



Governing Board Agenda Item

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025

From: Denise Linsalata, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: Moreland University Agreement

Priority: To recruit, retain, and support highly effective staff, teachers, and leaders

Consent ☐ Action ☒ Discussion ☐

Background:

Marana Unified School District was contacted by the Teacher Placement Counselor at Moreland University with a request to have a field placement student placed in our District, which requires that we establish an Affiliation Agreement with Moreland University. Since we view accepting field placement students as a recruiting strategy, we are asking the Governing Board to approve this agreement to allow the field placement of practicum student teachers from Moreland University.

The agreement and addendum have been approved by District's legal counsel.

Recommended Motion:

I move that the Governing Board approve the Affiliation Agreement and Addendum to the Affiliation Agreement between Moreland University and Marana Unified School District.

Approved for transmittal to the Governing Board:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Streeter'.

Dr. Daniel Streeter, Superintendent

Questions should be directed to: Denise Linsalata, Assistant Superintendent
Phone: (520) 682-4757



1100 17th Street NW, Suite 650, Washington, DC 20036
844-283-2246; clinical@moreland.edu; www.moreland.edu

May 26, 2025

Denise Linsalata
Roadrunner Elementary School
16651 W Calle Carmela

We are delighted that you are considering serving as a placement site for clinical practice teaching as part of the teacher preparation program offered by TeachNow, Inc. dba Moreland University, TEACH-NOW Graduate School of Education. The program has been reviewed and approved by the Departments of Education of the District of Columbia and the State of Arizona, and the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, and is included in their list of approved programs.

Our teacher preparation program is a nine-month virtual, collaborative, project-based learning program that leads to a teaching license and certificate in the United States. The program is designed for teacher candidates to apply what they learn throughout the program. The first six months of the program include completing collaborative, project activities that include field experiences such as observing, surveying, interviewing, and teaching supervised mini lessons. After completing the first six months, teacher candidates move to the culminating clinical practice portion of the program, where they transition to practice teaching in a classroom for 12 weeks under the guidance of a qualified, experienced mentor (supervising practitioner).

Throughout this period, the teacher candidate will be working with a qualified, experienced teacher in your school who will serve as a mentor (supervising practitioner). As you know, the clinical practice teaching portion of the program is critical in preparing candidates to teach and will assist us in knowing that he or she is ready to be recommended for a teaching license. Mentor teachers observe candidates as they teach, provide feedback on their practice, and conduct informal and formal evaluations of teaching practice on a set of rubrics we provide.

Moreland University works with candidates and mentor teachers to ensure a successful clinical practice experience that will begin with a brief orientation to the process. We then continue that partnership throughout the 12 weeks of clinical practice with weekly interaction and support from our instructors. On completion of the program, along with passing all required state licensure examinations, the candidate will be eligible to apply for a teaching certificate from the District of Columbia or the State of Arizona.

To be as clear and as transparent as possible, we have tried to communicate our role (Moreland University) and your role (the Placement Site):

Moreland University's Role

- 1) Based on successful completion of program requirements, we will determine when a candidate is eligible to participate in clinical practice teaching.
- 2) We are ultimately responsible for ensuring that all candidates demonstrate an acceptable level of proficiency before they are allowed to complete their program. This includes monitoring and evaluating the individual candidate's progress during clinical practice. To help us on-site, we typically seek the Placement Site's assistance in securing a qualified, experienced teacher within the Placement Site to serve as a mentor (supervising practitioner) for the candidate. Mentors observe candidates as they teach, provide feedback on their practice, and conduct informal and formal evaluations of teaching practice on a set of rubrics that we will provide. Mentors also communicate any concerns with the candidate's Module 8 instructor (program supervisor) to support the candidate's growth and provide remediation if needed. If no mentor can be secured on-site, we will assign a virtual mentor to the candidate.
- 3) The candidate's Moreland University clinical officer will serve as the first point of contact during the clinical placement process. If needed, the clinical officer will coordinate with other Moreland University staff or administration to provide additional support or assistance.
- 4) The candidate's Module 8 instructor (program supervisor) shall serve as the first point of contact for communication during the clinical practice experience. If needed, the instructor will coordinate with other Moreland University staff or administration to provide additional support or assistance.

