**Board Memo**

**DATE:** 10/26/2023

**AGENDA ITEM DETAILS:**

**School/Department**

Human Resources / LSS

**Product Vendor or Grant Issuer**

University of the Cumberlands

**Product or Grant Name**

Option 9 MOA

**Date/Term (Beginning and End Dates/Year)**

January 1, 2024

**APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY & STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

03.11 Hiring (Certified); Goal 2: Empowered Workforce 2A, 2C, 2D

**DESCRIBE USE OF CONTRACT/PURCHASE/AGREEMENT**

Recent legislation resulted in the creation of a new path to teacher certification, Option 9: Expedited Route. This is an expedited route to certification that results in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The route requires a college or university to partner with a district or group of districts to develop a program that includes a paraprofessional/residency component and utilizes experienced teachers to provide coaching and mentoring. Though this route requires a candidate to be employed in a classified position while completing coursework.

This MOA with University of the Cumberlands will allow para educators within the District to obtain certification, at the conclusion of the 3 years of coursework, in one of the following areas:

* Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (IECE)
* Elementary
* Middle School
* High School
* Special Education

**FUNDING FOR PURCHASES AND OTHER REQUESTS:**

**Total Cost**

No budgetary impact

**Funding Source**

N/A

**\*If more than one funding source, list below along with amount or percent for each source**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**IF THIS IS A GRANT, ENTER AMOUNT TO BE AWARDED:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the Option 9 Memorandum of Agreement with University of the Cumberlands

**CONTACT PERSON: (submitter)**

Eric Ball, Director of Human Resources