



**LAKELAND JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Committed to Academic Excellence ... Dedicated to Student Success

## **Board Agenda Item Request**

**AGENDA ITEM: Action Item - North Idaho Stem Charter MOU for bussing**

**PURPOSE: Requires approval by the board**

**MEETING DATE: February 19, 2025**

**PREPARED BY: Lisa Arnold**

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### **SUMMARY**

At the February 5th board meeting, I was asked to include language related to the cost of each trip that would be invoiced to Stem Charter. The mileage calculation has been set this year by the state. However, for the driver's salary and benefits, there is no calculation because it is dependent on where the driver is on the salary schedule and if the trip puts the driver into overtime. I included language that makes it clear that the drivers salary and benefits for the trip will be added to the mileage cost. The MOU is [here](#). I have communicated the changes made to the MOU to the Executive Director. He is comfortable with the changes.

### **Superintendent Recommendation**

The superintendent recommends the approval of this MOU,

# **Memorandum of Understanding**

## **LAKELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT and STEM CHARTER ACADEMY**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the terms and understanding between **LAKELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT** and **STEM CHARTER ACADEMY**

**Background:** STEM Charter Academy has been renting buses from Lakeland for 13 years. We first approached MaryAnn Rannells in 2012 and she referred us to Darrell Rickard who ran the Bus Barn at the time. Through Darrell, and subsequently Jessica Dehnert, we have booked trips and paid whatever we were invoiced for that trip. This has always been a mutually beneficial relationship that provides more hours to Lakeland's bus drivers throughout the year and, to our knowledge, has never conflicted with any of Lakeland's operations or resulted in any Lakeland students not being serviced.

### **Purpose**

This MOU will allow students of STEM Charter Academy to be bussed to and from events by Lakeland School District buses as needed. Lakeland students and Lakeland school schedules will always take priority over STEM Charter bussing needs. The intent of this MOU is for STEM Charter academy to pay Lakeland Jt. School District for the use of their buses and drivers. STEM Charter Academy agrees to pay whatever price per mile and/or flat fee that Lakeland deems a fair reimbursement to make sure that ALL of Lakeland's expenses are covered. It is our hope that this will be a mutually beneficial arrangement that will actually provide extra hours for some of their drivers throughout the school year at no cost to Lakeland.

The above goals will be accomplished by undertaking the following activities:

Should a need arise, the administrator, or their designee, from STEM Charter Academy will contact an administrator, or their designee, from Lakeland Jt. School District and arrange transportation for the students. Lakeland School District will present STEM Charter Academy with an invoice for service rendered at their per mile cost. The cost for the 2024-25 school year shall be \$4.06 per mile traveled and the salary and benefit cost for the driver for the duration of the trip; which may include overtime compensation.

### **Duration**

This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in effect for a period of one (1) year; from September 1 to August 30. This Memorandum shall be amended for consideration and renewed annually unless terminated in accordance with this section. This Memorandum may be terminated in writing by mutual consent of the STEM CHARTER ACADEMY and LAKELAND JT. SCHOOL DISTRICT. In addition, this Memorandum may be terminated at any time by either party upon written notice no later than March 15 of the intent to terminate to the other party.

This MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from **LAKELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT** and **STEM CHARTER ACADEMY** and will remain in effect until modified by mutual consent or terminated by any one of the partners.

## Contact Information

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Signature: Lisa Arnold  
Superintendent

Stem Charter Academy  
Representative: Scott Thomson  
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Signature: Scott Thomson  
Executive Director