MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
between
Seattle School District No. 1
and the
Seattle Education Association
To implement a districtwide
COVID screening testing program

This Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) is entered into by and between Seattle School District No. 1 (“District”) and the Seattle Education Association (“SEA”) (collectively the “Parties”) in support of the implementation of a districtwide COVID screening testing program to an additional prevention measure to the District’s existing COVID health and safety protocols.

The Parties agree to the following:

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW. COVID screening testing provides an additional COVID prevention measure to school communities. Screening testing involves testing individuals without symptoms who do not have known or suspected exposure to COVID to make decisions based on the test results.

The District will pilot a COVID screening testing program (“Program”) in 5-10 District schools beginning in the winter of the 2021-22 school year (“Pilot Program”). Entire schools or programs/courses within a school will be asked to volunteer to participate in the Program’s Pilot Program and priority will be given to elementary schools (due to inability of students to be vaccinated) and schools or programs/courses within schools with higher incidences of quarantine (as compared to other district schools) or higher levels of risk due to the activity/characteristics of the program/course. Schools with high incidences of quarantine or programs/courses within schools with higher incidences of quarantine or higher levels of risk will be informed and encouraged to volunteer for Pilot Program participation.
2. OPT-IN PROCESS. To opt-in to the Pilot Program, the school or program/course must first identify all staff that will be impacted by Program participation and confirm there is unanimous support and willingness to participate before indicating an interest in being selected for the Pilot Program. The District will provide detailed information about the Program, staff roles and responsibilities, and testing processes to assist schools or programs/courses in identifying all staff who will be impacted and to permit staff to make an informed decision.

3. PARTICIPATION. Once the Program is made available to a school, the COVID screening testing will be available to all students and school employees who are willing and able to self-swab their nose for a COVID test. The Program will test classrooms at least once per week but may increase in frequency to twice per week if levels of community transmission are trending and/or remain higher.

4. EDUCATOR SUPPORT. Educators at schools participating in the Program will assist with the screening testing. The educator’s role will be that of a test observer and will ensure that tests are distributed to their participating students, observe as participating students swab their noses, and collect completed tests. Program participation is voluntary. No student, including all students whose parent/guardian consented to participation in the Program, will be required/forced to swab their nose or subjected to discipline for failing to swab their nose. Educators may provide motivational encouragement to students who are hesitant to swab if the educator believes in their professional judgment that the student can provide a sample and their encouragement will be helpful to the student to successfully provide a sample for testing.

5. TRAINING. Training will be provided to all classroom educators who will act as test observers. The educator training will detail how to facilitate screening testing for a group of students and detail the Program processes from the initial requirement of receiving parent/guardian consent to sample collection, parameters and boundaries for assistance
with SPED students who participate, lab testing, time to receive results, and next steps should a positive result be reported.

The District will also provide Program training to parents/guardians in formats deemed to be most effective and accessible. The training will urge parents/guardians to educate their student(s) and practice the testing process with them at home with the goal for students to come to school at the outset of the Program prepared to participate.

6. ASSESSMENT. The Pilot Program will be jointly assessed after four weeks to determine feasibility for District Program expansion. Expansion feasibility will be based upon vendor(s) ability to increase capacity; school population participation rate; educator, administrator, and other involved staff feedback; overall perception of program success, and other related operational considerations. At the four-week Pilot Program assessment date and any additional assessment dates, a decision will be made jointly by the District and SEA to either: scale up the Program; extend the pilot an additional two weeks for additional assessment; or discontinue the Program.

7. TERM. This MOA shall terminate one-week after the pilot program is assessed (as described in § 6., Assessment, above) unless extended by mutual agreement of the Parties.

THIS MOA SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE AS OF THE LAST DATE OF SIGNATURE. BY SIGNING BELOW, EACH SIGNATORY REPRESENTS IT HAS THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE THIS AGREEMENT.

SEATTLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

Authorized Signature  
Printed Name  
Title  
Date  

SEATTLE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Authorized Signature  
Printed Name  
Title  
Date