Placement Site's Role

- 1) You will provide structured, supervised educational learning experiences in a safe environment to our candidate throughout his or her minimum 12-week clinical practice.
- 2) You will make every effort to secure a qualified, experienced teacher who will serve as a mentor (supervising practitioner) to our candidate. The mentor will complete our orientation and adhere to the guidelines published in our Mentor Handbook, including our evaluation procedures for assessing the candidate's teaching performance.
 - a) A highly qualified mentor has the appropriate education background and credentials, but more importantly has a record of effective teaching that results in student learning.
 - b) Having national board certification would be one way to demonstrate outstanding performance in the classroom. However, many outstanding teachers have not had the opportunity to seek that advanced certification. For candidates who plan to seek their initial teaching license in Arizona, mentors (supervising practitioners) must have:
 - i) a minimum of three full years of experience relevant to the license the candidate is seeking.
 - ii) a current classification of highly effective or effective pursuant to §15-203(A)(38) when applicable.
 - iii) Complete the virtual training provided by Moreland University staff
- 3) You will assign and designate a point of contact who is to be responsible for planning and administering clinical practice teaching at the Placement Site; this typically is the classroom teacher (mentor) but could also be the building principal or other designee.

- 4) You will provide adequate space, equipment and supplies to enable our candidate to meet the requirements of his or her clinical practice teaching.
- 5) Consistent with any required consents, you will permit the candidate to video his or her teaching. The primary purpose of these recordings is to assess the teacher candidate and provide feedback regarding his or her performance. The recording may also be used to help improve our curriculum, instruction, and faculty training. The recordings will typically be viewed only by the teacher candidate, our faculty, administrators, other Moreland University candidates, and, if needed, the mentor (classroom teacher) or administrators at the school. Video recordings will be shared ONLY for instructional or program improvement purposes. We will share videos with third parties only if, in its good faith opinion, doing so is required by law or needed to protect the safety or rights of any person or entity. These videos will capture typical classroom activities, and students in the classroom may therefore be seen, heard, and/or referenced by his/her name in the recordings as part of his or her normal class participation.
- 6) You will communicate with us and let us know of any significant staff or administrative changes that may impact our candidate's placement.

Insurance

- 1) Each party agrees to maintain commercial general liability insurance including contractual liability, and professional liability, with limits not less than \$1 million per occurrence and \$2 million annual aggregate. Each party further agrees that, with respect to insurance coverage maintained by it, it will provide evidence of such insurance upon request and notify the other as soon as possible and cooperate with the other in the investigation and/or settlement of any loss or damage or potential loss or damage arising out of this agreement. In addition, Moreland University shall maintain Workers Compensation according to statutory limits as required by law.

Miscellaneous

- 1) We both can enter into agreements with other institutions at any time.
- 2) We both accept candidates without regard for race, sex, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, disability, veteran's status, personal appearance, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, familial status, family responsibilities, political affiliation, source of income, or any other protected status in accordance with the laws of Arizona and of the United States.
- 3) We can amend the terms and conditions of this agreement, but only if it's done in writing and agreed to by both parties.
- 4) Our agreement shall begin on September 8, 2025, and it shall continue until it's terminated by either party. Termination of the agreement requires ninety (90) days prior written notice. Should notice of termination be given, any candidates who are already assigned to complete their clinical practice at the placement site shall be allowed to continue until the experience is finished. Notice under this agreement shall be as follows:

To the Placement Site:

Denise Linsalata
Roadrunner Elementary School
16651 W Calle Carmela

To Moreland University:

Moreland University
1100 17th Street NW, Suite 650
Washington, DC 20036

- 5) This agreement shall be governed in accordance with the laws of the State of Arizona. The parties understand and expressly agree that certain claims asserted against Moreland University are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Arizona Superior Court. Notwithstanding any other provision in this agreement, both placement site and Moreland University preserve all rights, defenses, privileges, and immunities as provided by law.
- 6) This agreement shall supersede any prior agreements between us regarding the placement and supervision of candidates for clinical practice. This agreement is for the sole benefit of the placement site and Moreland University; no candidate or other third party shall be a beneficiary of or have any right to enforce the terms of this agreement.
- 7) This agreement and any addenda may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall constitute a duplicate original, but all counterparts together shall constitute a single agreement.

