

**STRONGSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2020  
REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Strongsville Board of Education and any other items germane to the Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2020, at the **Administration Building, Meeting Room, 18199 Cook Avenue, Strongsville, Ohio**, by President, Richard O. Micko.

All members of the Board and media were notified of this meeting in compliance with Section 121.22 O.R.C., effective November 28, 1975.

The following Board Members answered Roll Call: Mrs. Bissell, Mrs. Housum, Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, Mr. Micko and Mr. Roberts.

Others present were: Dr. Cameron Ryba, Superintendent; Mr. George Anagnostou, Treasurer; Ms. Jenni Pelko, Assistant Superintendent; and Mr. David Binkley, Director of Technology.

This meeting was videotaped and is part of the official minutes.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**DISTRICT GOALS**

Student Achievement is the District's number one goal and is balanced against Financial Prudence. Helping with both goals is Community Engagement.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jessica Cozza, parent, shared the difficulties of remote learning for special needs students.

Mr. Micko responded to Ms. Cozza's emotion. He thanked her for coming forward. The Board and Administration are aware of these issues. These issues will be discussed, and the District will have a plan that is respectful to everyone.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A. OSBA Capital Conference Delegate Appointments October 29, 2020

Mr. Roberts nominated Mr. Micko to be the delegate and volunteered himself as the alternate.

**20-09-01** Moved by Ms. Housum to approve Mr. Micko as OSBA Delegate and Mr. Roberts as OSBA Alternate, seconded by Mrs. Bissell and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mrs. Housum, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes; Mr. Roberts, yes;

Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, yes; Mr. Micko, yes.

Motion carried 5-0

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A. **SUPERINTENDENT**

Sadly a Strongsville City Schools' staff member passed away yesterday. John Garczynski was a custodian for seven years. He was 58 years old. He embodied our *Mustang Mindset* as he carried out his duties and interacted with staff, students, and parents. He will be greatly missed. Please keep Jennifer, Lauren, Emily and the Garczynski family in your thoughts throughout this difficult time.

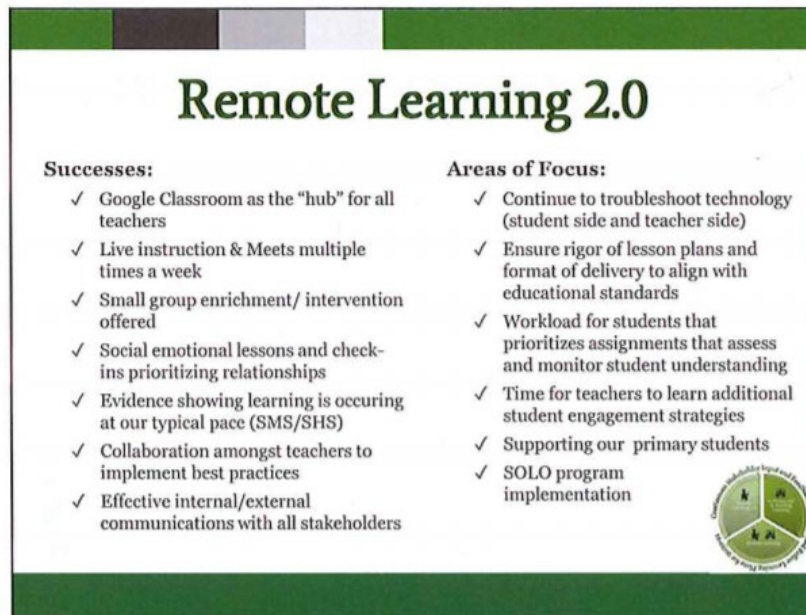
**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT** (continued)

**A. SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

1. Discussion Item – 2020-2021 School Year Restart Plan

Dr. Ryba shared an update on the Remote Learning Plan. It has been two weeks of live instruction at the secondary level and one week of live instruction for the elementary students.

Dr. Ryba shared in detail, some of the District’s successes during the first two weeks of Remote Learning 2.0, and some areas where improvements are needed as listed in the below slide.



Dr. Ryba stated he has received nothing but positive feedback from the Middle School and High School families. There is no live instruction on Fridays as it is a day to catch up and do asynchronous work.

As anticipated, there have been some issues with technology. Mr. Binkley, the Tech Coaches, and teachers have been working to problem solve those issues.

Dr. Ryba deviated from the slide presentation and spoke on attendance. By law, the District must take attendance which is done when the students log-in to their on-line sessions. If a student can’t be there, they are marked absent, but if they turn in the work related to that class, the absence will transition to being present. Attendance is finalized on Tuesday for the previous week. Dr. Ryba suggested parents reach out to their student’s teacher or principal to help problem solve issues they may have with attendance or work load.

Dr. Ryba returned to his slide presentation continuing with professional development for teachers and how to support the primary students. Work being done to prepare for the SOLO implementation is a week ahead of schedule.

Dr. Ryba shared information on a grant the District received to help with connectivity issues and internet issues families may have in their homes. The District applied for the Broadband Ohio Connectivity Grant requesting \$35,000 and received approximately 60% or \$21,000. The funds will be used to assist with

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT** (continued)

**A. SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

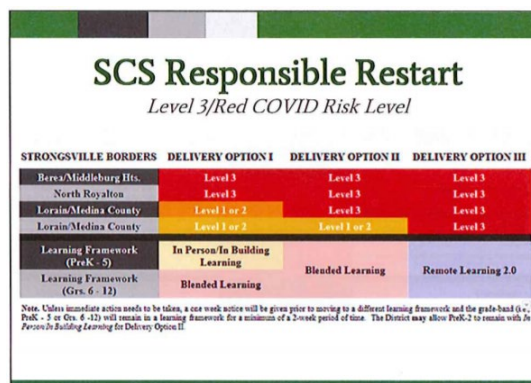
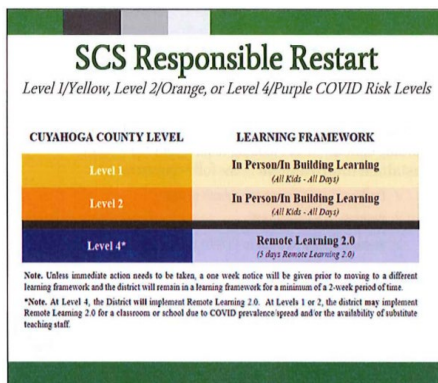
**1. Discussion Item – 2020-2021 School Year Restart Plan** (continued)

infrastructure improvement and the creation of the Mustang Mobile WiFi Network. With these funds, the District will purchase ten WiFi access points to be installed two at each elementary building. External WiFi access points already exist at the Middle School and High School. All buildings, excluding the preschool, will have outside WiFi access. Portable cellular WiFi access points will be installed on two to five buses. When Remote Learning 2.0/Blended Learning is no longer being used, the cellular WiFi access points can be used for special events or field trips. The District has finalized options to purchase Cellular Hotspots to be available during Remote Learning 2.0/Blended Learning for families with limited internet options at home, although this is not a component of the grant funding. Some families in need of internet service have already reached out. The first priority will be students who qualify for the free lunch program. Once verified, they would get a hotspot free of charge for as long as we are in remote learning. Because the hotspots belong to the District, restrictions can be applied such as a time frame and limiting what can be streamed, i.e. no Netflix. The District would receive detailed reports of all sites being used. Next, students on a reduced lunch plan can purchase a hotspot at a small daily rate not to exceed \$5.00 per month. Then, if a family is in need of a hotspot who is not on the free or reduced lunch program and if there is availability, they would have to pay the monthly service fee of \$20. Hotspots would be purchased through CARES Act funding.

Dr. Ryba spoke on the process for reopening schools for In-Person/Blended Learning. The District has followed the Cuyahoga County Board of Health’s (CCBH) recommendation for starting the school year remotely. The District is now looking to implement its responsible restart plan using the District’s color coded graphics to determine how the District will operate. The District will continue to use the metrics recommended by the CCBH and will look to have four weeks of sustained improvement in the following areas:

- Decline in cases over a one month period
- Positivity rates below 5%
- Sustained Improvement in COVID Risk Level (i.e. Orange)

Dr. Ryba shared graphs of weekly COVID data tracking which will also be shared with families tomorrow. Strongsville’s restart plan is if the District’s level is yellow or orange, the learning framework would be In-Person/In-Building Learning. If the level changes to purple, the District would move to remote learning, and if Strongsville is in red, we would look at surrounding communities to see how we would operate. Unless immediate action needs to be taken, a one-week notice will be given prior to moving to a different learning framework and the District will remain in a learning framework for a minimum of a two-week period of time.

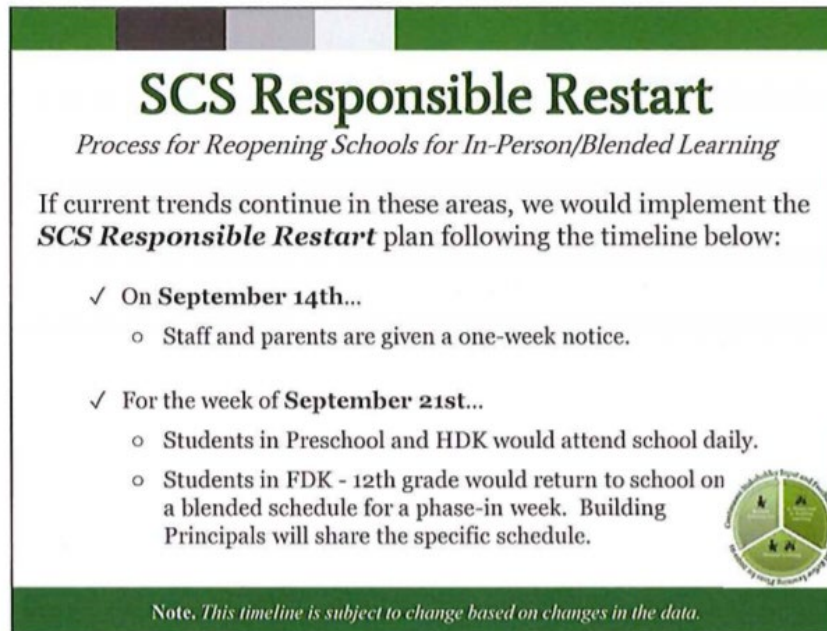


**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT** (continued)

**A. SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

1. Discussion Item – 2020-2021 School Year Restart Plan (continued)

Dr. Ryba shared his recommendation to implement the Responsible Restart plan, based on how the data is trending. The original Restart plan consisted of a two-week phase-in period but now has been reduced to a one-week phase-in period. The reason for a phase-in period is to acclimate students and staff to all the building management issues, i.e. how to enter and exit the buildings; how to enter and exit the buses; how will lunch work; how to switch classes; etc. It is more manageable to teach all these things to smaller groups.




**SCS Responsible Restart**  
*Process for Reopening Schools for In-Person/Blended Learning*

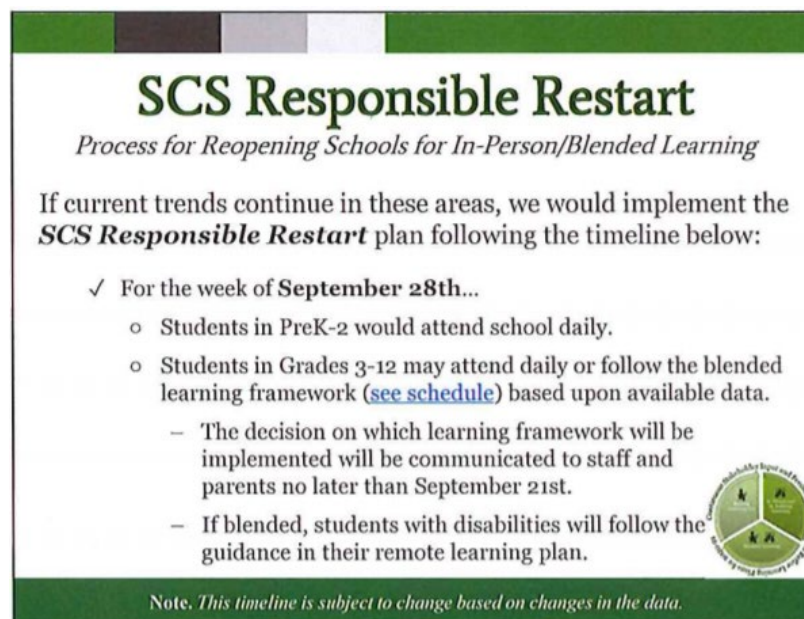
If current trends continue in these areas, we would implement the **SCS Responsible Restart** plan following the timeline below:

- ✓ On **September 14th...**
  - Staff and parents are given a one-week notice.
- ✓ For the week of **September 21st...**
  - Students in Preschool and HDK would attend school daily.
  - Students in FDK - 12th grade would return to school on a blended schedule for a phase-in week. Building Principals will share the specific schedule.

*Note. This timeline is subject to change based on changes in the data.*



Parents should already know if their student is on a green or white day schedule. Schedule details will be shared soon by the building principals.




**SCS Responsible Restart**  
*Process for Reopening Schools for In-Person/Blended Learning*

If current trends continue in these areas, we would implement the **SCS Responsible Restart** plan following the timeline below:

- ✓ For the week of **September 28th...**
  - Students in PreK-2 would attend school daily.
  - Students in Grades 3-12 may attend daily or follow the blended learning framework ([see schedule](#)) based upon available data.
    - The decision on which learning framework will be implemented will be communicated to staff and parents no later than September 21st.
    - If blended, students with disabilities will follow the guidance in their remote learning plan.

*Note. This timeline is subject to change based on changes in the data.*



**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT** (continued)

**A. SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

1. Discussion Item – 2020-2021 School Year Restart Plan (continued)

A blended learning calendar has been created and will be included in the Superintendent’s weekly communication. It shows that Mondays and Wednesdays are green days and Tuesdays and Thursdays are white days. Days off have been adjusted so all students have the same number of days. This calendar will be used if we have to implement blended learning. For the phase-in week of September 21, the green day students would attend on Wednesday and Friday. The schedule for Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, is yet to be determined and will be shared as soon as details are known.

Families need to prepare that on September 14<sup>th</sup> the Superintendent will give a one-week notice that on September 21<sup>st</sup> the District will move to in-person/in-building learning and will make decisions based on the District’s color-coded system.

Mr. Micko explained that the District is still partnering and listening to the CCBH, but will do what is best for Strongsville.

Dr. Ryba stated he appreciates all families are doing and asks that everyone continues to wash hands, social distance, and wear masks so we can continue to operate and mitigate potential risk.

Parents need to communicate with their child’s teacher and/or principal. Share your situation with them. Know it is alright for a student and/or parent to take a break. Remember, there is an asynchronous option.

Dr. Ryba continued his discussion with the timeline for the SOLO program and then transportation updates per below.

**SCS Responsible Restart**  
*Enrollment in the SOLO Program*

**Timeline for parents wishing to move from *Remote Learning 2.0* to the SOLO program:**

- ✓ On **Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>**, a survey will be sent to all families providing the option to enroll in the SOLO program. The survey will close at 4PM on **Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**.

**Note.** *Disregard this survey if you are already in the SOLO program or if you plan to remain in Remote Learning 2.0, Blended, or In-Person learning.*

Dr. Ryba reiterated the expectations for the SOLO program. It is a stand-alone, on-line education system with a teacher advocate who checks in with your child to answer questions, problem solve, grade work, etc. The teacher is not providing instruction. The instruction comes through the software that is provided. Before committing to this structure, please make sure it is a system that will work for you and your student.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** (continued)


**A. SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

1. Discussion Item – 2020-2021 School Year Restart Plan (continued)

**SCS Responsible Restart**  
*Enrollment in the SOLO Program*

**Timeline for NEW families enrolling in the SOLO program...**


- ✓ For the **week of September 14th**, students will remain in *Remote Learning 2.0* following their current schedule.
- ✓ For the **week of September 21st**, students will complete and turn in the asynchronous work provided during this "phase-in" week. Students will not attend school for in-person learning. If the phase-in week is delayed, students will remain in *Remote Learning 2.0* following their current schedule.



**SCS Responsible Restart**  
*Enrollment in the SOLO Program*

**Timeline for NEW families enrolling in the SOLO program...**

- ✓ For the **week of September 28th**, students will begin the SOLO program.
  - Students will begin in a similar place in the curriculum as they were when they left *Remote Learning 2.0*.
  - Grades earned in *Remote Learning 2.0* will transfer and be included with SOLO grades.
  - Students will remain in SOLO through December 18, 2020 and given the option to continue in SOLO or return to in-person learning for the second semester.

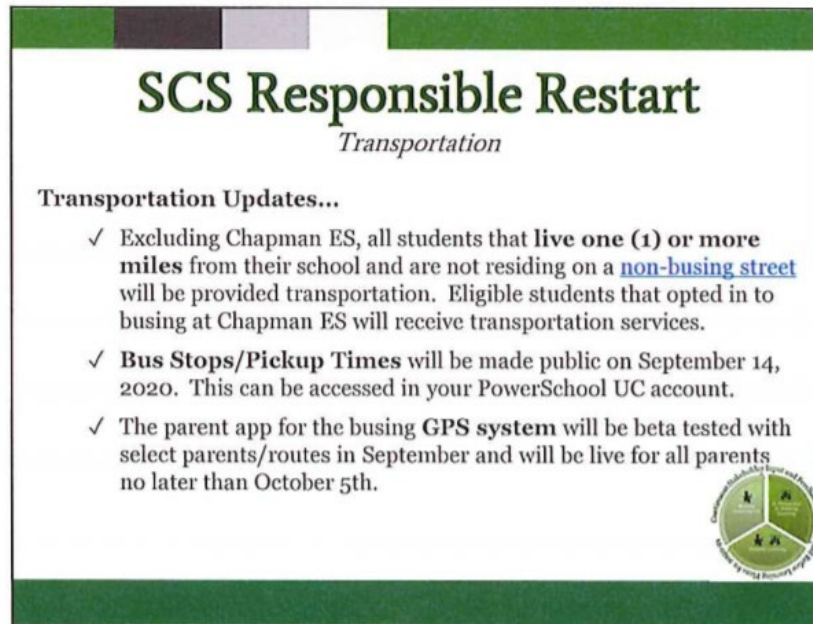


With the start of in-person learning, transportation will also start on September 21<sup>st</sup>. All students will be required to wear masks and there will be a maximum of two students per seat. Based on the Governor's mask order, if a social distance of six feet cannot be maintained at the bus stop, masks must be worn. Masks will be provided for students who are without prior to getting on the bus. Ms. Pelko has worked with the principals on a code of conduct and how it applies to all the rules and restrictions because of COVID.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** (continued)

**A. SUPERINTENDENT** (continued)

1. Discussion Item – 2020-2021 School Year Restart Plan (continued)



Ms. Pelko shared the process to be followed when/if a child has COVID. We will depend on parents to be truthful and to keep their student home if he/she is not feeling well. If the student feels fine the next day, he/she can return to school. Ms. Pelko reiterated the importance of washing hands, social distancing and wearing masks. The Board of Health will also let the District know if they have a case. An employee flow chart has been finalized showing protocols to follow. It has also been done for our students and their families and will be shared soon so parents have guidelines to follow.

**B. CURRICULUM**

1. Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) Agreement (001-General Fund)

**20-09-02** Moved by Mr. Roberts that the Strongsville Board of Education enters into an agreement with the Midview Local School District for Strongsville students to participate in Midview's Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) program for the 2020-2021 school year, seconded by Mrs. Buckner-Sallee and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Roberts, yes; Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes;  
Mrs. Housum, yes; Mr. Micko, yes.  
Motion carried 5-0

(Exhibit A)

## **BOARD POLICIES**

### **A. Third Reading**

Revised Policy 1520 – Employment of Administrators  
Revised Policy 2370 – Educational Options  
Revised Policy 2464 – Gifted Education and Identification  
Revised Policy 3120 – Employment of Professional Staff  
Revised Policy 3120.04 – Employment of Substitutes  
Revised Policy 3120.05 – Employment of Personnel in Summer School and Adult Education Programs  
Revised Policy 3120.08 – Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities (Professional Staff)  
Revised Policy 4120 – Employment of Classified Staff  
Revised Policy 4120.08 – Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities (Classified Staff)  
Revised Policy 4124 – Employment Contract  
Revised Policy 4162 – Drug and Alcohol Testing of CDL License Holders and Other Employees Who Perform Safety-Sensitive Functions  
Revised Policy 5420 – Reporting Student Progress  
Revised Policy 5460 – Graduation Requirements  
New Policy 5460.02 – Students at Risk of Not Qualifying for a High School Diploma  
Revised Policy 6107 – Authorization to Accept and Distribute Electronic Records and to Use Electronic Signatures  
New Policy 6108 – Authorization to Make Electronic Fund Transfers  
New Policy 8420.01 – Pandemics and Other Medical Emergencies  
Revised Policy 8450 – Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases

Mr. Micko highlighted new policy 8420.01, Pandemics and Other Medical Emergencies; new policy 6108, Authorization to Make Electronic Fund Transfers; and revised policy 6107, Authorization to Accept and Distribute Electronic Records and to Use Electronic Signatures.

**20-09-03** Moved by Mr. Roberts to approve the Board Policies as listed, seconded by Mrs. Buckner-Sallee and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Roberts, yes; Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes;  
Mrs. Housum, yes; Mr. Micko, yes.  
Motion carried 5-0

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION / OTHER**

Mr. Micko shared that Ohio State University released a video documenting the OSU marching band and shared a shout out to Ms. Sydney Reik, a Strongsville graduate, who was highlighted in the video. The video can be found on the internet – TBDBITL 141.

The Strongsville Athletic Boosters car raffle will begin on September 15<sup>th</sup>.



**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**20-09-04** Moved by Mr. Roberts to enter into Executive Session to consider the employment of a public employee, to review negotiations with public employees concerning other terms and conditions of their employment; and to consider matters required to be kept confidential by federal law, regulations or state statutes, seconded by Mrs. Buckner-Sallee and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Roberts, yes; Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes;  
Mrs. Housum, yes; Mr. Micko, yes.  
Motion carried 5-0

Entered into Executive Session at 8:27 p.m.

Resumed public session at 9:46 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**20-09-05** Moved by Mr. Roberts to adjourn the Strongsville Board of Education Regular Work Session, seconded by Mrs. Bissell and approved on a roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Roberts, yes; Mrs. Bissell, yes; Mrs. Buckner-Sallee, yes;  
Mrs. Housum, yes; Mr. Micko, yes.  
Motion carried 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

---

Richard O. Micko, President

---

George K. Anagnostou, Treasurer

## **JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (“JROTC”) AGREEMENT**

This Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (“JROTC”) Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into on the \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 by and between the Midview Local School District Board of Education (“Midview”) and the Strongsville City School District Board of Education (“Strongsville”).

WHEREAS, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, Strongsville will no longer be providing its students with the opportunity to participate in a JROTC program; and

WHEREAS, Midview continues to provide a JROTC program, and has the personnel and capacity necessary to enroll in such JROTC program those Strongsville students who were previously enrolled in Strongsville’s JROTC program during the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the parties hereto mutually desire to permit Strongsville’s JROTC students to enroll in Midview’s JROTC program during the 2020-2021 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

### **Term**

This Agreement shall take effect on the date first set forth above, and shall terminate following the last scheduled day of Midview’s JROTC program for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Midview’s Commitments**

1. Midview shall permit any current Strongsville student who was previously enrolled in Strongsville’s JROTC program during the 2019-2020 school year to enroll in Midview’s JROTC program for the 2020-2021 school year. Such enrollment is limited to the JROTC program. Midview shall provide Strongsville with a schedule of all planned JROTC program activities for the 2020-2021 school year.
2. Midview shall ensure sufficient classroom space for the inclusion of Strongsville’s students, and shall supply all necessary texts, equipment, and materials, the cost of which shall be billed to Strongsville.
3. Midview’s JROTC program instructor shall be the educator in charge of all Strongsville students enrolled in the program, and shall have the authority to assign grades, award credit, and implement discipline, which shall be in accordance with Midview’s applicable Board Policies and Student Code of

Conduct. Midview may remove a Strongsville student from the JROTC program as a consequence of such student's misconduct or academic problems.

**Strongsville's Commitments**

1. Strongsville, or Strongsville's JROTC program participants, as determined by Strongsville, shall be responsible for supplying transportation to and from Midview, for purposes of attending all Midview JROTC program activities.
2. Strongsville shall reimburse Midview, in full, within thirty (30) days of its receipt of a bill for the cost of necessary texts, equipment, and materials supplied by Midview to Strongsville students enrolled in the JROTC program.
3. Strongsville shall honor all grades, credit, and disciplinary consequences issued by the Midview JROTC program instructor.

**Amendment**

This Agreement may not be reformed, altered, or modified in any way by any practice or course of dealing, but may be modified or amended only by an instrument in writing duly executed by both parties.

**Entire Agreement**

This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and there are no oral promises or other representations inducing its execution or qualifying its terms.

**Severability**

Each article, paragraph, provision, term, and condition of this Agreement, and any portions thereof, shall be considered severable. If, for any reason, any portion of this Agreement is determined to be invalid or contrary to any applicable law, rule, or regulation, the remaining portions of this Agreement shall be unimpaired, remain binding on the parties, and continue to be given full force and effect. No delay or omission by any party hereto to exercise any right provided in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of that right.

**Governing Law**

This Agreement has been executed and delivered, and shall be interpreted, construed, and enforced pursuant to and in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered into this Agreement on the date first set forth above. The representatives of the parties signing below affirm that they have full legal power and authority to execute, deliver, and perform the obligations under this Agreement, and that this Agreement constitutes a legal, valid, and binding obligation enforceable in accordance with its terms.

MIDVIEW LOCAL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

STRONGSVILLE CITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer