

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
REGARDING DALLAS COUNTY JUVENILE  
JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM**

This Memorandum of Understanding (sometimes referred to herein as “Agreement”) is entered into pursuant to the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 791 and Texas Education Code, Chapter 37, and is entered into to be effective August 1, 2011. The Parties to this Agreement are, the Dallas County Juvenile Board (“DCJB”), Region 10 Education Service Center and the following educational entities: Carrollton-Farmers Branch Independent School District, Cedar Hill Independent School District, Coppell Independent School District, Dallas Independent School District, DeSoto Independent School District, Duncanville Independent School District, Garland Independent School District, Grand Prairie Independent School District, Highland Park Independent School District, Irving Independent School District, Lancaster Independent School District, Mesquite Independent School District, Richardson Independent School District, and Sunnyvale Independent School District (hereinafter referred to collectively as the “ISDs”).

**RECITALS:**

**WHEREAS:**

(1) Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code requires that in those counties with a population of 125,000 or more, juvenile boards and independent school districts must work cooperatively to provide alternative education programs. The responsibilities of school districts and county juvenile boards as to the operation and funding of such programs must be outlined in a joint memorandum of understanding pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 37.011 (k); and

(2) The educational spectrum available for youth provided under Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code requires the creation of alternative education programs in each independent school district operating in Dallas County and the creation of a Dallas County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (DCJJAEP). This partnership between the DCJB and the ISDs necessitates a memorandum of understanding defining the Parties' responsibilities to ensure the success of such alternative education programs; and

(3) The ISDs wish to reach an agreement with the DCJB as to the placement of students expelled from school under the provisions of Texas Education Code Sections 37.007 (b), (c), and (f); and

(4) The Dallas County Juvenile Board, Dallas County Schools, Region 10 Education Service Center, and the ISDs agree that the goals of this Memorandum of Understanding are (a) to establish consistency, predictability, and appropriateness of curriculum options and student placement following expulsion from school; (b) to return students to the school setting when appropriate; (c) to impress upon youth that there are progressive sanctions for misconduct in the public school setting; (d) to provide educational options for the juvenile courts, consistent with the progressive sanctions in the juvenile justice system where appropriate; and (e) to comply with the requirements of Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.

NOW THEREFORE, BY THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY THE PARTIES AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION ONE: DEFINITIONS**

1.1 For purposes of this Agreement, the following definitions shall be used:

- (A) “**Academic review team**” shall mean those persons responsible for reviewing a student’s academic progress in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 37.011(d); that is, the DCJB or its designee, and the parent or guardian of the student.
- (B) “**Discretionary expulsion**” shall refer to any student who is removed from the school setting for conduct for which expulsion is permitted but not required pursuant to the provisions of Texas Education Chapter 37. The term “discretionary expulsion” shall also refer to students who are registered sex offenders and who are removed from the regular educational setting and placed in the DCJJAEP pursuant to this Agreement.
- (C) “**Liaison**” shall be a person designated to act on behalf of a party to this Agreement with authority to bind such party regarding the day-to-day operation of the DCJJAEP. Each party to this Agreement shall designate a primary and alternate liaison and shall notify all other parties of such designation in writing within a reasonable period after execution of this Agreement. In the event no designation is made, the superintendent of schools / county judge shall be the designated liaison for that party for purposes of such communications.
- (D) “**Mandatory expulsion**” shall refer to any student who is removed from the school setting for conduct for which expulsion is required pursuant to the provisions of Texas Education Code Chapter 37.

- (E) “**Student**” shall mean any person age ten years or older and admitted into the public schools of an ISD under this MOU under Texas Education Code 25.001(b).
- (F) The term “**good days**,” when used in the in the context of the expulsion period, means that the student is in attendance and in compliance with the behavior standards set forth in the DCJJAEP Code of Conduct. The Governance Committee will review and approve the DCJJAEP Code of Conduct.

**SECTION TWO: STUDENT CODES OF CONDUCT**

2.1 The DCJJAEP will be created and operated pursuant to Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code and this Memorandum of Understanding. Each ISD has developed a Student Code of Conduct, specifying the circumstances under which a student may be removed from a classroom, campus, or alternative education program.

