee was employed at the time the arbitrable disputes or claims arose. This Agreement is governed by the Federal Arbitration Act. The School and employee intend that this Agreement be limited to those claims that may legally be subject to a pre-dispute arbitration agreement under applicable law. A court construing this Agreement may therefore modify or interpret it to render it enforceable.

#### **Costs of Arbitration**

The School and employee agree that the School will bear the arbitrator's fee and any other type of expenses or cost that the employee would not be required to bear if they were free to bring the disputes or claims in court. Otherwise, the School and employee shall each bear their own attorneys' fees and costs

incurred in connection with the arbitration. The arbitrator shall have the authority to award attorneys' fees and costs as required or permitted by applicable law. If there is a dispute as to whether the School or employee is the prevailing party in the arbitration, the arbitrator will decide the issue.

#### Severability

The School and employee understand and agree that if any term or portion of this Agreement shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unenforceable or to be contrary to public policy or any law, then the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected by such invalidity or unenforceability but shall remain in full force and effect, as if the invalid or unenforceable term or portion thereof had not existed within this Agreement.

# **Complete Agreement**

The School and employee understand and agree that this Agreement contains the complete agreement between the School and employee regarding the subjects covered in it; that it supersedes any and all contrary prior representations and agreements between the School and employee on these subjects, if any; and that it may be modified only in writing, expressly referencing this Agreement and employee by full name, and signed by an authorized representative of the School and the employee.

#### **Knowing and Voluntary Agreement**

The employee has been advised to consult with an attorney of their own choosing before signing this Agreement. The employee agrees to read this Agreement carefully and understands that by signing it, they are waiving all rights to a trial or hearing before a judge or jury with respect to any and all disputes and claims regarding employee's employment with the School or the recruitment to or termination thereof that are subject to arbitration under this Agreement.

# **Section V: Operational Considerations**

## A. Employer Property

Anything purchased with school funds such as computers and educational materials are considered School property and must be maintained according to School rules and regulations. School property is to be used only for work-related purposes. The School reserves the right to search and inspect all School property and any property used by employees in work related duties to ensure compliance with its rules and regulations, without notice to the employee and at any time, not necessarily in the employee's presence.

Employees may make or accept personal telephone calls, text messages, or emails within reason during working hours to perform important personal business. It is also acceptable to use a computer to perform the same minimal personal tasks. Employees may not use the School's phone to make personal calls that would incur long distance fees.

The School may periodically need to assign and/or change passwords and personal codes for voicemail, email and computer. Except as provided herein, these communication technologies and related storage media and databases are to be used only for School business and they remain the property of the School. The School reserves the right to override any such password system at any time at its sole discretion, with or without cause.

Prior authorization must be obtained from the CEO or designee before any School property may be

removed from the School offices, except in the course of normal movement of educational materials/computers by the employee. In this case, regular check-out/tracking procedures must be followed.

Terminated employees who work at a school office should remove any personal items at the time they leave the School office. Personal items left in the workplace are subject to disposal if not claimed at the time of an employee's termination.

Employees must safeguard and not damage/destroy School property, including computer hardware or software, e-mails, internal files, notes and correspondence, student records, papers, recordings, pictures, screenshots, and any other items of any nature that belong to or concern the School. Upon separation of employment, employees must return all of the School's property and proprietary information as soon as possible, no later than 72 hours from the final date of employment, and not share, destroy, or retain any copies of such property and information.

Any employee who is found to have neglected or misused the School's property will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. If an employee's misuse of the School's property damages the property, the School reserves the right to require the employee to pay all or part of the cost to repair or replace the property. Misappropriation of the School's property is grounds for immediate termination and possible criminal action.

#### **B.** Use of Electronic Media

The School uses various forms of electronic communication including, but not limited to computers, email, telephones and web sites. All electronic communications, including all software, databases, hardware, and digital files, remain the sole property of the School and are to be used only for School business and not for any personal use, except as allowed above.

Electronic communication and media may not be used in any manner that would be discriminatory, harassing or obscene, or for any other purpose that is illegal, against School policy or not in the best interest of the School.

Employees who misuse electronic communications and engage in defamation, copyright or trademark infringement, discrimination, harassment, or related actions will be subject to discipline up to dismissal. The School reserves the right to require authorization prior to installation of software on a School computer and/or mobile devices.

All electronic information created by any employee using any means of electronic communication is the property of the School and remains the property of the School. With School approval, employees may use personal passwords for purposes of security, but any employee's use of a personal password does not affect the School's ownership of the electronic information.

The School may at any time override all personal passwords for any reason.

The School reserves the right to access and review electronic files, messages, mail, and other digital archives, and to monitor the use of electronic communications as necessary to ensure that no misuse or violation of School policy or any law occurs.

Employees are not permitted to access the electronic communications of other employees or third parties unless directed to do so by school administration.

Access to the Internet, websites, and other types of School-paid computer access are to be used for School related business. Any information about the School, its products or services, or other types of information that will appear in the electronic media about the School must be approved by the CEO or designee before the information is placed on an electronic information resource that is accessible to others.

Questions about access to electronic communications or issues relating to security should be addressed to the CEO or designee.

#### C. Social Media

Social media can serve as a powerful tool to enhance communication. This technology can provide many benefits for communication. This section addresses employees' use of publicly available social media networks including: personal Websites, Web logs (blogs), WIK.Is, social networks, online forums, virtual worlds, and any other social media. The School takes no position on employees' decision to participate in the use of social media networks for personal use on personal time. However, use of social media for personal use during School time or on School equipment is prohibited. In addition, employees must avoid posting any information or engaging in communications that violate state or federal laws or School policies.

#### **General Statement**

The line between professional and personal relationships is blurred within a social media context. When employees choose to join or engage with students, families or fellow employees in a social media context that exists outside those approved by the School, they are advised to maintain their professionalism as School employees and have responsibility for addressing inappropriate behavior or activity on these networks, including requirements for mandated reporting. Employees must avoid posting any information or engaging in communications that violate state or federal laws or School policies.

Employees are expected to serve as positive ambassadors and to remember they are role models to students in the community. Because readers of social media networks may view the employee as a representative of the School, the School requires employees to observe the following rules when referring to the School, students, programs, activities, employees, volunteers and communities on any social media networks.

Employees must be respectful and professional in all communications (by word, image or other means). Employees shall not use obscene, profane or vulgar language on any social media network or engage in communications or conduct that is harassing, threatening, bullying, libelous, or that discusses or encourages any illegal activity or the inappropriate use of alcohol, use of illegal drugs, sexual behavior, sexual harassment, or bullying. Be sensitive about linking to content. Redirecting to another site may imply an endorsement of its content.

Employees must make clear that any views expressed are the employee's alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the School. Employees may not act as a spokesperson for the School or post comments as a representative of the School, except as authorized by the CEO or designee. When authorized as a spokesperson for the School, employees must disclose their employment relationship with the School.

**Protect confidential information.** Employees may not disclose information on any social media network that is confidential or proprietary to the School, its students, or employees or that is protected by data privacy laws. Employees should be thoughtful about what they publish and must make sure they do not disclose or use confidential information. Students, parents, and colleagues should not be cited or obviously referenced without their approval. For example, ask permission before posting a studentposting student (s)/co-worker'(s) picture on a social network (student photos require parental consent) or publishing a conversation that was meant to be private.

It is acceptable to discuss general details about student projects, lessons, or school events and to use non-identifying pseudonyms for an individual (e.g., teacher, students, parents) so long as the information provided does not make it easy for someone to identify the individual or violate any privacy laws. Public social networking sites are not the place to conduct School business with students or parents; please conduct these interactions using the School's network.

Employees may not post any private images of the School premises and property, such as workrooms, offices, including floor plans. Nothing in this policy is meant to prevent employees from posting information that is allowable by the National Labor Relations Act.

**Be transparent.** Honesty or dishonesty will be widely available on social media. If the employee is posting about their role at the School, the employee must use their real name and identify their employment relationship. The employee must be clear about their role; if they have a vested interest in something being discussed, to be the first to point it out.

**Perception can be reality.** In online networks, the lines between public and private, personal and professional are blurred. Employee's identification as a School employee, may create perceptions about expertise and about the School by community members, parents, students, and the general public. When posting online be sure that all content is consistent with employee work values and with the School's beliefs, core values and professional standards.

**Work/Personal Distinction.** Staff members are encouraged to maintain a clear distinction between their personal social media use and any School-related social media sites. The employee may consider setting up separate social media accounts for personal and professional use.

**Personal Social Networking & Media Accounts.** Before employees create or join an online social network, they should ask themselves whether they would be comfortable if a 'friend' decided to send the information to their students, the students' parents, or their supervisor. School employees must be mindful that any Internet information is ultimately accessible to the world.

**Social Interaction with Students.** Employees should not have online interactions with students on social networking sites outside of those forums dedicated to academic use. School employees' personal social networking profiles and blogs should not be linked to students' online profiles.

**Contacting Students Off-Hours.** Employees should only contact students for educational purposes and must never disclose confidential information possessed by the employee by virtue of their employment. Contacting students after hours must be kept to a minimum and be strictly for the purpose of academic support or to relay general information to all students.

**Be a positive role model.** Educational employees have a responsibility to maintain appropriate employee-student relationships, whether on or off duty. Both case law and public expectations hold educational employees to a higher standard of conduct than the general public.

**School Logo.** The use of the School logo(s) on a social media site or elsewhere must be approved by the CEO or designee.

The School expects all who participate in social media to understand and follow these guidelines.

#### D. Public Relations

Serving students and families requires a variety of professional skills. School employees are expected to demonstrate the following communication skills and abilities:

- 1. Ability to transmit passion for learning to students and families.
- 2. Flexibility and adaptability.
- 3. Well developed, clear communication and interpersonal skills that maintain a respectful, professional and courteous manner.
- 4. Conflict resolution skills.
- 5. Openness to differing views and objectives.
- 6. Ability to deliver information concerning curriculum, teaching, assessment, and learning to families.
- 7. Serve the student and parent's needs to the best of their ability without allowing their own convenience to interfere.

The success of the School depends upon the quality of the relationships between the School, its employees, students, parents and the general public. The public impression of the School and its interest will be formed, in part, by the employees; employees are ambassadors. The more goodwill an employee promotes, the more employees, students, parents and the general public will respect and appreciate the employee, the School, and the Schools' services.

Below are several things employees can do to help leave people with a good impression of the School. These are the building blocks for continued success.

- 1. Communicate regularly.
- 2. Act competently and deal with others in a courteous and respectful manner.
- 3. Communicate pleasantly and respectfully with other employees at all times.
- 4. Follow up on requests and questions promptly, provide businesslike replies to inquiries and requests, and perform all duties in an orderly manner.
- 5. Respond to email and voicemail within 24 hours during the workweek.
- 6. Take great pride in their work and enjoy doing their very best.
- 7. Be proactive and work to anticipate the needs of those being supported.

When an employee encounters an uncomfortable situation that the employee does not feel capable of handling, their supervisor should be contacted immediately.

If a problem develops or if a parent remains dissatisfied, the employee should contact their supervisor for

assistance.

Employees should not speak to the media on the School's behalf without contacting the School's CEO or designee. All media inquiries should be directed to the CEO or designee.

#### E. Solicitation & Distribution

In order to ensure smooth operations, the School has established the following guidelines to be respected while at work. As long as it is done during non-working hours for all employees involved (such as meal periods or rest breaks), employees are permitted to engage in solicitation (i.e., asking for contributions, selling merchandise) anywhere on School premises, as long as it is done in a non-disruptive and inoffensive manner. Employees may only engage in distribution (i.e., handing out pamphlets, literature, petitions) during non-working hours for all employees involved and in non-working areas (such as the lunch room). Solicitation or distribution is not allowed in areas open to the public. Employees are prohibited from posting notices on the School bulletin board or in any other office location and from removing any items without management approval. The School may, at its discretion, authorize certain fund-raisers and collections for employee gifts. Employees who want to organize such an event, must obtain prior approval from the supervisor. Solicitation and distribution by non-employees is prohibited at all times on School property.

#### F. Inclement Weather/Emergency Closings

At times, emergencies such as severe weather, fires, or power failures can disrupt School operations. The decision to close the office will be made by the CEO or designee. When the decision is made to close the office, employees will receive official notification from their supervisors. Time off from scheduled work due to emergency closings will be unpaid for all nonexempt employees. However, employees eligible for vacation may elect to utilize their available vacation hours in order to remain in paid status.

Employees are encouraged to listen to local news and radio reports. In general, the School will follow the decisions of the local community. Days that the School is closed due to inclement weather or other emergency may create a need to extend the work year or shorten holiday breaks.

# **Section VI: Health and Safety**

All employees are responsible for their own safety, as well as that of others in the workplace. To help maintain a safe workplace, everyone must be safety-conscious at all times. In compliance with California law, and to promote the concept of a safe workplace, the School maintains an Injury and Illness Prevention Program.

In compliance with Proposition 65, the School will inform employees of any known exposure to a chemical known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity. See the School's Safety Plan for more information.

#### A. Student Safety

The effective employee is concerned for the welfare of students and takes measures to insure their

welfare. Nevertheless, it is important to be aware of the possible consequences of negligence. The employee is responsible to act in a reasonable and prudent manner at all times. Specifically, the employee must do the following:

- 1. Never leave students unsupervised and ensure that another responsible adult is present when leaving students.
- 2. Require students to conduct themselves in an orderly, safe manner and administer such disciplinary actions as are reasonable and proper in any situation involving student misconduct.
- 3. Report any unsafe conditions to the supervisor so that it may be corrected.
- 4. Strictly adhere to all stated policy of the district and of the School.

Failure by employees to meet their responsibilities may have severe consequences (e.g., revocation of their license, criminal charges, etc.). Additionally, teachers may be held legally liable for negligence in the performance of their duties.

## **B.** Employee Safety

The School is committed to providing the resources necessary to develop, implement, and administer a safety program for the protection of its employees. All administrative personnel and employees are expected to meet their responsibilities to make the safety program effective and productive. Periodic reviews of the safety program will be conducted by administration to maintain its effectiveness.

All accidents, injuries, potential safety hazards, safety suggestions and health and safety related issues must be reported immediately to the supervisor, CEO, or HR. When reporting the injury, the employee should advise staff if emergency services should be involved, or if the injury requires medical attention. HR will help determine the best course of action. If an injury does not require medical attention, an Employer Report of Injury/Illness Form must still be completed in case medical treatment is later needed and to ensure that any existing safety hazards are corrected. The Employee's Claim for Worker's Compensation Benefits Form must be completed in all cases in which an injury requiring medical attention has occurred. The employer will immediately notify OSHA in the event the employee sustains a serious illness, injury, or exposure that results in hospitalization as per CalOSHA guidelines.

## C. Transporting Students

Employees are not permitted to transport students. In the event a student needs transportation for a school-related purpose, the School will arrange for transportation in coordination with the parent or guardian.

# **D.** Employee Driving Policy

MYA must ensure that risks to the School are minimized and ensure that only safe drivers are allowed to drive on School business. The Board requires that all employees who regularly drive as part of their job duties ("Driving Employees") meet minimum standards of safety and insurance, which must be verified by the School. Driving employees must obey all traffic laws and drive safely while on School business.

Positions requiring driving shall state such in the job description and staff will be required to maintain a valid driver's license and vehicle insurance in order to meet the minimum qualifications of the position

and perform the essential duties of the role.-This policy covers all school employees and violation of the School's policy is grounds for discipline up to and including termination.

## **Driver's License and Insurance Coverage**

- 1. In order to operate a personal vehicle when used to perform MYA business, Driving Employees must have a valid driver's license and automobile insurance meeting the minimum standards established in this policy at all times. Evidence of the Driving Employee's driver's license and automobile insurance certificate will be kept on file. The Driving Employee is responsible for providing an updated driver's license and automobile insurance certificate whenever it expires or upon request. The Director or designee must be notified immediately if the Driving Employee no longer has a valid driver's license or insurance certificate.
- 2. Any Driving Employee whose driver's license or insurance certificate lapses or is canceled or revoked for any reason, and who cannot otherwise arrange for travel as required by their position, may be terminated or placed on inactive/unpaid status until the issue is remedied.
- 3. MYA requires that a Driving Employee carry the following insurance amounts and coverage:
  - a. Automobile Liability \$100,000 per person; \$300,000 per occurrence Property Damage \$50,000 per occurrence
  - b. Medical Payments \$5,000 per person

## **Notification of Traffic Violations Resulting in Criminal Convictions**

MYA receives notifications from the Department of Justice (DOJ) when an employee has been arrested and when there has been a conviction for a crime. Notification of a traffic violation resulting in a misdemeanor or felony charge will be discussed with the employee. Certain driving violations may be grounds for termination from a position that requires regular driving such as:

- 1. Attempting to evade a police officer
- 2. Driving with a revoked or suspended license
- 3. Hit and run
- 4. Speeding over one hundred (100) miles per hour
- 5. Reckless driving
- 6. Driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol

## **Responsibilities of Human Resources**

When recruiting for positions that require the employees to operate a vehicle, the posting notice shall advise applicants that a current driver's license record and verification of automobile insurance will be required prior to a final job offer.

#### **Employee Responsibility**

Employees are responsible for maintaining driver's licenses and special certificates required for the performance of job duties. Employees are also responsible for promptly notifying their supervisor of expiration, conviction, or other DMV actions against their driver's license or certificate by no more than five (5) business days from the occurrence.

## Use of Electronic Devices While Operating a Vehicle

MYA recognizes staff members may spend a considerable amount of time driving for business purposes. It is the intention of the School to ensure all staff members are safe while driving a vehicle. Although

hands-free options are available, it is the policy of the School to discourage employees from utilizing a cell phone or other electronic devices while operating a vehicle. Distracted driving can be described as any visual, cognitive or manual distraction which takes attention away from the task of safe driving.

Employees are expected to follow all federal and state distracted driving laws. Employees who are charged with traffic violations resulting from the use of an electronic device while driving will be solely responsible for all liabilities that result from such actions.

The School highly encourages employees to use their best judgment and reserve all conversations conducted on an electronic device for when they are not in operation of a vehicle. It is recommended that employees find a safe location and park their vehicle prior to placing or accepting a telephone call. Texting while driving is prohibited. Voice texting while driving is strongly discouraged. Safety must come before all other concerns.

## **Revocation of Driving Privilege**

- 1. The Human Resources Director or designee will monitor the subsequent arrest notifications from the DOJ. Any Driving Employee who is convicted of a DUI, loses their driver's license or driving privilege, or is deemed to be a "negligent operator" by the DMV, and fails to make suitable arrangements for alternative transportation to maintain meetings as an essential function of their position will immediately be placed on unpaid administrative leave.
- 2. Seatbelts are an essential element of the School's safety procedures. To emphasize seat belt awareness, one (1) seatbelt violation while on MYA business will equate to a moving violation and may lead to disciplinary action. Repeat seatbelt violations could lead to termination of the at-will employment agreement.

## **Alternative Transportation**

All employees must make suitable arrangements to ensure timely attendance at all appointments that are essential job functions. With the advance approval of the Director or designee, the employee may be reimbursed the actual miles traveled using the Schools' current mileage reimbursement rate, for their travel using public transportation or rideshare service where a personal vehicle is not available or alternative transportation is not feasible. Driving Employees will not be reimbursed additional charges and expenses outside of the actual miles traveled for utilizing a rental car, taxi, or rideshare service in the event that the employee's personal vehicle is unavailable.

Nothing in this policy is intended to replace the employer's responsibility to engage in the interactive process with an employee who has requested accommodation due to an illness, injury, or disability. The HR manager or designee will ensure compliance in all matters pertaining to this policy.

## E. Contagious Illnesses in the Workplace

The School realizes that employees with contagious temporary illnesses such as influenza (including COVID-19, H1N1 or Swine Flu), colds, and other viruses, or other communicable diseases may wish to continue with normal life activities, including working. In deciding whether an employee with an apparently short-term contagious illness or communicable disease may continue to work, the School considers several factors. The employee must be able to perform normal job duties, meet regular performance standards; and, in the School's judgment, pose no potential risk to the health or safety of the

employee or others. If the School determines that an employee is unable to perform normal job duties; meet regular performance standards; or represents a potential risk to the health or safety of the employee or others, the School reserves the right to send the employee home and require the use of any available sick or vacation time, and if none is available the time would be unpaid. If an employee disagrees with the School's determination that such a risk exists, the employee must submit a statement from their attending healthcare provider that the employee's continued presence at work poses no significant risk to the employee, other employees, or students before they are allowed to return to work.

The following are general health and hygiene practices recommended by the Centers for Disease Control:

- 1. Stay home when sick. An employee should not return to work until they have been free of a fever for at least 24 hours.
- 2. Use proper etiquette: cover the cough or sneeze with a tissue or cough or sneeze into the elbow.
- 3. Wash hands often, especially after sneezing, coughing, or having contact with others. Alternatively, use a hand gel disinfectant and rub hands until the gel is dry.
- 4. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth.
- 5. Ensure that general use office machines, such as shared computers, faxes, and copiers, are wiped down with disinfectant.
- 6. Healthy lifestyles are encouraged, including good nutrition, exercise, and adequate rest.
- 7. Supervisors will encourage employees to utilize paid sick and vacation if available to cover absences due to contagious temporary illnesses. Please contact HR regarding any questions about the possible contagious nature of any illness in the workplace.

The School will comply with all applicable statutes and regulations that protect the privacy of persons who have a contagious or communicable disease.

In the case of a pandemic (such as COVID-19, H1N1 or Swine Flu) or illness, the School may implement specific procedures through its emergency communication action plan including utilizing employees in essential operation positions; implementing controls and scheduling in the work environment; encouraging ill employees to stay home; modifying work schedules; implementing telecommuting; minimizing non-essential travel; social distancing (reducing frequency, proximity, and duration of contact between people); utilizing phone, email, and video-conferencing; personal protective equipment (PPE); and education and training on safe work practices, risk factors, and protective behaviors. Employees will be notified if the emergency communication action plan is implemented.

## F. Gun Violence Restraining Order

If an employee, parent, or student demonstrates a substantial likelihood of significant danger or harm to self or others, a gun violence restraining order petition may be filed. The petitioner may be an immediate family member, law enforcement officer, employer, co- workers with employer approval who regularly interact with the person, or an employee or teacher of a secondary or post-secondary school. A copy of the restraining order is to be submitted to human resources.

# Section VII: Employee Wages and Benefits

## A. Wages

Several factors may influence the compensation for a position. Each position is defined by a broadly written job description that indicates the duties to be performed and the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities for the assignment. These factors are reviewed when determining the appropriate compensation. Some of the items the School considers are the nature and scope of the job duties, what other employers pay their employees for comparable jobs (external equity), what the School pays their employees in comparable positions (internal equity), and individual work as well as performance. Wages are also affected by legislative changes and the State's economy and may be adjusted upward or downward as changes occur.

Initial step placement will be based on related prior experience, with a maximum entry placement of step five. The Director is given authority to offer a higher entry step placement in areas of shortage such as math, science, or special education in order to secure highly qualified candidates for positions. Step advances will be considered for employees who remain in paid status for at least 75% of the work year calendar. Consideration for step advancement will also be based upon the School's budget solvency, successful employee performance, and any other relevant factors.

The employee's performance review will usually be conducted on or about the end of the fiscal year. A positive performance review will not necessarily result in a change in compensation.

## **B.** Stipends

Stipends may include supplies, cell phone/internet, and/or mileage. Stipends may also be issued for performing specific additional job duties. Stipends may be evenly distributed across the employee's pay periods or issued at the time the services are rendered. All stipends will be reviewed annually.

#### C. Paydays

All salaried exempt employees are paid on the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month. In the event that a regularly scheduled payday falls on a weekend or holiday, employees will receive pay on the prior day of operation.

Hourly and salaried nonexempt employees are paid on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of each month. Hours worked from the 16<sup>th</sup> through the last day of each month will be paid on or before the 10th of each month. Hours worked from the 1st through the 15th of the month will be paid on or before the 26<sup>th</sup> of each month. For more information on pay periods, please contact HR.

Paychecks will not, under any circumstances, be given to any person other than the employee without written authorization. Employees will be paid through manual checks or through direct deposit of funds to savings or checking accounts at their bank of choice (providing the bank has direct deposit capability). To activate direct deposit, a Direct Deposit Authorization form may be obtained from HR. Due to banking requirements it may take several weeks for activation of the direct deposit.

Every effort is made to avoid errors in calculating and distributing paychecks. Employees should inform HR if they believe an error has been made or pay has not been received. HR will take steps to research the problem and endeavor to make any necessary corrections as soon as possible or at least by the next regular pay day.

#### D. Payroll Withholdings

As required by law, the School shall withhold Federal Income Tax, State Income Tax, Social Security (FICA) for non-credentialed employees, CalSTRS for eligible Teachers/Administration and State Disability Insurance from each employee's pay as follows:

- 1. Federal Income Tax Withholding: The amount varies with the number of exemptions the employee claims and the gross pay amount.
- 2. State Income Tax Withholding: The same factors which apply to federal withholdings apply to state withholdings.
- 3. For non-credentialed employees: Social Security (FICA) The Federal Insurance Contribution Act requires that a certain percentage of employee earnings be deducted and forwarded to the federal government, together with an equal amount contributed by the School. The current tax rate is used in the calculation. Each party is responsible for contributing. Eligible credentialed employees participating in CalSTRS do not contribute to Social Security.
- 4. State Disability Insurance (SDI): This state fund is used to provide benefits to those out of work because of illness or disability.
- 5. For credentialed employees contributions will be deducted and remitted to California State Retirement System (CalSTRS). The CalSTRS is a special trust fund established by California law. Per the guidelines of CalSTRS, the school will abide by membership eligibility. A contribution withdrawal begins with the first pay period. This contribution is in lieu of Social Security withholding tax from the paycheck. Additionally, the School contributes into the CalSTRS fund. All employee and employer contributions are determined by CalSTRS. Further information regarding CalSTRS accounts can be found at <a href="https://www.CalSTRS.com">www.CalSTRS.com</a>.
- 6. For all employees participating in employee benefits offerings such as health insurance, the employee contribution for benefits (the amount that exceeds the employer's contribution towards benefits) will be deducted from the employee's paycheck. The amount will be discussed and approved prior to the deduction being made. Please reference "Employee Cost Sharing" under theunder "Employee Benefits" section of the Handbook for more information.

Every deduction from the paycheck is explained on the paystub, which will be available in the HR/Payroll Information System. If any deduction is unclear, contact HR.

All Federal, State, and Social Security taxes will be automatically deducted from paychecks. Federal and State Withholding Tax deduction is determined by the employee's W-4 (Federal) and DE-4 (State) forms. The W-4 and DE-4 forms are to be completed upon hire. The employee may change the number of withholding allowances they wish to claim for Federal Income Tax purposes at any time in the HR information system by updating their W-4 and DE-4 withholdings.

At the end of the calendar year, a "withholding statement" (W-2) will be prepared and provided to each employee for use in connection with preparation of income tax returns. The W-2 shows Social Security information, taxes withheld, and total wages.

While the School strives to process payroll correctly, an error may occur from time to time. If this happens, every effort will be made to correct the problem as quickly as possible and to avoid future errors of a similar nature. Employees will not be subjected to discrimination, harassment, or retaliation for

coming forward with a complaint or question about their paycheck.

#### E. Wage Attachments and Garnishments

When an employee's wages are garnished by court order, the School is legally bound to withhold the amount indicated in the garnishment order from the employee's paycheck. The School will, however, honor the Federal Consumer Credit Protection Act, which places restrictions on the total amount that may be garnished from an employee's paycheck.

## F. Employee Benefits

The School is committed to providing quality and cost effective benefit options (e.g. health, dental, vision, and life insurance) for eligible employees as part of the total employee compensation. Benefit eligibility may be dependent upon employee classification (full-time versus part-time, for example). Benefit eligibility requirements may also be imposed by the School and/or plans themselves. Policies, provisions and procedures that govern the organization's benefit program apply to all regular full-time and part-time employees, whether exempt or nonexempt status, unless otherwise noted in the employment agreement.

## 1. Employee Cost Sharing

Voluntary employment benefits, those benefits that are not mandated by state or federal law, are selected and controlled by the School. Decisions to provide and continue providing these benefits are based on such considerations as cost, composition of the workforce, operational efficiency, and desirability of benefit provisions. Where costs of discretionary insurance benefit plans exceed the School's interest, ability, or willingness to pay the full premium rate to maintain the current benefit level, employees may be required to share in the cost in order to continue the insurance plan coverage.

Exempt (FTE)	Non-Exempt (Hours per Week)	*Tiered Benefit Stipends (for Health, Dental, and/or Vision)	
.75+ FTE	30+ hours	\$1,500/month	
.5074 FTE	20-29 hours 14-21 Students	\$900/month	
.49 FTE or less	19 hours or less 13 or less student	not eligible	

A review of all teachers' student counts is conducted in September and February each school year for the purpose of establishing benefit eligibility. This review is called the benefits snapshot. Additionally, HR will review the student counts on the teachers roster as of the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month in order to provide benefits to anyone who becomes eligible. If a teacher is deemed eligible for benefits based on their student count, they will be provided the opportunity to enroll in benefits with an effective date of the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month. Benefits eligibility would then remain in place until the next snapshot review.

## 2. Benefit Design and Modification

The School reserves the right to design plan provisions and to add, eliminate, or in other ways modify any School provided benefits described in this handbook or elsewhere in plan documents, where and when it is deemed in the School's best interest to do so. These benefits are subject to change depending on

management decisions and resources.

#### 3. Benefit Plan Documents

Employees will be provided with summary plan descriptions upon eligibility and enrollment. The benefit programs are explicitly defined in legal documents, including insurance contracts, official plan texts, and trust agreements. In the event of a conflict between these documents and this policy, the plan documents will govern. All of these official documents are readily available from HR for review. Questions about this information should be directed to HR.

## 4. Right to Modify

The School reserves the right to amend, modify or terminate, in whole or in part, any or all of the provisions of the benefit plans described herein, including any health benefits that may be extended to retirees and their dependents to the extent allowed by law. Notice of any such changes will be provided, as required by law. Further, the School reserves the exclusive right, power and authority to administer, apply and interpret the benefit plans described herein, and to decide all matters arising in connection with the operation or administration of such plans, to the extent allowed by law. This section is subject to change in accordance with changes in the law.

#### 5. Changes in Health Benefits

Employees may make changes to their plans outside of open enrollment if they experience a Qualifying Life Event (QLE). Examples of such events include marriage, divorce, birth, adoption, loss of coverage, etc. An employee has 30 days from the date of the QLE to notify human resources and enroll in or make changes to their health plan. For more complete information regarding any of the benefit programs, please contact HR.

#### 6. COBRA Benefits

The Federal Consolidated Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) gives employees and their qualified beneficiaries the opportunity to continue health insurance coverage under the health plan when a "qualifying event" would normally result in the loss of eligibility. Some common qualifying events are resignation, termination of employment, or death of an employee, a reduction in an employee's hours, leave of absence, divorce or legal separation, and a dependent child no longer meet eligibility requirements.

Under COBRA, the employee or beneficiary pays the full cost of the coverage at the group rates plus an administration fee. The School or our carrier provides each eligible employee with a written notice describing rights granted under COBRA when the employee becomes eligible for coverage under the health insurance plan. The notice contains important information about the employee's rights and obligations.

#### 7. Look-back Measurement Method - Seasonal and Variable Hour Employees

For seasonal employees as well as part time employees hired to work less than 20 hours per week the School will use a look-back measurement method to determine benefit eligibility status. This method is used to determine the benefits eligibility status of an employee by looking back over a defined period of

time (12 months) to determine if the employee averaged at least 20 hours per week during that period.

- The initial measurement period begins on the first day of the calendar month following the employee's start date.
- An administrative period of 60 days in addition to the initial measurement period will be used to determine if an employee has satisfied the requirement of an average of 20 hours per week to be eligible for coverage.
- A stability period (designated period where coverage must be offered) of 12 months will be offered to all individuals identified as employees working at least 20 hours per week on average during the measurement period.
- After a new variable-hour or seasonal employee has been employed for a standard measurement period, the employee is considered to be an ongoing employee and will have their hours measured from open enrollment or plan year.

# G. Retirement Plan Offerings

The School is committed to providing retirement benefits to the employees. Plan details may be obtained through HR.

## 403(b)/457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

All employees can open a 403(b) and/or 457(b) account and make employee contributions through payroll deductions.

## **Employer Contributions**

The employer contribution towards a deferred benefit plan is based on an eligible employee's active contribution to a 403(b) or 457(b) account. Eligible employees must open a 457(b) account in order to receive the employer contributions. The employer contribution will be made to the employee's 457(b) account in an amount not to exceed a matching contribution up to 5% of the employee's base annual salary. Eligible employees are immediately vested in employer contributions. Seasonal employees are not eligible for employer contributions.

<u>Classified Employees</u>: To be eligible for an employer contribution, a classified employee must work at least 20 hours/week.

<u>Certificated Employees</u>: To be eligible for an employer contribution, a certificated employee must serve a minimum number of students, work at least 20 hours/week, or have an assignment at least 0.5 FTE.

## **H.** Expense Reimbursement Process

## 1. Supplies

Due to the virtual nature of this business, it may sometimes be most practical for employees to initiate purchases locally and be reimbursed for those expenses. Reasonable, actual business expenses incurred by employees for the purpose of conducting business on behalf of the School shall be reimbursed upon approval. Pre-approval by a supervisor is required in the event the employee wishes to purchase an item.

#### 2. Travel

The School will only reimburse actual and necessary expenditures for staff. Attendees shall be held accountable for good judgment regarding expenditure of tax dollars. All expenditures must have scanned copies of itemized original receipts, regardless of the amount. The School shall not reimburse personal travel expenses including, but not limited to, alcohol, entertainment, laundry, expenses of any family member who is accompanying the employee on school-related business, personal use of an automobile, and personal losses or traffic violation fees incurred while on school business. Factors such as variances in regional costs, travel duration and extenuating circumstances will be considered when approving travel reimbursement. In addition to those items listed below, associated travel fees such as parking fees, taxis/shuttles, and luggage handling are reimbursable expenses.

Employees are pre-approved to expense those costs associated with traveling for school-related purposes including testing and professional development. Scanned copies of original itemized receipts are required for reimbursement.

## 3. Mileage

The mileage reimbursement rate is based on the rate established by the Internal Revenue Service. All Employees are required to submit reimbursement for mileage through the payroll system.

#### 4. Hotel Rooms

Lodging shall be for those days associated with attending the activity, including, if necessary, the night before. Good judgment shall be used to seek the most reasonable accommodations. Hotel rooms are reimbursed for employees traveling over 120 miles one way. A hotel stay for a distance less than 120 miles must have prior approval. Hotel rooms must be under \$125 per night before taxes. If an employee chooses to stay at a hotel that exceeds this, when a hotel within price range and a 15 mile radius is available, the balance above and beyond must be deducted from the total expense on the expense report. If a hotel is not available within this price range, pre-approval of the expenditure is required. Upon checkout from the hotel, the employee must obtain and submit a zero-balance sheet in order to be reimbursed for a hotel charge.

#### 5. Meals

Employees who are required to work or participate in training away from the regular work location may be reimbursed the cost of meal(s). Meals provided in conjunction with conferences, workshops, seminars, meetings that exceed these amounts are excluded from these limitations. No meals will be reimbursed for meals provided at/during the conference/training. The reimbursement rates are: \$15 for breakfast, \$20 for lunch, \$30 for dinner plus service gratuity maximum of 18%. The total amount reimbursed for meals per day will not exceed \$65. Alcohol is not reimbursable and must be deducted from any reimbursement requests. If an employee exceeds the allotment for meal expenses, the balance above the daily allocation will be deducted from the total expense on the expense report.

# 6. Postage

Employees will be reimbursed for any postage related expense requested by the School. Employees must get pre approval from a supervisor for shipping expenses and must discuss the best shipping method with the supervisor.

## 7. Procedure for Expensing

Employees must have pre-approval prior to making any purchases that will warrant reimbursement.

Approval may be obtained by sending an email to the CEO or Director with a short description of what will be purchased.

Expense reimbursements must be submitted in the payroll system within thirty (30) days of the charge. Expense reports submitted after this time may not be reimbursed within the current cycle and/or may be delayed and processed in the next cycle.

# Section VIII: Leaves, Vacation, and Holidays

## A. Healthy Workplaces/Healthy Family Act of 2014

The School, in compliance with the Healthy Workplaces/Healthy Family Act of 2014 (AB 1522), allows all full time and part time employees who work at least 30 days within a year in California to accrue paid sick leave hours. Accrual begins on the first day of employment. The employee must work at least 30 days before taking any available accrued sick leave.

#### B. Paid Sick Leave

Paid sick leave may be used for an employee's own illness, for preventative care or diagnosis, care or treatment of an existing health condition, or time off to care for an ill or injured family member or dependents, which include children, parents, spouse, registered domestic partner, grandparents, grandchildren, siblings and those related to the employee by blood or affinity equivalent. Sick leave may also be used when an employee needs to manage matters surroundings domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or when their worksite or their child's school or daycare closed due to public health emergencies. Except In the case of an illness or emergency, sick leave must be requested at least five (5) days in advance by submitting the request through the payroll system. In the case of an illness or emergency, sick leave must be requested for pay through the payroll system before the end of the current pay period. Employees using extended sick leave (in excess of 5 days) must submit a request at least two weeks before the extended leave. Additionally, Employees must notify their supervisor (via email or phone) when requesting or taking sick leave.

Employees requesting sick leave may be required to submit a health care provider's statement or, in cases of individuals with sincerely held religious beliefs in faith healing or comparable religious practices, a statement authorized under EEOC guidelines, stating the reason for absence and dates of illness. Employees absent more than five (5) days may be required to submit a health care provider's statement or note that the employee is fit for return to service.

Employees will be paid their regular compensation when using paid sick days. Sick leave hours will not be advanced ahead of the earned accrual.

Employees may use sick leave in thirty-minute minimum increments, which will be deducted from the employee's accrual balance. Employees are not required to find a replacement for their work while taking protected sick time. Paid sick day balances are available for employee review through the payroll system and on pay stubs. For all hours submitted as sick leave, the time will be uninterrupted and the work day schedule will not need to be adjusted to accommodate the absence.

Any unused sick hours will roll over from year to year. Sick leave hours will not be advanced to an

employee ahead of the earned accrual rate. Accrued, but unused sick days are not paid out by the School at the time of separation. However, employees who terminate employment and are rehired within one (1) year of termination (or 6 months for employees working in the city of San Diego) regain their previously unused accrued sick leave.

Any employee who continues to be absent after their sick leave accrual has been exhausted may have a payroll deduction equivalent to the number of hours absent. Salaried employees will only have full day absences deducted from their paycheck once their sick leave accrual is exhausted.

## Paid Sick Leave - Full Time Employees

The School provides sick pay for full time employees who regularly work a minimum of 30 hours per week. All full time classified, non-teaching certificated and special education certificated employees accrue one (1) sick day per month in paid status. Nonexempt employees are paid semi-monthly, and will accrue the equivalent of one half day per pay period. All employees who fall under this accrual method are guaranteed to accrue a minimum of 24 hours by the 120<sup>th</sup> day of employment and subsequent accrual years in accordance with State law.

Certificated Sick Accrual  Full Time Certificated Employees					
Sick Leave	Student Count or FTE	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued Monthly
Tier 2	22 students or .75 to 1.0 FTE	30+ hours	4/4	8	8

Classified Sick Accrual  Full Time Classified Employees					
Sick Leave	FTE	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued Monthly
Tier 2	.75 to 1.0	30+ hours	4/4	8	8

# Paid Sick Leave - Part Time, Per Diem, Seasonal, and Temporary Employees

The School provides all part-time, per diem, seasonal and temporary employees who work at least 30 days in California within a year with at least 40 hours (5 days) of paid sick leave in a 12-month period. Employees will be paid at their regular hourly rate when they take paid sick leave.

Employees start accruing hours on the first day of employment and must work for 30 days before they can take sick leave. Employees earn at least 1 hour of paid leave for every 30 hours worked. Employees may accrue more than 40 hours (5 days) of paid sick leave in a year. Sick leave accrual will be capped at 80 hours (10 days), in compliance with both state and city ordinances.

Sick Accrual  Part Time, Per Diem, Seasonal, and Temporary Employees					
Sick Leave	Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued
					Monthly
Tier 1	.5074	20-29	3/3	6	6
CASL	.49 or less	19 or less	2/2		4

## C. California State Benefits

California State Disability Insurance (SDI) is funded through employee contributions and is designed to

provide eligible workers with partial wage replacement when taking time off work for their non-work-related illness or injury, pregnancy, or childbirth.

California Paid Family Leave (PFL) provides employees residing in the State of California with the ability to access their State Disability Insurance for partial wage replacement benefits to care for a seriously ill child, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or registered domestic partner, or to bond with a new child by birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

PFL Military Assist benefits are available to eligible employees who request time off work to participate in a qualifying event due to the military deployment of their spouse, registered domestic partner, parent, or child to a foreign country.

Employees must notify HR of their plan to take leave and the reason for taking leave according to the School's policy. HR is available to assist employees with applying for State Disability benefits through the Employment Development Department. Employees may be eligible to receive PFL benefits while on a leave of absence to care for a seriously ill family member or for baby bonding. Employees are not eligible for PFL benefits when on PDL, FMLA, or CFRA leave for their own serious health conditions condition.

PFL is not a guaranteed right to a leave of absence, and employees taking PFL or PFL Military Assist are not provided job protection rights or a right to return to the same position following their absence.

## D. Pregnancy Disability Leave (PDL)

An employee may take pregnancy disability leave (PDL) if the employee is disabled because of pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, including prenatal care and severe morning sickness. The length of leave is dependent on a medical certification and the duration may be up to 17 1/3 weeks or the equivalent number of days the employee would normally work within the same period. Intermittent leave or a reduced work schedule may be taken.

## **Employee Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for pregnancy disability leave, the employee must be disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition and must provide appropriate medical certification concerning the disability.

## **Events That May Entitle an Employee to Pregnancy Disability Leave**

The 17 1/3 week pregnancy disability leave allowance includes any time taken (with or without pay) for any of the following reasons:

- The employee is unable to work at all or is unable to perform any one or more of the essential functions of their job without undue risk to self, the successful completion of pregnancy, or to other persons because of pregnancy or childbirth, or because of any medically recognized physical or mental condition that is related to pregnancy or childbirth (including severe morning sickness); or
- The employee needs to take time off for prenatal care.

## **Duration of Pregnancy Disability Leave**

Pregnancy disability leave may be taken in one or more periods, but not to exceed four months total. "17 l/3 weeks" means the number of days the employee would normally work within that period. For

example, a full-time employee who works five eight hour days per week, four months means 88 working and/or paid eight hour days of leave entitlement based on an average of 22 working days per month for four months.

PDL will run concurrently with other applicable leaves, such as FMLA leave. The 12- month look-back period will apply to all leaves granted concurrently.

## Pay During Pregnancy Disability Leave

An employee on pregnancy disability leave may use all accrued paid sick leave at the beginning of any otherwise unpaid leave period. The receipt of sick leave pay, or state disability insurance benefits will not extend the length of pregnancy disability leave.

Sick pay will accrue during any period of unpaid pregnancy disability leave only until the end of the month in which the unpaid leave began. For example, an employee who delivers their baby on March 5 and goes out on leave on that date, would earn one day of sick leave for the month of March. Accrual for leave would be suspended until the employee returns from leave. All sick leave will be applied starting with the first day of absence until the leave is exhausted.

#### **Health Benefits**

The provisions of various employee benefit plans govern continued eligibility during pregnancy disability leave and these provisions may change from time to time. When a request for pregnancy disability leave is granted, the School will give the employee written confirmation of the arrangements made for the payment of insurance premiums during the leave period.

If the employee takes pregnancy disability leave and is eligible under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the School will maintain group health insurance coverage for up to a maximum of 12 workweeks (if such insurance was provided before the leave was taken) on the same terms as if the employee had continued to work after PDL ended. Leave taken under the pregnancy disability policy runs concurrently with FMLA under federal law, but not California Family Rights Act (CFRA). If the employee is ineligible under the federal and state family and medical leave laws, while on pregnancy disability they will receive continued paid coverage on the same basis as other medical leave that the School may provide and for which the employee is eligible, such as continued PDL. In some instances, the School may recover premiums it paid to maintain health coverage for the employee if they fail to return to work following pregnancy disability leave.

#### **Medical Certifications**

An employee requesting a pregnancy disability leave must provide a medical certification from their healthcare provider on a form supplied by the School. Failure to provide the required certification in a timely manner (within fifteen (15) days of the leave request) may result in a denial of the leave request until such certification is provided.

Re-certifications are required if leave is sought after expiration of the time estimated by the healthcare provider. Failure to submit required re-certifications can result in termination of the leave.

## Requesting and Scheduling Pregnancy Disability Leave

An employee should request pregnancy disability leave by contacting HR. The employee should provide

at least thirty (30) days notice or as long of notice as is practicable, if the need for the leave is foreseeable. Where possible, employees must make a reasonable effort to schedule foreseeable planned medical treatments so as not to unduly disrupt the School's operations.

Pregnancy disability leave may be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when medically advisable, as determined by the employee's healthcare provider. If an employee needs intermittent leave or leave on a reduced schedule that is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the employee may be transferred temporarily to an available alternative position for which the employee is qualified, which has equivalent pay and benefits that better accommodates recurring periods of leave than the employee's regular position.

In most cases, the School will respond to a pregnancy disability leave request within two (2) days of acquiring knowledge that the leave qualifies as pregnancy disability and, in any event, within ten (10) days of receiving the request. If a pregnancy disability leave request is granted, the School will notify the employee in writing and leave will be counted against the employee's pregnancy disability leave entitlement. This notice will explain the employee's obligations and the consequences of failing to satisfy them.

#### Return to Work

An employee on pregnancy disability leave remains an employee of the School and a leave will not constitute a break in service. When an employee returns from pregnancy disability leave, the employee will return to their original job or an equivalent job with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions as when the leave commenced.

If the employee is not reinstated to the original position, the employee will be reinstated to a comparable position unless there is no comparable position available or a comparable position is available, but filling that position with the returning employee would substantially undermine the School's ability to operate the business safely and efficiently. A "comparable" position is a position that involves the same or similar duties and responsibilities and is virtually identical to the employee's original position in terms of pay, benefits, and working conditions.

# **Employment During Leave**

An employee on pregnancy disability leave may not accept employment with any other employer without the School's written permission. An employee who accepts such employment will be deemed to have resigned from employment with the School.

#### **Lactation Accommodation**

The School will provide a lactation break for a reasonable amount of time to accommodate an employee's need to express breast milk. Employees in need of lactation breaks should contact their supervisor and human resources to allow for the School to determine a private space and ensure the reasonable time for breaks is provided. Human Resources and the supervisor will assist the employee in identifying a proper location that is close to the employee's work area, shielded from view, and free from intrusion. Additionally, where applicable, the School will provide access to a sink with running water and a refrigerator for storing breast milk.

The lactation break shall, if possible, run concurrently with any rest break or meal period already provided to the employee. For non-exempt staff, any additional time needed to express milk outside of the

normal rest break and meal period is to be off the clock. If the employee needs additional time past the breaks typically provided in a day, the employee should contact their supervisor and human resources. If a space and break is not provided when requested, please contact human resources.

# E. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and California Family Rights Act (CFRA)

The School complies with the federal Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") and the California Family Rights Act ("CFRA"). The following information provides employees with a general description of their FMLA and CFRA rights.

# Calculating 12-Month Period for FMLA and CFRA

For purposes of calculating the 12-month period during which 12 weeks CFRA or qualifying exigency leaves may be taken, the School uses the "rolling" method also known as the look back method. For example, if an employee begins their leave on March 5, the look back period is 12 months from that date.

Under some circumstances, leave under FMLA and CFRA may run at the same time and the eligible employee will be entitled to a total of 12 weeks of family and medical leave in the designated 12-month period. Accrued sick leave will be paid to the employee starting with the first day of absence until exhausted and will run concurrently with FMLA and/or CFRA leave.

For leave to care for a covered service member, the 12-month period begins on the first day of the leave, regardless of how the 12-month period is calculated for other leaves. Leave to care for a covered service member is for a maximum of 26 workweeks during a 12-month period.

Leave granted under any of the reasons provided by state and federal law will be counted as FMLA and/or CFRA leave and will be considered as part of the 12-workweek entitlement (26-work week entitlement if leave is to care for a service member) in a 12-month period. The 12-month period is measured forward from the date any employee's first FMLA/CFRA leave begins. Successive 12-month periods commence on the date of an employee's first use of such leave after the preceding 12-month period has ended. No carryover of unused leave from one 12-month period to the next 12-month period is permitted.

Pregnancy, Childbirth or Related Conditions Under FMLA, CFRA and PDL

Time off due to pregnancy disability, childbirth or related medical condition falls under pregnancy disability leave (PDL) and FMLA leave and is not concurrent with CFRA leave. Employees who may not be eligible for FMLA leave may still be eligible for leave under PDL. Once the pregnant employee is no longer disabled, or once the employee has exhausted PDL and has given birth, they may apply for leave under CFRA, for purposes of baby bonding.

# 1. FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

# **Employee Eligibility Criteria**

FMLA leave provides up to 12 workweeks of unpaid, job protected leave within a 12-month period, under the following conditions:

- a. The employee must have been employed by the School for at least twelve (12) months,
- b. The employee has worked at least 1,250 hours during the previous 12-month period before the

- need for leave; and
- c. The employee is employed at a location where the School has at least fifty (50) employees within a seventy-five (75) mile radius, except for purposes of baby-bonding where the threshold is twenty (20) employees.

FMLA leave may be taken for one or more of the following reasons:

- a. The birth of the employee's child, or placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care. When both parents are employed by the School, and request simultaneous leave for the birth or placement for adoption or foster care of a child, the School will not grant more than a total of 12 workweeks of FMLA leave for this reason.
- b. Due to the employee's own serious health condition causing the employee to be unable to perform one or more of the essential functions of their job. This excludes a disability caused by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, as they are covered by the School's pregnancy disability policy.
- c. To care for the employee's family member including a spouse, registered domestic partner, child, or parent who has a serious health condition or military service- related injury. When an employee is providing care for an injured spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a covered Armed Forces service member, the employee may take a maximum of twenty-six (26) weeks of FMLA leave in a single twelve (12) month period.

#### **Intermittent Leave under FMLA**

Full-time employees may take leave of up to 12 work weeks in a rolling 12-month period. Part-time employees may take leave on a proportional basis. The leave does not need to be taken in one continuous period of time. Under FMLA, the employee must have the School's agreement to take intermittent leave.

#### 2. CALIFORNIA FAMILY RIGHTS ACT

The Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), enforced by the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), contains family care and medical leave provisions for California employees. CFRA applies to all employees of the state of California and any other political or civil subdivision of the state and cities, regardless of the number of employees.

# **Employee Eligibility Criteria**

CFRA leave provides up to 12 workweeks of unpaid, job protected leave within a 12-month period, under the following conditions:

- a. The employee has more than 12 months of service.
- b. The employee has worked at least 1,250 hours during the previous 12-month period before the need for leave; and
- c. The employee is employed at a worksite where there are 5 or more employees within a 75-mile radius.

CFRA leave may be taken for one or more of the following reasons:

- a. The birth of the employee's child, or placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care. If the School employs both parents of a child, it will grant up to 12 weeks of leave to each employee.
- b. To care for the employee's parent, parent-in-law, spouse, registered domestic partner, child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, or designated person who has a serious health condition.
- c. For a serious health condition that renders the employee unable to perform their job.

d. To care for the employee's family member including a spouse, registered domestic partner, child, parent, or designated person who has a military service-related injury. When an employee is providing care for an injured spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a covered Armed Forces service member, the employee may take a maximum of twenty-six (26) weeks of CFRA leave in a single twelve (12) month period.

## **Intermittent Leave under CFRA**

Full-time employees may take leave of up to 12 work weeks in a rolling 12-month period. Part-time employees may take leave on a proportional basis. The leave does not need to be taken in one continuous period of time. Employees do not need the School's agreement to take intermittent bonding leave. In the case of intermittent leave, the employee may be required to use such leave in two-week minimum increments, with an exception for shorter increments on at least two occasions.

# 3. Process For Requesting FMLA/CFRA LEAVE

#### **Leave Procedures**

The following procedures shall apply when an employee requests leave: The employee must contact HR as soon as the need for the leave is realized. If the leave is based on the expected birth, placement for adoption or foster care, or planned medical treatment for a serious health condition of the employee or an eligible family member per FMLA or CFRA, the employee must notify the School at least 30 days before the leave is to begin. The employee must consult with their supervisor regarding scheduling of any planned medical treatment or supervision in order to minimize disruption to the operations of the School. Any such scheduling is subject to the approval of the health care provider of the employee or the health care provider of the applicable family members.

If the employee cannot provide 30 days' notice, the School must be informed as soon as is practical. Notice can be written or verbal and should include the timing and the anticipated duration of the leave, but the School does not require disclosure of an underlying diagnosis. The School will respond to a leave request within 5 business days. The School requires written communication from the health-care provider stating the reason for the leave and the probable duration of the condition. However, the health care provider may not disclose the underlying diagnosis without the consent of the patient.

If the FMLA/CFRA leave request is made because of the employee's own serious health condition, the School may require, at its expense, a second opinion from a health care provider that the School chooses. The health care provider designated to give a second opinion will not be one who is employed on a regular basis by the School.

If the second opinion differs from the first opinion, the School may require, at its expense, the employee to obtain the opinion of a third health care provider designated or approved jointly by the employer and the employee. The opinion of the third health care provider shall be considered final and binding on the School and the employee. While waiting for a second or third opinion, the employee is provisionally entitled to FMLA/CFRA leave.

The School requires the employee to provide certification within 15 days of any request for FMLA/CFRA, unless it is not practicable to do so. The School may require recertification from the health care provider if additional leave is required. For example, if an employee needs two weeks of family and medical leave, but following the two weeks needs intermittent leave, a new medical certification will be requested and required. If the employee does not provide medical certification in a timely manner to

substantiate the need for leave, the School may delay approval of the leave, or continuation thereof, until certification is received. If certification is never received, the leave may not be considered family and medical leave.

If the leave is needed to care for approved family members per FMLA/CFRA, the employee must provide a certification from the health care provider stating:

- 1. Date of commencement of the serious health condition;
- 2. Probable duration of the condition;
- 3. Estimated amount of time for care by the health care provider; and
- 4. Confirmation that the serious health condition warrants the participation of the employee.

#### Certification

If an employee cites their own serious health condition as a reason for leave, the employee must provide a certification from the health care provider stating:

- Date of commencement of the serious health condition;
- Probable duration of the condition; and
- Inability of the employee to work at all or perform any one or more of the essential functions of their position because of the serious health condition.

The School will require certification by the employee's health care provider that the employee is fit to return to their job. Failure to provide certification by the health care provider of the employee's fitness to return to work may result in denial of reinstatement for the employee until the certificate is obtained.

# 4. Pay and Benefits Under FMLA/CFRA

# **Health and Benefit Plans**

The School provides health benefits under a group plan, and will therefore continue to make these benefits available during the leave if the employee is enrolled in the group plan. An employee taking FMLA/CFRA leave will be allowed to continue participating in any health and welfare benefit plans in which they were enrolled before the first day of the leave (for a maximum of 12 workweeks, or 26 workweeks if the leave is to care for a covered service member) at the level and under the conditions of coverage as if the employee had continued in employment for the duration of such leave. The School will continue to make the same premium contribution as if the employee had continued working. The continued participation in health benefits begins on the date leave first begins. In some instances, the School may recover from employee premiums paid to maintain health coverage if the employee fails to return to work following family/medical leave. An employee is deemed to have "failed to return from leave" if they do not return following the leave of absence, or work less than thirty (30) days after returning from leave. Employees on pregnancy disability leave will be allowed to continue to participate in group health coverage for up to a maximum of four months (or for the approved time) of pregnancy disability leave (if such insurance was provided before the leave was taken) on the same terms as if the employee had continued to work. The employee will also continue to make premium payments, if applicable, based on the payment schedule outlined in the premium payment letter. They will then be able to remain on benefits for any time taken under approved FMLA/CFRA leave if they are eligible for those leaves. Payment is due when it would be made by payroll deduction.

#### **Substitution of Paid Leave**

Generally, FMLA/CFRA leave is unpaid. The School is not required to pay employees during FMLA/CFRA leave and may require an employee to use accrued vacation time or other accumulated paid leave other than sick time. If the FMLA/CFRA leave is for the employee's own serious health condition the use of sick time is required and will run concurrent with FMLA/CFRA leave.

#### Time Accrual

Sick pay will accrue during any period of unpaid disability leave only until the end of the month in which the unpaid leave began. For example, an employee who delivers their baby on March 5 and goes out on leave on that date, would earn one day of sick leave for the month of March. Accrual for leave would be suspended until the employee returns from leave. All sick leave will be applied starting with the first day of absence until the leave is exhausted.

#### **COBRA Benefits**

If an employee requires additional leave after all protected leaves have been exhausted (PDL, FMLA, CFRA), they will be eligible for continued benefits through COBRA.

# 5. Reinstatement Upon Return From FMLA/CFRA

Under most circumstances, upon return from FMLA/CFRA leave, an employee will be reinstated to their original job or to an equivalent job with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions. However, an employee has no greater right to reinstatement than if they had been continuously employed rather than on leave. For example, if an employee on FMLA/CFRA leave would have been laid off had they not gone on leave, or if the employee's job is eliminated during the leave and no equivalent or comparable job is available, then the employee would not be entitled to reinstatement. In addition, an employee's use of FMLA/CFRA leave will not result in the loss of any employment benefit that the employee earned before using family/medical leave.

Reinstatement after FMLA leave may be denied to certain salaried "key" employees under the following conditions:

- a. An employee requesting reinstatement was among the highest-paid 10 percent of salaried employees employed within 75 miles of the work site at which the employee worked at the time of the leave request;
- b. The refusal to reinstate is necessary because reinstatement would cause substantial and grievous economic injury to the School's operations;
- c. The employee is notified of the School's intent to refuse reinstatement at the time the School determines the refusal is necessary; and
- d. If leave has already begun, the School gives the employee a reasonable opportunity to return to work following the notice described previously.

Under CFRA, the School will reinstate "key" employees. Employees should contact HR for additional information about eligibility for FMLA, CFRA or PFL.

# F. Bereavement Leave

The School grants leave of absence to benefited employees (employees with at least 50% employment) in the event of the death of the employee's current spouse, child, parent, parents-in-law, legal guardian, brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild, or mother, father, sister, brother,

son-in-law, or daughter-in-law, stepparents, foster parents, foster children, and domestic Partners. An employee with a death in the family may take up to five (5) consecutive scheduled work days off with pay with the approval of the supervisor. An employee may be granted up to ten (10) days of bereavement leave for the death of the employee's spouse/domestic partner or child. Additionally, an employee who experiences a reproductive loss through a failed adoption, failed surrogacy, miscarriage, stillbirth, or unsuccessful assisted reproduction may take up to five (5) consecutive days off with regular pay. This leave may be taken by any employee who would have been the parent. The leave must be completed within three months of the loss and days can be taken intermittently. This leave does not run concurrently with CFRA or PDL. For employees who experience multiple losses, this leave is capped at no more than 20 days in a 12-month-period.

Bereavement leave may be taken intermittently with prior approval of the supervisor in no less than four-hour increments. If an employee requires more than the allocated time off for bereavement leave, the employee may use accumulated sick days. The CEO or designee may approve additional unpaid time off.

# G. Military Leave

Regular full-time employees requiring a leave of absence for service in the uniformed services are provided leave and will be re-employed at the end of the leave. Policies governing this leave are designed according to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act and applicable state regulations. The policy covers those employees who enter active military duty voluntarily and extends to Reservists and National Guard members who are called to limited active duty or extended training duty, including regularly scheduled annual training and military summer camp training.

# **Eligibility**

All employees, except those hired on a temporary or seasonal basis, are eligible for the leave.

# **Length of Leave**

The length of the military leave is determined by the uniformed service organization calling the employee to active duty or military encampment.

#### **Request Procedure**

The employee must provide written notice of their obligation or intention to perform service in the uniformed services, unless notice is precluded by military necessity or is otherwise unreasonable or impossible. A copy of the military orders must also be provided. Failure to do so may result in loss of reemployment rights.

# Pay While on Leave

Military leaves are without pay.

#### **Status of Benefits**

Reservists, National Guard members, and veterans returning from military service in the Armed Forces have and retain rights with respect to seniority, vacation, compensation, length of service, pay increases, as may be from time to time provided by applicable statutes of the United States and the state of California. The employee may maintain health care insurance benefits for up to 24 months while on leave by paying the insurance premiums through COBRA for any leave extending beyond 30 days.

#### Reinstatement

Upon return from a Uniformed Service Leave, the employee must report to work or request reemployment within prescribed time limits, which are based on the length of the leave:

- a. Between one (1) to thirty (30) days: The service member is expected to report to work on the first regularly scheduled work period on the first full day after release from service and will be reinstated to the same position held at the time the service leave began.
- b. Between 31-180 days: The service member must submit an application for re-employment within 14 days of release from service.
- c. For 181 days or longer: An application for reemployment must be submitted within 90 days of release from service

Failure to file an application within the required time period may forfeit the right to reemployment.

# H. Organ and Bone Marrow Donation Leave

The Organ and Bone Marrow Donation Leave grants up to 30 days leave of absence with pay to employees who have exhausted all available sick leave within a one-year period for the purpose of donating an organ and a five (5) day leave of absence with pay to employees who are bone marrow donors. If needed, employees may take an additional unpaid leave of absence, up to 30 days per year, for donating an organ.

This leave may require use of two weeks accrued paid time off for organ donation, and five (5) days for bone marrow donation.

A medical note will be required to be submitted. Medical benefits will be maintained while the staff member is on leave and the staff member is guaranteed reinstatement to work. There will be no discrimination or retaliation for any leave taken.

## I. Jury Duty and Witness Leave

The School encourages employees to serve on jury duty when called. Postponement to non-instructional or off-peak department times is encouraged in order to minimize the impact to the School.

Seasonal and part-time employees will be provided unpaid time off to participate in jury duty. Nonexempt employees will receive full pay while serving up to 5 days of jury leave. Exempt employees called for jury duty will receive full salary for the time spent; however, exempt employees are expected to arrange their work schedule to minimize the impact on the School and must consult with their supervisor for guidance.

The employee should notify HR and their supervisor of the need for time off for jury duty as soon as a notice or summons from the court is received. Any employee summoned for jury duty must provide HR with an authentic summons, subpoena, or notice for such duty and upon returning to work must present proof of jury duty service, including the dates of the employee's service. Employees are expected to return to work if they are excused for jury duty during their regular working hours.

Fees Paid by the Court - All jury fees (excluding mileage) received by the employee while on school paid

status shall be remitted to HR. Jury fees received while on school unpaid status are retained by the employee.

# J. Volunteer Firefighters, Reserve Police Officer or Emergency Rescue Personnel

No employee shall be disciplined for taking time off to perform emergency duty as a volunteer firefighter. If the employee is an official volunteer firefighter, a reserve police officer, or an emergency rescue personnel they must alert HR that it may be necessary to take time off due to emergency duty.

#### K. Victims of Domestic Violence Leave

Employees who are victims of domestic violence are eligible for unpaid leave regardless of whether any person is arrested, prosecuted, or convicted of committing a crime. This leave provides time off for employees who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as well as leave for employees who are the victims or related to victims of certain serious or violent felonies. Employees may use available and accrued sick leave. The employee may also take paid vacation. The employee may request leave if they are involved in a judicial action, such as obtaining restraining orders, appearing in court to obtain relief to ensure the health, safety or welfare, or that of their child.

