

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN
BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

AND

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

This Agreement between Eastern Kentucky University (EKU or EPP) and the Beechwood Independent Schools Board of Education (Board) is entered into to create an expedited route (Option 9) to initial Kentucky teacher certification pursuant to KRS 161.048(10) and 16 KAR 9:110E. It is anticipated that Option 9 participants will be eligible to earn a bachelor's degree from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) and initial certification from the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board within three (3) school years.

By signing this Agreement, the Board agrees it will:

1. Only recommend Option 9 participants who are employed by the Board and able to gain work experience to supplement the reduced coursework in the Option 9 program created by this Agreement. Any costs associated with employment of the participants, including but not limited to wages and benefits, shall be the sole responsibility of the Board;
2. Ensure the availability of funding for each participant employed by the Board and pursuing Option 9 certification under this Agreement for the duration of the participant's Option 9 program. However, nothing in statute or in this Agreement should be interpreted to require a Board to continue employing the participant during or after completion of the Option 9 program;
3. Ensure the participant receives training on the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky Certified Personnel;
4. Utilize experienced teachers employed by the Board to provide coaching and mentoring to the participant;
5. Ensure at least one (1) mentor is certified in the area in which certification is being sought;
6. Ensure at least one (1) year of employment provides hands-on experience in the area in which certification is being sought;
7. Ensure the participant completes a minimum of two hundred (200) clock hours of field experience in a variety of school settings from primary through grade twelve;
8. Provide opportunities for the student teacher to assume major responsibilities for the full range of teaching duties, consistent with their planned certification content and grade range, during the third year of Option 9;
9. Maintain and share with the EPP all required electronic records;
10. Continue this partnership until the district's employed participants for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer employed by the Board; and,
11. No longer accept new candidates to the program after the Board chooses to end this partnership.

By signing this Agreement, EKU agrees to:

1. Ensure that Option 9, as set forth in this Agreement, does not negatively impact its accreditation;

2. Ensure admission requirements are met for Option 9 participants;
3. Provide participants the coursework and instruction necessary to, when coupled with the work experiences provided by the employing district, complete a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three (3) years; and,
4. Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

By signing this Agreement, ECU and the Board mutually agree to collaborate to fulfill the terms of the Option Nine Program Proposal attached hereto.

This agreement is entered into on the _____ day of _____, 20____ by

Justin R. Kaiser, Superintendent

University Representative