2.2 The Student Code of Conduct adopted by each ISD shall set forth the circumstances under which youth will be subject to removal from the school setting and placement in the DCJJAEP. Each ISD agrees to adopt, as part of its Student Code of Conduct, the following definitions of serious and persistent misbehavior that may result in removal from the school district alternative education program under Texas Education Code Section 37.007 (c):

- (A) “Serious misbehavior” shall include, but not be limited to, the following conduct:
  - (1) Assault of a teacher or other individual;
  - (2) Retaliation against a school employee;
  - (3) The unlawful or prohibited use, gift, sale, delivery, possession, or being under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, other controlled substances, dangerous drugs or abuse of glue or volatile chemicals;
  - (4) Aggressive action that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
  - (5) Public lewdness;
  - (6) Indecent exposure; and
  - (7) Continuous sexual abuse, sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault committed against another student (either on or off campus).

(B) “Persistent misbehavior” shall mean two or more violations of an ISD’s Student Code of Conduct as listed below, or three or more violations of an ISD’s Code of Conduct not listed below, where there are documented interventions of these behaviors:

- (1) Engaging in conduct that constitutes criminal mischief;
- (2) Vandalism;
- (3) Extortion, coercion or blackmail;
- (4) Aggressive, disruptive action or group demonstration that substantially disrupts or materially interferes with school activities;
- (5) Hazing;
- (6) Profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures directed toward teachers or other school employees;
- (7) Fighting;
- (8) Sexual harassment of a student or District employee;
- (9) Falsification of records, passes, or other school-related documents; and
- (10) Possession or distribution of pornographic materials.

A student may be subject to discretionary expulsion for serious or persistent misbehavior only if the student, while placed in an alternative education program for disciplinary reasons, engages in such misbehavior. In the case of persistent misbehavior, such misbehavior shall typically occur on two or more occasions before the student is subject to discretionary expulsion. An ISD may, however, allow a student to be expelled from the regular school program and placed in the JJAEP for violations of Texas Education Code Sections 37.007(b) or (f) and pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 37.0051. It is understood by the Parties to this Agreement that such expulsions shall be limited to conduct considered by the school district to be of a serious nature, or likely to substantially interfere with the ISD’s educational programs.

2.3 Pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 37.309(b)(1), a student who is a registered sex offender and is removed from the regular educational program pursuant to Subchapter I, Chapter 37, Texas Education Code, shall be placed in the DCJJAEP in the same manner as a discretionary placement student pursuant to Section 4 of this Agreement. Pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 37.310, funding for

students placed in the DCJJAEP under this paragraph shall be paid in the same manner as discretionary expulsion students under Section 12 of this Agreement.

**SECTION THREE: GOVERNANCE OF DCJJAEP**

3.1 Composition of Governing Body - The DCJJAEP shall operate as a function of the Dallas County Juvenile Board, independent and apart from the other parties to this Memorandum of Understanding. It shall not be an independent political subdivision, nor shall it operate under the direction or control of any party to this Memorandum of Understanding other than the DCJB. All final decisions regarding the operation of the DCJJAEP shall be made by the DCJB, consistent with this Agreement.

3.2 Governance Committee - The role of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall be to provide advice and consultation to the DCJB in matters involving the operation of the DCJJAEP. Upon execution of this Memorandum of Understanding, the DCJB will establish a DCJJAEP Governance Committee consisting of one administrative representative from each ISD, said representatives to be chosen by the respective ISD, one representative of the Region 10 Education Service Center, and two additional representatives designated by the DCJB. The DCJJAEP administrator shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Governance Committee. In making appointments to the Governance Committee, all parties to the Memorandum of Understanding agree to make their best effort to appoint representatives that reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity of the student population served by the DCJJAEP.

3.3 Quorum and Voting - A majority of the members of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall constitute a quorum. The DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall act by and through resolutions, motions or orders adopted or passed by the DCJJAEP Governance Committee upon the vote of the majority of the members of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee attending the meeting at which the issue was presented.

3.4 Voting Rights - Each member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. In the event of a tie vote, the Chair shall have two votes.

3.5 Chair and Vice-Chair - At the initial meeting of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee, the members in attendance shall select a Chair and Vice-Chair by the affirmative vote of a majority of the

members. The Chair shall preside over the meetings of the Committee and shall be responsible for scheduling regular and special called meetings of the Committee, including the provision of notice thereof. In the absence or disability of the Chair, his/her duties shall be performed and his/her powers may be exercised by the Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair shall generally assist the Chair and shall have such powers and shall perform such duties and services as shall from time to time be prescribed or delegated to him or her by the Chair of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee.

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall serve in their respective capacities until tendering written resignation(s), or until replacement by a majority vote of the members of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be entitled to vote on all matters coming before the DCJJAEP Governance Committee.

3.6 Meetings - The DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall hold regular meetings at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the Committee. Meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, and procedures for meetings shall be governed by the most current version of *Robert's Rules of Order*. Special meetings of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall be called by the Chair, or by affirmative vote of not less than one-third (1/3) of the members of the Committee.

