SIDE LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MENIFEE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND THE MENIFEE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING INDEPENDENT STUDY

July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027

The Menifee Union School District ("District") and the Menifee Teachers Association ("Association"), jointly known as the Parties ("Parties"), enter into this Side Letter of Agreement to address Independent Study for the 2026-2027 school year.

The parties agree that the purpose of this side letter is to outline the implementation of the Short-Term Independent Study program within the district. The program's goal is to provide flexible learning opportunities for students who are absent, ensuring they can continue their education without interruption.

Accessibility:

- Independent study is now available after one day of absence.
- Students can access independent study to make up work missed due to absences at any time during the school year.
- Independent study contracts can be signed at any time throughout the school year.

Implementation Details:

- **Management of Independent Study Platform:**
  - The district will oversee the online independent study platform, ensuring it is well-organized and accessible to all students.
- **General Lessons:**
  - The work assigned through the online independent study platform will consist of general lessons organized by grade level. These lessons may not always align with the specific pacing curriculum delivered in the classroom but will be designed to maintain educational continuity.
- **Work Sample Collection:**
  - The district will collect work samples through an online learning management system. This system will streamline the process and ensure consistent record-keeping.

- **Attendance Credit:**
    - Teachers are no longer required to evaluate work samples for the purpose of measuring attendance credit. Days recovered through independent study will be posted to Aeries, the district's student information system.
- **Credit for Work Completed:**
    - Teachers may grant academic credit for work completed within the online independent study platform, at their discretion.
- **Contract Signing:**
    - Teachers will no longer be required to sign the short-term independent study contract for general education students. The administrative process will be managed by Student Success Services.
- **Encouragement of Participation:**
    - Teachers are encouraged to support student participation in the online independent study platform in order to remain engaged during absences.

This agreement shall constitute the entire agreement of the parties and shall only be modified or amended in writing, and signed by both parties. This agreement shall sunset on June 30, 2027.