The employee should provide notice and certification if they need to take leave under this policy. Certification may be sufficiently provided by any of the following:

- a. A police report indicating that the employee was a victim of domestic violence.
- b. A court order protecting or separating the employee from the perpetrator of an act of domestic violence, or other evidence from the court or prosecuting attorney that the employee appeared in court.
- c. Documentation from a medical professional, domestic violence advocate, health- care provider, or counselor that the employee was undergoing treatment for physical or mental injuries or abuse resulting in victimization from an act of domestic violence.

The School will, to the extent allowed by law, maintain the confidentiality of an employee requesting leave under this provision.

# L. Suspension of an Employee's Enrolled Child

If an employee who is the parent or guardian of a child facing suspension from school and is summoned to the school to discuss the matter, the employee should alert the CEO or designee as soon as possible before leaving work. In keeping with California Labor Code Section 230.7, no discriminatory action will be taken against an employee who takes time off for this purpose.

# M. Recreational Activities and Programs

The School or its insurer will not be liable for payment of workers' compensation benefits for any injury that arises out of an employee's voluntary participation in any off-duty recreational, social, or athletic activity that is not part of the employee's work-related duties.

#### N. Workers' Compensation

The School, in accordance with state law, provides insurance coverage for employees in case of a work-related injury. The workers' compensation benefits provided to injured employees include:

- Medical care:
- Cash benefits, tax free, to replace lost wages; and
- Vocational rehabilitation to help qualified injured employees return to suitable employment.

To ensure that the employee receives any workers' compensation benefits to which they may be entitled, they will need to:

- Immediately report any work-related injury or illness to HR. If the employee believes believed the injury or illness is caused by their job and develops developed gradually, the report should be filed as soon as possible. Reporting promptly helps avoid problems and delays in receiving benefits, including medical care. If the employee does not report the injury within 30 days, they risk losing their right to receive workers' compensation benefits;
- Seek medical treatment and follow-up care if required;
- Complete a written claim form and return it to HR as soon as possible.
- Provide the School with a certification from the healthcare provider regarding the need for workers' compensation disability leave, as well as the eventual ability to return to work from the leave.

Upon submission of a medical certification that an employee is able to return to work after a workers' compensation leave, the employee under most circumstances will be reinstated to the same position held at the time the leave began, or to an equivalent position, if available. Upon return, a teacher is not guaranteed the same students, but will receive new/transfer students according to the same seniority status they had prior to the leave. An employee returning from a workers' compensation leave has no greater right to reinstatement than if the employee had been continuously employed rather than on leave. For example, if an employee on workers' compensation leave would have been laid off had they not gone on leave, or if the employee's position has been eliminated or filled in order to avoid undermining the School's ability to operate safely and efficiently during the leave, and no equivalent or comparable positions are available, then the employee would not be entitled to reinstatement.

An employee's return depends on their qualifications for any existing openings. If, after returning from a workers' compensation disability leave, an employee is unable to perform the essential functions of the job because of a physical or mental disability, the School's obligations to the employee may include reasonable accommodation, as governed by the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).

#### O. Other Types of Leaves

There are other types of leaves that employees may be eligible for which include:

- a. Time off to visit children's schools: This leave provides employees up to 8 hours per month (to a maximum of 40 hours per year) of unpaid time off for the purpose of child-related activities which include: to find, enroll, or re-enroll the child in a school or with a licensed childcare provider; to participate in activities of the school or licensed child care provider; to address a child care provider or school emergency. Employees may use available and accrued sick leave;
- b. Literacy accommodation leave: This leave provides reasonable accommodation for employees who experience difficulties with literacy to enroll in an adult literacy program, work with a tutor or otherwise take steps to improve upon their literacy needs. Employees may use available and accrued sick leave;

c. Military spousal leave: This leave provides employees up to 10 days of unpaid, protected leave, to spend time with a spouse or registered domestic partner who is home during a period of military deployment.

# P. Professional Development

The School expects all employees to maintain necessary certifications and encourages all employees to attend meetings, conferences, and other educational sessions that provide training and ideas helpful to the development or operation of the School. Employee requests to attend short-term professional development opportunities (two days or less) not sponsored by the School are subject to the approval of the Director, CEO or designee.

Employees will be allowed with the approval of their supervisor and the CEO or designee to attend extended professional development programs. Extended professional development programs are considered more than two (2) days. An employee will be expected to complete missed work or assignments upon return.

Employees should submit written requests to take professional development days to their supervisors for approval. The request shall include a printed or written agenda and/or printed material pertaining to the professional development. The School requests that employees submit requests to take professional development days at least 10 days for in town events and at least 30 days for out of town events. The granting of request will be solely at the discretion of the Director or CEO.

# Q. Holidays

The School recognizes the following holidays:

- New Year's Day (January 1st)
- Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday
- Presidents' Day
- Cesar Chavez Day
- Memorial Day
- Juneteenth (June 19)
- Independence Day (July 4th)
- Labor Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- The Friday after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve (December 24th)
- Christmas Day (December 25th)
- New Year's Eve (December 31st)

Each year the winter break will be reviewed and the holidays determined by the beginning of the school year.

Unless otherwise provided in this policy, all employees will receive time off for each observed holiday. To qualify for holiday pay, an employee must be a regular full-time (thirty or more hours per week) classified employee in paid status on the working day immediately preceding or following the holiday. A holiday that falls during a classified employee's vacation time or sick time is paid as a holiday and is not deducted from vacation or sick-leave balances.

# R. Vacation (Classified Employees)

The School's vacation policy is intended to provide eligible classified employees with time away from work for relaxation and renewal. In order to be eligible for vacation accrual, an employee must be a full time (thirty or more hours per week) classified exempt or nonexempt employee.

Vacation accrual begins on the first day of employment, and employees are eligible for vacation upon successful completion of 30 days of continuous employment. Eligible employees will accrue one day of vacation per month in paid status (e.g. an 8 hour/day 12 month employee will earn 12 days of vacation or 96 hours). Vacation accruals per pay period are displayed in the payroll system and on the employee's pay stubs.

Vacation Accrual  Classified Staff							
	Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Semi Monthly Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Monthly Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued Per Month		
Full Time	.75+	30+	4 hours/4 hours	8 hours	8 hours		
Part Time	.74 or less	29 or less	not eligible	not eligible	not eligible		

As a general practice, the supervisor will make an effort to approve a vacation request that is mutually convenient for the employee and the School. A requested vacation will be approved if the absence does not cause a disruption of service or place an undue burden on fellow employees. All vacation requests must be made in advance of the time to be taken. All requests must be entered and approved through the payroll system before taking the time. Additionally, all requests must be approved by your supervisor (via Intranet) before taking the time. Any changes to a vacation request must be pre-approved by the supervisor at least three (3) business days prior to the start of the requested date of vacation, except in an emergency situation. Failure to get pre-approval may result in disciplinary action. The supervisor may determine peak times in which vacations may not be approved.

Employees may be required to use their earned vacation hours during school recess. Vacation can be used in increments of 1 hour and only used from the employee's available accrual. Vacation hours cannot be advanced ahead of the earned accrual. Accrued and unused vacation hours will roll over from year to year but are capped at one and a half times the annual rate of accrual (18 days or 144 hours). Employees will not accrue any additional vacation until their balance has dropped below the annual cap. Terminating employees (voluntary or involuntary discharge, death, end of employment agreement, etc.) will be paid all accrued and unused vacation in their final paycheck.

#### S. Work Year Calendars

Each year the Board of Directors will approve the instructional and work year calendars for the new school year. Specific work days for certificated staff are determined by the School based on a return date for prep days, professional development, and final date for grade submission. The work days will be designated within the date range listed on the employment agreement.

In coordination with HR, supervisors will prepare a work year calendar displaying the first and last day of the assignment, all recess periods, and designated non-work days. For employees working less than 12 months, non-work days will be determined at the discretion of the employer, indicated on a work calendar provided to the employee, and determined so that work schedules will provide the greatest support to the School or department.

Non-work days are unpaid days based upon the employee's position and employment agreement as stated on the work year calendar. Unlike accrued leave, non-work days will not carry over from year to year.

# T. Make-up Time

Nonexempt employees may choose to use make up time in order to accommodate employee scheduling needs. Employees may choose to work over 8 hours on one or more days per week, so they make up work less than 8 hours another day for personal reasons. The extra hours worked for make-up time would not be counted as overtime. Employees are not to work more than 11 hours in a single workday (without prior approval), and the make-up time must all be taken and used within the pay work week. If employees requestrequests make-up timemake-up time and havehas worked over 8 hours in a day earlier in the week, and their need for time off changes, the employer may still require the employee to take the planned time off to avoid unnecessary overtime. Unless otherwise approved, employees are not to work more than 40 hours per week, in which case, they will be eligible for overtime. Requests for make-up time must be submitted to the supervisor in advance.

# **U.** Suggestions

The School is always striving to improve operating procedures and encourages all employees to make suggestions to this end. We welcome suggestions on subjects such as safety; ways to improve customer service; and, how to save labor, money, energy, time, and materials. All suggestions should be submitted in writing to the appropriate supervisor who will in turn discuss them with School management. We appreciate staff suggestions that help make the School more successful.

# **Confirmation of Receipt of Handbook**

I have received the School's Employee Handbook. I understand and agree that it is my responsibility to

read and familiarize myself with its policies and procedures, including the Schools policy for preventing discrimination, harassment and retaliation. I have been given the opportunity to ask any questions I might have about the policies in the Handbook.

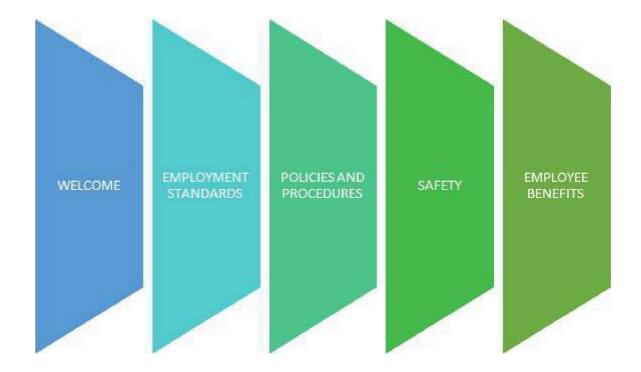
I understand that except for employment at-will status, any and all policies or practices can be changed at any time by the School. The School reserves the right to change my hours, wages, and working conditions at any time. I understand and agree that other than the CEO, no manager, supervisor, or representative of the School has authority to enter into any agreement, express or implied, for employment for any specific period of time, or to make any agreement for employment other than at-will; only the CEO has the authority to make any such agreement and then only in writing, signed by the CEO.

I understand and agree that nothing in the Employee Handbook creates or is intended to create a promise or representation of continued employment and that employment at the School is employment at-will; employment may be terminated at the will of either the School or myself. My signature certifies that I understand that the foregoing agreement on at-will status is the sole and entire agreement between the School and myself concerning the duration of my employment and the circumstances under which my employment may be terminated. It supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, and representations concerning my employment with the School.

Employee's Signature	Employee's Print Name	Date

# **Employee Handbook**

2024 - 2025



The Employee Handbook may not be changed in any way without express written approval from the Board of Directors.

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# Welcome

We are glad to have you on our team! You have joined an organization that focuses on the execution of high-quality personalized learning models that allow a flexible environment using innovative delivery methods and technology to foster empowered, life-long learners. As an organization we seek to hire and retain high caliber individuals to meet our vision of extraordinary education.

We truly value our employees and have developed this Employee Handbook (handbook) to assist you with understanding our policies, procedures, and performance expectations. Keep in mind that it is the employee who is responsible for reading and understanding the handbook as well as any posted revisions; however, if anything is unclear to you, please discuss the matter with your supervisor or a member of HR.

As a team member we want you to have a long and successful career with us - where you can make an impact on student education. We sincerely hope that you will find your employment here to be one of enrichment, collaboration, and an overall professionally rewarding experience.

Best wishes for a wonderful school year! The Leadership Team

#### Right to Revise

This handbook is the employee's guide to understanding the provisions of their employment with Motivated Youth Academy ("School"). Please be advised that written employment agreements between the School and individuals may replace some policies/procedures in this handbook. This handbook supersedes all prior published handbooks and any policy, memoranda, or benefits statements that are contrary to the policies that are outlined here.

The School reserves the right to revise, modify, delete, or add to any and all policies, procedures, work rules, or benefits stated in this handbook or in any other document, except for the policy of at-will employment. Any such changes must be in writing and must be signed by the CEO or designee.

Any written changes to this handbook will be distributed to all employees, so that employees will be aware of the new policies or procedures. No oral statements or representations can in any way alter the provisions of this handbook.

This handbook sets forth the policies and procedures applicable to employees of the School. Employees are expected to abide by all policies in this handbook. Nothing in this handbook or in any other personnel documents creates or is intended to create a promise or representation of continued employment for any employee. Nothing in this at-will statement is intended to interfere with an employee's rights to communicate or work with others toward altering the terms and conditions of their employment.

# At-Will Employment Status

School personnel are employed on an at-will basis. Employment at-will means that the employment relationship may be terminated, with or without cause and with or without advance notice at any time by the employee or the School. Nothing in this handbook shall limit the right to terminate at-will employment. No manager, supervisor, or employee of the School has any authority to enter into an agreement for employment for any specified period of time or to make an agreement for employment on other than at-will terms. Only the School has the authority to make any such agreement, which is binding only if it is in writing and approved by the Board of Directors.

Though many items surrounding employment may be changed or updated (such as the eligibility of benefits, promotion, or leaves) the status as an at-will employee does not change - the employment relationship may be terminated with or without cause and with or without advance notice, at any time by the employee or the School.

# **Section I: Nondiscrimination Policies**

# A. Equal Employment Opportunity

The School is an equal opportunity employer and makes employment decisions on the basis of merit. Selections for employment focus on the candidates whose training and experience most closely align with the position requirements, and fit with the School's mission, vision, and values. School policy prohibits unlawful discrimination based on actual or perceived race (including traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles such as braids, locks and twists), color, creed, actual or perceived gender (including gender identity and gender expression), religion (all aspects of religious beliefs, observance or practice, including religious dress or grooming practices), marital status, registered domestic partner status, status as a victim of domestic violence, assault or stalking, age (40 and over), ethnicity, national origin or ancestry (including language use restrictions), citizenship, physical, intellectual or mental disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (including cancer or a record or history of cancer, and genetic characteristics), family or medical leave status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding or a related medical condition), genetic information, sexual orientation, political affiliation, military and veteran status or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. It also prohibits unlawful discrimination based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

Discrimination can also include failing to reasonably accommodate religious practices or qualified individuals with disabilities where the accommodation does not pose an undue hardship. The School's management is responsible for adherence to this policy; however, in the final analysis, attainment of this goal of equal employment opportunity and enrichment through diversity depends on the commitment and good faith effort of everyone.

The School will comply with all applicable equal employment and discrimination laws, including Title IX, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and all other applicable laws. Additionally, Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities by recipients of federal financial assistance. The School does not discriminate in the educational program or any activities which it operates, including employment in such programs and activities.

The School will continually strive to recruit and retain highly qualified employees and remain a competitive public school employer, including examining employee evaluation and compensation, and discipline/dismissal practices annually.

In accordance with the School's Equal Employment and Nondiscrimination Policies, the School designates the following position(s) as the Title IX Coordinator and Coordinator for Nondiscrimination in Employment:

Marie Rolston, Human Resources Partner 500 LaTerraza Blvd. Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025 HR@myacademy.org

Revisions approved on: (Month, Day, Year)

Any employee or job applicant who believes they have been or are being discriminated against or harassed in violation of School policy should, as appropriate, immediately contact their supervisor, the Title IX coordinator, or the CEO, or any person they feel comfortable going to who shall advise the employee or applicant about the School's procedures for filing, investigating, and resolving any such complaint.

Complaints regarding employment discrimination or harassment shall immediately be investigated in accordance with School policy and regulation. Individuals may use the School's Uniform Complaint Procedures to address complaints of discrimination and harassment, including sex discrimination under Title IX. Annual notice of such policies will be provided to all employees, and a copy of such policies and procedures are available by contacting the Title IX coordinator or Human Resources (HR).

Discrimination is considered a form of employee misconduct. Disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, will be taken against any employee engaging in this type of behavior. Any supervisor or manager who has knowledge of such behavior, yet takes no action to end it, is also subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

### **B.** Disability Accommodation

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and all applicable laws ensuring equal employment opportunities to qualified individuals with a disability, the School will make reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or an employee unless undue hardship would result.

Any applicant or employee who requires an accommodation in order to perform the essential functions of the job as outlined in the applicable job description should contact the HR department and discuss the need for an accommodation. The School will engage in an interactive process with the employee to identify possible accommodations, if any, which will help the applicant or employee perform the job. The School will implement reasonable accommodations that do not impose undue hardship.

#### C. Anti-Harassment

The School is committed to providing a work environment free of harassment, discrimination, retaliation and abusive conduct as that term may be defined by statute or regulation then in effect at the time of the conduct. School policy prohibits conduct that is disrespectful, unprofessional as well as harassment based on actual or perceived race (including traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles such as braids, locks and twists), color, creed, actual or perceived gender (including gender identity and gender expression), religion (all aspects of religious beliefs, observance or practice, including religious dress or grooming practices), marital status, registered domestic partner status, status as a victim of domestic violence, assault or stalking, age (40 and over), ethnicity, national origin or ancestry (including language use restrictions), citizenship, physical, intellectual or mental disability(including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (including cancer or a record or history of cancer, and genetic characteristics), family or medical leave status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, decision making around reproductive health, or a related medical condition), genetic information, sexual orientation, political affiliation, military and veteran status or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. It also prohibits unlawful

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discrimination based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

All such conduct violates school policy. The School's anti-harassment policy applies to all persons involved in the operation of the School and prohibits harassment, disrespectful or unprofessional conduct by any employee of the School, including supervisors and managers, as well as vendors, community providers, customers, independent contractors, and any other persons. It also prohibits harassment, disrespectful or unprofessional conduct based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or 1s associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

Prohibited harassment, disrespectful or unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following behavior:

- 1. Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, slurs or unwanted sexual advances, invitations or comments;
- 2. Visual displays such as derogatory and/or sexually-oriented posters, photography, cartoons, drawings or gestures;
- 3. Physical conduct including assault, unwanted touching, intentionally blocking normal movement or interfering with work because of sex, race or any other protected basis;
- 4. Threats and demands to submit to sexual requests as a condition of continued employment, or to avoid some other loss and offers of employment benefits in return for sexual favors;
- 5. Retaliation for reporting or threatening to report harassment; and
- 6. Communication via electronic media of any type that includes any conduct that is prohibited by state and/or federal law, or by the School policy.

Sexual harassment does not need to be motivated by sexual desire to be unlawful or to violate this policy. For example, hostile acts toward an employee because of their gender can amount to sexual harassment, regardless of whether the treatment is motivated by any sexual desire.

Harassment is considered a form of employee misconduct. Disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, will be taken against any employee engaging in this type of behavior, yet taking no action to end it, is also subject to disciplinary action.

It is the policy of the School that no one will be retaliated against for making a good faith complaint of harassment or for cooperating in the investigation of a complaint.

An employee who believes they have been harassed, discriminated against or retaliated against may initiate the reporting process by contacting their supervisor, or, if appropriate, the next level of management (see Reporting procedure, which follows), any team member they feel most comfortable reporting to, or the HR department. All discrimination, harassment and retaliation complaints will be promptly investigated and will be treated confidentially to the extent possible, and appropriate action taken where warranted. Complaints made in good faith are protected from retaliation of any kind.

#### 1. Sexual Harassment

The School is committed to providing a work environment that is free from sexual harassment and retaliation. Under no circumstances will sexual harassment be tolerated.

"Sexual harassment" means any unwelcome sexual advance, unwelcome requests for sexual favors, or other unwelcome verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone from or in the educational or work setting, whether it occurs between individuals of the same sex or individuals of opposite sexes, under any of the following conditions:

- 1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's academic status, employment, or progress.
- 2. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic or employment decisions affecting the individual.
- 3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's academic performance, work, or progress or has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or working
- 4. environment. The conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, pervasive or
- 5. objectively offensive, so as to create a hostile or abusive educational or working environment or to limit the individual's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity.
- 6. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the local agency.

"Verbal sexual harassment" includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome epithets, comments, or slurs of a sexual nature.

"Physical sexual harassment" includes, but is not limited to, assault, impeding or blocking movement, or any physical interference with work or school activities or movement when directed at an individual on the basis of sex.

"Visual sexual harassment" includes, but is not limited to, derogatory posters, cartoons, drawings, obscene gestures, or computer-generated images of a sexual nature.

"Educational environment" includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. The main administration offices of the local agency.
- 2. Properties controlled or owned by the local agency.
- 3. Off-campus, if such activity is sponsored by the local agency, or is conducted by organizations sponsored by or under the jurisdiction of the local agency.

Sexual harassment has no place in the work environment and is prohibited by the School. Specifically, it must in no way be exercised for purposes of an intimidating effect on employment decisions such as promotion, dismissal, hiring, training, wage and salary increases, transfer, or any other matter that affects the ability of an employee to perform job duties.

Any employee who engages or participates in sexual harassment, or who aids, abets, incites, compels or coerces another to commit sexual harassment or retaliates against another individual is in violation of this policy and subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Managers and supervisors are to ensure that no such intimidation or harmful atmosphere of unwelcome sexual overtones exist in their workplaces. Every effort should be made to sensitize themselves and their employees to the differences between purely social overtones and those intended to affect working

conditions. Also, employees are responsible for respecting the rights of their co-workers. Any employee who feels they have been harassed or retaliated against or has knowledge of any incident of harassment or retaliation on any protected basis shall immediately report such incidents to their immediate supervisor, HR, the CEO or the Title IX Coordinator and Coordinator for Nondiscrimination in Employment. If the supervisor is the harasser or has not responded to the complaint, or if not an employee, then the complainant should complain to any administrator without fear of reprisal. Employees may also report instances of sexual harassment through the School's Uniform Complaint Procedure without fear of reprisal.

# 2. Reporting

The School has an affirmative duty to take reasonable steps to prevent and correct discrimination and harassment. Supervisors, co-workers, and third parties are prohibited from engaging in unlawful behavior under the Fair Employment and Housing Act or any other applicable law. Please see the list of protected categories as stated in the Equal Employment Opportunity and Anti-Harassment sections of the handbook.

The School encourages reporting of all perceived incidents of discrimination, harassment or retaliation, regardless of the offender's identity or position. Individuals who believe that they have been the victim of such conduct should discuss their concerns with their immediate Director, supervisor, manager, HR, or person they feel most comfortable and may file a complaint. The Uniform Complaint Procedures may be used for this purpose. Employees are entitled to report harassment to someone other than their direct supervisor. Supervisors are required to report all complaints to HR. In addition, the School encourages individuals who believe they are being subjected to such conduct to promptly advise the offender that their behavior is unwelcome and request that it be discontinued. The School recognizes, however, that an individual may prefer to pursue the matter through informal or formal complaint procedures. Every effort will be made to keep such reports as confidential to the extent possible, although it is understood that an investigation will normally require the involvement of third parties. The School is serious about enforcing its policy against harassment, discrimination and retaliation. However, the School cannot resolve a harassment, discrimination or retaliation problem that it does not know about. Therefore, employees are responsible for bringing any such problems to the School's attention so it can take the necessary steps to correct the problem.

# 3. Investigation/Complaint Procedure

All complaints of harassment, including sexual harassment, discrimination or retaliation may be addressed through the School's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A complaint will be followed by prompt and thorough investigation conducted by an impartial and qualified individual. If the investigation substantiates the accusations, the appropriate corrective action will be taken. This may include, but not be limited to, reprimand, suspension or dismissal, depending on the nature and severity of the offense.

Complaints will be documented and the School will designate a qualified individual to track the complaint process.

#### a. Informal Procedure

If for any reason an individual does not wish to address the offender directly, or if such action does not successfully end the offensive conduct, the individual should notify their immediate

supervisor and/or the HR department who may, if the individual so requests, talk to the alleged offender on the individual's behalf. In addition, there may be instances in which an individual seeks only to discuss matters with one of the HR designated representatives, and such discussion is encouraged. An individual reporting harassment, discrimination or retaliation should be aware, though, that the School may decide it is necessary to take action to address such conduct beyond an informal discussion. This decision will be discussed with the individual. The best course of action in any case will depend on many factors and, therefore, the informal procedure will remain flexible. Moreover, the informal procedure is not a required first step for the reporting individual.

#### b. Formal Procedure

As noted above, individuals who believe they have been the victims of conduct prohibited by this policy statement or believe they have witnessed such conduct should discuss their concerns with their supervisor or the HR department. The School encourages the prompt reporting of complaints or concerns so that rapid and constructive action can be taken before relationships become irreparably strained. Therefore, while no fixed reporting period has been established, early reporting and intervention have proven to be the most effective method of resolving actual or perceived incidents of harassment. Any reported allegations of harassment, discrimination or retaliation will be investigated promptly and thoroughly. The investigation may include individual interviews with the parties involved and, where necessary, with individuals who may have observed the alleged conduct or may have other relevant knowledge. Confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigation process to the extent consistent with adequate investigation and appropriate corrective action. Misconduct constituting harassment, discrimination or retaliation will be dealt with appropriately. Responsive action may include, training, referral to counseling and/or disciplinary action such as warning, reprimand, withholding of a promotion or pay increase, reassignment, temporary suspension without pay or termination, as the School believes appropriate under the circumstances.

#### 4. Retaliation

Employees will not be retaliated against for complaining or participating in an investigation. Retaliation against an individual for reporting harassment or discrimination or for participating in an investigation of a claim of harassment or discrimination is a serious violation of this policy and, like harassment or discrimination itself, will be subject to disciplinary action. Acts of retaliation should be reported immediately and will be promptly investigated and addressed.

#### 5. Conclusion

This policy was developed to ensure that all employees can work in an environment free from harassment, discrimination and retaliation. The School will make every reasonable effort to ensure that all concerned are familiar with these policies and aware that any complaint in violation of such policies will be investigated and resolved appropriately. Any employee who has any questions or concerns about these policies should talk with their supervisor or the HR department. Finally, these policies should not, and may not, be used as a basis for excluding or separating individuals of a particular gender, or any other protected characteristic, from participating in business or work-related social activities or discussions. In other words, no one should make the mistake of engaging in discrimination or exclusion in order to avoid allegations of harassment. The law and the policies of the School prohibit disparate treatment on the basis of sex or any other protected characteristic, with regard to terms, conditions, privileges and prerequisites

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of employment. The prohibitions against harassment, discrimination and retaliation are intended to complement and further those policies, not to form the basis of an exception to them.

None of the procedures listed are intended to preclude an employee from pursuing claims of discrimination and/or harassment in any other forum available to the employee, including making reports of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation to the Department of Fair Employment and Housing and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

# **D.** Diversity Policy

The School is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity and inclusion.

Our staff is the most valuable asset we have. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our employees invest in their work represents a significant part of not only the School's culture, but its reputation and achievement as well.

We embrace and encourage our employees' differences in age, color, disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, and other characteristics that make our employees unique.

The School's diversity initiatives are applicable but not limited to our practices and policies on recruitment and selection; compensation and benefits; professional development and training; promotions; terminations; and the ongoing development of a work environment built on the premise of gender and diversity equity that encourages and enforces:

- Respectful communication and cooperation between all employees.
- Teamwork and employee participation, permitting the representation of all groups and employee perspectives.
- Work/life balance through flexible work schedules to accommodate employees' varying needs.
- Employer and employee contributions to the communities we serve to promote a greater understanding and respect for diversity.

All employees of the School have a responsibility to treat others with dignity and respect at all times. All employees are expected to exhibit conduct that reflects inclusion during work, at work functions on or off the work site, and at all other school-sponsored and participative events.

Any employee found to have exhibited any inappropriate conduct or behavior against others may be subject to disciplinary action up to termination.

Employees who believe they have been subjected to any kind of discrimination that conflicts with the School's diversity policy and initiatives should seek assistance from an HR representative.

# **Section II: Employment Requirements**

# A. Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

Any employee who knows or reasonably suspects a child has been the victim of child abuse shall report the instance to a child protective agency. School employees are mandated reporters and are required to report instances of child abuse when the employee has a "reasonable suspicion" that child abuse has occurred. Reasonable suspicion arises when the facts surrounding the incident or suspicion could cause another person in the same situation to suspect child abuse.

Child abuse should be reported immediately by phone to a child protective agency. Call the local Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) to report child abuse and neglect. If there is a life-threatening emergency to a child however, call 9-1-1. The phone call to the DFCS is to be followed by a written report within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. There is no duty for the reporter to contact the child's parents. In fact, if a child is released to a peace officer or a child protective agency agent, the reporter shall not notify the parent as required in other instances of removal.

Child abuse is broadly defined as "a physical injury that is inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person." Child abuse can take the following several forms:

- 1. Sexual abuse: Sexual abuse means, in general, sexual assault or sexual exploitation. Sexual abuse does not include children who voluntarily engage in sexual activity with children of a similar age. Pregnancy of a minor does not, in and of itself, constitute suspicion of child abuse.
  - a. Neglect: Neglect occurs when a child's custodian has failed to provide adequate "food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision" that may or may not have resulted in any physical injury.
- 2. Unlawful corporal punishment: Unlawful corporal punishment occurs when any person willfully harms or injures a child to such a degree that results in a traumatic condition.
- 3. Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment: Child abuse also includes the situation where any "person willfully causes or permits any child to suffer unjustifiable pain or mental suffering" or when any person endangers a child's health.

#### **Confidentiality**

A mandated reporter is required to give their name. The identity of all persons who report shall be confidential. Violation of statutory confidentiality is a misdemeanor. DFCS may reveal the names of reporting parties only to other investigative agencies as specified by law. No person required to report abuse will bear criminal liability for reporting. No supervisor or administrator may impede or prohibit reporting.

All employees, prior to commencing employment, are required to acknowledge the provisions of Penal Code Section 11166 regarding mandated reporting and will comply with those provisions as outlined in the employment agreement. All employees will also be subject to annual training as required by law.

# Failure to Report

Failure to report suspected abuse is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment/fine. Any person who fails to report an instance of child abuse or neglect as required by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act is guilty of a misdemeanor with a punishment not to exceed six months in jail or \$1,000 or both.

# **B.** Employee Access to Confidential Information

Each employee is responsible for safeguarding confidential information obtained during employment. In the course of the employee's work, the employee may have access to confidential information regarding students, parents, suppliers, other customers, or perhaps even fellow employees without consent from that individual. The employee has the responsibility of preventing the revealing or divulging of any such information unless it is necessary for the employee to do so in the performance of their duties and in accordance with law. Access to confidential information should be on a "need-to-know" basis and must be authorized by the CEO or designee. Any breach of this policy will not be tolerated and will lead to disciplinary action and possible legal action.

Please note the release of unauthorized confidential information may result in immediate dismissal and the filing of criminal charges. Confidentiality of student information is a requirement of the law and great care must be taken to ensure it is protected. No student information will be released without the specific authorization of the CEO or designee. Employee information may be released as part of a Public Records Act request, for the purpose of employment verification with prior written approval by the employee, or as required by law.

#### C. Student Data/FERPA

All information contained in a student's records, including information contained in an electronic database, is confidential and maintained in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). These records are the property of the School, whose responsibility it is to secure the information against loss, defacement, tampering or use by unauthorized persons. Staff is prohibited from discussing students' academic or personal information outside the scope of performing the duties of one's position. No student's files are to be taken off premises unless granted permission by the CEO or designee. Only teachers, administrative, and office personnel are permitted to review student's files. When a file is requested from the School office, it must be signed out and returned the same day. No student files, records, forms, communication or reports may be copied without express authorization from the Director. Under no circumstances may student information be used for an employee's personal use.

Employees may not remove any materials from any student's file. Files may not leave the office without specific written authorization from the CEO or designee. Employees who access student files are responsible to secure their contents and maintain confidentiality.

#### **D.** Conflict of Interest

Employees have an obligation to conduct business within guidelines that prohibit actual or potential conflict of interest. Such a conflict occurs when an employee is in a position to influence a decision that may result in a personal gain for the employee or for a relative as a result of the School's business dealings.

# 1. Personal Financial Interest

All such persons shall be neither personally nor financially interested in any contract made by them or by the school that employs them. For purposes of this policy,

- a. "Personally interested" shall mean any situation where private and/or personal interests conflict with official duties and shall include non-economic interests such as familial relationships.
- b. "Financially interested" shall mean any contract with an individual, entity, or company in

which any such person related by blood, marriage or civil partner, any other person with a close personal relationship to any such person who has an ownership interest, an investment interest, or a familial interest, and encompasses any situation where any such person's official judgment may be influenced by personal consideration or expectation of financial gain or any compensation or consideration of any kind other than that officially provided to any such person by the School.

# 2. Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700)

Board members and staff who make or influence governmental decisions or financial decisions of the organization are designated in the Conflict of Interest Code adopted by the Board. These individuals must complete and file a Statement of Economic Interest, Form 700. The Form 700 ensures transparency and accountability in alignment with the Political Reform Act.

It is the policy of this School that elected or appointed school governance body members, school administrative officers, and school employees shall not place themselves in any position where their private or personal interests may conflict with their official duties, or where they may directly or indirectly receive personal financial gain through direct or indirect personal influence.

# 4. 3. Personal Relationship

Personal or romantic involvement with a competitor, supplier or employee of the School may create an actual or potential conflict of interest. Management-subordinate romantic or personal relationships can lead to issues such as claims of discrimination or favoritism, issues with performance evaluation, possible claims of sexual harassment, and morale issues. It is the responsibility of the employees involved in romantic or personal relationships with subordinates, or other personal or romantic relationships that give rise to a conflict of interest, to disclose and discuss all relevant circumstances with the supervisor or HR and possibly request a change in assignment to avoid potential problems as appropriate. Failure to disclose such circumstances may cause the School to impose disciplinary action. Moreover, any romantic or personal relationships between employees must not harm the work environment in any way. Regardless of an employee's relationship with another employee outside of work, employees are expected to remain professional at all times during work hours. The School will not discriminate on the basis of marital or relationship status, except that the School may reasonably regulate the working of spouses or relatives in the same department, division, or facility for reasons of supervision, safety, security, or morale in accordance with applicable law.

No "presumption of guilt" is created by the mere existence of a professional or personal relationship with outside firms; however, if such employees have any influence on transactions involving purchases, contracts, or leases, it is imperative that such be disclosed so that safeguards can be established to protect all parties.

#### E. Anti-Nepotism Policy

The School recognizes there may be situations in which spouses or other relatives may be employed by the School at the same time. The School permits the employment of qualified family members, domestic partners, significant others and/or similar personal relationships of employees as long as such employment does not create a conflict of interest. Relationships by family, marriage, domestic partnership and/or similar personal relationship shall constitute neither an advantage nor a disadvantage to selection, promotion, salary, or other conditions of employment. The School may consider a member of an

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employee's immediate family for employment if the applicant possesses the qualifications for employment for the position.

The School does not prohibit the employment of relatives in the same department. However, the School does prohibit any preferential treatment toward spouses or relatives or an improper influence impacting a spouse's or relative's terms or conditions of employment. The School recognizes that at times, employees and their family members, domestic partners, significant others and/or personal relationships may be assigned to positions that create a coworker or supervisor-subordinate relationship. The School will, in its discretion, exercise sound judgment with respect to the placement of employees in these situations in order to avoid the creation or appearance of a conflict of interest, avoid favoritism or the appearance of favoritism, and decrease the likelihood of harassment in the workplace.

Employees should neither initiate nor participate, directly or indirectly, in employment actions (initial employment or appointment, retention, evaluation, promotions, salary, work assignments, leave of absence, etc.) involving family members, domestic partners, significant others and/or similar personal relationships.

The School will make reasonable efforts to assign job duties to minimize the potential for creating conflicts of interest. Notwithstanding the above, the School retains the right where such placement has the potential for creating conflicts of interest, to refuse to place immediate family members in the same department. The School retains the right to reassign or transfer any person to eliminate the potential for creating conflicts of interest. Any potential preferential treatment or improper influence should be reported immediately to HR.

### F. Employment Eligibility Verification Document

The School will only employ individuals who are authorized to work in the United States in compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

All newly hired employees must complete, as a condition of employment, the Employment Eligibility Verification Form 1-9 and provide documentation establishing identity and proof of work eligibility and identification at time of hire, but no later than three (3) days of hire. If the employee is unable to produce the required documentation or a receipt/letter requesting appropriate documentation within three days, the employee will be dismissed from employment. If, after 90 days of hire, the employee has not submitted the original documents to replace the receipt/letter or, in the meantime, some other acceptable document(s), the employee will be dismissed from employment.

Former employees who are rehired must also complete the form if they have not completed an 1-9 for the School within the past three years or if their previous 1-9 is no longer retained or valid.

# G. Fingerprinting

Each employee will be fingerprinted in conformance with legal requirements and as a condition of employment. Fingerprints are submitted to the appropriate State and Federal agencies for screening to assure that no employee has been convicted of a crime that would preclude employment by the School.

# H. Criminal Background Checks

As a condition of employment, all employees are required to submit to a criminal history review through the Department of Justice. The review shall include fingerprint submission to the DOJ. The School

follows the guidelines of the California Fair Chance Act, and will conduct an individualized assessment on all background check results. The School will make hiring determinations based on California law. Certain types of criminal background findings may prevent the employer from hiring the candidate or continuing employment with a current employee. The School will factor in the nature and gravity of the crime, when the crime occurred, rehabilitation and the nature of the position all in accordance with applicable law. All results will be discussed with the applicant and/or employee before making a hiring or dismissal decision. No person employed or otherwise associated with the School, including members of the Board of Directors, who have been convicted of or have pleaded nolo contendere to a crime related to misappropriation of funds or theft shall be engaged in direct processing of charter school funds.

# I. Employment Application/Data

The School relies upon the accuracy of the information presented during the application process, as well as the accuracy of other data presented throughout the hiring process and employment relationship. As such, any omission or misstatement of material fact in any of this information may result in the School excluding the individual from further consideration for employment or, if already hired, termination of employment.

# J. Employment Verifications

The School will only respond to employment verification inquiries that are received in writing. All such inquiries, whether for current or former employees, must be directed to HR. Generally, responses will be limited to information concerning wages, employment dates, positions held, and eligibility for rehire. Release of any additional information will require that the employee execute a release. Letters of recommendation must be approved by HR to ensure the accuracy and appropriateness of the information being released.

# K. Certification and Licensing

Teachers are required to hold a current California Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other commission approved document for the assignment held ("Certificated Employee"). In addition, teachers serving students identified as English Language Learners must possess the proper EL authorization. If a teacher has not received this authorization, the School will allow them one year from date of hire to obtain it and will not assign English Language Learners during that time.

It is the responsibility of each certificated employee to ensure that credentials and permits are renewed in a timely manner and remain current. The School highly encourages all certificated staff to keep their contact information current with the Commission on Teacher Credentialing in order to receive pertinent notifications. Upon renewal of credentials or certificates, proof is to be submitted to the HR department to be copied and filed in the employee's personnel file.

#### L. Mandatory Tuberculosis Testing

In order to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff of the School, all newly hired employees must submit proof of a negative TB Risk Assessment or TB test by a licensed healthcare provider that has been administered within sixty (60) days prior to hire. A TB test may include an intradermal skin test or an X-ray of the lungs. An individual hired from another California School may request their prior school provide proof of the individual's TB Risk Assessment or TB test. TB Risk Assessments and TB tests are considered expired after four (4) years from the date they are administered and a proof of a new

assessment or test must be submitted to HR in order to continue in employment. Pregnant employees are exempt from providing proof of a TB test for at least sixty (60) days from the end of their pregnancy.

The School will reimburse the cost of the tuberculosis risk assessment and/or the test for all current employees with proof of receipt.

[See also Board Policy 4013]

# Section III: Standards of Conduct

The School expects all employees to comply with School rules, policies, and regulations as set forth in this handbook. Any employee who fails to do so will be subject to disciplinary action at the School's sole discretion, which management deems appropriate under the circumstances. Such disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, oral and written warnings, mandatory training, or termination of employment. Any employee's receipt of, participation in or completion of School-required disciplinary action shall not, under any circumstances, limit or alter the School's at-will employment policy, which allows either the School or the employee to terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without notice, and with or without cause.

#### A. Freedom from Violence

The School expressly prohibits any acts or threats of violence by any School employee or former employee against any other individual. The School will also not condone any acts or threats of violence against school employees, students or affiliates while engaged in business with or on behalf of the School.

To ensure that the School's objective in this regard is attained, it is the commitment of the School:

- 1. To provide a safe and healthful work environment, in accordance with the School's safety and health policy.
- 2. To take prompt remedial action up to and including immediate termination, against any employee who engages in any threatening behavior or acts of violence or who uses any obscene, abusive, or threatening language or gestures.
- 3. To take appropriate action when dealing with customers, former employees, or visitors to school functions who engage in such behavior. Such action may include notifying the police or other law enforcement personnel and prosecuting violators of this policy to the maximum extent of the law.
- 4. To prohibit employees, former employees, students, and visitors from bringing unauthorized firearms or other weapons to school, work and non-work-related gatherings, meetings and functions.
- 5. To establish viable security measures to ensure that school meetings and gatherings are safe and secure to the extent possible and to properly handle access to school facilities by the public, off-duty employees, and former employees.

The School will not tolerate any type of workplace violence committed by or against its employees. Employees who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- 1. Causing physical injury to another person.
- 2. Making threatening remarks.
- 3. Aggressive or hostile behavior that creates a reasonable fear of injury to another person or

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- subjects another person to emotional distress.
- 4. Possession or threat of using a weapon on the premises and/or at work related events, meetings and gatherings.

Employees who display a tendency to engage in violent, abusive, or threatening behavior, as determined by the School, in its sole discretion, may be referred for counseling or other appropriate treatment.

In furtherance of this policy, employees have a "duty to warn" their supervisors or a HR representative of any suspicious workplace activity or situations or incidents that they observe or that they are aware of that involve other employees, former employees, customers, or visitors and that appear problematic. The welfare of all employees depends upon the alertness and sensitivity of every individual to potential security risks. Employee reports made pursuant to this policy will be held in confidence to the extent possible. The School will not condone any form of retaliation against any employee for making a report under this policy.

The School has developed guidelines to help maintain a secure workplace.

- 1. Every employee is directed to report any suspicious persons or activities to the Director or designee:
- 2. Such as persons loitering for no apparent reason in parking areas, walkways, entrances and exits, and service areas.
- 3. Persons who make threats or acts of violence, aggressive behavior, offensive acts, discussion of bringing weapons into the workplace, threatening or offensive comments or remarks, and the like.
- 4. Employees should immediately notify the Director or designee when other employees or outsiders express anger and make threats against the School or behave in a manner suggesting the possibility of violent activity.
- 5. Finally, those working in the School's office must also ensure that doors are locked and alarms are activated when applicable.

### **B.** Prohibited Conduct

Employees are expected to conduct themselves in a manner to further the School's objectives.

The following conduct is prohibited and will not be tolerated by the School. This list of prohibited conduct is illustrative only; other types of conduct that threaten security, personal safety, employee welfare and School operations may also be prohibited and will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

- 1. Falsifying employment records, employment information, or other School records;
- 2. Inefficient or careless performance of job responsibilities or inability to perform job duties satisfactorily;
- 3. Falsifying any time card Recording the work time of another employee or allowing any other employee to record another employee's work time, either one's own or another employee's;
- 4. Theft and deliberate or careless damage or destruction of any School property, or the property of any employee or customer;
- 5. Removing or borrowing School property without prior authorization;
- 6. Unauthorized use or misuse of School equipment, time, materials, or facilities;
- 7. Provoking a fight or fighting during working hours or on School property;
- 8. Participating in horseplay or practical jokes on School time or on School premises;

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- 9. Carrying firearms or any other dangerous weapons on School premises at any time;
- 10. Engaging in criminal conduct whether or not related to job performance;
- 11. Causing, creating, or participating in a disruption of any kind during working hours on School property;
- 12. Insubordination, including but not limited to failure or refusal to obey the orders or instructions of a supervisor or member of management, or the use of abusive or threatening language toward a colleague;
- 13. Using abusive, threatening or intimidating language at any time on School premises;
- 14. Initiating or participating in gossip or slander of other employees, parents, or students;
- 15. Failing to notify a supervisor when unable to report to work;
- 16. Unreported absence of three (3) days;
- 17. Failing to obtain permission to leave work for any reason during normal working hours;
- 18. Failing to observe working schedules, including rest breaks and meal periods;
- 19. Failing to provide a physician's certificate when requested or required to do so;
- 20. Sleeping or malingering on the job;
- 21. Making or accepting personal phone calls, text or email messages during working hours to the extent that it interferes with the performance expectations of the assignment, except in cases of emergency or extreme circumstances;
- 22. Working overtime without authorization or refusing to work assigned overtime;
- 23. Violation of dress standards;
- 24. Violating any safety, health, security or School policy, rule, procedure or violation of the School's drug and alcohol policy;
- 25. Committing a fraudulent act or a breach of trust under any circumstances;
- 26. Committing or involvement in any act of unlawful harassment of another individual;
- 27. Failing to promptly report work-related injury or illness;
- 28. Any other action or behavior, which could harm the School's, parents', or students' interest

This statement of prohibited conduct does not alter the School's policy of at-will employment. Either the employee or the School remains free to terminate the employment relationship at any time, with or without reason or advance notice.

# C. Physical Contact with Students and Other Staff Members

It is the policy of the School that no staff member will use corporal punishment against a student. This prohibition includes: spanking, slapping, pinching, hitting or the use of any other physical force as retaliation or correction for inappropriate behavior. While the use of appropriate touching is part of daily life and is important for student development, a teacher and staff member must ensure that they do not exceed appropriate behavior. If a child or other staff member specifically requests that the individual not be touched, then that request must be honored without question.

The following forms of touching are never appropriate:

- 1. Sexually motivated physical conduct or touching
- 2. Angry or violently motivated touching
- 3. Inappropriate or lengthy embraces
- 4. Kissing of any kind
- 5. Corporal punishment
- 6. Sitting student on one's lap

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- 7. Touching buttocks, chests or genital areas
- 8. Pushing a person or another person's body part
- 9. Showing affection in isolated areas
- 10. Wrestling with students or other staff members
- 11. Bench-pressing another person
- 12. Tickling
- 13. Piggyback rides
- 14. Massages
- 15. Any form of unwanted affection
- 16. Any form of sexual contact
- 17. Poking fingers at another person that results in an offensive contact
- 18. Having a student in an employee's vehicle or transporting a student
- 19. Intentionally being alone with a student
- 20. Any touching that would lead a responsible person to suspect inappropriate behavior.

For additional examples of unacceptable and acceptable Staff/Student Behaviors, see the School's Professional Boundaries Policy.

Restraining a child who is trying to engage in violent or inappropriate behavior may be permitted. Only such force as necessary to defend one's self or another or to protect property is legally allowed. Excessive force is prohibited. Violation of this policy could subject the teacher or staff member to discipline to include termination for cause. Additionally, the victim may choose to bring civil or criminal charges against the violator.

When interacting with younger children or children with a disability, an appropriate physical touch may sometimes be necessary. A touch for the purpose of redirecting or refocusing, assisting with physical care (i.e. cleaning up a small child after a bathroom accident) may be appropriate in limited circumstances although clearly inappropriate in more general circumstances.

It is impossible to define each and every instance when touching is inappropriate. Employees must use professional judgment and discretion related to physical touch.

This policy does not prevent appropriate forms of touching a student, including for the purpose of guiding them along a physical path, helping them up after a fall, engaging in a rescue or the application of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) or other emergency first-aid. Nor does it prohibit the use of reasonable force and touching in self-defense or in the defense of another.

# **D.** Off-duty Conduct

While the School does not seek to interfere with the off-duty and personal conduct of its employees, certain types of off-duty conduct may interfere with the School's legitimate business interests. For this reason, employees are expected to conduct their personal affairs in a manner that does not adversely affect the School's or their own integrity, reputation or credibility. Illegal or immoral off-duty conduct by an employee that adversely affects the School's legitimate business interests or the employee's ability to perform their job may result in disciplinary action and/or dismissal as allowed by law.

# E. Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace and Awareness Program

The School will comply with all federal and state regulations regarding drug and alcohol use while

employees are on the job. This policy covers all School employees and violation of the School's policy related to drug use is grounds for immediate termination. The School is concerned about the use of alcohol, illegal drugs and controlled substances as it affects the workplace, the School community and students. Though marijuana is legal in many California cities, it is still considered an illegal substance under Federal law and therefore considered an illegal substance for this policy. Use of these substances whether on or off the job can adversely affect an employee's work performance, efficiency, safety, and health and therefore seriously impair the employee's value to the School and its students. In addition, the use or possession of these substances on the job constitutes a potential danger to the welfare and safety of other employees and students and exposes the School to the risks of property loss or damage or injury to other persons. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace.

Conduct against this policy includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Driving a School vehicle, or a vehicle designated for school business, while under the influence of alcohol or an illegal or controlled substance;
- 2. Selling or purchasing an illegal or controlled substance, including while on the job, on school property, or in the presence of students;
- 3. Possessing or using alcohol or an illegal or controlled substance while on the job, on school property, or in the presence of students,
- 4. Under the influence of alcohol or an illegal or controlled substance while on the job, on school property, or in the presence of students.

The School will provide information to employees about:

- 1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
- 2. The policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace:
- 3. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and assistance programs; and
- 4. The penalties that the School may impose upon them for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.

Violation of these rules and standards of conduct will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. The School may also bring the matter to the attention of appropriate law enforcement authorities. The School may terminate an employee who is convicted of a controlled substance offense to the extent allowed by law. Alternatively, the School may, as required or allowed in accordance with applicable law, require the employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for these purposes by a Federal, State or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

As a condition of employment, employees are required to notify the School in writing of any conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute. Such notification must be made no more than five (5) calendar days after the conviction. The School may, as required by applicable law, notify federal or state agencies of any applicable employee convictions if such a report is required by law.

The School will provide reasonable accommodation to an employee who voluntarily requests an accommodation or leave of absence to voluntarily participate in a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program. Please note that the request must be made before the employer learns of a violation of the Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace policy. Any employee who participates in a rehabilitation program would still be

responsible for following all other School policies. Employees returning from a voluntary rehabilitation program will be required to comply with a return-to-work agreement addressing the terms and conditions of continued employment.

In order to enforce this policy, the School reserves the right to conduct legal searches of school property and to implement other measures, which are in accordance with law and necessary to deter and detect violation of this policy. As a condition of employment, the employee agrees to abide by the terms of this policy.

The School will abide by all relevant laws, including laws regarding employee disability and reasonable accommodations in implementing this policy.

## F. Tobacco Free Workplace

The School is a tobacco free workplace. No tobacco products are to be used in the workplace or at work functions. This includes all VAPE and e-cigarette products. Additionally, employees are required to adhere to any building and site policies regarding designated areas for smoking.

## G. Punctuality and Attendance

Employee punctuality and consistent attendance contributes to the positive operations of the School. As such, attendance and punctuality are performance expectations and are measured on the overall job performance. Employee tardiness or chronic absenteeism causes unnecessary problems for students and fellow employees. While an employee is absent, other employees may be burdened with performing additional duties in order to maintain operations. Further, employees are expected to report to the workplace and be prepared to begin work at their scheduled reporting times. To avoid conflict with the daily operations of the School, employees should schedule personal affairs outside of regular working hours.

If an employee is unable to report for work on any particular day, they must call their supervisor or HR at least one hour before the time they were scheduled to begin working on that day in order to obtain pre-approval for the absence. An employee may be excused from this one hour notice requirement if extenuating circumstances prevented them from contacting the supervisor. In all cases of absence or tardiness, employees must provide the School with an honest reason or explanation.

Employees must inform HR or designee of the expected duration of any absence. Excessive absences, lateness or failure to give the supervisor advance notice for absence or lateness can result in disciplinary action or dismissal from employment. Excessive absenteeism or tardiness, whether excused or not, will not be tolerated.

If the employee fails to report for work without any notification to their supervisor or to HR, and the absence continues for a period of three days, the School will consider it a voluntary resignation unless a written medical excuse is provided by a physician to confirm that the employee has not abandoned their employment.

Employees with emergencies or situations that do not allow them to do their job, must inform their supervisor or HR within 24 hours. Failure to return phone calls or emails within 24 hours during

workdays requires an explanation to the employee's supervisor. Failure to inform a supervisor of an expected absence, failure to return phone calls or emails for three (3) workdays without notice, and missing required deadlines or meetings constitutes abandonment of employment.

Please refer to the policies related to leaves of absence and paid sick days in the handbook for more information.

## H. Attendance at Mandatory School Activities

Employees are required to attend scheduled staff meetings, professional development sessions, graduations, kick-off week activities, and other mandatory events as noted on the school calendar. Should an employee be unable to attend a mandatory event, they will need to utilize a day's worth of their sick or vacation leave, adjusted according to their Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) status. During the time of the missed mandatory event, staff should refrain from arranging meetings or participating in work-related tasks and will not be required to engage in any such activities at these times. Employees must notify their direct supervisor of their absence. Notice via email one-hour prior to the start time of the mandatory activity is requested to facilitate adjustments in planning and collaboration

### I. Professionalism

The success of the School depends upon the quality of the relationships between the School, its employees, students, parents and the general public. The public impression of the School and its interest will be formed, in part, by their interactions with employees. The more goodwill an employee promotes, the more employees, students, parents and the general public will respect and appreciate the employee, the School, and the Schools' services.

Employees are encouraged to help make a good impression of the School by:

- 1. Communicating regularly.
- 2. Acting competently and dealing with others in a courteous and respectful manner.
- 3. Communicating pleasantly and respectfully with others at all times.
- 4. Following up on requests and questions promptly, providing professional replies to inquiries and requests.
- 5. Responding to email and voicemail within 24 business hours, or within a reasonable period of time depending on the assignment (employees should discuss this with their supervisor).
- 6. Taking pride in performing duties in an exceptional manner.

Employees may not bring their own children to school events (learning period meetings, assessments, school meetings, etc.) unless they are a student participant in the events or it is a general school event open to all students or employee families. The CEO or designee may grant an exception.

## J. Dress Code

Each employee is a representative of the School in the eyes of the public. Therefore, each employee must report to work properly groomed and dressed in professional attire in a manner consistent with the nature of the work performed. Employees who report to work inappropriately dressed may be asked to clock out and return in acceptable attire.

Violation of the dress code is determined by the CEO or designee. The CEO or designee may issue more specific dress code guidelines at any time, which shall be in accordance with law. The standards of grooming and hygiene outlined below set the minimum requirements to which all employees, contract workers, and temporary staff are required to adhere.

Employee dress is described as business casual, which includes:

- Slacks, dockers and other office style pants,
- Skirts and dresses to or below the knee,
- Button down shirts, blouses, and sweaters.
- All clothes are to appear clean, pressed and without stains or holes.
- Inappropriate attire:
- Spaghetti straps or strapless tops,
- Overly baggy or tight so as to be revealing,
- Plunging necklines, midriff revealing tops, or any clothing that exposes the employee inappropriately,
- Clothing with offensive words or pictures,
- Any clothing that is overly casual (shorts, tank tops, athletic wear), appears dirty, wrinkled, or has stains or holes.

Overall grooming - Grooming standards for everyone includes the appearance of care and proper hygiene. Hair, makeup, and jewelry may not interfere with an employee's ability to perform the job duties or pose a safety issue. Facial piercings should be removed and tattoos should be covered during work hours. Excessive piercings or offensive tattoos may prohibit an individual from being considered for a customer facing assignment. The School reserves the right to ask any employee to cover inappropriate tattoos or remove any piercings that are not reflective of the school culture.

Exceptions - The School recognizes some events as acceptable for casual dress. The majority of the same dress and grooming standards apply, however employees may wear jeans, seasonally appropriate clothing, and more casual shoes. Requests for an exception to the dress code policy for religious beliefs or practices must be addressed to the CEO or designee or an HR representative. Each request will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Supervisors are expected to inform employees when they are violating the dress code. Employees in violation are expected to immediately correct the issue. This may include having to leave work to change clothes. Repeated violations or violations that have major repercuss 10ns may result in disciplinary action being taken up to and including termination.

## K. Gifts to Employees

It is the policy of the School that no employee may accept any gift from an outside party, client, contractor, vendor, community provider, business associate, parent or student that is of such nature that it could affect their impartiality with regard to decisions or actions affecting school operations. Gifts with a value of less than \$50 are excluded from this policy.

### L. Fee and Cash Collection

No staff member, other than specifically authorized individuals, is permitted to accept cash and/or checks. All school events, for which money is collected, must be approved by the Director or designee who will

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supervise the collection of all fees and will be responsible for managing the receipts. Cash and/or checks should not be stored or locked in staff offices or desks. All financial transactions should be coordinated with the Director or designee. Employees must obtain approval from the Director prior to soliciting staff for donations or financial support for any outside event/activity.

## M. Building Security

Building security is the responsibility of all staff. The last employee, or a designated employee, who leaves the office at the end of the business day assumes the responsibility to ensure that the office is secure; for example, all doors are securely locked, the alarm system is armed, thermostats are set on appropriate evening and/or weekend setting, and all the appliances and lights are turned off with the exception of the lights normally left on for security purposes. Employees are not allowed on properties or leased facilities after hours without prior authorization from the Director, CEO or designee. All employees who are issued keys to the office are responsible for their safekeeping and will sign for receipt of such key.

## **Section IV: Personnel Policies and Procedures**

The School will continually strive to recruit and retain highly qualified employees and remain a competitive public school employer, including examining employee evaluation, compensation, and discipline/dismissal practices periodically.

## A. New Employee Orientation

Orientation is a formal welcoming process that is designed to make the new employee feel comfortable, informed about the School, and prepared for their position. New employee orientation, includes an explanation of the core values, vision, mission, goals, and objectives of the School. In addition, the new employee will be given an overview of benefits and complete any necessary paperwork through the HR department.

## B. Remote Work Policy

MYA is a remote workplace that will require in-person attendance. This is stated in an employee's Job Description. Employees must adhere to all policies and procedures regardless of their remote work status.

## **Definitions**

Remote work, working remotely, telework, telecommute, or work-from-home are defined as any work arrangement that allows employees to work outside of a primary worksite at an alternate location.

## **Remote Work Policy**

Employees who work remotely are expected to maintain normal productivity and performance as if they were conducting business onsite. They may not carry out work for anyone other than MYA during this time. Employees must use approved time off for absences. Employees must accommodate themselves for any of the following, but not limited to, on-site meetings, conferences, retreats, state testing, team-building days, and/or training.

## **Availability and Communications**

Because we have a flexible work environment, we ask that employees be available to take work related calls and attend meetings as needed with minimum disruption, Monday through Friday. The only

requirements put in place around work location and time are that timelines are met, and student/School needs are tended and responded to in a reasonable time frame.

## Workspace

Employees should establish a workspace that is safe and conducive to conducting day to day business. Employees are responsible for maintaining adequate and reliable internet service regardless of where they sit. Employees should seek a quiet and distraction-free working space, to the extent possible. MYA issues all employees the necessary equipment and software licenses to do their job effectively.

## **Equipment**

MYA will determine and approve, with information supplied by the employee and the supervisor, the appropriate equipment needed for each employee. Equipment supplied by MYA will be maintained by MYA. Equipment supplied by the employee, if deemed appropriate by MYA, will be maintained by the employee. MYA accepts no responsibility for damage or repairs to employee-owned equipment. MYA reserves the right to make determinations as to appropriate equipment, subject to change at any time. Equipment supplied by MYA is to be used for business purposes only. The employee must sign an inventory of all MYA property received and agree to take appropriate action to protect the items from damage or theft. Upon termination of employment, all MYA property will be returned, unless other arrangements have been made.

MYA does not provide employees with office furnishings for their home offices. Employees are responsible for equipping and maintaining their home offices so that they can accomplish their work in an efficient and expeditious manner.

MYA will supply the employee with appropriate office supplies (pens, paper, etc.) as deemed necessary. Occasionally, when pre-approved by the Director, employees will be reimbursed for business-related expenses that are reasonably incurred in carrying out the employee's job.

### Virtual Meetings

While distractions are sometimes unavoidable, try to keep them to a minimum. No music or television in the background during meetings. Keep yourself muted during group video or audio conferencing unless you are speaking. Turning on video is required. We understand there may be rare occasions where you are unable to utilize your video, however, this should be the exception rather than the norm. Avoid eating a meal during a virtual meeting unless invited to do so by the meeting host. Smoking or vaping is not permitted during a video conference. Casual dress is acceptable; however, use discretion. We are a business casual environment. Avoid multitasking. Give your full attention to the meeting as if you were face to face.

### Timekeeping

Hourly employees must accurately record all working time and may not work "off the clock." Hourly employees must use timesheets approved by MYA and are required to log out for lunch as required by law.

### Confidentiality

MYA employees must adhere to policies as they relate to client and proprietary information even while working remotely. Employees agree to maintain confidentiality and keep passwords and other information safe at their remote work area.

### **Security**

Remote employees will be expected to ensure the protection of proprietary information accessible from

their home office. Steps include the use of regular password maintenance and any other measures appropriate for the job and the environment.

## **Workers Compensation**

In the event of a job-related injury, employees should report the incident to their direct supervisor as soon as possible. Note that workers' compensation does not apply to injuries to any third parties or members of Employee's family on Employee's premises. Furthermore, workers' compensation does not apply to injuries incurred outside of working hours/outside of the remote workspace.

## C. Employee Status

Employees may include exempt, nonexempt, regular full-time, regular part-time, and seasonal persons employed with the School who are subject to the control and direction of the School in the performance of their duties.

- a. Exempt: Employees whose positions meet specific criteria established by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and who are exempt from overtime pay requirements.
- b. Nonexempt: Employees whose positions do not meet FLSA criteria and who are paid one and one-half their regular rate of pay for hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week. Nonexempt employees are also subject to meal period and rest break regulations.

Employee Status	Teacher Facilitator	Exempt Certificated and Classified	Non-Exempt Classified	Benefits
	(Student Caseload per Month)	(FTE)	(Hours per Week)	
Regular Full Time	19+ students	.75+ FTE	30+ hours	Eligible
Regular Part Time	10-18 students	.5074 FTE	20-29 hours	Eligible
Non-Regular	9 or less students	.49 FTE or less	19 hours or less	Not Eligible

#### **D.** Student Counts

The teacher may indicate their desired student count with the School as a request, however, the needs of the School will determine the number of students assigned to the teacher.

### E. Job Duties

The assigned supervisor will clarify the job duties and the expectations for behavior and job performance. The employee's job responsibilities and tasks are subject to change and update during employment as stated in the at-will employment agreement and job description and job description. On occasion, the employee may be asked to work on projects, or to help with other work necessary or important to the operation of their department or the School. The employee's cooperation and assistance in performing such additional work is expected. The School reserves the right, at any time, with or without notice, to alter or change job responsibilities, reassign or transfer any employee's job positions, or assign additional

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job responsibilities.

## F. Nonexempt Employees

### 1. Work Schedules

Business hours of school sites and offices (if any) shall be established by the CEO or designee. The CEO or designee will assign the classified staff's individual work schedule to ensure staffing throughout the workday. Employees are expected to be online or at their desks or workstations when ready to work.

For the purposes of pay and leave accrual calculations, full-time for classified employees, is defined as 2,080 working hours. The workweek begins at 12:01 a.m. Monday and ends at midnight on Sunday.

