

**SIDE LETTER OF AGREEMENT (SLA)  
BETWEEN  
SAN JUAN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (District)  
and the  
SAN JUAN TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (Association)  
*Re: El Sereno High School Planning***

### Background:

Independent Study has been a part of the San Juan Unified School District for over 35 years. Since the program's inception, the needs of the students El Sereno in grades 9-12 serves have evolved over time.

**Statement of Intent:**

It is the intent of the District and the Association to provide the current practitioners time to examine the system that has been created over the last 5 years. The District and the Association wish to take a thoughtful approach to explore the best ways to serve this student community.

**Agreement:**

The El Sereno 9-12 Site Leadership Team (SLT), working in consultation with the staff during the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years, will explore ways to redesign El Sereno High School to better meet the needs of the students and community. Consideration will be given to:


- Current San Juan High School Graduation requirements
- Opportunities for students to complete A-G courses
- Opportunities for students to complete a CTE pathway
- Opportunities for students and families needing greater flexibility in their day
- Other Independent Study models in the region and state


Nothing in this letter is intended to predetermine the best outcome for students and families. The SLT shall make recommendations to the District and Association bargaining teams no later than November 30, 2026.


During the life of this SLA, the staffing levels from the 2024-25 school year shall remain in place. The district may add additional staff should the enrollment of the program warrant it. This SLA will sunset on June 30, 2027 or when it is replaced by mutually agreed upon language in a bargaining cycle.

For the San Juan Unified School District

For the San Juan Teachers' Association

 4-17-25  
Daniel Thigpen Date  
Executive Director  
Labor Relations and Government Affairs  
San Juan Unified School District

  
Dr. Edward F. Burgess IX  
Associate Executive Director  
San Juan Teachers Association

  
Date