3.7 Notice of Meetings - Written notice of all meetings of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall be posted at the place(s) for posting notice of public meetings of each of the Parties hereto in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. The Chair of the Governance Committee shall transmit to each member of the Governance Committee a notice for the purpose of such posting not less than five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting. Notice shall be given by or at the general direction of Chair of the Committee, or the members calling the meeting.

3.8 Duties - The duties of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- (A) To develop recommended operating policies and review the operations, policies and procedures of the DCJJAEP, and to make advisory recommendations to the DCJB regarding such operations, policies, and procedures including suggested changes or amendments thereto;

- (B) To periodically evaluate and report to the parties regarding the ongoing success of the DCJJAEP in providing alternative education to students within the DCJJAEP;
- (C) To participate in an advisory capacity in the development of the annual operating budget for the DCJJAEP, including adjustments to the annual per student rate charged to each member ISD for discretionary expulsion students served by the DCJJAEP; to recommend the initial criteria for, and thereafter monitor the ISDs' billing and payment schedule for the DCJJAEP; and to monitor reimbursement to the Fiscal Agent (as hereinafter defined) for its administrative expenses in connection with its responsibilities as set forth in Section Twelve herein;
- (D) To review the contractual arrangements of the DCJB with any providers of goods and services in connection with the creation and operation of the DCJJAEP, and to make recommendations to the DCJB in connection with such contracts;
- (E) To advise the local community of all matters within the public interest relating to the creation, operation and performance results of the DCJJAEP;
- (F) To facilitate coordination with the parties to this Memorandum of Understanding on matters relating to the supervision, educational and rehabilitative services available for expelled students and students assigned to the DCJJAEP and the subsequent transition through the ISDs' alternative education programs;
- (G) To assist the Chief Probation Officer in developing a priority system for acceptance of discretionary expulsion student in the DCJJAEP in the event space becomes limited;
- (H) To formulate and recommend other policies or procedures as appropriate to the governance of the DCJJAEP as may be necessary to obtain approval of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission and DCJB; and
- (I) To establish a permanent legislative committee whose function shall be to monitor, raise awareness of and communicate issues regarding the DCJJAEP which the legislative committee deems appropriate for legislative attention.

3.9 Conflict of Interest - No member of the DCJJAEP Governance Committee shall participate in any vote or discussion upon any matter in which the Committee member, or any person related to that member within the second degree of affinity or consanguinity, has a pecuniary interest. In the event of a conflict of interest the Committee member shall state the nature of such conflict and thereafter shall refrain from further participation in the matter.

**SECTION FOUR: STUDENT PLACEMENT IN DCJJAEP**

4.1 The parties to this Agreement acknowledge that Texas Education Code Section 37.010(a) requires that every student who is not detained or receiving treatment under an order of the juvenile court

must be enrolled in an educational program. It is therefore the intent of the parties that the DCJJAEP provide education services to all students who have been removed from the school setting and who are under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

4.2 Students who are removed from the school district setting will be afforded due process at the ISD as provided by school district policy and federal and state law.

4.3 Any student who has been removed from a school district setting may be referred for placement in either the DCJJAEP or in the appropriate school district alternative educational program upon recommendation of the Case Review Committee as further defined in Section Five herein.

4.4 Every party to this Agreement shall designate a Liaison as defined in Section 1.1(C), who shall be the person responsible for day-to-day communications with the other parties to this Agreement concerning the operation of the DCJJAEP.

4.5 Each ISD shall use its best efforts to notify DCJB's designated liaison in writing as soon as practicable upon the ISD's identification of a student who the ISD reasonably believes has engaged in conduct for which the student will be subject to mandatory expulsion. Such notice shall be given in addition to any notice required under Texas Family Code Section 52.041. If the DCJB's designated liaison receives written notice under this section that a student is believed to have engaged in conduct for which the ISD reasonably believes the student will be subject to mandatory expulsion, and the student is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the juvenile court shall be requested to order the student to attend the DCJJAEP as soon as practicable, pending the outcome of any disciplinary proceedings at the ISD.

