

AGREEMENT

Between the

THE EL PASO COLLABORATIVE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

and

As Principal and Chairperson of the Site Based Committee of _____ School, we agree to the following conditions for implementing the El Paso Collaborative's model as part of TEA's Improving Teaching and Learning Initiative.

- Prioritize the initiative as central to the school, not one of many efforts.
- Maintain the integrity of the Literacy in Action model that is comprised of a 2 to 2 ½ hour time block and includes Writer's Workshop, Reader's Workshop and a Skills block.
- Implement a standards-based effort to improve the functioning of the whole school, where all teachers are involved at the elementary school level. All Reading and English teachers are involved at the middle and high school level.
- Ensure high quality, standards-meeting teaching and learning for all students. This means that the bulk of teaching time and resources is focused on curricula that helps students develop the abilities and skills needed to meet high level standards and that far less time is devoted to pre-packaged, formula driven instruction.
- Ensure principal leadership of this initiative, including participation and attendance by the principal in the Collaborative's Principals' Seminar (equivalent to one half day per month).
- Staff and fund a full-time literacy leader/staff developer position, with strong background in reading and writing, whose full-time will be devoted to implementing the program, supporting teachers in improving classroom practice, and assisting the principal in schoolwide improvement efforts.
- Fully participate in professional development activities including attendance by the literacy leader/staff developer at a two-week summer session, one full day per week during the academic year, and other sessions as needed.
- Ensure attendance at the Collaborative's Literacy Convocation by the Principal and the Literacy Leader/Staff Developer for the full two-day period.

- Redirect resources such that professional development necessary to implement this program is prioritized, including support for teacher released time, substitutes and stipends.

- Prioritize engagement of parents in all aspects of the reform effort and facilitate that engagement by redirecting time of school parent liaison, or other staff, to train and support parents in this endeavor.

- Meeting all conditions associated with the Collaborative's Teams Leadership Institute, including attendance by the principal, assistant principal, counselor, literacy leader/staff developer and 5 to 7 teachers for the full three day period of the summer Institute and three additional half day sessions throughout the academic year.

- Compensate the Collaborative at the rate of \$5000, per year, to cover the cost of professional development, materials, and other services to be provided by the Collaborative.

- This document is not a legally binding contract; rather, it is a non-binding letter of intent. Any expenditure or redirection of resources (human, fiscal, physical, time, etc.) by the school will be contingent on availability and appropriate of budgeted funds. The campus, for this grant project, will make a commitment to use currently available funds allocated to the school to the extent possible and to the degree that mandated programs are not neglected.

Agreed to on this day October 7, 1999.

Principal

Executive Director, El Paso Collaborative

Chair, Site Based Committee

Deputy Director, El Paso Collaborative