SMMUSD and SMMCTA Joint Statement Implementation of Hybrid Model March 9, 2021

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District ("SMMUSD") and the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association ("SMMCTA"), collectively known as "the Parties," have reached an agreement on the implementation of the hybrid model in elementary schools.

On February 17, 2021, the Parties signed an agreement to implement Distance Learning Plus. However, rapidly improved case rates, the availability of vaccination for educators, and changes to Los Angeles County's reopening protocols for schools, prompted the District to ask to meet with SMMCTA to accelerate reopening plans. SMMCTA engaged with the District to come to an agreement that implements hybrid schedules. On April 12, elementary schools will implement a five-day school week with students attending school on-site/in-person four (4) days per week and engaged in one (1) day of synchronous/asynchronous learning.

This agreement immediately impacts the weeks prior to spring break. Specifically, the agreement includes two days of planning on March 11 and 12 and two days of on-site/in-person experiences: one the week of March 15 and one the week of March 22. Site principals will communicate with their school communities the specifics of their respective site plans. Schools will use this time to prepare, welcome students on campus, and to ensure that all necessary protocols are operational prior to full implementation of the hybrid model on April 12.

The Parties share an expressed interest to support students who will remain in distance learning only. The agreement reflects this shared interest by using a tiered response to try to keep students with their current teachers.

This agreement is an addendum (#9) to a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") signed by the Parties on August 7, 2020. SMMUSD and SMMCTA continue to utilize its interest-based process that has produced eight prior addendums to the original MOU regarding reopening activities authorized by LADPH.

The negotiating teams express their gratitude to the teachers, staff and members of the community who provided input regarding how hybrid could be implemented. The District team thanks SMMCTA for its responsiveness to updating plans in light of the recent changing health conditions within Los Angeles County.

Site principals will continue to work with their School Leadership Teams and Faculty Advisory Committees to prepare plans consistent with the agreement, which will be shared with parents. The agreement is linked below.

Addendum #9 – Hybrid Model

Dr. Mark Kelly, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Ms. Sarah Braff, President, SMMCTA