



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**BETWEEN
THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA
AND
THE POLK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, INC.**

COMPUTER SCIENCE CERTIFICATION GRANT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2022 STIPEND OPPORTUNITIES

The **SCHOOL DISTRICT OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA** (D/B/A Polk County Public Schools) (**District**) and the **POLK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, INC. (PEA)** as evidenced by the respective signatures below, are parties hereto and agree to this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as more specifically set forth herein.

WHEREAS, the PEA is the certified bargaining agent for the District, and the District is the employer and a party to the PEA Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA) governing Teachers;

WHEREAS, the District is a recipient of the Computer Science Certification (CS) Grant from the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) providing funding to deliver or facilitate training for classroom teachers to earn K-12 computer science certifications pursuant to Section 1012.56, Florida Statutes (2021), and as appropriate to meet the requirements of §1007.2616, F.S. (2021), to pay fees for related examinations, or to provide professional development in computer science courses and content;

WHEREAS, the District has a goal to increase the number of secondary school classroom teachers certified in the area Computer Science K-12. In order to achieve this goal, the District will leverage the funds received through the Computer Science Certification Grant to increase the number of secondary teachers certified in K-12 computer science, as well as support professional development opportunities to increase the implementation of computer science curriculum throughout secondary schools.

WHEREAS, the District will utilize a portion of the funds received through the Computer Science Certification Grant to develop and provide test preparation opportunities for secondary school teachers who desire to earn educator certification in computer science;

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to develop language regarding the eligibility and deliverables for various one-time stipend(s) approved within the grant;

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NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. Teacher Qualifications and Attendance Requirements:

- a. Current PCPS certified (Computer Science Kindergarten – 12th grade) teachers who serve as classroom teachers of record for Computer Science courses are encouraged to apply for stipend opportunities. These teachers will be notified of stipend opportunities at least one (1) week prior to all other teachers. At least half of the available stipends will be reserved for current certified teachers of Secondary Computer Science Courses identified on attachment.
- b. Eligible teachers are active full-time secondary school-based classroom teachers of record covered by the Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement who complete the electronic application process for a specific limited stipend opportunity(ies) under the Computer Science Certification Grant Project on a “first-come first-served” basis with the exception in Item 1.c. below.
- c. Should there be more applicants than available funding, preference will be given to current PCPS certified teachers of Computer Science K – 12 courses. Teachers not certified in Computer Science K – 12 will be placed on a waiting list. As participants leave the program, preference will be given to current PCPS certified classroom teachers of Computer Science K – 12 courses.
- d. For the purpose of determining instructional eligibility to receive stipends, the District interprets “school-based” to include instructional groups, regardless of funding source that appear on the school’s blue sheet. District-level staff, including occupational therapists, physical therapists, school psychologists, speech language pathologists, or any other contracted staff members that are not employees of the School Board, do not qualify for the stipend. Teachers with funding sources beginning with a school number are eligible. Teachers under funding sources with a 9XXX cost center and/or who report to District-level staff are not eligible for the stipend opportunities.
- e. Kelly Educational Services substitutes are not eligible for any stipend under this Agreement.
- f. Provisional Substitutes are not eligible for any stipend under this Agreement.

2. Professional Development Components:

- a. **StemFuse CS Prep One-Time \$2,500 Stipend:** Up to twenty-eight (28) eligible secondary classroom teachers seeking to add CS K-12 to their certifications who

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register and complete the StemFuse CS Prep Course before August 1, 2022 will earn a stipend to compensate the teacher for time worked on the preparation course that leads to a certification associated with a course identified in the FDOE Course Code Directory (see **Attachment**).

- b. POPfizz PD One-Time \$2,500 Stipend:** Up to twenty-eight (28) eligible secondary classroom teachers seeking to add CS K-12 to their certifications who register and complete the POPfizz CS Prep Course before August 1, 2022 will earn a stipend to compensate the teacher for time worked on the preparation course that leads to a certification associated with a course identified in the FDOE Course Code Directory (see **Attachment**).

3. Stipend Payment Schedule:

Eligible one-time stipend(s) will be paid August 30, 2022 subject to the following:

- a.** Following receipt of the applicable evidence of participation by the Grants Department, the stipend(s) outlined above will be paid to eligible teachers who are active on the date of payment. If the documentation is received by August 1, 2022, applicable stipend payment(s) will be made August 30, 2022.
- b.** Separating from service with the District, whether voluntary or involuntarily, prior to August 30, 2022 forfeits any and all stipend payment(s).
- c.** Stipend payment(s) will be subject to the applicable IRS tax rate (including FICA).

4. Additional Funding:

Should additional funds be allocated from this grant while this MOU is in effect, the District and PEA will discuss any appropriate amendments and distribution of such funds.

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This agreement will expire September 30, 2022.

POLK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

POLK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____

**Stephanie Yocum
President
Polk Education Association**

By: _____

**Frederick R. Heid
Superintendent
Polk County Public Schools**

Date

Date

Attachment: Florida Course Code Directory Computer Science Course
Information 2021-2022 (February 15, 2021)

c: Jason Pitts, Chief of Staff
Brian Warren, Associate Superintendent, Human Resource Services
Andrew Baldwin, Senior Director, Federal Programs (TAPS 21A061)
Paula Dull, Director, Personnel, Human Resource Services
Dana Torres, Director, Payroll, Finance Division