### 2. Rest Breaks and Meal Periods

#### a. Rest Breaks

Rest breaks are on the clock and duty-free. Employees are expected to return to work promptly at the end of any rest breaks.

### b. Number of Rest Breaks

Nonexempt employees are provided one (1) paid ten-minute rest break for every four (4) hours worked (or major fraction thereof, which is defined as any amount of time over two (2) hours). A rest break is not authorized for employees whose total daily work time is less than three and one half (3.5) hours.

If the employee works a shift from three and one-half (3.5) to six (6) hours in length, they will be entitled to one (1) paid ten-minute rest break. If they work more than six (6) hours and up to 10 hours, they will be entitled to two (2) paid ten-minute rest breaks. If the employee works more than 10 hours and up to 14 hours, they will be entitled to three (3) paid ten-minute rest breaks.

### c. Timing of Rest Breaks

The employee is authorized and permitted to take a rest break in the middle of each four-hour work period. There may be practical considerations that make this general timing infeasible and that require the School to deviate from this general rule. The employee will be informed if there are practical considerations that make this timing infeasible. In the event of these considerations, the immediate supervisor may need to schedule the rest breaks.

### d. Meal Period

All nonexempt employees will be provided an uninterrupted unpaid meal period of at least 30 minutes if working more than five (5) hours in a workday. The employee must clock out for the meal period and will be permitted a reasonable opportunity to take this meal period. During the meal period, the employee is relieved of all duty

and is free to leave the premises. The employee is expected to return to work promptly at the end of the meal period. If the total work period for the day is more than five (5) hours, but no more than six (6) hours, the meal period may be waived. This cannot be done without the mutual consent of the employee and HR. Any such waiver must be requested and approved with HR and supervisor in advance.

## e. Timing of Meal Period

As with rest breaks, the employee is authorized and permitted to take a meal period.

The meal period will be provided no later than the end of the fifth hour of work. For example, if work begins at 8:00 a.m., the meal period must begin by 12:59 p.m. (which is four hours and 59 minutes into the shift).

There may be practical considerations that make this general timing infeasible and that require the School to deviate from this general rule. The immediate supervisor may need to schedule the timing of an employee's meal period to ensure efficient business operations.

#### f. Second Meal Period

If the employee works more than 10 hours in a day, they will be provided a second, unpaid meal period of at least 30 minutes. Again, the employee must clock out for the meal period and will be permitted a reasonable opportunity to take this meal period; the employee will be relieved of all duty. During the meal period, the employee is relieved of all duty and is free to leave the premises. The employee is expected to return to work promptly at the end of the meal period.

Depending on the circumstances, the employee may be able to waive the second meal period if the first meal period was taken and if the total hours worked for the day is no more than twelve hours. This cannot be done without the mutual consent of the employee and HR. Any such waiver must be requested and approved with HR and supervisor in advance.

### g. Timing of Second Meal Period

As with rest breaks, the employee is authorized and permitted to take a meal period. A second meal period is required if the employee's hours exceed 10 hours in one workday.

This second meal period will be provided no later than the end of the 10th hour of work. For example, if work begins at 8:00 a.m., the employee must start the second meal period by 5:59 p.m. (which is 9 hours and 59 minutes into the shift).

There may be practical considerations that make this general timing infeasible and that require the School to deviate from this general rule. The immediate supervisor may need to schedule the timing of an employee's meal period to ensure business operations.

## h. Recording Meal Periods

The employee must clock out for any meal period and record the start and end of the meal period. Employees are not allowed to work "off the clock." Work time must be accurately reported on the time record.

## i. Missed Rest Breaks and Meal Periods

If for any reason the employee is not provided a rest break or meal period in accordance with the policy, or if they are in any way discouraged or impeded from taking their rest break or meal period, or from taking the full amount of time allotted to them, the employee may be eligible for a missed rest break or meal period remedy and should immediately notify HR.

Anytime the employee misses a rest break or meal period that was provided to them (or they work any portion of a provided meal period), they will be required to report the time to HR and document the reason for the missed rest break and meal period.

Please also refer to the School's Timekeeping Policy.

## j. Timekeeping

All nonexempt employees are required to record time worked for payroll purposes. Employees must record their own time at the start and at the end of each work period, including before and after the meal period. Altering with this procedure in any way is not permissible and is subject to disciplinary action. Time cards in the payroll system are to be approved by the employee and the supervisor prior to each payroll. Any errors on the time card should be reported immediately to HR. Employees with consistent patterns of not following time recording responsibilities are subject to disciplinary actions.

All communication between the nonexempt employee and management concerning work related issues is not permitted after hours. Once the nonexempt employee has recorded the end of a work period at the end of the day, that employee is no longer clocked in. All work related correspondence will resume the next work day except in the case of an emergency or at the direction of the supervisor. Nonexempt employees will be compensated at the appropriate rate of pay for any additional time worked outside of their work day.

## k. Pay for Mandatory Meetings & Training

The School will pay nonexempt employees for attendance at meetings, lectures, and training programs when attendance is mandatory, and the meeting, course, or lecture is directly related to the job and is outside of the regular schedule. Unless otherwise noted, trainings and meetings are included as part of an exempt employee's regular pay.

## l. Overtime

All overtime work must be requested in advance by the employee and authorized by the supervisor prior to the time to be worked. Nonexempt classified employees may

be directed to work overtime as necessary. Only actual hours worked in a given workday or workweek can apply in calculating overtime. The School provides compensation for all overtime hours worked by nonexempt employees in accordance with state and federal law. All hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in one workday or 40 hours in one workweek will be treated as overtime. A workday begins at 12:01 a.m. and ends at midnight 24 hours later. The work week begins at 12:01 a.m. Monday and ends at midnight on Sunday.

Compensation for hours in excess of 40 hours for the workweek, or in excess of eight (8) hours and not more than 12 hours for the workday, and for the first eight hours on the seventh consecutive day of work in one workweek, shall be paid at a rate of one-and-one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay. Compensation for hours in excess of 12 hours in one workday and in excess of eight (8) hours on the seventh consecutive workday in a workweek shall be paid at double the regular rate of pay.

### **G.** Exempt Employees

The School will pay exempt employees a salary rather than by the hour. Once an employee's sick days have been exhausted or are otherwise unavailable, the School will deduct pay from an exempt employee's salary under the following circumstances: (i) one or more full days absences for personal reasons; (ii) one or more full day absences for illness, injury, or sickness, (iii) one or more full work weeks disciplinary suspensions; and (iv) partial (for intermittent leave) or full day absences during an approved family or medical leave in accordance with law. Exempt employees who believe that the School made an incorrect or improper salary deduction should promptly report the deduction to their supervisor or the HR department. If the School incorrectly or improperly made a deduction from an exempt employee's salary, it will reimburse the employee for the deducted pay as soon as possible.

### H. Salary Overpayments

Because the School receives public funds, the School is obligated by law to seek reimbursement for any salary overpayment and cannot waive the recovery of the overpayment. Employees who receive excess pay as a result of a payroll error are required to return the funds to the School. The School will provide the employee with the correct salary calculation and the amount that is owed to the School. The employee may return the overpayment in full through a cashier's check or money order or allow the School to deduct the overpayment from the next paycheck. The School may arrange for a repayment plan that is mutually agreeable to both the School and the employee and does not exceed one—calendar year from the date of the overpayment. Should an employee resign prior to completing the repayment, the full amount shall become due upon termination. A repayment plan may be offered to a terminated employee not to exceed three (3) months in duration.

## I. Employee Evaluation

Supervisors will conduct performance reviews with all regular full-time and regular part-time employees annually. Supervisors may conduct informal performance reviews and goal setting sessions more often if they choose.

Performance reviews are designed for the supervisor and the employee to discuss their current job tasks, encourage and recognize attributes, and discuss positive, purposeful approaches for meeting work-related goals. Together, the employee and supervisor will discuss ways in which the employee can accomplish goals and/or learn new skills.

Performance review and goal setting sessions may or may not have a direct effect on any changes in salary compensation. For this reason, among others, it is important to prepare for these reviews carefully and participate in them fully. Additional details on employee evaluations will be provided by Human Resources upon hire.

### J. Corrective Action

All employees are expected to meet School standards of work performance. Work performance encompasses many factors, including attendance, punctuality, personal conduct, job proficiency and general compliance with School policies and procedures. If an employee does not meet these standards, the School may or may not, at its sole discretion, take corrective action, other than immediate dismissal. Employees have no entitlement to corrective action or progressive discipline prior to dismissal.

The intent of corrective action is to formally document problems while providing the employee with a reasonable time within which to improve performance. The School holds each of its employees to certain work rules and standards of conduct. When an employee deviates from these rules and standards, the employee may be terminated, or, at the School's discretion, be subject to corrective action by a supervisor.

Corrective actions may include, but are not required to include, an oral warning, a written warning, probation, suspension, and termination of employment. In deciding which initial corrective action would be appropriate, a supervisor may consider the seriousness of the infraction, the circumstances surrounding the matter, and the employee's previous record. As an at-will employer, the School may use all, some or none of the corrective actions described and will handle corrective action based on its own discretion.

Though the School will try to find paths for improvement whenever possible, the School considers certain rule infractions and violations of standards as grounds for immediate termination of employment. These include but are not limited to: theft in any form, insubordinate behavior, any misconduct concerning a child/student, vandalism or destruction of School property, trespassing, the use of School equipment without prior authorization, untruthfulness about personal work history, skills, or training, divulging proprietary information, and misrepresentations of the School to another employee, a prospective employee, or the general public.

Nothing in this section or any other section alters an employee's status as an at-will employee who may be terminated, with or without cause and with or without advance notice at any time by the School. Nothing in this section is intended to interfere with an employee's rights to communicate or voice concerns that are protected by Federal and State law.

## K. Procedure for Disciplinary Action

The corrective action process is designed to encourage development by providing employees with guidance in areas that need improvement such as poor work performance, attendance problems, personal conduct, general compliance with School policies and procedures and/or other disciplinary problems.

Corrective actions may be taken at the discretion of management and include any of the following:

- a. Verbal counseling, which may be confirmed in writing by the supervisor
- b. Written warning, which will be placed in the personnel file
- c. Suspension, which will be confirmed in writing for the personnel file. Suspension is normally used to remove an employee from the organization premises during an investigation, or as a disciplinary action. This may be paid or unpaid. If the employee is suspended, it will be documented in the personnel file.
- d. Discharge, which will be documented in the personnel file.

The corrective action process will not always commence with verbal counseling or include every step. The above options are not to be seen as a process in which one step always follows another. Some acts, particularly those that are intentional or serious, warrant more severe action on the first or subsequent offense. Consideration will be given to the seriousness of the offense, the intent and motivation to change the performance, and the environment in which the offense took place. As a reminder, employment remains at-will before, during, and after a disciplinary action.

#### L. Terminations

There are two types of terminations that may affect employees. Voluntary termination results when an employee voluntarily resigns their employment. Involuntary terminations result when the School makes the decision to end the at-will employment agreement.

Regardless of the reason for termination, all school-owned property, including vehicles, keys, credit cards, student files, or school property in the possession of the employee must be returned to the School immediately upon termination from employment, within 72 hours from the final date of employment with the School. Employees are not to recruit students from the School to a new place of employment.

All wages owed will be paid out upon the date of termination for involuntary terminations or within 72 hours after an employee's resignation if the employee gave 72 hours or less notice.

#### M. Personnel Records

Employees have a right to inspect certain documents in the personnel file as provided by law. The contents of personnel records will be available for inspection to the current or former employee, or their representative, at reasonable intervals and at reasonable times, but not later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date the School receives a written request. However, the employee, or their representative, and the School agree in writing to a date beyond thirty (30) calendar days to inspect the records, and the agreed-upon date does not exceed thirty-five (35) calendar days from receipt of the written request. Additionally, the School shall provide a copy of the personnel records, at a charge not to exceed the actual cost of reproduction, to a current or former employee, or their representative, no later than thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of the request, unless the current or former employee, or their representative, and the School agree in writing to a date beyond thirty (30) calendar days to produce a copy of the records, as long as the agreed-upon date does not exceed thirty-five (35) calendar days from the employer's receipt of the written request.

The employee may add comments to any disputed item in the file. Only HR, the CEO or designee is authorized to release information about current or former employees. Disclosure of personnel related

information to agencies or individuals outside the School will be limited and in accordance with law; however, the School will cooperate with requests from authorized law enforcement or local, state or federal agencies conducting official investigations and as otherwise legally required. The School is required by law to keep current all employees' names and addresses. Employees are responsible for notifying the School in the event of a name or address change.

### N. Destruction of Personal Information Records

In the course of the employee's duties at the School, they may encounter records which contain personal information (i.e., a person's name and Social Security Number, driver's license number, state identification number or any account number, credit or debit card number, access code or passwords that may permit access to an individual's financial account, payroll, or personal health information). The School expects all employees to take appropriate measures to maintain the confidentiality and integrity of such information and prevent unauthorized access. Employees must ensure hard copies of documents are stored securely, such as in a locked file cabinet, with access provided only to authorized individuals with a need to know. Electronic media must be encrypted or password protected. Passwords should never be included in any transmission that also contains the data. Employees should dispose of data no longer needed by shredding paper documents and properly erasing electronic media to ensure that the personal information cannot be read or reconstructed. Failure to follow proper storage and disposal procedures may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

## O. Employment Posters

The School maintains bulletin boards in School offices and on the HR information system that contain important information about employment. In addition to federal and state required notices, school-related information will also be available in these locations. All employees are encouraged to look at the online bulletin board regularly and to read all of the information displayed and made available in detail. Any questions about the information should be directed to the supervisor or HR. These bulletin boards are reserved for School use only; employees may not post or remove any information from them.

## P. Outside Employment

This policy is not intended to prohibit an employee from working an appropriate second job. Employees are permitted to engage in outside work or hold other jobs, subject to certain restrictions as outlined below.

- 1) Activities and conduct away from the job must not compete, conflict with or compromise the school interests or adversely affect an employee's job performance and the ability to fulfill all responsibilities to the School. Employees are prohibited from performing any services for customers on non-working time that are normally performed by the School. This prohibition also extends to the unauthorized use of any school tools or equipment and the unauthorized use or application of any confidential information. In addition, employees are not to solicit or conduct any outside business during paid working time.
- 2) Employees are cautioned to consider carefully the demands that additional work activity will create before accepting outside employment. Outside employment will not be considered an excuse for poor job performance, absenteeism, tardiness, leaving early, refusal to travel or refusal to work overtime or different hours. If outside work activity causes or contributes to job-related problems, it must be discontinued, and, if necessary, normal disciplinary procedures will be

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followed to deal with the specific problem.

- 3) In evaluating outside work, the following guidelines will be considered to determine whether the proposed employment is allowed. Employees may not engage in outside employment that:
  - a) involves working for a competing or similar model School;
  - b) occurs during work hours without the use of appropriate leave;
  - c) actually or potentially results in a conflict of interest with or interfere with the employee's responsibilities to the School;
  - d) involves working for an organization that does business with the School, such as contractors, community providers, suppliers and customers;
  - e) may adversely affect the School's image.
- 4) Employees who have accepted outside employment may not use paid sick leave to work on the outside job. Fraudulent use of sick leave will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

If it is determined that the outside employment constitutes a conflict of interest or disruption of the School's operation, the employee will be asked to limit or restrict the outside employment. Disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment may be taken for outside employment that is inconsistent with this policy unless otherwise approved.

## Q. Whistleblower Policy

It is the policy of the School to encourage its employees and applicants for School employment to disclose improper governmental activities, based in part on California Education Code Section 44110 et. seq. and to address written complaints that allege acts or attempted acts of interference, reprisal, retaliation, threats, coercion or intimidation against employees or applicants who disclose improper governmental activities. School management has the responsibility to seek out and correct any and all abuses resulting from improper governmental activities, and to protect those who come forward to report improper governmental activities.

Concerns that may be raised include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Reporting suspected violations of local, state, and federal law, including but not limited to federal laws and regulations;
- b. Providing truthful information in connection with an inquiry or investigation by a court, agency, law enforcement, or other governmental body; and
- c. Identifying potential violations of School policy, specifically the policies contained in the handbook with reference to employee safety or health, unsafe working conditions or work practices in the employee's employment or place of employment.

A whistleblower can also be an employee who refuses to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute, or a violation of or non-compliance with a local, state or federal rule or regulation.

The School may not:

a. Make, adopt, or enforce any rule, regulation, or policy preventing an employee from being a whistleblower;

- b. Retaliate against an employee who is a whistleblower;
- c. Retaliate against an employee for refusing to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute, or a violation or noncompliance with a state or federal rule or regulation; or
- d. Retaliate against an employee for having exercised their rights as a whistleblower in any former employment.

## **R.** Complaint Procedure

The School encourages employees to resolve issues or concerns at the lowest level possible to ensure a positive and professional work environment. When issues cannot be successfully resolved or the issue is serious in nature against the supervisor, the employee should bring the matter to the attention of HR for assistance. The complaint procedure approved by the Board of Directors is as follows:

- 1. The complainant will bring the matter to the attention of the Human Resources manager as soon as possible after attempts to resolve the complaint with the immediate supervisor have failed or were not appropriate; and
- 2. The complainant will reduce their complaint to writing, indicating all known and relevant facts, in the School's Internal Complaint Form. The Human Resources manager or designee will then investigate the facts and provide a solution or explanation
- 3. If the complaint is about the Human Resources manager, CEO, or Director, the complainant may file their Internal Complaint Form with the President of the School's Board of Directors, who may then confer with the Board and may conduct a fact-finding investigation or authorize a third party investigator on behalf of the Board. The Board President or investigator will report their findings to the Board for review and action, if necessary.

This policy cannot guarantee that every problem will be resolved to the employee's satisfaction. However, the School values each employee's ability to express concerns, and the need for resolution without fear of adverse consequences to employment.

- 1. Confidentiality: All complainants will be notified that information obtained from the complainants and thereafter gathered will be maintained in a manner as confidential as possible, but in some circumstances absolute confidentiality cannot be assured.
- 2. Non-Retaliation: All complainants will be advised that they will be protected against retaliation as a result of the filing of any complaint or participation in any complaint process.
- 3. Resolution: The School will investigate complaints appropriately under the circumstances and pursuant to the applicable procedures, and if necessary, take appropriate remedial measures to ensure effective resolution of any complaint.

## S. Uniform Complaint Procedures

The School will provide annual notice to all employees of the Uniform Complaint Procedures that may be used to allege a violation of federal or state laws governing certain educational programs. Copies of the Uniform Complaint Procedures and additional information may be found in the board policy section on the School's website or by contacting HR.

## T. Arbitration Agreement

## **Agreement to Arbitrate Disputes and Claims**

The School and employee mutually agree to submit to binding arbitration any and all disputes or claims they could otherwise pursue in court arising from or relating to employee's recruitment to or employment with the School, or the termination of that employment, including claims against any current or former agent or employee of the School, whether the disputes or claims arise in tort, contract, or pursuant to a statute, regulation, or ordinance now in existence or which may in the future be enacted or recognized, including, but not limited to, the following:

- claims for fraud, misrepresentation, promissory estoppel, fraudulent inducement of contract or breach of contract, whether such alleged contract or obligation be oral, written, or express or implied;
- claims for wrongful termination of employment, violation of public policy and constructive discharge, infliction of emotional distress, interference with contract or prospective economic advantage, defamation, unfair business practices, invasion of privacy;
- claims for employment discrimination, retaliation or harassment
- claims for violation of local, state or federal wage and hour laws, such as non-payment or incorrect payment of wages, sick pay, commissions, bonuses, severance, employee fringe benefits, or stock options.

The School and employee understand and agree that the arbitration of the disputes and claims covered by this Agreement shall be the sole and exclusive mechanism for resolving any and all existing and future disputes or claims arising out of employee's recruitment to or employment with the School or the termination thereof, except as set forth below.

## **Claims Not Covered by this Agreement**

The following claims are not subject to arbitration under this Agreement:

- 1) claims for workers' compensation benefits, state or federal disability benefits or state unemployment benefits;
- administrative charges or claims filed with a federal, state or local government office or agency, such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") or any comparable state anti-discrimination agency, or the National Labor Relations Board ("NLRB");
- 3) any claims that, as a matter of law, cannot legally be subject to arbitration;
- 4) claims under an employee benefit or pension plan that specifies a different arbitration procedure;
- 5) litigation pending in a state or federal court as of the date Employee signs this Agreement; or
- 6) claims brought pursuant to the California Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004.

## Waiver of Right to Trial

The School and employee understand and agree that the arbitration of disputes and claims under this Agreement shall be instead of a trial before a judge or jury. The School and employee understand and agree that, by signing this Agreement, they are expressly waiving, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any and all rights to a trial before a judge or jury, regarding any disputes and claims they may have that are subject to arbitration under this Agreement.

#### No Consolidation of Claims / Waiver of Class Claims

The School and employee agree to individualized arbitration, with claims pertaining to different employees to be heard in separate proceedings. This means that no other person shall be entitled to join or consolidate in arbitration any claim by or against other current or former School employees. As such, except as set forth above, the School and employee agree that both the School and employee hereby waive any right to bring on behalf of other persons, or to otherwise participate in, a class, collective or representative action (i.e. a type of lawsuit in which one or several persons sue on behalf of a larger group of persons).

## **Arbitration Procedures; Final and Binding Award**

The arbitration shall be conducted by a single neutral arbitrator in accordance with the then-current Employment Arbitration and Mediation Procedures of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), which can be viewed at <a href="http://www.adr.org/employment">http://www.adr.org/employment</a>. The School will provide the employee with a copy of these rules upon request. The arbitration shall take place in the county of the state in which the employee is or was last employed by the School, unless the School and the employee mutually agree on a different location. All parties shall be entitled to engage in reasonable pre-hearing discovery to obtain information to prosecute or defend the asserted claims. Any disputes between the parties regarding the nature or scope of discovery shall be decided by the arbitrator. The arbitrator shall hear and issue a written ruling upon any motions brought by either party, including but not limited to, motions for summary judgment or summary adjudication of issues.

After the hearing, the arbitrator shall issue a written decision setting forth the award, if any, and explaining the basis therefore. The arbitrator shall have the power to award any type of relief that would be available in court. The arbitrator's award shall be final and binding upon the parties and may be entered as a judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction. In the event of any conflict in the arbitration procedures set forth in this Agreement and the AAA rules specified above, the AAA rules shall control.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, and regardless of what is provided by AAA's rules, the arbitrator will not have authority or jurisdiction to consolidate claims of different employees into one proceeding, nor shall the arbitrator have authority or jurisdiction to hear the arbitration as a class, collective or representative action.

## **Governing Law**

The School and employee understand and agree that any disputes and claims to be arbitrated under this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state in which the employee was employed at the time the arbitrable disputes or claims arose. This Agreement is governed by the Federal Arbitration Act. The School and employee intend that this Agreement be limited to those claims that may legally be subject to a pre-dispute arbitration agreement under applicable law. A court construing this Agreement may therefore modify or interpret it to render it enforceable.

### **Costs of Arbitration**

The School and employee agree that the School will bear the arbitrator's fee and any other type of expenses or cost that the employee would not be required to bear if they were free to bring the disputes or claims in court. Otherwise, the School and employee shall each bear their own attorneys' fees and costs incurred in connection with the arbitration. The arbitrator shall have the authority to award attorneys' fees

and costs as required or permitted by applicable law. If there is a dispute as to whether the School or employee is the prevailing party in the arbitration, the arbitrator will decide the issue.

## Severability

The School and employee understand and agree that if any term or portion of this Agreement shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unenforceable or to be contrary to public policy or any law, then the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected by such invalidity or unenforceability but shall remain in full force and effect, as if the invalid or unenforceable term or portion thereof had not existed within this Agreement.

## **Complete Agreement**

The School and employee understand and agree that this Agreement contains the complete agreement between the School and employee regarding the subjects covered in it; that it supersedes any and all contrary prior representations and agreements between the School and employee on these subjects, if any; and that it may be modified only in writing, expressly referencing this Agreement and employee by full name, and signed by an authorized representative of the School and the employee.

## **Knowing and Voluntary Agreement**

The employee has been advised to consult with an attorney of their own choosing before signing this Agreement. The employee agrees to read this Agreement carefully and understands that by signing it, they are waiving all rights to a trial or hearing before a judge or jury with respect to any and all disputes and claims regarding employee's employment with the School or the recruitment to or termination thereof that are subject to arbitration under this Agreement.

# **Section V: Operational Considerations**

## A. Employer Property

Anything purchased with school funds such as computers and educational materials are considered School property and must be maintained according to School rules and regulations. School property is to be used only for work-related purposes. The School reserves the right to search and inspect all School property and any property used by employees in work related duties to ensure compliance with its rules and regulations, without notice to the employee and at any time, not necessarily in the employee's presence.

Employees may make or accept personal telephone calls, text messages, or emails within reason during working hours to perform important personal business. It is also acceptable to use a computer to perform the same minimal personal tasks. Employees may not use the School's phone to make personal calls that would incur long distance fees.

The School may periodically need to assign and/or change passwords and personal codes for voicemail, email and computer. Except as provided herein, these communication technologies and related storage media and databases are to be used only for School business and they remain the property of the School. The School reserves the right to override any such password system at any time at its sole discretion, with or without cause.

Prior authorization must be obtained from the CEO or designee before any School property may be removed from the School offices, except in the course of normal movement of educational

materials/computers by the employee. In this case, regular check-out/tracking procedures must be followed

Terminated employees who work at a school office should remove any personal items at the time they leave the School office. Personal items left in the workplace are subject to disposal if not claimed at the time of an employee's termination.

Employees must safeguard and not damage/destroy School property, including computer hardware or software, e-mails, internal files, notes and correspondence, student records, papers, recordings, pictures, screenshots, and any other items of any nature that belong to or concern the School. Upon separation of employment, employees must return all of the School's property and proprietary information as soon as possible, no later than 72 hours from the final date of employment, and not share, destroy, or retain any copies of such property and information.

Any employee who is found to have neglected or misused the School's property will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. If an employee's misuse of the School's property damages the property, the School reserves the right to require the employee to pay all or part of the cost to repair or replace the property. Misappropriation of the School's property is grounds for immediate termination and possible criminal action.

### **B.** Use of Electronic Media

The School uses various forms of electronic communication including, but not limited to computers, email, telephones and web sites. All electronic communications, including all software, databases, hardware, and digital files, remain the sole property of the School and are to be used only for School business and not for any personal use, except as allowed above.

Electronic communication and media may not be used in any manner that would be discriminatory, harassing or obscene, or for any other purpose that is illegal, against School policy or not in the best interest of the School.

Employees who misuse electronic communications and engage in defamation, copyright or trademark infringement, discrimination, harassment, or related actions will be subject to discipline up to dismissal. The School reserves the right to require authorization prior to installation of software on a School computer and/or mobile devices.

All electronic information created by any employee using any means of electronic communication is the property of the School and remains the property of the School. With School approval, employees may use personal passwords for purposes of security, but any employee's use of a personal password does not affect the School's ownership of the electronic information.

The School may at any time override all personal passwords for any reason.

The School reserves the right to access and review electronic files, messages, mail, and other digital archives, and to monitor the use of electronic communications as necessary to ensure that no misuse or violation of School policy or any law occurs.

Employees are not permitted to access the electronic communications of other employees or third parties unless directed to do so by school administration.

Access to the Internet, websites, and other types of School-paid computer access are to be used for School related business. Any information about the School, its products or services, or other types of information that will appear in the electronic media about the School must be approved by the CEO or designee before the information is placed on an electronic information resource that is accessible to others.

Questions about access to electronic communications or issues relating to security should be addressed to the CEO or designee.

#### C. Social Media

Social media can serve as a powerful tool to enhance communication. This technology can provide many benefits for communication. This section addresses employees' use of publicly available social media networks including: personal Websites, Web logs (blogs), WIK.Is, social networks, online forums, virtual worlds, and any other social media. The School takes no position on employees' decision to participate in the use of social media networks for personal use on personal time. However, use of social media for personal use during School time or on School equipment is prohibited. In addition, employees must avoid posting any information or engaging in communications that violate state or federal laws or School policies.

#### **General Statement**

The line between professional and personal relationships is blurred within a social media context. When employees choose to join or engage with students, families or fellow employees in a social media context that exists outside those approved by the School, they are advised to maintain their professionalism as School employees and have responsibility for addressing inappropriate behavior or activity on these networks, including requirements for mandated reporting. Employees must avoid posting any information or engaging in communications that violate state or federal laws or School policies.

Employees are expected to serve as positive ambassadors and to remember they are role models to students in the community. Because readers of social media networks may view the employee as a representative of the School, the School requires employees to observe the following rules when referring to the School, students, programs, activities, employees, volunteers and communities on any social media networks.

Employees must be respectful and professional in all communications (by word, image or other means). Employees shall not use obscene, profane or vulgar language on any social media network or engage in communications or conduct that is harassing, threatening, bullying, libelous, or that discusses or encourages any illegal activity or the inappropriate use of alcohol, use of illegal drugs, sexual behavior, sexual harassment, or bullying. Be sensitive about linking to content. Redirecting to another site may imply an endorsement of its content.

Employees must make clear that any views expressed are the employee's alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the School. Employees may not act as a spokesperson for the School or post comments as a representative of the School, except as authorized by the CEO or designee. When authorized as a spokesperson for the School, employees must disclose their employment relationship with the School.

**Protect confidential information.** Employees may not disclose information on any social media network

that is confidential or proprietary to the School, its students, or employees or that is protected by data privacy laws. Employees should be thoughtful about what they publish and must make sure they do not disclose or use confidential information. Students, parents, and colleagues should not be cited or obviously referenced without their approval. For example, ask permission before posting a student'(s)/co-worker'(s) picture on a social network (student photos require parental consent) or publishing a conversation that was meant to be private.

It is acceptable to discuss general details about student projects, lessons, or school events and to use non-identifying pseudonyms for an individual (e.g., teacher, students, parents) so long as the information provided does not make it easy for someone to identify the individual or violate any privacy laws. Public social networking sites are not the place to conduct School business with students or parents; please conduct these interactions using the School's network.

Employees may not post any private images of the School premises and property, such as workrooms, offices, including floor plans. Nothing in this policy is meant to prevent employees from posting information that is allowable by the National Labor Relations Act.

**Be transparent.** Honesty or dishonesty will be widely available on social media. If the employee is posting about their role at the School, the employee must use their real name and identify their employment relationship. The employee must be clear about their role; if they have a vested interest in something being discussed, to be the first to point it out.

**Perception can be reality.** In online networks, the lines between public and private, personal and professional are blurred. Employee's identification as a School employee, may create perceptions about expertise and about the School by community members, parents, students, and the general public. When posting online be sure that all content is consistent with employee work values and with the School's beliefs, core values and professional standards.

**Work/Personal Distinction.** Staff members are encouraged to maintain a clear distinction between their personal social media use and any School-related social media sites. The employee may consider setting up separate social media accounts for personal and professional use.

**Personal Social Networking & Media Accounts.** Before employees create or join an online social network, they should ask themselves whether they would be comfortable if a 'friend' decided to send the information to their students, the students' parents, or their supervisor. School employees must be mindful that any Internet information is ultimately accessible to the world.

**Social Interaction with Students.** Employees should not have online interactions with students on social networking sites outside of those forums dedicated to academic use. School employees' personal social networking profiles and blogs should not be linked to students' online profiles.

**Contacting Students Off-Hours.** Employees should only contact students for educational purposes and must never disclose confidential information possessed by the employee by virtue of their employment. Contacting students after hours must be kept to a minimum and be strictly for the purpose of academic support or to relay general information to all students.

Be a positive role model. Educational employees have a responsibility to maintain appropriate

employee-student relationships, whether on or off duty. Both case law and public expectations hold educational employees to a higher standard of conduct than the general public.

**School Logo.** The use of the School logo(s) on a social media site or elsewhere must be approved by the CEO or designee.

The School expects all who participate in social media to understand and follow these guidelines.

### D. Public Relations

Serving students and families requires a variety of professional skills. School employees are expected to demonstrate the following communication skills and abilities:

- 1. Ability to transmit passion for learning to students and families.
- 2. Flexibility and adaptability.
- 3. Well developed, clear communication and interpersonal skills that maintain a respectful, professional and courteous manner.
- 4. Conflict resolution skills.
- 5. Openness to differing views and objectives.
- 6. Ability to deliver information concerning curriculum, teaching, assessment, and learning to families
- 7. Serve the student and parent's needs to the best of their ability without allowing their own convenience to interfere.

The success of the School depends upon the quality of the relationships between the School, its employees, students, parents and the general public. The public impression of the School and its interest will be formed, in part, by the employees; employees are ambassadors. The more goodwill an employee promotes, the more employees, students, parents and the general public will respect and appreciate the employee, the School, and the Schools' services.

Below are several things employees can do to help leave people with a good impression of the School. These are the building blocks for continued success.

- 1. Communicate regularly.
- 2. Act competently and deal with others in a courteous and respectful manner.
- 3. Communicate pleasantly and respectfully with other employees at all times.
- 4. Follow up on requests and questions promptly, provide businesslike replies to inquiries and requests, and perform all duties in an orderly manner.
- 5. Respond to email and voicemail within 24 hours during the workweek.
- 6. Take great pride in their work and enjoy doing their very best.
- 7. Be proactive and work to anticipate the needs of those being supported.

When an employee encounters an uncomfortable situation that the employee does not feel capable of handling, their supervisor should be contacted immediately.

If a problem develops or if a parent remains dissatisfied, the employee should contact their supervisor for assistance.

Employees should not speak to the media on the School's behalf without contacting the School's CEO or designee. All media inquiries should be directed to the CEO or designee.

#### E. Solicitation & Distribution

In order to ensure smooth operations, the School has established the following guidelines to be respected while at work. As long as it is done during non-working hours for all employees involved (such as meal periods or rest breaks), employees are permitted to engage in solicitation (i.e., asking for contributions, selling merchandise) anywhere on School premises, as long as it is done in a non-disruptive and inoffensive manner. Employees may only engage in distribution (i.e., handing out pamphlets, literature, petitions) during non-working hours for all employees involved and in non-working areas (such as the lunch room). Solicitation or distribution is not allowed in areas open to the public. Employees are prohibited from posting notices on the School bulletin board or in any other office location and from removing any items without management approval. The School may, at its discretion, authorize certain fund-raisers and collections for employee gifts. Employees who want to organize such an event, must obtain prior approval from the supervisor. Solicitation and distribution by non-employees is prohibited at all times on School property.

## F. Inclement Weather/Emergency Closings

At times, emergencies such as severe weather, fires, or power failures can disrupt School operations. The decision to close the office will be made by the CEO or designee. When the decision is made to close the office, employees will receive official notification from their supervisors. Time off from scheduled work due to emergency closings will be unpaid for all nonexempt employees. However, employees eligible for vacation may elect to utilize their available vacation hours in order to remain in paid status.

Employees are encouraged to listen to local news and radio reports. In general, the School will follow the decisions of the local community. Days that the School is closed due to inclement weather or other emergency may create a need to extend the work year or shorten holiday breaks.

# Section VI: Health and Safety

All employees are responsible for their own safety, as well as that of others in the workplace. To help maintain a safe workplace, everyone must be safety-conscious at all times. In compliance with California law, and to promote the concept of a safe workplace, the School maintains an Injury and Illness Prevention Program.

In compliance with Proposition 65, the School will inform employees of any known exposure to a chemical known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity. See the School's Safety Plan for more information.

## A. Student Safety

The effective employee is concerned for the welfare of students and takes measures to insure their welfare. Nevertheless, it is important to be aware of the possible consequences of negligence. The

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employee is responsible to act in a reasonable and prudent manner at all times. Specifically, the employee must do the following:

- 1. Never leave students unsupervised and ensure that another responsible adult is present when leaving students.
- 2. Require students to conduct themselves in an orderly, safe manner and administer such disciplinary actions as are reasonable and proper in any situation involving student misconduct.
- 3. Report any unsafe conditions to the supervisor so that it may be corrected.
- 4. Strictly adhere to all stated policy of the district and of the School.

Failure by employees to meet their responsibilities may have severe consequences (e.g., revocation of their license, criminal charges, etc.). Additionally, teachers may be held legally liable for negligence in the performance of their duties.

## **B.** Employee Safety

The School is committed to providing the resources necessary to develop, implement, and administer a safety program for the protection of its employees. All administrative personnel and employees are expected to meet their responsibilities to make the safety program effective and productive. Periodic reviews of the safety program will be conducted by administration to maintain its effectiveness.

All accidents, injuries, potential safety hazards, safety suggestions and health and safety related issues must be reported immediately to the supervisor, CEO, or HR. When reporting the injury, the employee should advise staff if emergency services should be involved, or if the injury requires medical attention. HR will help determine the best course of action. If an injury does not require medical attention, an Employer Report of Injury/Illness Form must still be completed in case medical treatment is later needed and to ensure that any existing safety hazards are corrected. The Employee's Claim for Worker's Compensation Benefits Form must be completed in all cases in which an injury requiring medical attention has occurred. The employer will immediately notify OSHA in the event the employee sustains a serious illness, injury, or exposure that results in hospitalization as per CalOSHA guidelines.

### C. Transporting Students

Employees are not permitted to transport students. In the event a student needs transportation for a school-related purpose, the School will arrange for transportation in coordination with the parent or guardian.

### **D.** Employee Driving Policy

MYA must ensure that risks to the School are minimized and ensure that only safe drivers are allowed to drive on School business. The Board requires that all employees who regularly drive as part of their job duties ("Driving Employees") meet minimum standards of safety and insurance, which must be verified by the School. Driving employees must obey all traffic laws and drive safely while on School business.

Positions requiring driving shall state such in the job description and staff will be required to maintain a valid driver's license and vehicle insurance in order to meet the minimum qualifications of the position and perform the essential duties of the role.-This policy covers all school employees and violation of the

School's policy is grounds for discipline up to and including termination.

## **Driver's License and Insurance Coverage**

- 1. In order to operate a personal vehicle when used to perform MYA business, Driving Employees must have a valid driver's license and automobile insurance meeting the minimum standards established in this policy at all times. Evidence of the Driving Employee's driver's license and automobile insurance certificate will be kept on file. The Driving Employee is responsible for providing an updated driver's license and automobile insurance certificate whenever it expires or upon request. The Director or designee must be notified immediately if the Driving Employee no longer has a valid driver's license or insurance certificate.
- 2. Any Driving Employee whose driver's license or insurance certificate lapses or is canceled or revoked for any reason, and who cannot otherwise arrange for travel as required by their position, may be terminated or placed on inactive/unpaid status until the issue is remedied.
- 3. MYA requires that a Driving Employee carry the following insurance amounts and coverage:
  - a. Automobile Liability \$100,000 per person; \$300,000 per occurrence Property Damage \$50,000 per occurrence
  - b. Medical Payments \$5,000 per person

## **Notification of Traffic Violations Resulting in Criminal Convictions**

MYA receives notifications from the Department of Justice (DOJ) when an employee has been arrested and when there has been a conviction for a crime. Notification of a traffic violation resulting in a misdemeanor or felony charge will be discussed with the employee. Certain driving violations may be grounds for termination from a position that requires regular driving such as:

- 1. Attempting to evade a police officer
- 2. Driving with a revoked or suspended license
- 3. Hit and run
- 4. Speeding over one hundred (100) miles per hour
- 5. Reckless driving
- 6. Driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol

### **Responsibilities of Human Resources**

When recruiting for positions that require the employees to operate a vehicle, the posting notice shall advise applicants that a current driver's license record and verification of automobile insurance will be required prior to a final job offer.

## **Employee Responsibility**

Employees are responsible for maintaining driver's licenses and special certificates required for the performance of job duties. Employees are also responsible for promptly notifying their supervisor of expiration, conviction, or other DMV actions against their driver's license or certificate by no more than five (5) business days from the occurrence.

### **Use of Electronic Devices While Operating a Vehicle**

MYA recognizes staff members may spend a considerable amount of time driving for business purposes. It is the intention of the School to ensure all staff members are safe while driving a vehicle. Although hands-free options are available, it is the policy of the School to discourage employees from utilizing a

cell phone or other electronic devices while operating a vehicle. Distracted driving can be described as any visual, cognitive or manual distraction which takes attention away from the task of safe driving.

Employees are expected to follow all federal and state distracted driving laws. Employees who are charged with traffic violations resulting from the use of an electronic device while driving will be solely responsible for all liabilities that result from such actions.

The School highly encourages employees to use their best judgment and reserve all conversations conducted on an electronic device for when they are not in operation of a vehicle. It is recommended that employees find a safe location and park their vehicle prior to placing or accepting a telephone call. Texting while driving is prohibited. Voice texting while driving is strongly discouraged. Safety must come before all other concerns.

## **Revocation of Driving Privilege**

- 1. The Human Resources Director or designee will monitor the subsequent arrest notifications from the DOJ. Any Driving Employee who is convicted of a DUI, loses their driver's license or driving privilege, or is deemed to be a "negligent operator" by the DMV, and fails to make suitable arrangements for alternative transportation to maintain meetings as an essential function of their position will immediately be placed on unpaid administrative leave.
- 2. Seatbelts are an essential element of the School's safety procedures. To emphasize seat belt awareness, one (1) seatbelt violation while on MYA business will equate to a moving violation and may lead to disciplinary action. Repeat seatbelt violations could lead to termination of the at-will employment agreement.

## **Alternative Transportation**

All employees must make suitable arrangements to ensure timely attendance at all appointments that are essential job functions. With the advance approval of the Director or designee, the employee may be reimbursed the actual miles traveled using the Schools' current mileage reimbursement rate, for their travel using public transportation or rideshare service where a personal vehicle is not available or alternative transportation is not feasible. Driving Employees will not be reimbursed additional charges and expenses outside of the actual miles traveled for utilizing a rental car, taxi, or rideshare service in the event that the employee's personal vehicle is unavailable.

Nothing in this policy is intended to replace the employer's responsibility to engage in the interactive process with an employee who has requested accommodation due to an illness, injury, or disability. The HR manager or designee will ensure compliance in all matters pertaining to this policy.

## E. Contagious Illnesses in the Workplace

The School realizes that employees with contagious temporary illnesses such as influenza (including COVID-19, H1N1 or Swine Flu), colds, and other viruses, or other communicable diseases may wish to continue with normal life activities, including working. In deciding whether an employee with an apparently short-term contagious illness or communicable disease may continue to work, the School considers several factors. The employee must be able to perform normal job duties, meet regular performance standards; and, in the School's judgment, pose no potential risk to the health or safety of the employee or others. If the School determines that an employee is unable to perform normal job duties;

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meet regular performance standards; or represents a potential risk to the health or safety of the employee or others, the School reserves the right to send the employee home and require the use of any available sick or vacation time, and if none is available the time would be unpaid. If an employee disagrees with the School's determination that such a risk exists, the employee must submit a statement from their attending healthcare provider that the employee's continued presence at work poses no significant risk to the employee, other employees, or students before they are allowed to return to work.

The following are general health and hygiene practices recommended by the Centers for Disease Control:

- 1. Stay home when sick. An employee should not return to work until they have been free of a fever for at least 24 hours.
- 2. Use proper etiquette: cover the cough or sneeze with a tissue or cough or sneeze into the elbow.
- 3. Wash hands often, especially after sneezing, coughing, or having contact with others. Alternatively, use a hand gel disinfectant and rub hands until the gel is dry.
- 4. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth.
- 5. Ensure that general use office machines, such as shared computers, faxes, and copiers, are wiped down with disinfectant.
- 6. Healthy lifestyles are encouraged, including good nutrition, exercise, and adequate rest.
- 7. Supervisors will encourage employees to utilize paid sick and vacation if available to cover absences due to contagious temporary illnesses. Please contact HR regarding any questions about the possible contagious nature of any illness in the workplace.

The School will comply with all applicable statutes and regulations that protect the privacy of persons who have a contagious or communicable disease.

In the case of a pandemic (such as COVID-19, H1N1 or Swine Flu) or illness, the School may implement specific procedures through its emergency communication action plan including utilizing employees in essential operation positions; implementing controls and scheduling in the work environment; encouraging ill employees to stay home; modifying work schedules; implementing telecommuting; minimizing non-essential travel; social distancing (reducing frequency, proximity, and duration of contact between people); utilizing phone, email, and video-conferencing; personal protective equipment (PPE); and education and training on safe work practices, risk factors, and protective behaviors. Employees will be notified if the emergency communication action plan is implemented.

## F. Gun Violence Restraining Order

If an employee, parent, or student demonstrates a substantial likelihood of significant danger or harm to self or others, a gun violence restraining order petition may be filed. The petitioner may be an immediate family member, law enforcement officer, employer, co- workers with employer approval who regularly interact with the person, or an employee or teacher of a secondary or post-secondary school. A copy of the restraining order is to be submitted to human resources.

# Section VII: Employee Wages and Benefits

### A. Wages

Several factors may influence the compensation for a position. Each position is defined by a broadly written job description that indicates the duties to be performed and the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities for the assignment. These factors are reviewed when determining the appropriate compensation. Some of the items the School considers are the nature and scope of the job duties, what other employers pay their employees for comparable jobs (external equity), what the School pays their employees in comparable positions (internal equity), and individual work as well as performance. Wages are also affected by legislative changes and the State's economy and may be adjusted upward or downward as changes occur.

Initial step placement will be based on related prior experience, with a maximum entry placement of step five. The Director is given authority to offer a higher entry step placement in areas of shortage such as math, science, or special education in order to secure highly qualified candidates for positions. Step advances will be considered for employees who remain in paid status for at least 75% of the work year calendar. Consideration for step advancement will also be based upon the School's budget solvency, successful employee performance, and any other relevant factors.

The employee's performance review will usually be conducted on or about the end of the fiscal year. A positive performance review will not necessarily result in a change in compensation.

## **B.** Stipends

Stipends may include supplies, cell phone/internet, and/or mileage. Stipends may also be issued for performing specific additional job duties. Stipends may be evenly distributed across the employee's pay periods or issued at the time the services are rendered. All stipends will be reviewed annually.

## C. Paydays

All salaried exempt employees are paid on the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month. In the event that a regularly scheduled payday falls on a weekend or holiday, employees will receive pay on the prior day of operation.

Hourly and salaried nonexempt employees are paid on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of each month. Hours worked from the 16<sup>th</sup> through the last day of each month will be paid on or before the 10th of each month. Hours worked from the 1st through the 15th of the month will be paid on or before the 26<sup>th</sup> of each month. For more information on pay periods, please contact HR.

Paychecks will not, under any circumstances, be given to any person other than the employee without written authorization. Employees will be paid through manual checks or through direct deposit of funds to savings or checking accounts at their bank of choice (providing the bank has direct deposit capability). To activate direct deposit, a Direct Deposit Authorization form may be obtained from HR. Due to banking requirements it may take several weeks for activation of the direct deposit.

Every effort is made to avoid errors in calculating and distributing paychecks. Employees should inform HR if they believe an error has been made or pay has not been received. HR will take steps to research the problem and endeavor to make any necessary corrections as soon as possible or at least by the next regular pay day.

### D. Payroll Withholdings

As required by law, the School shall withhold Federal Income Tax, State Income Tax, Social Security

(FICA) for non-credentialed employees, CalSTRS for eligible Teachers/Administration and State Disability Insurance from each employee's pay as follows:

- 1. Federal Income Tax Withholding: The amount varies with the number of exemptions the employee claims and the gross pay amount.
- 2. State Income Tax Withholding: The same factors which apply to federal withholdings apply to state withholdings.
- 3. For non-credentialed employees: Social Security (FICA) The Federal Insurance Contribution Act requires that a certain percentage of employee earnings be deducted and forwarded to the federal government, together with an equal amount contributed by the School. The current tax rate is used in the calculation. Each party is responsible for contributing. Eligible credentialed employees participating in CalSTRS do not contribute to Social Security.
- 4. State Disability Insurance (SDI): This state fund is used to provide benefits to those out of work because of illness or disability.
- 5. For credentialed employees contributions will be deducted and remitted to California State Retirement System (CalSTRS). The CalSTRS is a special trust fund established by California law. Per the guidelines of CalSTRS, the school will abide by membership eligibility. A contribution withdrawal begins with the first pay period. This contribution is in lieu of Social Security withholding tax from the paycheck. Additionally, the School contributes into the CalSTRS fund. All employee and employer contributions are determined by CalSTRS. Further information regarding CalSTRS accounts can be found at <a href="https://www.CalSTRS.com">www.CalSTRS.com</a>.
- 6. For all employees participating in employee benefits offerings such as health insurance, the employee contribution for benefits (the amount that exceeds the employer's contribution towards benefits) will be deducted from the employee's paycheck. The amount will be discussed and approved prior to the deduction being made. Please reference "Employee Cost Sharing" under the "Employee Benefits" section of the Handbook for more information.

Every deduction from the paycheck is explained on the paystub, which will be available in the HR/Payroll Information System. If any deduction is unclear, contact HR.

All Federal, State, and Social Security taxes will be automatically deducted from paychecks. Federal and State Withholding Tax deduction is determined by the employee's W-4 (Federal) and DE-4 (State) forms. The W-4 and DE-4 forms are to be completed upon hire. The employee may change the number of withholding allowances they wish to claim for Federal Income Tax purposes at any time in the HR information system by updating their W-4 and DE-4 withholdings.

At the end of the calendar year, a "withholding statement" (W-2) will be prepared and provided to each employee for use in connection with preparation of income tax returns. The W-2 shows Social Security information, taxes withheld, and total wages.

While the School strives to process payroll correctly, an error may occur from time to time. If this happens, every effort will be made to correct the problem as quickly as possible and to avoid future errors of a similar nature. Employees will not be subjected to discrimination, harassment, or retaliation for coming forward with a complaint or question about their paycheck.

## E. Wage Attachments and Garnishments

When an employee's wages are garnished by court order, the School is legally bound to withhold the amount indicated in the garnishment order from the employee's paycheck. The School will, however, honor the Federal Consumer Credit Protection Act, which places restrictions on the total amount that may be garnished from an employee's paycheck.

## F. Employee Benefits

The School is committed to providing quality and cost effective benefit options (e.g. health, dental, vision, and life insurance) for eligible employees as part of the total employee compensation. Benefit eligibility may be dependent upon employee classification (full-time versus part-time, for example). Benefit eligibility requirements may also be imposed by the School and/or plans themselves. Policies, provisions and procedures that govern the organization's benefit program apply to all regular full-time and part-time employees, whether exempt or nonexempt status, unless otherwise noted in the employment agreement.

## 1. Employee Cost Sharing

Voluntary employment benefits, those benefits that are not mandated by state or federal law, are selected and controlled by the School. Decisions to provide and continue providing these benefits are based on such considerations as cost, composition of the workforce, operational efficiency, and desirability of benefit provisions. Where costs of discretionary insurance benefit plans exceed the School's interest, ability, or willingness to pay the full premium rate to maintain the current benefit level, employees may be required to share in the cost in order to continue the insurance plan coverage.

Exempt (FTE)	Non-Exempt ( <i>Hours per Week</i> )	*Tiered Benefit Stipends (for Health, Dental, and/or Vision)	
.75+ FTE	30+ hours	\$1,500/month	
.5074 FTE	20-29 hours 14-21 Students	\$900/month	
.49 FTE or less 19 hours or less 13 or less student		not eligible	

A review of all teachers' student counts is conducted in September and February each school year for the purpose of establishing benefit eligibility. This review is called the benefits snapshot. Additionally, HR will review the student counts on the teachers roster as of the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month in order to provide benefits to anyone who becomes eligible. If a teacher is deemed eligible for benefits based on their student count, they will be provided the opportunity to enroll in benefits with an effective date of the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month. Benefits eligibility would then remain in place until the next snapshot review.

### 2. Benefit Design and Modification

The School reserves the right to design plan provisions and to add, eliminate, or in other ways modify any School provided benefits described in this handbook or elsewhere in plan documents, where and when it is deemed in the School's best interest to do so. These benefits are subject to change depending on management decisions and resources.

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### 3. Benefit Plan Documents

Employees will be provided with summary plan descriptions upon eligibility and enrollment. The benefit programs are explicitly defined in legal documents, including insurance contracts, official plan texts, and trust agreements. In the event of a conflict between these documents and this policy, the plan documents will govern. All of these official documents are readily available from HR for review. Questions about this information should be directed to HR.

## 4. Right to Modify

The School reserves the right to amend, modify or terminate, in whole or in part, any or all of the provisions of the benefit plans described herein, including any health benefits that may be extended to retirees and their dependents to the extent allowed by law. Notice of any such changes will be provided, as required by law. Further, the School reserves the exclusive right, power and authority to administer, apply and interpret the benefit plans described herein, and to decide all matters arising in connection with the operation or administration of such plans, to the extent allowed by law. This section is subject to change in accordance with changes in the law.

## 5. Changes in Health Benefits

Employees may make changes to their plans outside of open enrollment if they experience a Qualifying Life Event (QLE). Examples of such events include marriage, divorce, birth, adoption, loss of coverage, etc. An employee has 30 days from the date of the QLE to notify human resources and enroll in or make changes to their health plan. For more complete information regarding any of the benefit programs, please contact HR

#### 6. COBRA Benefits

The Federal Consolidated Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) gives employees and their qualified beneficiaries the opportunity to continue health insurance coverage under the health plan when a "qualifying event" would normally result in the loss of eligibility. Some common qualifying events are resignation, termination of employment, or death of an employee, a reduction in an employee's hours, leave of absence, divorce or legal separation, and a dependent child no longer meet eligibility requirements.

Under COBRA, the employee or beneficiary pays the full cost of the coverage at the group rates plus an administration fee. The School or our carrier provides each eligible employee with a written notice describing rights granted under COBRA when the employee becomes eligible for coverage under the health insurance plan. The notice contains important information about the employee's rights and obligations.

### 7. Look-back Measurement Method - Seasonal and Variable Hour Employees

For seasonal employees as well as part time employees hired to work less than 20 hours per week the School will use a look-back measurement method to determine benefit eligibility status. This method is used to determine the benefits eligibility status of an employee by looking back over a defined period of time (12 months) to determine if the employee averaged at least 20 hours per week during that period.

• The initial measurement period begins on the first day of the calendar month following the

- employee's start date.
- An administrative period of 60 days in addition to the initial measurement period will be
  used to determine if an employee has satisfied the requirement of an average of 20 hours
  per week to be eligible for coverage.
- A stability period (designated period where coverage must be offered) of 12 months will
  be offered to all individuals identified as employees working at least 20 hours per week on
  average during the measurement period.
- After a new variable-hour or seasonal employee has been employed for a standard measurement period, the employee is considered to be an ongoing employee and will have their hours measured from open enrollment or plan year.

## G. Retirement Plan Offerings

The School is committed to providing retirement benefits to the employees. Plan details may be obtained through HR.

## 403(b)/457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

All employees can open a 403(b) and/or 457(b) account and make employee contributions through payroll deductions.

## **Employer Contributions**

The employer contribution towards a deferred benefit plan is based on an eligible employee's active contribution to a 403(b) or 457(b) account. Eligible employees must open a 457(b) account in order to receive the employer contributions. The employer contribution will be made to the employee's 457(b) account in an amount not to exceed a matching contribution up to 5% of the employee's base annual salary. Eligible employees are immediately vested in employer contributions. Seasonal employees are not eligible for employer contributions.

<u>Classified Employees</u>: To be eligible for an employer contribution, a classified employee must work at least 20 hours/week.

<u>Certificated Employees</u>: To be eligible for an employer contribution, a certificated employee must serve a minimum number of students, work at least 20 hours/week, or have an assignment at least 0.5 FTE.

## **H.** Expense Reimbursement Process

## 1. Supplies

Due to the virtual nature of this business, it may sometimes be most practical for employees to initiate purchases locally and be reimbursed for those expenses. Reasonable, actual business expenses incurred by employees for the purpose of conducting business on behalf of the School shall be reimbursed upon approval. Pre-approval by a supervisor is required in the event the employee wishes to purchase an item.

#### 2. Travel

The School will only reimburse actual and necessary expenditures for staff. Attendees shall be held accountable for good judgment regarding expenditure of tax dollars. All expenditures must have scanned copies of itemized original receipts, regardless of the amount. The School shall not reimburse personal

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travel expenses including, but not limited to, alcohol, entertainment, laundry, expenses of any family member who is accompanying the employee on school-related business, personal use of an automobile, and personal losses or traffic violation fees incurred while on school business. Factors such as variances in regional costs, travel duration and extenuating circumstances will be considered when approving travel reimbursement. In addition to those items listed below, associated travel fees such as parking fees, taxis/shuttles, and luggage handling are reimbursable expenses.

Employees are pre-approved to expense those costs associated with traveling for school-related purposes including testing and professional development. Scanned copies of original itemized receipts are required for reimbursement.

## 3. Mileage

The mileage reimbursement rate is based on the rate established by the Internal Revenue Service. All Employees are required to submit reimbursement for mileage through the payroll system.

### 4. Hotel Rooms

Lodging shall be for those days associated with attending the activity, including, if necessary, the night before. Good judgment shall be used to seek the most reasonable accommodations. Hotel rooms are reimbursed for employees traveling over 120 miles one way. A hotel stay for a distance less than 120 miles must have prior approval. Hotel rooms must be under \$125 per night before taxes. If an employee chooses to stay at a hotel that exceeds this, when a hotel within price range and a 15 mile radius is available, the balance above and beyond must be deducted from the total expense on the expense report. If a hotel is not available within this price range, pre-approval of the expenditure is required. Upon checkout from the hotel, the employee must obtain and submit a zero-balance sheet in order to be reimbursed for a hotel charge.

#### 5. Meals

Employees who are required to work or participate in training away from the regular work location may be reimbursed the cost of meal(s). Meals provided in conjunction with conferences, workshops, seminars, meetings that exceed these amounts are excluded from these limitations. No meals will be reimbursed for meals provided at/during the conference/training. The reimbursement rates are: \$15 for breakfast, \$20 for lunch, \$30 for dinner plus service gratuity maximum of 18%. The total amount reimbursed for meals per day will not exceed \$65. Alcohol is not reimbursable and must be deducted from any reimbursement requests. If an employee exceeds the allotment for meal expenses, the balance above the daily allocation will be deducted from the total expense on the expense report.

#### 6. Postage

Employees will be reimbursed for any postage related expense requested by the School. Employees must get pre approval from a supervisor for shipping expenses and must discuss the best shipping method with the supervisor.

## 7. Procedure for Expensing

Employees must have pre-approval prior to making any purchases that will warrant reimbursement. Approval may be obtained by sending an email to the CEO or Director with a short description of what will be purchased.

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Expense reimbursements must be submitted in the payroll system within thirty (30) days of the charge. Expense reports submitted after this time may not be reimbursed within the current cycle and/or may be delayed and processed in the next cycle.

# Section VIII: Leaves, Vacation, and Holidays

## A. Healthy Workplaces/Healthy Family Act of 2014

The School, in compliance with the Healthy Workplaces/Healthy Family Act of 2014 (AB 1522), allows all full time and part time employees who work at least 30 days within a year in California to accrue paid sick leave hours. Accrual begins on the first day of employment. The employee must work at least 30 days before taking any available accrued sick leave.

### B. Paid Sick Leave

Paid sick leave may be used for an employee's own illness, for preventative care or diagnosis, care or treatment of an existing health condition, or time off to care for an ill or injured family member or dependents, which include children, parents, spouse, registered domestic partner, grandparents, grandchildren, siblings and those related to the employee by blood or affinity equivalent. Sick leave may also be used when an employee needs to manage matters surroundings domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or when their worksite or their child's school or daycare closed due to public health emergencies. Except In the case of an illness or emergency, sick leave must be requested at least five (5) days in advance by submitting the request through the payroll system. In the case of an illness or emergency, sick leave must be requested for pay through the payroll system before the end of the current pay period. Employees using extended sick leave (in excess of 5 days) must submit a request at least two weeks before the extended leave. Additionally, Employees must notify their supervisor (via email or phone) when requesting or taking sick leave.

Employees requesting sick leave may be required to submit a health care provider's statement or, in cases of individuals with sincerely held religious beliefs in faith healing or comparable religious practices, a statement authorized under EEOC guidelines, stating the reason for absence and dates of illness. Employees absent more than five (5) days may be required to submit a health care provider's statement or note that the employee is fit for return to service.

Employees will be paid their regular compensation when using paid sick days. Sick leave hours will not be advanced ahead of the earned accrual.

Employees may use sick leave in thirty-minute minimum increments, which will be deducted from the employee's accrual balance. Employees are not required to find a replacement for their work while taking protected sick time. Paid sick day balances are available for employee review through the payroll system and on pay stubs. For all hours submitted as sick leave, the time will be uninterrupted and the work day schedule will not need to be adjusted to accommodate the absence.

Any unused sick hours will roll over from year to year. Sick leave hours will not be advanced to an employee ahead of the earned accrual rate. Accrued, but unused sick days are not paid out by the School at the time of separation. However, employees who terminate employment and are rehired within one (1) year of termination (or 6 months for employees working in the city of San Diego) regain their previously

unused accrued sick leave.

Any employee who continues to be absent after their sick leave accrual has been exhausted may have a payroll deduction equivalent to the number of hours absent. Salaried employees will only have full day absences deducted from their paycheck once their sick leave accrual is exhausted.

## Paid Sick Leave - Full Time Employees

The School provides sick pay for full time employees who regularly work a minimum of 30 hours per week. All full time classified, non-teaching certificated and special education certificated employees accrue one (1) sick day per month in paid status. Nonexempt employees are paid semi-monthly, and will accrue the equivalent of one half day per pay period. All employees who fall under this accrual method are guaranteed to accrue a minimum of 24 hours by the 120<sup>th</sup> day of employment and subsequent accrual years in accordance with State law.

Certificated Sick Accrual  Full Time Certificated Employees							
Sick Leave	Student Count or FTE	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued Monthly		
Tier 2	22 students or .75 to 1.0 FTE	30+ hours	4/4	8	8		

Classified Sick Accrual  Full Time Classified Employees					
Sick Leave	FTE	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued Monthly
Tier 2	.75 to 1.0	30+ hours	4/4	8	8

# Paid Sick Leave - Part Time, Per Diem, Seasonal, and Temporary Employees

The School provides all part-time, per diem, seasonal and temporary employees who work at least 30 days in California within a year with at least 40 hours (5 days) of paid sick leave in a 12-month period. Employees will be paid at their regular hourly rate when they take paid sick leave.

Employees start accruing hours on the first day of employment and must work for 30 days before they can take sick leave. Employees earn at least 1 hour of paid leave for every 30 hours worked. Employees may accrue more than 40 hours (5 days) of paid sick leave in a year. Sick leave accrual will be capped at 80 hours (10 days), in compliance with both state and city ordinances.

Sick Accrual  Part Time, Per Diem, Seasonal, and Temporary Employees					
Sick Leave	Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued
					Monthly
Tier 1	.5074	20-29	3/3	6	6
CASL	.49 or less	19 or less	2/2		4

## C. California State Benefits

California State Disability Insurance (SDI) is funded through employee contributions and is designed to

provide eligible workers with partial wage replacement when taking time off work for their non-work-related illness or injury, pregnancy, or childbirth.

California Paid Family Leave (PFL) provides employees residing in the State of California with the ability to access their State Disability Insurance for partial wage replacement benefits to care for a seriously ill child, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or registered domestic partner, or to bond with a new child by birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

PFL Military Assist benefits are available to eligible employees who request time off work to participate in a qualifying event due to the military deployment of their spouse, registered domestic partner, parent, or child to a foreign country.

Employees must notify HR of their plan to take leave and the reason for taking leave according to the School's policy. HR is available to assist employees with applying for State Disability benefits through the Employment Development Department. Employees may be eligible to receive PFL benefits while on a leave of absence to care for a seriously ill family member or for baby bonding. Employees are not eligible for PFL benefits when on PDL, FMLA, or CFRA leave for their own serious health conditions.

