Memorandum of Understanding between
Mercer Island Education Association ("MIEA") and
Mercer Island School District ("District")
Regarding
Special Services During Back-Up Remote Learning

**Notification:** When a change of services is required because of a change in remote learning schedules, all affected staff will, to the maximum extent reasonable, be provided 48 hrs notice before being required to provide services consistent with the new/revised schedule.

**Additional Workload Supplemental for Certificated Staff During Building-Wide Remote Back-Up Instruction:**
The Association and District acknowledge that its P-21 special education classroom teacher, SLP, OT, PT, school psychologist (together, “Certificated Special Services Staff”) will have additional responsibilities related to preparing IEPs, completing other required special education paperwork, adjusting schedules and/or holding meetings with parents outside the normal workday as a result of a building-wide shift to remote back-up instruction schedules. In acknowledgement of that work, Certificated Special Services Staff shall receive a $500 supplemental, pro-rata by FTE, if a building shifts to a building-wide Remote Backup Instruction model for a period of four (4) or more consecutive school weeks.

**Asynchronous Instruction:** Students who receive Special Education services will be provided the same ratio of synchronous and asynchronous instruction as those not receiving these services unless otherwise specified through documentation in a student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) or CLP.

**Planning Time:** During remote back-up schedules, all certificated Special Services educators will retain the contractually required planning time (e.g., 210 minutes at elementary, etc.). If emergencies arise during a teacher’s preparation time, other staff, such as a Special Services Instructional Coaches, Board Certified Behavior Analysts, administrators, other instructional coaches, substitutes, etc. will be utilized before the teacher on a preparation period, where possible. If a teacher chooses to cover a class and/or perform teaching duties in the case of an emergency during their preparation time, they shall be compensated at the certificated hourly rate.

**Release Time:** When a Special Service educator’s schedule changes from in-person to remote and/or remote to in-person, said educator may request release time from the Special Services Director. The Special Services Director will discuss with the educator why release time is needed before making a decision on whether to grant the request. Such requests shall not be unreasonably denied.

**IEP Change in Service Protocols:**

1. During Remote Back-Up Schedule instruction, all decisions to provide in-person instruction will be based on student needs and designed to enable the student to continue progressing toward IEP goals. Any changes from the District-wide remote service schedule needs to be data-driven. Data from
previous IEPs and a student’s ability last year to access remote instruction may be used to inform the need for in-person instruction.

2. Special Services staff will create their own schedules in coordination with their Special Services team. Such schedules shall be coordinated with the general education schedules of the students, fulfill the SDI minutes outlined in student IEPs to the extent possible and practical given the then applicable health and safety guidance, and be informed by input from other relevant departments/services such as transportation.

This is a non-precedent setting Agreement and will sunset on August 15, 2022.

Donna Colosky  
Superintendent  
Oct 22, 2021  

Sally Loeser  
MIEA President  
Oct 24, 2021

Erin C. E. Battersby  
District Representative  
Oct 21, 2021  

Susan Hamp  
MIEA Representative  
Oct 22, 2021