4.6 It is the intent of the parties to this Agreement to request that every student who has been removed from an ISD as a mandatory expulsion, and for whom information has been provided by the ISD from which the student has been removed to the juvenile court in accordance with Texas Family Code Section 52.041, be ordered by the juvenile court to enroll in the DCJJAEP as soon as reasonably practicable after the juvenile court's receipt of such notice. It is the intent of the parties to the Agreement that every student who has been removed from an ISD as a discretionary expulsion, and for whom information has been provided by the ISD from which the student has been removed to the juvenile court in accordance with Texas



Family Code Section 52.041, be ordered by the juvenile court to enroll in the DCJJAEP as soon as reasonably practicable after the juvenile court's receipt of such notice, so long as adequate space is available in the DCJJAEP. Any juvenile court order placing a student in a residential placement during the student's period of assignment to the DCJJAEP shall run in concurrence with that assignment unless a local ISD's policy dictates otherwise. In the event that sufficient space is unavailable in the DCJJAEP, a discretionary expulsion student may be ordered by the juvenile court to attend the alternative education program operated by the ISD from which the student was expelled until such time as space becomes available in the DCJJAEP; in the event space later becomes available in the DCJJAEP, it is the intention of the parties that the order shall provide that the student be assigned to the DCJJAEP for the time remaining in the student's period of removal. It is the intent of the parties that there be no material interruption in the provision of educational services to expelled students under this Memorandum of Understanding.

4.7 Any student who has not been removed from the school setting, but is recommended for placement in the DCJJAEP by the juvenile department, or is court-ordered to that placement shall be admitted if space is available. Mandatory and discretionary expulsions from ISDs take priority in such instances.

4.8 Failure of an ISD to timely notify the juvenile court of a student's expulsion pursuant to Texas Family Code Section 52.041 shall result in the ISD's duty to continue to educate that student until such time as the notification to the DCJB is properly made.

4.9 The DCJB shall, for each student taken into custody for conduct that occurred on school property or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, use its best efforts to ascertain whether the conduct for which the student was taken into custody would subject the student to mandatory expulsion. If the DCJB ascertains that the conduct for which the student was taken into custody is such that it would subject the student to mandatory expulsion, the juvenile court may immediately order the student to attend the DCJJAEP, pending resolution of the disciplinary action, including any due process hearings, at the ISD.

4.10 It is the intent of the Parties hereto that for each expelled student who is placed in the DCJJAEP, the term of such placement will be coterminous with the term of the student's expulsion from school. Students must remain in the DCJJAEP for the full period ordered by the juvenile court unless the

student's home school district agrees to accept the student before the date ordered by the juvenile court. The juvenile court shall be requested to consider the term of a student's expulsion in entering any order as to the student, including terms and conditions of release from custody, deferred prosecution, or probation. At the conclusion of the student's term of probation, or any other requirement imposed by the juvenile court, including conditions of a deferred prosecution ordered by the court, and providing the student meets the requirements for admission into the public schools established by law, the school district in which the student resides shall readmit the student, but may assign such student to the school district alternative education program.

4.11 In order to avoid undue disruption in the educational process for students attending DCJJAEP under this Agreement, in assigning a term of expulsion, the ISD expelling the student shall consider a term of expulsion as follows:

- (A) For mandatory placements, a term of 90 to 180 good days; and
- (B) For discretionary placements, a term of 90 to 180 days with a review at 50 days for possible exit at 60 days, contingent upon the student's academic progress, attendance and adherence to the rules, policies and procedures of the DCJJAEP.

The term of expulsion will terminate on the Friday following the completion of the assigned days, or at the conclusion of the next six or nine week grading period, with the mutual agreement of the expelling ISD and the DCJJAEP.

4.12 In the event a student engages in conduct for which the student may be subject to expulsion, and the student seeks to withdraw from school prior to receiving a hearing and a final order of expulsion, the ISDs agree that all procedural requirements will be completed to finalize an expulsion order before finalizing the student withdrawal.

4.13 Neither student nor parents or guardian of a student placed in the DCJJAEP shall be required to pay a fee, including an entrance fee or supply fee, for participating in the DCJJAEP unless law authorizes such fee.

## **SECTION FIVE: CASE REVIEW COMMITTEES**

5.1 The Case Review Committee is hereby created for the purpose of:

- (A) Verifying the appropriateness of a mandatory or discretionary expulsion;
- (B) Assuring that the documents for enrollment in the DCJJAEP are included in the student records for each student referred to the DCJJAEP;
- (C) Reviewing with school district personnel the interventions that were implemented on discretionary expulsions for persistent misconduct. Such interventions include, but are not limited to, parental conferences, behavior contracts, counseling, etc.;
- (D) Reviewing the need for related services of expelled special education students as mandated in the ARD / IEP document;
- (E) Requesting that the school district fax any incomplete information to the DCJJAEP within two working days of the CRC meeting; and
- (F) Returning any cases that do not meet the eligibility requirements in this Agreement to the sending ISD and notifying the Governance Committee representative.