PFL is not a guaranteed right to a leave of absence, and employees taking PFL or PFL Military Assist are not provided job protection rights or a right to return to the same position following their absence.

## D. Pregnancy Disability Leave (PDL)

An employee may take pregnancy disability leave (PDL) if the employee is disabled because of pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, including prenatal care and severe morning sickness. The length of leave is dependent on a medical certification and the duration may be up to 17 1/3 weeks or the equivalent number of days the employee would normally work within the same period. Intermittent leave or a reduced work schedule may be taken.

## **Employee Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for pregnancy disability leave, the employee must be disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition and must provide appropriate medical certification concerning the disability.

## **Events That May Entitle an Employee to Pregnancy Disability Leave**

The 17 1/3 week pregnancy disability leave allowance includes any time taken (with or without pay) for any of the following reasons:

- The employee is unable to work at all or is unable to perform any one or more of the essential functions of their job without undue risk to self, the successful completion of pregnancy, or to other persons because of pregnancy or childbirth, or because of any medically recognized physical or mental condition that is related to pregnancy or childbirth (including severe morning sickness); or
- The employee needs to take time off for prenatal care.

## **Duration of Pregnancy Disability Leave**

Pregnancy disability leave may be taken in one or more periods, but not to exceed four months total. "17 1/3 weeks" means the number of days the employee would normally work within that period. For example, a full-time employee who works five eight hour days per week, four months means 88 working

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and/or paid eight hour days of leave entitlement based on an average of 22 working days per month for four months.

PDL will run concurrently with other applicable leaves, such as FMLA leave. The 12- month look-back period will apply to all leaves granted concurrently.

### Pay During Pregnancy Disability Leave

An employee on pregnancy disability leave may use all accrued paid sick leave at the beginning of any otherwise unpaid leave period. The receipt of sick leave pay, or state disability insurance benefits will not extend the length of pregnancy disability leave.

Sick pay will accrue during any period of unpaid pregnancy disability leave only until the end of the month in which the unpaid leave began. For example, an employee who delivers their baby on March 5 and goes out on leave on that date, would earn one day of sick leave for the month of March. Accrual for leave would be suspended until the employee returns from leave. All sick leave will be applied starting with the first day of absence until the leave is exhausted.

### **Health Benefits**

The provisions of various employee benefit plans govern continued eligibility during pregnancy disability leave and these provisions may change from time to time. When a request for pregnancy disability leave is granted, the School will give the employee written confirmation of the arrangements made for the payment of insurance premiums during the leave period.

If the employee takes pregnancy disability leave and is eligible under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the School will maintain group health insurance coverage for up to a maximum of 12 workweeks (if such insurance was provided before the leave was taken) on the same terms as if the employee had continued to work after PDL ended. Leave taken under the pregnancy disability policy runs concurrently with FMLA under federal law, but not California Family Rights Act (CFRA). If the employee is ineligible under the federal and state family and medical leave laws, while on pregnancy disability they will receive continued paid coverage on the same basis as other medical leave that the School may provide and for which the employee is eligible, such as continued PDL. In some instances, the School may recover premiums it paid to maintain health coverage for the employee if they fail to return to work following pregnancy disability leave.

### **Medical Certifications**

An employee requesting a pregnancy disability leave must provide a medical certification from their healthcare provider on a form supplied by the School. Failure to provide the required certification in a timely manner (within fifteen (15) days of the leave request) may result in a denial of the leave request until such certification is provided.

Re-certifications are required if leave is sought after expiration of the time estimated by the healthcare provider. Failure to submit required re-certifications can result in termination of the leave.

# Requesting and Scheduling Pregnancy Disability Leave

An employee should request pregnancy disability leave by contacting HR. The employee should provide at least thirty (30) days notice or as long of notice as is practicable, if the need for the leave is foreseeable.

Where possible, employees must make a reasonable effort to schedule foreseeable planned medical treatments so as not to unduly disrupt the School's operations.

Pregnancy disability leave may be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when medically advisable, as determined by the employee's healthcare provider. If an employee needs intermittent leave or leave on a reduced schedule that is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the employee may be transferred temporarily to an available alternative position for which the employee is qualified, which has equivalent pay and benefits that better accommodates recurring periods of leave than the employee's regular position.

In most cases, the School will respond to a pregnancy disability leave request within two (2) days of acquiring knowledge that the leave qualifies as pregnancy disability and, in any event, within ten (10) days of receiving the request. If a pregnancy disability leave request is granted, the School will notify the employee in writing and leave will be counted against the employee's pregnancy disability leave entitlement. This notice will explain the employee's obligations and the consequences of failing to satisfy them.

#### Return to Work

An employee on pregnancy disability leave remains an employee of the School and a leave will not constitute a break in service. When an employee returns from pregnancy disability leave, the employee will return to their original job or an equivalent job with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions as when the leave commenced.

If the employee is not reinstated to the original position, the employee will be reinstated to a comparable position unless there is no comparable position available or a comparable position is available, but filling that position with the returning employee would substantially undermine the School's ability to operate the business safely and efficiently. A "comparable" position is a position that involves the same or similar duties and responsibilities and is virtually identical to the employee's original position in terms of pay, benefits, and working conditions.

# **Employment During Leave**

An employee on pregnancy disability leave may not accept employment with any other employer without the School's written permission. An employee who accepts such employment will be deemed to have resigned from employment with the School.

### **Lactation Accommodation**

The School will provide a lactation break for a reasonable amount of time to accommodate an employee's need to express breast milk. Employees in need of lactation breaks should contact their supervisor and human resources to allow for the School to determine a private space and ensure the reasonable time for breaks is provided. Human Resources and the supervisor will assist the employee in identifying a proper location that is close to the employee's work area, shielded from view, and free from intrusion. Additionally, where applicable, the School will provide access to a sink with running water and a refrigerator for storing breast milk.

The lactation break shall, if possible, run concurrently with any rest break or meal period already provided to the employee. For non-exempt staff, any additional time needed to express milk outside of the normal rest break and meal period is to be off the clock. If the employee needs additional time past the

breaks typically provided in a day, the employee should contact their supervisor and human resources. If a space and break is not provided when requested, please contact human resources.

## E. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and California Family Rights Act (CFRA)

The School complies with the federal Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") and the California Family Rights Act ("CFRA"). The following information provides employees with a general description of their FMLA and CFRA rights.

# Calculating 12-Month Period for FMLA and CFRA

For purposes of calculating the 12-month period during which 12 weeks CFRA or qualifying exigency leaves may be taken, the School uses the "rolling" method also known as the look back method. For example, if an employee begins their leave on March 5, the look back period is 12 months from that date.

Under some circumstances, leave under FMLA and CFRA may run at the same time and the eligible employee will be entitled to a total of 12 weeks of family and medical leave in the designated 12-month period. Accrued sick leave will be paid to the employee starting with the first day of absence until exhausted and will run concurrently with FMLA and/or CFRA leave.

For leave to care for a covered service member, the 12-month period begins on the first day of the leave, regardless of how the 12-month period is calculated for other leaves. Leave to care for a covered service member is for a maximum of 26 workweeks during a 12-month period.

Leave granted under any of the reasons provided by state and federal law will be counted as FMLA and/or CFRA leave and will be considered as part of the 12-workweek entitlement (26-work week entitlement if leave is to care for a service member) in a 12-month period. The 12-month period is measured forward from the date any employee's first FMLA/CFRA leave begins. Successive 12-month periods commence on the date of an employee's first use of such leave after the preceding 12-month period has ended. No carryover of unused leave from one 12-month period to the next 12-month period is permitted.

Pregnancy, Childbirth or Related Conditions Under FMLA, CFRA and PDL

Time off due to pregnancy disability, childbirth or related medical condition falls under pregnancy disability leave (PDL) and FMLA leave and is not concurrent with CFRA leave. Employees who may not be eligible for FMLA leave may still be eligible for leave under PDL. Once the pregnant employee is no longer disabled, or once the employee has exhausted PDL and has given birth, they may apply for leave under CFRA, for purposes of baby bonding.

#### 1. FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

# **Employee Eligibility Criteria**

FMLA leave provides up to 12 workweeks of unpaid, job protected leave within a 12-month period, under the following conditions:

- a. The employee must have been employed by the School for at least twelve (12) months,
- b. The employee has worked at least 1,250 hours during the previous 12-month period before the need for leave; and

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c. The employee is employed at a location where the School has at least fifty (50) employees within a seventy-five (75) mile radius, except for purposes of baby-bonding where the threshold is twenty (20) employees.

FMLA leave may be taken for one or more of the following reasons:

- a. The birth of the employee's child, or placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care. When both parents are employed by the School, and request simultaneous leave for the birth or placement for adoption or foster care of a child, the School will not grant more than a total of 12 workweeks of FMLA leave for this reason.
- b. Due to the employee's own serious health condition causing the employee to be unable to perform one or more of the essential functions of their job. This excludes a disability caused by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, as they are covered by the School's pregnancy disability policy.
- c. To care for the employee's family member including a spouse, registered domestic partner, child, or parent who has a serious health condition or military service- related injury. When an employee is providing care for an injured spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a covered Armed Forces service member, the employee may take a maximum of twenty-six (26) weeks of FMLA leave in a single twelve (12) month period.

## **Intermittent Leave under FMLA**

Full-time employees may take leave of up to 12 work weeks in a rolling 12-month period. Part-time employees may take leave on a proportional basis. The leave does not need to be taken in one continuous period of time. Under FMLA, the employee must have the School's agreement to take intermittent leave.

#### 2. CALIFORNIA FAMILY RIGHTS ACT

The Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), enforced by the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), contains family care and medical leave provisions for California employees. CFRA applies to all employees of the state of California and any other political or civil subdivision of the state and cities, regardless of the number of employees.

## **Employee Eligibility Criteria**

CFRA leave provides up to 12 workweeks of unpaid, job protected leave within a 12-month period, under the following conditions:

- a. The employee has more than 12 months of service.
- b. The employee has worked at least 1,250 hours during the previous 12-month period before the need for leave; and
- c. The employee is employed at a worksite where there are 5 or more employees within a 75-mile radius.

CFRA leave may be taken for one or more of the following reasons:

- a. The birth of the employee's child, or placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care. If the School employs both parents of a child, it will grant up to 12 weeks of leave to each employee.
- b. To care for the employee's parent, parent-in-law, spouse, registered domestic partner, child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, or designated person who has a serious health condition.
- c. For a serious health condition that renders the employee unable to perform their job.
- d. To care for the employee's family member including a spouse, registered domestic partner, child,

parent, or designated person who has a military service-related injury. When an employee is providing care for an injured spouse, child, parent, or next of kin who is a covered Armed Forces service member, the employee may take a maximum of twenty-six (26) weeks of CFRA leave in a single twelve (12) month period.

#### Intermittent Leave under CFRA

Full-time employees may take leave of up to 12 work weeks in a rolling 12-month period. Part-time employees may take leave on a proportional basis. The leave does not need to be taken in one continuous period of time. Employees do not need the School's agreement to take intermittent bonding leave. In the case of intermittent leave, the employee may be required to use such leave in two-week minimum increments, with an exception for shorter increments on at least two occasions.

# 3. Process For Requesting FMLA/CFRA LEAVE

#### Leave Procedures

The following procedures shall apply when an employee requests leave: The employee must contact HR as soon as the need for the leave is realized. If the leave is based on the expected birth, placement for adoption or foster care, or planned medical treatment for a serious health condition of the employee or an eligible family member per FMLA or CFRA, the employee must notify the School at least 30 days before the leave is to begin. The employee must consult with their supervisor regarding scheduling of any planned medical treatment or supervision in order to minimize disruption to the operations of the School. Any such scheduling is subject to the approval of the health care provider of the employee or the health care provider of the applicable family members.

If the employee cannot provide 30 days' notice, the School must be informed as soon as is practical. Notice can be written or verbal and should include the timing and the anticipated duration of the leave, but the School does not require disclosure of an underlying diagnosis. The School will respond to a leave request within 5 business days. The School requires written communication from the health-care provider stating the reason for the leave and the probable duration of the condition. However, the health care provider may not disclose the underlying diagnosis without the consent of the patient.

If the FMLA/CFRA leave request is made because of the employee's own serious health condition, the School may require, at its expense, a second opinion from a health care provider that the School chooses. The health care provider designated to give a second opinion will not be one who is employed on a regular basis by the School.

If the second opinion differs from the first opinion, the School may require, at its expense, the employee to obtain the opinion of a third health care provider designated or approved jointly by the employer and the employee. The opinion of the third health care provider shall be considered final and binding on the School and the employee. While waiting for a second or third opinion, the employee is provisionally entitled to FMLA/CFRA leave.

The School requires the employee to provide certification within 15 days of any request for FMLA/CFRA, unless it is not practicable to do so. The School may require recertification from the health care provider if additional leave is required. For example, if an employee needs two weeks of family and medical leave, but following the two weeks needs intermittent leave, a new medical certification will be requested and required. If the employee does not provide medical certification in a timely manner to substantiate the need for leave, the School may delay approval of the leave, or continuation thereof, until

certification is received. If certification is never received, the leave may not be considered family and medical leave.

If the leave is needed to care for approved family members per FMLA/CFRA, the employee must provide a certification from the health care provider stating:

- 1. Date of commencement of the serious health condition;
- 2. Probable duration of the condition;
- 3. Estimated amount of time for care by the health care provider; and
- 4. Confirmation that the serious health condition warrants the participation of the employee.

### Certification

If an employee cites their own serious health condition as a reason for leave, the employee must provide a certification from the health care provider stating:

- Date of commencement of the serious health condition;
- Probable duration of the condition; and
- Inability of the employee to work at all or perform any one or more of the essential functions of their position because of the serious health condition.

The School will require certification by the employee's health care provider that the employee is fit to return to their job. Failure to provide certification by the health care provider of the employee's fitness to return to work may result in denial of reinstatement for the employee until the certificate is obtained.

### 4. Pay and Benefits Under FMLA/CFRA

### **Health and Benefit Plans**

The School provides health benefits under a group plan, and will therefore continue to make these benefits available during the leave if the employee is enrolled in the group plan. An employee taking FMLA/CFRA leave will be allowed to continue participating in any health and welfare benefit plans in which they were enrolled before the first day of the leave (for a maximum of 12 workweeks, or 26 workweeks if the leave is to care for a covered service member) at the level and under the conditions of coverage as if the employee had continued in employment for the duration of such leave. The School will continue to make the same premium contribution as if the employee had continued working. The continued participation in health benefits begins on the date leave first begins. In some instances, the School may recover from employee premiums paid to maintain health coverage if the employee fails to return to work following family/medical leave. An employee is deemed to have "failed to return from leave" if they do not return following the leave of absence, or work less than thirty (30) days after returning from leave. Employees on pregnancy disability leave will be allowed to continue to participate in group health coverage for up to a maximum of four months (or for the approved time) of pregnancy disability leave (if such insurance was provided before the leave was taken) on the same terms as if the employee had continued to work. The employee will also continue to make premium payments, if applicable, based on the payment schedule outlined in the premium payment letter. They will then be able to remain on benefits for any time taken under approved FMLA/CFRA leave if they are eligible for those leaves. Payment is due when it would be made by payroll deduction.

#### Substitution of Paid Leave

Generally, FMLA/CFRA leave is unpaid. The School is not required to pay employees during FMLA/CFRA leave and may require an employee to use accrued vacation time or other accumulated paid leave other than sick time. If the FMLA/CFRA leave is for the employee's own serious health condition the use of sick time is required and will run concurrent with FMLA/CFRA leave.

### **Time Accrual**

Sick pay will accrue during any period of unpaid disability leave only until the end of the month in which the unpaid leave began. For example, an employee who delivers their baby on March 5 and goes out on leave on that date, would earn one day of sick leave for the month of March. Accrual for leave would be suspended until the employee returns from leave. All sick leave will be applied starting with the first day of absence until the leave is exhausted

#### **COBRA Benefits**

If an employee requires additional leave after all protected leaves have been exhausted (PDL, FMLA, CFRA), they will be eligible for continued benefits through COBRA.

### 5. Reinstatement Upon Return From FMLA/CFRA

Under most circumstances, upon return from FMLA/CFRA leave, an employee will be reinstated to their original job or to an equivalent job with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions. However, an employee has no greater right to reinstatement than if they had been continuously employed rather than on leave. For example, if an employee on FMLA/CFRA leave would have been laid off had they not gone on leave, or if the employee's job is eliminated during the leave and no equivalent or comparable job is available, then the employee would not be entitled to reinstatement. In addition, an employee's use of FMLA/CFRA leave will not result in the loss of any employment benefit that the employee earned before using family/medical leave.

Reinstatement after FMLA leave may be denied to certain salaried "key" employees under the following conditions:

- a. An employee requesting reinstatement was among the highest-paid 10 percent of salaried employees employed within 75 miles of the work site at which the employee worked at the time of the leave request;
- b. The refusal to reinstate is necessary because reinstatement would cause substantial and grievous economic injury to the School's operations;
- c. The employee is notified of the School's intent to refuse reinstatement at the time the School determines the refusal is necessary; and
- d. If leave has already begun, the School gives the employee a reasonable opportunity to return to work following the notice described previously.

Under CFRA, the School will reinstate "key" employees. Employees should contact HR for additional information about eligibility for FMLA, CFRA or PFL.

### F. Bereavement Leave

The School grants leave of absence to benefited employees (employees with at least 50% employment) in the event of the death of the employee's current spouse, child, parent, parents-in-law, legal guardian, brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild, or mother, father, sister, brother, son-in-law, or daughter-in-law, stepparents, foster parents, foster children, and domestic Partners. An

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employee with a death in the family may take up to five (5) consecutive scheduled work days off with pay with the approval of the supervisor. An employee may be granted up to ten (10) days of bereavement leave for the death of the employee's spouse/domestic partner or child. Additionally, an employee who experiences a reproductive loss through a failed adoption, failed surrogacy, miscarriage, stillbirth, or unsuccessful assisted reproduction may take up to five (5) consecutive days off with regular pay. This leave may be taken by any employee who would have been the parent. The leave must be completed within three months of the loss and days can be taken intermittently. This leave does not run concurrently with CFRA or PDL. For employees who experience multiple losses, this leave is capped at no more than 20 days in a 12-month-period.

Bereavement leave may be taken intermittently with prior approval of the supervisor in no less than four-hour increments. If an employee requires more than the allocated time off for bereavement leave, the employee may use accumulated sick days. The CEO or designee may approve additional unpaid time off.

# G. Military Leave

Regular full-time employees requiring a leave of absence for service in the uniformed services are provided leave and will be re-employed at the end of the leave. Policies governing this leave are designed according to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act and applicable state regulations. The policy covers those employees who enter active military duty voluntarily and extends to Reservists and National Guard members who are called to limited active duty or extended training duty, including regularly scheduled annual training and military summer camp training.

### **Eligibility**

All employees, except those hired on a temporary or seasonal basis, are eligible for the leave.

### Length of Leave

The length of the military leave is determined by the uniformed service organization calling the employee to active duty or military encampment.

### **Request Procedure**

The employee must provide written notice of their obligation or intention to perform service in the uniformed services, unless notice is precluded by military necessity or is otherwise unreasonable or impossible. A copy of the military orders must also be provided. Failure to do so may result in loss of reemployment rights.

### Pay While on Leave

Military leaves are without pay.

### **Status of Benefits**

Reservists, National Guard members, and veterans returning from military service in the Armed Forces have and retain rights with respect to seniority, vacation, compensation, length of service, pay increases, as may be from time to time provided by applicable statutes of the United States and the state of California. The employee may maintain health care insurance benefits for up to 24 months while on leave by paying the insurance premiums through COBRA for any leave extending beyond 30 days.

#### Reinstatement

Upon return from a Uniformed Service Leave, the employee must report to work or request reemployment within prescribed time limits, which are based on the length of the leave:

- a. Between one (1) to thirty (30) days: The service member is expected to report to work on the first regularly scheduled work period on the first full day after release from service and will be reinstated to the same position held at the time the service leave began.
- b. Between 31-180 days: The service member must submit an application for re-employment within 14 days of release from service.
- c. For 181 days or longer: An application for reemployment must be submitted within 90 days of release from service.

Failure to file an application within the required time period may forfeit the right to reemployment.

## H. Organ and Bone Marrow Donation Leave

The Organ and Bone Marrow Donation Leave grants up to 30 days leave of absence with pay to employees who have exhausted all available sick leave within a one-year period for the purpose of donating an organ and a five (5) day leave of absence with pay to employees who are bone marrow donors. If needed, employees may take an additional unpaid leave of absence, up to 30 days per year, for donating an organ.

This leave may require use of two weeks accrued paid time off for organ donation, and five (5) days for bone marrow donation.

A medical note will be required to be submitted. Medical benefits will be maintained while the staff member is on leave and the staff member is guaranteed reinstatement to work. There will be no discrimination or retaliation for any leave taken.

# I. Jury Duty and Witness Leave

The School encourages employees to serve on jury duty when called. Postponement to non-instructional or off-peak department times is encouraged in order to minimize the impact to the School.

Seasonal and part-time employees will be provided unpaid time off to participate in jury duty. Nonexempt employees will receive full pay while serving up to 5 days of jury leave. Exempt employees called for jury duty will receive full salary for the time spent; however, exempt employees are expected to arrange their work schedule to minimize the impact on the School and must consult with their supervisor for guidance.

The employee should notify HR and their supervisor of the need for time off for jury duty as soon as a notice or summons from the court is received. Any employee summoned for jury duty must provide HR with an authentic summons, subpoena, or notice for such duty and upon returning to work must present proof of jury duty service, including the dates of the employee's service. Employees are expected to return to work if they are excused for jury duty during their regular working hours.

Fees Paid by the Court - All jury fees (excluding mileage) received by the employee while on school paid status shall be remitted to HR. Jury fees received while on school unpaid status are retained by the

employee.

# J. Volunteer Firefighters, Reserve Police Officer or Emergency Rescue Personnel

No employee shall be disciplined for taking time off to perform emergency duty as a volunteer firefighter. If the employee is an official volunteer firefighter, a reserve police officer, or an emergency rescue personnel they must alert HR that it may be necessary to take time off due to emergency duty.

#### K. Victims of Domestic Violence Leave

Employees who are victims of domestic violence are eligible for unpaid leave regardless of whether any person is arrested, prosecuted, or convicted of committing a crime. This leave provides time off for employees who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as well as leave for employees who are the victims or related to victims of certain serious or violent felonies. Employees may use available and accrued sick leave. The employee may also take paid vacation. The employee may request leave if they are involved in a judicial action, such as obtaining restraining orders, appearing in court to obtain relief to ensure the health, safety or welfare, or that of their child.

The employee should provide notice and certification if they need to take leave under this policy. Certification may be sufficiently provided by any of the following:

- a. A police report indicating that the employee was a victim of domestic violence.
- b. A court order protecting or separating the employee from the perpetrator of an act of domestic violence, or other evidence from the court or prosecuting attorney that the employee appeared in court.
- c. Documentation from a medical professional, domestic violence advocate, health- care provider, or counselor that the employee was undergoing treatment for physical or mental injuries or abuse resulting in victimization from an act of domestic violence.

The School will, to the extent allowed by law, maintain the confidentiality of an employee requesting leave under this provision.

## L. Suspension of an Employee's Enrolled Child

If an employee who is the parent or guardian of a child facing suspension from school and is summoned to the school to discuss the matter, the employee should alert the CEO or designee as soon as possible before leaving work. In keeping with California Labor Code Section 230.7, no discriminatory action will be taken against an employee who takes time off for this purpose.

# M. Recreational Activities and Programs

The School or its insurer will not be liable for payment of workers' compensation benefits for any injury that arises out of an employee's voluntary participation in any off-duty recreational, social, or athletic activity that is not part of the employee's work-related duties.

### N. Workers' Compensation

The School, in accordance with state law, provides insurance coverage for employees in case of a work-related injury. The workers' compensation benefits provided to injured employees include:

- Medical care;
- Cash benefits, tax free, to replace lost wages; and
- Vocational rehabilitation to help qualified injured employees return to suitable employment.

To ensure that the employee receives any workers' compensation benefits to which they may be entitled, they will need to:

- Immediately report any work-related injury or illness to HR. If the employee believes the injury or illness is caused by their job and develops gradually, the report should be filed as soon as possible. Reporting promptly helps avoid problems and delays in receiving benefits, including medical care. If the employee does not report the injury within 30 days, they risk losing their right to receive workers' compensation benefits;
- Seek medical treatment and follow-up care if required;
- Complete a written claim form and return it to HR as soon as possible.
- Provide the School with a certification from the healthcare provider regarding the need for workers' compensation disability leave, as well as the eventual ability to return to work from the leave.

Upon submission of a medical certification that an employee is able to return to work after a workers' compensation leave, the employee under most circumstances will be reinstated to the same position held at the time the leave began, or to an equivalent position, if available. Upon return, a teacher is not guaranteed the same students, but will receive new/transfer students according to the same seniority status they had prior to the leave. An employee returning from a workers' compensation leave has no greater right to reinstatement than if the employee had been continuously employed rather than on leave. For example, if an employee on workers' compensation leave would have been laid off had they not gone on leave, or if the employee's position has been eliminated or filled in order to avoid undermining the School's ability to operate safely and efficiently during the leave, and no equivalent or comparable positions are available, then the employee would not be entitled to reinstatement.

An employee's return depends on their qualifications for any existing openings. If, after returning from a workers' compensation disability leave, an employee is unable to perform the essential functions of the job because of a physical or mental disability, the School's obligations to the employee may include reasonable accommodation, as governed by the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).

# O. Other Types of Leaves

There are other types of leaves that employees may be eligible for which include:

- a. Time off to visit children's schools: This leave provides employees up to 8 hours per month (to a maximum of 40 hours per year) of unpaid time off for the purpose of child-related activities which include: to find, enroll, or re-enroll the child in a school or with a licensed childcare provider; to participate in activities of the school or licensed child care provider; to address a child care provider or school emergency. Employees may use available and accrued sick leave;
- b. Literacy accommodation leave: This leave provides reasonable accommodation for employees who experience difficulties with literacy to enroll in an adult literacy program, work with a tutor or otherwise take steps to improve upon their literacy needs. Employees may use available and accrued sick leave;
- c. Military spousal leave: This leave provides employees up to 10 days of unpaid, protected leave,

to spend time with a spouse or registered domestic partner who is home during a period of military deployment.

# P. Professional Development

The School expects all employees to maintain necessary certifications and encourages all employees to attend meetings, conferences, and other educational sessions that provide training and ideas helpful to the development or operation of the School. Employee requests to attend short-term professional development opportunities (two days or less) not sponsored by the School are subject to the approval of the Director, CEO or designee.

Employees will be allowed with the approval of their supervisor and the CEO or designee to attend extended professional development programs. Extended professional development programs are considered more than two (2) days. An employee will be expected to complete missed work or assignments upon return.

Employees should submit written requests to take professional development days to their supervisors for approval. The request shall include a printed or written agenda and/or printed material pertaining to the professional development. The School requests that employees submit requests to take professional development days at least 10 days for in town events and at least 30 days for out of town events. The granting of request will be solely at the discretion of the Director or CEO.

# Q. Holidays

The School recognizes the following holidays:

- New Year's Day (January 1st)
- Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday
- Presidents' Day
- Cesar Chavez Day
- Memorial Day
- Juneteenth (June 19)
- Independence Day (July 4th)
- Labor Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- The Friday after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve (December 24th)
- Christmas Day (December 25th)
- New Year's Eve (December 31st)

Each year the winter break will be reviewed and the holidays determined by the beginning of the school year.

Unless otherwise provided in this policy, all employees will receive time off for each observed holiday. To qualify for holiday pay, an employee must be a regular full-time (thirty or more hours per week) classified employee in paid status on the working day immediately preceding or following the holiday. A holiday that falls during a classified employee's vacation time or sick time is paid as a holiday and is not deducted from vacation or sick-leave balances.

# R. Vacation (Classified Employees)

The School's vacation policy is intended to provide eligible classified employees with time away from work for relaxation and renewal. In order to be eligible for vacation accrual, an employee must be a full time (thirty or more hours per week) classified exempt or nonexempt employee.

Vacation accrual begins on the first day of employment, and employees are eligible for vacation upon successful completion of 30 days of continuous employment. Eligible employees will accrue one day of vacation per month in paid status (e.g. an 8 hour/day 12 month employee will earn 12 days of vacation or 96 hours). Vacation accruals per pay period are displayed in the payroll system and on the employee's pay stubs.

Vacation Accrual  Classified Staff					
	Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	Hours Worked Per Week	Non-Exempt: Per Semi Monthly Pay Period	Exempt: Per Pay Monthly Period	Total Sick Hours Accrued Per Month
Full Time	.75+	30+	4 hours/4 hours	8 hours	8 hours
Part Time	.74 or less	29 or less	not eligible	not eligible	not eligible

As a general practice, the supervisor will make an effort to approve a vacation request that is mutually convenient for the employee and the School. A requested vacation will be approved if the absence does not cause a disruption of service or place an undue burden on fellow employees. All vacation requests must be made in advance of the time to be taken. All requests must be entered and approved through the payroll system before taking the time. Additionally, all requests must be approved by your supervisor (via Intranet) before taking the time. Any changes to a vacation request must be pre-approved by the supervisor at least three (3) business days prior to the start of the requested date of vacation, except in an emergency situation. Failure to get pre-approval may result in disciplinary action. The supervisor may determine peak times in which vacations may not be approved.

Employees may be required to use their earned vacation hours during school recess. Vacation can be used in increments of 1 hour and only used from the employee's available accrual. Vacation hours cannot be advanced ahead of the earned accrual. Accrued and unused vacation hours will roll over from year to year but are capped at one and a half times the annual rate of accrual (18 days or 144 hours). Employees will not accrue any additional vacation until their balance has dropped below the annual cap. Terminating employees (voluntary or involuntary discharge, death, end of employment agreement, etc.) will be paid all accrued and unused vacation in their final paycheck.

### S. Work Year Calendars

Each year the Board of Directors will approve the instructional and work year calendars for the new school year. Specific work days for certificated staff are determined by the School based on a return date for prep days, professional development, and final date for grade submission. The work days will be designated within the date range listed on the employment agreement.

In coordination with HR, supervisors will prepare a work year calendar displaying the first and last day of the assignment, all recess periods, and designated non-work days. For employees working less than 12 months, non-work days will be determined at the discretion of the employer, indicated on a work calendar provided to the employee, and determined so that work schedules will provide the greatest support to the School or department.

Non-work days are unpaid days based upon the employee's position and employment agreement as stated on the work year calendar. Unlike accrued leave, non-work days will not carry over from year to year.

### T. Make-up Time

Nonexempt employees may choose to use make up time in order to accommodate employee scheduling needs. Employees may choose to work over 8 hours on one or more days per week, so they make up work less than 8 hours another day for personal reasons. The extra hours worked for make-up time would not be counted as overtime. Employees are not to work more than 11 hours in a single workday (without prior approval), and the make-up time must all be taken and used within the pay work week. If employees request make-up time and have worked over 8 hours in a day earlier in the week, and their need for time off changes, the employer may still require the employee to take the planned time off to avoid unnecessary overtime. Unless otherwise approved, employees are not to work more than 40 hours per week, in which case, they will be eligible for overtime. Requests for make-up time must be submitted to the supervisor in advance.

## **U.** Suggestions

The School is always striving to improve operating procedures and encourages all employees to make suggestions to this end. We welcome suggestions on subjects such as safety; ways to improve customer service; and, how to save labor, money, energy, time, and materials. All suggestions should be submitted in writing to the appropriate supervisor who will in turn discuss them with School management. We appreciate staff suggestions that help make the School more successful.

# Confirmation of Receipt of Handbook

I have received the School's Employee Handbook. I understand and agree that it is my responsibility to read and familiarize myself with its policies and procedures, including the Schools policy for preventing discrimination, harassment and retaliation. I have been given the opportunity to ask any questions I might have about the policies in the Handbook.

I understand that except for employment at-will status, any and all policies or practices can be changed at any time by the School. The School reserves the right to change my hours, wages, and working conditions at any time. I understand and agree that other than the CEO, no manager, supervisor, or representative of the School has authority to enter into any agreement, express or implied, for employment for any specific

period of time, or to make any agreement for employment other than at-will; only the CEO has the authority to make any such agreement and then only in writing, signed by the CEO.

I understand and agree that nothing in the Employee Handbook creates or is intended to create a promise or representation of continued employment and that employment at the School is employment at-will; employment may be terminated at the will of either the School or myself. My signature certifies that I understand that the foregoing agreement on at-will status is the sole and entire agreement between the School and myself concerning the duration of my employment and the circumstances under which my employment may be terminated. It supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, and representations concerning my employment with the School.

Employee's Signature	Employee's Print Name	Date

# Coversheet

# Consent - Policy Development

Section: VIII. Consent

Item: D. Consent - Policy Development

Purpose: Vote

Submitted by:

Related Material: MYA Fourth Amended Bylaws - Redlined 2024.10.08.pdf

MYA Fourth Amended Bylaws - For Board Approval 2024.10.08.pdf

### BACKGROUND:

The Third Amended Bylaws has been revised to correct errors in the section numbering. These revisions ensure that the document is properly formatted and organized, maintaining clarity and consistency throughout.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board approves the Fourth Amended Bylaws as presented.

Fiscal Impact: None

### FOURTHTHIRD- AMENDED BYLAWS

OF

# MOTIVATED YOUTH ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

(A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation)

### Adopted on Month, Day, Year January 12, 2023

#### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

Section 1.01 <u>Corporate Name</u>. The name of this corporation is Motivated Youth Academy Charter School (hereinafter, the "Corporation").

#### **ARTICLE II. OFFICES**

Section 2.01 <u>Principal Office</u>. The principal office of the Corporation is located at 500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025. The Board of Directors ("Board") may change the principal office from one location to another within the State of California.

Section 2.02 <u>Other Offices</u>. The Board may at any time establish branch or subordinate offices at any place or places where this Corporation is qualified to conduct its activities.

#### **ARTICLE III. PURPOSES**

Section 3.01 <u>Description in Articles</u>. The Corporation's general and specific purposes are described in its Articles of Incorporation.

### **ARTICLE IV. DEDICATION OF ASSETS**

Section 4.01 <u>Dedication of Assets</u>. This Corporation's assets are irrevocably dedicated to charitable and educational purposes. No part of the net earnings, properties, or assets of the Corporation, on dissolution or otherwise, shall insure to the benefit of any private person or individual, or to any Director or officer of the Corporation. Upon dissolution of the Corporation, all properties and assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of the Corporation shall be distributed as set forth in its Articles of Incorporation.

#### **ARTICLE V. NO MEMBERS**

Section 5.01 <u>No Members.</u> The Corporation shall have no members within the meaning of Section 5056 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law.

Section 5.02 <u>Authority Vested in the Board</u>. Any action that otherwise requires approval by a majority of all members, or approval by the members, requires only approval of the Board. All rights that would otherwise vest under the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law in the members shall vest in the Board.

Section 5.03 <u>Associates</u>. The Corporation may use the term "members" to refer to persons associated with it, but such persons shall not be corporate members within the meaning of Section 5056 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law.

#### **ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 6.01 <u>General Powers.</u> Subject to the provisions and limitations of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law and any other applicable laws, and any limitations of the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, the Corporation's activities and affairs shall be conducted, and all corporate powers shall be exercised, by or under the direction of the Board. The Board may delegate the management of the Corporation's activities to any person(s), management company, or committees, however composed, provided that the Corporation's activities and affairs shall be managed and all corporate powers shall be exercised under the ultimate direction of the Board.

Section 6.02 <u>Specific Powers</u>. Without prejudice to such general powers, but subject to the same limitations, the Board shall have the following powers:

- (a) To approve personnel policies and monitor their implementation; to select and remove certain officers, agents, and employees of the Corporation, and to prescribe such powers and duties for them as are compatible with law, the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws; to fix their compensation;
- (b) To conduct, manage, and control the affairs and activities of the Corporation and to make such rules and regulations to do so which are not inconsistent with law, the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws;
- (c) To change the principal office or the principal business office in California from one location to another; cause the Corporation to be qualified to conduct its activities in any other state, territory, dependency, or country; and conduct its activities in or outside California;
- (d) To borrow money and incur indebtedness for the Corporation's purposes and to cause to be executed and delivered therefore, in the corporate name, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, hypothecations, and other evidences of debt and security therefore;
- (e) To carry on a business and apply any revenues in excess of expenses that result from the business activity to any activity that it may lawfully engage in;
- (f) To acquire by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise, and to hold, improve, lease, sublease, mortgage, transfer in trust, encumber, convey, or otherwise dispose of real and personal property;
- (g) To act as trustee under any trust incidental to the principal object of the Corporation, and to receive, hold, administer, exchange, and expend funds and property subject to such trust; and
- (h) To enter into any contracts or other instruments, and do any and all other things incidental to or expedient for attainment of the Corporation's purposes.

Section 6.03 <u>Number of Directors</u>. The Board shall consist of a minimum of three (3) and no more than nine (9) Directors, with the actual number to be determined from time to time by the Board. If a charter authorizer representative serves on the Board pursuant to Education Code Section 47604(c), the Board may elect an additional Director to maintain an odd number of Directors, even in excess of the

nine (9) Director limit described in this section.

Section 6.04 <u>Election of Directors.</u> Unless an alternative process is adopted or implemented by the Board, candidates shall be nominated, evaluated and elected as follows:

- (a) The Board will appoint an advisory committee to identify qualified candidates for election to the Board, and will endeavor to appoint the committee at least thirty (30) days before any election of Director(s). The committee will prepare and provide the Board a list of qualified candidates nominated by the committee, and will endeavor to complete and provide the Board such list at least seven (7) days before the election or at such other time as the Board may direct. If available at the time, the Secretary shall also provide the Board with a copy of the list when sending notice of the meeting at which the election will be held, or as soon as possible thereafter.
- (b) Directors shall be elected by a majority vote of the Directors then in office, typically at the Board's annual meeting. All Directors shall have full voting rights.

Section 6.05 <u>Terms of Office</u>. With the exception of the initial Board that served five-year terms, each Director shall hold office for a three-year term, but the Board may designate a particular Director to serve a one-, two- or three-year term in order to maintain staggered terms on the Board. Each incumbent Director shall serve until a successor has been elected and seated by the Board. There shall be no limitation on the number of consecutive terms to which a Director may be re-elected.

Section 6.06 Events Causing Vacancies on Board. A vacancy on the Board shall be deemed to exist if a Director dies, resigns, is removed, or if the authorized number of Directors is increased. The Board may declare vacant the office of a Director who has been declared of unsound mind by a final order of court, convicted of a felony, or found by a final order or judgment of any court to have breached any duty arising under Article 3 of Chapter 2 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the vote of a majority of Directors then in office. Each Director so elected shall hold office until the expiration of the term of the replaced Director and until a successor has been duly elected and seated by the Board.

Section 6.07 <u>Removal</u>. Any Director may be removed at any time by a majority vote of the Board, with or without cause.

Section 6.08 <u>Resignation</u>. Subject to Section 5226 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law, any Director may resign effective upon giving written notice to the Executive Director/CEO, the Board President, or the Board as a whole, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation. If the resignation is effective at a future time, a successor may be elected before then to take office when the resignation becomes effective. No Director may resign when the Corporation would then be left without at least one (1) Director in charge of its affairs.

Section 6.09 <u>Brown Act and Charter Schools Act Compliance; Location of Meetings.</u> Meetings of the Board with respect to charter school operations shall be called, held, and conducted in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950, *et seq.*) ("Brown Act") and the Charter Schools Act.

Section 6.10 <u>Annual Meetings</u>. The Board shall meet annually for the purpose of organization, election of directors and officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

Section 6.11 Regular Meetings. The Board shall hold regular meetings, along with the annual

meetings, at such times and places as may from time to time be fixed by the Board. Regular meetings of the Board related to charter school operations shall be called, held, and conducted in accordance with the Brown Act and the Charter Schools Act, including that agendas for such meetings will be posted seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public and on the school's website. The notice shall contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting.

Section 6.12 <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board for any purpose may be called at any time by the Executive Director/CEO, the Board President, or any two Directors. Notice of the time and place of special meetings shall be delivered to each Director personally or by telephone or email. Notice of special meetings related to charter school operations shall be provided at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and shall be held in locations and in a manner consistent with the Brown Act and the Charter School Act.

Section 6.13 Quorum. A majority of the actual number of Directors then in office shall constitute a quorum. Every action taken or decision made by a majority of the Directors present at a meeting duly held at which a quorum is present is an act of the Board, subject to the provisions of Corporations Code Section 5212 (appointment of committees), Section 5233 (approval of contracts or transactions in which a director has a direct or indirect material financial interest), Section 5234 (approval of certain transactions between corporations having common directorships), Section 5235 (compensation of directors or officers), and Section 5238(e) (indemnification of directors), and except as may be otherwise provided under the Political Reform Act, if applicable. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business, notwithstanding the withdrawal of Directors, but no action can be taken unless and until a quorum is restored. Directors may not vote by proxy.

Section 6.14 <u>Participation by Teleconference</u>. Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board through the use of teleconference telephone, electronic video communication, or similar communications equipment, so long as each Director participating in such meeting can communicate with all of the other Directors concurrently and is provided the means of participating in all matters before the Board. In addition, a Board meeting related to charter school operations must be noticed and conducted in compliance with Section 54953(b) of the Brown Act and the Charter Schools Act, including without limitation the following:

- (a) At a minimum, a quorum of the members of the Board shall participate in the teleconference meeting from locations within the Corporation's jurisdiction;
- (b) All votes taken during a teleconference meeting shall be by roll call;
- (c) Agendas shall be posted at all teleconference locations, with each location identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting;
- (d) All locations where a member of the Board participates via teleconference must be fully accessible to members of the public and shall be listed on the agenda;
- (e) Members of the public must be able to hear what is said during the meeting and shall be provided with an opportunity to address the Board directly at each teleconference location; and
- (f) Members of the public attending a meeting conducted via teleconference need not give their name when entering the conference call.

Section 6.15 <u>Waiver of Notice</u>. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any Director who signs a waiver of notice or a written consent to holding the meeting or an approval of the minutes thereof, whether before or after the meeting, or who attends the meeting without protesting the lack of notice to such Director prior thereto or at its commencement. All such waivers, consents, and approvals shall be filed with the corporate records or made a part of the minutes of the meetings.

Section 6.16 <u>Action Without Meeting</u>. The Board may take action without a meeting with respect to activities that are not related to charter school operations, if any, so long as all Directors on the Board consent in writing to such action and if allowed by applicable law under the Government and Educations Codes. Such written consents shall have the same effect as a unanimous vote of the Board and shall be filed with the minutes of the Board.

Section 6.17 <u>Adjournment.</u> A majority of the Directors present, whether or not a quorum is present, may adjourn any Board meeting to another time and place. If the meeting is adjourned for more than twenty-four (24) hours, notice of any adjournment to another time or place shall be given prior to the adjourned meeting to the Directors who were not present at the time of the adjournment.

Section 6.18 <u>Compensation and Reimbursement.</u> Directors may receive such compensation for their service as Directors and/or officers as the Board may establish by resolution to be just and reasonable compensation as to the Corporation at the time that the resolution is adopted. The Board may approve the reimbursement of a Director's actual and necessary expenses incurred when conducting the Corporation's business.

Section 6.19 Interested Person. No more than forty-nine percent (49%) of the persons serving on the Board may be interested persons. An interested person is (a) any person currently being compensated by the Corporation for services rendered to it within the previous 12 months, whether as a full-time or part-time employee, independent contractor, or otherwise, excluding any reasonable compensation paid to a Director as Director; and (b) any brother, sister, ancestor, descendant, spouse, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, or father-in-law of such person. The Board may adopt other policies circumscribing potential conflicts of interest.

### **ARTICLE VII. BOARD OFFICERS**

Section 7.01 <u>Board Officers</u>. The Corporation shall have the following Board officer positions, which shall be filled by Directors currently serving on the Board pursuant to Section 7.02 below, and who shall have such authority and duties as the Board may determine including the following:

- (a) Board President, who shall preside at Board meetings;
- (b) Board Vice President, who shall preside at Board meetings in the absence of the Board President; and
- (c) Board Clerk, who may preside at Board meetings and fulfill the Board President's responsibilities described above in the absence of the Board Vice President or the Board President. In addition to the Board President, the Board Clerk shall sign and review the Board approved minutes of this Corporation.

Section 7.02 <u>Election of Board Officers</u>. The Board officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the Board at a regular or special meeting of the Board, shall serve at the pleasure of the Board for one (1) year terms without a limitation on the number of consecutive terms, and shall hold their

respective offices until their resignation, removal, or other disqualification from service.

Section 7.03 <u>Removal of Board Officers.</u> Any Board officer may be removed, with or without cause, by a majority vote of the Board at any time. Such removal shall be without prejudice to the rights, if any, of an officer under any contract of employment.

Section 7.04 <u>Resignation of Board Officers.</u> Any Board officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board, but without prejudice to the rights, if any, of the Corporation under any contract to which the officer is a party. Any such resignation shall take effect upon receipt of that notice or at any later time specified by that notice and, unless otherwise specified in that notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section 7.05 <u>Board Officer Vacancies</u>. A vacancy in any Board office for any reason shall be filled in the manner provided in Section 7.02 for the election of Board officers, except that such vacancies shall be filled as they occur (rather than annually).

#### **ARTICLE VIII. CORPORATE OFFICERS**

Section 7.06–8.01 <u>Corporate Officers</u>. The Corporation shall have the following corporate officer positions, which are typically held by employees or contractors of the Corporation, who shall have the following duties and shall serve pursuant to their contracts of employment:

- (a) Executive Officer, who shall be the general manager and chief executive officer of the Corporation, and, subject to the control of the Board and their employment contract, shall generally supervise, direct, and control the activities, affairs, and employees of the Corporation, and shall see that all resolutions of the Board are carried into effect, and shall perform any and all other duties assigned by the Board, and by contract if an employee. The Executive Officer shall be reported on the Statement of Information filed with the Secretary of State as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.
- (b) Chief Financial Officer, who shall supervise the charge and custody of all funds of this Corporation, the deposit of such funds in the manner prescribed by the Board, and the keeping and maintaining of adequate and correct accounts of the Corporation's properties and business transactions, shall render reports and accountings as required, and shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board or these Bylaws. The Chief Financial Officer shall be reported on the Statement of Information filed with the Secretary of State as the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation.
- (c) Secretary, who shall be responsible for keeping a full and complete record of the proceedings of the Board and its committees, giving such notices as may be proper and necessary, keep the minute books of this Corporation, and shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board or these Bylaws. The Secretary shall be reported on the Statement of Information filed with the Secretary of State as the Secretary of the Corporation.

Section 7.07–8.02 <u>Duplication of Office Holders</u>. Any number of offices may be held by the same person, except that neither the Secretary, the Treasurer (if any) nor the Chief Financial Officer may serve concurrently as the Board President or the Executive Officer.

Section 7.08—8.03 Compensation of Officers. Subject to Section 6.18 above, the salaries of officers, if any, shall be fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board, or in the case of corporate officers hired by the Executive Officer, the Executive Officer shall have the authority to fix such corporate officers' salaries, if any. In all cases, any salaries received by the Corporation's officers shall be reasonable and given in return for services actually rendered for the Corporation which relate to the performance of

the charitable purposes of the Corporation.

#### **ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES**

Section 9.018.01 <u>Board Committees.</u> The Board may create one or more committees, each consisting of two (2) or more Directors or others to serve at the pleasure of the Board, and may delegate to such committee any of the authority of the Board, except with respect to:

- (a) Final action on any matter that, by law, requires approval of all of the Directors or a majority of all of the Directors;
- (b) The filling of vacancies on the Board or on any committee which has the authority of the Board;
- (c) The fixing of compensation, if any, of the Directors for serving on the Board or on any committee;
- (d) The amendment or repeal of the Corporation's Bylaws or the adoption of new Bylaws;
- (e) The amendment or repeal of any resolution of the Board which by its express terms is not so amendable or repealable;
- (f) The appointment of other committees having the authority of the Board; or
- (g) The expenditure of corporate funds to support a nominee for Director after there are more people nominated for Director than can be elected.

Committees must be created, and the members thereof appointed, by resolution adopted by a majority of the number of Directors then in office. The Board may appoint, in the same manner, alternate members to a committee who may replace any absent member at any meeting of the committee.

Section 98.02 Meetings and Action of Board Committees. Meetings and actions of Board committees shall be governed generally by, held and taken in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws concerning meetings of the Board, except that special meetings of committees may also be called by resolution of the Board. Meetings of committees related to charter school operations shall be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, if applicable. The Board may prescribe the manner in which proceedings of any such committee shall be conducted, so long as such rules are consistent with these Bylaws and the Brown Act, if applicable. In the absence of any such rules by the Board, each

committee shall have the power to prescribe the manner in which its proceedings shall be conducted. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting of each committee and shall be filed with the corporate records.

Section 98.03 Revocation of Delegated Authority to Board Committees. The Board may, at any time, revoke or modify any or all of the authority so delegated to a committee, increase or decrease, but not below two (2), the numbers of its members, and may fill vacancies therein from the members of the Board.

Section 98.04 <u>Audit Committee.</u> For any tax year in which the Corporation has non-governmental gross revenues of \$2 million or more or is otherwise required by applicable law to have an independent

audit, this Corporation shall have an Audit Committee whose members shall be appointed by the Board, and may include both Directors and non-Directors, subject to the following limitations: (a) members of the Finance Committee, if any, shall constitute less than one-half of the membership of the Audit Committee; (b) the Chair of the Audit Committee may not be a member of the Finance Committee, if any; (c) the Audit Committee may not include any member of the staff, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer; (d) the Audit Committee may not include any person who has a material financial interest in any entity doing business with this Corporation; and (e) Audit Committee members may not receive compensation greater than the compensation paid to Directors for their service on the Board (as provided herein, members of the Board are not compensated for service on the Board).

The Audit Committee shall: (1) recommend to the full Board for approval the retention and, when appropriate, the termination of an independent certified public accountant to serve as auditor; (2) subject to the supervision of the full Board, negotiate the compensation of the auditor on behalf of the Board; (3) confer with the auditor to satisfy the Audit Committee members that the financial affairs of this Corporation are in order; (4) review and determine whether to accept the audit; and (5) approve performance of any non-audit services provided to this Corporation by the auditor's firm.

### ARTICLE X. INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

Section 109.01 <u>Indemnification</u>. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Corporation shall indemnify its Directors, officers, employees, and other persons described in Corporations Code Section 5238(a), including persons formerly occupying any such positions, against all expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with any "proceeding," as that term is used in that section, and including an action by or in the right of the Corporation by reason of the fact that the person is or was a person described in that section. "Expenses" shall have the same meaning herein as in Section 5238(a) of the Corporations Code. On written request to the Board of Directors by any person seeking indemnification under Corporations Code Section 5238(b) or Section 5238(c), the Board of Directors shall promptly decide under Corporations Code Section 5238(b) or Section 5238(c) has been met and, if so, the Board of Directors shall authorize indemnification.

Section 109.02 <u>Insurance</u>. The Corporation shall have the right to purchase and maintain insurance to the full extent permitted by law on behalf of its officers, Directors, employees, and other agents, to cover any liability asserted against or incurred by any officer, Director, employee, or agent in such capacity or arising from the officer's, Director's, employee's, or agent's status as such.

Section 9.03 Non-Liability of Directors. No Director shall be personally liable for the

Corporation's debts, liabilities, or other obligations.

### **ARTICLE XI. RECORDS AND REPORTS**

Section 1110.01 Maintenance of Corporate Records. The Corporation shall keep (a) adequate and correct books and records of account; (b) written minutes of the proceedings of the Board and committees of the Board; (c) the original or a copy of its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, as amended to date; and (d) such reports and records as required by law.

Section 11-10.02 Inspection. Every Director shall have the right at any reasonable time, and from

time to time, to inspect all books, records, and documents of every kind and the physical properties of the Corporation, subject to applicable law. Such inspection by a Director may be made in person or by agent or attorney and the right of inspection includes the right to copy and make extracts. This right to inspect may be circumscribed in instances where the right to inspect conflicts with California or federal law (e.g., restrictions on the release of educational records under FERPA) pertaining to access to books, records, and documents.

Section 11–10.03 <u>Annual Report.</u> Pursuant to Corporations Code Section 6321, within 120 days after the close of its fiscal year the Corporation shall send each Director and any other persons as may be designated by the Board, a report containing the following information in reasonable detail:

- (a) The assets and liabilities, including the trust funds, of the Corporation as of the end of the fiscal year.
- (b) The principal changes in the assets and liabilities, including trust funds, during the fiscal year.
- (c) The revenue or receipts of the Corporation, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes, for the fiscal year.
- (d) The expenses or disbursements of the Corporation, for both general and restricted purposes, during the fiscal year.

The annual report shall be accompanied by any report thereon of independent accountants or, if there is no such report, by the certificate of an authorized officer of the Corporation that such statements were prepared without audit from the books and records of the Corporation.

Section 1110.04 Annual Statement of Certain Transactions and Indemnifications. As part of the annual report to all Directors, or as a separate document if no annual report is issued, the Corporation shall, within 120 days after the end of the Corporation's fiscal year, annually prepare and deliver to each Director any information required by Corporations Code Section 6322 with respect to the preceding year.

#### **ARTICLE XII. OTHER PROVISIONS**

Section 1244.01 <u>Construction and Definitions</u>. Unless the context otherwise requires, the general provisions, rules of construction, and definitions contained in the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law shall govern the construction of these Bylaws. Without limiting the generality of the preceding sentence, the masculine gender includes the feminine and neuter, the singular includes the plural, the plural includes the singular, and the term "person" includes both a legal entity and a natural person.

Section 12±1.02 <u>Fiscal Year.</u> The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be from July 1st through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

#### **ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

Section 1312.01 <u>Bylaw Amendments</u>. The Board may adopt, amend, or repeal Bylaws unless doing so would be a prohibited amendment under the California Corporations Code. Any amendment to these Bylaws will require a majority vote of the Directors then in office.

# **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I certify that I am the Secretary of Motivated Youth Academy Charter School, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, and that the foregoing Third Amended Bylaws constitute the Bylaws of such Corporation that were duly adopted by its Board of Directors on January 12, 2023.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this certificate on October January, 2024 <del>202</del>
Secretary, Motivated Youth Academy Charter School

#### **FOURTH AMENDED BYLAWS**

OF

### MOTIVATED YOUTH ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

(A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation)

### Adopted on [Month, Day, Year]

#### **ARTICLE I. NAME**

Section 1.01 <u>Corporate Name</u>. The name of this corporation is Motivated Youth Academy Charter School (hereinafter, the "Corporation").

#### **ARTICLE II. OFFICES**

Section 2.01 <u>Principal Office</u>. The principal office of the Corporation is located at 500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025. The Board of Directors ("Board") may change the principal office from one location to another within the State of California.

Section 2.02 <u>Other Offices</u>. The Board may at any time establish branch or subordinate offices at any place or places where this Corporation is qualified to conduct its activities.

#### **ARTICLE III. PURPOSES**

Section 3.01 <u>Description in Articles.</u> The Corporation's general and specific purposes are described in its Articles of Incorporation.

### **ARTICLE IV. DEDICATION OF ASSETS**

Section 4.01 <u>Dedication of Assets</u>. This Corporation's assets are irrevocably dedicated to charitable and educational purposes. No part of the net earnings, properties, or assets of the Corporation, on dissolution or otherwise, shall insure to the benefit of any private person or individual, or to any Director or officer of the Corporation. Upon dissolution of the Corporation, all properties and assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of the Corporation shall be distributed as set forth in its Articles of Incorporation.

#### **ARTICLE V. NO MEMBERS**

Section 5.01 <u>No Members.</u> The Corporation shall have no members within the meaning of Section 5056 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law.

Section 5.02 <u>Authority Vested in the Board</u>. Any action that otherwise requires approval by a majority of all members, or approval by the members, requires only approval of the Board. All rights that would otherwise vest under the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law in the members shall vest in the Board.

Section 5.03 <u>Associates</u>. The Corporation may use the term "members" to refer to persons associated with it, but such persons shall not be corporate members within the meaning of Section 5056 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law.

#### **ARTICLE VI. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 6.01 <u>General Powers</u>. Subject to the provisions and limitations of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law and any other applicable laws, and any limitations of the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, the Corporation's activities and affairs shall be conducted, and all corporate powers shall be exercised, by or under the direction of the Board. The Board may delegate the management of the Corporation's activities to any person(s), management company, or committees, however composed, provided that the Corporation's activities and affairs shall be managed and all corporate powers shall be exercised under the ultimate direction of the Board.

Section 6.02 <u>Specific Powers</u>. Without prejudice to such general powers, but subject to the same limitations, the Board shall have the following powers:

- (a) To approve personnel policies and monitor their implementation; to select and remove certain officers, agents, and employees of the Corporation, and to prescribe such powers and duties for them as are compatible with law, the Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws; to fix their compensation;
- (b) To conduct, manage, and control the affairs and activities of the Corporation and to make such rules and regulations to do so which are not inconsistent with law, the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation, or these Bylaws;
- (c) To change the principal office or the principal business office in California from one location to another; cause the Corporation to be qualified to conduct its activities in any other state, territory, dependency, or country; and conduct its activities in or outside California;
- (d) To borrow money and incur indebtedness for the Corporation's purposes and to cause to be executed and delivered therefore, in the corporate name, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, hypothecations, and other evidences of debt and security therefore;
- (e) To carry on a business and apply any revenues in excess of expenses that result from the business activity to any activity that it may lawfully engage in;
- (f) To acquire by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise, and to hold, improve, lease, sublease, mortgage, transfer in trust, encumber, convey, or otherwise dispose of real and personal property;
- (g) To act as trustee under any trust incidental to the principal object of the Corporation, and to receive, hold, administer, exchange, and expend funds and property subject to such trust; and
- (h) To enter into any contracts or other instruments, and do any and all other things incidental to or expedient for attainment of the Corporation's purposes.

Section 6.03 <u>Number of Directors</u>. The Board shall consist of a minimum of three (3) and no more than nine (9) Directors, with the actual number to be determined from time to time by the Board. If a charter authorizer representative serves on the Board pursuant to Education Code Section 47604(c), the Board may elect an additional Director to maintain an odd number of Directors, even in excess of the

nine (9) Director limit described in this section.

Section 6.04 <u>Election of Directors.</u> Unless an alternative process is adopted or implemented by the Board, candidates shall be nominated, evaluated and elected as follows:

- (a) The Board will appoint an advisory committee to identify qualified candidates for election to the Board, and will endeavor to appoint the committee at least thirty (30) days before any election of Director(s). The committee will prepare and provide the Board a list of qualified candidates nominated by the committee, and will endeavor to complete and provide the Board such list at least seven (7) days before the election or at such other time as the Board may direct. If available at the time, the Secretary shall also provide the Board with a copy of the list when sending notice of the meeting at which the election will be held, or as soon as possible thereafter.
- (b) Directors shall be elected by a majority vote of the Directors then in office, typically at the Board's annual meeting. All Directors shall have full voting rights.

Section 6.05 <u>Terms of Office</u>. With the exception of the initial Board that served five-year terms, each Director shall hold office for a three-year term, but the Board may designate a particular Director to serve a one-, two- or three-year term in order to maintain staggered terms on the Board. Each incumbent Director shall serve until a successor has been elected and seated by the Board. There shall be no limitation on the number of consecutive terms to which a Director may be re-elected.

Section 6.06 Events Causing Vacancies on Board. A vacancy on the Board shall be deemed to exist if a Director dies, resigns, is removed, or if the authorized number of Directors is increased. The Board may declare vacant the office of a Director who has been declared of unsound mind by a final order of court, convicted of a felony, or found by a final order or judgment of any court to have breached any duty arising under Article 3 of Chapter 2 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the vote of a majority of Directors then in office. Each Director so elected shall hold office until the expiration of the term of the replaced Director and until a successor has been duly elected and seated by the Board.

Section 6.07 <u>Removal</u>. Any Director may be removed at any time by a majority vote of the Board, with or without cause.

Section 6.08 <u>Resignation</u>. Subject to Section 5226 of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law, any Director may resign effective upon giving written notice to the Executive Director/CEO, the Board President, or the Board as a whole, unless the notice specifies a later time for the effectiveness of such resignation. If the resignation is effective at a future time, a successor may be elected before then to take office when the resignation becomes effective. No Director may resign when the Corporation would then be left without at least one (1) Director in charge of its affairs.

Section 6.09 <u>Brown Act and Charter Schools Act Compliance; Location of Meetings.</u> Meetings of the Board with respect to charter school operations shall be called, held, and conducted in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950, *et seq.*) ("Brown Act") and the Charter Schools Act.

Section 6.10 <u>Annual Meetings</u>. The Board shall meet annually for the purpose of organization, election of directors and officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

Section 6.11 Regular Meetings. The Board shall hold regular meetings, along with the annual

meetings, at such times and places as may from time to time be fixed by the Board. Regular meetings of the Board related to charter school operations shall be called, held, and conducted in accordance with the Brown Act and the Charter Schools Act, including that agendas for such meetings will be posted seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public and on the school's website. The notice shall contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting.

Section 6.12 <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board for any purpose may be called at any time by the Executive Director/CEO, the Board President, or any two Directors. Notice of the time and place of special meetings shall be delivered to each Director personally or by telephone or email. Notice of special meetings related to charter school operations shall be provided at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and shall be held in locations and in a manner consistent with the Brown Act and the Charter School Act.

Section 6.13 Quorum. A majority of the actual number of Directors then in office shall constitute a quorum. Every action taken or decision made by a majority of the Directors present at a meeting duly held at which a quorum is present is an act of the Board, subject to the provisions of Corporations Code Section 5212 (appointment of committees), Section 5233 (approval of contracts or transactions in which a director has a direct or indirect material financial interest), Section 5234 (approval of certain transactions between corporations having common directorships), Section 5235 (compensation of directors or officers), and Section 5238(e) (indemnification of directors), and except as may be otherwise provided under the Political Reform Act, if applicable. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business, notwithstanding the withdrawal of Directors, but no action can be taken unless and until a quorum is restored. Directors may not vote by proxy.

Section 6.14 <u>Participation by Teleconference</u>. Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board through the use of teleconference telephone, electronic video communication, or similar communications equipment, so long as each Director participating in such meeting can communicate with all of the other Directors concurrently and is provided the means of participating in all matters before the Board. In addition, a Board meeting related to charter school operations must be noticed and conducted in compliance with Section 54953(b) of the Brown Act and the Charter Schools Act, including without limitation the following:

- (a) At a minimum, a quorum of the members of the Board shall participate in the teleconference meeting from locations within the Corporation's jurisdiction;
- (b) All votes taken during a teleconference meeting shall be by roll call;
- (c) Agendas shall be posted at all teleconference locations, with each location identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting;
- (d) All locations where a member of the Board participates via teleconference must be fully accessible to members of the public and shall be listed on the agenda;
- (e) Members of the public must be able to hear what is said during the meeting and shall be provided with an opportunity to address the Board directly at each teleconference location; and
- (f) Members of the public attending a meeting conducted via teleconference need not give their name when entering the conference call.

Section 6.15 <u>Waiver of Notice</u>. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any Director who signs a waiver of notice or a written consent to holding the meeting or an approval of the minutes thereof, whether before or after the meeting, or who attends the meeting without protesting the lack of notice to such Director prior thereto or at its commencement. All such waivers, consents, and approvals shall be filed with the corporate records or made a part of the minutes of the meetings.

