

COUNTY OF GALVESTON §

STATE OF TEXAS §

**INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR
JUVENILE JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM**

This Interlocal Cooperation Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by, between and among the COUNTY OF GALVESTON (County), the Galveston County Juvenile Board ("Board"), the Dickinson Independent School District, hereafter referred to as "DISD", Clear Creek Independent School District, Friendswood Independent School District, Galveston Independent School District, High Island Independent School District, Hitchcock Independent School District, Santa Fe Independent School District and Texas City Independent School District hereinafter collectively referred to as "Districts" and individually as "Participating District" are joined for purposes of establishing the respective responsibilities of the Board and the Districts to the other. Nothing herein shall create a direct contractual relationship between the Districts and DISD in its capacity as fiscal agent or provider of Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) services.

WHEREAS Texas Government Code, Chapter 791, authorizes local governments of the state to enter into contracts to increase their efficiency and effectiveness by the consolidation of administrative functions of government;

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code, Chapter 37, requires the Board to establish a Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program ("JJAEP") for Galveston County, based on its population;

WHEREAS, such a consolidated effort in the establishment and operation of a JJAEP, is beneficial to both the Board, DISD, and the Districts, as well as the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Board, DISD, and the Districts are local governments as defined in Texas Government Code, Section 791.003(4), have the authority to enter into this Agreement, and have each entered into this Agreement by the action of its governing body in the appropriate manner prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS, the Board, DISD, and the Districts agree that the educational services of the JJAEP can be administered most efficiently at a centralized location within the geographic boundaries of Galveston County, and the Board desires to engage the DISD to serve as the provider of the educational component of the JJAEP, as permitted by Texas Education Code, Section 37.011(e); and

WHEREAS, the Board, DISD, and the Districts specify that each party paying for the performance of said administrative functions of government shall make those payments from revenues available;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed as follows:

I. OPERATING POLICY

- 1.01 The Galveston County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (GCJJAEP) shall be subject to a memorandum of understanding developed by the Board in cooperation with the Participating Districts and submitted to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) for review and comment. The terms and conditions of this Interlocal Cooperation Agreement shall become a part of such operating policy as if fully set forth in writing therein. No additions, deletions, changes or variations to this Agreement as to fiscal matters or educational responsibilities shall be effective unless such amendment be in writing and formally agreed to by the appropriate officers of the Parties.

II. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

- 2.01 The purpose of this Agreement is for the establishment by the Board of a JJAEP approved by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department ("TJJD") and operated by DISD, for the Participating Districts' students as permitted by §37.011(e) of the Texas Education Code. This Agreement will serve to combine into one system the operational, programmatic and educational standards for the JJAEP required by Education Code, Section 37.011 and Title 37 of the Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 348. (37 TAC § 348). The JJAEP shall serve, and Galveston County shall be responsible for funding, only those placements of students expelled from Participating Districts on the basis of conduct for which expulsion is mandatory under Texas Education Code §§37.007(a), (d) and (e).

III. GOVERNANCE

- 3.01 The Governing Board of the GCJJAEP shall include:

Chairperson: The County Judge of Galveston County shall serve as Chairperson for the GCJJAEP Governing Board. The Chairperson shall be entitled to vote on any tie vote.

Members: (each with one vote)

1. Director of Juvenile Services for Galveston County (or designee);
2. Two (2) Juvenile Judges as named by the Juvenile Board;
3. One (1) designee of Dickinson ISD, the school district serving as Fiscal Agent;
4. One (1) designee of Galveston County Commissioners Court; and
5. Three (3) school district representatives of school districts in Galveston County (Superintendent or designee) as named by Galveston County Superintendent group.

- 3.02 Meetings. The Governing Board of the GCJJAEP shall meet on the basis of called meetings as deemed appropriate by the Galveston County Judge in order to monitor and adjust the program. Such meetings shall be held at least annually. A minimum of four (4) members shall be required to establish a quorum for such meetings.
- 3.03 Notice of Meetings. Written notice of the regular meetings of the Governing Board shall be mailed, emailed or delivered to each member not less than five (5) days prior to the date thereof. Written notice of any special meeting of the members shall be given to each member not less than 24 hours and as soon as reasonably possible prior to the date thereof. The notice shall state the place, date, and time of the meeting, who called the meeting, and the general purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.
- 3.04 Duties. The activities of the Governing Board shall include, but not be limited to the following:
- a. To develop and recommend proposed written operating policies to the Galveston County Juvenile Board ("Board") for approval by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) pursuant to the Texas Education Code §37.011(g), to review the operations, policies, and procedures of the GCJJAEP and to make advisory recommendations to the "Board" regarding such operations, policies, and procedures including suggested changes or amendments thereto;
 - b. To assist in an advisory capacity in the development of the annual operating budget for the administrative expenses incurred by GCJJAEP;
 - c. To participate in an advisory capacity in the development of the annual operating budget for the GCJJAEP; to recommend the initial criteria for, and thereafter monitor the Participating Districts' billing and payment schedule for the GCJJAEP; and
 - d. To facilitate coordination with the Participating Districts to this Agreement on matters relating to the supervision, educational and rehabilitative services available for expelled students and students assigned to the GCJJAEP and the subsequent transition back into the school setting.

