

07-15

**SNOHOMISH DISCOVERY COOPERATIVE
INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT – (PER STUDENT SLOT MODEL)**

I. INTRODUCTION

WHEREAS, legislatively approved staffing ratios preclude the resident districts from generating sufficient staff to meet the needs of disabled students;

WHEREAS, cooperative student enrollments provide a more efficient and economical basis for managing and implementing special education programs;

WHEREAS, districts have chosen to avoid unnecessary duplication of unusually expensive programs and rather choose to try to free up resources to provide educational programs not otherwise available;

WHEREAS, Northwest Educational Service District 189 (herein also referred to as "NWESD 189") has historically provided special education services on a cooperative basis;

WHEREAS, various school districts (hereinafter referred to as "Districts") in Washington have requested that NWESD 189 provide special education services for their students; and,

WHEREAS, RCW 39.34 and RCW 28A.310.180, and Substitute House Bill 1211 adopted by the 1993 Washington Legislature, authorize the school districts and educational service districts to join together to engage in various activities, including having the educational service district provide cooperative special education services.

NOW THEREFORE, a cooperative is hereby created wherein NWESD 189 will provide special education services to the Districts which are signatories to this Agreement, according to the terms and conditions contained herein.

II. NAME/PURPOSE

The name given to this cooperative is Snohomish Discovery. The general purpose of this Agreement is the formation of a cooperative to provide special education programs and services to disabled students with severe behavior disorders of the Districts as authorized by the aforementioned statutes and/ or other applicable laws.

III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this cooperative requires all members to sign this Interlocal Agreement. "District" shall hereafter refer to districts that have signed the Interlocal Agreement for the current program year and agree to be financially responsible as a cooperative member for the program costs.

IV. FINANCING/COSTS/RATES

The students served by this program are residents of their respective District, and accordingly, it is acknowledged that each District retains the responsibility to provide an appropriate public education for them. Each District participating in this cooperative commits to pay to NWESD 189 an amount sufficient to reimburse NWESD 189 the total cost of operating this cooperative for the students it sends. This will be done in the following fashion:

- A. By May 1, 2007, and every May 1 thereafter for following program years, Districts will be asked to identify those students they intend to send to this program the next fall. The program budget will be developed based on this information and will include indirect costs. Such budget will annually be submitted to the Advisory Council.
- B. Districts with students placed in the program will be billed a per-student amount to cover basic program costs, based on the purchase of a number of FTE slots. The per-slot amount is initially estimated to be \$47,340 per FTE for the 2007/08 program year, or \$263 per day, based on a total of twenty (20) slots. Upon signing this contract, each District agrees to purchase the number of slots listed on Attachment A and agrees to pay the listed amount per slot, whether used or not. At the end of the program year, the estimated per-slot cost will be compared to actual costs, and any difference will be billed or credited as appropriate. Any individual District may choose to release slot(s) to other district(s), thereby relieving themselves of the associated financial obligation.
- C. In the event participation in the program is significantly below projections as identified in paragraph A above, the Advisory Council will be convened by November 15 to consider modifying the steps outlined in paragraph B above.

V. ADVISORY COUNCIL

An Advisory Council consisting of the superintendent of each participating District, or his/her designee, is hereby created. The purpose of such Council is to monitor the performance of this Agreement, amend this Agreement (with concurrence of all parties affected), and terminate this Agreement as provided in Section IX.

Activities of the Advisory Council shall take place as needed, called by a majority of its members or by the Superintendent of NWESD 189, or his/her designee. Decisions by the Advisory Council will be made by a vote of greater than fifty percent (50%) of a quorum. A quorum is defined those representatives attending an Advisory Council meeting, providing adequate prior notice was provided to each District superintendent.

VI. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF NWESD 189

In accordance with this Agreement, NWESD 189 shall:

- A. Operate a self-contained special education program for disabled students who manifest severe behavior disorders.
- B. Recruit, employ, and supervise staff required to adequately operate the program. All staff for

the cooperative shall be employed by NWESD 189 and shall be subject to the policies and rules and regulations of the Board of Directors of NWESD 189.

- C. Contract for staff each year according to the total number of students participating Districts have identified the prior spring, as identified in Section IV.A. When the number of students enrolled in the program exceeds the level that can be reasonably accommodated by existing staff, additional staff may be hired as necessary.
- D. Contract or subcontract with any person or entity to provide services needed to operate the cooperative program.
- E. Develop consistent procedures for students entering into and exiting from the cooperative program.
- F. Coordinate interdistrict and interagency services and agreements required to implement educational plans and programs.
- G. Coordinate transportation, related services, and emergency services as needed. Related services for students are to be based upon IEP-designated needs. These services will be provided and paid for by each student's resident District, unless it has been determined by the IEP committee that it would be more appropriate to offer these services as part of the Discovery program. In this event, services will be billed as additional costs to the resident District(s) of student(s) receiving the related service(s). Student-specific services (e.g., 1:1 instructional aides, OT, PT, SLP, and other services) that are provided by the cooperative program will be billed to the resident District of the student, unless otherwise agreed in writing.
- H. Coordinate program and resident District personnel in accomplishing assessments, IEPs (to include resident District participation), and a full continuum of services for students.
- I. Provide shuttle transportation during the school day between identified learning centers.

VII. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE DISTRICTS

Each participating District acknowledges that by entering into this Interdistrict Cooperative Agreement it is causing financial commitments by other parties, and therefore, agrees not to terminate prior to the expiration date without the consent of NWESD 189 and any other party to this Agreement who would thereby suffer financially. In the event of such unilateral termination without consent, the terminating party agrees to indemnify all other parties from any financial loss that results from such termination.

Additionally:

- A. Each District acknowledges that Chapter 28A.155 RCW, Chapter 392-172 WAC, and Public Law 105-17 impose responsibilities on each resident District and that those responsibilities are not distinguished by delegation, in part or in total, under this Agreement.

To this extent, it is understood and agreed between the parties hereto that the purpose and intent of this Agreement is that NWESD 189 provide cooperative services for the special education program being conducted by the resident District for the students within the District

who otherwise qualify for such special education services. The resident District shall retain the responsibility to:

1. assure their particular students are receiving an appropriate education;
 2. comply with all provisions as requested by Chapter 28A.155 RCW, Chapter 392-172 WAC, and Public Law 105-17 (IDEA); and,
 3. incorporate Chapter 392-172 WAC and Public Law 105-17 (IDEA) required policies.
- B. District agrees to allow NWESD 189 to claim state reimbursement for shuttle transportation services in the event these services are provided by NWESD 189.
- C. Pupil transportation to and from school shall be the responsibility of the students' resident District.

VIII. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Disputes arising out of this Agreement shall be resolved in the following fashion:

- A. if the dispute is between participating districts, then the disputing parties will present their arguments first to the Director of Special Programs and Services of NWESD 189 to make a determination. If need be, it may then be referred to the Superintendent of NWESD 189.
- B. If the dispute is between a participating District(s) and NWESD 189, then the participating Districts will appoint someone to represent them, NWESD 189 will appoint someone to represent it, and those two parties will appoint someone as a third representative. This panel's decisions will be limited to the provisions of this Agreement, be determined by a majority vote, and be binding on the parties.

IX. TERMS OF AGREEMENT/TERMINATION

For any individual District, this Agreement begins with the 2007-2008 school year and shall be automatically renewed each year unless written notice of termination is provided to the NWESD 189 Superintendent on or before March 15 of the year preceding the year of intended termination.

The Advisory Council can vote, by a majority of a quorum (defined in Section V), to discontinue operating the cooperative program, with said discontinuance to be effective August 31 of the year of the decision; however, no termination decision can be made later than April 1 before the date of termination.

X. DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS ON TERMINATION/DISSOLUTION

All assets acquired by NWESD 189 and placed in service for the cooperative during this Agreement shall remain the property of NWESD 189. Any asset acquired by a resident District and used in the program, because a program component is situated within the resident district, will remain the property of the individual District.

XI. ASSIGNMENT/WAIVER/SEVERABILITY

No rights or responsibilities required or authorized by this Agreement can be assigned by any party hereto unless otherwise allowed in this Agreement.

No provision of this Agreement, or the right to receive reasonable performance or any act called for by its terms, shall be deemed waived by a breach thereof as to a particular transaction or occurrence.


If any term or condition of this Agreement or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other terms, conditions, or applications of this Agreement that can be given effect without the invalid term, condition, or application; to this end the terms and conditions of this Agreement are declared severable.

XII. HEADINGS/SIGNATURES/APPROVAL

The headings of each section of this Agreement are only provided for the aid to the reader. If there is any inconsistency between the heading and the context, the context will prevail.

By signing this Agreement, the parties acknowledge that they have read and understand this Agreement, including any supplements or attachments thereto, and do agree thereto in every particular. The parties further agree that this Agreement, together with any appendices, constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties and supersedes all communications, written or oral, heretofore related to the subject matter of this Agreement.


By signing below, each party affirms that this Agreement has been approved by his/her Board of Directors or he/she has been given authority by such Board to enter into this Agreement. If this approval is provided through a resolution, a copy of said resolution will be attached hereto.



Superintendent 5/17/07
Date

Northwest Educational Service District 189

Skagit County, Washington



Superintendent 4-26-07
Date

Edmonds School District

Snohomish County, Washington

APPENDIX A

Attachment for Snohomish Discovery Interlocal Agreement

Slots with projected cost per slot for 2007-2008 program year:

<u>Participating Districts</u>	<u>Average Student FTE</u>	<u>Estimated Cost Per Slot</u>	<u>Total Cost for 2007-08</u>
Edmonds	1	\$47,340	\$ 47,340
Everett	3	47,340	142,020
Granite Falls	2	47,340	94,680
Lake Stevens	2	47,340	94,680
Marysville	2	47,340	94,680
Monroe	4	47,340	189,360
Mukilteo	2	47,340	94,680
Northshore	3	47,340	142,020
Riverview	1	47,340	47,340
	20	TOTAL	\$1,041,480

Appendix to Interlocal Agreement

Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension,
Proposed Debarment, and Other Responsibility Matters

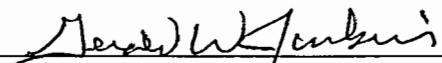
Northwest Educational Service District #189 (NWESD 189) certifies, and the District relies thereon in execution of this Agreement, that neither NWESD 189 nor its Principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded for the award of contracts by any Federal governmental agency or department;

"Principals", for the purposes of this certification, mean officers; directors; owners; partners; and, persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of subsidiary, division, or business segment; and similar positions).

NWESD 189 shall provide immediate written notice to District if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, including any renewals hereof, NWESD 189 learns that its certification was erroneous when made or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

NWESD 189's certification is a material representation of fact upon which the District has relied in entering into this Agreement. Should District determine, at any time during this Agreement, including any renewals hereof, that this certification is false, or should it become false due to changed circumstances, the District may terminate this Agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions therein.

April, 2007



Dr. Gerald Jenkins, Superintendent
Northwest ESD 189

Skagit County, City of Anacortes, Washington State