

# Stanwood Camano School District #401

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## INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

**Lloy Schaaf**

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

### Memorandum

**To:** Stanwood-Camano School Board of Directors

**Fr:** Lloy Schaaf, Ed.D.

**Re:** Approval of contract between Snohomish County Superior Court-Juvenile Division and Stanwood-Camano School District

**Date:** December 6, 2016

Attached, please find a contract for Snohomish County Superior Court-Juvenile Division and the Stanwood-Camano School District. The contract will establish a Community Truancy Board (CTB) and identify the participant's responsibilities.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**That the Stanwood-Camano School District Board of Directors approves the contract with Snohomish County Superior Court-Juvenile Division.**

/th

**Memorandum of Understanding**  
**By and between**  
**Snohomish County Superior Court**  
**And**  
**The Stanwood-Camano School District**

**I. Purpose**

In June 2016, the State of Washington enacted House Bill 2449 to restructure the state’s compulsorily school attendance law (The “BECCA” Bill) (<http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/House%20Passed%20Legislature/2449-S2.PL.pdf>). The Legislature identified Community Truancy Boards (CTBs) as the preferred means to address truant behavior when preliminary methods to eliminate or reduce unexcused absences (RCW 28A.225.020) have not been effective in securing the child’s attendance at school. The law requires that juvenile courts create, through a memorandum of understanding (MOU), a coordinated and collaborative approach to address truancy with each school district within their county—including the establishment of a CTB. RCW 28A.225.026(1). Similarly, school districts must enter into an MOU with the juvenile court to operate a CTB. *Id.* at (2).

This MOU between the Stanwood-Camano School District (District) and Snohomish County Superior Court-Juvenile Division (Court) is intended to establish a CTB and to identify the parties’ respective responsibilities. The parties agree that all obligations stated in this MOU will be interpreted consistent with State and Federal laws.

**III. Authority**

The parties’ actions regarding truancy are governed by RCW 28A.225. The parties agree that the individuals who sign this MOU have the appropriate legal capacity and are duly authorized to do so. This MOU may be modified through the parties’ mutual signed, written consent.

The parties agree to the following:

**IV. District Responsibilities**

The contact person for Court in the District will be Dr. Lloy Schaaf.

The District intends to comply with each of the following requirements:

1. Inform students and parents of the compulsory education requirement under RCW 28A.225 via mail at the beginning of each school year.
2. Notify parents of students who have unexcused absences through the schools’ autodialer.
3. Notify parents and students of the potential consequences of continued unexcused absences.
4. Schedule a conference with the parent and student after appropriate number of unexcused absences.

5. Take steps to eliminate or reduce the youth's absences and document what those steps were.
6. File a truancy petition after seven (7) unexcused absences in one month or ten (10) unexcused absences in one school year.
7. Enter into an agreement with the youth and parent as appropriate.
8. Refer the student and parent to a CTB.
9. Perform a Washington Assessment of the Risks and Needs of Students (WARNS) assessment (prior to the CTB meeting) for students in grades 6-12.

These responsibilities are not intended to expand or modify the District's obligations under RCW 28A.225. The District will collaborate and participate in Snohomish County's Roving CTB until it ceases to operate. During this time period, the District will develop a CTB to operate independently. The District will supply the Court with a plan to operate a CTB by the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

**V. Court Responsibilities**

1. To support and partner with the Districts to develop a CTB.
  - a. Sharing the model established by the collaborative efforts of court, school, and community representatives via the Truancy Advisory Committee (TAC).
  - b. Providing initial training on how to run a CTB.
  - c. Work with identified District personnel to troubleshoot issues as the Districts establishes a CTB.
2. Provide support to facilitate scheduling of appointments and filing of petitions per RCW 28A.225.035 (and other court records).
3. Provide ongoing and periodic training related to truancy issues.

These responsibilities are not intended to expand or modify the Court's obligations under RCW 28A.225.

This MOU shall be in effect as of November 15, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 School District Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Presiding Judge or designee for Snohomish County Juvenile Court