5.2 The Case Review Committee shall review and make placement recommendations for those students who have been removed from an ISD's regular educational program and for whom placement in the DCJJAEP under this Agreement is authorized. The Case Review Committee shall be composed of, but not limited to, four members: the ISD representative making the referral, the ISD Special Education representative, one certified teacher from the service provider and two representatives of the DCJB, one of whom is the chairman. It is strongly recommended the ISD provide Special Education representation. The DCJJAEP school administrator or his or her designee will participate as an ex officio member of the Case Review Committee.

5.3 It is the intent of this Memorandum of Understanding that the Case Review Committee shall review the placement of all students who are expelled from the school setting as soon as possible. The Case Review Committee shall then make appropriate recommendations to the DCJJAEP, the juvenile court, and/or the ISDs regarding placement recommendations for such students. The Case Review Committee shall review the placement of each student expelled from school as expeditiously as possible to avoid delay in the provision of educational services to students served under this Memorandum of Understanding.

5.4 In making appointments to the Case Review Committee, all parties to the Memorandum of

Understanding agree to make best efforts to appoint representatives that reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity of the students served by the DCJJAEP.

**SECTION SIX: SPECIAL EDUCATION**

6.1 The DCJB shall provide instructional services in compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) Amendments of 2004. The ISD in which a student resides retains responsibility for providing and funding related services specified in the Individualized Education Program to eligible students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act.

6.2 The DCJB and the ISDs shall cooperate in the provision of related services to students placed in the DCJJAEP. In order to facilitate the development of special education procedures, and to provide consultation to the Governance Committee and the DCJJAEP regarding the provision of services to special needs students, the Special Education Procedures Committee is hereby established as a sub-committee of the Governance Committee. Members of the Special Education Procedures Committee shall be appointed by the Governance Committee, and shall meet at least annually, or as requested by the Governance Committee. The Special Education Procedures Committee shall be charged with responsibility for developing procedures for placing special education students in the DCJJAEP, providing services while in the DCJJAEP, transitioning special education students back into the regular campus setting, and making recommendations to the Governance Committee regarding any policies and procedures the Special Education Procedures Committee deems beneficial to the provision of the continuum of special education services to students served in the DCJJAEP.

6.3 The ISDs shall provide reasonable notice, preferably five school days, to the administrator of the DCJJAEP to participate in any ISD's Admission, Review and Dismissal Committee (ARD) meeting where placement in the DCJJAEP will be considered or when reviewing or modifying the program of a student in the DCJJAEP. A copy of the student's current individualized education program (IEP) must be provided to the JJAEP administrator or designee with the notice. If the JJAEP representative is unable to attend the ARD committee meeting, the representative must be given the opportunity to participate in the

meeting through alternative means including participation by telephone conference call. The ISDs will be responsible for scheduling and sending notices of ARD meetings during the period of expulsion, and for giving notice to the DCJJAEP Liaison of such ARD meetings. For students receiving services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Admission, Review and Dismissal Committee meetings shall satisfy the requirement for academic review team meetings as otherwise required in Section 7.1 herein.

6.4 If, after placement of a student with disabilities in the DCJJAEP under this Agreement, the administrator of the DCJJAEP has concerns that the student's educational or behavioral needs cannot be met in the DCJJAEP, the administrator (or his/her designee) shall immediately provide written notice to the ISD from which the student was expelled. Upon receipt of such notice, the ISD shall convene an ARD committee meeting to reconsider the placement of the student in the program, giving reasonable advance notice to the administrator of the DCJJAEP. A representative of the DCJJAEP may participate in the ARD committee meeting to the extent that the meeting relates to the student's placement or continued placement in the DCJJAEP.

**SECTION SEVEN: ACADEMIC REVIEW AND TRANSITION**

7.1 The DCJB or its designee, together with the parent or guardian of each student, shall regularly review the student's academic progress. In the case of a high school student, the board or the board's designee, together with the student's parent or guardian, shall review the student's progress towards meeting high school graduation requirements and shall establish a graduation plan for the student. The DCJJAEP is not required to provide a course necessary to fulfill a student's high school graduation requirements other than a course specified under Texas Education Code Section 37.011(d).

7.2 The DCJB shall provide to the ISDs a summative evaluation of the performance of all students served by the DCJJAEP on an annual basis. Such evaluation shall reflect the academic performance of students served in the DCJJAEP each year, as well as providing follow-up with former students of the DCJJAEP. The ISDs shall assist the DCJJAEP in developing meaningful performance measurement criterion, and in providing follow-up data for former DCJJAEP students who return to the school setting. All

Parties shall use their best efforts to work collaboratively to capture meaningful performance data, as well as follow-up information on students returning to the ISDs.

