

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by and between the Colorado Department of Education ("CDE") and Teaching Strategies, LLC ("Contractor"). CDE and the Contractor are referred to individually as "Party" and collectively as "Parties." This MOU will become effective on the date of the last signature affixed to this document.

The purpose of this MOU is to clarify the responsibilities of CDE and the Contractor in relation to the use of *GOLD™ by Teaching Strategies®* ("*GOLD™*") for kindergarten readiness assessment in Colorado, and to describe new provisions that will be included in all kindergarten assessment contracts between the Contractor and Colorado school districts for the 2016–2017 school year. The measures outlined below are intended to mitigate privacy concerns and strengthen the security of information collected by Colorado educators as they use *GOLD™* for kindergarten assessment.

1. **By June 30, 2016 and thereafter, Contractor will encrypt PII Data at rest on central computing systems.** At a minimum, every instance of each child's first name, last name, and date of birth will be encrypted at rest. Backups and offline copies of data will also be encrypted, and no removable media, tape, or other portable devices will be used to transport data in an unencrypted form.
2. **During the 2016–2017 school year and thereafter, the parties will take the following measures to limit online documentation of kindergarten children's development and learning:**

Contractor will customize *GOLD™* for Colorado's kindergarten teachers ("User(s)") so that "off" is the default position of the feature that allows documentation including photographs and videos ("Documentation") to be uploaded and stored in *GOLD™*. Each User who is authorized to upload Documentation must follow an opt-in process to turn on the Documentation functionality. The process will require the User to collect the explicit written permission of every parent/guardian of every child in his or her class to upload Documentation. The Contractor will not be responsible for verifying User permissions.

3. **During the 2016–2017 school year and thereafter, Contractor will not provide CDE with access to any kindergarten data at the level of individual children.**
4. **For the 2016–2017 school year and thereafter, each Colorado district may utilize a version of *GOLD™* that includes a limited set of items that enables teachers to meet Colorado's minimal statutory requirements while maintaining the validity of the instrument. Individual teachers may use additional *GOLD™* items based on their district policies. The limited set will include the items highlighted below.**

## ***GOLD™ by Teaching Strategies: Objectives and Dimensions***

The following pages show the full, validated set of *GOLD™* objectives and dimensions, and the highlighted items constitute a smaller set that enables teachers to meet Colorado's minimal statutory requirements while maintaining the validity of the instrument.

### **I. SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL**

1. Regulates own emotions and behaviors
  - a. Manages feelings
  - b. Follows limits and expectations
  - c. Takes care of own needs appropriately
2. Establishes and sustains positive relationships
  - a. Forms relationships with adults
  - b. Responds to emotional cues
  - c. Interacts with peers
  - d. Makes friends
3. Participates cooperatively and constructively in group situations
  - a. Balances needs and rights of self and others
  - b. Solves social problems

### **II. PHYSICAL**

4. Demonstrates traveling skills
5. Demonstrates balancing skills
6. Demonstrates gross-motor manipulative skills
7. Demonstrates fine-motor strength and coordination
  - a. Uses fingers and hands
  - b. Uses writing and drawing tools

### **III. LANGUAGE**

8. Listens to and understands increasingly complex language
  - a. Comprehends language
  - b. Follows directions
9. Uses language to express thoughts and needs
  - a. Uses an expanding expressive vocabulary
  - b. Speaks clearly
  - c. Uses conventional grammar
  - d. Tells about another time or place

10. Uses appropriate conversational and other communication skills
  - a. Engages in conversations
  - b. Uses social rules of language

#### IV. COGNITIVE

11. Demonstrates positive approaches to learning
  - a. Attends and engages
  - b. Persists
  - c. Solves problems
  - d. Shows curiosity and motivation
  - e. Shows flexibility and inventiveness in thinking
12. Remembers and connects experiences
  - a. Recognizes and recalls
  - b. Makes connections
13. Uses classification skills
14. Uses symbols and images to represent something not present
  - a. Thinks symbolically
  - b. Engages in sociodramatic play

#### V. LITERACY

15. Demonstrates phonological awareness
  - a. Notices and discriminates rhyme
  - b. Notices and discriminates alliteration
  - c. Notices and discriminates smaller and smaller units of sound
16. Demonstrates knowledge of the alphabet
  - a. Identifies and names letters
  - b. Uses letter-sound knowledge
17. Demonstrates knowledge of print and its uses
  - a. Uses and appreciates books
  - b. Uses print concepts
18. Comprehends and responds to books and other texts
  - a. Interacts during read-alouds and book conversations
  - b. Uses emergent reading skills
  - c. Retells stories
19. Demonstrates emergent writing skills
  - a. Writes name
  - b. Writes to convey meaning

## **VI. MATHEMATICS**

20. Uses number concepts and operations
  - a. Counts
  - b. Quantifies
  - c. Connects numerals with their quantities
21. Explores and describes spatial relationships and shapes
  - a. Understands spatial relationships
  - b. Understands shapes
22. Compares and measures
23. Demonstrates knowledge of patterns

### **ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVES AND DIMENSIONS THAT ARE NOT CURRENTLY USED FOR COLORADO KEA**

## **VII. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

24. Uses scientific inquiry skills
25. Demonstrates knowledge of the characteristics of living things
26. Demonstrates knowledge of the physical properties of objects and materials
27. Demonstrates knowledge of Earth's environment
28. Uses tools and other technology to perform tasks

## **VIII. SOCIAL STUDIES**

29. Demonstrates knowledge about self
30. Shows basic understanding of people and how they live
31. Explores change related to familiar people or places
32. Demonstrates simple geographic knowledge

## **IX. THE ARTS**

33. Explores the visual arts
34. Explores musical concepts and expression
35. Explores dance and movement concepts
36. Explores drama through actions and language

## **X. ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

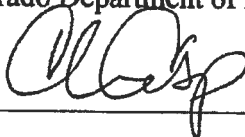
37. Demonstrates progress in listening to and understanding English
38. Demonstrates progress in speaking English

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this agreement.

Teaching Strategies, LLC

Colorado Department of Education

By: Edward Bleke

By: 

Title: Chief Financial Officer

Title: Interim Commissioner

Date: 12/21/2015

Date: 12-16-15