IV. DUTIES OF DISD

- 4.01 The Dickinson Independent School District ("DISD") is designated as the situs of the campus of the GCJJAEP and shall provide personnel and services necessary to operate, on the Board's behalf, a JJAEP approved by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department ("TJJD"), for the Districts' students as permitted by §37.011(e). GCJJAEP instructional staff members shall be employees of DISD and shall be subject to the personnel policies of the DISD ("JJAEP Services"). DISD shall also serve as the Fiscal Agent for the JJAEP upon receipt of funds for program operation.

- 4.02 As Fiscal Agent for educational purposes, Dickinson ISD shall administer the education program on a day-to-day basis in accordance with Dickinson ISD Board Policies, in consultation with policies promulgated and/or adopted by the governing board of the GCJJAEP. Where GCJJAEP Policies are silent, the educational program shall be administered according to policies and procedures otherwise in effect within Dickinson ISD.
- 4.03 As Fiscal Agent, Dickinson ISD shall prepare the program application and budget; shall disburse program funds applicable to instructional personnel; shall be responsible for educational personnel serving the campus and program; shall maintain all educational records applicable to the program; shall correspond with assigned students' home districts with regard to status and ultimate disposition of each assigned student; and shall provide necessary curriculum and other such responsibilities normally associated with administration and provision of education services.
- 4.04 DISD shall ensure that all DISD staff assigned to the GCJJAEP, including temporary, seasonal or substitute employees shall have orientation training prior to having contact with students. At a minimum this training, to be provided by the Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department ("GCJJD") without undue delay, shall include:
- A. safety and security procedures including, but not limited to, fire drills and the JJAEP's safety disaster plan;
 - B. child abuse reporting;
 - C. incident reports;
 - D. student code of conduct;
 - E. behavior management program;
 - F. transporting students, if applicable;
 - G. crisis intervention;
 - H. distribution of medication, if applicable;
 - I. sexual harassment;
 - J. physical restraint training, if applicable; and
 - K. requirements for providing services to students with disabilities.

- 4.05 To the extent that DISD schools are closed due to disaster, flood, extreme weather condition, public health emergency, or other calamity, DISD shall notify the Board, through the person(s) designated below, of emergency closures, and of any waiver(s) relating thereto filed by it on behalf of the GCJJAEP, and provide updates to Participant Districts on the status of any such waivers.

V. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

- 5.01 The expenses of this program shall be covered pursuant to the Funding Parameters attached hereto as Exhibit "A" to this Agreement.
- 5.02 Nothing herein shall burden the Fiscal Agent, Galveston County, or any Participating District with the added expense necessary to address or accommodate any particular needs of special education students. The Fiscal Agent and the Participating District from which the student has been expelled will work together to provide necessary and appropriate special education services on a case-by-case basis as the need arises, but all additional expense and liability shall be borne and/or reimbursed by the sending Participating District, which shall remain responsible for providing its students with a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and which shall hold the Fiscal Agent harmless for the provision of such services. If additional special education services are needed to serve students from more than one participating school district, the cost of the service will be shared by the applicable Participating Districts. All Parties shall endeavor to comply with each special education student's current Individual Education Plan (IEP) and to facilitate convening IEP meetings.
- 5.03 Each Participating District shall assume and incur any and all fees and costs, to include attorney's fees in the defense of a special education due process hearing or response to a complaint filed with the State or U.S. Department of Education, or any other litigation filed on behalf of a student with a disability expelled to the GCJJAEP by that Participating District. It is agreed and understood that the Participating District from which a student has been expelled remains at all times responsible for the provision of FAPE to students suspected of or having been identified as students with disabilities for purposes of the IDEA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- 5.04 Nothing herein shall burden the Fiscal Agent or any Participating District with responsibility for underwriting or providing services or accommodating student placements beyond the scope of the program described in this Agreement. This program must be submitted to the TJJD for approval pursuant to Section 37.011 of the TEC, but should additional obligations be deemed required of the County and/or the Board for this program to fully qualify under the statute, the Parties to this cooperative program are under no contractual duty to share such additional obligations or to expand the program during the school year without mutual consent.