Section 6.16 <u>Action Without Meeting</u>. The Board may take action without a meeting with respect to activities that are not related to charter school operations, if any, so long as all Directors on the Board consent in writing to such action and if allowed by applicable law under the Government and Educations Codes. Such written consents shall have the same effect as a unanimous vote of the Board and shall be filed with the minutes of the Board.

Section 6.17 <u>Adjournment</u>. A majority of the Directors present, whether or not a quorum is present, may adjourn any Board meeting to another time and place. If the meeting is adjourned for more than twenty-four (24) hours, notice of any adjournment to another time or place shall be given prior to the adjourned meeting to the Directors who were not present at the time of the adjournment.

Section 6.18 <u>Compensation and Reimbursement.</u> Directors may receive such compensation for their service as Directors and/or officers as the Board may establish by resolution to be just and reasonable compensation as to the Corporation at the time that the resolution is adopted. The Board may approve the reimbursement of a Director's actual and necessary expenses incurred when conducting the Corporation's business.

Section 6.19 <u>Interested Person</u>. No more than forty-nine percent (49%) of the persons serving on the Board may be interested persons. An interested person is (a) any person currently being compensated by the Corporation for services rendered to it within the previous 12 months, whether as a full-time or part-time employee, independent contractor, or otherwise, excluding any reasonable compensation paid to a Director as Director; and (b) any brother, sister, ancestor, descendant, spouse, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, or father-in-law of such person. The Board may adopt other policies circumscribing potential conflicts of interest.

### **ARTICLE VII. BOARD OFFICERS**

Section 7.01 <u>Board Officers</u>. The Corporation shall have the following Board officer positions, which shall be filled by Directors currently serving on the Board pursuant to Section 7.02 below, and who shall have such authority and duties as the Board may determine including the following:

- (a) Board President, who shall preside at Board meetings;
- (b) Board Vice President, who shall preside at Board meetings in the absence of the Board President; and
- (c) Board Clerk, who may preside at Board meetings and fulfill the Board President's responsibilities described above in the absence of the Board Vice President or the Board President. In addition to the Board President, the Board Clerk shall sign and review the Board approved minutes of this Corporation.

Section 7.02 <u>Election of Board Officers</u>. The Board officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the Board at a regular or special meeting of the Board, shall serve at the pleasure of the Board for one (1) year terms without a limitation on the number of consecutive terms, and shall hold their

respective offices until their resignation, removal, or other disqualification from service.

Section 7.03 <u>Removal of Board Officers.</u> Any Board officer may be removed, with or without cause, by a majority vote of the Board at any time. Such removal shall be without prejudice to the rights, if any, of an officer under any contract of employment.

Section 7.04 <u>Resignation of Board Officers</u>. Any Board officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board, but without prejudice to the rights, if any, of the Corporation under any contract to which the officer is a party. Any such resignation shall take effect upon receipt of that notice or at any later time specified by that notice and, unless otherwise specified in that notice, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section 7.05 <u>Board Officer Vacancies</u>. A vacancy in any Board office for any reason shall be filled in the manner provided in Section 7.02 for the election of Board officers, except that such vacancies shall be filled as they occur (rather than annually).

#### **ARTICLE VIII. CORPORATE OFFICERS**

Section 7.06 <u>Corporate Officers</u>. The Corporation shall have the following corporate officer positions, which are typically held by employees or contractors of the Corporation, who shall have the following duties and shall serve pursuant to their contracts of employment:

- (a) Executive Officer, who shall be the general manager and chief executive officer of the Corporation, and, subject to the control of the Board and their employment contract, shall generally supervise, direct, and control the activities, affairs, and employees of the Corporation, and shall see that all resolutions of the Board are carried into effect, and shall perform any and all other duties assigned by the Board, and by contract if an employee. The Executive Officer shall be reported on the Statement of Information filed with the Secretary of State as the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.
- (b) Chief Financial Officer, who shall supervise the charge and custody of all funds of this Corporation, the deposit of such funds in the manner prescribed by the Board, and the keeping and maintaining of adequate and correct accounts of the Corporation's properties and business transactions, shall render reports and accountings as required, and shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board or these Bylaws. The Chief Financial Officer shall be reported on the Statement of Information filed with the Secretary of State as the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation.
- (c) Secretary, who shall be responsible for keeping a full and complete record of the proceedings of the Board and its committees, giving such notices as may be proper and necessary, keep the minute books of this Corporation, and shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the Board or these Bylaws. The Secretary shall be reported on the Statement of Information filed with the Secretary of State as the Secretary of the Corporation.

Section 8.02 <u>Duplication of Office Holders</u>. Any number of offices may be held by the same person, except that neither the Secretary, the Treasurer (if any) nor the Chief Financial Officer may serve concurrently as the Board President or the Executive Officer.

Section 8.03 <u>Compensation of Officers</u>. Subject to Section 6.18 above, the salaries of officers, if any, shall be fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board, or in the case of corporate officers hired by the Executive Officer, the Executive Officer shall have the authority to fix such corporate officers' salaries, if any. In all cases, any salaries received by the Corporation's officers shall be reasonable and given in return for services actually rendered for the Corporation which relate to the performance of the

charitable purposes of the Corporation.

### **ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES**

Section 9.01 <u>Board Committees</u>. The Board may create one or more committees, each consisting of two (2) or more Directors or others to serve at the pleasure of the Board, and may delegate to such committee any of the authority of the Board, except with respect to:

- (a) Final action on any matter that, by law, requires approval of all of the Directors or a majority of all of the Directors;
- (b) The filling of vacancies on the Board or on any committee which has the authority of the Board;
- (c) The fixing of compensation, if any, of the Directors for serving on the Board or on any committee;
- (d) The amendment or repeal of the Corporation's Bylaws or the adoption of new Bylaws;
- (e) The amendment or repeal of any resolution of the Board which by its express terms is not so amendable or repealable;
- (f) The appointment of other committees having the authority of the Board; or
- (g) The expenditure of corporate funds to support a nominee for Director after there are more people nominated for Director than can be elected.

Committees must be created, and the members thereof appointed, by resolution adopted by a majority of the number of Directors then in office. The Board may appoint, in the same manner, alternate members to a committee who may replace any absent member at any meeting of the committee.

Section 9.02 <u>Meetings and Action of Board Committees</u>. Meetings and actions of Board committees shall be governed generally by, held and taken in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws concerning meetings of the Board, except that special meetings of committees may also be called by resolution of the Board. Meetings of committees related to charter school operations shall be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, if applicable. The Board may prescribe the manner in which proceedings of any such committee shall be conducted, so long as such rules are consistent with these Bylaws and the Brown Act, if applicable. In the absence of any such rules by the Board, each

committee shall have the power to prescribe the manner in which its proceedings shall be conducted. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting of each committee and shall be filed with the corporate records.

Section 9.03 <u>Revocation of Delegated Authority to Board Committees</u>. The Board may, at any time, revoke or modify any or all of the authority so delegated to a committee, increase or decrease, but not below two (2), the numbers of its members, and may fill vacancies therein from the members of the Board.

Section 9.04 <u>Audit Committee.</u> For any tax year in which the Corporation has non-governmental gross revenues of \$2 million or more or is otherwise required by applicable law to have an independent

audit, this Corporation shall have an Audit Committee whose members shall be appointed by the Board, and may include both Directors and non-Directors, subject to the following limitations: (a) members of the Finance Committee, if any, shall constitute less than one-half of the membership of the Audit Committee; (b) the Chair of the Audit Committee may not be a member of the Finance Committee, if any; (c) the Audit Committee may not include any member of the staff, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer; (d) the Audit Committee may not include any person who has a material financial interest in any entity doing business with this Corporation; and (e) Audit Committee members may not receive compensation greater than the compensation paid to Directors for their service on the Board (as provided herein, members of the Board are not compensated for service on the Board).

The Audit Committee shall: (1) recommend to the full Board for approval the retention and, when appropriate, the termination of an independent certified public accountant to serve as auditor; (2) subject to the supervision of the full Board, negotiate the compensation of the auditor on behalf of the Board; (3) confer with the auditor to satisfy the Audit Committee members that the financial affairs of this Corporation are in order; (4) review and determine whether to accept the audit; and (5) approve performance of any non-audit services provided to this Corporation by the auditor's firm.

### ARTICLE X. INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

Section 10.01 <u>Indemnification</u>. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Corporation shall indemnify its Directors, officers, employees, and other persons described in Corporations Code Section 5238(a), including persons formerly occupying any such positions, against all expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with any "proceeding," as that term is used in that section, and including an action by or in the right of the Corporation by reason of the fact that the person is or was a person described in that section. "Expenses" shall have the same meaning herein as in Section 5238(a) of the Corporations Code. On written request to the Board of Directors by any person seeking indemnification under Corporations Code Section 5238(b) or Section 5238(c), the Board of Directors shall promptly decide under Corporations Code Section 5238(b) or Section 5238(c) has been met and, if so, the Board of Directors shall authorize indemnification.

Section 10.02 <u>Insurance</u>. The Corporation shall have the right to purchase and maintain insurance to the full extent permitted by law on behalf of its officers, Directors, employees, and other agents, to cover any liability asserted against or incurred by any officer, Director, employee, or agent in such capacity or arising from the officer's, Director's, employee's, or agent's status as such.

Section 9.03 Non-Liability of Directors. No Director shall be personally liable for the

Corporation's debts, liabilities, or other obligations.

# **ARTICLE XI. RECORDS AND REPORTS**

Section 11.01 <u>Maintenance of Corporate Records</u>. The Corporation shall keep (a) adequate and correct books and records of account; (b) written minutes of the proceedings of the Board and committees of the Board; (c) the original or a copy of its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, as amended to date; and (d) such reports and records as required by law.

Section 11.02 Inspection. Every Director shall have the right at any reasonable time, and from

time to time, to inspect all books, records, and documents of every kind and the physical properties of the Corporation, subject to applicable law. Such inspection by a Director may be made in person or by agent or attorney and the right of inspection includes the right to copy and make extracts. This right to inspect may be circumscribed in instances where the right to inspect conflicts with California or federal law (e.g., restrictions on the release of educational records under FERPA) pertaining to access to books, records, and documents.

Section 11.03 <u>Annual Report.</u> Pursuant to Corporations Code Section 6321, within 120 days after the close of its fiscal year the Corporation shall send each Director and any other persons as may be designated by the Board, a report containing the following information in reasonable detail:

- (a) The assets and liabilities, including the trust funds, of the Corporation as of the end of the fiscal year.
- (b) The principal changes in the assets and liabilities, including trust funds, during the fiscal year.
- (c) The revenue or receipts of the Corporation, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes, for the fiscal year.
- (d) The expenses or disbursements of the Corporation, for both general and restricted purposes, during the fiscal year.

The annual report shall be accompanied by any report thereon of independent accountants or, if there is no such report, by the certificate of an authorized officer of the Corporation that such statements were prepared without audit from the books and records of the Corporation.

Section 11.04 <u>Annual Statement of Certain Transactions and Indemnifications.</u> As part of the annual report to all Directors, or as a separate document if no annual report is issued, the Corporation shall, within 120 days after the end of the Corporation's fiscal year, annually prepare and deliver to each Director any information required by Corporations Code Section 6322 with respect to the preceding year.

#### **ARTICLE XII. OTHER PROVISIONS**

Section 12.01 <u>Construction and Definitions</u>. Unless the context otherwise requires, the general provisions, rules of construction, and definitions contained in the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law shall govern the construction of these Bylaws. Without limiting the generality of the preceding sentence, the masculine gender includes the feminine and neuter, the singular includes the plural, the plural includes the singular, and the term "person" includes both a legal entity and a natural person.

Section 12.02 <u>Fiscal Year.</u> The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be from July 1st through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

#### **ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

Section 13.01 <u>Bylaw Amendments</u>. The Board may adopt, amend, or repeal Bylaws unless doing so would be a prohibited amendment under the California Corporations Code. Any amendment to these Bylaws will require a majority vote of the Directors then in office.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

1	certify	that I a	am the	Secre	tary	of N	/lotiva	ited	Youth	Acade	emy (	Charte	er Scho	ol, a	Califo	rnia
nonprofit	public	benefit	corpor	ation,	and	that	the	fore	going	Third	Ame	nded	Bylaws	cons	stitute	the
Bylaws of	such Co	orporatio	n that v	were d	uly a	dopt	ed by	its B	oard o	of Direc	tors	on Jar	nuary 12	2, 202	23.	

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed this certificate on October, 2024
Secretary, Motivated Youth Academy Charter School

# Coversheet

# Approval of Bring Change 2 Mind Service Agreement

Section: IX. Education/Student Services

Item: A. Approval of Bring Change 2 Mind Service Agreement

Purpose: Vote

Submitted by:

Related Material: BC2M Terms of Agreement for 2024-2025 .pdf

#### BACKGROUND:

In 2021, MY Academy began participation in the BC2M (Bring Change to Mind) program, a student-led initiative focused on mental health conversations. The BC2M High School Program provides a platform for students to raise awareness around mental health, educate peers, and create a culture of peer support within the school community. This club aims to help reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness by fostering open dialogue and providing education and mentorship opportunities.

BC2M's High School Program is a national initiative that operates across several key regions, including Northern and Southern California, Arizona, Indiana, New York City, and a cluster of states in the Northeast. MY Academy was proud to be the first non-classroom-based school to participate in this groundbreaking program and would like to bring this program back to the student community for the 2024-2025 school year.

The club's mission is to empower students to educate their peers and communities, combat misconceptions about mental health, and promote a supportive school environment where mental health is openly discussed.

Through this student-led initiative, MY Academy students have the opportunity to be leaders in driving positive change within the community, encouraging conversations about mental health, and challenging the stigma often associated with mental health conditions.

This item requests Board approval for the BC2M service agreement to continue the support and operation of the BC2M program at MY Academy. Approval of this agreement will enable MYA to further the club's efforts in promoting mental health awareness and support among all students.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the service agreement between Bring Change 2 Mind and Motivated Youth Academy (#1628)

Fiscal Impact: None



## BC2M High School Program Terms of Agreement 2024-2025

#### **Uphold the Mission and Name of BC2M**

Bring Change to Mind is a national 501c3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to reduce the stigma associated with mental health. Our high school program works to empower young advocates from across the country to start necessary conversations about mental health and equip them with resources needed to host destigmatizing campus events, activities, and educational presentations in an effort to create more compassionate communities.

Protecting the name and reputation of BC2M and its brand is the responsibility of every student member and staff advisor. Please make sure you read, understand and abide by the policies and procedures outlined in this document and in our club guidebook.

#### **Club Requirements**

Each school year, clubs will be expected to:

- Have at least 4 club leaders and one club advisor that is an employee of the school.
- Work to execute 3 club activities per semester related to BC2M's mission.
- Work with their designated BC2M staff member to set up two in-person or virtual visits per school year (one in each semester).
- Have all club leaders, advisors, and club members register each year as BC2M members via the annual BC2M Registration Form found on the Club Portal.
- All clubs are strongly encouraged to participate in BC2M Week in early Spring semester.
- Working with your school's administration or mental health team, club leadership is expected to understand and follow school protocols relating to mental health crises.

#### **Mandatory for Club Leaders**

BC2M club leaders will be expected to:

- Attend and lead club meetings and events.
- Respond promptly to BC2M staff emails. Additionally, leaders should communicate any major updates about the club or leadership board to their BC2M staff contact.
- Share relevant updates from BC2M staff with general club members.
- Attend or view at least one Leadership training workshop or webinar during the school year.

#### **Mandatory For Advisors**

BC2M advisors will be expected to:

- Ensure at least one advisor is present at all club meetings and events.
- Respond promptly to BC2M emails and share any relevant club updates or concerns to staff.
- Communicate with BC2M staff members if they will be on Leave of Absence, and who will be in their place.
- Help guide the Treasurer with all grant monies and club finances.

#### **Appropriate Use of Your Club**

The purpose of a BC2M club is to raise awareness about mental health and illness and to reduce the

Club	Advisor	#1	Initial
(IIII)	Advisor	#1	Initial

associated stigma. Clubs are expected to *host meetings weekly or biweekly* where members discuss different important mental health topics and plan ways to host events intended to have a wider impact at school.

Clubs are not to be used in a counseling or direct therapy manner. If a student member feels that they need this support, they should speak to their club advisor and seek the appropriate services.

#### **Financial Accountability**

BC2M expects clubs to use annual grant funding wisely and responsibly. Monies spent must be in line with BC2M's mission and the success of the club on campus. The following is a summary of requirements for your clubs' financial accountability:

- It is the club/advisor's sole responsibility to ensure the appropriate account is set up with the school and that it is able to receive funds in the form of a check written out to the name of the school.
- Please ensure BC2M grant checks are deposited in a timely manner. Alert your BC2M Staff Member if the check cannot be found.
- All money raised in the name of BC2M must benefit BC2M (the individual club or national headquarters). It may not be donated to other charitable causes.
- Grant funds spent should go towards items promoting positive school climate, mental health
  education and promotion, club member recruitment, community engagement, and eliminating
  stigma.
- Fundraising (and all activities) must be appropriate to the identity of the BC2M program.
- Funds raised for a specific purpose must be used for that purpose.

#### **Club Name and Logo Use**

- Each club must include 'BC2M' or 'Bring Change to Mind' in their official club title. All publicity related to the club must include 'BC2M' or 'Bring Change to Mind'.
- Clubs must use the <u>current version</u> of the BC2M logo in advertisements, correspondence, and social media usage. If desired, you may customize the logo to incorporate a schools' logo, mascot, or name.
- Note: See download link on club portal for official HS program logos.

#### **Social Media Usage**

- BC2M strongly recommends that each club has an Instagram account. Club account names should include the school's name or initials as well as "BC2M" or "BringChangetoMind". These accounts must only be used for activities associated with the clubs' success including: advertising club meetings, communicating with other BC2M clubs, and posting photos/videos of completed activities, club meetings, or other mental health topics. Additionally, social media accounts associated with BC2M are expected to participate and help promote national campaigns, such as promoting our PSAs or BC2M Week.
- Any behavior on social media that is found to be incongruent with BC2M's values and mission statement will result in the club losing its affiliation with BC2M Headquarters.

#### **News Media Outreach**

Media outreach by our supporters is invaluable in engaging the public to support BC2M. As you
conduct BC2M activities, you may come into contact with a member of the press. If you do receive a
press opportunity, please reach out to your BC2M program staff to help guide you through this
process.

Club	Advisor	#1	Initial
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#### **Nondiscrimination Policy**

It is the policy of BC2M that there will be no discrimination or harassment in its club programs or activities based on race, color, religion, gender orientation, sexual orientation, age or any other basis prohibited by law.

Club Advisor(s) Information  BC2M only <u>requires one club</u> advisor but clubs can have up to four co-ad	dvisors.
Club Advisor #1 Name:	Club Advisor #2 Name:
Cell:	Cell:
Email:	Email:
Club Advisor #3 Name:	Club Advisor #4 Name:
Cell:	Cell:
Email:	Email:
Primary Club Leader Information  BC2M recommends at least four club officers but only two are required	to activate your club.
Club President Name: (Officer #1)	Club Vice President Name: (Officer #2)
Email:	Email:
Additional Club Leader Information:	
Club Treasurer Name: (Officer #3)	Club Secretary Name: (Officer #4)
Email:	Email:
Officer #5 Name:	Officer #6 Name:
Email:	Email:

Your signature below indicates that you have **reviewed this document with all parties listed above** (club leaders and any additional club advisors). By signing below, you agree to operating your BC2M club to the

standards laid out in this document.	
School Name:	
Primary Advisor Signature:	
Date:	

Club Advisor #1 Initial \_\_\_\_\_

# Coversheet

# Approval of 2024-2025 Student and Educational Rights Holder Handbook

Section: IX. Education/Student Services

Item: B. Approval of 2024-2025 Student and Educational Rights Holder

Handbook

Purpose: Vote

Submitted by: Related Material:

2024-25 Student and Educational Rights Holder Handbook - Redlined - 2024.10.04.pdf

2024-25 Student and Educational Rights Holder Handbook - For Board Approval - 2024.10.04.pdf



# Motivated Youth Academy Student and Educational Rights Holder Handbook 2024-25

**Motivated Youth Academy** 

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[The table of contents has been re-arranged. Topics within each section have been arranged in alphabetical order. Page numbers will be corrected accordingly after final document approval.]

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Hello,

Welcome to Motivated Youth Academy. Students, staff, families and friends know us as MY Academy or MYA! It is a privilege to be your partner in education. MYA's goal is to provide you with a personalized and supportive educational experience. MY Academy seeks to serve students and families who benefit from flexible pacing and scheduling, learning that is individually targeted, and friendly. MY Academy is excited to support you in your educational journey.

Sincerely,

Bill Dobson, Interim Director

## **Contact MY Academy**

Mailing Address: Motivated Youth Academy 500 La Terraza Blvd. Suite #150 Escondido, CA 92025

Contact Phone: (619) 343-2048

Contact Email: info@myacademy.org

Website: https://myacademy.org

**Motivated Youth Academy** 

# **General Information**

# About Motivated Youth Academy (MYA)

Motivated Youth Academy ("MYA," "MY Academy," or "Charter School") is a tuition-free, California non-classroom-based public charter school serving students who have fallen behind in school, those looking to get ahead and graduate early, or those who simply desire a non-traditional learning environment. Since 2014, MYA has offered students and families an alternative to traditional learning methods and environments. MYA believes that the student-teacher relationship is critical to the development of a young person's social, emotional, and academic well-being.

MYA provides students with the opportunity to engage in a variety of learning styles, creating what we call a 'blended' learning model. This innovative approach to education allows students to learn with great flexibility. Using traditional independent study learning strategies, MYA creates an enriched virtual model of blended learning where students benefit from the flexibility of virtual learning combined with personalized 1:1 support from a credentialed teacher. Learning sessions are conducted face-to-face; teachers go to the students and meet with them in their communities, at libraries, community centers, and similar public facilities, providing MYA students with the best of both worlds.

MYA serves students in grades TK-12, and young adults ages 19-24 seeking a high school diploma.

MYA is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ("WASC") and offers University of California ("UC") and California State University ("CSU") A-G coursework. The class lists are accepted by the National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA") and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics ("NAIA"). MY Academy's independent study program provides three pathways to graduation: At-Promise, College and Career, and Credit Recovery. MYA offers multiple calendars each year, providing students and families with greater flexibility to pursue interests and take advantage of opportunities.

MYA understands the importance of providing students with a personalized course of study, which is why every MYA student receives a Motivated Youth Personalized Learning Adventure Now ("MY Plan"). A student's MY Plan is developed based on their unique abilities, needs, and interests. MYA staff provides the support every student needs to identify their dreams and

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reach their goals. This is one of the many reasons students thrive at MYA—whether working from home, on the road, or anywhere their experiences and adventures take them.

#### **Mission Statement**

MY Academy believes in diversity, inclusivity, academic excellence, hope, service, feedback, and gratitude. MYA's mission is to create a diverse and individualized learning environment that supports every student and strengthens relationships between families, programs, authorizers, and the community.

#### **Core Values**

- All are welcome
- We celebrate the small things
- We choose hope
- We are servant leaders
- Feedback is critical
- We pursue gratitude

#### Vision Statement

MYA's vision is to be able to pivot and adapt to meet student needs and interests as they evolve and emerge in the 21st century.

# Calendar 2024-2025 Links

You will find the MY Academy 2024-2025 School Calendars linked here and on the MY Academy website (https://www.myacademy.org/calendar/).

MY Academy operates two 175 day tracks to give students and families greater scheduling flexibility.

NOTE: A student may only enroll in one school track per year at MY Academy.

Track E Calendar July 1, 2024 - March 28, 2025

Track F Calendar August 26, 2024 - June 2, 2025

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# Admissions, Registration, and Enrollment

Application, registration, and enrollment policies, procedures and activities comply with state and federal law. They are outlined in the Motivated Youth Academy's Charter Petition. NOTE: County Collaborative Charter School was renamed Motivated Youth Academy on July 1, 2020.

# **Applications**

Students who live in Imperial, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego counties and who express an interest in enrolling with MY Academy must first complete an application. This form requires:

- Student name
- Educational Rights Holder name
- Address and contact information for the Educational Rights Holder
- Student's date of birth
- Student's current grade
- Student's intended grade for enrollment
- Educational Rights Holder's signature and date

Once this document has been received, MYA will contact the Educational Rights Holder to share information about the unique learning model MY Academy uses. If the applicant determines that MY Academy's education model is a good match for the student and would like to enroll at MY Academy, then the Charter School will determine the availability of a trained and qualified credentialed teacher to serve as the student's Teacher of Record ("ToR"). If a ToR is available then the student will then be invited to complete the registration process, otherwise they are placed on a waitlist.

Students will be considered for admission without regard to disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code.

Prior to admission, all Educational Rights Holders must agree to and sign the master agreement. All students' continued enrollment shall depend upon them fulfilling the terms of the master agreement. Enrollment space will be based on need in the community and availability of qualified, trained qualified credentialed teachers to serve as the teacher of record.

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MY Academy will be non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations, shall not charge tuition, and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability, or any other characteristic listed in Education Code Section 220 (or association with an individual who has any of those characteristics).

# **Enrollment Requirements**

To enroll in MY Academy, students must live in one of the following counties: Imperial, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego. In accordance with charter law, students may <u>not</u> be concurrently enrolled in MY Academy and any other private or public school. It is not necessary to obtain an inter/intra-district transfer from your local school district to attend MY Academy.

Before the student is enrolled in MY Academy, a Master Agreement must be signed.

#### Registration

A registration application must be completed and signed by the student and Educational Rights Holder, and the required documents noted below, prior to a student being enrolled and placed on a Teacher of Record's ("ToR") roster.

To the extent required by applicable law, a complete registration application includes, but may not be limited to, the following properly submitted documents/information, which is applicable to all students unless otherwise noted:

- Proof of residency
- Birth certificate or proof of birthdate (such as a statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the date of birth, a baptism certificate duly attested, a passport, or an affidavit of the Educational Rights Holder or custodian of the minor)
- Immunization record or this form indicating the Educational Rights Holder is waiving vaccinations (Please see the list of recommended vaccinations under Section E below.) Proof of Tdap (whooping cough vaccination) and Varicella (chickenpox) Two (2) doses Students entering 7th-12th grades or this form waiving vaccinations
- Health Exam TK, Kindergarten, and 1st grade students and any student entering the public school system for the first time - or the signed form waiving this requirement. (See information below for the right to refuse.)

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- Oral Health Exam TK, kindergarten, and 1st grade students, and any student entering the public school system for the first time- or the signed form waiving this requirement
- Transcripts High school students only
- <u>Caregiver Authorization Affidavit</u> Only if person enrolling student is not the parent or legal guardian

A student, and Educational Rights Holder who submits an incomplete registration application will be sent a notice of what is needed to complete their registration. The student, and Educational Rights Holder, will be expected to update the registration application information and provide the requested documents in order for the registration to be processed and the student enrolled in MY Academy.

A student, and Educational Rights Holder who is unable to submit a required document should immediately contact the MY Academy admissions department via email at <a href="mailto:admissions@myacademy.org">admissions@myacademy.org</a> or phone/text (619) 343-2048. The admissions team will work with registrants to overcome barriers encountered in completing the registration process.

Acceptance of a student's registration application documents does not constitute enrollment with MY Academy until the following has occurred:

A student is not considered enrolled until they have met with their Teacher of Record and the student, and Educational Rights Holder, **signs the** Independent Study Master Agreement ("Master Agreement"). All students' continued enrollment shall depend upon them fulfilling the terms of the Master Agreement.

# **Advisory Councils**

MY Academy believes that active participation from Educational Rights Holder, family members, trusted adults, students, and employees in school operations and governance helps foster a public school's long-term sustainability as a successful program. MYA welcomes Educational Rights Holder, family members, trusted adults, students, and employees involvement and values open, positive communication.

MY Academy has established a School Site Council ("SSC"), Educational Partner Advisory ("EPAC") committee, and Staff Advisory Committees. Each plays an important role in molding MY Academy to be responsive to student, Educational Rights Holder, family member, trusted adult, and employee needs, while facilitating the opportunity for continual growth and

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improvement. The committees meet regularly and function to make recommendations and provide feedback to school administration regarding specific areas of school operations.

# **Attendance**

MY Academy's goal is for each student to be successful. The purpose of this policy is to outline the school support that will be provided and the steps that will be taken if the student, and Educational Rights Holder responsibilities are not fulfilled. Please view this document for MYA's Attendance Policy.

# **Educational Rights Holder Liability for Student Conduct**

The law states that a Educational Rights Holder of any minor whose willful misconduct results in injury or death to any pupil or any person employed by, or performing volunteer services for, a school shall be liable for all damages caused by the minor.

If a student willfully damages the Charter School's property or the personal property of a Charter School employee, or fails to return a textbook, library book, computer/tablet or other Charter School property that has been loaned to the student, the student's Educational Rights Holder are liable for all damages caused by the student's misconduct not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), adjusted annually for inflation. After notifying the student's Educational Rights Holder in writing of the student's alleged misconduct and affording the student due process, the Charter School may withhold the student's grades, transcripts, and diploma until the damages have been paid. If the student and the student's Educational Rights Holder are unable to pay for the damages or to return the property, the Charter School will provide a program of voluntary work for the minor in lieu of the payment of monetary damages. Upon completion of the voluntary work, the student's grades and diploma will be released.

# Accepting High School Credits from Previous Schools

MY Academy will evaluate transcripts from a student's previous school and grant credit toward MY Academy graduation requirements if the credits were earned from an accredited school and are credits that could have been earned at MY Academy. Transcripts will be evaluated by a MY Academy school counselor.

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#### Transitional Kindergarten (TK)/Kinder Placement

**Transitional Kindergarten (TK):** In 2024–25, children are eligible for TK if they turn 5 between September 2 and June 2\*Kindergarten age-eligible students are allowed to choose TK if their 5th birthday is between June 1st-September 1st. Students with a 5th birthday after December 2, may enter TK on or after their 5th birthday.

**Kindergarten**: Students must turn five on or before September 1 to enroll in kindergarten.

# **Immigrant Pupils' Rights**

Under Education Code 234.7, all children have a right to equal access to free public education, regardless of their or their parents'/quardians' immigration status.

All children in California:

- Have the right to a free public education.
- Must be enrolled in school if they are between 6 and 18 years old.
- Have the right to attend safe, secure, and peaceful schools.
- Have a right to be in a public school learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence, and intimidation.
- Have equal opportunity to participate in any program or activity offered by the school without discrimination.

Additional information on this subject can be found directly from the <u>State of California</u> <u>Department of Justice website</u> and the <u>MY Academy website</u>.

# **Nondiscrimination Statement**

MY Academy is non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations. My Academy shall not charge tuition and shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of actual or perceived disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, age, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code.

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The Charter School adheres to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities, including, but not limited to, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), Education Code 234.7, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 ("IDEIA").

The Charter School does not discourage students from enrolling or seeking to enroll in the Charter School for any reason, including, but not limited to, academic performance, disability, neglect or delinquency, English proficiency, for being homeless or a foster/mobile youth, economic disadvantage, nationality, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. The Charter School shall not encourage a student currently attending Charter School to disenroll or transfer to another school based on any of the aforementioned reasons except in cases of expulsion and suspension or involuntary removal in accordance with the Charter School's charter and relevant policies.

The Charter School does not request nor require student records prior to a student's enrollment.

The Charter School shall provide a copy of the California Department of Education Complaint Notice and Form to any Educational Rights Holder or student over the age of 18 at the following times: (1) when a Educational Rights Holder or student over of the age of 18 inquiries about enrollment; (2) before conducting an enrollment lottery; and (3) before disenrollment of a student.

The Charter School is committed to providing an educational atmosphere that is free of unlawful harassment under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex); Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race, color, or national origin); The Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the IDEA; and Section 504 and Title II of the ADA (mental or physical disability). The Charter School also prohibits sexual harassment, including cyber sexual bullying, and harassment based upon pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, religion, religious affiliation, creed, color, immigration status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. The Charter School does not condone or tolerate harassment of any type, including discrimination, intimidation, or bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, by any employee, independent contractor, or other person with which the Charter School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This applies to all employees, students, or volunteers and relationships, regardless of position or gender. The Charter School will

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promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of harassment and take appropriate corrective action, if warranted. Inquiries, complaints, or grievances regarding harassment as described in this section, above, should be directed to the Charter School Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP") Compliance Officer:

Ms. Gigi Lenz
Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
(619) 343-2048
glenz@myacademy.org
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025

The lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation in the Charter School's programs or activities. The Charter School prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint or who participates or refuses to participate in a complaint investigation.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the U.S. Department of Education <u>Office of Civil Rights (OCR)</u> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

# Notice of Involuntary Removal Process

No student shall be involuntarily removed by the Charter School for any reason unless the Educational Rights Holder of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five (5) schooldays before the effective date of the action ("Involuntary Removal Notice"). The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student's Educational Rights Holder or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder. The Involuntary Removal Notice shall include the charges against the student and an explanation of the student's basic rights including the right to request a hearing before the effective date of the action. The hearing shall be consistent with the Charter School's expulsion procedures. If the student's Educational Rights Holder requests a hearing, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until the Charter School issues a final decision. As used herein, "involuntarily removed"

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includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include suspensions or expulsions pursuant to the Charter School's suspension and expulsion policy.

Upon Educational Rights Holder request for a hearing, the Charter School will provide notice of hearing consistent with its expulsion hearing process, through which the student has a fair opportunity to present testimony, evidence, and witnesses and confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, and at which the student has the right to bring legal counsel or an advocate. The notice of hearing shall be in the native language of the student or the student's Educational Rights Holder or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder, and shall include a copy of the Charter School's expulsion hearing process.

If the Educational Rights Holder is nonresponsive to the Involuntary Removal Notice, the student will be disenrolled as of the effective date set forth in the Involuntary Removal Notice. If the Educational Rights Holder requests a hearing and does not attend on the date scheduled for the hearing the student will be disenrolled effective the date of the hearing.

If, as a result of the hearing, the student is disenrolled, notice will be sent to the student's last known school district of residence within thirty (30) days.

A hearing decision not to disenroll the student does not prevent the Charter School from making a similar recommendation in the future should student truancy continue or re-occur.

# **Work Permits**

Work Permits are required for students under the age of 18 to secure employment. To request a work permit, students should contact their ToR and complete the required paperwork. As of January 1st 2021, <u>AB 1963</u> requires proof that the student's work supervisor has been trained as a mandated reporter.

# **Terminology**

The following is a list of commonly used terms:

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**Teacher of Record ("ToR")** - A Teacher of Record is a credentialed teacher who works with students in grades TK-12 to support them in reaching their educational goals.

**Content Area Specialist ("CAS")** - A Content Area Specialist is a credentialed teacher who works with students in grades 6-12 and their families to support them in reaching their academic, content-specific goals.

**Learning Period ("LP")** - The Instructional days between learning period meeting/the assignment.

**Weekly Meeting ("WM")** -The meeting in which a minor student and Educational Rights Holder, or adult student, meet with their assigned ToR once per week to review the learning that took place since the previous meeting, plan for future learning, and offer support to the student.

**Independent Study Master Agreement ("MA")** - This is an agreement between the school, the Teacher of Record, the student, and the student's Educational Rights Holder. It outlines the assigned coursework, methods of study, available resources, methods of evaluation, meetings, and board policies.

# **Instructional Program**

# **Academic Guidance**

The MY Academy Guidance Department staff is available to assist students and Educational Rights Holders with high school planning as well as college and career guidance. To request an appointment, visit the MY Academy website or email schoolcounselor@myacademy.org.

# **Availability of Prospectus**

Upon request, the Charter School will make available to any Educational Rights Holder, a school prospectus, which shall include the curriculum, including titles, descriptions, and instructional aims of every course offered. Please note that, pursuant to law, the Charter School may charge for the prospectus in an amount not to exceed the cost of duplication.

# **Cal Grant Program Notice**

The Charter School is required by state law to submit the Grade Point Average ("GPA") of all high school juniors/seniors by January 1st of their grade 11 academic year each year, unless the student (if the student is over age 18 years of age or older) or Educational Rights Holder (for

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those under 18 years of age) opt-out. Students currently in eleventh (11th) grade will be deemed a Cal Grant applicant, unless the student (or Educational Rights Holder, if the student is under 18 years of age) has opted out by or before September 1.

GPAs will be reported to Cal Grant on October 1 in order to meet the October 1 submission deadline. Students wishing to opt-out must complete and submit the opt-out form by September 1. Should the Cal Grant GPA Opt-Out form not be received by the date stated on the form, it is understood that the student has agreed to have their GPA submitted for Cal Grant consideration.

- Cal Grant Opt GPA out form English.pdf
- Cal Grant GPA opt out form Spanish.pdf

# <u>Concerns about your Teacher of Record (ToR)</u>

If a student, Educational Rights Holder or adult student has concerns regarding their ToR that they are unable to resolve directly with the ToR, please email <a href="mailto:admin@myacademy.org">admin@myacademy.org</a> to set up a meeting with a member of MYA's administrative team. MYA will assist the ToR, the student, and Educational Rights Holder or adult student in working towards a positive working relationship.

# Educational Rights Holders Portal in the Student Information System (SIS)

Educational Rights Holders have access to the student information system ("SIS") through the parent portal. Click <u>this link</u> to access the portal. <u>This document</u> will support MYA families with the portal.

# **English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)**

Students who indicate a home language other than English on the registration form will be required to take the ELPAC Initial Assessment ("IA") within the first 30 calendar days of enrollment.

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Students who have already been identified as an English Learner at MY Academy or at a previous school, will be required to annually take the ELPAC Summative Assessment "(SA") during the spring testing window.

For more information about the ELPAC, visit <a href="https://www.elpac.org/">https://www.elpac.org/</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

# **Email Group for Educational Rights Holders**

One of the primary methods of communication to MYA students, families is through the MYA educational rights holders email group. Recipients receive time-sensitive communication, deadline reminders, and notifications. Educational Rights Holders must inform their ToR via email if they would like to be included in the educational rights holders email group. Please notify the student's ToR, if emails are not received within a week of enrolling.

## **Graduation Requirements**

MY Academy graduation requirements meet California Education Code requirements. MYA has an established "A-G" course list and the curriculum will meet or exceed UC/Cal State "A-G" course requirements.

MYA will configure its minimum course completion requirements and its credit award policy to be consistent with California Law. MYA will prescribe completion of the following, at a minimum:

- Three courses in English (English 9 A/B, 10 A/B, 11 A/B)
- Two courses in Mathematics, with one year of Algebra I mandatory \*
- Two courses in Science, including Biological and Physical Sciences
- Three courses in Social Studies (including United States history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics, and a one-semester course in economics)
- One course in Career Technical Education, Foreign Language or Visual and Performing Arts \*\*
- Two courses in Physical Education unless the pupil has been exempted pursuant to the provisions of Education Code Section 51241.

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\*At least one course of the mathematics requirement shall be fulfilled by completion of Algebra I coursework.

\*\*Students will be advised that for UC entrance, two years of Foreign Language are required/ three recommended, plus one year of Visual and Performing Arts, and four years of English.

MYA awards 5 credits per course, per semester.

#### Pathways to Graduation

MY Academy offers multiple pathways to graduation. Students are eligible for graduation when all requirements have been met. (Note; 5 credits are earned for completion of a one semester class.)

#### 210 Credit General Education Pathway

<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	30
Mathematics	20
World History	10
U.S. History	10
American Government	5
Economics	5
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10
College and Career	10
Physical Education	20
Electives	70
Career Technical Education, Foreign Language or Visual and Performing Arts	10

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<u>Total Credits</u> <u>210</u>

130 Credit Pathway (Board Policy 6130-MYA)

Motivated Youth Academy ("MYA") recognizes that students may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their unique, individual circumstances. To enable such students to achieve state and charter school academic standards, MYA shall provide eligible students with full access to the MYA educational program and implement strategies identified as required by law and necessary for the improvement of the academic achievement of students in the MYA Local Control Accountability Plan ("LCAP").

Upon review by the School Counselor and Administration, and according to California state law, eligible students may participate in the State required minimum credit pathway of 130 credits.

Eligible students include, but are not limited to:

- AB 167/216 (Foster Care)
- AB 365 (Military Family)
- AB 1806/216 (Homeless)
- AB 2121 (Migratory/Newcomers)
- AB 2306 (Juvenile Courts)
- Credit Deficient
- Gap in enrollment
- Students who have experienced exceptional barriers or circumstances (at the approval of school administration).

The high school graduation course requirements in California include a set of 13 minimum courses required under the California Education Code, in addition to other coursework adopted by the Local Education Agency ("LEA"). All students receiving a diploma of graduation from a California high school must have completed all of the following courses, while in grades 9 to 12:

Subject Area	<u>Credits</u>
English	30

English	30
Mathematics	20

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World History	10
U.S. History	10
American Government	5
Economics	5
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10
Physical Education	20
Career Technical Education, Foreign Language or Visual and Performing Arts	10

<u>Total Credits</u> <u>130</u>

Students and families who are considering opting for the 130 credit graduation pathway should consider the following limitations: Receiving a diploma through this exemption will affect a student's ability to gain direct admission to many post-secondary educational institutions, as students will not meet the A-G requirements for enrollment in a four-year California university (CSU and UC) upon graduation from high school. Students may complete specific coursework and gain entry into the CaliforniaA State Universities through California Community Colleges

# **Local Assessments**

All MYA students take a series of local assessments at the beginning and conclusion of each school year. This information is used to develop each students' MY PLAN (Motivated Youth Personal Learning Adventure Now). In addition, it will also be used to measure individual student growth.

# Notice for Information Regarding Financial Aid

The Charter School shall ensure that each of its students receives information on how to properly complete and submit the 1) Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or 2) the

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California Dream Act Application as appropriate, at least once before the student enters 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The Charter School will provide a paper copy of the FAFSA or the California Dream Act Application upon request.

 The FAFSA form and information regarding the FAFSA are available at: <a href="https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/fafsa-support">https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/fafsa-support</a>

The California Dream Act Application and information regarding the California Dream Act are available at: <a href="https://dream.csac.ca.gov/landing">https://dream.csac.ca.gov/landing</a>

#### Physical Fitness Test

The Physical Fitness Test ("PFT") for students in California schools is the FITNESSGRAM®. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting life-long habits of regular physical activity.

Students in grades five, seven, and nine take the PFT. The test has multiple parts that measure students' fitness levels and abilities. For more information about the PFT, visit <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf/index.asp">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf/index.asp</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

# Sexual Health Education

The Charter School offers comprehensive sexual health education to its students in grades 7-12. An Educational Rights Holder of a student has the right to excuse their child from all or part of comprehensive sexual health education, HIV prevention education, and assessments related to that education through a passive consent ("opt-out") process. The Charter School does not require active Educational Rights Holder consent ("opt-in") for comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education. Educational Rights Holders may:

- Inspect written and audiovisual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education.
- Excuse their child from participation in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education in writing to the Charter School.
- Be informed whether the comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by Charter School personnel or outside consultants. When the Charter School chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest

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speakers to teach comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education, be informed of:

- o The date of the instruction
- o The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker
- Request a copy of Education Code sections 51930 through 51939.

Anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure students' health behaviors and risks (including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age-appropriate questions about the student's attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex) may be administered to students in grades 7-12. An Educational Rights Holder has the right to excuse their child from the test, questionnaire, or survey through a passive consent ("opt-out") process. Educational Rights Holder shall be notified in writing that this test, questionnaire, or survey is to be administered, given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire, or survey if they wish, notified of their right to excuse their child from the test, questionnaire, or survey, and informed that in order to excuse their child they must state their request in writing to the Charter School.

A student may not attend any class in comprehensive sexual health education or HIV prevention education, or participate in any anonymous, voluntary, and confidential test, questionnaire, or survey on student health behaviors and risks if the Charter School has received a written request from the student's Educational Rights Holder excusing the student from participation. An alternative educational activity shall be made available to students whose Educational Rights Holder have requested that they not receive the instruction or participate in the test, questionnaire, or survey.

Please see <u>Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Policy linked in the Appendices</u> for further information.

# State Testing

The Charter School shall annually administer required state testing to the applicable grades (e.g., the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress ("CAASPP") Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Educational Rights Holder's written request to Charter School officials to excuse their child from any or all parts of the CAASPP shall be

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granted. Upon request, Educational Rights Holders have a right to information on the level of achievement of their student on every State academic assessment administered to the student.

CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress on an annual basis and ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and/or a career.

Students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 are required by the California Department of Education to complete the CAASPP assessments. These tests occur during the spring each year. Student score reports include an overall score and a description of the student's achievement level for English Language Arts/Literacy, Mathematics, and Science. They encompass the following assessments:

- Computer Adaptive Tests (CATs) for ELA and math; grades 3-8 and 11
- Performance Tasks (PTs) for ELA and math; grades 5-8 and 11
- California Science Test (CAST); grades 3-8 and 11 or 12
- California Alternate Assessment (CAA)

As stated above, Educational Rights Holders may opt out of state-mandated academic testing by submitting a written request to the school each year, but this only applies to the state-mandated assessments and *MYA does not recommend opting out*. MYA does not recommend opting out because charter schools exist in a performance-based accountability system where they are held accountable for student academic performance. In fact, a charter school may have its Charter revoked if it does not provide sufficient data and demonstrate progress on students' performance using a variety of assessments and indicators.

For more information about the CAASPP, visit <a href="https://www.caaspp.org/">https://www.caaspp.org/</a> or email <a href="info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

# **Student Grades**

High School Transcript

The high school transcript is a record of the high school courses taken and the grades and credits earned.

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To request an official transcript, please visit MYA's Parchment service.

Report Cards

As per California State Law, the Teacher of Record assigns official grades. The grades awarded on the report card represent the professional evaluation by the Teacher of Record of the student's progress toward state and school standards.

**Teacher Qualification Information** 

As the Charter School receives Title I federal funds through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ("ESEA"), as reauthorized and amended by the "Every Student Succeeds Act" ("ESSA"), all Educational Rights Holder of students attending the Charter School may request information regarding the professional qualifications of classroom teachers and/or paraprofessionals, including at a minimum:

1. Whether the student's teacher.

- a. Has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- b. Is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
- c. Is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher; and
- 2. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Upon request, the Charter School will provide the information to the Educational Rights Holder in a timely manner. Educational Rights Holder may contact the Executive Director at:

**Executive Director** 

Motivated Youth Academy

500 La Terraza Blvd. Suite #150

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Escondido, CA 92025

admin@myacademy.org

(619) 343-2048

to obtain this information.

MY Academy currently receives school-wide assistance grants based on student/family socioeconomic status upon enrollment. This funding is allocated for direct impact on our at-promise students, English Learner, homeless, foster, juvenile, delinquent, migratory, and any student who is working toward grade level proficiency. Title I funding provides students with the appropriate interventions and resources to improve their academic achievement and meet state standards.

#### School-Parent Compact

Our Parent/School Compact addresses legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents and family members of Title I, Part A students.

#### Parents Right to Know Letter

If at any time your child has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher not highly qualified, the school will notify you.

#### Parent and Family Engagement Policy

MY Academy has developed a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy with input from Title I parents and families. MY Academy has distributed the Policy to parents of Title I students by posting it on the school website and including it in the Parent and Student Handbook. This Policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parent and family engagement requirements.

Additional information may be found on the California Department of Education website.

https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/index.asp

Melissa Lato, Intervention Coordinator

Ph: 619-343-2048 mlato@myacadey.org



# <u>Technology</u>

MY Academy recognizes and utilizes technology as a powerful educational tool. For specific information about technology, view MYA's <u>Technology Usage Agreement</u>.

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# Western Association of Schools and Colleges ("WASC") Accreditation

MY Academy students are enrolled in a school that is fully accredited by WASC.

#### School accreditation:

- certifies to the public that the Charter School is a trustworthy institution of learning.
- validates the integrity of the Charter School's program and student transcripts.
- fosters improvement of the Charter school's program and operations to support student learning.
- assures the Charter School community that the Charter School's purpose is appropriate

Additionally, WASC accreditation is important because other schools, colleges and universities and the military often require applicants to have transcripts from accredited schools.

# Student Health, Welfare, & Safety

#### **Animal Dissections**

Students at the Charter School may perform animal dissections as part of the science curriculum. Any student who provides their teacher with a written statement, signed by their Educational Rights Holder, specifying the student's moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying animals, or any parts thereof, may be excused from such activities if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project is possible. The alternative education project shall require a comparable time and effort investment by the student. It shall not, as a means of penalizing the student, be more arduous than the original education project. The student shall not be discriminated against based upon their moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying animals, or any parts thereof.

# California Healthy Kids Survey

The Charter School will administer the California Healthy Kids Survey ("CHKS") to students at grades five, seven, nine, and eleven whose Educational Rights Holder provides written permission. The CHKS is an anonymous, confidential survey of school climate and safety, student wellness, and youth resiliency that enables the Charter School to collect and analyze data regarding local youth health risks and behaviors, school connectedness, school climate,

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protective factors, and school violence.

# **Child Abuse Reporting**

As mandated reporters, Teachers of Record, instructional aides, classified staff, and other school employees are required by law to report all known or suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate law enforcement or child welfare agency. All school staff are required to participate in yearly training to identify child abuse and learn how to report suspected abuse.

## **Dangers of Synthetic Drugs**

The illicit use and abuse of synthetic drugs represents an emerging and ongoing public health threat in California. The fentanyl crisis specifically, has impacted communities across the state, leading to a sharp increase in fentanyl poisonings and deaths in recent years.

This notice aims to address the crisis with a preventative approach ensuring students and families are educated on the deadly consequences of recreational drug use.

A synthetic drug is a drug with properties and effects similar to a known hallucinogen or narcotic but having a slightly altered chemical structure, especially such a drug created in order to evade existing restrictions against illegal substances.

Synthetic drugs include, but are not limited to, synthetic cannabinoids ("synthetic marijuana", "spice", "K2"), methamphetamines, bath salts, and fentanyl.

The California Department of Public Health ("CDPH") has expounded on the extreme danger of drugs laced with fentanyl. Illicit fentanyl can be added to other drugs to make them cheaper, more powerful, and more addictive. Illicit fentanyl has been found in many drugs, including heroin, methamphetamine, counterfeit pills, and cocaine. Fentanyl mixed with any drug increases the likelihood of a fatal overdose. Furthermore, it is nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl without additional testing, because fentanyl cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted when used as a lacing agent.

Click here to view AB 889 – Pupil Safety: Synthetic Drugs

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# Click here for additional information from the CDPH's Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch

# **Employee Qualifications and Scope of Services**

Employees of the Charter School must act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. While it is expected that school professionals are able to identify suicide risk factors and warning signs and to prevent the immediate risk of suicidal behavior, treatment of suicidal ideation is typically beyond the scope of services offered in the school setting. In addition, treatment of the mental health challenges often associated with suicidal thinking typically requires mental health resources beyond what schools are able to provide.

Educational Rights Holders and Caregivers Participation and Education

- Educational Rights Holders and caregivers may be included in suicide prevention efforts. At a minimum, the Charter Schools shall share this Policy with Educational Rights Holders and caregivers by notifying them where a complete copy of the policy is available.
- This Suicide Prevention Policy shall be easily accessible and prominently displayed on the Charter School's Web page and included in the parent handbook.
- 3. Educational Rights Holders and caregivers should be invited to provide input on the development and implementation of this policy.
- 4. All Educational Rights Holders and caregivers may have access to suicide prevention training that addresses the following:
  - a. Suicide risk factors, warning signs, and protective factors;
  - b. How to talk with a student about thoughts of suicide;
  - c. How to respond appropriately to the student who has suicidal thoughts. Such responses shall include constant supervision of any student judged to be at risk for suicide and referral for an immediate suicide risk assessment.

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# Firearm Safety Laws

This communication from the California Department of Education "provides an overview of the new laws and a link to model content for parent and guardian notification of California laws regarding safe storage of firearms and prevention of child access to weapons."

"The California Legislature (Assembly Bill 452, Section 1, 2023) has found and declared:

- Guns are the third leading cause of death of children in America. Every day, eight children and teens are shot in instances of family fire, which is a shooting involving an improperly stored or misused gun found in the home resulting in injury or death.
- Data show that 75 percent of school shootings are facilitated by children having access
  to unsecured or unsupervised firearms at home. Eighty-seven percent of children know
  where their parents' firearms are stored, and 60 percent report that they have handled
  them.
- Over 80 percent of teens who have died by suicide used a firearm that belonged to someone in their home.

Assembly Bill 452—Pupil Safety: Parental Notification, Firearm Safety Laws

Section 48986 has been added to the California Education Code (EC) and requires that beginning on July 1, 2023, all kindergarten through grade twelve school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools shall annually inform educational rights holders of California's child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term. You will find Assembly Bill 452 on the California Legislative Information web page at <a href="https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\_id=202120220AB452">https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\_id=202120220AB452</a>.

Senate Bill 906—School Safety: Homicide Threats

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Sections 49390 through 49395 have been added to the EC. This bill seeks to address homicidal threats in middle and high schools and applies only to local educational agencies that serve pupils in any grades from six through twelve as part of a middle school or high school. Local educational agencies serving these pupils must include information about child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms in the annual notifications to educational rights holders at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term. The law states that school officials are required to report homicidal threats or perceived threats, as defined, to law enforcement, who must conduct an immediate investigation and threat assessment, as defined. You will find Senate Bill 906 on the <u>California</u> Legislative Information web page.

Parent/guardian annual notification that satisfies the model content requirement of Assembly Bill 452 and Senate Bill 906 is available in English and Spanish on the CDE Violence Prevention web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/vp/.

It is our collective responsibility to ensure that students, staff, families, and communities are as prepared and safe as possible. Thank you for your attention and commitment to school safety."

The purpose of this section is to inform and to remind educational rights holders of all MY Academy students of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of the hands of children as required by California law. There have been many news reports of children bringing firearms to school. In many instances, the child obtained the firearm(s) from his or her home. These incidents can be easily prevented by storing firearms in a safe and secure manner, including keeping them locked up when not in use and storing them separately from ammunition.

To help everyone understand their legal responsibilities, this section spells out California law regarding the storage of firearms. Please take some time to review this section and evaluate your own personal practices to assure that you and your family are in compliance with California law.

With very limited exceptions, California makes a person criminally liable for keeping any
firearm, loaded or unloaded, within any premises that are under their custody and
control where that person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain

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access to the firearm without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, and the child obtains access to the firearm and thereby (1) causes death or injury to the child or any other person; (2) carries the firearm off the premises or to a public place, including to any preschool or school grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, or to any school-sponsored event, activity, or performance; or (3) unlawfully brandishes the firearm to others.

- Note: The criminal penalty may be significantly greater if someone dies or suffers great bodily injury as a result of the child gaining access to the firearm.
- With very limited exceptions, California also makes it a crime for a person to negligently
  store or leave any firearm, loaded or unloaded, on their premises in a location where the
  person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to it without
  the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, unless reasonable action is taken
  to secure the firearm against access by the child, even where a minor never actually
  accesses the firearm.
- In addition to potential fines and terms of imprisonment, as of January 1, 2020, a gun owner found criminally liable under these California laws faces prohibitions from possessing, controlling, owning, receiving, or purchasing a firearm for 10 years.
- Finally, a parent or guardian may also be civilly liable for damages resulting from the discharge of a firearm by that person's child or ward.

Note: Your county or city may have additional restrictions regarding the safe storage of firearms.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and schools safe. Remember that the easiest and safest way to comply with the law is to keep firearms in a locked container or secured with a locking device that renders the firearm inoperable.

# **Human Trafficking Prevention**

California has the highest number of incidents of human trafficking in the U.S., and all students may be vulnerable. The Charter School believes it is a priority to inform our students about (1) the prevalence, nature of and strategies to reduce the risk of human trafficking, techniques to

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set healthy boundaries, and how to safely seek assistance, and (2) how social media and mobile device applications are used for human trafficking.

In accordance with the California Healthy Youth Act, the Charter School will provide age-appropriate instruction on the prevention of human trafficking, including sexual abuse, assault, and harassment. You have the right to excuse your child from all or part of the instruction on the prevention of human trafficking. An opt-out form is available at the main office for your convenience. Your consent for this instruction is NOT required. If we do not receive a written request to excuse your child, your child will be included in the instruction.

Information and materials for Educational Rights Holders about the curriculum and resources on prevention of human trafficking and abuse, including sexual abuse, assault, and harassment are available on Charter School's website for your review.

# **Immunizations**

Pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code and the California Code of Regulations, children must provide proof of having received required immunizations (shots) before they can attend school unless they meet the requirements for an exemption. Immunization records are required for all incoming students. Verification of immunizations will be completed with written medical records from the child's doctor or immunization clinic. To ensure a safe learning environment for all students, the Charter School follows and abides by the health standards set forth by the state of California. The immunization status of all students will be reviewed periodically. Those students who are not in compliance with the State requirements must be excluded from attendance until the requirements are met. Students who have been exposed to a communicable disease for which they have not been immunized may be excluded from school at the discretion of the Charter School.

These required immunizations include:

TK/K-12 Admission Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTaP) - Five (5) doses Polio - Four (4) doses

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Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) - Two (2) doses Hepatitis B (Hep B) - Three (3) doses Varicella (chickenpox) – Two (2) doses

**NOTE:** Four doses of DTaP are allowed if one was given on or after the fourth birthday. Three doses of DTaP meet the requirement if at least one dose of Tdap, DTaP, or DTP vaccine was given on or after the seventh birthday (also meets the 7th-12th grade Tdap requirement.) One or two doses of Td vaccine given on or after the seventh birthday count towards the requirement for DTaP. Three doses of Polio are allowed if one was given on or after fourth birthday. MMR doses must be given on or after first birthday. Two doses of measles, two doses of mumps, and one dose of rubella vaccine meet the requirement, separately or combined. Combination vaccines (e.g., MMRV) meet the requirements for individual component vaccines.

## Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Tetanus, reduced Diphtheria, and acellular Pertussis (Tdap) - One (1) dose Varicella (chickenpox) - Two (2) doses

**NOTE:** In order to begin 7th grade, students who had a valid personal belief exemption on file with a public or private elementary or secondary school in California before January 1, 2016 must meet the requirements listed for grades K-12 as well as requirements for 7<sup>th</sup> grade advancement (i.e., polio, MMR, varicella and primary series for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis). At least one dose of pertussis-containing vaccine is required on or after the 7th birthday.

**Exemptions from Immunization Requirements** 

All students must be fully immunized in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, the California Code of Regulations, and this Policy with the following exceptions:

- Students who show proof of a medical exemption by a physician licensed to practice medicine in California pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 120370-120372.
- Commencing January 1, 2021, the CDPH standardized medical exemption form shall be the only documentation of a medical exemption that MYA shall accept.
- Medical exemptions remain valid until the earliest of: 1) the child's enrollment in the next grade span, as defined below; 2) the expiration date specified in a temporary medical exemption, which shall not exceed one year; or 3) revocation of the exemption pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 120372.

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Students who are enrolled in a home-based private school or independent study program
and do not receive any classroom-based instruction are exempt from immunizations,
however MYA must still request, record, and report all enrolled student's immunization

status.

**Intervention and Emergency Procedures** 

The Charter School designates the following administrators to act as the primary and

secondary suicide prevention liaisons:

1. School Counselor

2. School Psychologist

Whenever a staff member suspects or has knowledge of a student's suicidal intentions, they shall promptly notify the primary designated suicide prevention liaison. If this primary suicide prevention liaison is unavailable, the staff shall promptly notify the secondary suicide

prevention liaison.

The suicide prevention liaison shall immediately notify the Executive Director or designee, who shall then notify the student's Educational Rights Holder as soon as possible if appropriate and in the best interest of the student. Determination of notification to Educational Rights Holders and caregivers should follow a formal initial assessment to ensure

that the student is not endangered by Educational Rights Holder notification.

The suicide prevention liaison shall also refer the student to mental health resources in the

community.

When a student is in imminent danger (has access to a gun, is on a rooftop, or in other unsafe

conditions), a call shall be made to 911.

When a suicide attempt or threat is reported, the suicide prevention liaison shall, at a

minimum:

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- 1. Ensure the student's physical safety by one or more of the following, as appropriate:
  - a. Eliciting immediate medical treatment if a suicide attempt has occurred;
  - b. Eliciting law enforcement and/or other emergency assistance if a suicidal act is being actively threatened;
  - c. Ensuring that the student is under continuous adult supervision until the Educational Rights Holder and/or appropriate support agent or agency can be contacted and has the opportunity to intervene.
  - d. Remaining calm, keeping in mind the student is overwhelmed, confused, and emotionally distressed;
  - e. Moving all other students out of the immediate area if applicable;
  - f. Providing comfort to the student, listening and allowing the student to talk and being comfortable with moments of silence;
  - g. Promising privacy and help, but not promising confidentiality.
- 2. Document the incident in writing as soon as feasible.
- 3. Follow up with the Educational Rights Holder and student in a timely manner to provide referrals to appropriate services as needed and coordinate and consult with the county mental health plan if a referral is made for mental health or related services on behalf of a student who is a Medi-Cal beneficiary.
- 4. After a referral is made, the Charter School shall verify with the Educational Rights Holder that the follow-up treatment has been accessed. Educational Rights Holders will be required to provide documentation of care for the student. If Educational Rights Holders refuse or neglect to access treatment for a student who has been identified to be at risk for suicide or in emotional distress, the suicide prevention liaisons shall meet with the Educational Rights Holder to identify barriers to treatment (e.g., cultural stigma, financial issues) and work to rectify the situation and build an understanding of care. If follow up care is still not provided, the Charter School may contact Child Protective Services.
- 5. Provide access to counselors or other appropriate personnel to listen to and support students and staff who are directly or indirectly involved with the incident at the Charter School.
- 6. Provide an opportunity for all who respond to the incident to debrief, evaluate the

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In the event a suicide occurs or is attempted at a school sponsored activity, the suicide prevention liaison shall follow the crisis intervention procedures contained in the Charter School's safety plan. After consultation with the Executive Director or designee and the student's Educational Rights Holder about facts that may be divulged in accordance with the laws governing confidentiality of student record information, the Executive Director or designee may provide students, Educational Rights Holders, and staff with information, counseling, and/or referrals to community agencies as needed. Charter School staff may receive assistance from counselors or other mental health professionals in determining how best to discuss the suicide or attempted suicide with students.

In the event a suicide occurs or is attempted unrelated to school activities, the Executive Director or designee shall take the following steps to support the student:

- 1. Contact the Educational Rights Holder and offer support to the family.
- 2. Discuss with the family how they would like the Charter School to respond to the attempt while minimizing widespread rumors among teachers, staff, and students.
- 3. Obtain permission from the Educational Rights Holder to share information to ensure the facts regarding the crisis are correct.
- 4. The suicide prevention liaisons shall handle any media requests.
- 5. Provide care and determine appropriate support to affected students.
- 6. Offer to the student and Educational Rights Holder steps for re-integration to school. Re-integration may include obtaining a written release from the Educational Rights Holder to speak with any health care providers; conferring with the student and Educational Rights Holder about any specific requests on how to handle the situation; informing the student's teachers about possible days of absences; allowing accommodations for makeup work (being understanding that missed assignments may add stress to the student); appropriate staff maintaining ongoing contact with the student to monitor the student's actions and mood; and working with the Educational Rights Holder to involve the student in an aftercare plan.

