

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE LAREDO
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND WEBB COUNTY FOR THE WEBB COUNTY
HEADSTART PROGRAM AT ALMA PIERCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is hereby entered into by and between the Laredo Independent School District, a Texas political subdivision (hereinafter referred to as "LISD"), and Webb County, Texas a political subdivision of the State of Texas on behalf of its Head Start Program (hereinafter referred to as Head Start).

a. Program Description

The purpose of this MOU is to establish the terms and conditions under which LISD and Head Start will share in the operation and monitoring of four (4) full day pre-kindergarten classrooms. This project will establish and provide four (4) collaborative pre-kindergarten classrooms with four (4) certified teachers from LISD at Alma Pierce Elementary School and teacher assistants from Head Start what will serve both three and four- year-old children who meet the eligibility regulations for pre-kindergarten enrollment as determined by the LISD/Webb County Head Start enrollment guidelines. In addition, LISD and Head Start will collaborate to integrate into each pre-kindergarten classroom, one teacher employed by LISD and one teacher assistant employed by Head Start to teach 3 and 4 year old students who qualify under current state and federal requirements in an LISD classroom using a state early childhood curriculum.

b. Term of Agreement

1. This Agreement becomes effective on the date of Laredo ISD Board and Webb County Approval, and will remain in effect through August 31, 2028.
2. This Agreement shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) scholastic calendar years (2023-2028).
3. Non-Appropriation of funds, both Webb and LISD shall use its best good faith efforts to appropriate sufficient funds for its financial obligations under this agreement for each fiscal year that this agreement remains in effect. Notwithstanding any language to the contrary in this Agreement, in the event sufficient funds are not appropriated by Webb and/or LISD to continue its financial obligations under this agreement for any fiscal year of the school district. Webb and/or LISD shall have the right to serve and terminate any provision of this Agreement creating a financial obligation on the district, effective the last day for the fiscal year for which appropriations were received without penalty or expenses to Webb and/or LISD. In the event of such non-appropriation, Webb and/or LISD shall provide the other party with written notice sixty (60) days prior to the end of its current fiscal year confirming that any such provisions will be so terminated.

c. Rights and Responsibilities of LISD

1. LISD will provide four (4) classrooms at Alma Pierce Elementary School with a 20 to 1 student ratio for PreK4 and a 17 to 1 student ratio for PreK3 as determined by the Webb County Head Start guidelines.
2. LISD will provide full day instruction from 7:45 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. in the shared classroom.
3. LISD will provide state approved curriculum and classroom resources for best practice classroom instruction.
4. LISD will provide regular staff development sessions to present the teacher with current best practice instructional methods.

5. LISD will provide daily attendance records to Head Start personnel.
6. LISD will provide one teacher for each of the (4) pre-kindergarten classrooms at Alma Pierce Elementary School x \$25,000.00 each per year for a total of \$100,000.00 to be paid by Webb. It is understood and agreed to by the parties that this teacher shall remain and employee of LISD and not an employee of Webb County and shall be subject to all of LISD's policies, regulations and procedures. LISD shall be responsible for the evaluation of the teacher provided pursuant to this Agreement.

d. Rights and Responsibilities of Head Start

1. Webb/Head Start shall pay to LISD the lump sum amount of \$100,000.00 per year to be paid September of each year for the four (4) teachers @ \$25,000.00 each as provided by LISD at Alma Pierce Elementary School. Head Start shall pay within thirty (30) days of its receipt of LISD's invoice.
2. Head Start will provide one teacher assistant for each of the four (4) classrooms. Head Start shall pay the full salary and benefits for the classroom teacher assistant. It is understood and agreed to by the parties that the teacher assistant shall remain an employee of Head Start and not an employee of LISD. The teacher assistant provided by Head Start is not entitled to receive employee benefits of any kind from LISD, including, but not limited to, unemployment compensation, workers' compensation, and health insurance (or alternative) and for payment of all federal, state and local taxes or contributions, including but not limited to unemployment insurance, social security, Medicare, and income taxes with respect to Head Start and its employee. Head Start shall be responsible for the evaluation of its teacher assistant provided pursuant to this Agreement.
3. Head Start teacher assistants in the integrated classrooms will meet the SB9 fingerprint, licensing and criminal history requirements.

e. PEIMS/ADA (average daily attendance)

LISD shall remain responsible for PEIMS/ADA (average daily attendance) reporting requirements for each of its students participating in the Program, and LISD will claim ADA in accordance with pre-kindergarten guidelines. LISD will comply with all TEA accountability system requirements for the students.