VI. BUDGETING

- 6.01 As Fiscal Agent, Dickinson ISD shall prepare a budget of operational costs for instructional personnel anticipated for full usage of the GCJJAEP during the coming year. Such budget shall include, without limitation, fringe benefits for its professional employees assigned in whole or in part to the program, commensurate with the fringe benefits enjoyed by comparable professional employees of Dickinson ISD.
- 6.02 The Parties concur that regular education services will be delivered by five teachers employed by Dickinson ISD under agreements entitled: Agreement for Educational Services - Transforming Lives Cooperative Day Program 2026-2027; Agreement for Educational Services between Juvenile Board and DISD 2026-2027 School Year; JJAEP Interlocal Agreement and MOU 2026-2027 and, one assistant principal for the coordination of all education services. Total program instructional personnel costs consisting of salary and benefits for 1/2 of two Regular Education teachers, 1/3 of an Assistant Principal, 1/3 of a clerical aid, and 1/5 of a district program administrator shall be included in the educational services budget for the GCJJAEP. Student/teacher ratios are to be maintained between 8 to 1 and 15 to 1. The Parties agree that one or more regular education teacher(s) may be employed by Dickinson ISD at the request of the GCJJAEP and the Galveston County Commissioners Court in the event that GCJJAEP enrollment necessitates the addition of one or more certified full time teacher(s) with all associated cost borne by the County of Galveston. The financial responsibility of each Participating District with regard to funding personnel and related costs is set forth in Exhibit "A" to this Agreement.
- 6.03 The budget may be amended with concurrence of the Districts and the Galveston County Juvenile Board if program needs change during the year. Nothing herein nor in any juvenile court order shall require the Fiscal Agent or the Galveston County Juvenile Board to amend its budget involuntarily, nor to incur added expense without means of reimbursement.

VII. ACCOUNTABILITY/ATTENDANCE

- 7.01 For purposes of accountability under Chapter 39 of the TEC and the Foundation School Program, a student enrolled in the GCJJAEP shall be reported as if the student were enrolled at the student's campus of residence, in the student's regularly assigned education program, including a special education program, where applicable, in the Participating District of the student's residence. The Participating District of residence for each such student shall cooperate fully in making such reports and accepting such accountability. All PEIMS reporting requirements for the students placed in the GCJJAEP shall remain the responsibility of the Participating District in which the student resides. Students expelled for conduct resulting in a "mandatory" placement in the GCJJAEP shall be counted as "ineligible" for attendance counting purposes in the Participating District of residence.

- 7.02 Expelled students placed in the program are expected to attend as required by compulsory attendance law, pursuant to section 25.085 of the TEC. Pursuant to TEC Section 25.093, the attendance officer of the sending Participating District of residence shall file a complaint against the parent(s) in the justice of the peace court or municipal court of the political subdivision in which the parent resides or in which the school is located if the parent fails to require the child to attend school as required by law. In accordance with section 37.011(h) of the TEC, the students assigned to the GCJJAEP resulting from expulsion under Section 37.007(a), (d), or (e) of the TEC are funded through Galveston County TJJD and are ineligible for ADA accounting in the Participating District of residence.
- 7.03 Unexcused absences of GCJJAEP students subject to an Order of Juvenile Probation, who have been expelled by a Participating District on the basis of a mandatory offense as set forth in Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, will be handled through the Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department (Juvenile Justice Department). On the third consecutive day of unexcused absence from the GCJJAEP, the Juvenile Justice Department's Director of Juvenile Services (Director) or the Director's designee shall notify in writing the Participating District of student residence's Superintendent or designee of the student's absence from the program. In accordance with 37 Tex. Admin. Code Section 348.210(d)(3), a student on inactive status for 30 consecutive school days shall be withdrawn from the GCJJAEP immediately following expiration of the 30th consecutive school day, subject to any decision or action by the ARD committee should the student be identified as eligible for special education.
- 7.04 A student who has been erroneously assigned to the GCJJAEP because their expulsion meets "discretionary" expulsion qualifications, not "mandatory", as identified and set forth in Chapter 37 of the TEC, shall be reassigned to the sending district's alternative education program.
- 7.05 In the event a student assigned to the GCJJAEP is declared homeless (or in the process of being declared homeless) or is in the process of transferring to another school district, the student will remain the responsibility of the original Participating District until the registration/enrollment of the student in another district is completed.
- 7.06 A mandatory expulsion is one listed in TEC 37.007(a), (d), or (e), as amended.