7.3 A teacher employed by the DCJJAEP who holds certification granted under Texas Education Code Section 21.031, *et seq.*, must review all academic work of the student prior to the student's exit from the DCJJAEP and return to the school district, and must certify completion of course work based upon a determination that the student has mastered the essential knowledge and skills for a course at the seventieth percentile pursuant to Section 28.002, Texas Education Code. In accordance with Texas Education Code Section 37.011(d), such certification must be accepted by the school district and all course credit earned by the student while at the DCJJAEP shall be reflected on the student's school district transcript.

7.4 Prior to completion of a student's placement in the DCJJAEP, the DCJJAEP's designee shall develop, together with the student's parent or guardian, a plan for the student's transition to the regular school setting.

**SECTION EIGHT: ADMINISTRATION OF ALL REQUIRED STATE TESTING**

8.1 In accordance with Texas Education Code Section 37.011(d), the parties agree that state mandated assessment instruments shall be administered to all students enrolled in the DCJJAEP, except where such students are exempt from such testing by an ARD committee or other legal authority. The parties agree that they will cooperate in the acquisition of testing materials, scheduling, and as otherwise necessary in order to facilitate assessment instrument administration. The DCJB shall be responsible for administering assessment instruments to those students enrolled in the DCJJAEP. Prior to scheduled testing dates, the parties will communicate regarding the most efficient method of obtaining secured testing materials for all students placed in the DCJJAEP, and the DCJB and the ISDs will cooperate in the acquisition of such materials for students in the DCJJAEP. Each ISD shall provide to the DCJJAEP administrator the name of a responsible contact person who shall have responsibility, on behalf of each ISD, for coordination of administration of statewide assessment instruments for that ISD's students enrolled in the DCJJAEP. The DCJB shall be responsible for returning all testing material to the appropriate TEA agent.

**SECTION NINE: DCJJAEP FACILITIES AND STAFFING**

9.1 Facilities and staffing for the DCJJAEP shall be the responsibility of the DCJB and may be provided by the DCJB.

9.2 The DCJB agrees to provide periodic evaluations of the effectiveness of the DCJJAEP. Such evaluations shall include but not be limited to external evaluation of student performance, fiscal audits, review of student records, classroom observations, surveys of students, parents and ISDs.

**SECTION TEN: TRANSPORTATION**

10.1 Each ISD shall be responsible for providing transportation services for students attending the DCJJAEP, either directly or through an agreement with Dallas County Schools.

**SECTION ELEVEN: RELEASE OF STUDENT AND JUVENILE RECORDS**

11.1 The governing body of each party to this Memorandum of Understanding finds that in order to appropriately serve students receiving services under this Memorandum of Understanding, the sharing of information pertinent to the provision of juvenile justice, education and rehabilitation services is essential and in the best interests of the students served. Each party to this Memorandum of Understanding further agrees that any juvenile and/or educational record shared under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be kept strictly confidential, and shall only be released to persons with legitimate educational, behavioral and/or treatment-related interests in the student affected.

11.2 Upon referral of a student to the DCJJAEP, the student's home school district shall forward to the DCJJAEP the same records it is required to forward to another public school when a student transfers. The student's home school shall provide the following records to the DCJJAEP:

- (A) For students in middle school, the student's Middle School Plan, which is a list of courses offered, by grade level, and the course credit earned by the student;
- (B) For students in grades 9-12, the student's Graduation Plan, which lists the sequence of courses needed for graduation and the course credit earned by the student;
- (C) The student's current transcript including all achievement test scores recorded on that document;
- (D) The student's current year report card;

- (E) A withdrawal form, which shall indicate the current courses in which the student is enrolled, the current earned grade, and the textbook and other instructional resources being used with that subject;
- (F) The student's records related to State-mandated testing;
- (G) The student's current year attendance record;
- (H) The student's latest Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) documents, the Manifestation Determination (MD), the Individualized Education Program (IEP) and the student's Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP), in accordance with Paragraph 6.1 of this Memorandum of Understanding;
- (I) The student's health records;
- (J) The student's home language survey;
- (K) For mandatory expulsions, a police service number must be included; and
- (L) As soon as is practicable, the student's home school district shall forward the student's previous year's attendance record.