f. Confidentiality of Student Information

1. Both Parties agree to maintain, in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, records of all LISD students. The parent (a) of any authorized student shall have access to his or her child' s records. Any LISD/Head Start employee with a legitimate educational interest in any student's records as maintained by the Program shall have access to the said records.
2. In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") (20 U.S.C.§1232g) and LISD Board Policy series FL, all records relating to LISD students, which generated or maintained by any employee of the Program, shall be considered education records, whether or not the records are generated at the respective school district. Both parties shall maintain confidentiality of these and all educational records in accordance with all applicable state, federal and local laws and regulations, including FERPA and LISD/Head Start Board Policy series FL. The Parties shall not release education records to any third party without prior written consent by the student's parent or other person in lawful control of the

student or by a student who is 18 years of age or older, except as otherwise permitted by law.

g. Notices

Notices to the parties hereto required or appropriate under this Agreement shall be deemed sufficient if in writing and faxed or mailed, registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to:

TO: Laredo Independent School
District Attn.: Sylvia Guerra
Rios, PH.D.
2400 San Bernardo
Laredo, Texas 78040

TO: Webb County HeadStart
Attn.: Mrs. Aliza Oliveros, Executive Director
5904 West Drive, Suite 7
Laredo, Texas 78041

h. General Conditions

1. No Partnership or Joint Venture. This Agreement does not create a partnership or a joint venture between the Parties hereto, nor does it authorize either party to serve as the legal representative or agent of the other. Neither party will have any right or authority to assume, create, or incur any liability or any obligations of any kind, expressed or implied, against or in the name of or on behalf of the other party, except "as agree" in this MOU.
2. Partial invalidity. If any provision, section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Agreement, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances, shall, for any reason, be held by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof shall continue in full force and effect.
3. Integration. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter contained herein. No other agreement, statement, or promise made by or to any employee, officer, official, or agent of any party that is not contained herein shall be of any force or effect. Any modifications to the terms of this Agreement must be in writing and signed by the parties.
4. Indemnification. To the extent permitted by Article XI, Section 7 of the Texas Constitution, and with the mutual understanding that both LISD & Webb County are each political subdivisions of the State of Texas and that an indemnity obligation cannot be paid from current revenues and that no order, resolution, tax nor interest and sinking funds has been set, adopted or established for payment of this indemnity obligation, and without expanding either LISD and/or Webb County's liability beyond the statutory limits of the Texas Tort Claims Act of under existing law, allowed by the Texas Tort Claims Act or existing law, shall each indemnify and hold actions, or other claims of any character brought for or on account of injury to a person or property arising from LISD and/or Webb County's own acts of negligence in carrying out its obligations under this agreement.
5. Law of Texas. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and shall be enforced in the Webb County, Texas.

6. Amendment. No changes in this Agreement shall be made except upon written agreement of both parties.
7. Headings. The headings used herein are for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation hereof.
8. No Waiver. No delay on the part of any party hereto in exercising any right, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any waiver on the part of any here of any such right, power or privilege, preclude any further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege.
9. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of and by the different parties hereto on a separate counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same document.
10. Rule of Construction. The parties hereto acknowledge that each party and its legal counsel have reviewed and revised this Agreement, and the parties hereby agree that the normal rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this Agreement or any amendments or exhibits hereto.
11. No Waiver of immunity. Neither Head Start nor LISD waive or relinquish any Immunity or defense on behalf of themselves, their trustees, commissioners, officers, employees and agents as a result of the execution of this Agreement and performance of the functions and obligations described herein .
12. Legal Compliance. The parties hereto agree to comply fully with all applicable federal, state and local statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations in connection with the programs contemplated under this agreement. This agreement is subject to all applicable present and future valid laws governing the Juvenile Justice Programs applicable to school district and for County Juvenile Probation Departments. In the event that any of the parties hereto are required by law or regulation to perform any act inconsistent with this agreement, or to cease performing any act required by this agreement, this agreement shall be deemed to have been modified to conform to the requirements of such law, regulations or rule.
13. Prohibition Against Assignment. There shall be no assignment or transfer of this Agreement without the prior written consent of both parties hereto.

Executed this ___ day of July, 2023

THE LAREDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

DR. SYLVIA G. RIOS P.H.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

Executed this ___ day of July, 2023

WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

TANO E. TIJERINA
WEBB COUNTY JUDGE

ATTESTED:

MARGIE RAMIREZ-IBARRA
WEBB COUNTY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ray Rodriguez
Assistant General Counsel
Webb County Civil Legal Division*

**The General Counsel, Civil Legal Division's office, may only advise or approve contracts or legal documents on behalf of its clients. It may not advise or approve a contract or legal document on behalf of other parties. Our review of this document was conducted solely from the legal perspective of our client. Our approval of this document was offered solely for the benefit of our client. Other parties should not rely on this approval, and should seek review and approval of their own respective attorney(s).*

Passed and approved by the Webb County Commissioners Court
On July 10th, 2023; Item No. .