LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING . E-Learning Days

105 ILCS 5/10-20.56 authorizes school boards to adopt a research-based program or research-based programs for e-learning days district-wide that I permit student instruction to be received electronically while students are not physically present in lieu of the district's scheduled emergency days as required by Section 10-19 of this Code. The research-based program or programs may not exceed the minimum number of emergency days in the approved school calendar (i.e. 5 emergency days) and ensure that the specific needs of all students are met, including special education students and English learners, and that all mandates are still met using the proposed research-based program. The e-learning program may utilize the Internet, telephones, texts, chat rooms, or other similar means of electronic communication for instruction and interaction between teachers and students that meet the needs of all learners. The e-learning program must address the school district's responsibility to ensure that all teachers and staff who may be involved in the provision of e-learning have access to any and all hardware and software that may be required for the program.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and in order to protect the health and safety of students and staff, the Board of Education (the "Board") of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois (the "District") is adopting a researched-based e-learning program (the "E-Learning Program") pursuant to the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/10-20.56. Although certain procedural requirements for adoption of the E-Learning Program have been or will be waived by the Illinois State Board of Education, the Board and the Unit Five Education Association-IEA/NEA ("UFEA") recognize the importance of protecting the health and safety of students and staff, while at the same time continuing to provide excellent educational experiences through electronic instruction. Accordingly, the Board and UFEA will agree that in the case of extreme circumstances such as this, the deployment of "e-learning days" may be utilized by the District in accordance with an E-Learning Program approved by the Regional Office of Education. It is agreed that such days will count as student attendance days, and as work days for employees. The District will notify staff, students, and parents as soon as practicably possible regarding general expectations and responsibilities of the program. During said e-learning days, bargaining unit members will be digitally available to students and parents from 8:45am-1:45pm. During the work day, bargaining unit member work may look differently than a normal work day, and may include grading and assessment, planning, providing student feedback, and/or communicating with students and families.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5, MCLEAN AND WOODFORD COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

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Date: 3/13/2020

UNIT FIVE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION IEA/NEA