**SECTION TWELVE: FUNDING FOR DCJJAEP AND FISCAL AGENT**

12.1 Base Rate - The base rate, as established by DCJB, will be charged for each discretionary expulsion student enrolled in the DCJJAEP. The base rate for those students admitted to the JJAEP for the 2011 – 2012 school year shall be an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fourteen Dollars (\$114.00) per student per day in attendance. The minimum assigned term of expulsion shall be 90 good days. The Fiscal Agent shall establish billing, payment, and accounting procedures. The ISDs shall not be charged for mandatory expulsion students enrolled in the DCJJAEP, nor shall any ISD be charged for students placed at the DCJJAEP by order of a Dallas County Juvenile Court Judge. The base rate shall be considered the “actual cost” of the DCJJAEP program for students placed in the DCJJAEP pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 37.0081.

12.2 Student Attendance - Dallas County shall keep accurate records of student attendance (at the JJAEP) in accordance with TEA guidelines. The County will sign – off, each month on said accuracy. In the event that a student fails to attend school at the JJAEP in accordance with state compulsory attendance laws, Dallas County shall provide the student and the student's parents with a warning notice in compliance with Texas Education Code Section 25.095. A copy of such notice shall be provided to the ISD from which the



student was expelled. If a student enrolled in the JJAEP fails to attend school without excuse on 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, or if a student fails to attend school without excuse on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period, the ISD from which the student was expelled may file a complaint against the student or the student's parent or both as provided under Texas Education Code Section 25.0951.

12.3 Fiscal Agent - Region 10 Education Service Center (ESC) shall serve as the Fiscal Agent of the ISDs with respect to payment by the ISDs to the DCJB for DCJJAEP services in accordance with Section 37.012 of the Texas Education Code. In its capacity as Fiscal Agent, ESC shall be responsible for receiving funds from the respective ISDs for the establishment and operation of the DCJJAEP, and shall transfer such funds in a timely fashion to the DCJB.

12.4 Assistance to the DCJB - To the extent requested by the DCJB, the ESC shall advise the DCJB regarding the establishment of appropriate record keeping and accounting functions and procedures for the DCJJAEP. DCJB agrees to cooperate with ESC on all matters relating to the ESC's responsibilities as Fiscal Agent for the ISDs concerning the funding for the DCJJAEP.

12.5 Sharing of Financial and Enrollment Information - The DCJB and the ESC agree to share information and records, including access to accounting and other non-confidential information, regarding the number of students served by the DCJJAEP and the costs incurred in connection with the establishment and operation of the DCJJAEP, so as to allow ESC to accurately assess and verify the amounts to be paid by the ISDs to the DCJB in connection with the DCJJAEP.

12.6 Maintenance of Depository Account - ESC shall establish and maintain a depository account at its regular depository institution for the deposit of funds from the ISDs, such funds representing the respective ISDs' funding obligations to the DCJB for the DCJJAEP as required by Section 37.012 of the Texas Education Code and as further agreed upon by the parties to this Memorandum of Understanding. All such funds shall be placed in a fully insured depository account, or other insured account as required by law, and any interest accruing from such deposited funds shall be credited to the DCJJAEP to be used for unanticipated or extraordinary expenses of the DCJJAEP and shall not be commingled with the regular

operating funds of the ESC. From such funds, ESC shall make payment to the DCJB on behalf of the ISDs for the DCJJAEP as set forth in this Agreement.

12.7 Accounting to ISDs - In its capacity as Fiscal Agent, ESC shall provide accounting to the ISDs on an as-requested basis of the amounts paid to the DCJB in connection with the DCJJAEP, together with supporting documentation.

12.8 Billing - DCJB agrees to establish and coordinate billing arrangements with the ISDs and ESC with respect to the ISDs' funding responsibilities for the DCJJAEP.

12.9 Audit - At least annually, ESC shall provide an audited accounting to the ISDs and DCJB of funds received and paid with respect to the DCJJAEP.

12.10 Budget - In addition to the provision of services as Fiscal Agent, ESC shall provide recommendations to DCJB on budgetary matters relating to the establishment and operation of the DCJJAEP.

12.11 Reimbursement - The ISDs agree to reimburse ESC for its reasonable administrative expenses incurred in its capacity as Fiscal Agent. Such reimbursement responsibility shall be allocated to the ISDs in proportion to their annual funding requirements to the DCJJAEP. ESC shall maintain and provide detailed accounting to the ISDs for all reimbursable administrative expenses incurred in connection with its service as Fiscal Agent, and shall submit invoices on a quarterly basis to the ISDs for such services. Revenue that exceeds operating costs will be channeled back into the fund balance for the purpose of operating the JJAEP only.

12.12 Funding Not Required for Certain Students - In the event a juvenile court with jurisdiction over a student who has not been expelled from school orders that the student attend the DCJJAEP as a term or condition of probation, the ISD which the student attended at the time the juvenile court entered such order shall not be required to make any payment to the DCJJAEP under Section 12.1 herein.

### **SECTION THIRTEEN: TERM OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

13.1 The initial term of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be for the period from the effective date of this Memorandum of Understanding through July 31, 2012. This Memorandum of Understanding shall be automatically renewed for an additional term of one year on the same terms and

conditions, unless one or more of the parties hereto elects to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by providing written notice to all other parties hereto at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of this Memorandum of Understanding, unless terminated sooner. This Memorandum of Understanding may be extended for additional terms of one year upon the mutual consent of the parties evidenced by an extension agreement entered into not later than thirty (30) days prior to the termination date of this Memorandum of Understanding, or any extension hereof.

13.2 Any provision of the preceding Section 13.1 to the contrary notwithstanding, this Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated prior to the expiration of the term hereof by written mutual agreement of the DCJB and a participating ISD. In such event the Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force and effect with respect to the remaining ISDs.

**SECTION FOURTEEN: EXPEDITED MAGISTRATE SYSTEM**

14.1 The expeditious hearing of all cases related to the DCJJAEP by the juvenile court is crucial to the spirit and the letter of both the Education and the Juvenile Justice Codes. The DCJB and juvenile courts will utilize their best efforts to provide a system whereby all cases related to the DCJJAEP can be heard by the juvenile courts as soon as practicable after the student has been expelled from the school setting.

**SECTION FIFTEEN: MISCELLANEOUS**

15.1 Amendments - If changed conditions are encountered during the term of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Memorandum of Understanding may be supplemented or amended under terms and conditions mutually agreeable to the parties, provided that all such changes, amendments, supplements or modifications shall be in writing.

15.2 Records and Reporting Requirements - Throughout the term of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties agree to establish and maintain detailed records regarding the administration and operation of the ISDs' alternative education programs and DCJJAEP, including information regarding the costs of such programs, including facilities, staffing and administrative expenses.

15.3 Legal Requirements - The Parties agree to comply fully with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations, in connection with the programs contemplated under this

Memorandum of Understanding. This Memorandum of Understanding is subject to all applicable present and future valid laws governing the juvenile justice programs applicable to school districts and/or county juvenile probation departments.

15.4 Notices - Except where oral notice is specifically allowed or required under this Memorandum of Understanding, any notice provided hereunder by any party shall be in writing and may either be (1) delivered by hand to the party or, the party's designated agent; (2) deposited in the United States mail, postage paid; (3) transmitted by telecopy; or (4) delivered by electronic mail transmission, to the addresses that follows, electronic mail address, or telecopy number. Notice deposited in the United States mail in the manner hereinabove described shall be deemed received two (2) business days after such deposit. Notice given in any other manner shall be effective only if and when received by the party to be notified. Any party may designate a different agent or address for notice purposes by giving the other parties ten (10) days written notice in the manner provided above.

15.5 Integration Clause - This Memorandum of Understanding, including attachments, contains the entire agreement of the parties hereto with respect to the matters covered by its terms, and it may not be modified in any manner without the express written consent of the parties. No other agreement, statement, or promise made by or to any party, or made by or to any employee, officer, or agent of any party, that is not contained in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be of any force or effect.

15.6 Partial Invalidity - If any term(s) or provision(s) of this Memorandum of Understanding are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remainder of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated, unless such holding causes the obligations of the parties hereto to be impossible to perform or shall render the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding to be inconsistent with the intent of the parties hereto.

15.7 Non - assignment - No assignment of this Memorandum of Understanding or of any duty or obligation of performance hereunder, shall be made in whole or in part by any party hereto without the

prior written consent of the other parties hereto.

15.8 Waiver - No waiver of a breach of any provision of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be construed to be a waiver of any breach of any other provision. No delay in acting with regard to any breach of any provision shall be construed to be a waiver of such breach.

15.9 Immunity - Neither the DCJB, Dallas County Schools, Region 10 Education Service Center nor the ISDs waive or relinquish any immunity or defense on behalf of themselves, their trustees, commissioners, officers, employees, and agents as a result of its execution of this Memorandum of Understanding and performance of the functions and obligations described herein.

15.10 Available Funds - The Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding expressly acknowledge and agree that all monies paid pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding shall be paid from budgeted available funds for the current fiscal year of each such entity.

15.11 Open Meetings - The meetings at which this Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the Parties' governing boards were posted and held in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the undersigned Parties acting under the authority of their respective governing boards have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be duly executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original, all as of the day and year above first written, which is the date of this Memorandum of Understanding.