VIII. COUNTY'S FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

- 8.01 The Galveston County Juvenile Board ("Board") and the County of Galveston shall provide:
- A. funding for the education component of all placements as detailed in this Agreement;
 - B. staffing of juvenile probation officers;
 - C. supervision officers and other staff, and training thereof;

- D. the physical plant necessary for the personal safety and security of all participants and providers of services; and
- E. for Galveston County resident students, any and all aspects of any residential component of the GCJJAEP.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 9.01 Physical plant maintenance, utility expenses and facility standards to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act relating to the Galveston County Juvenile Justice Center and associated facilities, shall be the responsibility of the County, not Dickinson ISD as the Fiscal Agent nor any other Participating District.
- 9.02 The County may request the removal of any instructional personnel staff member assigned to the GCJJAEP if the assigned staff member is no longer agreeable to the County because of performance, misconduct or other employment related concerns on the part of County Officials. The Director of Juvenile Services shall so notify the Superintendent of DISD and give the Superintendent in writing the specific reason(s) for the concerns. If upon review of the Director's expressed concerns the Superintendent agrees there are performance or other employment related issues, the Superintendent will timely counsel with the staff member and attempt to have those issues properly addressed within seven school days. If the staff member's performance or other employment related concerns are not corrected to the satisfaction of the County, the Director will again express the reasons for his/ her concern. The Director and the Superintendent will meet and discuss and attempt to reach a consensus on the matter. Instructional personnel shall remain at all times DISD employees and are subject to all DISD Board Policies, procedures and Operating Guidelines, including those governing the employment of said personnel.

X. LIABILITY/TERM

- 10.01 Only to the extent permitted by applicable law, but without waiver or expansion of any limits established by the Texas Tort Claims Act, each Party to this Agreement shall indemnify and hold harmless the other Parties and their officers, employees and agents, from and against any and all claims proximately caused by negligence, breach, or other act or omission by the indemnifying Party or its officers, employee, or agents.
- 10.02 The term of this Agreement shall be for the 2026-2027 school year according to the school calendar of Dickinson ISD.

XI. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The GCJJAEP Governing Board and the Districts adopt this memorandum of understanding in compliance with the Texas Education Code (“TEC”), Section 37.010 (c) and (d), whereby it is agreed and understood that no court may order an expelled student to attend school as a condition of probation except by and through assignment to the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program; and the Parties hereby initiate the following operating policy guidelines:

The daily administration of all aspects of the GCJJAEP other than educational services including the GCJJAEP Code of Conduct, will be conducted by the Juvenile Justice Department under the direction of its Director or the Director's designee. The program will serve all eligible students from eligible Districts.

11.01 ELIGIBLE STUDENT. An eligible student is a student who is or was last enrolled in a Participating District located within Galveston County and who currently resides in a Galveston County school district. An exception for placement may be made pursuant to 37.010 (g) when the student’s parents have made a residence change into the district/county and court jurisdictional issues have been properly accommodated. The following students shall be eligible to attend the GCJJAEP (provided space is available):

1. Mandatory expelled students under TEC section 37.007 (a), (d), or (e).
2. Students who are under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court and are not expelled may be court ordered to receive educational services in the GCJJAEP. A copy of the Court Order shall be provided to the student's home district in order to satisfy Texas Education Agency requirements.
3. Students expelled under TEC section 37.007 (a), (d) or (e) who are eligible for attendance in any school within Clear Creek ISD but who are not residing in Galveston County, providing that Galveston County Juvenile authorities have agreed to serve the student who resides in Harris County.
4. Students expelled under TEC section 37.0081 (felony offense in Title 5, Penal Code. Not included as a mandatory expulsion pursuant to 37.007 (a)).
5. Students expelled under TEC section 37.309 (removal of registered sex offenders).
6. If GCJJAEP is at capacity and unable to accept an eligible student, the referring district shall provide a virtual instructional option pursuant to TEC 37.0083, and then the student will be placed on a waiting list in the order received. As space becomes available, GCJJAEP will contact districts in order of the list. The district will then determine if placement is still required. If so, the student will be enrolled; if not, the next student on the list will be considered.

11.02 **ADMISSION PROCEDURES**. The Parties agree to comply with the following admission procedures:

- A. If placement is initiated by a Participating District's expulsion of a student, the Participating District shall notify the GCJJAEP Program Director or the Director's designee in advance of an expulsion hearing to allow the GCJJAEP and the Participating District to facilitate the student's transition into the GCJJAEP in the event the student is expelled.
- B. The Participating District in which the student is or was last enrolled shall provide to the Juvenile Justice Department and the Fiscal Agent, Dickinson ISD, a copy of the order of expulsion. Expulsion conducted pursuant to TEC section 37.0081 shall include a statement regarding the specific determinations required under Section 37.0081 (a) (1) and (2).
- C. Additionally, the Participating District in which the student is or was last enrolled shall provide to Dickinson ISD a copy the following:
 - expulsion letter signed by a Participating District official authorized to expel students, confirming that an expulsion hearing meeting the requirements of Chapter 37 of TEC has been afforded; and/or
 - a written waiver by the parent of the expulsion hearing (if used);
 - "Notification to Galveston County Juvenile Court" form;
 - copy of birth certificate or another document suitable as proof of the child's identity and date of birth;
 - documentation confirming social security number or state-issued PEIMS number, as applicable;
 - divorce decree or court orders showing custody;
 - restraining orders, other legal matters pertinent to school;
 - immunization and health records;
 - application for Free and Reduced Lunch Program or information on student's status;
 - attendance record;
 - disciplinary reports;
 - withdrawal/transfer grades in each subject;
 - current year's grade reports (progress reports, report cards);
 - Confidential Student Report for most recent state assessment scores (STAAR, EOC, TELPAS);
 - 504 paperwork and accommodation plan, if applicable;
 - Special Services paperwork, if applicable;
 - LPAC and other ESL/bilingual paperwork, if applicable; and
 - Transcript, and for high school students only – personal graduation plan.

