



Memorandum of Understanding

By and between

Snohomish County Superior Court

And

(School District)

I. Overview

In June of 2016 the State of Washington enacted House Bill 2449 which restructured compulsorily school attendance also known as The BECCA Bill (<http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House%20Passed%20Legislature/2449-S2.PL.pdf>). The State Legislature has identified Community Truancy Boards (CTBs) as the preferred means to address truant behavior. The law requires that the juvenile court and school district enter into a memorandum of understanding in regards to their efforts to address truant behavior. All parties involved have agreed that student attendance and graduation is a community responsibility and that sharing resources through collaboration of community agencies is the best way to address these issues. The court has developed a protocol that manages truant behavior in our schools and includes collaborative effort between (the school district) and the community. All parties are committed to improving attendance and graduation rates with youth identified by the Snohomish County Truancy Model.

II. Purpose

The purpose of the memorandum of understanding is to set forth the roles and responsibilities of (school district) and Snohomish County Superior Court-Juvenile Division. It is the understanding by all parties that certain roles in serving truant youth or parents of truant youth are required by law, and that these laws serve as the foundation for defining the role and responsibility of each participating agency. All parties mutually agree that all obligations stated or implied in this agreement shall be interpreted in light of, and consistent with State and Federal laws.

III. Authority

The parties' actions regarding truancy are governed by RCW 28A.22, et. seq. The terms and conditions of this agreement to which the parties agree are being entered into by appropriate resolutions or

delegation of authority by the respective administrators of the (school district) and the Juvenile Court. Modification of this agreement shall be made by mutual consent of the initiating parties and if the agreed changes are within the structure provided by law. Such shall include a written document setting forth the modifications, signed by all the consenting parties.

Now, therefore in consideration of the following agreements, the parties do here agree to the following:

IV. (School Districts) Responsibilities

Provide to juvenile court who your contact person(s) will be for truancy matters:

Please explain in your MOU how the school district intends to comply with each of the following requirements:

1. Inform students and parents of the compulsory education requirement under RCW 28A.225
2. Notify parents of students who have unexcused absences
3. Notify parents and students of the potential consequences of continued unexcused absences
4. Schedule a conference with the parent and student
5. Take steps to eliminate or reduce the youth's absences (and document what those steps were)
6. File a truancy petition after seven unexcused absences in one month or ten unexcused absences in one school year
7. Enter into an agreement with the youth and parent
8. Refer the student (and parent) to a CTB
9. Perform a Washington Assessment of the Risks and Needs of Students (WARNS) assessment (prior to the CTB meeting)

Indicate to the court whether you intend to utilize the Snohomish County Roving Community Truancy Board (CTB). If not, please describe your school district's plan to implement its own CTB and how the CTB will operate. Cross out whatever option does not apply:

The _____ School District will collaborate and participate in the County's Roving CTB until it ceases to operate in approximately 18 months. During this time period, the District will develop a CTB to operate independently. The District will supply the Court with a plan to operate an independent CTB by the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

OR

The _____ School District will operate an independent CTB by this date: _____. Please refer the District's attached plan for details as to how the CTB will operate.

V. Juvenile Court Responsibilities

1. To support and partner with school districts in the development of CTBs
 - a. Sharing the model established by the collaborative efforts of court, school, and community representatives via the Truancy Advisory Committee (TAC)
 - b. Providing initial training on how to run a CTB
 - c. Work with identified school district personnel to “trouble shoot” issues and school districts work towards establishing their own CTB
2. Provide support to facilitate scheduling of appointments and filing of petitions per RCW 28A.225.035 (and other court records)
3. Provide ongoing and periodic training related to truancy issues.

This agreement shall be in effect as of the date of the agreement is signed by the parties until (enter date) and shall be reviewed as needed with the designated school contact person identified in this agreement.

_____ Date _____
School District Superintendent

_____ Date _____
Presiding Judge or designee for Snohomish County Juvenile Court