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#### **Mental Health Services**

The Charter School recognizes that, when unidentified and unaddressed, mental health challenges can lead to poor academic performance, increased likelihood of suspension and expulsion, chronic absenteeism, student attrition, homelessness, incarceration, and/or violence. Access to mental health services at the Charter School and in our community is not only critical to improving the physical and emotional safety of students, but it also helps address barriers to learning and provides support so that all students can learn problem-solving skills and achieve in school and, ultimately, in life. The following resources are available to your child:

#### Available at School:

- <u>School-based counseling services</u> your child is encouraged to request from their assigned Teacher of Record connection with counseling services MYA's school psychologist supports students by providing individual sessions, group or parent consultations whenever a student is having a difficult time due to academic stress, transition to changes in their environment, or social concerns, including isolation. Counseling services, whether provided by our Charter School or by an outside provider listed herein, are voluntary.
- Special education services if you believe your child may have a disability, you are encouraged to directly contact MYA's Special EducationProgram Manager at programmanager@myacademy.org or (619) 343-2048 x 123 to request an evaluation.
- Prescription medication while at a school function if your child requires prescription medication while attending a school function and you would like assistance from School staff in providing this mediation to your child, please contact your students Teacher of Record.

#### Available in the Community:

- Imperial County <u>Imperial County Behavioral Health Services</u>
- Riverside County Riverside County Department of Mental Health
- San Diego County County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency
- Orange County OC Health Care Agency

Mental Health Plan (MHP) in each county is responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

• Imperial County: (800) 817-5292

• Riverside County: (800) 706-7500

San Diego County: (888) 724-7240

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Orange County: (800) 723-8641

#### Available Nationally:

- 211 211 is a free information and referral service that connects people to health and human services in their community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 211 serves people of all income levels, languages and cultural backgrounds and is available to 96% of Californians and to 85% of U.S. households. 211 programs are supported by United Way, public and private funders, city and county agencies and more. In fact, California United Ways operate and/or provide major funding for 2-1-1 programs throughout the state. 211 also plays a critical role in providing information and support in times of disaster, such as evacuation, shelter, food, medical and recovery information, and provides public officials with feedback from callers about changing conditions.
- California Youth Crisis Hotline 1 (800) 843-5200
   The California Youth Crisis Line is a 24/7 statewide emergency response system for youth (ages 12-24) and families in crisis. Professionally trained staff and volunteer counselors respond to calls regarding thoughts of suicide, depression, bullying, health and identity questions, trauma, human trafficking or any teen-related struggle.
   Translation services are available for multiple languages.
- The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline This organization provides confidential support for adults and youth in distress, including prevention and crisis resources. Available 24 hours by dialing 988.
- The Trevor Project This organization provides suicide prevention and crisis intervention for LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13 and 24. Available at 1-866-488-7386 or visit <a href="https://www.thetrevorproject.org/">https://www.thetrevorproject.org/</a>.
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America This organization is a community- based mentorship program. Community-specific program information can be found online at <a href="https://www.bbbs.org">https://www.bbbs.org</a> or by calling (813) 720-8778.

# **Oral Health Assessment**

Students enrolled in kindergarten in a public school or while enrolled in first grade if the student was not previously enrolled in kindergarten in a public school are required to have an oral health assessment completed by a dental professional. Please contact the main office if you have questions about this requirement.

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## Physical Examinations and Right to Refuse

All students must complete a health screening examination on or before the 90th day after the student's entrance into first grade or such students must have obtained a waiver pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 124040 and 124085. This examination can be obtained from your family physician or possibly through the services provided by your County Health Department. Information and forms are distributed to students enrolled in kindergarten. If your child's medical status changes, please provide the Executive Director or designee with a physician's written verification of the medical issue, especially if it impacts in any way your child's ability to perform schoolwork.

An Educational Rights Holder having control or charge of any child enrolled in the Charter School may file annually with the Executive Director or designee a written and signed statement stating that the Educational Rights Holder will not consent to a physical examination of the child. Thereupon the child shall be exempt from any physical examination, but whenever there is a good reason to believe that the child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the child shall be sent home and shall not be permitted to return until the school authorities are satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist.

# <u>Pregnant and Parenting Students</u>

The Charter School recognizes that pregnant and parenting students are entitled to accommodations that provide them with the opportunity to succeed academically while protecting their health and the health of their children. A pregnant or parenting student is entitled to eight (8) weeks of parental leave, or more if deemed medically necessary by the student's physician, which the student may take before the birth of the student's infant if there is a medical necessity and after childbirth during the school year in which the birth takes place, inclusive of any mandatory summer instruction, in order to protect the health of the student who gives or expects to give birth and the infant, and to allow the pregnant or parenting student to care for and bond with the infant. The Charter School will ensure that absences from the student's regular school program are excused until the student is able to return to the regular school program.

Upon return to school after taking parental leave, a pregnant or parenting student will be able to make up work missed during the pregnant or parenting student's leave, including, but not

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limited to, makeup work plans and reenrollment in courses. Notwithstanding any other law, a pregnant or parenting student may remain enrolled for a fifth year of instruction in the Charter School if it is necessary in order for the student to be able to complete any graduation requirements, unless the Charter School determines that the student is reasonably able to complete the graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

Complaints of noncompliance with laws relating to pregnant or parenting students may be filed under the Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP") of the Charter School. The complaint may be filed in writing with the compliance officer:

Motivated Youth Academy
Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619 343-2048
glenz@myacademy.org

A copy of the UCP is available in the Appendices of this handbook. For further information on any part of the complaint procedures, including filing a complaint or requesting a copy of the complaint procedures, please contact the Executive Director.

# Responding After a Suicide Death (Postvention)

A death by suicide in the school community (whether by a student or staff member) can have devastating consequences on the school community, including students and staff. The Charter School shall follow the below action plan for responding to a suicide death, which incorporates both immediate and long-term steps and objectives:

The suicide prevention liaison shall:

- 1. Coordinate with the Executive Director to:
  - a. Confirm death and cause:
  - b. Identify a staff member to contact the deceased's family (within 24 hours);
  - c. Notify all staff members (ideally in-person or via phone, not via e-mail or mass

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notification).

- 2. Coordinate an all-staff meeting, to include:
  - a. Notification (if not already conducted) to staff about suicide death;
  - b. Emotional support and resources available to staff;
  - Notification to students about suicide death and the availability of support services (if this is the protocol that is decided by administration);
  - d. Share information that is relevant and that which you have permission to disclose.
- 3. Prepare staff to respond to the needs of students regarding the following:
  - a. Review of protocols for referring students for support/assessment;
  - b. Talking points for staff to notify students;
  - c. Resources available to students
- 4. Identify students significantly affected by suicide death and other students at risk of imitative behavior;
- 5. Identify students affected by suicide death but not at risk of imitative behavior;
- 6. Communicate with the larger school community about suicide death;
- 7. Consider funeral arrangements for family and school community;
- 8. Respond to memorial requests in a respectful and non-harmful manner; responses should be handled in a thoughtful way and their impact on other students should be considered:
- 9. Identify a media spokesperson if needed.
- 10. Include long-term suicide postvention responses:
  - a. Consider important dates (i.e., anniversary of death, deceased birthday, graduation, or other significant events) and how these will be addressed
  - b. Support siblings, close friends, teachers, and/or students of deceased
  - c. Consider long-term memorials and how they may impact students who are emotionally vulnerable and at risk of suicide.

# **School Safety Plan**

MY Academy recognizes that students have the right to a safe and secure environment where they are free from physical and psychological harm. The school is fully committed to

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maximizing school safety and to creating a positive learning environment that includes strategies for violence prevention and high expectations for student conduct, responsible behavior, and respect for others. Additionally, there are a few instances even in an independent study model, that require a clear emergency preparedness plan. The Charter School has developed a Comprehensive School Safety Plan, which is written to address the safety of both the students and the staff.

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

# Staff Development

The Charter School along with its partners has carefully reviewed available staff training to ensure it promotes the mental health model of suicide prevention. Training shall be provided for all school staff members and shall include the following:

- 1. All suicide prevention trainings shall be offered under the direction of mental health professionals (e.g., school counselors, school psychologists, other public entity professionals, such as psychologists or social workers) who have received advanced training specific to suicide. Staff training may be adjusted year-to-year based on previous professional development activities and emerging best practices.
- 2. At least annually, all staff shall receive training on the risk factors and warning signs of suicide, suicide prevention, intervention, referral, and postvention.
- 3. At a minimum, all staff shall participate in training on the core components of suicide prevention (identification of suicide risk factors and warning signs, prevention, intervention, referral, and postvention) at the beginning of their employment or annually. Core components of the general suicide prevention training shall include:
  - a. Suicide risk factors, warning signs, and protective factors;
  - b. How to talk with a student about thoughts of suicide;
  - c. How to respond appropriately to the youth who has suicidal thoughts. Such responses shall include constant supervision of any student judged to be at risk for suicide and an immediate referral for a suicide risk assessment;
  - d. Emphasis on immediately referring (same day) any student who is identified to be at risk of suicide for assessment while staying under constant monitoring by staff member;

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- e. Emphasis on reducing the stigma associated with mental illness and that early prevention and intervention can drastically reduce the risk of suicide;
- f. Reviewing the data annually to look for any patterns or trends of the prevalence or occurrence of suicide ideation, attempts, or death. Data from the California School Climate, Health, and Learning Survey (Cal-SCHLS) should also be analyzed to identify school climate deficits and drive program development. See the Cal-SCHLS Web site at http://cal-schls.wested.org/.
- g. Information regarding groups of students judged by the school, and available research, to be at elevated risk for suicide. These groups include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - i. Youth affected by suicide;
  - ii. Youth with a history of suicide ideation or attempts;
  - iii. Youth with disabilities, mental illness, or substance abuse disorders;
  - iv. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth;
  - v. Youth experiencing homelessness or in out-of-home settings, such as foster care:
  - vi. Youth who have suffered traumatic experiences;
- 4. In addition to initial orientations to the core components of suicide prevention, ongoing annual staff professional development for all staff may include the following components:
  - a. The impact of traumatic stress on emotional and mental health;
  - b. Common misconceptions about suicide;
  - c. Charter School and community suicide prevention resources;
  - d. Appropriate messaging about suicide (correct terminology, safe messaging quidelines);
  - e. The factors associated with suicide (risk factors, warning signs, protective factors):
  - f. How to identify youth who may be at risk of suicide;
  - g. Appropriate ways to interact with a youth who is demonstrating emotional distress or is suicidal. Specifically, how to talk with a student about their thoughts of suicide and (based on the Charter School guidelines) how to

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- h. Charter School approved procedures for responding to suicide risk (including multi-tiered systems of support and referrals). Such procedures should emphasize that the suicidal student should be constantly supervised until a suicide risk assessment is completed;
- i. Charter School approved procedures for responding to the aftermath of suicidal behavior (suicidal behavior postvention);
- j. Responding after a suicide occurs (suicide postvention);
- k. Resources regarding youth suicide prevention;
- I. Emphasis on stigma reduction and the fact that early prevention and intervention can drastically reduce the risk of suicide;
- m. Emphasis that any student who is identified to be at risk of suicide is to be immediately referred (same day) for assessment while being constantly monitored by a staff member.

# Student Identification (ID) Cards

Student ID cards are available for all enrolled students in TK-12th grade. To request a card, contact your ToR. Please allow up to two weeks for processing and mailing. Any questions should be directed to the student's TOR.

In order to be in compliance with local daytime loitering laws, in the community where a student is, students should have their MYA ID card in their possession any time school is in session.

# **Student Identification Cards**

Charter School will include the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255) and the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-7233) on all student identification cards. The Charter School will also include the number for the Crisis Text Line, which can be accessed by texting HOME to 741741 and a local suicide prevention hotline on

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all student identification cards.

#### Student Participation and Education

The Charter School's instructional and student support program shall promote the healthy mental, emotional, and social development of students including, but not limited to, the development of problem-solving skills, coping skills, and resilience.

The Charter School's instructional curriculum may include information about suicide prevention, as appropriate or needed. If suicide prevention is included in the Charter School's instructional curriculum, it shall consider the grade level and age of the students and be delivered and discussed in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of young students. Under the supervision of an appropriately trained individual acting within the scope of the individual's credential or license, students shall:

- 1. Receive developmentally appropriate, student-centered education about the warning signs of mental health challenges and emotional distress which may include:
  - a. Coping strategies for dealing with stress and trauma.;
  - b. How to recognize behaviors (warning signs) and life issues (risk factors) associated with suicide and mental health issues in oneself and others
  - c. Help-seeking strategies for oneself and others, including how to engage school-based and community resources and refer peers for help.;
  - d. Emphasis on reducing the stigma associated with mental illness and the fact that early prevention and intervention can drastically reduce the risk of suicide.
- 2. Receive developmentally appropriate guidance regarding the Charter School's suicide prevention, intervention, and referral procedures.

Student-focused suicide prevention education can be incorporated into curricula (e.g., health classes, science classes, and physical education).

The Charter School will support the creation and implementation of programs that raise

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awareness about mental wellness and suicide prevention (e.g., Mental Health Awareness Week).

#### Suicide Prevention Policy

Policy Adopted: October 10, 2019 Policy Revised: July 9, 2020 Policy Reviewed: August 19, 2021 Policy Revised: December 14, 2023

Motivated Youth Academy ("MYA" or the "Charter School") recognizes that suicide is a major cause of death among youth and should be taken seriously. In an effort to reduce suicidal behavior and its impact on students and families, the Charter School has developed prevention strategies and intervention procedures.

In compliance with Education Code section 215, this policy has been developed in consultation with the Charter School and educational partners, school employed mental health professionals, administrators, other school staff members, and the county mental health plan in planning, implementing, and evaluating the Charter School's strategies for suicide prevention and intervention. The Charter School must work in conjunction with local government agencies, community-based organizations, and other community supports to identify additional resources.

The purpose of this policy is to protect the health and well-being of all of our students by having procedures in place to prevent, assess the risk of, intervene in, and respond to youth suicidal behavior. Protecting the health and well-being of all students is of utmost importance to our school and is in line with school mandates for all professionals and individuals working with youth. Because it is impossible to predict when a crisis will occur, preparedness is necessary for every school. Youth suicide is preventable, and Educational Rights Holders, educators and schools are key to prevention. Preventing suicide depends not only on suicide prevention policies, but also on a holistic approach that promotes healthy lifestyles, families, and communities. Thus, this policy is intended to be paired with other policies and efforts that

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support the emotional and behavioral well-being of youth.

To ensure the policies regarding suicide prevention are properly adopted, implemented, and updated, the Charter School shall appoint an individual (or team) to serve as the suicide prevention point of contact for the Charter School. The suicide prevention point of contact and the Executive Director shall ensure proper coordination and consultation with the county mental health plan if a referral is made for mental health or related services on behalf of a student who is a Medi-Cal beneficiary. This policy shall be reviewed and revised as indicated, at least annually in conjunction with the previously mentioned community stakeholders.

# Supporting Students during or after a Mental Health Crisis

Students shall be encouraged to notify a teacher, the Executive Director, another school administrator, psychologist, counselor, suicide prevention liaisons, or other adults when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions. Staff should treat each report seriously, calmly, and with active listening and support. Staff should be non-judgmental to students and discuss with the student, and Educational Rights Holder, about additional resources to support the student.

# **Surveys About Personal Beliefs**

Unless the student's Educational Rights Holder gives written permission, a student will not be given any test, questionnaire, survey, or examination containing any questions about the student's, or the student's Educational Rights Holders' personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, or religion.

# <u>Tobacco-Free Schools</u>

Ample research has demonstrated the health hazards associated with the use of tobacco products, including smoking and the breathing of secondhand smoke. The Charter School provides instructional programs designed to discourage students from using tobacco products. The Charter School's Governing Board recognizes that smoking and other uses of tobacco and nicotine products constitute a serious public health hazard and are inconsistent with the goals of the Charter School to provide a healthy environment for students and staff.

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In the best interest of students, employees, and the general public, the Board therefore prohibits the use of tobacco products at all times on Charter School property and in Charter School vehicles. This prohibition applies to all employees, students, visitors, and other persons at school or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. It applies to any meeting on any property owned, leased, or rented by or from the Charter School.

Smoking or use of any tobacco-related product or disposal of any tobacco-related waste is prohibited within 25 feet of any playground, except on a public sidewalk located within 25 feet of the playground. Smoking or use of any tobacco-related product is also prohibited within 250 feet of the youth sports event in the same park or facility where a youth sports event is taking place. In addition, any form of intimidation, threat, or retaliation against a person for attempting to enforce this policy is prohibited.

The Executive Director or designee shall inform students, Educational Rights Holder, employees, and the public about this policy. All individuals on Charter School premises share in the responsibility of adhering to this policy. Additionally, the Charter School will post signs stating "Tobacco use is prohibited" prominently at all entrances to school property.

MY Academy does not tolerate the illegal use, possession, or sale of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or related paraphernalia by students while engaged in school-sponsored educational activities or events. School administrators are required to take immediate action to prevent, discourage, and eliminate the illegal use, possession, or sale of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or related paraphernalia while engaged in school-sponsored educational activities or events. Students found in violation are subject to discipline, up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

Smoking and the use of all tobacco products, including the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems, such as e-cigarettes, is prohibited at all MY Academy events, at all times by all persons, including employees, students, and visitors.

# <u>Universal Meals Program</u>

Pursuant to California law, commencing with the 2022-23 school year, the Charter School shall provide two (2) nutritionally adequate meals to each student who requests a meal without consideration of the student's eligibility for a federally funded free or reduced-price meal, with a maximum of one free meal per meal service (breakfast and lunch) each school day on which

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the student is scheduled for two or more hours of educational activities at a school site, resource center, meeting space or other satellite facility operated by the Charter School. This shall apply to all pupils in kindergarten through grade twelve (12). Applications for school meals are included in the first day packets to all families and can also be obtained on the Charter School website and in the main office. All families are encouraged to complete the application form i. Completed application forms can be returned to the main office.

Because MY Academy does not operate a school site, resource center, meeting space or other satellite facility, meals are not provided as part of the Universal Meal Program.

# **Special Populations**

# **Education of Foster and Mobile Youth**

**Definitions**: For the purposes of this annual notice the terms are defined as follows:

- "Foster youth" means any of the following:
  - 1. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code ("WIC") section 309 (whether or not the child has been removed from the child's home by juvenile court).
  - 2. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant WIC section 602, has been removed from the child's home by the juvenile court, and is in foster care.
  - 3. A nonminor under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as described in WIC section 450, who satisfies all of the following criteria:
    - a. The nonminor has attained 18 years of age while under an order of foster care placement by the juvenile court.
    - b. The nonminor is in foster care under the placement and care responsibility of the county welfare department, county probation department, Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization.
    - c. The nonminor is participating in a transitional independent living case plan.
  - 4. A dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization who is the subject of a petition filed in the tribal court.<sup>1</sup>
  - 5. A child who is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement, as defined in WIC section 11400.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Charter School shall not require an Indian tribe or tribal court representative to certify that any student is a dependent of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization.

- "Former juvenile court school student" means a student who, upon completion of the student's second year of high school, transfers from a juvenile court school to the Charter School.
- "Child of a military family" refers to a student who resides in the household of an active duty military member.
- "Currently Migratory Child" refers to a child who, within the last 12-months, has moved with an Educational Rights Holder, or other person having custody to the Charter School from another Local Educational Agency ("LEA"), either within California or from another state, so that the child or a member of the child's immediate family might secure temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity, and whose Educational Rights Holders have been informed of the child's eligibility for migrant education services. This includes a child who, without the Educational Rights Holder, has continued to migrate annually to secure temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity.
- "Student participating in a newcomer program" means a student who is participating in a program designed to meet the academic and transitional needs of newly arrived immigrant students that has as a primary objective the development of English language proficiency.

Within this notice, foster youth, former juvenile court school students, a child of a military family, a currently migratory child, and a student participating in the newcomer program will be collectively referred to as "Foster and Mobile Youth." Within this notice, an Educational Rights Holder for a Foster and Mobile Youth will be referred to as an "Educational Rights Holder."

Notice for Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison:

The Executive Director or designee designates the following staff person as the Liaison for Foster and Mobile Youth:

Motivated Youth Academy Student Success Coordinator 500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025 (619) 343-2048

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#### fosterandmobileyouth@myacademy.org

The Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison's responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- 1. Ensuring and facilitating the proper educational placement, enrollment in school, and checkout from school for foster children.
- 2. Assisting foster children when transferring from one school to another school in ensuring proper transfer of credits, records and grades.

School Stability: The Charter School will work with foster youth and their Educational Rights Holder to ensure that each pupil is placed in the least restrictive educational programs, and has access to the academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all students, including, but not necessarily limited to, clubs or esports. All decisions regarding a foster youth's education and placement will be based on the best interest of the child and shall consider, among other factors, educational stability and the opportunity to be educated in the least restrictive educational setting necessary to achieve academic progress.

Foster youth, currently migratory children and children of military families have the right to remain in their school of origin if it is in their best interest. The Charter School will immediately enroll a foster youth, currently migratory child or child of a military family seeking reenrollment in the Charter School as the student's school of origin (subject to the Charter School's capacity and pursuant to the procedures stated in the Charter School's charter and Board policy). If a dispute arises regarding a foster youth's request to remain in the Charter School as the school of origin, the foster youth has the right to remain in the Charter School pending the resolution of the dispute. The Charter School will also immediately enroll any foster youth, currently migratory child or child of a military family seeking to transfer to the Charter School (subject to the Charter School's capacity and pursuant to the procedures stated in the Charter School's charter and Board policy) regardless of the student's ability to meet normal enrollment documentation or uniform requirements (e.g., producing medical records or academic records from a previous school).

Foster youth, currently migratory children, and children of military families have the right to remain in their school of origin following the termination of the child's status as a foster youth,

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currently migratory child or child of a military family, as follows:

- 1. For students in Kindergarten through eighth grade, inclusive, the student will be allowed to continue in the school of origin through the duration of the academic year in which the student's status changed.
- 2. For students enrolled in high school, the student will be allowed to continue in the school of origin through graduation.

Graduation Requirements: Foster and Mobile Youth who transfer to the Charter School any time after the completion of their second year of high school, and pupils participating in a newcomer program who are in their third or fourth year of high school, shall be exempt from any of the Charter School's graduation requirements that are in excess of the California minimum graduation requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 ("additional graduation requirements") unless the Charter School makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

To determine whether a Foster and Mobile Youth is in their third or fourth year of high school, either the number of credits the student has earned to the date of transfer or the length of the student's school enrollment may be used, whichever will qualify the student for the exemption. In the case of a pupil participating in a newcomer program, enrollment in grade 11 or 12 may be used to determine whether the student is in their third or fourth year of high school.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date that a student who may qualify for exemption under the above requirements transfers into the Charter School, the Charter School shall notify the student, the Educational Rights Holder, and where applicable, the student's social worker or probation officer, of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for an exemption.

The Charter School shall notify students who are exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements and the student's Educational Rights Holder how any of the

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requirements that are waived will affect the pupil's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.

The Charter School shall not require any student who would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School to accept the exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements or deny the student enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses for which the student is otherwise eligible. The Charter School shall not revoke an exemption and shall grant an eligible student's request for the exemption at any time if the student qualifies, regardless of whether the student previously declined the exemption. An eligible student's exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements will continue to apply while the student is enrolled in the Charter School or if the student transfers to another school even after the court's jurisdiction terminates or the student no longer meets the definition of a child of a military family, a currently migratory child or a pupil participating in a newcomer program.

The Charter School shall not require or request that a student transfer schools in order to qualify the student for the exemption. Nor shall a student, a student's Educational Rights Holder, or a student's social worker or probation officer request a transfer solely to qualify for an exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements.

If a student who is exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements completes the California minimum coursework requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 before the end of the student's fourth year of high school and would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School, the Charter School shall not require or request that the student graduate before the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

If the Charter School determines the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fifth year of high school, the Charter School shall do the following:

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- 1. Inform the student of the student's option to remain at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements.
- 2. Inform the student, and the educational rights holder for the student, about how remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution.
- 3. Provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.

Permit the student to stay at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements upon agreement with the student, if the student is 18 years of age or older, or, if the student is under 18 years of age, upon agreement with the educational rights holder for the student.

Acceptance of Course Work: The Charter School will accept any coursework satisfactorily completed at any public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency by Foster and Mobile Youth.

The Charter School will provide Foster and Mobile Youth credit for the partial completion of courses taken while attending a public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency. If the student did not complete the entire course, the Charter School shall not require the student to retake the portion of the course the student completed unless the Charter School, in consultation with the holder of educational rights for the student, finds that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the Foster and Mobile Youth shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that the student may continue and complete the entire course. These students shall not be prevented from taking or retaking a course to meet California State University or the University of California admission eligibility requirements.

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**Student Records:** When the Charter School receives a transfer request and/or student records request for the educational information and records of a foster youth from a new local educational agency ("LEA"), the Charter School shall provide these student records within two (2) business days. The Charter School shall compile the complete educational record of the student, including but not limited to a determination of seat time, full or partial credits earned, current classes and grades, immunization and other records, and, if applicable, a copy of the student's special education records including assessments, IEPs, and/or 504 plans. All requests for student records will be shared with the Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison, who shall be aware of the specific educational record keeping needs of Foster and Mobile Youth.

The Charter School shall not lower a foster youth's grades as a result of the student's absence due to a verified court appearance, related court ordered activity, or a change in the placement of the student made by a county or placing agency. If a foster youth is absent from school due to a decision to change the placement of the student made by a county or placing agency, the grades and credits of the pupil will be calculated as of the date the student left the Charter School.

In accordance with the Charter School's Educational Records and Student Information Policy, under limited circumstances, the Charter School may disclose student records or personally identifiable information contained in those records to certain requesting parties including but not limited to a foster family agency and state and local authorities within a juvenile justice system, without Educational Rights Holder consent. Students who are 16 years of age or older or have finished 10th grade may access their own school records.

**Discipline Determinations:** If the Charter School intends to extend the suspension of any foster youth pending a recommendation for expulsion, the Charter School will invite the student's attorney and an appropriate representative from the relevant county agency to participate in the meeting at which the extension of the suspension will be discussed.

If the Charter School intends to suspend for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or expel a student with a disability who is also a foster youth due to an act for which the recommendation for expulsion is discretionary, the Charter School will invite the student's attorney and an appropriate representative from the relevant county agency to participate in

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the Manifestation Determination Review meeting.

**Complaints of Noncompliance:** A complaint of noncompliance with any of the requirements outlined above may be filed through the Charter School's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A copy of the Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedures is available as a link in the Appendices of this handbook.

**Availability of Complete Policy:** For any Foster and Mobile Youth who enrolls at the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's complete foster youth policy shall be provided at the time of enrollment. A copy of the complete Policy is available as a link in the Appendices of this handbook.

# **Education of Homeless Children and Youth**

The term "homeless children and youth" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. It includes children and youths who (42 U.S.C. § 11434a):

- 1. Are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
- 2. Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
- 3. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and/or
- 4. Migratory children and unaccompanied youth (youth not in the physical custody of an Educational Rights Holder) may be considered homeless if they meet the above definition of "homeless."

Homeless status is determined in cooperation with the Educational Rights Holder. In the case of unaccompanied youth, status is determined by the Charter School Liaison.

School Liaison: The Executive Director or designee designates the following staff person as

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the School Liaison for homeless students (42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)):

Motivated Youth Academy
Student Success Coordinator
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619) 343-2048
fosterandmobileyouth@myacademy.org

The Charter School Liaison shall ensure that (42 U.S.C. § 11432(a)(6)):

- 1. Homeless students are identified by school personnel and through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies, and through the annual housing questionnaire administered by the Charter School.
- 2. Homeless students enroll in and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed at the Charter School.
- 3. Homeless students and families receive educational services for which they are eligible, including services through Head Start programs (including Early Head Start programs) under the Head Start Act, early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, any other preschool programs administered by the Charter School, if any, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.
- 4. Educational Rights Holders are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.
- 5. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated at places frequented by Educational Rights Holders of such youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup

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- kitchens, and in a manner and form understandable to the Educational Rights Holders of homeless youth and unaccompanied youth.
- 6. Enrollment/admissions disputes are mediated in accordance with law, the Charter School's charter, and Board policy.
- 7. Educational Rights Holders and any unaccompanied youth are fully informed of all transportation services, as applicable.
- 8. Charter School personnel providing services receive professional development and other support.
- 9. The Charter School Liaison collaborates with State coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths.
- 10. Unaccompanied youth are enrolled in school; have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youth; and are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that the youths may obtain assistance from the Charter School Liaison to receive verification of such status for the purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid described in section 483 of the Act.

The California Department of Education publishes a list of the contact information for the Homeless Education Liaisons in the state, which is available at: <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/">https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/</a>

Housing Questionnaire: Charter School shall administer a housing questionnaire for purposes of identifying homeless children and youth. Charter School shall ensure that the housing questionnaire is based on the best practices developed by the CDE. Charter School shall annually provide the housing questionnaire to all Educational Rights Holders of students and to all unaccompanied youths at Charter School. The housing questionnaire shall include an explanation of the rights and protections a student has as a homeless child or youth or as an unaccompanied youth. The housing questionnaire shall be available in paper form. The housing questionnaire shall be available in English, and if fifteen (15) percent or more of the

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students enrolled at Charter School speak a single primary language other than English, it shall also be written in the primary language. The questionnaire shall be translated into other languages upon request of a student's Educational Rights Holder or an unaccompanied youth. Charter School shall collect the completed housing questionnaires and annually report to the CDE the number of homeless children and youths and unaccompanied youths enrolled. (Education Code Section 48851.)

High School Graduation Requirements: Homeless students who transfer to the Charter School any time after the completion of their second year of high school shall be exempt from any of the Charter School's graduation requirements that are in excess of the California minimum graduation requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 ("additional graduation requirements") unless the Charter School makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

To determine whether a homeless student is in their third or fourth year of high school, either the number of credits the student has earned to the date of transfer or the length of the student's school enrollment may be used, whichever will qualify the student for the exemption.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date that a student who may qualify for exemption under the above requirements transfers into the Charter School, the Charter School shall notify the student, the student's educational rights holder, and the School Liaison of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for an exemption.

The Charter School shall notify students who are exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements and the student's educational rights holder of how any of the requirements that are waived will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.

The Charter School shall not require any student who would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School to accept the exemption from the Charter School's additional

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graduation requirements or deny the student enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses for which the student is otherwise eligible. The Charter School shall not revoke an exemption and shall grant an eligible student's request for the exemption at any time if the student qualifies, regardless of whether the student previously declined the exemption. An eligible student's exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements will continue to apply while the student is enrolled in the Charter School or if the student transfers to another school even after the student no longer meets the definition of a homeless child.

The Charter School shall not require or request that a student transfer schools in order to qualify the student for the exemption. Nor shall a student, a student's Educational Rights Holder, or a student's social worker or probation officer request a transfer solely to qualify for an exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements.

If a student who is exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements completes the California minimum coursework requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 before the end of the student's fourth year of high school and would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School, the Charter School shall not require or request that the student graduate before the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

If the Charter School determines the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fifth year of high school, the Charter School shall do the following:

- 1. Inform the student of the student's option to remain at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements.
- 2. Inform the student, and the educational rights holder for the student, about how remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution.
- 3. Provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.
- 4. Permit the student to stay at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements upon agreement with the student, if the student is 18 years of age or older, or, if the student is under 18 years of age, upon agreement with the educational rights holder for the student.

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Acceptance of Course Work: The Charter School will accept any coursework satisfactorily completed at any public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency by a homeless student.

The Charter School will provide homeless students credit for the partial completion of courses taken while attending a public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency. If the student did not complete the entire course, the Charter School shall not require the student to retake the portion of the course the student completed unless the Charter School, in consultation with the holder of educational rights for the student, finds that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the homeless student shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that the student may continue and complete the entire course. These students shall not be prevented from taking or retaking a course to meet California State University or the University of California admission eligibility requirements.

For any homeless student who enrolls at the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's complete policy shall be provided at the time of enrollment. A copy of the complete Policy is available upon request at the main office.

## **English Learners**

The Charter School is committed to the success of its English Learners and support will be offered both within academic classes and in supplemental settings for students who need additional support for English language learning. The Charter School will meet all applicable legal requirements for English Learners as they pertain to annual notification to Educational Rights Holders, student identification, placement, program options, English Learners and core content instruction, teacher qualifications and training, reclassification to fluent English proficient status, monitoring and evaluating program effectiveness, and standardized testing requirements. The Charter School will implement policies to assure proper placement, evaluation, and communication regarding English Learners and the rights of students and Educational Rights Holders.

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For detailed information about English Language Learners, please see MYA's <u>English Learner</u> Master Plan.

#### Section 504

The Charter School recognizes its legal responsibility to ensure that no qualified person with a disability shall, on the basis of a disability, be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of the Charter School. Any student who has an objectively identified disability which substantially limits a major life activity, including, but not limited to learning, is eligible for accommodations by the Charter School. The Educational Rights Holder of any student suspected of needing or qualifying for accommodations under Section 504 may make a referral for an evaluation to the Executive Director or designee.

MY Academy adheres to all Section 504 legal requirements. For students transferring to MY Academy with an existing 504 Plan, MYA staff will hold a review meeting within the first 30 days of enrollment to review the current 504 Plan to collaborate with the 504 team, and update the 504 plan with the accommodations that can reasonably be implemented within MY Academy's personalized learning school model. For currently enrolled MY Academy students with an existing 504 plan, 504 review meetings are offered at the beginning of every school year. For more information on MY Academy Charter School's 504 Program, see the policy under the Appendices section of this Handbook or email <a href="mailto:info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

MY Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes sent forth in Penal Code section 422.55, including immigration status. My Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program/activity of the school, and that it is required by Title IX not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in the education programs/activities of the school extends to admission and employment, and inquiries about the application for Title IX to the school may be referred to MY Academy's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary of Education, or both. Complaints alleging noncompliance may also be made by contacting the school's Executive Director. A copy of the school's nondiscrimination policy and Title IX policy is available upon request.

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Section 504 requires MY Academy to provide a free appropriate public education to qualified students who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

#### Special Education / Students with Disabilities

We are dedicated to the belief that all students can learn and must be guaranteed equal opportunity to become contributing members of the academic environment and society. The Charter School provides special education instruction and related services in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Improvement Act ("IDEIA"), Education Code requirements, and applicable policies and procedures of the Sonoma County Charter SELPA. These services are available for special education students enrolled at the Charter School. We offer high quality educational programs and services for all our students in accordance with the assessed needs of each student. The Charter School collaborates with Educational Rights Holders, the student, teachers, and other agencies, as may be indicated, in order to appropriately serve the educational needs of each student.

Pursuant to the IDEIA and relevant state law, the Charter School is responsible for identifying, locating, and evaluating children enrolled at the Charter School with known or suspected disabilities to determine whether a need for special education and related services exists. This includes children with disabilities who are homeless or foster youth. Under the IDEA, Educational rights holders have a right to inspect, review, and obtain copies of their child's educational records. The Charter School shall not deny nor discourage any student from enrollment solely due to a disability. If you believe your child may be eligible for special education services, please contact the Special Education Program Manager, at programmanager@myacademy.org or (619) 343-2048 x123.

#### Special Education Students

MY Academy will collect information about a student's special education eligibility or services. The educational rights holder of a child should submit to the Special Education Department a complete copy of the student's most recent IEP (Individualized Education Plan), 504 plan, or any related special education documentation, if your child was receiving special education

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services in the past. In addition, MY Academy will comply with all relevant obligations under the law, including taking reasonable steps to promptly obtain relevant pupil records from the previous school in which your child was enrolled, including records relating to providing special education and related services to your child, and offering a Free and Appropriate Public Education ("FAPE"). If you have a student who receives special education services, please review this <u>Notice of Procedural Safeguards</u> to understand the special education rights of both educational rights holders and students.

MY Academy will collect information about a student's special education eligibility or services after the student is enrolled. The Educational Rights Holder should submit to the Special Education Department a complete copy of the student's most recent Individualized Education Plan ("IEP") or any related special education documentation, if special education services were previously received. MYA staff will hold an Interim IEP meeting within the first 30 days of enrollment to review the current IEP Plan and, in collaboration with the IEP team, make an offer of a Free and Appropriate Public Education ("FAPE"). IEP teams will meet no less than once annually, and students will be reassessed every three years. MY Academy will comply with all relevant obligations under the law, including taking reasonable steps to promptly obtain relevant pupil records from the previous school in which the student-was enrolled, including records relating to providing special education and related services to the student. This serves as notice to Educational Rights holders of their child's right to a FAPE.

# Student Rights, Conduct, & Complaint Procedures

## **Educational Records and Student Information**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") affords Educational Rights Holders and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- 1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within five (5) school days after the day MY Academy receives a request for access.
  - Educational Rights Holders must submit to the Executive Director or designee a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The Charter School official will make arrangements for access and notify the Educational Rights Holders of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- 2. Educational Rights Holders have the right to request an amendment of the student's education records that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

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Educational Rights Holders who wish to ask the school to amend a record must write to the Executive Director or designee, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If MY Academy decides not to amend the record as requested by the Educational Rights Holder or eligible student, MY Academy will notify the Educational Rights Holders \*of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the Educational Rights Holders\* when notified of the right to a hearing. If MY Academy agrees to amend the record as requested, the Executive Director must order the correction or the removal and destruction of the information and inform the Educational Rights Holders of the amendment in writing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the MY Academy discloses personally identifiable information ("PII") from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to Charter school officials with legitimate educational interests. For this purpose, a Charter School official is a person employed by the Charter School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the Charter School's Board of Directors. A Charter School official may also include a volunteer, consultant, or vendor outside of the Charter School who performs an institutional service or function for which the Charter School would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; or contracted provider of digital educational platforms and/or services, an Educational Rights Holder volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or an Educational Rights Holder, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing a task on behalf of the Charter School. A Charter School official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill their professional responsibility.

Upon request, the Charter School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is

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already enrolled, if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

Note that Charter School will not release information to third parties for immigration-enforcement purposes, except as required by law or court order.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Charter School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that processes FERPA complaints are:

Student Privacy Policy Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202

5. The right to request that the Charter School not release student names, addresses and telephone listings to military recruiters or institutions of higher education without prior written Educational Rights Holder consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from a students' education records, without consent of the Educational Rights Holders, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in \$99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to Charter School officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the Educational Rights Holder or eligible student, \$99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the Charter School to record the disclosure. Educational Rights Holders and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the Educational Rights Holders or the eligible student:

• To- Charter School officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, as defined by 34 C. F. R. Part 99; To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment

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or transfer. When a student transfers schools, the Charter School will mail the original or a copy of a student's cumulative file to the receiving district or private school within ten (10) school days following the date the request is received from the public school or private school where the student intends to enroll. The Charter School will make a reasonable attempt to notify the Educational Rights Holders of the request for records at the parents/guardians/educational right holders' last known address, unless the disclosure is initiated by the Educational Rights Holders. Additionally, the Charter School will give the Educational Rights Holders request, a copy of the record that was disclosed and give Educational Rights Holders, upon request, an opportunity for a hearing;

- To certain government officials listed in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1) in order to carry out lawful functions;
- Appropriate parties in connection with a student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid if it is necessary to determine eligibility, amount of aid, conditions for aid or enforcing the terms and conditions of the aidOrganizations conducting certain studies for the Charter School in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(F);
- Accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;
- Educational Rights Holders of a dependent student as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986:
- Individuals or entities, in compliance with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. Subject to the exceptions found in 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(9)(i), reasonable effort must be made to notify the Educational Rights Holder or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance, so that the Educational Rights Holder or eligible students may seek a protective order;
- Persons who need to know in cases of health and safety emergencies;
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law;
- A foster family agency with jurisdiction over a currently enrolled or former student, a short-term residential treatment program staff responsible for the education or case management of a student, and a caregiver (regardless of whether the caregiver has been appointed as the student's educational rights holder) who has direct responsibility for the care of the student, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or nonrelated extended family member, or a resource family, may access the current or most recent records of grades, transcripts, attendance, discipline, and online communication on platforms established by the Charter School for students and Educational Rights Holders, and any individualized

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- education program ("IEP") or Section 504 plan that may have been developed or maintained by the Charter School; and/or
- A victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceedings conducted by the Charter School with respect to that alleged crime or offense. The Charter School discloses the final results of the disciplinary proceeding regardless of whether the Charter School concluded a violation was committed.

"Directory Information" is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. The Charter School may disclose the personally identifiable information that it has designated as directory information without an Educational Rights Holder's or eligible student's prior written consent. The Charter School has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Student's address
- Educational Rights Holder's address
- Telephone listing
- Student's electronic mail address
- Educational Rights Holder's electronic mail address
- Photograph/video
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate
  in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a
  PIN, password, etc. (A student's social security number, in whole or in part, cannot be
  used for this purpose.)

If you do not want the Charter School to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Charter School in writing at the time of enrollment or re-enrollment.

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Please notify the Executive Director at:

Executive Director
Motivated Youth Academy
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619) 343-2048
admin@myacademy.org

A copy of the complete Policy is available upon request at the main office.

## Professional Boundaries: Staff/Student Interaction Policy

Motivated Youth Academy ("MY Academy" or "Charter School") recognizes its responsibility to make and enforce all rules and regulations governing student and employee behavior to bring about the safest and most learning-conducive environment possible.

#### Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student.

For purposes of this policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to property.

For clarification purposes, the following examples are offered for direction and guidance of School personnel:

- A. Examples of PERMITTED actions (NOT corporal punishment)
  - 1. Stopping a student from fighting with another student;
  - 2. Preventing a pupil from committing an act of vandalism;
  - 3. Defending yourself from physical injury or assault by a student;
  - 4. Forcing a pupil to give up a weapon or dangerous object;

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- 5. Requiring an athletic team to participate in strenuous physical training activities designed to strengthen or condition team members or improve their coordination, agility, or physical skills;
- 6. Engaging in group calisthenics, team drills, or other physical education or voluntary recreational activities.

#### B. Examples of PROHIBITED actions (corporal punishment)

- 1. Hitting, shoving, pushing, or physically restraining a student as a means of control;
- 2. Making unruly students do push-ups, run laps, or perform other physical acts that cause pain or discomfort as a form of punishment;
- 3. Paddling, swatting, slapping, grabbing, pinching, kicking, or otherwise causing physical pain.

#### Acceptable and Unacceptable Staff/Student Behavior

This policy is intended to guide all School faculty and staff in conducting themselves in a way that reflects the high standards of behavior and professionalism required of school employees and to specify the boundaries between students and staff.

Although this policy gives specific, clear direction, it is each staff member's obligation to avoid situations that could prompt suspicion by Educational Rights Holders, students, colleagues, or school leaders. One viable standard that can be quickly applied, when you are unsure if certain conduct is acceptable, is to ask yourself, "Would I be engaged in this conduct if my family or colleagues were standing next to me?"

For the purposes of this policy, the term "boundaries" is defined as acceptable professional behavior by staff members while interacting with a student. Trespassing the boundaries of a student/teacher relationship is deemed an abuse of power and a betrayal of public trust.

Some activities may seem innocent from a staff member's perspective, but can be perceived as flirtation or sexual insinuation from a student or Educational Rights Holder point of view. The objective of the following lists of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors is not to restrain innocent, positive relationships between staff and students, but to prevent relationships that could lead to, or may be perceived as, sexual misconduct.

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Staff must understand their own responsibility for ensuring that they do not cross the boundaries as written in this policy. Disagreeing with the wording or intent of the established boundaries will be considered irrelevant for disciplinary purposes. Thus, it is crucial that all employees learn this policy thoroughly and apply the lists of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors to their daily activities. Although sincere, competent interaction with students certainly fosters learning, student/staff interactions must have boundaries surrounding potential activities, locations and intentions.

#### <u>Duty to Report Suspected Misconduct</u>

When any employee reasonably suspects or believes that another staff member may have crossed the boundaries specified in this policy, he or she must immediately report the matter to a school administrator. All reports shall be as confidential as possible under the circumstances. It is the duty of the administrator to investigate and thoroughly report the situation. Employees must also report to the administration any awareness or concern of student behavior that crosses boundaries or where a student appears to be at risk for sexual abuse.

#### **Examples of Specific Behaviors**

#### The following examples are not an exhaustive list:

### <u>Unacceptable Staff/Student Behaviors (Violations of this Policy)</u>

- (a) Giving gifts to an individual student that are of a personal and intimate nature.
- (b) Kissing of any kind.
- (c) Any type of unnecessary physical contact with a student in a private situation.
- (d) Intentionally being alone with a student away from the school.
- (e) Making or participating in sexually inappropriate comments.
- (f) Sexual jokes.
- (g) Seeking emotional involvement with a student for your benefit.
- (h) Listening to or telling stories that are sexually oriented.
- (i) Discussing inappropriate personal troubles or intimate issues with a student in an attempt to gain their support and understanding.
- (j) Becoming involved with a student so that a reasonable person may suspect inappropriate behavior.

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## <u>Unacceptable Staff/Student Behaviors without Educational Rights Holder and Supervisor</u> Permission

(These behaviors should only be exercised when a staff member has Educational Rights Holder and supervisor permission.)

- (a) Giving students a ride to/from school or school activities.
- (b) Being alone in a room with a student at school with the door closed.
- (c) Allowing students in your home.

#### Cautionary Staff/Student Behaviors

(These behaviors should only be exercised when a reasonable and prudent person, acting as an educator, is prevented from using a better practice or behavior. Staff members should inform their supervisor of the circumstance and occurrence prior to or immediately after the occurrence)

- (a) Remarks about the physical attributes or development of anyone.
- (b) Excessive attention toward a particular student.
- (c) Sending emails, text messages or letters to students if the content is not about school activities.

#### Acceptable and Recommended Staff/Student Behaviors

- (a) Getting Educational Rights Holders' written consent for any after-school activity.
- (b) Obtaining formal approval to take students off school property for activities such as field trips or competitions.
- (c) Emails, text, phone and instant messages to students must be very professional and pertaining to school activities or classes (Communication should be limited to school technology).
- (d) Keeping the door open when alone with a student.
- (e) Keeping reasonable space between you and your students.
- (f) Stopping and correcting students if they cross your own personal boundaries.
- (g) Keeping Educational Rights Holders informed when a significant issue develops about a student.
- (h) Keeping after-class discussions with a student professional and brief.
- (i) Asking for advice from fellow staff or administrators if you find yourself in a difficult situation related to boundaries.

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- (j) Involving your supervisor if conflict arises with the student.
- (k) Informing the Principal about situations that have the potential to become more severe.
- (l) Making detailed notes about an incident that could evolve into a more serious situation later.
- (m) Recognizing the responsibility to stop unacceptable behavior of students or coworkers.
- (n) Asking another staff member to be present if you will be alone with any type of special needs student.
- (o) Asking another staff member to be present when you must be alone with a student after regular school hours.
- (p) Giving students praise and recognition without touching them.
- (q) Pats on the back, high fives and handshakes are acceptable.
- (r) Keeping your professional conduct a high priority.
- (s) Asking yourself if your actions are worth your job and career

## School Search and Seizure

The Charter School recognizes and has determined that the occurrence of incidents which may include the possession of firearms, weapons, alcohol, controlled substances, or other items of contraband prohibited by law or Charter School rules and regulations, jeopardizes the health, safety and welfare of students and Charter School employees.

The California Constitution requires that all students and staff of public schools have the inalienable right to attend school activities which are safe, secure, and peaceful. As such, Charter School has adopted a Policy outlining the reasonable search of students and their property, student use areas, and/or student lockers and the seizure of illegal, unsafe, unauthorized or contraband items and materials through a search based upon reasonable suspicion.

A student's personal cell phone, smartphone, or other personal electronic device shall not be searched by school officials without a warrant, the student's consent, or a legitimate emergency, unless the device is lost or abandoned. An emergency is any situation involving danger of death or serious physical injury to any person, that requires access to the information located or reasonably believed to be located on the electronic device. If the Charter School has a good faith belief that the device is lost, stolen, or abandoned, the Charter

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School may only access electronic device information in order to attempt to identify, verify, or contact the owner of the device.

The Charter School is not prohibited from seizing/confiscating a student's personal electronic device, without searching its contents, if the student's use or possession of the private electronic device is in violation of Charter School rules or regulations.

## Student Freedom of Speech and Expression

MY Academy believes that free inquiry and exchange of ideas are essential parts of a democratic education. MYA respects students' rights to express ideas and opinions, take stands on issues, and support causes, even when such speech is controversial or unpopular.

Students shall have the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press including, but not limited to:

- 1. the use of bulletin boards
- 2. the distribution of printed materials or petitions
- 3. wearing of buttons, badges, and other insignia
- 4. the right of expression in official school publications. "Official school publications" refers to material produced by pupils in the journalism, newspaper, yearbook, or writing classes and distributed to the student body either free or for a fee. The Executive director or designee will supervise the material produced by pupils to ensure it meets professional standards of English and journalism.

Students' freedom of expression shall be limited as allowed by Education Code Section 48907, and other applicable state and federal laws. Students are prohibited from making any expressions or distributing or posting any materials that are obscene, libelous, or slanderous. The use of "fighting words" or epithets is prohibited in those instances where the speech is abusive and insulting, rather than a communication of ideas, and the speech is used in an aggressive or abusive manner in a situation that presents an actual danger that it will cause a breach of the peace. A student shall be subject to discipline for out-of-school expression, including expression on Internet websites, when such expression poses a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or school property, or substantially disrupts the educational program.

The complete policy is in the Appendices of this handbook.

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## Title IX, Harassment, Discrimination, Intimidation, & Bullying Policy

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Revised: August 13, 2020 Revised: September 13, 2021 Revised: December 14, 2023

Discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are all disruptive behaviors, which interfere with students' ability to learn and negatively affect student engagement, diminish school safety, and contribute to a hostile school environment. As such, the Motivated Youth Academy Board of Directors (the "Board" or the "School") prohibits any acts of discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying altogether. This policy is inclusive of instances that occur at school-sponsored events and activities, regardless of location, through school-owned technology and through other electronic means.

As used in this policy, discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are described as the intentional conduct, including verbal, physical, written communication or cyber-bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, based on the actual or perceived characteristics of disability, pregnancy, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, ancestry, race or ethnicity, immigration and citizenship status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, childbirth or related medical conditions, marital status, age, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. In addition, bullying encompasses any conduct described in the definitions set forth in this policy. Hereafter, such actions are referred to as "misconduct prohibited by this policy."

To the extent possible, Motivated Youth Academy will make reasonable efforts to prevent students from being discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, and/or bullied, and will take action to investigate, respond, address and report on such behaviors in a timely manner. School staff that witness acts of misconduct prohibited by this policy will take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so.

Moreover, the School will not condone or tolerate misconduct prohibited by this policy by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which the School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This policy applies to all employees, students, or volunteer actions and relationships regardless of position or gender. The School will promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of such misconduct prohibited by this policy and

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take appropriate corrective action, if warranted.

TITLE IX, HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, DISCRIMINATION AND BULLYING COORDINATOR ("COORDINATOR"):

Gigi Lenz, Operations and Program Manager

Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator

(619) 343-2048

glenz@myacademy.org

500 La Terraza Blvd Ste 150

Escondido, CA 92025

#### PROHIBITED UNLAWFUL HARASSMENT UNDER TITLE IX

Prohibited Unlawful Harassment is defined as

- 1. Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, or slurs.
- 2. Physical conduct including assault, unwanted touching, intentionally blocking normal movement or interfering with school because of sex, race or any other protected basis.
- 3. Retaliation for reporting or threatening to report harassment.
- 4. Deferential or preferential treatment based on any of the protected classes above.

Title IX (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et. seq; 34 C.F.R. § 106.1 et. seq) and California state law prohibit harassment on the basis of sex. In accordance with these existing laws, discrimination on the basis of sex in education institutions is prohibited. All persons, regardless of sex, are afforded equal rights and opportunities and freedom from unlawful discrimination in education programs or activities conducted by the Charter School.

#### SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Motivated Youth Academy is committed to providing an educational environment free of sexual harassment and considers such harassment to be a major offense, which may result in disciplinary action.

Sexual harassment consists of sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or

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physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- 1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's employment, education, academic status, or progress;
- 2. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis of employment, educational or academic decisions affecting the individual;
- 3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or academic performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or educational environment: and/or
- 4. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the educational institution.

It is also unlawful to retaliate in any way against an individual who has articulated a good faith concern about sexual harassment against themselves or against another individual.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- 1. Physical assaults of a sexual nature, such as:
  - a. Rape, sexual battery, molestation or attempts to commit these assaults.
  - b. Intentional physical conduct that is sexual in nature, such as touching, pinching, patting, grabbing, brushing against another's body, or poking another's body.
- 2. Unwanted sexual advances, propositions or other sexual comments, such as:
  - a. Sexually oriented gestures, notices, remarks, jokes, or comments about a person's sexuality or sexual experience.
  - b. Preferential treatment or promises of preferential treatment to an individual for submitting to sexual conduct, including soliciting or attempting to solicit any individual to engage in sexual activity for compensation or reward or deferential treatment for rejecting sexual conduct.
  - c. Subjecting or threats of subjecting a student to unwelcome sexual attention or conduct or intentionally making the student's academic performance more difficult because of the student's sex.
- 3. Sexual or discriminatory displays or publications anywhere in the educational environment, such as:
  - a. Displaying pictures, cartoons, posters, calendars, graffiti, objections, promotional materials, reading materials, or other materials that are sexually suggestive, sexually demeaning or pornographic or bringing or possessing any

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- such material to read, display or view in the educational environment.
- b. Reading publicly or otherwise publicizing in the educational environment materials that are in any way sexually revealing, sexually suggestive, sexually demeaning or pornographic.
- c. Displaying signs or other materials purporting to segregate an individual by sex in an area of the educational environment (other than restrooms or similar rooms).

The illustrations of harassment and sexual harassment above are not to be construed as an all-inclusive list of prohibited acts under this policy.

#### PROHIBITED BULLYING

Bullying is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act.

Bullying includes one or more acts committed by a student or group of students that may constitute as sexual harassment, hate violence, or creates an intimidating and/or hostile educational environment, directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- 1. Placing a reasonable pupil\* or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
- 2. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the pupil's physical or mental health.
- 3. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's academic performance.
- 4. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantial interference with the pupil's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
- \* "Reasonable pupil" is defined as a pupil, including but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises care, skill and judgment in conduct for a person of the same age, or for a person of the same age with the same exceptional needs.

Cyberbullying is an electronic act that includes the transmission of harassing communication, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the internet, social media, or other

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technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

Electronic act means the creation and transmission originated on or off the school site, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- 1. A message, text, sound, video, or image.
- 2. A post on a social network internet website including, but not limited to:
  - a. Posting to or creating a burn page. A "burn page" means an internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in the definition of "bullying," above.
  - b. Creating a credible impersonation\* of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in the definition of "bullying" above. \*"Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
  - c. Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in the definition of "bullying," above. "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
- 3. An act of "cyber sexual bullying" including, but not limited to:
  - a. The dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in the definition of "bullying," above. A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
  - b. "Cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
  - c. Notwithstanding the definitions of "bullying" and "electronic act" above, an

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electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.

#### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

#### Reporting

All staff are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or become aware of misconduct prohibited by this policy, to intervene as soon as it is safe to do so, call for assistance, and report such incidents. The Board requires staff to follow the procedures in this policy for reporting alleged acts of misconduct prohibited by this policy.

Any student who believes they have been subject to misconduct prohibited by this policy or has witnessed such prohibited misconduct is encouraged to immediately report such misconduct to the coordinator:

Gigi Lenz, Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
(619) 343-2048
glenz@myacademy.org
500 La Terraza Blvd Ste 150
Escondido, CA 92025

Complaints regarding such misconduct may also be made to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

While submission of a written report is not required, the reporting party is encouraged to submit a written report to the coordinator. Oral reports shall also be considered official reports. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action cannot be based solely on an anonymous report.

Students are expected to report all incidents of misconduct prohibited by this policy or other verbal, or physical abuses. Any student who feels targeted by such behavior should immediately contact a teacher, counselor, the program director, coordinator, a staff person or a family member so that the student can get assistance in resolving the issue in a manner that is

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consistent with this policy.

Motivated Youth Academy acknowledges and respects every individual's right to privacy. All reports shall be investigated in a manner that protects the confidentiality of the parties and the integrity of the process. This includes keeping the identity of the reporter confidential, as appropriate, except to the extent necessary to carry out the investigation and/or to resolve the issue, as determined by the coordinator or designee on a case-by-case basis.

Motivated Youth Academy prohibits any form of retaliation against any reporter in the reporting process, including but not limited to a reporter's filing of a complaint or the reporting of instances of misconduct prohibited by this policy. Such participation shall not in any way affect the status, grades, or work assignments of the reporter.

All supervisors of staff will receive sexual harassment training within six (6) months of their assumption of a supervisory position and will receive further training once every two (2) years thereafter. All staff will receive sexual harassment training and/or instruction concerning sexual harassment as required by law.

#### Investigation

Upon receipt of a report of misconduct prohibited by this policy from a student, staff member, Educational Rights Holder, volunteer, visitor or affiliate of the School, the coordinator or administrative designee will promptly initiate an investigation. In most cases, a thorough investigation will take no more than seven (7) school days. If the coordinator, or administrative designee determines that an investigation will take longer than seven (7) school days, the coordinator or administrative designee will inform the complainant and any other relevant parties and provide an approximate date when the investigation will be complete.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Coordinator or administrative designee will meet with the complainant and, to the extent possible with respect to confidentiality laws, provide the complainant with information about the investigation, including any actions necessary to resolve the incident/situation. However, in no case may the coordinator or administrative designee reveal confidential information related to other students or employees, including the type and extent of discipline issued against such students or employees.

All records related to any investigation of complaints under this policy are maintained in a secure location.

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#### Consequences

Students or employees who engage in misconduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

#### **Uniform Complaint Procedures**

When harassment or bullying is based upon one of the protected characteristics set forth in this Policy, a complainant may also fill out a Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP") complaint form at any time during the process.

#### Right of Appeal

Should the complainant find the coordinator's resolution unsatisfactory, the complainant may, within five (5) school days, file an appeal with the Designated Appeals Committee. In such cases, at least three (3) certificated School employees who are unfamiliar with the case and who have been previously designated and trained for this purpose shall be assembled to conduct a confidential review of the complainant's appeal and render a final decision.

## <u>Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP")</u>

The Charter School is the local agency primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Charter School shall investigate and seek to resolve complaints using policies and procedures known as the Uniform Complaint Procedure ("UCP") adopted by our Governing Board for the following types of complaints:

- 1. Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group on the basis of the actual or perceived characteristics of age, ancestry, color, mental disability, physical disability, ethnic group identification, immigration status, citizenship, gender expression, gender identity, gender, genetic information, nationality, national origin, race or ethnicity, religion, medical condition, marital status, sex, or sexual orientation, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics in any Charter School program or activity.
- Complaints alleging a violation of state or federal law or regulation governing the following programs:
  - Accommodations for Pregnant, Parenting or Lactating Students;
  - Adult Education:

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- Career Technical and Technical Education;
- Career Technical and Technical Training;
- Child Care and Development Programs;
- Consolidated Categorical Aid;
- Education of Students in Foster Care, Students who are Homeless, former Juvenile Court Students now enrolled in a public school, Migratory Children and Children of Military Families;
- Every Student Succeeds Act;
- Migrant Education Programs;
- Regional Occupational Centers and Programs; and
- School Safety Plans.
- 3. Complaints alleging noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees. A student enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity. A pupil fee includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:
  - A fee charged to a pupil as a condition for registering for school or classes, or as a condition for participation in a class or an extracurricular activity, regardless of whether the class or activity is elective or compulsory or is for credit.
  - A security deposit, or other payment, that a pupil is required to make to obtain a lock, locker, book, class apparatus, musical instrument, clothes, or other materials or equipment.
  - A purchase that a pupil is required to make to obtain materials, supplies, equipment, or clothes associated with an educational activity.

Complaints of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees may be filed with the Executive Director or the Compliance Officer identified below.

4. Complaints alleging noncompliance with the requirements governing the Local Control Funding Formula ("LCFF") or Local Control and Accountability Plans ("LCAP") under Education Code sections 47606.5 and 47607.3, as applicable. If the Charter School adopts a School Plan for Student Achievement ("SPSA") in addition to its LCAP, complaints of noncompliance with the requirements of the SPSA under Education Code sections 64000, 64001, 65000, and 65001 shall also fall under the UCP.

Complaints alleging noncompliance regarding child nutrition programs established pursuant

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to Education Code sections 49490-49590 are governed by Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") sections 210.19(a)(4), 215.1(a), 220.13(c), 225.11(b), 226.6(n), and 250.15(d) and Title 5, California Code of Regulations ("C.C.R.") sections 15580 - 15584.

Complaints alleging noncompliance regarding special education programs established pursuant to Education Code sections 56000-56865 and 59000-59300 are governed by the procedures set forth in 5 C.C.R. sections 3200-3205 and 34 C.F.R. sections 300.151-300.153.

Complaints regarding state preschool health and safety issues in local educational agencies exempt from licensing are governed by 5 C.C.R. sections 4690-4694, except as otherwise indicated. The

Complaints other than complaints relating to pupil fees must be filed in writing with the following Compliance Officer:

Motivated Youth Academy
Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619) 343-2048
admin@myacademy.org

Only complaints regarding pupil fees or LCAP compliance may be filed anonymously and only if the anonymous complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support an allegation of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees or LCAP.

Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, must be filed within six (6) months from the date the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, occurred or the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying. All other complaints under the UCP shall be filed not later than one (1) year from the date the alleged violation occurred. For complaints relating to the LCAP, the date of the alleged violation is the date on which the Charter School's Board of Directors approved the LCAP or the annual update was adopted by the Charter School.

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The Compliance Officer responsible for investigating the complaint shall conduct and complete the investigation in accordance with California regulations and the Charter School's UCP Policy. The Compliance Officer shall provide the complainant with a final written investigation report ("Decision") within sixty (60) calendar days from the Charter School's receipt of the complaint. This sixty (60) calendar day time period may be extended by written agreement of the complainant.

The complainant has a right to appeal the Charter School's Decision to the California Department of Education ("CDE") by filing a written appeal within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the Charter School's written Decision, except if the Charter School has used its UCP to address a complaint that is not subject to the UCP requirements. The appeal must include a copy of the complaint filed with the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's Decision, and the complainant must specify and explain the basis for the appeal of the Decision, including at least one of the following:

- 1. The Charter School failed to follow its complaint procedures.
- 2. Relative to the allegations of the complaint, the Charter School's Decision lacks material findings of fact necessary to reach a conclusion of law.
- 3. The material findings of fact in the Charter School's Decision are not supported by substantial evidence.
- 4. The legal conclusion in the Charter School's Decision is inconsistent with the law.
- 5. In a case in which the Charter School's Decision found noncompliance, the corrective actions fail to provide a proper remedy.

A complainant who appeals the Charter School's Decision on a UCP complaint to the CDE shall receive a written appeal decision within sixty (60) calendar days of the CDE's receipt of the appeal, unless extended by written agreement with the complainant or the CDE documents exceptional circumstances and informs the complainant.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the CDE's appeal Decision pursuant to 5 C.C.R. section 4633(f)(2) or (3), either party may request reconsideration by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction ("SSPI") or the SSPI's designee. The request for reconsideration shall specify and explain the reason(s) for contesting the findings of fact, conclusions of law, or corrective actions in the CDE's appeal Decision.

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If a UCP complaint is filed directly with the CDE and the CDE determines that it merits direct intervention, the CDE shall complete an investigation and provide a written decision to the complainant within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the complaint, unless the parties have agreed to extend the timeline or the CDE documents exceptional circumstances and informs the complainant.

If the Charter School finds merit in a UCP complaint, or the CDE finds merit in an appeal, the Charter School shall take corrective actions consistent with the requirements of existing law that will provide a remedy to the affected student and/or Educational Rights Holder as applicable.

A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the Charter School's complaint procedures. Complainants may seek assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys. Civil law remedies that may be imposed by a court include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders. For unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying complaints arising under state law, however, a complainant must wait until sixty (60) calendar days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the CDE before pursuing civil law remedies. The moratorium does not apply to injunctive relief and is applicable only if the Charter School has appropriately, and in a timely manner, apprised the complainant of the complainant's right to file a complaint in accordance with 5 C.C.R. § 4622.

A copy of the UCP shall be available upon request free of charge and is available under the Appendices of this handbook. For further information on any part of the complaint procedures, including filing a complaint or requesting a hard copy of the UCP, please contact the Executive Director.

A copy of the TITLE IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination & Bullying COMPLAINT FORM is available on the following page and can also be <u>downloaded here</u>.

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## TITLE IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination & Bullying COMPLAINT FORM

Your Name:	Date:
Date of Alleged Incident(s):	
Name of Person(s) you have a complaint ago	inst:
List any witnesses that were present:	
Where did the incident(s) occur?	
detail as possible (i.e. specific statements	are the basis of your complaint by providing as much factual s; what, if any, physical contact was involved; any verbal uation, etc.) (Attach additional pages, if needed):
I hereby authorize the Charter Schonecessary in pursuing its investigation. I complaint is true and correct and complete	pool to disclose the information I have provided as it finds hereby certify that the information I have provided in this to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further understand ard could result in disciplinary action up to and including
Signature of Complainant	Date
Print Name	
To be completed by the Charter School:	
Received by:	Date
	:on, Discrimination & Bullying COMPLAINT FORM¶
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¶	
Your Name: Date:¶	
Date of Alleged Incident(s):	
Name of Person(s) you have a complaint against:	
List any witnesses that were present: Where did the incident(s) occur?	<del>-</del>
Please describe the events or conduct that are the basis of your complaint by providing as much fact detail as possible (i.e. specific statements; what, if any, physical contact was involved; any verbal statements; what did you do to avoid the situation, etc.) (Attach additional pages, if needed):	<del>ual</del>
I hereby authorize the Charter School to disclose the information I have provided as it finds necessary in pursuing its investigation. I hereby certify that the information I have provided in this complaint is true and correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further understathat providing false information in this regard could result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.	ı <del>nd</del>
Signature of Complainant  Date ¶	
Print Name ¶	
¶	
To be completed by the Charter School: ¶	
Received by: Date	
Follow up meeting with complainant held on:	

## Use of Student Information Learned from Social Media

The Charter School complies with all federal, state, and local guidelines regarding the gathering and/or maintenance of information about any enrolled student obtained from social media in the student's educational record. The Charter School gathers student information

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from social media. Such information shall be maintained in the Charter School's records with regard to the student and shall be destroyed within one (1) year after a student turns 18 years of age or within one (1) year after the student is no longer enrolled in the Charter School, whichever occurs first. A non-minor student or a student's Educational Rights Holder may access the student's records for examination of the information, request the removal of information or corrections made to information gathered or maintained by the Charter School by contacting the Executive Director.

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# Policy Appendix

All policies listed in the appendix are public record and meet the legal annual notice requirements.

## **Community Relations**

Access to Public Records Policy

COVID-19 Safe Reopening and Operation of Schools Policy

School Sponsored Field Trips and Cultural Excursions Policy

Suicide Prevention Policy

**Uniform Complaint Procedures Policy** 

#### **Instruction**

130 Credit Graduation Path Policy

**Attendance Policy** 

Independent Study Policy

Comprehensive School Safety Plan

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Policy

**Education for Foster Youth Policy** 

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Policy

Local Assessments Policy

Mathematics Placement Policy

Section 504- Policy, Procedures, and Parent Rights

Special Education Assessment Requests Policy

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Special Education Certificate of Completion Policy

Special Education Independent Educational Evaluation Policy

## Personnel Services

Mandated Reporter- Child Abuse Policy

## **Student Services**

Academic Integrity Policy

**Acceleration Policy** 

<u>Acceptable Use Policy</u>

Cell Phones, Smartphones, Pagers, and Other Electronic Signaling Devices Policy

<u>Communicable Contagious or Infectious Disease Prevention</u>

Comprehensive Self-Harm and Suicide Policy and Procedures

Educational Records and Student Information Policy

Immunization Policy

Student Freedom of Speech and Expression Policy

Student Services Concepts and Roles

Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination, and Bullying Policy

<u>Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Student Nondiscrimination Policy</u>

Policy on Transcripts from Non-Accredited Institutions

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Hello,

Welcome to Motivated Youth Academy. Students, staff, families and friends know us as MY Academy or MYA! It is a privilege to be your partner in education. MYA's goal is to provide you with a personalized and supportive educational experience. MY Academy seeks to serve students and families who benefit from flexible pacing and scheduling, learning that is individually targeted, and friendly. MY Academy is excited to support you in your educational journey.

Sincerely,

Bill Dobson, Interim Director

### **Contact MY Academy**

Mailing Address: Motivated Youth Academy 500 La Terraza Blvd. Suite #150 Escondido, CA 92025

Contact Phone: (619) 343-2048

Contact Email: info@myacademy.org

Website: https://myacademy.org

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## **General Information**

## About Motivated Youth Academy (MYA)

Motivated Youth Academy ("MYA," "MY Academy," or "Charter School") is a tuition-free, California non-classroom-based public charter school serving students who have fallen behind in school, those looking to get ahead and graduate early, or those who simply desire a non-traditional learning environment. Since 2014, MYA has offered students and families an alternative to traditional learning methods and environments. MYA believes that the student-teacher relationship is critical to the development of a young person's social, emotional, and academic well-being.

MYA provides students with the opportunity to engage in a variety of learning styles, creating what we call a 'blended' learning model. This innovative approach to education allows students to learn with great flexibility. Using traditional independent study learning strategies, MYA creates an enriched virtual model of blended learning where students benefit from the flexibility of virtual learning combined with personalized 1:1 support from a credentialed teacher. Learning sessions are conducted face-to-face; teachers go to the students and meet with them in their communities, at libraries, community centers, and similar public facilities, providing MYA students with the best of both worlds.

MYA serves students in grades TK-12, and young adults ages 19-24 seeking a high school diploma.

MYA is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges ("WASC") and offers University of California ("UC") and California State University ("CSU") A-G coursework. The class lists are accepted by the National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA") and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics ("NAIA"). MY Academy's independent study program provides three pathways to graduation: At-Promise, College and Career, and Credit Recovery. MYA offers multiple calendars each year, providing students and families with greater flexibility to pursue interests and take advantage of opportunities.

MYA understands the importance of providing students with a personalized course of study, which is why every MYA student receives a Motivated Youth Personalized Learning Adventure Now ("MY Plan"). A student's MY Plan is developed based on their unique abilities, needs, and interests. MYA staff provides the support every student needs to identify their dreams and

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reach their goals. This is one of the many reasons students thrive at MYA—whether working from home, on the road, or anywhere their experiences and adventures take them.

### **Mission Statement**

MY Academy believes in diversity, inclusivity, academic excellence, hope, service, feedback, and gratitude. MYA's mission is to create a diverse and individualized learning environment that supports every student and strengthens relationships between families, programs, authorizers, and the community.

#### **Core Values**

- All are welcome
- We celebrate the small things
- We choose hope
- We are servant leaders
- Feedback is critical
- We pursue gratitude

#### Vision Statement

MYA's vision is to be able to pivot and adapt to meet student needs and interests as they evolve and emerge in the 21st century.

### Calendar 2024-2025 Links

You will find the MY Academy 2024-2025 School Calendars linked here and on the MY Academy website (<a href="https://www.myacademy.org/calendar/">https://www.myacademy.org/calendar/</a>).

MY Academy operates two 175 day tracks to give students and families greater scheduling flexibility.

NOTE: A student may only enroll in one school track per year at MY Academy.

Track E Calendar July 1, 2024 - March 28, 2025

Track F Calendar August 26, 2024 - June 2, 2025

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# Admissions, Registration, and Enrollment

Application, registration, and enrollment policies, procedures and activities comply with state and federal law. They are outlined in the Motivated Youth Academy's Charter Petition. NOTE: County Collaborative Charter School was renamed Motivated Youth Academy on July 1, 2020.

## **Applications**

Students who live in Imperial, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego counties and who express an interest in enrolling with MY Academy must first complete an application. This form requires:

- Student name
- Educational Rights Holder name
- Address and contact information for the Educational Rights Holder
- Student's date of birth
- Student's current grade
- Student's intended grade for enrollment
- Educational Rights Holder's signature and date

Once this document has been received, MYA will contact the Educational Rights Holder to share information about the unique learning model MY Academy uses. If the applicant determines that MY Academy's education model is a good match for the student and would like to enroll at MY Academy, then the Charter School will determine the availability of a trained and qualified credentialed teacher to serve as the student's Teacher of Record ("ToR"). If a ToR is available then the student will then be invited to complete the registration process, otherwise they are placed on a waitlist.

Students will be considered for admission without regard to disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code.

Prior to admission, all Educational Rights Holders must agree to and sign the master agreement. All students' continued enrollment shall depend upon them fulfilling the terms of the master agreement. Enrollment space will be based on need in the community and availability of qualified, trained qualified credentialed teachers to serve as the teacher of record.

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MY Academy will be non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations, shall not charge tuition, and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability, or any other characteristic listed in Education Code Section 220 (or association with an individual who has any of those characteristics).

#### **Enrollment Requirements**

To enroll in MY Academy, students must live in one of the following counties: Imperial, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego. In accordance with charter law, students may <u>not</u> be concurrently enrolled in MY Academy and any other private or public school. It is not necessary to obtain an inter/intra-district transfer from your local school district to attend MY Academy.

Before the student is enrolled in MY Academy, a Master Agreement must be signed.

#### Registration

A registration application must be completed and signed by the student and Educational Rights Holder, and the required documents noted below, prior to a student being enrolled and placed on a Teacher of Record's ("ToR") roster.

To the extent required by applicable law, a complete registration application includes, but may not be limited to, the following properly submitted documents/information, which is applicable to all students unless otherwise noted:

- Proof of residency
- Birth certificate or proof of birthdate (such as a statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the date of birth, a baptism certificate duly attested, a passport, or an affidavit of the Educational Rights Holder or custodian of the minor)
- Immunization record or this form indicating the Educational Rights Holder is waiving vaccinations (Please see the list of recommended vaccinations under Section E below.) Proof of Tdap (whooping cough vaccination) and Varicella (chickenpox) Two (2) doses Students entering 7th-12th grades or this form waiving vaccinations
- Health Exam TK, Kindergarten, and 1st grade students and any student entering the public school system for the first time - or the signed form waiving this requirement. (See information below for the right to refuse.)

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- Oral Health Exam TK, kindergarten, and 1st grade students, and any student entering the public school system for the first time- or the signed form waiving this requirement
- Transcripts High school students only
- <u>Caregiver Authorization Affidavit</u> Only if person enrolling student is not the parent or legal guardian

A student, and Educational Rights Holder who submits an incomplete registration application will be sent a notice of what is needed to complete their registration. The student, and Educational Rights Holder, will be expected to update the registration application information and provide the requested documents in order for the registration to be processed and the student enrolled in MY Academy.

A student, and Educational Rights Holder who is unable to submit a required document should immediately contact the MY Academy admissions department via email at <a href="mailto:admissions@myacademy.org">admissions@myacademy.org</a> or phone/text (619) 343-2048. The admissions team will work with registrants to overcome barriers encountered in completing the registration process.

Acceptance of a student's registration application documents does not constitute enrollment with MY Academy until the following has occurred:

A student is not considered enrolled until they have met with their Teacher of Record and the student, and Educational Rights Holder, **signs the** Independent Study Master Agreement ("Master Agreement"). All students' continued enrollment shall depend upon them fulfilling the terms of the Master Agreement.

## **Advisory Councils**

MY Academy believes that active participation from Educational Rights Holder, family members, trusted adults, students, and employees in school operations and governance helps foster a public school's long-term sustainability as a successful program. MYA welcomes Educational Rights Holder, family members, trusted adults, students, and employees involvement and values open, positive communication.

MY Academy has established a School Site Council ("SSC"), Educational Partner Advisory ("EPAC") committee, and Staff Advisory Committees. Each plays an important role in molding MY Academy to be responsive to student, Educational Rights Holder, family member, trusted adult, and employee needs, while facilitating the opportunity for continual growth and

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improvement. The committees meet regularly and function to make recommendations and provide feedback to school administration regarding specific areas of school operations.

## **Attendance**

MY Academy's goal is for each student to be successful. The purpose of this policy is to outline the school support that will be provided and the steps that will be taken if the student, and Educational Rights Holder responsibilities are not fulfilled. Please view this document for MYA's Attendance Policy.

## **Educational Rights Holder Liability for Student Conduct**

The law states that a Educational Rights Holder of any minor whose willful misconduct results in injury or death to any pupil or any person employed by, or performing volunteer services for, a school shall be liable for all damages caused by the minor.

If a student willfully damages the Charter School's property or the personal property of a Charter School employee, or fails to return a textbook, library book, computer/tablet or other Charter School property that has been loaned to the student, the student's Educational Rights Holder are liable for all damages caused by the student's misconduct not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), adjusted annually for inflation. After notifying the student's Educational Rights Holder in writing of the student's alleged misconduct and affording the student due process, the Charter School may withhold the student's grades, transcripts, and diploma until the damages have been paid. If the student and the student's Educational Rights Holder are unable to pay for the damages or to return the property, the Charter School will provide a program of voluntary work for the minor in lieu of the payment of monetary damages. Upon completion of the voluntary work, the student's grades and diploma will be released.

#### Accepting High School Credits from Previous Schools

MY Academy will evaluate transcripts from a student's previous school and grant credit toward MY Academy graduation requirements if the credits were earned from an accredited school and are credits that could have been earned at MY Academy. Transcripts will be evaluated by a MY Academy school counselor.

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#### Transitional Kindergarten (TK)/Kinder Placement

**Transitional Kindergarten (TK):** In 2024–25, children are eligible for TK if they turn 5 between September 2 and June 2\*Kindergarten age-eligible students are allowed to choose TK if their 5th birthday is between June 1st-September 1st. Students with a 5th birthday after December 2, may enter TK on or after their 5th birthday.

**Kindergarten**: Students must turn five on or before September 1 to enroll in kindergarten.

## **Immigrant Pupils' Rights**

Under Education Code 234.7, all children have a right to equal access to free public education, regardless of their or their parents'/guardians' immigration status.

All children in California:

- Have the right to a free public education.
- Must be enrolled in school if they are between 6 and 18 years old.
- Have the right to attend safe, secure, and peaceful schools.
- Have a right to be in a public school learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying, violence, and intimidation.
- Have equal opportunity to participate in any program or activity offered by the school without discrimination.

Additional information on this subject can be found directly from the State of California Department of Justice website and the MY Academy website.

## **Nondiscrimination Statement**

MY Academy is non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations. My Academy shall not charge tuition and shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of actual or perceived disability, gender, gender identity, gender

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expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, pregnancy, disability, age, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code.

The Charter School adheres to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities, including, but not limited to, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), Education Code 234.7, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 ("IDEA").

The Charter School does not discourage students from enrolling or seeking to enroll in the Charter School for any reason, including, but not limited to, academic performance, disability, neglect or delinquency, English proficiency, for being homeless or a foster/mobile youth, economic disadvantage, nationality, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. The Charter School shall not encourage a student currently attending Charter School to disenroll or transfer to another school based on any of the aforementioned reasons except in cases of expulsion and suspension or involuntary removal in accordance with the Charter School's charter and relevant policies.

The Charter School does not request nor require student records prior to a student's enrollment.

The Charter School shall provide a copy of the California Department of Education Complaint Notice and Form to any Educational Rights Holder or student over the age of 18 at the following times: (1) when a Educational Rights Holder or student over of the age of 18 inquiries about enrollment; (2) before conducting an enrollment lottery; and (3) before disenrollment of a student.

The Charter School is committed to providing an educational atmosphere that is free of unlawful harassment under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex); Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race, color, or national origin); The Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the IDEA; and Section 504 and Title II of the ADA (mental or physical disability). The Charter School also prohibits sexual harassment, including cyber sexual bullying, and harassment based upon pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, religion, religious affiliation, creed, color, immigration status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. The Charter School does not condone or tolerate harassment of any

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type, including discrimination, intimidation, or bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, by any employee, independent contractor, or other person with which the Charter School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This applies to all employees, students, or volunteers and relationships, regardless of position or gender. The Charter School will promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of harassment and take appropriate corrective action, if warranted. Inquiries, complaints, or grievances regarding harassment as described in this section, above, should be directed to the Charter School Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP") Compliance Officer:

Ms. Gigi Lenz
Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
(619) 343-2048
glenz@myacademy.org
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025

The lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation in the Charter School's programs or activities. The Charter School prohibits retaliation against anyone who files a complaint or who participates or refuses to participate in a complaint investigation.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

## Notice of Involuntary Removal Process

No student shall be involuntarily removed by the Charter School for any reason unless the Educational Rights Holder of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five (5) schooldays before the effective date of the action ("Involuntary Removal Notice"). The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student's Educational Rights Holder or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder. The Involuntary Removal Notice shall include the charges against the student and an explanation of the student's basic rights

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including the right to request a hearing before the effective date of the action. The hearing shall be consistent with the Charter School's expulsion procedures. If the student's Educational Rights Holder requests a hearing, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until the Charter School issues a final decision. As used herein, "involuntarily removed" includes disenrolled, dismissed, transferred, or terminated, but does not include suspensions or expulsions pursuant to the Charter School's suspension and expulsion policy.

Upon Educational Rights Holder request for a hearing, the Charter School will provide notice of hearing consistent with its expulsion hearing process, through which the student has a fair opportunity to present testimony, evidence, and witnesses and confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, and at which the student has the right to bring legal counsel or an advocate. The notice of hearing shall be in the native language of the student or the student's Educational Rights Holder or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder, and shall include a copy of the Charter School's expulsion hearing process.

If the Educational Rights Holder is nonresponsive to the Involuntary Removal Notice, the student will be disenrolled as of the effective date set forth in the Involuntary Removal Notice. If the Educational Rights Holder requests a hearing and does not attend on the date scheduled for the hearing the student will be disenrolled effective the date of the hearing.

If, as a result of the hearing, the student is disenrolled, notice will be sent to the student's last known school district of residence within thirty (30) days.

A hearing decision not to disenroll the student does not prevent the Charter School from making a similar recommendation in the future should student truancy continue or re-occur.

## **Work Permits**

Work Permits are required for students under the age of 18 to secure employment. To request a work permit, students should contact their ToR and complete the required paperwork. As of January 1st 2021, <u>AB 1963</u> requires proof that the student's work supervisor has been trained as a mandated reporter.

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## **Terminology**

The following is a list of commonly used terms:

**Teacher of Record ("ToR")** - A Teacher of Record is a credentialed teacher who works with students in grades TK-12 to support them in reaching their educational goals.

**Content Area Specialist ("CAS")** - A Content Area Specialist is a credentialed teacher who works with students in grades 6-12 and their families to support them in reaching their academic, content-specific goals.

**Learning Period ("LP")** - The Instructional days between learning period meeting/the assignment.

**Weekly Meeting ("WM")** -The meeting in which a minor student and Educational Rights Holder, or adult student, meet with their assigned ToR once per week to review the learning that took place since the previous meeting, plan for future learning, and offer support to the student.

**Independent Study Master Agreement ("MA")** - This is an agreement between the school, the Teacher of Record, the student, and the student's Educational Rights Holder. It outlines the assigned coursework, methods of study, available resources, methods of evaluation, meetings, and board policies.

# **Instructional Program**

## **Academic Guidance**

The MY Academy Guidance Department staff is available to assist students and Educational Rights Holders with high school planning as well as college and career guidance. To request an appointment, visit the MY Academy website or email schoolcounselor@myacademy.org.

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## **Availability of Prospectus**

Upon request, the Charter School will make available to any Educational Rights Holder, a school prospectus, which shall include the curriculum, including titles, descriptions, and instructional aims of every course offered. Please note that, pursuant to law, the Charter School may charge for the prospectus in an amount not to exceed the cost of duplication.

## <u>Cal Grant Program Notice</u>

The Charter School is required by state law to submit the Grade Point Average ("GPA") of all high school juniors/seniors by January 1st of their grade 11 academic year each year, unless the student (if the student is over age 18 years of age or older) or Educational Rights Holder (for those under 18 years of age) opt-out. Students currently in eleventh (11th) grade will be deemed a Cal Grant applicant, unless the student (or Educational Rights Holder, if the student is under 18 years of age) has opted out by or before September 1.

GPAs will be reported to Cal Grant on October 1 in order to meet the October 1 submission deadline. Students wishing to opt-out must complete and submit the opt-out form by September 1. Should the Cal Grant GPA Opt-Out form not be received by the date stated on the form, it is understood that the student has agreed to have their GPA submitted for Cal Grant consideration.

- Cal Grant Opt GPA out form English.pdf
- Cal Grant GPA opt out form Spanish.pdf

## Concerns about your Teacher of Record (ToR)

If a student, Educational Rights Holder or adult student has concerns regarding their ToR that they are unable to resolve directly with the ToR, please email <a href="mailto:admin@myacademy.org">admin@myacademy.org</a> to set up a meeting with a member of MYA's administrative team. MYA will assist the ToR, the student, and Educational Rights Holder or adult student in working towards a positive working relationship.

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## **Educational Rights Holders Portal in the Student Information System (SIS)**

Educational Rights Holders have access to the student information system ("SIS") through the parent portal. Click this link to access the portal. This document will support MYA families with the portal.

## **English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)**

Students who indicate a home language other than English on the registration form will be required to take the ELPAC Initial Assessment ("IA") within the first 30 calendar days of enrollment.

Students who have already been identified as an English Learner at MY Academy or at a previous school, will be required to annually take the ELPAC Summative Assessment "(SA") during the spring testing window.

For more information about the ELPAC, visit <a href="https://www.elpac.org/">https://www.elpac.org/</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

## **Email Group for Educational Rights Holders**

One of the primary methods of communication to MYA students, families is through the MYA educational rights holders email group. Recipients receive time-sensitive communication, deadline reminders, and notifications. Educational Rights Holders must inform their ToR via email if they would like to be included in the educational rights holders email group. Please notify the student's ToR, if emails are not received within a week of enrolling.

## **Graduation Requirements**

MY Academy graduation requirements meet California Education Code requirements. MYA has an established "A-G" course list and the curriculum will meet or exceed UC/Cal State "A-G" course requirements.

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MYA will configure its minimum course completion requirements and its credit award policy to be consistent with California Law. MYA will prescribe completion of the following, at a minimum:

- Three courses in English (English 9 A/B, 10 A/B, 11 A/B)
- Two courses in Mathematics, with one year of Algebra I mandatory \*
- Two courses in Science, including Biological and Physical Sciences
- Three courses in Social Studies (including United States history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics, and a one-semester course in economics)
- One course in Career Technical Education, Foreign Language or Visual and Performing Arts \*\*
- Two courses in Physical Education unless the pupil has been exempted pursuant to the provisions of Education Code Section 51241.

\*At least one course of the mathematics requirement shall be fulfilled by completion of Algebra I coursework.

\*\*Students will be advised that for UC entrance, two years of Foreign Language are required/ three recommended, plus one year of Visual and Performing Arts, and four years of English.

MYA awards 5 credits per course, per semester.

#### Pathways to Graduation

MY Academy offers multiple pathways to graduation. Students are eligible for graduation when all requirements have been met. (Note; 5 credits are earned for completion of a one semester class.)

#### 210 Credit General Education Pathway

Subject Area	<u>Credits</u>
English	30
Mathematics	20
World History	10

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U.S. History	10
American Government	5
Economics	5
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10
College and Career	10
Physical Education	20
Electives	70
Career Technical Education, Foreign Language or Visual and Performing Arts	10

Total Credits 210

#### 130 Credit Pathway (Board Policy 6130-MYA)

Motivated Youth Academy ("MYA") recognizes that students may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their unique, individual circumstances. To enable such students to achieve state and charter school academic standards, MYA shall provide eligible students with full access to the MYA educational program and implement strategies identified as required by law and necessary for the improvement of the academic achievement of students in the MYA Local Control Accountability Plan ("LCAP").

Upon review by the School Counselor and Administration, and according to California state law, eligible students may participate in the State required minimum credit pathway of 130 credits.

Eligible students include, but are not limited to:

- AB 167/216 (Foster Care)
- AB 365 (Military Family)
- AB 1806/216 (Homeless)
- AB 2121 (Migratory/Newcomers)
- AB 2306 (Juvenile Courts)

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- Credit Deficient
- Gap in enrollment
- Students who have experienced exceptional barriers or circumstances (at the approval of school administration).

The high school graduation course requirements in California include a set of 13 minimum courses required under the California Education Code, in addition to other coursework adopted by the Local Education Agency ("LEA"). All students receiving a diploma of graduation from a California high school must have completed all of the following courses, while in grades 9 to 12:

Subject Area	<u>Credits</u>
English	30
Mathematics	20
World History	10
U.S. History	10
American Government	5
Economics	5
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10
Physical Education	20
Career Technical Education, Foreign Language or Visual and Performing Arts	10

<u>Total Credits</u> <u>130</u>

Students and families who are considering opting for the 130 credit graduation pathway should consider the following limitations: Receiving a diploma through this exemption will affect a student's ability to gain direct admission to many post-secondary educational institutions, as students will not meet the A-G requirements for enrollment in a four-year California university (CSU and UC) upon graduation from high school. Students may complete

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specific coursework and gain entry into the CaliforniaA State Universities through California Community Colleges

### **Local Assessments**

All MYA students take a series of local assessments at the beginning and conclusion of each school year. This information is used to develop each students' MY PLAN (Motivated Youth Personal Learning Adventure Now). In addition, it will also be used to measure individual student growth.

## Notice for Information Regarding Financial Aid

The Charter School shall ensure that each of its students receives information on how to properly complete and submit the 1) Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or 2) the California Dream Act Application as appropriate, at least once before the student enters 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The Charter School will provide a paper copy of the FAFSA or the California Dream Act Application upon request.

 The FAFSA form and information regarding the FAFSA are available at: https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/fafsa-support

The California Dream Act Application and information regarding the California Dream Act are available at: <a href="https://dream.csac.ca.gov/landing">https://dream.csac.ca.gov/landing</a>

## **Physical Fitness Test**

The Physical Fitness Test ("PFT") for students in California schools is the FITNESSGRAM®. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting life-long habits of regular physical activity.

Students in grades five, seven, and nine take the PFT. The test has multiple parts that measure students' fitness levels and abilities. For more information about the PFT, visit <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf/index.asp">https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf/index.asp</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

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## **Sexual Health Education**

The Charter School offers comprehensive sexual health education to its students in grades 7-12. An Educational Rights Holder of a student has the right to excuse their child from all or part of comprehensive sexual health education, HIV prevention education, and assessments related to that education through a passive consent ("opt-out") process. The Charter School does not require active Educational Rights Holder consent ("opt-in") for comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education. Educational Rights Holders may:

- Inspect written and audiovisual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education.
- Excuse their child from participation in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education in writing to the Charter School.
- Be informed whether the comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by Charter School personnel or outside consultants. When the Charter School chooses to use outside consultants or to hold an assembly with guest speakers to teach comprehensive sexual health or HIV/AIDS prevention education, be informed of:
  - o The date of the instruction
  - o The name of the organization or affiliation of each guest speaker
- Request a copy of Education Code sections 51930 through 51939.

Anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure students' health behaviors and risks (including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age-appropriate questions about the student's attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex) may be administered to students in grades 7-12. An Educational Rights Holder has the right to excuse their child from the test, questionnaire, or survey through a passive consent ("opt-out") process. Educational Rights Holder shall be notified in writing that this test, questionnaire, or survey is to be administered, given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire, or survey if they wish, notified of their right to excuse their child from the test, questionnaire, or survey, and informed that in order to excuse their child they must state their request in writing to the Charter School.

A student may not attend any class in comprehensive sexual health education or HIV prevention education, or participate in any anonymous, voluntary, and confidential test, questionnaire, or survey on student health behaviors and risks if the Charter School has received a written request from the student's Educational Rights Holder excusing the student

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from participation. An alternative educational activity shall be made available to students whose Educational Rights Holder have requested that they not receive the instruction or participate in the test, questionnaire, or survey.

Please see <u>Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Policy linked in the Appendices</u> for further information.

## **State Testina**

The Charter School shall annually administer required state testing to the applicable grades (e.g., the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress ("CAASPP") Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Educational Rights Holder's written request to Charter School officials to excuse their child from any or all parts of the CAASPP shall be granted. Upon request, Educational Rights Holders have a right to information on the level of achievement of their student on every State academic assessment administered to the student.

CAASPP is a system intended to provide information that can be used to monitor student progress on an annual basis and ensure that all students leave high school ready for college and/or a career.

Students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 are required by the California Department of Education to complete the CAASPP assessments. These tests occur during the spring each year. Student score reports include an overall score and a description of the student's achievement level for English Language Arts/Literacy, Mathematics, and Science. They encompass the following assessments:

- Computer Adaptive Tests (CATs) for ELA and math; grades 3-8 and 11
- Performance Tasks (PTs) for ELA and math; grades 5-8 and 11
- California Science Test (CAST); grades 3-8 and 11 or 12
- California Alternate Assessment (CAA)

As stated above, Educational Rights Holders may opt out of state-mandated academic testing by submitting a written request to the school each year, but this only applies to the state-mandated assessments and *MYA does not recommend opting out*. MYA does not recommend opting out because charter schools exist in a performance-based accountability system where they are held accountable for student academic performance. In fact, a charter

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school may have its Charter revoked if it does not provide sufficient data and demonstrate progress on students' performance using a variety of assessments and indicators.

For more information about the CAASPP, visit <a href="https://www.caaspp.org/">https://www.caaspp.org/</a> or email <a href="info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

## Student Grades

High School Transcript

The high school transcript is a record of the high school courses taken and the grades and credits earned.

To request an official transcript, please visit MYA's Parchment service.

### Report Cards

As per California State Law, the Teacher of Record assigns official grades. The grades awarded on the report card represent the professional evaluation by the Teacher of Record of the student's progress toward state and school standards.

#### **Teacher Qualification Information**

As the Charter School receives Title I federal funds through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ("ESEA"), as reauthorized and amended by the "Every Student Succeeds Act" ("ESSA"), all Educational Rights Holder of students attending the Charter School may request information regarding the professional qualifications of classroom teachers and/or paraprofessionals, including at a minimum:

- 1. Whether the student's teacher.
  - a. Has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
  - b. Is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
  - c. Is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher; and

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2. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Upon request, the Charter School will provide the information to the Educational Rights Holder in a timely manner. Educational Rights Holder may contact the Executive Director at:

**Executive Director** 

Motivated Youth Academy

500 La Terraza Blvd. Suite #150

Escondido, CA 92025

admin@myacademy.org

(619) 343-2048

to obtain this information.

MY Academy currently receives school-wide assistance grants based on student/family socioeconomic status upon enrollment. This funding is allocated for direct impact on our at-promise students, English Learner, homeless, foster, juvenile, delinquent, migratory, and any student who is working toward grade level proficiency. Title I funding provides students with the appropriate interventions and resources to improve their academic achievement and meet state standards.

#### **School-Parent Compact**

Our Parent/School Compact addresses legally required items, as well as other items suggested by parents and family members of Title I, Part A students.

#### Parents Right to Know Letter

If at any time your child has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher not highly qualified, the school will notify you.

#### Parent and Family Engagement Policy

MY Academy has developed a written Parent and Family Engagement Policy with input from Title I parents and families. MY Academy has distributed the Policy to parents of Title I students by posting it on the school website and including it in the Parent and Student Handbook. This

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Policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I parent and family engagement requirements.

Additional information may be found on the California Department of Education website.

https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/index.asp

Melissa Lato, Intervention Coordinator

Ph: 619-343-2048

mlato@myacademy.org

## **Technology**

MY Academy recognizes and utilizes technology as a powerful educational tool. For specific information about technology, view MYA's <u>Technology Usage Agreement</u>.

## Western Association of Schools and Colleges ("WASC") Accreditation

MY Academy students are enrolled in a school that is fully accredited by WASC.

School accreditation:

- certifies to the public that the Charter School is a trustworthy institution of learning.
- validates the integrity of the Charter School's program and student transcripts.
- fosters improvement of the Charter school's program and operations to support student learning.
- assures the Charter School community that the Charter School's purpose is appropriate

Additionally, WASC accreditation is important because other schools, colleges and universities and the military often require applicants to have transcripts from accredited schools.

# Student Health, Welfare, & Safety

## **Animal Dissections**

Students at the Charter School may perform animal dissections as part of the science curriculum. Any student who provides their teacher with a written statement, signed by their Educational Rights Holder, specifying the student's moral objection to dissecting or otherwise

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harming or destroying animals, or any parts thereof, may be excused from such activities if the teacher believes that an adequate alternative education project is possible. The alternative education project shall require a comparable time and effort investment by the student. It shall not, as a means of penalizing the student, be more arduous than the original education project. The student shall not be discriminated against based upon their moral objection to dissecting or otherwise harming or destroying animals, or any parts thereof.

### California Healthy Kids Survey

The Charter School will administer the California Healthy Kids Survey ("CHKS") to students at grades five, seven, nine, and eleven whose Educational Rights Holder provides written permission. The CHKS is an anonymous, confidential survey of school climate and safety, student wellness, and youth resiliency that enables the Charter School to collect and analyze data regarding local youth health risks and behaviors, school connectedness, school climate, protective factors, and school violence.

## **Child Abuse Reporting**

As mandated reporters, Teachers of Record, instructional aides, classified staff, and other school employees are required by law to report all known or suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate law enforcement or child welfare agency. All school staff are required to participate in yearly training to identify child abuse and learn how to report suspected abuse.

## **Dangers of Synthetic Drugs**

The illicit use and abuse of synthetic drugs represents an emerging and ongoing public health threat in California. The fentanyl crisis specifically, has impacted communities across the state, leading to a sharp increase in fentanyl poisonings and deaths in recent years.

This notice aims to address the crisis with a preventative approach ensuring students and families are educated on the deadly consequences of recreational drug use.

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A synthetic drug is a drug with properties and effects similar to a known hallucinogen or narcotic but having a slightly altered chemical structure, especially such a drug created in order to evade existing restrictions against illegal substances.

Synthetic drugs include, but are not limited to, synthetic cannabinoids ("synthetic marijuana", "spice", "K2"), methamphetamines, bath salts, and fentanyl.

The California Department of Public Health ("CDPH") has expounded on the extreme danger of drugs laced with fentanyl. Illicit fentanyl can be added to other drugs to make them cheaper, more powerful, and more addictive. Illicit fentanyl has been found in many drugs, including heroin, methamphetamine, counterfeit pills, and cocaine. Fentanyl mixed with any drug increases the likelihood of a fatal overdose. Furthermore, it is nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl without additional testing, because fentanyl cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted when used as a lacing agent.

Click here to view AB 889 – Pupil Safety: Synthetic Drugs

Click here for additional information from the CDPH Substance & Addiction Prevention Branch

## **Employee Qualifications and Scope of Services**

Employees of the Charter School must act only within the authorization and scope of their credential or license. While it is expected that school professionals are able to identify suicide risk factors and warning signs and to prevent the immediate risk of suicidal behavior, treatment of suicidal ideation is typically beyond the scope of services offered in the school setting. In addition, treatment of the mental health challenges often associated with suicidal thinking typically requires mental health resources beyond what schools are able to provide.

Educational Rights Holders and Caregivers Participation and Education

1. Educational Rights Holders and caregivers may be included in suicide prevention efforts. At a minimum, the Charter Schools shall share this Policy with Educational

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Rights Holders and caregivers by notifying them where a complete copy of the policy is available.

- 2. This Suicide Prevention Policy shall be easily accessible and prominently displayed on the Charter School's Web page and included in the parent handbook.
- 3. Educational Rights Holders and caregivers should be invited to provide input on the development and implementation of this policy.
- 4. All Educational Rights Holders and caregivers may have access to suicide prevention training that addresses the following:
  - a. Suicide risk factors, warning signs, and protective factors;
  - b. How to talk with a student about thoughts of suicide;
  - c. How to respond appropriately to the student who has suicidal thoughts. Such responses shall include constant supervision of any student judged to be at risk for suicide and referral for an immediate suicide risk assessment.

## Firearm Safety Laws

"The California Legislature (Assembly Bill 452, Section 1, 2023) has found and declared:

- Guns are the third leading cause of death of children in America. Every day, eight children and teens are shot in instances of family fire, which is a shooting involving an improperly stored or misused gun found in the home resulting in injury or death.
- Data show that 75 percent of school shootings are facilitated by children having access
  to unsecured or unsupervised firearms at home. Eighty-seven percent of children know
  where their parents' firearms are stored, and 60 percent report that they have handled
  them.
- Over 80 percent of teens who have died by suicide used a firearm that belonged to someone in their home.

Assembly Bill 452—Pupil Safety: Parental Notification, Firearm Safety Laws

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Section 48986 has been added to the California Education Code (EC) and requires that beginning on July 1, 2023, all kindergarten through grade twelve school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools shall annually inform educational rights holders of California's child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term. You will find Assembly Bill 452 Legislative on the California Information web page at https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\_id=202120220AB452.

Senate Bill 906—School Safety: Homicide Threats

Sections 49390 through 49395 have been added to the EC. This bill seeks to address homicidal threats in middle and high schools and applies only to local educational agencies that serve pupils in any grades from six through twelve as part of a middle school or high school. Local educational agencies serving these pupils must include information about child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms in the annual notifications to educational rights holders at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term. The law states that school officials are required to report homicidal threats or perceived threats, as defined, to law enforcement, who must conduct an immediate investigation and threat assessment, as defined. You will find Senate Bill 906 on the California Legislative Information web page.

Parent/guardian annual notification that satisfies the model content requirement of Assembly Bill 452 and Senate Bill 906 is available in English and Spanish on the CDE Violence Prevention web page at https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/vp/.

It is our collective responsibility to ensure that students, staff, families, and communities are as prepared and safe as possible. Thank you for your attention and commitment to school safety."

The purpose of this section is to inform and to remind educational rights holders of all MY Academy students of their responsibilities for keeping firearms out of the hands of children as required by California law. There have been many news reports of children bringing firearms to

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school. In many instances, the child obtained the firearm(s) from his or her home. These incidents can be easily prevented by storing firearms in a safe and secure manner, including keeping them locked up when not in use and storing them separately from ammunition.

To help everyone understand their legal responsibilities, this section spells out California law regarding the storage of firearms. Please take some time to review this section and evaluate your own personal practices to assure that you and your family are in compliance with California law.

- With very limited exceptions, California makes a person criminally liable for keeping any firearm, loaded or unloaded, within any premises that are under their custody and control where that person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, and the child obtains access to the firearm and thereby (1) causes death or injury to the child or any other person; (2) carries the firearm off the premises or to a public place, including to any preschool or school grades kindergarten through twelfth grade, or to any school-sponsored event, activity, or performance; or (3) unlawfully brandishes the firearm to others.
  - Note: The criminal penalty may be significantly greater if someone dies or suffers great bodily injury as a result of the child gaining access to the firearm.
- With very limited exceptions, California also makes it a crime for a person to negligently store or leave any firearm, loaded or unloaded, on their premises in a location where the person knows or reasonably should know that a child is likely to gain access to it without the permission of the child's parent or legal guardian, unless reasonable action is taken to secure the firearm against access by the child, even where a minor never actually accesses the firearm.
- In addition to potential fines and terms of imprisonment, as of January 1, 2020, a gun owner found criminally liable under these California laws faces prohibitions from possessing, controlling, owning, receiving, or purchasing a firearm for 10 years.
- Finally, a parent or guardian may also be civilly liable for damages resulting from the discharge of a firearm by that person's child or ward.

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Note: Your county or city may have additional restrictions regarding the safe storage of firearms.

Thank you for helping to keep our children and schools safe. Remember that the easiest and safest way to comply with the law is to keep firearms in a locked container or secured with a locking device that renders the firearm inoperable.

## **Human Trafficking Prevention**

California has the highest number of incidents of human trafficking in the U.S., and all students may be vulnerable. The Charter School believes it is a priority to inform our students about (1) the prevalence, nature of and strategies to reduce the risk of human trafficking, techniques to set healthy boundaries, and how to safely seek assistance, and (2) how social media and mobile device applications are used for human trafficking.

In accordance with the California Healthy Youth Act, the Charter School will provide age-appropriate instruction on the prevention of human trafficking, including sexual abuse, assault, and harassment. You have the right to excuse your child from all or part of the instruction on the prevention of human trafficking. An opt-out form is available at the main office for your convenience. Your consent for this instruction is NOT required. If we do not receive a written request to excuse your child, your child will be included in the instruction.

Information and materials for Educational Rights Holders about the curriculum and resources on prevention of human trafficking and abuse, including sexual abuse, assault, and harassment are available on Charter School's website for your review.

## **Immunizations**

Pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code and the California Code of Regulations, children must provide proof of having received required immunizations (shots) before they can attend school unless they meet the requirements for an exemption. Immunization records are required for all incoming students. Verification of immunizations will be completed with written medical records from the child's doctor or immunization clinic. To ensure a safe learning environment for all students, the Charter School follows and abides by the health standards set forth by the state of California. The immunization status of all students will be reviewed

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periodically. Those students who are not in compliance with the State requirements must be excluded from attendance until the requirements are met. Students who have been exposed to a communicable disease for which they have not been immunized may be excluded from school at the discretion of the Charter School.

These required immunizations include:

TK/K-12 Admission Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTaP) - Five (5) doses Polio - Four (4) doses Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) - Two (2) doses Hepatitis B (Hep B) - Three (3) doses Varicella (chickenpox) – Two (2) doses

**NOTE:** Four doses of DTaP are allowed if one was given on or after the fourth birthday. Three doses of DTaP meet the requirement if at least one dose of Tdap, DTaP, or DTP vaccine was given on or after the seventh birthday (also meets the 7th-12th grade Tdap requirement.) One or two doses of Td vaccine given on or after the seventh birthday count towards the requirement for DTaP. Three doses of Polio are allowed if one was given on or after fourth birthday. MMR doses must be given on or after first birthday. Two doses of measles, two doses of mumps, and one dose of rubella vaccine meet the requirement, separately or combined. Combination vaccines (e.g., MMRV) meet the requirements for individual component vaccines.

### Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Tetanus, reduced Diphtheria, and acellular Pertussis (Tdap) - One (1) dose Varicella (chickenpox) - Two (2) doses

NOTE: In order to begin 7th grade, students who had a valid personal belief exemption on file with a public or private elementary or secondary school in California before January 1, 2016 must meet the requirements listed for grades K-12 as well as requirements for 7<sup>th</sup> grade advancement (i.e., polio, MMR, varicella and primary series for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis). At least one dose of pertussis-containing vaccine is required on or after the 7th birthday.

**Exemptions from Immunization Requirements** 

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All students must be fully immunized in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, the California Code of Regulations, and this Policy with the following exceptions:

- Students who show proof of a medical exemption by a physician licensed to practice medicine in California pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 120370-120372.
- Commencing January 1, 2021, the CDPH standardized medical exemption form shall be the only documentation of a medical exemption that MYA shall accept.
- Medical exemptions remain valid until the earliest of: 1) the child's enrollment in the next grade span, as defined below; 2) the expiration date specified in a temporary medical exemption, which shall not exceed one year; or 3) revocation of the exemption pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 120372.
- Students who are enrolled in a home-based private school or independent study program and do not receive any classroom-based instruction are exempt from immunizations, however MYA must still request, record, and report all enrolled student's immunization status.

### <u>Intervention and Emergency Procedures</u>

The Charter School designates the following administrators to act as the primary and secondary suicide prevention liaisons:

- 1. School Counselor
- 2. School Psychologist

Whenever a staff member suspects or has knowledge of a student's suicidal intentions, they shall promptly notify the primary designated suicide prevention liaison. If this primary suicide prevention liaison is unavailable, the staff shall promptly notify the secondary suicide prevention liaison.

The suicide prevention liaison shall immediately notify the Executive Director or designee, who shall then notify the student's Educational Rights Holder as soon as possible if appropriate and in the best interest of the student. Determination of notification to Educational Rights Holders and caregivers should follow a formal initial assessment to ensure that the student is not endangered by Educational Rights Holder notification.

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The suicide prevention liaison shall also refer the student to mental health resources in the community.

When a student is in imminent danger (has access to a gun, is on a rooftop, or in other unsafe conditions), a call shall be made to 911.

When a suicide attempt or threat is reported, the suicide prevention liaison shall, at a minimum:

- 1. Ensure the student's physical safety by one or more of the following, as appropriate:
  - a. Eliciting immediate medical treatment if a suicide attempt has occurred;
  - b. Eliciting law enforcement and/or other emergency assistance if a suicidal act is being actively threatened;
  - c. Ensuring that the student is under continuous adult supervision until the Educational Rights Holder and/or appropriate support agent or agency can be contacted and has the opportunity to intervene.
  - d. Remaining calm, keeping in mind the student is overwhelmed, confused, and emotionally distressed;
  - e. Moving all other students out of the immediate area if applicable;
  - f. Providing comfort to the student, listening and allowing the student to talk and being comfortable with moments of silence;
  - g. Promising privacy and help, but not promising confidentiality.
- 2. Document the incident in writing as soon as feasible.
- 3. Follow up with the Educational Rights Holder and student in a timely manner to provide referrals to appropriate services as needed and coordinate and consult with the county mental health plan if a referral is made for mental health or related services on behalf of a student who is a Medi-Cal beneficiary.
- 4. After a referral is made, the Charter School shall verify with the Educational Rights Holder that the follow-up treatment has been accessed. Educational Rights Holders will be required to provide documentation of care for the student. If Educational

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Rights Holders refuse or neglect to access treatment for a student who has been identified to be at risk for suicide or in emotional distress, the suicide prevention liaisons shall meet with the Educational Rights Holder to identify barriers to treatment (e.g., cultural stigma, financial issues) and work to rectify the situation and build an understanding of care. If follow up care is still not provided, the Charter School may contact Child Protective Services.

- Provide access to counselors or other appropriate personnel to listen to and support students and staff who are directly or indirectly involved with the incident at the Charter School.
- 6. Provide an opportunity for all who respond to the incident to debrief, evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies used, and make recommendations for future actions.

In the event a suicide occurs or is attempted at a school sponsored activity, the suicide prevention liaison shall follow the crisis intervention procedures contained in the Charter School's safety plan. After consultation with the Executive Director or designee and the student's Educational Rights Holder about facts that may be divulged in accordance with the laws governing confidentiality of student record information, the Executive Director or designee may provide students, Educational Rights Holders, and staff with information, counseling, and/or referrals to community agencies as needed. Charter School staff may receive assistance from counselors or other mental health professionals in determining how best to discuss the suicide or attempted suicide with students.

In the event a suicide occurs or is attempted unrelated to school activities, the Executive Director or designee shall take the following steps to support the student:

- 1. Contact the Educational Rights Holder and offer support to the family.
- 2. Discuss with the family how they would like the Charter School to respond to the attempt while minimizing widespread rumors among teachers, staff, and students.
- 3. Obtain permission from the Educational Rights Holder to share information to ensure the facts regarding the crisis are correct.
- 4. The suicide prevention liaisons shall handle any media requests.
- 5. Provide care and determine appropriate support to affected students.

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6. Offer to the student and Educational Rights Holder steps for re-integration to school. Re-integration may include obtaining a written release from the Educational Rights Holder to speak with any health care providers; conferring with the student and Educational Rights Holder about any specific requests on how to handle the situation; informing the student's teachers about possible days of absences; allowing accommodations for makeup work (being understanding that missed assignments may add stress to the student); appropriate staff maintaining ongoing contact with the student to monitor the student's actions and mood; and working with the Educational Rights Holder to involve the student in an aftercare plan.

### **Mental Health Services**

The Charter School recognizes that, when unidentified and unaddressed, mental health challenges can lead to poor academic performance, increased likelihood of suspension and expulsion, chronic absenteeism, student attrition, homelessness, incarceration, and/or violence. Access to mental health services at the Charter School and in our community is not only critical to improving the physical and emotional safety of students, but it also helps address barriers to learning and provides support so that all students can learn problem-solving skills and achieve in school and, ultimately, in life. The following resources are available to your child:

#### Available at School:

- <u>School-based counseling services</u> your child is encouraged to request from their assigned Teacher of Record connection with counseling services MYA's school psychologist supports students by providing individual sessions, group or parent consultations whenever a student is having a difficult time due to academic stress, transition to changes in their environment, or social concerns, including isolation. Counseling services, whether provided by our Charter School or by an outside provider listed herein, are voluntary.
- <u>Special education services</u> if you believe your child may have a disability, you are encouraged to directly contact MYA's Special Education Program Manager to request an evaluation: <u>programmanager@myacademy.org</u> or (619) 343-2048 x 123.
- Prescription medication while at a school function if your child requires prescription medication while attending a school function and you would like assistance from School

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staff in providing this mediation to your child, please contact your students Teacher of Record.

#### <u>Available in the Community:</u>

- Imperial County Imperial County Behavioral Health Services
- Riverside County Riverside County Department of Mental Health
- San Diego County County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency
- Orange County OC Health Care Agency

Mental Health Plan (MHP) in each county is responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

- Imperial County: (800) 817-5292
- Riverside County: (800) 706-7500
- San Diego County: (888) 724-7240
- Orange County: (800) 723-8641

#### Available Nationally:

- 211 211 is a free information and referral service that connects people to health and human services in their community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 211 serves people of all income levels, languages and cultural backgrounds and is available to 96% of Californians and to 85% of U.S. households. 211 programs are supported by United Way, public and private funders, city and county agencies and more. In fact, California United Ways operate and/or provide major funding for 2-1-1 programs throughout the state. 211 also plays a critical role in providing information and support in times of disaster, such as evacuation, shelter, food, medical and recovery information, and provides public officials with feedback from callers about changing conditions.
- California Youth Crisis Hotline 1 (800) 843-5200
   The California Youth Crisis Line is a 24/7 statewide emergency response system for youth (ages 12-24) and families in crisis. Professionally trained staff and volunteer counselors respond to calls regarding thoughts of suicide, depression, bullying, health and identity questions, trauma, human trafficking or any teen-related struggle.
   Translation services are available for multiple languages.
- The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline This organization provides confidential support for adults and youth in distress, including prevention and crisis resources. Available 24 hours by dialing 988.

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- The Trevor Project This organization provides suicide prevention and crisis intervention for LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13 and 24. Available at 1-866-488-7386 or visit <a href="https://www.thetrevorproject.org/">https://www.thetrevorproject.org/</a>.
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America This organization is a community-based mentorship program. Community-specific program information can be found online at <a href="https://www.bbbs.org">https://www.bbbs.org</a> or by calling (813) 720-8778.

### <u>Oral Health Assessment</u>

Students enrolled in kindergarten in a public school or while enrolled in first grade if the student was not previously enrolled in kindergarten in a public school are required to have an oral health assessment completed by a dental professional. Please contact the main office if you have questions about this requirement.

# Physical Examinations and Right to Refuse

All students must complete a health screening examination on or before the 90th day after the student's entrance into first grade or such students must have obtained a waiver pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 124040 and 124085. This examination can be obtained from your family physician or possibly through the services provided by your County Health Department. Information and forms are distributed to students enrolled in kindergarten. If your child's medical status changes, please provide the Executive Director or designee with a physician's written verification of the medical issue, especially if it impacts in any way your child's ability to perform schoolwork.

An Educational Rights Holder having control or charge of any child enrolled in the Charter School may file annually with the Executive Director or designee a written and signed statement stating that the Educational Rights Holder will not consent to a physical examination of the child. Thereupon the child shall be exempt from any physical examination, but whenever there is a good reason to believe that the child is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the child shall be sent home and shall not be permitted to return until the school authorities are satisfied that any contagious or infectious disease does not exist.

# <u>Pregnant and Parenting Students</u>

The Charter School recognizes that pregnant and parenting students are entitled to accommodations that provide them with the opportunity to succeed academically while protecting their health and the health of their children. A pregnant or parenting student is entitled to eight (8) weeks of parental leave, or more if deemed medically necessary by the

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student's physician, which the student may take before the birth of the student's infant if there is a medical necessity and after childbirth during the school year in which the birth takes place, inclusive of any mandatory summer instruction, in order to protect the health of the student who gives or expects to give birth and the infant, and to allow the pregnant or parenting student to care for and bond with the infant. The Charter School will ensure that absences from the student's regular school program are excused until the student is able to return to the regular school program.

Upon return to school after taking parental leave, a pregnant or parenting student will be able to make up work missed during the pregnant or parenting student's leave, including, but not limited to, makeup work plans and reenrollment in courses. Notwithstanding any other law, a pregnant or parenting student may remain enrolled for a fifth year of instruction in the Charter School if it is necessary in order for the student to be able to complete any graduation requirements, unless the Charter School determines that the student is reasonably able to complete the graduation requirements in time to graduate from high school by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

Complaints of noncompliance with laws relating to pregnant or parenting students may be filed under the Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP") of the Charter School. The complaint may be filed in writing with the compliance officer:

Motivated Youth Academy
Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619 343-2048
glenz@myacademy.org

A copy of the UCP is available in the Appendices of this handbook. For further information on any part of the complaint procedures, including filing a complaint or requesting a copy of the complaint procedures, please contact the Executive Director.

# Responding After a Suicide Death (Postvention)

A death by suicide in the school community (whether by a student or staff member) can have devastating consequences on the school community, including students and staff. The

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Charter School shall follow the below action plan for responding to a suicide death, which incorporates both immediate and long-term steps and objectives:

The suicide prevention liaison shall:

- 1. Coordinate with the Executive Director to:
  - a. Confirm death and cause;
  - b. Identify a staff member to contact the deceased's family (within 24 hours);
  - c. Notify all staff members (ideally in-person or via phone, not via e-mail or mass notification).
- 2. Coordinate an all-staff meeting, to include:
  - a. Notification (if not already conducted) to staff about suicide death;
  - b. Emotional support and resources available to staff;
  - Notification to students about suicide death and the availability of support services (if this is the protocol that is decided by administration);
  - d. Share information that is relevant and that which you have permission to disclose.
- 3. Prepare staff to respond to the needs of students regarding the following:
  - a. Review of protocols for referring students for support/assessment;
  - b. Talking points for staff to notify students;
  - c. Resources available to students
- 4. Identify students significantly affected by suicide death and other students at risk of imitative behavior;
- 5. Identify students affected by suicide death but not at risk of imitative behavior;
- 6. Communicate with the larger school community about suicide death;
- 7. Consider funeral arrangements for family and school community;
- 8. Respond to memorial requests in a respectful and non-harmful manner; responses should be handled in a thoughtful way and their impact on other students should be considered:
- 9. Identify a media spokesperson if needed.
- 10. Include long-term suicide postvention responses:
  - a. Consider important dates (i.e., anniversary of death, deceased birthday,

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- graduation, or other significant events) and how these will be addressed
- b. Support siblings, close friends, teachers, and/or students of deceased
- c. Consider long-term memorials and how they may impact students who are emotionally vulnerable and at risk of suicide.

## **School Safety Plan**

MY Academy recognizes that students have the right to a safe and secure environment where they are free from physical and psychological harm. The school is fully committed to maximizing school safety and to creating a positive learning environment that includes strategies for violence prevention and high expectations for student conduct, responsible behavior, and respect for others. Additionally, there are a few instances even in an independent study model, that require a clear emergency preparedness plan. The Charter School has developed a Comprehensive School Safety Plan, which is written to address the safety of both the students and the staff.

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan can be found <u>here</u>.

# **Staff Development**

The Charter School along with its partners has carefully reviewed available staff training to ensure it promotes the mental health model of suicide prevention. Training shall be provided for all school staff members and shall include the following:

- 1. All suicide prevention trainings shall be offered under the direction of mental health professionals (e.g., school counselors, school psychologists, other public entity professionals, such as psychologists or social workers) who have received advanced training specific to suicide. Staff training may be adjusted year-to-year based on previous professional development activities and emerging best practices.
- 2. At least annually, all staff shall receive training on the risk factors and warning signs of suicide, suicide prevention, intervention, referral, and postvention.
- 3. At a minimum, all staff shall participate in training on the core components of suicide prevention (identification of suicide risk factors and warning signs, prevention, intervention, referral, and postvention) at the beginning of their employment or annually. Core components of the general suicide prevention training shall include:

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- a. Suicide risk factors, warning signs, and protective factors;
- b. How to talk with a student about thoughts of suicide;
- c. How to respond appropriately to the youth who has suicidal thoughts. Such responses shall include constant supervision of any student judged to be at risk for suicide and an immediate referral for a suicide risk assessment;
- d. Emphasis on immediately referring (same day) any student who is identified to be at risk of suicide for assessment while staying under constant monitoring by staff member;
- e. Emphasis on reducing the stigma associated with mental illness and that early prevention and intervention can drastically reduce the risk of suicide;
- f. Reviewing the data annually to look for any patterns or trends of the prevalence or occurrence of suicide ideation, attempts, or death. Data from the California School Climate, Health, and Learning Survey (Cal-SCHLS) should also be analyzed to identify school climate deficits and drive program development. See the Cal-SCHLS Web site at http://cal-schls.wested.org/.
- g. Information regarding groups of students judged by the school, and available research, to be at elevated risk for suicide. These groups include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - i. Youth affected by suicide;
  - ii. Youth with a history of suicide ideation or attempts;
  - iii. Youth with disabilities, mental illness, or substance abuse disorders:
  - iv. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth;
  - v. Youth experiencing homelessness or in out-of-home settings, such as foster care;
  - vi. Youth who have suffered traumatic experiences;
- 4. In addition to initial orientations to the core components of suicide prevention, ongoing annual staff professional development for all staff may include the following components:
  - a. The impact of traumatic stress on emotional and mental health;
  - b. Common misconceptions about suicide;
  - c. Charter School and community suicide prevention resources;

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- d. Appropriate messaging about suicide (correct terminology, safe messaging quidelines);
- e. The factors associated with suicide (risk factors, warning signs, protective factors):
- f. How to identify youth who may be at risk of suicide;
- g. Appropriate ways to interact with a youth who is demonstrating emotional distress or is suicidal. Specifically, how to talk with a student about their thoughts of suicide and (based on the Charter School guidelines) how to respond to such thinking; how to talk with a student about thoughts of suicide and appropriately respond and provide support based on the Charter School guidelines;
- h. Charter School approved procedures for responding to suicide risk (including multi-tiered systems of support and referrals). Such procedures should emphasize that the suicidal student should be constantly supervised until a suicide risk assessment is completed;
- i. Charter School approved procedures for responding to the aftermath of suicidal behavior (suicidal behavior postvention);
- j. Responding after a suicide occurs (suicide postvention);
- k. Resources regarding youth suicide prevention;
- I. Emphasis on stigma reduction and the fact that early prevention and intervention can drastically reduce the risk of suicide;
- m. Emphasis that any student who is identified to be at risk of suicide is to be immediately referred (same day) for assessment while being constantly monitored by a staff member.

## Student Identification (ID) Cards

Student ID cards are available for all enrolled students in TK-12th grade. To request a card, contact your ToR. Please allow up to two weeks for processing and mailing. Any questions should be directed to the student's TOR.

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In order to be in compliance with local daytime loitering laws, in the community where a student is, students should have their MYA ID card in their possession any time school is in session.

Charter School will include the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255) and the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-7233) on all student identification cards. The Charter School will also include the number for the Crisis Text Line, which can be accessed by texting HOME to 741741 and a local suicide prevention hotline on all student identification cards.

### Student Participation and Education

The Charter School's instructional and student support program shall promote the healthy mental, emotional, and social development of students including, but not limited to, the development of problem-solving skills, coping skills, and resilience.

The Charter School's instructional curriculum may include information about suicide prevention, as appropriate or needed. If suicide prevention is included in the Charter School's instructional curriculum, it shall consider the grade level and age of the students and be delivered and discussed in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of young students. Under the supervision of an appropriately trained individual acting within the scope of the individual's credential or license, students shall:

- 1. Receive developmentally appropriate, student-centered education about the warning signs of mental health challenges and emotional distress which may include:
  - a. Coping strategies for dealing with stress and trauma.;
  - b. How to recognize behaviors (warning signs) and life issues (risk factors) associated with suicide and mental health issues in oneself and others
  - c. Help-seeking strategies for oneself and others, including how to engage school-based and community resources and refer peers for help.;
  - d. Emphasis on reducing the stigma associated with mental illness and the fact that early prevention and intervention can drastically reduce the risk of suicide.

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2. Receive developmentally appropriate guidance regarding the Charter School's

suicide prevention, intervention, and referral procedures.

Student-focused suicide prevention education can be incorporated into curricula (e.g., health

classes, science classes, and physical education).

The Charter School will support the creation and implementation of programs that raise

awareness about mental wellness and suicide prevention (e.g., Mental Health Awareness

Week).

Suicide Prevention Policy

Policy Adopted: October 10, 2019

Policy Revised: July 9, 2020

Policy Reviewed: August 19, 2021

Policy Revised: December 14, 2023

Motivated Youth Academy ("MYA" or the "Charter School") recognizes that suicide is a major

cause of death among youth and should be taken seriously. In an effort to reduce suicidal

behavior and its impact on students and families, the Charter School has developed

prevention strategies and intervention procedures.

In compliance with Education Code section 215, this policy has been developed in

consultation with the Charter School and educational partners, school employed mental

health professionals, administrators, other school staff members, and the county mental

health plan in planning, implementing, and evaluating the Charter School's strategies for

suicide prevention and intervention. The Charter School must work in conjunction with local

government agencies, community-based organizations, and other community supports to

identify additional resources.

The purpose of this policy is to protect the health and well-being of all of our students by

having procedures in place to prevent, assess the risk of, intervene in, and respond to youth

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suicidal behavior. Protecting the health and well-being of all students is of utmost importance to our school and is in line with school mandates for all professionals and individuals working with youth. Because it is impossible to predict when a crisis will occur, preparedness is necessary for every school. Youth suicide is preventable, and Educational Rights Holders, educators and schools are key to prevention. Preventing suicide depends not only on suicide prevention policies, but also on a holistic approach that promotes healthy lifestyles, families, and communities. Thus, this policy is intended to be paired with other policies and efforts that support the emotional and behavioral well-being of youth.

To ensure the policies regarding suicide prevention are properly adopted, implemented, and updated, the Charter School shall appoint an individual (or team) to serve as the suicide prevention point of contact for the Charter School. The suicide prevention point of contact and the Executive Director shall ensure proper coordination and consultation with the county mental health plan if a referral is made for mental health or related services on behalf of a student who is a Medi-Cal beneficiary. This policy shall be reviewed and revised as indicated, at least annually in conjunction with the previously mentioned community stakeholders.

# Supporting Students during or after a Mental Health Crisis

Students shall be encouraged to notify a teacher, the Executive Director, another school administrator, psychologist, counselor, suicide prevention liaisons, or other adults when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions. Staff should treat each report seriously, calmly, and with active listening and support. Staff should be non-judgmental to students and discuss with the student, and Educational Rights Holder, about additional resources to support the student.

# **Surveys About Personal Beliefs**

Unless the student's Educational Rights Holder gives written permission, a student will not be given any test, questionnaire, survey, or examination containing any questions about the student's, or the student's Educational Rights Holders' personal beliefs or practices in sex, family life, morality, or religion.

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### **Tobacco-Free Schools**

Ample research has demonstrated the health hazards associated with the use of tobacco products, including smoking and the breathing of secondhand smoke. The Charter School provides instructional programs designed to discourage students from using tobacco products. The Charter School's Governing Board recognizes that smoking and other uses of tobacco and nicotine products constitute a serious public health hazard and are inconsistent with the goals of the Charter School to provide a healthy environment for students and staff.

