

**POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

**Fieldwork Placement Agreement with Cooperating School District**

This Fieldwork Placement Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into between Point Loma Nazarene University (“PLNU” or “University”) and the **Mount Diablo Unified School District** (the “District”).

Whereas, the University's curriculum requires its Advanced Program Candidates to complete a fieldwork experience working under the supervision of a University site supervisor and its Teaching Candidates to complete a fieldwork experience working under the supervision of a credentialed district teacher (“collectively, "Fieldwork Candidates"");

Whereas, the District wishes to aid in the educational development of the University’s Fieldwork Candidates and is willing to make its premises, faculty and students available for fieldwork practice; and

Whereas, the parties wish to document the guidelines, policies, and procedures for the placement of the University Fieldwork Candidates completing fieldwork experiences within the District;

Now, therefore, the parties agree as follows:

**I. General Terms**

- A. The District will accept Fieldwork Candidates for fieldwork practice for the times and durations set forth by the University and agreed to by the District. The District reserves the right to accept only the number of Fieldwork Candidates it deems to be feasible in light of available District faculty at any given time.
- B. The Fieldwork Candidate’s other duties may include, but are not limited to, classroom observation, classroom teaching, diagnosis of student learning problems, tutoring of students, grading and recording of student assignments, and assistance with record keeping. Additional assignments outside of the confines of the classroom may include, but are not limited to, lunchroom supervision, playground supervision, hallway duty, bus duty, faculty meetings, Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, professional development meetings, and parent-teacher conferences and working with individual and small groups of students.
- C. Fieldwork Candidates are required to follow the academic calendar of the District.
- D. The District shall appoint a certified teacher to supervise each Fieldwork Candidate (“District Site Supervisor”). District Site Supervisors shall meet the following criteria:
  - 1. The District Site Supervisor shall be a full-time member of the District’s faculty.
  - 2. The District Site Supervisor must have a minimum of 3 years teaching experience in the area of their credential and have been employed by the District for at least one year.

3. The District Site Supervisor must hold credentials in the field in which he/she is teaching.
  4. The District Site Supervisor must approve of having a Fieldwork Candidate assigned to them.
  5. The District Site Supervisor must meet all requirements of applicable credentialing agencies, including the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (“CCTC”).
- E. The University’s Dean of the School of Education shall also designate an appropriate person to supervise the Fieldwork Candidate (the “PLNU Site Supervisor”) in accordance with all CCTC requirements. The PLNU Site Supervisor will guide, counsel, instruct, and supervise Fieldwork Candidates. The PLNU Site Supervisor’s major responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
1. Conferencing with District Site Supervisors to whom the Fieldwork Candidates are assigned about the expectations of the University and District.
  2. Providing the District Site Supervisor with University resources for supervising a Fieldwork Candidate.
  3. Serving as the first point of contact for the University.
  4. Monitoring the Fieldwork Candidate’s progress.
  5. Observing, critiquing, and conferencing with the Fieldwork Candidate at least three times during the Fieldwork placement.
  6. Providing frequent feedback to the Fieldwork Candidate and District Site Supervisor regarding progress, problems, and recommendations.
  7. Being available to address the needs of both the Fieldwork Candidate and the District Site Supervisor.
  8. Following consultation with the District Site Supervisor, issuing a final grade to the Fieldwork Candidate.
- F. To the extent permitted by Federal, State, and local laws and regulations, and in a manner consistent with the District’s confidentiality requirements and policies, the District shall allow the Fieldwork Candidate access to information, including relevant documentation and reports.
- G. Fieldwork Candidates shall not be considered employees of the District and are not covered by any District compensation program or other insurance.

## **II. Removal of Fieldwork Candidates**

The District will notify the University in writing, prior to taking any action against a Fieldwork Candidate regarding any concerns or complaints about a Fieldwork Candidate’s performance or unsatisfactory conduct in the field placement. In such cases, the District will cooperate with the

University to address the issues, including without limitation steps to further train the Fieldwork Candidate and remediate the concerns. Except in circumstances where a Fieldwork Candidate presents an immediate threat to the health and safety of the District's students or personnel, the District shall not remove a Fieldwork Candidate from its facilities or fieldwork without engaging in the process described above.

### **III. FERPA**

Prior to the start of their placement, the University shall provide training to Fieldwork Candidates concerning the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended ("FERPA") and its implementing regulations. As part of this training, the University shall instruct Fieldwork Candidates about their legal obligation to comply with FERPA and its implementing regulations with respect to confidential information the Fieldwork Candidate encounters during his/her fieldwork placement.

### **IV. Background Checks**

For each Fieldwork Candidate, the University shall cause to be performed a criminal background check that complies with the minimum requirements set by the State of California. Prior to a Fieldwork Candidate beginning their field experience, the University shall review the results and exclude from participation any candidate whose background check would preclude the candidate from serving in the planned field experience. Additionally, all Fieldwork Candidates will be required to obtain and maintain a valid and current Certificate of Clearance from the CCTC before beginning their field experience and for the duration of their field experience.

### **V. Non-Discrimination**

The parties agree that neither will unlawfully discriminate in the selection of, or acceptance or participation by, any Fieldwork Candidate pursuant to this Agreement on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, veterans' status, marital status, citizenship, or any other characteristic protected by law.

### **VI. Compliance with Other Laws**

The University and District shall comply with all Federal, State, and local laws and regulations that are applicable to the subject matter of this Agreement.

### **VII. General Liability Insurance**

Both parties shall maintain in force during the term of this Agreement, bodily injury, property damage, and professional liability insurance, with coverage of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence and an annual aggregate of \$3,000,000 per occurrence, insuring itself and its agents and employees for their acts, failures to act, or negligence rising out of, or caused by, the activity which is the subject of this Agreement. Each party will provide the other proof of such insurance upon request.

### **VIII. Mutual Indemnification**

Each party shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other party, the other party's affiliates, and their respective trustees, directors, officers, employees, students, faculty, agents, representatives, successors and assigns (collectively "Indemnified Parties") against all damages, claims, actions, liabilities, losses and other expenses, including without limitation reasonable

attorney's fees, expert witness fees, consultant fees and other costs, incurred by or asserted against Indemnified Parties, whether or not a lawsuit or other proceeding is filed (“Claims”), that in any way arise out of or relate to (a) the indemnifying party’s acts, omissions, negligence or willful misconduct with respect to its performance under this Agreement; and/or (b) the indemnifying party’s non-compliance with any applicable Federal, State or local laws, rules or regulations with respect to its performance under this Agreement; provided, however, that an indemnifying party’s indemnity hereunder shall not apply or extend to any acts or omissions of the other party or its representatives.

**IX. Applicable Law**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of California and federal law.

**X. Severability**

In the event any provision of this Agreement is held by a court to be illegal, void, or otherwise unenforceable, all other provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect to the maximum extent permitted by law.

**XI. Term/Termination**

The initial term of this Agreement will be for three (3) academic years and shall extend from **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, through August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026**. This Agreement may be extended for successive one (year) academic year periods by mutual written consent of the parties.

Either party may terminate this Agreement, with or without cause, by providing 60 days’ written notice to the other party. However, in the event either party terminates the Agreement, Fieldwork Candidates that have already been placed shall be permitted to complete their placement unless the Fieldwork Candidate is otherwise removed pursuant to Section II of this Agreement.

**XII. Additional Terms**

- A. This Agreement is not intended to create any rights or interests for any other person or entity other than the University or District.
- B. Neither party may assign this Agreement, nor the duties and responsibilities contained herein, without the prior written consent of the other party.
- C. The University and District are independent entities and neither shall have, nor exercise, any control over the means, manner, or method by which the other performs its obligations under this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to create an agency relationship, employment relationship, or joint venture between the parties. Neither party may use the other’s name in a manner that is reasonably likely to suggest that the two are related without first obtaining the written consent of the other party. Furthermore, neither party intends for this Agreement to alter in any way their respective rights or their legal obligations.
- D. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous communications, negotiations, and agreements, written or oral, regarding the subject matter hereto. No

modification of or amendment or waiver to this Agreement will be effective unless in writing and signed by each of the parties.

- E. Failure by either party at any time to require strict performance of any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of that provision nor in any way limit enforcement of the provision. [signatures on following page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the dates set forth below.

**For Point Loma Nazarene University:**

Name: Kerry D. Fulcher, Ph.D.  
Title: Provost and Chief Academic Officer  
Address: Point Loma Nazarene University  
3900 Lomaland Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92106

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

**PLNU Contact:**

Name: Deborah E. Erickson, Ed.D.  
Title: Dean, School of Education  
Address: Point Loma Nazarene University  
4007 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 400  
San Diego, CA 92108

**For the District:**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