- D. A student who is required to register as a sex offender will only be served pursuant to the same provisions applicable to students expelled under TEC section 37.0081 or applicable court order. The Participating District shall provide required notice not later than the second business day after the date an expulsion hearing is held pursuant to TEC Section 37.009, together with any other notice and information required under TEC Section 37.010 and Family Code Section 52.04. The Juvenile Courts of Galveston County shall consider appropriate proceedings under Title 3 of the Texas Family Code. As required by TEC Section 37.010 (a), an expelled student shall immediately attend the GCJJAEP from the date of expulsion.
- E. If the student is already under court supervision, the caseworker will recommend whether to amend the conditions of probation and it will be the Court's decision whether to implement any subsequent conditions of probation.
 - a. If conditions of probation are to be amended, the Assistant District Attorney shall prepare a Modification Order requiring the juvenile to participate in the GCJJAEP and the Student Code of Conduct. The Assistant District Attorney will request a court date as soon as practicable and the Court will be requested to consider the amendment of the Order.
 - b. If the juvenile was placed in detention due to the violation that resulted in expulsion, the caseworker may prepare conditions of release that would include an order requiring the juvenile to participate in the GCJJAEP and the Code of Conduct, subject to approval by the Juvenile Judge.
- F. If the student is not under prior court supervision, the Juvenile Justice Department, as designated by the Juvenile Court, shall determine if there is probable cause to believe the person engaged in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision. If a petition is filed, the Assistant District Attorney may include with the disposition order an order requiring the juvenile to participate in the GCJJAEP and the Code of Conduct for the Court's approval.
- G. Each Participating District will determine the length of time that each student will be enrolled at the JJAEP. Each Student will be assigned a program based on performance and behavior that includes earning points for expected behavior. Points will be earned on a daily basis and goals will be met prior to returning to the home campus, or until the length of expulsion has expired. A discharge report will be sent to the Participating District prior to a student being returned to that campus. Whenever possible, GCJJAEP will release the student at the end of the sending District's grading period. If the student's release date occurs during a week of state-mandated testing, the student must remain at GCJJAEP to complete the tests. No student shall be released during the last week of the Participating District's semester.

- H. Prior to the completion of the student's placement in the GCJJAEP, the program's probation officer will coordinate with the program administrator to contact the campus of record to initiate the student's transfer back to the student's home campus. The probation officer will assist in obtaining any information for the home campus and briefly monitor the student's progress upon the student's return.
- I. The probation officer will conduct an admission conference with the student and a parent or guardian to review all the GCJJAEP requirements and answer any questions on the first day of attendance.
- J. Juvenile Justice Department personnel will advise parent(s) or guardian(s) to schedule a physical examination for the student through the Juvenile Justice Department. The student may be admitted to the program prior to completion of the physical exam but will not participate in the physical training aspect of the program until exam results are received. Students with reduced activity ability will be placed on a modified physical training regimen. The form for the physical shall be as in Addendum 3 to this Agreement.
- K. Transportation of students attending the JJAEP will be the responsibility of the home school district or the student's parents at the sole discretion of the home school district. Neither the JJAEP, nor the Educational Fiscal Agent are responsible for transportation of students attending the JJAEP Program.
- L. As required under TEC 37.011(b)(4), GCJJAEP shall provide timely educational services in the GCJJAEP to all expelled students (including adult students 18 years of age or older) for which expulsion is required under Section 37.007(a), (d) or (e), regardless of the student's age or whether the juvenile court has jurisdiction over the student.

11.03 The GCJJAEP shall have its own Student Code of Conduct (Code of Conduct). The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) model code of conduct shall be the basis for the Code of Conduct, with such modifications/additions, as the Governing Board deems appropriate. All modifications/additions shall be approved by the Governing Board.

Each District shall provide the Juvenile Justice Department with current copies of their respective Student Codes of Conduct. In the event a District amends its existing Student Code of Conduct, the District shall, within three days following action taken by the Board of Trustees of the District to approve the amendment, provide a copy of the Student Code of Conduct as amended to the Juvenile Justice Department. Each District's Student Code of Conduct shall be available for public inspection at the referring school at all times that the school is open. Additionally, each District's Student Code of Conduct shall be available for public inspection at the Juvenile Justice Department at all times that the Jerry J. Esmond Juvenile Justice Center is open.

- 11.04 Each student shall be provided an educational progress/ facilitation plan. GCJJAEP educational staff and administration shall review the student's academic progress at regular intervals through the issuance of progress reports and report cards. In the case of a high school student, the GCJJAEP administrator of the education component, with the students parent or guardian, shall review the student's progress towards meeting high school graduation requirements and shall establish a specific graduation plan for the student. FAPE remains the responsibility of the sending school district. DISD will confer with the sending school district, as necessary, to share data and consult with the LEA to enable sending districts to meet federal requirements.

Responsibility for the administration of all educational testing rests with the educational component administrator and the student's home campus as outlined by the TEA Division of Testing and Accountability and Texas Administrative Code section 348.208(d)(4). Responsibility for any other type of assessment and identification of educational status and need rest with the sending District. Responsibility for the timely submission of pre and post-testing as required by TJJD rest with Galveston County.

Identified special education students shall be provided required services (as set forth in their IEP) with the sending District bearing any additional cost that is over and above the regular cost of program services for all participants. Administration of any and all related services and speech therapy is the responsibility of the sending Participating District, which also assumes responsibility for the provision of FAPE. Administration of the services for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students is the responsibility of the sending Participating District.

- 11.05 The Parties agree that the (1) Order requiring student participation in the JJAEP program, and (2) the Student Code of Conduct of the sending District shall be incorporated into each student's case file prior to admission. The Parties further agree that no student shall be exempted from any requirement set forth in those documents unless specifically modified by a special education IEP committee document or section 504 Accommodation Plan. The Student Code of Conduct sets forth staff expectations of students and proper disciplinary actions for violations of that Code.

11.06 **PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

- A. The placement into the JJAEP of a student with a disability who receives special education services must be made in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)(20 U.S.C. Section 1400 et seq.), the IDEA's implementing federal regulations, and state law and regulations regarding the discipline of students with disabilities.
- B. A Participating District may expel a student who has been identified as an eligible student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or a qualified student under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504) only after (1) a duly constituted Admission Review and Dismissal (ARD) or 504 committee

determines that the alleged misconduct is not a manifestation of the student's disability/ies, and (2) the Participating District has complied with all other requirements as set forth in state and federal law regarding the discipline of students generally and the discipline of students with disabilities, specifically, including but not limited to the ARD or 504 committee determining what services, if any, are required to provide the student with a free, appropriate public education in the GCJJAEP as defined by law.

- C. The Participating District from which the special education student was expelled, whether for mandatory or permissive expulsion under Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, shall provide the administrator of the GCJJAEP or the administrator's designee with advance written notice a reasonable time prior to the meeting of a student's ARD or Section 504 committee to discuss the student's expulsion. A representative of the GCJJAEP may, at the election of the GCJJAEP and/or its Fiscal Agent if different from the GCJJAEP, participate in the meeting as a non-consensus member to the extent that the meeting relates to the student's placement in the GCJJAEP.
- D. The referring Participating District in which a student resides shall maintain the full responsibility to provide special education services, including related services, to eligible students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The GCJJAEP shall be responsible for any services required to comply with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The cost of any special education services provided to students by GCJJAEP shall be borne by the referring Participating District with the responsibility to provide the services. The Participating District may make such services available in conjunction with the GCJJAEP or at a separate time and location, at the discretion of the referring, Participating District. If the referring Participating District elects to make special education services available to the student in conjunction with the time the Student is at the GCJJAEP, the referring Participating District shall cooperate with the GCJJAEP to minimize disruption of the JJAEP.
- E. GCJJAEP teachers employed by the Fiscal Agent will issue progress reports for all students at the mid-point of each grading period. Required progress monitoring and reporting on any IDEA eligible student's IEP shall be the responsibility of the referring Participating District for that student, in consultation with the GCJJAEP teacher.

11.07 **SUSPECTED DISABILITY.** If a student assigned to the GCJJAEP is suspected of having a disability for which the student would be eligible for services under the IDEA, the GCJJAEP Administrator or Administrator's designee, will inform the sending Participating District of such suspicion immediately, and the Participating District's Child Find procedure will be initiated to resolve whether a special education referral and evaluation is warranted. Similarly, if a student assigned to the GCJJAEP is suspected of having a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, the GCJJAEP Administrator or

Administrator's designee will inform the sending Participating District of such suspicion immediately for decision on any further required evaluation or action. The sending Participating District remains solely responsible for all required Notices, Assurances, and any other Procedural Safeguards to which the student and his/her parents are entitled. However, GCJJAEP staff will assist with contributing to the necessary referral documents if requested.

- 11.08 **BACKGROUND CHECKS.** Any staff member assigned to or providing services on-site at the GCJJAEP who will or may have direct contact with students shall submit to a criminal history record check and fingerprinting in accordance with 37 Tex. Admin. Code Section 348.106(d). Employment by the GCJJAEP or the right to provide direct services on the campus of the GCJJAEP is expressly contingent upon the completion and return of acceptable results of criminal history checks.
- 11.09 **IMMUNITY.** Nothing herein shall waive or reduce the sovereign immunity of the parties hereto, or broaden the limited waiver of immunity provided by the Texas Tort Claims Act and the Texas Education Code, § 37.011(o).
- 11.10 **SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAM FUNDING.** Each Participating District hereby agrees to allow the Fiscal Agent to submit a grant application for eligible JJAEP funds from the State and to reasonably cooperate in submission of such application. Any such funds received from the State shall be utilized to offset educational expenses of County and Participating Districts, including the Fiscal Agent, and any remaining funds may be used for expansion and improvement of the GCJJAEP.
- 11.11 **INSPECTION OF RECORDS.** Upon request, all public records of DISD as the Fiscal Agent that are created and maintained pursuant to the Fiscal Agent's satisfaction of its obligations under this Agreement shall be made available for inspection at any time mutually convenient to the Fiscal Agent and the requesting party, subject to the requirements of the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C.A. § 1232g and V.T.C.A., Government Code Chapter 552, Public Information Act. Any cost of such inspection or copying shall be borne by the party requesting said records.
- 11.12 **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT POLICIES.** DISD as the Fiscal Agent affirms that it is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services, programs or activities.
- 11.13 **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties and shall take the place of any prior understandings, written or oral agreements. This Agreement consists of both an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding for Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program, along with a statement of Funding Parameters attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

- 11.14 **SEVERABILITY.** If any part of this Agreement is held to be illegal, such part shall be deemed severable and the remaining parts shall nevertheless be binding.
- 11.15 **TERM and EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Agreement is effective August 1, 2026, and shall remain in effect through July 31, 2027. The Parties shall use their best efforts to execute a renewal of the memorandum prior to August 1, 2026. In the absence of a revision, this Agreement shall remain in effect until such time as the Parties, through votes of their governing bodies, determine to void, modify, or repeal the entire document or any portion thereof.

[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]

This Agreement is hereby **EXECUTED IN MULTIPLE ORIGINALS (10)**, as authorized by the County of Galveston by action of the Commissioners Court on the _____ day of _____, 2026, by action of the Dickinson Independent School District Board of Trustees on the _____ day of _____, 2026, and by each of the other Participating Member Districts by action on dates as indicated below, to be effective the 1st day of August, 2026.

GALVESTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

By: _____

DICKINSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
(as Fiscal Agent and as a Participating District)

By: _____

GALVESTON COUNTY JUVENILE BOARD

Date of Juvenile Board Authorization:

By: _____

CLEAR CREEK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date of School Board Authorization:

By: _____

FRIENDSWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date of School Board Authorization:

By: _____

GALVESTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date of School Board Authorization:

By: _____

HIGH ISLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date of School Board Authorization:

By: _____

HITCHCOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date of School Board Authorization:

By: _____

SANTA FE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date of School Board Authorization:

By: _____

TEXAS CITY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date of School Board Authorization:

By: _____

EXHIBIT "A"

GALVESTON COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM (GCJJAEP)

FUNDING PARAMETERS

FUNDING:

1. For the 2026-2027 school year, the Galveston County Juvenile Justice Center will educate students residing in Participating Districts located within Galveston County who are expelled due to a mandatory expulsion or student placement pursuant to Texas Education Code (TEC) 37.0081(g) and TEC 37.309(b). Mandatory expulsions are defined as those expulsions for offenses described in Section 37.007 (a), (d), or (e) of the TEC, funded by the allocation to Galveston County from the State through the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) for that purpose. The entire cost of educating students identified as having committed an offense specifically set forth in Section 37.007 (a), (d), or (e) of the TEC shall be solely borne by Galveston County. It is further agreed and understood that expelled students covered by this paragraph are ineligible to be counted, for purposes of student attendance accounting and corresponding funding, by their Participating District of residence.
2. The entire cost of educating students identified as having committed an offense specifically set forth in Sections 37.0081(g) and TEC 37.309(b)(1) of the TEC, or other discretionary placements, shall be solely borne by the Participating District of residence for such students.

Additional Considerations

1. Average Daily Attendance (ADA) or other funding allotment, if any, that the Fiscal Agent District receives for a student placed at the GCJJAEP by any Participating District may be deducted, at the sole discretion of the Fiscal Agent, from the overall cost in determining net cost to the County.
2. Grant funds awarded to any Participating District, which in the determination of the Participating District to which the grant is awarded can be applied to lower costs for services provided to a student placed at the GCJJAEP, shall be applied to reduce net cost to the County for that student's placement in the GCJJAEP.
3. Galveston County shall be solely responsible for payment of all wages and any other costs related to the employment of Galveston County Juvenile Justice Department personnel. Galveston County further shall provide the physical plant, breakfast and lunch for all students,

and for costs incurred by the GCJJAEP for any non-educational matter not otherwise specified in this Agreement.

4. Galveston County shall pay Fiscal Agent District, identified herein as Dickinson ISD, fifty percent (50%) of all annual projected operating costs as a fixed-rate cost based on the proposed number of personnel identified by the Fiscal Agent for implementation of the GCJJAEP program for the Fiscal Year. All personnel are and shall be employees of the Fiscal Agent, currently Dickinson Independent School District (DISD), and are subject to the Board Policies and employment expectations of the Fiscal Agent District. Annual operating costs are defined as those costs associated with the hiring, retention, maintenance, salary, and provision of benefits to employees identified in this paragraph and shall be paid by the County on the following schedule:

On or after September 1, but not later than October 1 of each year for which this Agreement remains in force:

- 1/2 of annual operating costs for two teachers appropriately certified to provide instruction in the State of Texas for the area and grade levels assigned;
- 1/3 of annual operating costs for one assistant principal;
- 1/3 of annual operating costs for one clerical aid, 1/5 of annual operating costs for one program administrator appropriately certified in the State of Texas to oversee and manage the GCJJAEP program; and
- Any other annual operating costs incurred by Dickinson ISD as Fiscal Agent for one or more additional teacher(s) certified to provide instruction in the State of Texas for the area and grade levels assigned upon the request of the GCJJAEP and Galveston County Commissioners Court pursuant to paragraph 6.02 of this Agreement.

Thereafter, the balance of all annual operating costs up to the 50% cap owed shall be paid by Galveston County to the Fiscal Agent District. The balance shall be determined on the basis of actual operating costs for the Fiscal Year, less any reimbursement grants, ADA or other proceeds received for the operation of the GCJJAEP to reimburse for such costs, as determined by the Fiscal Agent and invoiced in June of the same Fiscal Year to the County by the Fiscal Agent District.

5. Galveston County (County) has budgeted from its general budget fund certain amounts for paper and copies, arts and crafts, and materials and supplies for each program. Instructional personnel shall comply with County's procurement procedures for the acquisition of instructional materials using the fund budgeted by the County. Fiscal Agent Dickinson ISD may supplement those funds for materials and supplies, at its discretion, but will not be reimbursed by the County for supplemental expenses, if any, without express approval by the County.

6. The T1 data circuit as provided by the County through Southwestern Bell or other service provider at the juvenile facility will be billed to and paid by the County.

7. If a student has been court-ordered to attend the GCJJAEP, the County shall be responsible for funding such placements contingent upon (1) confirmation that the placement is pursuant to the mandatory expulsion provisions under Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, and (2) the student has in fact been expelled by the Participating District.

8. Galveston County shall be responsible for (1) compensation and other costs associated with the employment of Galveston County Juvenile Justice personnel assigned to work or to provide services on site at the GCJJAEP, (2) provision and maintenance of the physical plant in which the GCJJAEP is located, (3) provision of breakfast and lunch meeting all USDA Nutritional Requirements applicable to public school districts to all students assigned to GCJJAEP by a Participating District, and (4) ancillary matters in support of the operation of the GCJJAEP program for assigned students assumed as reasonable costs.

9. The GCJJAEP will provide services to students expelled to the GCJJAEP pursuant to (1) TEC section 37.0081 (Students found by the Participating District referring the student to have committed a felony offense identified under Title 5 of the Texas Penal Code), and (2) students expelled to the GCJJAEP pursuant to TEC section 37.309 (placement of registered sex offenders), provided space is available as determined by the GCJJAEP. Participating Districts shall reimburse Galveston County for the provision of services provided under this Agreement, and pursuant to 37.0081(g), the total reimbursement to the County by all Participating Districts shall not exceed actual costs incurred each instructional day per student during that period that the student is assigned to the GCJJAEP. It is agreed and understood that each Participating District shall be obligated to reimburse Galveston County in an amount proportionate to the number of students expelled from that Participating District pursuant to TEC 37.007(a), (d), (e), TEC 37.0081 and TEC 37.309(b). Each Participating District will be invoiced their respective cost amount in October of each year, which shall be reimbursed back to the County not later than August 19, 2027.