In the best interest of students, employees, and the general public, the Board therefore prohibits the use of tobacco products at all times on Charter School property and in Charter School vehicles. This prohibition applies to all employees, students, visitors, and other persons at school or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. It applies to any meeting on any property owned, leased, or rented by or from the Charter School.

Smoking or use of any tobacco-related product or disposal of any tobacco-related waste is prohibited within 25 feet of any playground, except on a public sidewalk located within 25 feet of the playground. Smoking or use of any tobacco-related product is also prohibited within 250 feet of the youth sports event in the same park or facility where a youth sports event is taking place. In addition, any form of intimidation, threat, or retaliation against a person for attempting to enforce this policy is prohibited.

The Executive Director or designee shall inform students, Educational Rights Holder, employees, and the public about this policy. All individuals on Charter School premises share in the responsibility of adhering to this policy. Additionally, the Charter School will post signs stating "Tobacco use is prohibited" prominently at all entrances to school property.

MY Academy does not tolerate the illegal use, possession, or sale of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or related paraphernalia by students while engaged in school-sponsored educational activities or events. School administrators are required to take immediate action to prevent, discourage, and eliminate the illegal use, possession, or sale of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or related paraphernalia while engaged in school-sponsored educational activities or events. Students found in violation are subject to discipline, up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

Smoking and the use of all tobacco products, including the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems, such as e-cigarettes, is prohibited at all MY Academy events, at all times by all

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persons, including employees, students, and visitors.

### **Universal Meals Program**

Pursuant to California law, commencing with the 2022-23 school year, the Charter School shall provide two (2) nutritionally adequate meals to each student who requests a meal without consideration of the student's eligibility for a federally funded free or reduced-price meal, with a maximum of one free meal per meal service (breakfast and lunch) each school day on which the student is scheduled for two or more hours of educational activities at a school site, resource center, meeting space or other satellite facility operated by the Charter School. This shall apply to all pupils in kindergarten through grade twelve (12). Applications for school meals are included in the first day packets to all families and can also be obtained on the Charter School website and in the main office. All families are encouraged to complete the application form i. Completed application forms can be returned to the main office.

Because MY Academy does not operate a school site, resource center, meeting space or other satellite facility, meals are not provided as part of the Universal Meal Program.

# **Special Populations**

# **Education of Foster and Mobile Youth**

**Definitions**: For the purposes of this annual notice the terms are defined as follows:

- "Foster youth" means any of the following:
  - 1. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code ("WIC") section 309 (whether or not the child has been removed from the child's home by juvenile court).
  - 2. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant WIC section 602, has been removed from the child's home by the juvenile court, and is in foster care.
  - 3. A nonminor under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as described in WIC section 450, who satisfies all of the following criteria:
    - a. The nonminor has attained 18 years of age while under an order of foster care placement by the juvenile court.
    - b. The nonminor is in foster care under the placement and care responsibility of the county welfare department, county probation department, Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization.

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- c. The nonminor is participating in a transitional independent living case plan.
- 4. A dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization who is the subject of a petition filed in the tribal court.<sup>1</sup>
- 5. A child who is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement, as defined in WIC section 11400.
- "Former juvenile court school student" means a student who, upon completion of the student's second year of high school, transfers from a juvenile court school to the Charter School.
- "Child of a military family" refers to a student who resides in the household of an active duty military member.
- "Currently Migratory Child" refers to a child who, within the last 12-months, has moved with an Educational Rights Holder, or other person having custody to the Charter School from another Local Educational Agency ("LEA"), either within California or from another state, so that the child or a member of the child's immediate family might secure temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity, and whose Educational Rights Holders have been informed of the child's eligibility for migrant education services. This includes a child who, without the Educational Rights Holder, has continued to migrate annually to secure temporary or seasonal employment in an agricultural or fishing activity.
- "Student participating in a newcomer program" means a student who is participating in a program designed to meet the academic and transitional needs of newly arrived immigrant students that has as a primary objective the development of English language proficiency.

Within this notice, foster youth, former juvenile court school students, a child of a military family, a currently migratory child, and a student participating in the newcomer program will be collectively referred to as "Foster and Mobile Youth." Within this notice, an Educational Rights Holder for a Foster and Mobile Youth will be referred to as an "Educational Rights Holder."

Notice for Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Charter School shall not require an Indian tribe or tribal court representative to certify that any student is a dependent of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization.

The Executive Director or designee designates the following staff person as the Liaison for Foster and Mobile Youth:

Motivated Youth Academy Student Success Coordinator 500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150 Escondido, CA 92025 (619) 343-2048 fosterandmobileyouth@myacademy.org

The Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison's responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- 1. Ensuring and facilitating the proper educational placement, enrollment in school, and checkout from school for foster children.
- 2. Assisting foster children when transferring from one school to another school in ensuring proper transfer of credits, records and grades.

School Stability: The Charter School will work with foster youth and their Educational Rights Holder to ensure that each pupil is placed in the least restrictive educational programs, and has access to the academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all students, including, but not necessarily limited to, clubs or esports. All decisions regarding a foster youth's education and placement will be based on the best interest of the child and shall consider, among other factors, educational stability and the opportunity to be educated in the least restrictive educational setting necessary to achieve academic progress.

Foster youth, currently migratory children and children of military families have the right to remain in their school of origin if it is in their best interest. The Charter School will immediately enroll a foster youth, currently migratory child or child of a military family seeking reenrollment in the Charter School as the student's school of origin (subject to the Charter School's capacity and pursuant to the procedures stated in the Charter School's charter and Board policy). If a dispute arises regarding a foster youth's request to remain in the Charter School as the school of origin, the foster youth has the right to remain in the Charter School pending the resolution of the dispute. The Charter School will also immediately enroll any foster youth, currently

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migratory child or child of a military family seeking to transfer to the Charter School (subject to the Charter School's capacity and pursuant to the procedures stated in the Charter School's charter and Board policy) regardless of the student's ability to meet normal enrollment documentation or uniform requirements (e.g., producing medical records or academic records from a previous school).

Foster youth, currently migratory children, and children of military families have the right to remain in their school of origin following the termination of the child's status as a foster youth, currently migratory child or child of a military family, as follows:

- 1. For students in Kindergarten through eighth grade, inclusive, the student will be allowed to continue in the school of origin through the duration of the academic year in which the student's status changed.
- 2. For students enrolled in high school, the student will be allowed to continue in the school of origin through graduation.

Graduation Requirements: Foster and Mobile Youth who transfer to the Charter School any time after the completion of their second year of high school, and pupils participating in a newcomer program who are in their third or fourth year of high school, shall be exempt from any of the Charter School's graduation requirements that are in excess of the California minimum graduation requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 ("additional graduation requirements") unless the Charter School makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

To determine whether a Foster and Mobile Youth is in their third or fourth year of high school, either the number of credits the student has earned to the date of transfer or the length of the student's school enrollment may be used, whichever will qualify the student for the exemption. In the case of a pupil participating in a newcomer program, enrollment in grade 11 or 12 may be used to determine whether the student is in their third or fourth year of high school.

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Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date that a student who may qualify for exemption under

the above requirements transfers into the Charter School, the Charter School shall notify the

student, the Educational Rights Holder, and where applicable, the student's social worker or

probation officer, of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for an

exemption.

The Charter School shall notify students who are exempted from the Charter School's additional

graduation requirements and the student's Educational Rights Holder how any of the

requirements that are waived will affect the pupil's ability to gain admission to a

postsecondary educational institution and provide information about transfer opportunities

available through the California Community Colleges.

The Charter School shall not require any student who would otherwise be entitled to remain in

attendance at the Charter School to accept the exemption from the Charter School's additional

graduation requirements or deny the student enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses

for which the student is otherwise eligible. The Charter School shall not revoke an exemption

and shall grant an eligible student's request for the exemption at any time if the student

qualifies, regardless of whether the student previously declined the exemption. An eligible

student's exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements will

continue to apply while the student is enrolled in the Charter School or if the student transfers

to another school even after the court's jurisdiction terminates or the student no longer meets

the definition of a child of a military family, a currently migratory child or a pupil participating in

a newcomer program.

The Charter School shall not require or request that a student transfer schools in order to

qualify the student for the exemption. Nor shall a student, a student's Educational Rights Holder,

or a student's social worker or probation officer request a transfer solely to qualify for an

exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements.

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If a student who is exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements completes the California minimum coursework requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 before the end of the student's fourth year of high school and would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School, the Charter School shall not require or request that the student graduate before the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

If the Charter School determines the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fifth year of high school, the Charter School shall do the following:

- 1. Inform the student of the student's option to remain at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements.
- 2. Inform the student, and the educational rights holder for the student, about how remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution.
- 3. Provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.

Permit the student to stay at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements upon agreement with the student, if the student is 18 years of age or older, or, if the student is under 18 years of age, upon agreement with the educational rights holder for the student.

Acceptance of Course Work: The Charter School will accept any coursework satisfactorily completed at any public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency by Foster and Mobile Youth.

The Charter School will provide Foster and Mobile Youth credit for the partial completion of courses taken while attending a public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country

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other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency. If the student did not complete the entire course, the Charter School shall not require the student to retake the portion of the course the student completed unless the Charter School, in consultation with the holder of educational rights for the student, finds that the pupil is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the Foster and Mobile Youth shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that the student may continue and complete the entire course. These students shall not be prevented from taking or retaking a course to meet California State University or the University of California admission eligibility requirements.

**Student Records:** When the Charter School receives a transfer request and/or student records request for the educational information and records of a foster youth from a new local educational agency ("LEA"), the Charter School shall provide these student records within two (2) business days. The Charter School shall compile the complete educational record of the student, including but not limited to a determination of seat time, full or partial credits earned, current classes and grades, immunization and other records, and, if applicable, a copy of the student's special education records including assessments, IEPs, and/or 504 plans. All requests for student records will be shared with the Foster and Mobile Youth Liaison, who shall be aware of the specific educational record keeping needs of Foster and Mobile Youth.

The Charter School shall not lower a foster youth's grades as a result of the student's absence due to a verified court appearance, related court ordered activity, or a change in the placement of the student made by a county or placing agency. If a foster youth is absent from school due to a decision to change the placement of the student made by a county or placing agency, the grades and credits of the pupil will be calculated as of the date the student left the Charter School.

In accordance with the Charter School's Educational Records and Student Information Policy, under limited circumstances, the Charter School may disclose student records or personally identifiable information contained in those records to certain requesting parties including but not limited to a foster family agency and state and local authorities within a juvenile justice system, without Educational Rights Holder consent. Students who are 16 years of age or older or have finished 10th grade may access their own school records.

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**Discipline Determinations:** If the Charter School intends to extend the suspension of any foster youth pending a recommendation for expulsion, the Charter School will invite the student's attorney and an appropriate representative from the relevant county agency to participate in the meeting at which the extension of the suspension will be discussed.

If the Charter School intends to suspend for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or expel a student with a disability who is also a foster youth due to an act for which the recommendation for expulsion is discretionary, the Charter School will invite the student's attorney and an appropriate representative from the relevant county agency to participate in the Manifestation Determination Review meeting.

**Complaints of Noncompliance:** A complaint of noncompliance with any of the requirements outlined above may be filed through the Charter School's Uniform Complaint Procedures. A copy of the Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedures is available as a link in the Appendices of this handbook.

**Availability of Complete Policy:** For any Foster and Mobile Youth who enrolls at the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's complete foster youth policy shall be provided at the time of enrollment. A copy of the complete Policy is available as a link in the Appendices of this handbook.

## **Education of Homeless Children and Youth**

The term "homeless children and youth" means individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. It includes children and youths who (42 U.S.C. § 11434a):

- Are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
- 2. Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
- 3. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing,

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- bus or train stations, or similar settings; and/or
- 4. Migratory children and unaccompanied youth (youth not in the physical custody of an Educational Rights Holder) may be considered homeless if they meet the above definition of "homeless."

Homeless status is determined in cooperation with the Educational Rights Holder. In the case of unaccompanied youth, status is determined by the Charter School Liaison.

**School Liaison**: The Executive Director or designee designates the following staff person as the School Liaison for homeless students (42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)):

Motivated Youth Academy
Student Success Coordinator
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619) 343-2048
fosterandmobileyouth@myacademy.org

The Charter School Liaison shall ensure that (42 U.S.C. § 11432(g)(6)):

- 1. Homeless students are identified by school personnel and through outreach and coordination activities with other entities and agencies, and through the annual housing questionnaire administered by the Charter School.
- 2. Homeless students enroll in and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed at the Charter School.
- 3. Homeless students and families receive educational services for which they are eligible, including services through Head Start programs (including Early Head Start programs) under the Head Start Act, early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, any other preschool programs administered by the Charter School, if any, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.

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- 4. Educational Rights Holders are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.
- 5. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated at places frequented by Educational Rights Holders of such youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, and in a manner and form understandable to the Educational Rights Holders of homeless youth and unaccompanied youth.
- 6. Enrollment/admissions disputes are mediated in accordance with law, the Charter School's charter, and Board policy.
- 7. Educational Rights Holders and any unaccompanied youth are fully informed of all transportation services, as applicable.
- 8. Charter School personnel providing services receive professional development and other support.
- 9. The Charter School Liaison collaborates with State coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths.
- 10. Unaccompanied youth are enrolled in school; have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youth; and are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that the youths may obtain assistance from the Charter School Liaison to receive verification of such status for the purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid described in section 483 of the Act.

The California Department of Education publishes a list of the contact information for the Homeless Education Liaisons in the state, which is available at: <a href="https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/">https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/</a>

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Housing Questionnaire: Charter School shall administer a housing questionnaire for purposes of identifying homeless children and youth. Charter School shall ensure that the housing questionnaire is based on the best practices developed by the CDE. Charter School shall annually provide the housing questionnaire to all Educational Rights Holders of students and to all unaccompanied youths at Charter School. The housing questionnaire shall include an explanation of the rights and protections a student has as a homeless child or youth or as an unaccompanied youth. The housing questionnaire shall be available in paper form. The housing questionnaire shall be available in English, and if fifteen (15) percent or more of the students enrolled at Charter School speak a single primary language other than English, it shall also be written in the primary language. The questionnaire shall be translated into other languages upon request of a student's Educational Rights Holder or an unaccompanied youth. Charter School shall collect the completed housing questionnaires and annually report to the CDE the number of homeless children and youths and unaccompanied youths enrolled. (Education Code Section 48851.)

High School Graduation Requirements: Homeless students who transfer to the Charter School any time after the completion of their second year of high school shall be exempt from any of the Charter School's graduation requirements that are in excess of the California minimum graduation requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 ("additional graduation requirements") unless the Charter School makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

To determine whether a homeless student is in their third or fourth year of high school, either the number of credits the student has earned to the date of transfer or the length of the student's school enrollment may be used, whichever will qualify the student for the exemption.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date that a student who may qualify for exemption under the above requirements transfers into the Charter School, the Charter School shall notify the student, the student's educational rights holder, and the School Liaison of the availability of the exemption and whether the student qualifies for an exemption.

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The Charter School shall notify students who are exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements and the student's educational rights holder of how any of the requirements that are waived will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution and provide information about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.

The Charter School shall not require any student who would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School to accept the exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements or deny the student enrollment in, or the ability to complete, courses for which the student is otherwise eligible. The Charter School shall not revoke an exemption and shall grant an eligible student's request for the exemption at any time if the student qualifies, regardless of whether the student previously declined the exemption. An eligible student's exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements will continue to apply while the student is enrolled in the Charter School or if the student transfers to another school even after the student no longer meets the definition of a homeless child.

The Charter School shall not require or request that a student transfer schools in order to qualify the student for the exemption. Nor shall a student, a student's Educational Rights Holder, or a student's social worker or probation officer request a transfer solely to qualify for an exemption from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements.

If a student who is exempted from the Charter School's additional graduation requirements completes the California minimum coursework requirements specified in Education Code section 51225.3 before the end of the student's fourth year of high school and would otherwise be entitled to remain in attendance at the Charter School, the Charter School shall not require or request that the student graduate before the end of the student's fourth year of high school.

If the Charter School determines the student is reasonably able to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements by the end of the student's fifth year of high school, the Charter School shall do the following:

- 1. Inform the student of the student's option to remain at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements.
- 2. Inform the student, and the educational rights holder for the student, about how

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- remaining in school for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements will affect the student's ability to gain admission to a postsecondary educational institution.
- 3. Provide information to the student about transfer opportunities available through the California Community Colleges.
- 4. Permit the student to stay at the Charter School for a fifth year to complete the Charter School's graduation requirements upon agreement with the student, if the student is 18 years of age or older, or, if the student is under 18 years of age, upon agreement with the educational rights holder for the student.

Acceptance of Course Work: The Charter School will accept any coursework satisfactorily completed at any public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency by a homeless student.

The Charter School will provide homeless students credit for the partial completion of courses taken while attending a public school, a juvenile court school, a school in a country other than the United States, and/or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency. If the student did not complete the entire course, the Charter School shall not require the student to retake the portion of the course the student completed unless the Charter School, in consultation with the holder of educational rights for the student, finds that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. When partial credit is awarded in a particular course, the homeless student shall be enrolled in the same or equivalent course, if applicable, so that the student may continue and complete the entire course. These students shall not be prevented from taking or retaking a course to meet California State University or the University of California admission eligibility requirements.

For any homeless student who enrolls at the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's complete policy shall be provided at the time of enrollment. A copy of the complete Policy is available upon request at the main office.

# **English Learners**

The Charter School is committed to the success of its English Learners and support will be offered both within academic classes and in supplemental settings for students who need additional support for English language learning. The Charter School will meet all applicable

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legal requirements for English Learners as they pertain to annual notification to Educational Rights Holders, student identification, placement, program options, English Learners and core content instruction, teacher qualifications and training, reclassification to fluent English proficient status, monitoring and evaluating program effectiveness, and standardized testing requirements. The Charter School will implement policies to assure proper placement, evaluation, and communication regarding English Learners and the rights of students and Educational Rights Holders.

For detailed information about English Language Learners, please see MYA's <u>English Learner</u> Master Plan.

### Section 504

The Charter School recognizes its legal responsibility to ensure that no qualified person with a disability shall, on the basis of a disability, be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of the Charter School. Any student who has an objectively identified disability which substantially limits a major life activity, including, but not limited to learning, is eligible for accommodations by the Charter School. The Educational Rights Holder of any student suspected of needing or qualifying for accommodations under Section 504 may make a referral for an evaluation to the Executive Director or designee.

MY Academy adheres to all Section 504 legal requirements. For students transferring to MY Academy with an existing 504 Plan, MYA staff will hold a review meeting within the first 30 days of enrollment to review the current 504 Plan to collaborate with the 504 team, and update the 504 plan with the accommodations that can reasonably be implemented within MY Academy's personalized learning school model. For currently enrolled MY Academy students with an existing 504 plan, 504 review meetings are offered at the beginning of every school year. For more information on MY Academy Charter School's 504 Program, see the policy under the Appendices section of this Handbook or email <a href="mailto:info@myacademy.org">info@myacademy.org</a>.

MY Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, religion, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes sent forth in Penal Code

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section 422.55, including immigration status. My Academy does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program/activity of the school, and that it is required by Title IX not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in the education programs/activities of the school extends to admission and employment, and inquiries about the application for Title IX to the school may be referred to MY Academy's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary of Education, or both. Complaints alleging noncompliance may also be made by contacting the school's Executive Director. A copy of the school's nondiscrimination policy and Title IX policy is available upon request.

Section 504 requires MY Academy to provide a free appropriate public education to qualified students who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

#### Special Education / Students with Disabilities

We are dedicated to the belief that all students can learn and must be guaranteed equal opportunity to become contributing members of the academic environment and society. The Charter School provides special education instruction and related services in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act ("IDEA"), Education Code requirements, and applicable policies and procedures of the Sonoma County Charter SELPA. These services are available for special education students enrolled at the Charter School. We offer high quality educational programs and services for all our students in accordance with the assessed needs of each student. The Charter School collaborates with Educational Rights Holders, the student, teachers, and other agencies, as may be indicated, in order to appropriately serve the educational needs of each student.

Pursuant to the IDEA and relevant state law, the Charter School is responsible for identifying, locating, and evaluating children enrolled at the Charter School with known or suspected disabilities to determine whether a need for special education and related services exists. This includes children with disabilities who are homeless or foster youth. Under the IDEA, Educational rights holders have a right to inspect, review, and obtain copies of their child's educational records. The Charter School shall not deny nor discourage any student from enrollment solely due to a disability. If you believe your child may be eligible for special education services, please contact the Special Education Program Manager, at programmanager@myacademy.org or (619) 343-2048 x123.

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MY Academy will collect information about a student's special education eligibility or services. The educational rights holder of a child should submit to the Special Education Department a complete copy of the student's most recent IEP (Individualized Education Plan), 504 plan, or any related special education documentation, if your child was receiving special education services in the past. In addition, MY Academy will comply with all relevant obligations under the law, including taking reasonable steps to promptly obtain relevant pupil records from the previous school in which your child was enrolled, including records relating to providing special education and related services to your child, and offering a Free and Appropriate Public Education ("FAPE"). If you have a student who receives special education services, please review this Notice of Procedural Safeguards to understand the special education rights of both educational rights holders and students.

# Student Rights, Conduct, & Complaint Procedures

#### **Educational Records and Student Information**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") affords Educational Rights Holders and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- 1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within five (5) school days after the day MY Academy receives a request for access.
  - Educational Rights Holders must submit to the Executive Director or designee a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The Charter School official will make arrangements for access and notify the Educational Rights Holders of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- 2. Educational Rights Holders have the right to request an amendment of the student's education records that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.
  - Educational Rights Holders who wish to ask the school to amend a record must write to the Executive Director or designee, clearly identify the part of the record they want

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changed, and specify why it should be changed. If MY Academy decides not to amend the record as requested by the Educational Rights Holder or eligible student, MY Academy will notify the Educational Rights Holders of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the Educational Rights Holders when notified of the right to a hearing. If MY Academy agrees to amend the record as requested, the Executive Director must order the correction or the removal and destruction of the information and inform the Educational Rights Holders of the amendment in writing.

3. The right to provide written consent before MY Academy discloses personally identifiable information ("PII") from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to Charter school officials with legitimate educational interests. For this purpose, a Charter School official is a person employed by the Charter School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the Charter School's Board of Directors. A Charter School official may also include a volunteer, consultant, or vendor outside of the Charter School who performs an institutional service or function for which the Charter School would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; or contracted provider of digital educational platforms and/or services, an Educational Rights Holder volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or an Educational Rights Holder, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing a task on behalf of the Charter School. A Charter School official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill their professional responsibility.

Upon request, the Charter School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled, if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

Note that Charter School will not release information to third parties for

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immigration-enforcement purposes, except as required by law or court order.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Charter School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that processes FERPA complaints are:

Student Privacy Policy Office U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202

5. The right to request that the Charter School not release student names, addresses and telephone listings to military recruiters or institutions of higher education without prior written Educational Rights Holder consent.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from a students' education records, without consent of the Educational Rights Holders, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in \$99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to Charter School officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the Educational Rights Holder or eligible student, \$99.32 of the FERPA regulations requires the Charter School to record the disclosure. Educational Rights Holders and eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A school may disclose PII from the education records of a student without obtaining prior written consent of the Educational Rights Holders or the eligible student:

• To Charter School officials, including teachers, within the educational agency or institution whom the school has determined have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, as defined by 34 C. F. R. Part 99; To officials of another school, school system, or institution of postsecondary education where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. When a student transfers schools, the Charter School will mail the original or a copy of a student's cumulative file to the receiving district or private school within ten (10) school days following the date the request is received from the

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public school or private school where the student intends to enroll. The Charter School will make a reasonable attempt to notify the Educational Rights Holders of the request for records at the parents/guardians/educational right holders' last known address, unless the disclosure is initiated by the Educational Rights Holders. Additionally, the Charter School will give the Educational Rights Holders, upon request, a copy of the record that was disclosed and give Educational Rights Holders, upon request, an opportunity for a hearing;

- To certain government officials listed in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1) in order to carry out lawful functions;
- Appropriate parties in connection with a student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid if it is necessary to determine eligibility, amount of aid, conditions for aid or enforcing the terms and conditions of the aidOrganizations conducting certain studies for the Charter School in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 1232q(b)(1)(F);
- Accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;
- Educational Rights Holders of a dependent student as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
- Individuals or entities, in compliance with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. Subject to the exceptions found in 34 C.F.R. § 99.31(a)(9)(i), reasonable effort must be made to notify the Educational Rights Holder or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance, so that the Educational Rights Holder or eligible students may seek a protective order;
- Persons who need to know in cases of health and safety emergencies;
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law;
- A foster family agency with jurisdiction over a currently enrolled or former student, a short-term residential treatment program staff responsible for the education or case management of a student, and a caregiver (regardless of whether the caregiver has been appointed as the student's educational rights holder) who has direct responsibility for the care of the student, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or nonrelated extended family member, or a resource family, may access the current or most recent records of grades, transcripts, attendance, discipline, and online communication on platforms established by the Charter School for students and Educational Rights Holders, and any individualized education program ("IEP") or Section 504 plan that may have been developed or maintained by the Charter School; and/or
- A victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex

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offense. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceedings conducted by the Charter School with respect to that alleged crime or offense. The Charter School discloses the final results of the disciplinary proceeding regardless of whether the Charter School concluded a violation was committed.

"Directory Information" is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. The Charter School may disclose the personally identifiable information that it has designated as directory information without an Educational Rights Holder's or eligible student's prior written consent. The Charter School has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Student's address
- Educational Rights Holder's address
- Telephone listing
- Student's electronic mail address
- Educational Rights Holder's electronic mail address
- Photograph/video
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate
  in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a
  PIN, password, etc. (A student's social security number, in whole or in part, cannot be
  used for this purpose.)

If you do not want the Charter School to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Charter School in writing at the time of enrollment or re-enrollment.

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Please notify the Executive Director at:
Executive Director
Motivated Youth Academy
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619) 343-2048
admin@myacademy.org

A copy of the complete Policy is available upon request at the main office.

## Professional Boundaries: Staff/Student Interaction Policy

Motivated Youth Academy ("MY Academy" or "Charter School") recognizes its responsibility to make and enforce all rules and regulations governing student and employee behavior to bring about the safest and most learning-conducive environment possible.

#### **Corporal Punishment**

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student.

For purposes of this policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to property.

For clarification purposes, the following examples are offered for direction and guidance of School personnel:

- A. Examples of PERMITTED actions (NOT corporal punishment)
  - 1. Stopping a student from fighting with another student;
  - 2. Preventing a pupil from committing an act of vandalism;
  - 3. Defending yourself from physical injury or assault by a student;
  - 4. Forcing a pupil to give up a weapon or dangerous object;

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- 5. Requiring an athletic team to participate in strenuous physical training activities designed to strengthen or condition team members or improve their coordination, agility, or physical skills;
- 6. Engaging in group calisthenics, team drills, or other physical education or voluntary recreational activities.

#### B. Examples of PROHIBITED actions (corporal punishment)

- 1. Hitting, shoving, pushing, or physically restraining a student as a means of control;
- 2. Making unruly students do push-ups, run laps, or perform other physical acts that cause pain or discomfort as a form of punishment;
- 3. Paddling, swatting, slapping, grabbing, pinching, kicking, or otherwise causing physical pain.

#### Acceptable and Unacceptable Staff/Student Behavior

This policy is intended to guide all School faculty and staff in conducting themselves in a way that reflects the high standards of behavior and professionalism required of school employees and to specify the boundaries between students and staff.

Although this policy gives specific, clear direction, it is each staff member's obligation to avoid situations that could prompt suspicion by Educational Rights Holders, students, colleagues, or school leaders. One viable standard that can be quickly applied, when you are unsure if certain conduct is acceptable, is to ask yourself, "Would I be engaged in this conduct if my family or colleagues were standing next to me?"

For the purposes of this policy, the term "boundaries" is defined as acceptable professional behavior by staff members while interacting with a student. Trespassing the boundaries of a student/teacher relationship is deemed an abuse of power and a betrayal of public trust.

Some activities may seem innocent from a staff member's perspective, but can be perceived as flirtation or sexual insinuation from a student or Educational Rights Holder point of view. The objective of the following lists of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors is not to restrain innocent, positive relationships between staff and students, but to prevent relationships that could lead to, or may be perceived as, sexual misconduct.

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Staff must understand their own responsibility for ensuring that they do not cross the boundaries as written in this policy. Disagreeing with the wording or intent of the established boundaries will be considered irrelevant for disciplinary purposes. Thus, it is crucial that all employees learn this policy thoroughly and apply the lists of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors to their daily activities. Although sincere, competent interaction with students certainly fosters learning, student/staff interactions must have boundaries surrounding potential activities, locations and intentions.

#### <u>Duty to Report Suspected Misconduct</u>

When any employee reasonably suspects or believes that another staff member may have crossed the boundaries specified in this policy, he or she must immediately report the matter to a school administrator. All reports shall be as confidential as possible under the circumstances. It is the duty of the administrator to investigate and thoroughly report the situation. Employees must also report to the administration any awareness or concern of student behavior that crosses boundaries or where a student appears to be at risk for sexual abuse.

#### **Examples of Specific Behaviors**

#### The following examples are not an exhaustive list:

#### Unacceptable Staff/Student Behaviors (Violations of this Policy)

- (a) Giving gifts to an individual student that are of a personal and intimate nature.
- (b) Kissing of any kind.
- (c) Any type of unnecessary physical contact with a student in a private situation.
- (d) Intentionally being alone with a student away from the school.
- (e) Making or participating in sexually inappropriate comments.
- (f) Sexual jokes.
- (g) Seeking emotional involvement with a student for your benefit.
- (h) Listening to or telling stories that are sexually oriented.
- (i) Discussing inappropriate personal troubles or intimate issues with a student in an attempt to gain their support and understanding.
- (j) Becoming involved with a student so that a reasonable person may suspect inappropriate behavior.

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## <u>Unacceptable Staff/Student Behaviors without Educational Rights Holder and Supervisor</u> Permission

(These behaviors should only be exercised when a staff member has Educational Rights Holder and supervisor permission.)

- (a) Giving students a ride to/from school or school activities.
- (b) Being alone in a room with a student at school with the door closed.
- (c) Allowing students in your home.

#### Cautionary Staff/Student Behaviors

(These behaviors should only be exercised when a reasonable and prudent person, acting as an educator, is prevented from using a better practice or behavior. Staff members should inform their supervisor of the circumstance and occurrence prior to or immediately after the occurrence)

- (a) Remarks about the physical attributes or development of anyone.
- (b) Excessive attention toward a particular student.
- (c) Sending emails, text messages or letters to students if the content is not about school activities.

#### Acceptable and Recommended Staff/Student Behaviors

- (a) Getting Educational Rights Holders' written consent for any after-school activity.
- (b) Obtaining formal approval to take students off school property for activities such as field trips or competitions.
- (c) Emails, text, phone and instant messages to students must be very professional and pertaining to school activities or classes (Communication should be limited to school technology).
- (d) Keeping the door open when alone with a student.
- (e) Keeping reasonable space between you and your students.
- (f) Stopping and correcting students if they cross your own personal boundaries.
- (g) Keeping Educational Rights Holders informed when a significant issue develops about a student.
- (h) Keeping after-class discussions with a student professional and brief.
- (i) Asking for advice from fellow staff or administrators if you find yourself in a difficult situation related to boundaries.

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- (j) Involving your supervisor if conflict arises with the student.
- (k) Informing the Principal about situations that have the potential to become more severe.
- (l) Making detailed notes about an incident that could evolve into a more serious situation later.
- (m) Recognizing the responsibility to stop unacceptable behavior of students or coworkers.
- (n) Asking another staff member to be present if you will be alone with any type of special needs student.
- (o) Asking another staff member to be present when you must be alone with a student after regular school hours.
- (p) Giving students praise and recognition without touching them.
- (q) Pats on the back, high fives and handshakes are acceptable.
- (r) Keeping your professional conduct a high priority.
- (s) Asking yourself if your actions are worth your job and career

## School Search and Seizure

The Charter School recognizes and has determined that the occurrence of incidents which may include the possession of firearms, weapons, alcohol, controlled substances, or other items of contraband prohibited by law or Charter School rules and regulations, jeopardizes the health, safety and welfare of students and Charter School employees.

The California Constitution requires that all students and staff of public schools have the inalienable right to attend school activities which are safe, secure, and peaceful. As such, Charter School has adopted a Policy outlining the reasonable search of students and their property, student use areas, and/or student lockers and the seizure of illegal, unsafe, unauthorized or contraband items and materials through a search based upon reasonable suspicion.

A student's personal cell phone, smartphone, or other personal electronic device shall not be searched by school officials without a warrant, the student's consent, or a legitimate emergency, unless the device is lost or abandoned. An emergency is any situation involving danger of death or serious physical injury to any person, that requires access to the information located or reasonably believed to be located on the electronic device. If the Charter School has a good faith belief that the device is lost, stolen, or abandoned, the Charter

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School may only access electronic device information in order to attempt to identify, verify, or contact the owner of the device.

The Charter School is not prohibited from seizing/confiscating a student's personal electronic device, without searching its contents, if the student's use or possession of the private electronic device is in violation of Charter School rules or regulations.

# Student Freedom of Speech and Expression

MY Academy believes that free inquiry and exchange of ideas are essential parts of a democratic education. MYA respects students' rights to express ideas and opinions, take stands on issues, and support causes, even when such speech is controversial or unpopular.

Students shall have the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press including, but not limited to:

- 1. the use of bulletin boards
- 2. the distribution of printed materials or petitions
- 3. wearing of buttons, badges, and other insignia
- 4. the right of expression in official school publications. "Official school publications" refers to material produced by pupils in the journalism, newspaper, yearbook, or writing classes and distributed to the student body either free or for a fee. The Executive director or designee will supervise the material produced by pupils to ensure it meets professional standards of English and journalism.

Students' freedom of expression shall be limited as allowed by Education Code Section 48907, and other applicable state and federal laws. Students are prohibited from making any expressions or distributing or posting any materials that are obscene, libelous, or slanderous. The use of "fighting words" or epithets is prohibited in those instances where the speech is abusive and insulting, rather than a communication of ideas, and the speech is used in an aggressive or abusive manner in a situation that presents an actual danger that it will cause a breach of the peace. A student shall be subject to discipline for out-of-school expression, including expression on Internet websites, when such expression poses a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or school property, or substantially disrupts the educational program.

The complete policy is in the Appendices of this handbook.

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# Title IX, Harassment, Discrimination, Intimidation, & Bullying Policy

Policy Adopted: October 10, 2019

Revised: August 13, 2020 Revised: September 13, 2021 Revised: December 14, 2023

Discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are all disruptive behaviors, which interfere with students' ability to learn and negatively affect student engagement, diminish school safety, and contribute to a hostile school environment. As such, the Motivated Youth Academy Board of Directors (the "Board" or the "School") prohibits any acts of discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying altogether. This policy is inclusive of instances that occur at school-sponsored events and activities, regardless of location, through school-owned technology and through other electronic means.

As used in this policy, discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are described as the intentional conduct, including verbal, physical, written communication or cyber-bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, based on the actual or perceived characteristics of disability, pregnancy, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, ancestry, race or ethnicity, immigration and citizenship status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, childbirth or related medical conditions, marital status, age, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. In addition, bullying encompasses any conduct described in the definitions set forth in this policy. Hereafter, such actions are referred to as "misconduct prohibited by this policy."

To the extent possible, Motivated Youth Academy will make reasonable efforts to prevent students from being discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, and/or bullied, and will take action to investigate, respond, address and report on such behaviors in a timely manner. School staff that witness acts of misconduct prohibited by this policy will take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so.

Moreover, the School will not condone or tolerate misconduct prohibited by this policy by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which the School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This policy applies to all employees, students, or volunteer actions and relationships regardless of position or gender. The School will promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of such misconduct prohibited by this policy and

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take appropriate corrective action, if warranted.

TITLE IX, HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, DISCRIMINATION AND BULLYING COORDINATOR ("COORDINATOR"):

Gigi Lenz, Operations and Program Manager

Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator

(619) 343-2048

glenz@myacademy.org

500 La Terraza Blvd Ste 150

Escondido, CA 92025

#### PROHIBITED UNLAWFUL HARASSMENT UNDER TITLE IX

Prohibited Unlawful Harassment is defined as

- 1. Verbal conduct such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, or slurs.
- 2. Physical conduct including assault, unwanted touching, intentionally blocking normal movement or interfering with school because of sex, race or any other protected basis.
- 3. Retaliation for reporting or threatening to report harassment.
- 4. Deferential or preferential treatment based on any of the protected classes above.

Title IX (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et. seq; 34 C.F.R. § 106.1 et. seq) and California state law prohibit harassment on the basis of sex. In accordance with these existing laws, discrimination on the basis of sex in education institutions is prohibited. All persons, regardless of sex, are afforded equal rights and opportunities and freedom from unlawful discrimination in education programs or activities conducted by the Charter School.

#### SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Motivated Youth Academy is committed to providing an educational environment free of sexual harassment and considers such harassment to be a major offense, which may result in disciplinary action.

Sexual harassment consists of sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or

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physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- 1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's employment, education, academic status, or progress;
- 2. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis of employment, educational or academic decisions affecting the individual;
- 3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or academic performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or educational environment; and/or
- 4. Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the educational institution.

It is also unlawful to retaliate in any way against an individual who has articulated a good faith concern about sexual harassment against themselves or against another individual.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- 1. Physical assaults of a sexual nature, such as:
  - a. Rape, sexual battery, molestation or attempts to commit these assaults.
  - b. Intentional physical conduct that is sexual in nature, such as touching, pinching, patting, grabbing, brushing against another's body, or poking another's body.
- 2. Unwanted sexual advances, propositions or other sexual comments, such as:
  - a. Sexually oriented gestures, notices, remarks, jokes, or comments about a person's sexuality or sexual experience.
  - b. Preferential treatment or promises of preferential treatment to an individual for submitting to sexual conduct, including soliciting or attempting to solicit any individual to engage in sexual activity for compensation or reward or deferential treatment for rejecting sexual conduct.
  - c. Subjecting or threats of subjecting a student to unwelcome sexual attention or conduct or intentionally making the student's academic performance more difficult because of the student's sex.
- 3. Sexual or discriminatory displays or publications anywhere in the educational environment, such as:
  - a. Displaying pictures, cartoons, posters, calendars, graffiti, objections, promotional materials, reading materials, or other materials that are sexually suggestive, sexually demeaning or pornographic or bringing or possessing any

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- such material to read, display or view in the educational environment.
- b. Reading publicly or otherwise publicizing in the educational environment materials that are in any way sexually revealing, sexually suggestive, sexually demeaning or pornographic.
- c. Displaying signs or other materials purporting to segregate an individual by sex in an area of the educational environment (other than restrooms or similar rooms).

The illustrations of harassment and sexual harassment above are not to be construed as an all-inclusive list of prohibited acts under this policy.

#### PROHIBITED BULLYING

Bullying is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act.

Bullying includes one or more acts committed by a student or group of students that may constitute as sexual harassment, hate violence, or creates an intimidating and/or hostile educational environment, directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- 1. Placing a reasonable pupil\* or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
- 2. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the pupil's physical or mental health.
- 3. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's academic performance.
- 4. Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantial interference with the pupil's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
- \* "Reasonable pupil" is defined as a pupil, including but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises care, skill and judgment in conduct for a person of the same age, or for a person of the same age with the same exceptional needs.

Cyberbullying is an electronic act that includes the transmission of harassing communication, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images on the internet, social media, or other

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technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

Electronic act means the creation and transmission originated on or off the school site, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- 1. A message, text, sound, video, or image.
- 2. A post on a social network internet website including, but not limited to:
  - a. Posting to or creating a burn page. A "burn page" means an internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in the definition of "bullying," above.
  - b. Creating a credible impersonation\* of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in the definition of "bullying" above. \*"Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
  - c. Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in the definition of "bullying," above. "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
- 3. An act of "cyber sexual bullying" including, but not limited to:
  - a. The dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in the definition of "bullying," above. A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.
  - b. "Cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.
  - c. Notwithstanding the definitions of "bullying" and "electronic act" above, an

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electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.

#### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

#### Reporting

All staff are expected to provide appropriate supervision to enforce standards of conduct and, if they observe or become aware of misconduct prohibited by this policy, to intervene as soon as it is safe to do so, call for assistance, and report such incidents. The Board requires staff to follow the procedures in this policy for reporting alleged acts of misconduct prohibited by this policy.

Any student who believes they have been subject to misconduct prohibited by this policy or has witnessed such prohibited misconduct is encouraged to immediately report such misconduct to the coordinator:

Gigi Lenz, Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
(619) 343-2048
glenz@myacademy.org
500 La Terraza Blvd Ste 150
Escondido, CA 92025

Complaints regarding such misconduct may also be made to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

While submission of a written report is not required, the reporting party is encouraged to submit a written report to the coordinator. Oral reports shall also be considered official reports. Reports may be made anonymously, but formal disciplinary action cannot be based solely on an anonymous report.

Students are expected to report all incidents of misconduct prohibited by this policy or other verbal, or physical abuses. Any student who feels targeted by such behavior should immediately contact a teacher, counselor, the program director, coordinator, a staff person or a family member so that the student can get assistance in resolving the issue in a manner that is

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consistent with this policy.

Motivated Youth Academy acknowledges and respects every individual's right to privacy. All reports shall be investigated in a manner that protects the confidentiality of the parties and the integrity of the process. This includes keeping the identity of the reporter confidential, as appropriate, except to the extent necessary to carry out the investigation and/or to resolve the issue, as determined by the coordinator or designee on a case-by-case basis.

Motivated Youth Academy prohibits any form of retaliation against any reporter in the reporting process, including but not limited to a reporter's filing of a complaint or the reporting of instances of misconduct prohibited by this policy. Such participation shall not in any way affect the status, grades, or work assignments of the reporter.

All supervisors of staff will receive sexual harassment training within six (6) months of their assumption of a supervisory position and will receive further training once every two (2) years thereafter. All staff will receive sexual harassment training and/or instruction concerning sexual harassment as required by law.

#### Investigation

Upon receipt of a report of misconduct prohibited by this policy from a student, staff member, Educational Rights Holder, volunteer, visitor or affiliate of the School, the coordinator or administrative designee will promptly initiate an investigation. In most cases, a thorough investigation will take no more than seven (7) school days. If the coordinator, or administrative designee determines that an investigation will take longer than seven (7) school days, the coordinator or administrative designee will inform the complainant and any other relevant parties and provide an approximate date when the investigation will be complete.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Coordinator or administrative designee will meet with the complainant and, to the extent possible with respect to confidentiality laws, provide the complainant with information about the investigation, including any actions necessary to resolve the incident/situation. However, in no case may the coordinator or administrative designee reveal confidential information related to other students or employees, including the type and extent of discipline issued against such students or employees.

All records related to any investigation of complaints under this policy are maintained in a secure location.

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#### Consequences

Students or employees who engage in misconduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

#### **Uniform Complaint Procedures**

When harassment or bullying is based upon one of the protected characteristics set forth in this Policy, a complainant may also fill out a Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP") complaint form at any time during the process.

#### Right of Appeal

Should the complainant find the coordinator's resolution unsatisfactory, the complainant may, within five (5) school days, file an appeal with the Designated Appeals Committee. In such cases, at least three (3) certificated School employees who are unfamiliar with the case and who have been previously designated and trained for this purpose shall be assembled to conduct a confidential review of the complainant's appeal and render a final decision.

# <u>Uniform Complaint Procedures ("UCP")</u>

The Charter School is the local agency primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing educational programs. The Charter School shall investigate and seek to resolve complaints using policies and procedures known as the Uniform Complaint Procedure ("UCP") adopted by our Governing Board for the following types of complaints:

- 1. Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group on the basis of the actual or perceived characteristics of age, ancestry, color, mental disability, physical disability, ethnic group identification, immigration status, citizenship, gender expression, gender identity, gender, genetic information, nationality, national origin, race or ethnicity, religion, medical condition, marital status, sex, or sexual orientation, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics in any Charter School program or activity.
- 2. Complaints alleging a violation of state or federal law or regulation governing the following programs:
  - Accommodations for Pregnant, Parenting or Lactating Students;
  - Adult Education:

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- Career Technical and Technical Education;
- Career Technical and Technical Training;
- Child Care and Development Programs;
- Consolidated Categorical Aid;
- Education of Students in Foster Care, Students who are Homeless, former Juvenile Court Students now enrolled in a public school, Migratory Children and Children of Military Families;
- Every Student Succeeds Act;
- Migrant Education Programs;
- Regional Occupational Centers and Programs; and
- School Safety Plans.
- 3. Complaints alleging noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees. A student enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity. A pupil fee includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:
  - A fee charged to a pupil as a condition for registering for school or classes, or as a condition for participation in a class or an extracurricular activity, regardless of whether the class or activity is elective or compulsory or is for credit.
  - A security deposit, or other payment, that a pupil is required to make to obtain a lock, locker, book, class apparatus, musical instrument, clothes, or other materials or equipment.
  - A purchase that a pupil is required to make to obtain materials, supplies, equipment, or clothes associated with an educational activity.

Complaints of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees may be filed with the Executive Director or the Compliance Officer identified below.

4. Complaints alleging noncompliance with the requirements governing the Local Control Funding Formula ("LCFF") or Local Control and Accountability Plans ("LCAP") under Education Code sections 47606.5 and 47607.3, as applicable. If the Charter School adopts a School Plan for Student Achievement ("SPSA") in addition to its LCAP, complaints of noncompliance with the requirements of the SPSA under Education Code sections 64000, 64001, 65000, and 65001 shall also fall under the UCP.

Complaints alleging noncompliance regarding child nutrition programs established pursuant

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to Education Code sections 49490-49590 are governed by Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") sections 210.19(a)(4), 215.1(a), 220.13(c), 225.11(b), 226.6(n), and 250.15(d) and Title 5, California Code of Regulations ("C.C.R.") sections 15580 - 15584.

Complaints alleging noncompliance regarding special education programs established pursuant to Education Code sections 56000-56865 and 59000-59300 are governed by the procedures set forth in 5 C.C.R. sections 3200-3205 and 34 C.F.R. sections 300.151-300.153.

Complaints regarding state preschool health and safety issues in local educational agencies exempt from licensing are governed by 5 C.C.R. sections 4690-4694, except as otherwise indicated. The

Complaints other than complaints relating to pupil fees must be filed in writing with the following Compliance Officer:

Motivated Youth Academy
Operations and Program Manager
Title IX/Uniform Complaint Procedure Coordinator
500 La Terraza Blvd, Suite 150
Escondido, CA 92025
(619) 343-2048
admin@myacademy.org

Only complaints regarding pupil fees or LCAP compliance may be filed anonymously and only if the anonymous complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support an allegation of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees or LCAP.

Complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, must be filed within six (6) months from the date the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, occurred or the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying. All other complaints under the UCP shall be filed not later than one (1) year from the date the alleged violation occurred. For complaints relating to the LCAP, the date of the alleged violation is the date on which the Charter School's Board of Directors approved the LCAP or the annual update was adopted by the Charter School.

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The Compliance Officer responsible for investigating the complaint shall conduct and complete the investigation in accordance with California regulations and the Charter School's UCP Policy. The Compliance Officer shall provide the complainant with a final written investigation report ("Decision") within sixty (60) calendar days from the Charter School's receipt of the complaint. This sixty (60) calendar day time period may be extended by written agreement of the complainant.

The complainant has a right to appeal the Charter School's Decision to the California Department of Education ("CDE") by filing a written appeal within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the Charter School's written Decision, except if the Charter School has used its UCP to address a complaint that is not subject to the UCP requirements. The appeal must include a copy of the complaint filed with the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's Decision, and the complainant must specify and explain the basis for the appeal of the Decision, including at least one of the following:

- 1. The Charter School failed to follow its complaint procedures.
- 2. Relative to the allegations of the complaint, the Charter School's Decision lacks material findings of fact necessary to reach a conclusion of law.
- 3. The material findings of fact in the Charter School's Decision are not supported by substantial evidence.
- 4. The legal conclusion in the Charter School's Decision is inconsistent with the law.
- 5. In a case in which the Charter School's Decision found noncompliance, the corrective actions fail to provide a proper remedy.

A complainant who appeals the Charter School's Decision on a UCP complaint to the CDE shall receive a written appeal decision within sixty (60) calendar days of the CDE's receipt of the appeal, unless extended by written agreement with the complainant or the CDE documents exceptional circumstances and informs the complainant.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of the CDE's appeal Decision pursuant to 5 C.C.R. section 4633(f)(2) or (3), either party may request reconsideration by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction ("SSPI") or the SSPI's designee. The request for reconsideration shall specify and explain the reason(s) for contesting the findings of fact, conclusions of law, or corrective actions in the CDE's appeal Decision.

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If a UCP complaint is filed directly with the CDE and the CDE determines that it merits direct intervention, the CDE shall complete an investigation and provide a written decision to the complainant within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the complaint, unless the parties have agreed to extend the timeline or the CDE documents exceptional circumstances and informs the complainant.

If the Charter School finds merit in a UCP complaint, or the CDE finds merit in an appeal, the Charter School shall take corrective actions consistent with the requirements of existing law that will provide a remedy to the affected student and/or Educational Rights Holder as applicable.

A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of the Charter School's complaint procedures. Complainants may seek assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys. Civil law remedies that may be imposed by a court include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders. For unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying complaints arising under state law, however, a complainant must wait until sixty (60) calendar days have elapsed from the filing of an appeal with the CDE before pursuing civil law remedies. The moratorium does not apply to injunctive relief and is applicable only if the Charter School has appropriately, and in a timely manner, apprised the complainant of the complainant's right to file a complaint in accordance with 5 C.C.R. § 4622.

A copy of the UCP shall be available upon request free of charge and is available under the Appendices of this handbook. For further information on any part of the complaint procedures, including filing a complaint or requesting a hard copy of the UCP, please contact the Executive Director.

A copy of the TITLE IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination & Bullying COMPLAINT FORM is available on the following page and can also be <u>downloaded here</u>.

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### TITLE IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination & Bullying COMPLAINT FORM

Your Name:	Date:
Date of Alleged Incident(s):	
Name of Person(s) you have a complaint ago	inst:
List any witnesses that were present:	
Where did the incident(s) occur?	
detail as possible (i.e. specific statements	re the basis of your complaint by providing as much factual; what, if any, physical contact was involved; any verbalation, etc.) (Attach additional pages, if needed):
I hereby authorize the Charter Schonecessary in pursuing its investigation. I complaint is true and correct and complete	ol to disclose the information I have provided as it finds nereby certify that the information I have provided in this to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further understand ard could result in disciplinary action up to and including
Signature of Complainant	Date
Print Name	
To be completed by the Charter School:	
Received by:	Date
Follow up meeting with complainant held on	
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### Use of Student Information Learned from Social Media

The Charter School complies with all federal, state, and local guidelines regarding the gathering and/or maintenance of information about any enrolled student obtained from social media in the student's educational record. The Charter School gathers student information from social media. Such information shall be maintained in the Charter School's records with regard to the student and shall be destroyed within one (1) year after a student turns 18 years of age or within one (1) year after the student is no longer enrolled in the Charter School, whichever occurs first. A non-minor student or a student's Educational Rights Holder may access the student's records for examination of the information, request the removal of information or corrections made to information gathered or maintained by the Charter School by contacting the Executive Director.

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# Policy Appendix

All policies listed in the appendix are public record and meet the legal annual notice requirements.

### **Community Relations**

Access to Public Records Policy

COVID-19 Safe Reopening and Operation of Schools Policy

School Sponsored Field Trips and Cultural Excursions Policy

Suicide Prevention Policy

**Uniform Complaint Procedures Policy** 

### <u>Instruction</u>

130 Credit Graduation Path Policy

**Attendance Policy** 

**Independent Study Policy** 

Comprehensive School Safety Plan

Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Policy

Education for Foster Youth Policy

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Policy

**Local Assessments Policy** 

**Mathematics Placement Policy** 

Section 504 - Policy, Procedures, and Parent Rights

Special Education Assessment Requests Policy

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Special Education Certificate of Completion Policy

Special Education Independent Educational Evaluation Policy

#### **Personnel Services**

Mandated Reporter - Child Abuse Policy

#### **Student Services**

**Academic Integrity Policy** 

<u>Acceleration Policy</u>

<u>Acceptable Use Policy</u>

Cell Phones, Smartphones, Pagers, and Other Electronic Signaling Devices Policy

<u>Communicable Contagious or Infectious Disease Prevention</u>

Comprehensive Self-Harm and Suicide Policy and Procedures

Educational Records and Student Information Policy

Immunization Policy

Student Freedom of Speech and Expression Policy

Student Services Concepts and Roles

<u>Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination, and Bullying Policy</u>

<u>Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Student Nondiscrimination Policy</u>

Transcripts from Non-Accredited Institutions Policy

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# Coversheet

# Approval of New Policy

Section: X. Policy Development Item: A. Approval of New Policy

Purpose: Vote

Submitted by: Bill Dobson

**Related Material:** 

MYA 6005 Title I Educational Rights Holders and Family Engagement Policy - for board adoption - 2024.10.04.pdf

#### **BACKGROUND:**

It is recommended the Board approve the adoption of the new proposed policy. This policy will provide a strong foundation and address any issues that may be raised relative to board governance.

Federal "Title" Funding Notification Mandates

Charter schools receiving funding under Title I and III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA, a.k.a., the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) are required to provide parents with specified notifications. A school that receives Title I program dollars is required to notify parents of a copy of the school's Title I Educational Rights Holder/Family Engagement Policy.

NEW

6000 Series - Instruction

6005-MYA Title I Educational Rights Holders and Family Engagement Policy

**RECOMMENDATION:** 

It is recommended the Board approve the adoption of the new proposed policy as presented.

Fiscal Impact: None.

# TITLE I EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS HOLDERS AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Motivated Youth Academy and its programs ("MY Academy" or the "Charter School") has developed a written Education Rights Holders and Family Engagement Policy ("Policy") with input from Title I educational rights holders and families. MY Academy has distributed the Policy to educational rights holders of Title I students by posting it on the school website and including it in the Student and Educational Rights Holders Handbook. This Policy describes the means for carrying out the following Title I educational rights holders and family engagement requirements.

#### **MY Academy Expectations and Objectives**

In establishing the Charter School's expectations and objectives for meaningful parent and family involvement, MY Academy has established the following practices:

- 1. MY Academy involves educational rights holders and family members in the joint development of the Charter School's Educational Rights Holders and Family Engagement Plan.
  - a. Educational Partner Advisory Committee (EPAC) Meetings
  - b. School Site Council (SSC) Meetings
  - c. English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC) Meetings
  - d. Educational rights holders surveys
- 2. MY Academy provides the coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to build capacity within the Charter School in planning and implementing effective educational rights holders and family involvement activities to improve student performance. These activities may include; consultation with employers, business leaders, philanthropic organizations, or individuals with expertise in effectively engaging educational rights holders and family members in education.
  - a. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - b. Implementation of field trips, special programs, and marketing
  - c. School / Educational Partner Compact
  - d. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)
- 3. MY Academy coordinates and integrates educational rights holders and family engagement strategies to the extent feasible and appropriate, with other relevant federal, state, and local laws and programs.
  - a. English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC)
  - b. Title 1, Part A
  - c. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)
  - d. Educational Partner Advisory Committee (EPAC)

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# TITLE I EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS HOLDERS AND FAMILY **ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

- e. School Site Council (SSC)
- 4. MY Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of educational rights holders and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Policy in improving the academic quality at the Charter School.
  - a. Educational rights holders surveys
  - b. Local Control Accountability Plan engagement
  - c. Revisiting the Educational Rights Holders and Family Engagement Policy
  - d. Announcing teacher qualifications through Educational Rights Holders Right to Know Letters
  - e. Collaborating annually to update School / Educational Partner Compact
- 5. MY Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of educational rights holders and family members, an annual evaluation of barriers to greater participation by educational rights holders/families (with particular attention to educational rights holders who are economically disadvantaged, disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background).
  - a. EPAC
  - b. SSC
  - c. ELAC
  - d. LCAP
  - e. SPSA
  - f. Educational rights holders survey data.
  - g. Communication and access to the staff are conducted and available through regularly scheduled meetings, school email, GoTo Connect and Parsec communication, and school social media platforms.
  - h. Implementation of field trips, special programs, and marketing.
  - Translators and/or other accommodations are provided, upon request, in order to fully support family participation.
- 6. MY Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of educational rights holders and family members, an annual evaluation of the needs of educational rights holders and family members to assist with the learning of their children, including engaging with Charter School personnel and teachers.
  - a. EPAC
  - b. SSC
  - c. ELAC
  - d. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - e. Educational rights holders and educational partners surveys
  - f. LCAP and SPSA input

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# TITLE I EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS HOLDERS AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

- 7. MY Academy conducts, with the meaningful involvement of educational rights holders and family members, an annual evaluation of strategies to support successful Charter School and family interactions.
  - a. EPAC
  - b. SSC
  - c. ELAC
  - d. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - e. Educational rights holders and educational partners surveys
  - f. LCAP and SPSA input
- 8. MY Academy uses the findings of the annual evaluation to design evidence-based strategies for effective educational rights holder and family engagement, and to revise, if necessary, the Educational Rights Holders and Family Engagement Policy.
  - a. Leadership team evaluates the data received from the following items and makes the needed adjustments to increase effective educational rights holder and family engagement:
    - i. Educational rights holders and educational partners surveys
    - ii. ELAC
    - iii. EPAC
    - iv. SSC
    - v. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
    - vi. LCAP and SPSA input
- 9. MY Academy involves educational rights holders in the activities of the Charter School to adequately represent the needs of the population.
  - a. EPAC
  - b. SSC
  - c. ELAC
  - d. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - e. Educational rights holders and educational partners surveys
  - f. LCAP and SPSA input

#### **Involvement of Educational Rights Holders in the Title I Program**

To involve educational rights holders in the Title I program at MY Academy, the following practices have been established:

1. MY Academy convenes an annual meeting to inform educational rights holders of Title I students about Title I requirements and about the right of educational rights holders to be involved in the Title I program.

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# TITLE I EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS HOLDERS AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

- a. Meetings will be held virtually with email invitations sent out to all educational rights holders of Title 1 eligible students.
- 2. MY Academy offers a flexible number of meetings for Title I educational rights holders, such as meetings in the morning or evening.
  - a. The school will offer virtual meetings, along with an opportunity to submit questions.
- 3. MY Academy involves educational rights holders of Title I students in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of the Charter School's Title I programs and the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. This is completed through the following:
  - a. EPAC
  - b. SSC
  - c. ELAC
  - d. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - e. Educational rights holder surveys
  - f. LCAP and SPSA input
- 4. MY Academy provides educational rights holders of Title I students with timely information about Title I programs.
  - a. Student and Educational Rights Holders Handbook
  - b. Receipt of Policies
  - c. Continual school announcements & highlights through Smore newsletters
  - d. Direct communication via email to educational rights holders of Title I students
- 5. MY Academy provides educational rights holders of Title I students with an explanation of the curriculum used at the Charter School, the assessments used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
  - a. Student and Educational Rights Holder's Handbook
  - b. MY Academy's School website
  - c. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
- 6. If requested by educational rights holders of Title I students, MY Academy provides opportunities for regular meetings that allow the educational rights holder to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children.
  - a. Meeting will be held virtually for all educational rights holders of Title I eligible students

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# TITLE I EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS HOLDERS AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

b. LCAP educational rights holders information meeting

The Policy must be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of educational rights holders and the Charter School. If MY Academy has a process in place for involving educational rights holders in planning and designing the Charter School's programs, the school may use that process if it includes adequate representation of educational rights holders of Title I children.

#### **School / Educational Partner Compact**

MY Academy distributes to educational rights holders of Title I students a School / Educational Partner Compact (the "Compact"). The Compact, which has been jointly developed with educational rights holders, outlines how educational rights holders, the entire Charter School staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It describes specific ways the Charter School and families will partner to help children achieve the State's high academic standards. It addresses the following legally required items, as well as other items suggested by educational rights holders of Title I students.

- 1. MY Academy's responsibility is to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction to meet the challenging State academic standards.
- 2. The ways educational rights holders will be responsible for supporting their children's learning by participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time.
- 3. The importance of ongoing communication between educational rights holders and teachers through, at a minimum, monthly learning period meetings; frequent reports on student progress; access to staff; opportunities for educational rights holders to volunteer and participate in their child's education; and regular communication between family members and school staff,

The Charter School developed the Compact with Title I parent input and the Charter School distributes the Compact to Title I educational rights holder electronically. <u>Title I School / Educational Partner Compact</u>

#### **Building Capacity for Involvement**

MY Academy engages Title I educational rights holders in meaningful interactions with the Charter School. The Charter School supports a partnership among staff, educational rights holders, and the community to improve student academic achievement. To help reach these goals, MY Academy has established the following practices.

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# TITLE I EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS HOLDERS AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY

- 1. MY Academy provides Title I educational rights holders with assistance in understanding challenging state academic standards, state and local assessments, and how to monitor and improve the achievement of students.
  - a. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - b. MY Academy newsletters
  - c. Learning period meetings with Teacher of Record
  - d. Frequent communication via email, Parsec and Smore
- 2. MY Academy provides Title I educational rights holders with materials and training, as appropriate, to foster educational rights holder involvement, and to help them work with their children to improve their children's achievement.
  - a. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - b. Educational rights holder resources found on the MY Academy website
  - c. SSC, ELAC, and EPAC meetings
  - d. Observation of Live Interaction
  - e. Specially Designed Academic Instruction and Curriculum
- 3. With the assistance of Title I educational rights holders, MY Academy educates staff members about the value of educational rights holder contributions, and in how to reach out, communicate with, and work with educational rights holders as equal partners to implement and coordinate educational rights holder programs and build ties between educational rights holders and the Charter School.
  - a. Staff professional development

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- b. Staff participation in family and student outreach events
- 4. MY Academy coordinates and integrates the Title I educational rights holder involvement program with other programs, and conducts other activities to encourage and support educational rights holders in more fully participating in the education of their children.
  - a. Educational rights holder individual meetings with MY Academy staff, including the student's Teacher of Record
  - b. The school will provide educational rights holder and student outreach events.
- 5. MY Academy distributes information related to Charter School and educational rights holder programs, meetings, and other activities to Title I educational rights holders in a format and language that the educational rights holders understand.
  - a. Meeting will be held virtually with email invitations being sent out to all educational rights holders of Title I eligible students.
- 6. MY Academy provides support for educational rights holder involvement activities requested by Title I educational rights holders.

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# TITLE I EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS HOLDERS AND FAMILY **ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

- a. MY Academy will provide educational rights holder and student outreach events, such as Parent Orientation, Back to School Events, Field Trips, Take A Look Tuesday, Workforce Wednesday, and Think About It Thursday, etc.
- b. Translators and/or other accommodations are provided, upon request, in order to fully support family participation.

### **Accessibility**

MY Academy provides opportunities for the participation of all Title I educational rights holders and family members, including educational rights holders/family with limited English proficiency, educational rights holders/family with disabilities, and educational rights holders/family of migratory students. Information and school reports are provided in a format and language that educational rights holders/family understand.

- 1. Digital format that can be translated with the use of technology.
- 2. Interpretation services are available.
- 3. Information is presented in a way that is understandable by educational rights holders and accommodations are provided, as needed.
- 4. Information is presented visually and verbally, as applicable.

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