Signed and agreed to by:

TEACHNOW, INC.

Roadrunner Elementary School

By:

By: Denise Linsalata

Title:

Title: Assistant Superintendent

Date:

Date:

**ADDENDUM TO AFFILIATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN TEACHNOW, INC.
AND MARANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

This is an Addendum (“Addendum”) to the Affiliation Agreement (“Agreement”) between TeachNow, Inc. dba Moreland University, TEACH-NOW Graduate School of Education (“Moreland University”) and Marana Unified School District for and on behalf of Roadrunner Elementary School (“Placement Site”) (cumulatively the “Parties,” individually each being a “Party”). The Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. The Agreement may be cancelled if a conflict of interest is present as set out in Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 38-511, the terms of which statute are deemed incorporated herein.
2. To the extent applicable under A.R.S. § 41-4401, each Party warrants compliance with all federal immigration laws and regulations that relate to its Arizona-based employees and, with regard to such employees, agrees to comply with the E-Verify requirements pursuant to A.R.S. § 23-214(A). A Party’s breach of the above-referenced warranty shall be deemed a material breach of the Agreement and this Addendum. To the extent required by Arizona law, the Parties each retain the legal right to inspect the papers and records of the other Party to ensure compliance with this paragraph.
3. The Parties acknowledge and agree that the confidentiality of personally identifiable education records of the Placement Site’s students (“Student Records”) is protected and regulated by a federal law commonly referred to as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”). The Parties agree that any disclosure and/or re-disclosure of Student Records shall be in compliance with the requirements of FERPA.
4. To the extent applicable under A.R.S. § 35-394, Moreland University certifies that it does not currently, and agrees for the duration of the Agreement that it will not, use: (1) the forced labor of ethnic Uyghurs in the People’s Republic of China; (2) any goods or services produced by the forced labor of ethnic Uyghurs in the People’s Republic of China; or (3) any contractors, subcontractors or suppliers that use the forced labor of ethnic Uyghurs in the People’s Republic of China. If Moreland University becomes aware during the term of the Agreement that it is not in compliance with this written certification, it shall notify the Placement Site within five (5) business days after becoming aware of the noncompliance. If Moreland University does not provide the Placement Site with a written certification that it has remedied the noncompliance within 180 days after notifying the Placement Site of the noncompliance, the Agreement will terminate, except that if the Agreement termination date occurs before the end of the remedy period the Agreement terminates on the Agreement termination date.

[Signature Page Follows.]

TeachNow, Inc.

Marana Unified School District

By: _____

By: _____

Its: _____

Its: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____



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Addendum to Affiliation Agreement

Clinical Practice Placement

(For Candidates Employed by the Placement Site)

Candidate Name	julie jacobbe
Start Date of Placement	September 8, 2025
End Date of Placement	November 30, 2025
Placement Schedule (i.e., M-F full days; M-F half-days, etc.)	
Grade Levels of Placement	Elementary
Subject Areas of Placement	Elementary Education
Mentor	Concetta Velazquez
Name & Address of Placement Site	Roadrunner Elementary School 16651 W Calle Carmela

Moreland University's Commitment

- 1) Moreland University confirms that the above-named candidate is currently enrolled in our teacher preparation program and is eligible for clinical practice.
- 2) Moreland University will assign a virtual mentor (supervising practitioner) who is not employed by the placement site to evaluate the teaching performance of the candidate.

Placement Site's Commitment

- 1) The placement site confirms that it currently employs the candidate.
- 2) The placement site confirms acceptance of the candidate's placement for clinical practice teaching.

The parties hereto have executed this Addendum and warrant that they are officially authorized to so execute for their respective parties to the contract.

TEACHNOW, INC.

By:

Title:

Date:

Roadrunner Elementary School

By: Denise Linsalata

Title: Assistant Superintendent

Date: