

Memorandum of Understanding

between
Mercer Island Education Association (“Association”)
and
Mercer Island School District (“District”)
Regarding

Recovery Services: IEP Meetings

The District and MIEA recognize that recovery services may be required to address the impact on students with disabilities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and extended school facility closures. What recovery services, if any, a student is eligible for is determined by the IEP team.

Training and support for managing the recovery services process will be provided to case managers by Special Services administrators, and/or coaches. A Special Services administrator or coach may also be present to help facilitate IEP meetings as determined to be appropriate by the case manager and/or Special Services administrator. Guidance regarding recovery service discussions in IEP meetings will be provided to all case managers as soon as practical but no later than 6 weeks from the first student day of the 2021-22 school year.

Special Services certificated staff will explain Recovery Services at annual IEP meetings. Each IEP Team will review the student’s current present levels and goals to make the determination if the student meets one of the 3 prongs for Recovery Services as well as the amount and type of services needed to mitigate the effect of the pandemic on the student’s learning. The District will provide case managers with guidance materials for this discussion. If a Special Services case manager feels the work related to recovery services is substantial, that staff member may address their concerns and explore possible solutions with the Director of Special Services. The staff member and Director of Special services shall work collaboratively to arrive at a solution. Possible solutions include but are not limited to: release time, compensation, support from Special Services administration and/or coach.

Because Special Services certificated staff are addressing recovery services at a rate that is much higher than usual, P-21 special education classroom teachers, SLPs, OTs, PTs, and school psychologists shall receive an additional \$250 responsibility stipend, prorated by FTE, for the additional time preparing for and facilitating Recovery Services discussions at every annual IEP meeting during the 2021/2022 school year. This is a one-time stipend for the 2021-22 school year only and shall not be precedent-setting.

