

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is made and entered by and between Franklin-Simpson High School (“Board” or “Franklin-Simpson High School”), 400 S College St, Franklin, KY, 42134, and Murray State University (“University” or “MSU”), 1375 Chestnut Street, Murray, Kentucky 42071, effective July 1, 2026.

RECITALS

- A. Board and MSU mutually desire to create a vibrant higher education environment at Franklin-Simpson High School to meet the needs of the Board’s high school students as they pursue two-year associate and four-year baccalaureate degrees.
- B. Board and MSU mutually desire to create an academic curriculum for the Board’s college-bound students by providing an atmosphere where rigorous dual credit coursework can take place.
- C. Board and MSU desire to partner, design, and implement a model for higher education that expands and enriches programs for the Board’s current and future high school students, which involves ensuring the Board’s high school students have meaningful access to MSU coursework in mutually agreed upon subjects. Enrollment in Racer Academy courses will be reserved exclusively for Franklin-Simpson High School students enrolled in the Racer Academy.
- D. Beginning in the fall semester of the 2026-2027 academic year, MSU will utilize designated instructional space for agreed upon dual credit opportunities for Board’s students in what will be known as the Franklin-Simpson High School Racer Academy.

TERMS

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board and MSU agree as follows:

- 1. **Franklin-Simpson High School Racer Academy.** As part of MSU’s Racer Academy dual credit program, by the execution of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Board and MSU are establishing the Franklin-Simpson High School Racer Academy (“Franklin-Simpson High School Racer Academy”), which shall endeavor to provide a robust and rigorous dual credit curriculum for the Board’s college bound high school students.
- 2. Awarding Murray State Credit
 - 2.1 Students/parents will be financially responsible for coursework after any

scholarships, discounts and grants have been applied payable at the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) dual credit rate. MSU shall waive additional course or web fees; however, the cost of textbooks remains the student's responsibility.

Course content will be supported by or delivered within Murray State's Learning Management System (currently Canvas by Instructure), and shall follow the Murray State course syllabus, including the course description and course learning outcomes. The course shall be representative of the appropriate rigor for a college course.

- 2.2 The High School will follow Murray State's existing policy and procedure for appropriately credentialing all instructors for Murray State Racer Academy courses, but any such credentialing remains at the discretion of the University.
- 2.3 The High School will encourage all Racer Academy students to apply for both Murray State University admission, as well as encourage application for all eligible scholarships.

3. Governance.

- 3.1. MSU and the Board's Superintendent or designee shall collaborate to ensure that Franklin-Simpson High School Racer Academy students have access to MSU coursework in-person at Franklin-Simpson High School in multiple core subjects.
 - 3.2 The Board, MSU, and the regional Kentucky Community & Technical College will work together to minimize the duplication of course offerings.
 - 3.3 Franklin-Simpson High School Racer Academy students are required to complete an application for enrollment through the MSU Racer Academy and to be admitted thereto prior to participating in coursework.
 - 3.4 Student Records - FERPA. The Board acknowledges that the education records of students are protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, as amended, 20 U.S.C. sec. 1232g ("FERPA"). The parties agree to comply with the requirements of FERPA and to protect the privacy of education records concerning any MCHS Racer Academy student.
4. **Term.** The initial term of this agreement shall be from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028. Unless either party gives written notice to the other party ninety (90) days prior to the end of any term, this memorandum shall automatically renew for successive two-year terms.

5. **Additional Terms.**

- 5.1 Trademarks/Service Marks. During the term of this MOU, either party may use the logos and marks belonging to the other party in furtherance of the purposes of this MOU.
- 5.2 Nondiscrimination. No student shall be denied equal educational opportunities by the Board or MSU because of his or her race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital or parental status, political affiliations or beliefs, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, genetic information, disability, or limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.
- 5.3 Relationship of Parties. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed to create a partnership, agency, or joint venture. Neither party has the authority to bind the other to any obligation or liability.

Murray State University

Franklin-Simpson High School

By: Dr. Ron K. Patterson
President
Murray State University

By: Franklin-Simpson High School
Board Chair
Simpson County Schools Board of Education

Date: _____

Date: _____