# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG

# STOCKTON UNIVERSITY AND GREATER EGG HARBOR REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made as of September 3, 2021 (the "Effective Date") by and between Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District ("GEHRHSD"), a public school system in Atlantic County, New Jersey and Stockton University ("Stockton"), a New Jersey public institution of higher education.

## **Purpose**

WHEREAS, GEHRHSD operates three high schools known as Oakcrest High School (OHS), Absegami High School (AHS), and Cedar Creek High School (CCHS). The GEHRHSD high schools are comprehensive high schools serving the communities of Galloway, Hamilton, Mullica, Egg Harbor City, and Port Republic (all in Atlantic County), and the communities of Green Bank and Lower Bank (Burlington County).

WHEREAS, Stockton is dedicated to providing students with the knowledge and experience to tackle the most important issues of our time; and

WHEREAS, Stockton has successfully provided dual credit/enrollment courses in many topic areas to more than thirty high schools in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, both institutions strive to offer educational opportunities that provide intellectual and personal growth.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the agreements below, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Stockton and GEHRHSD agree to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding so that all institutions can continue to advance their shared institutional mission.

### **Guaranteed Admission**

In recognition of GEHRHSD's academically rigorous college preparatory curriculum that exceeds the minimum core requirements of a high school education and earns high college placement of its graduates, Stockton and GEHRHSD hereby enter into this MOU to facilitate the seamless enrollment of GEHRHSD students into Stockton upon earning their high school diploma after three years of enrollment at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, or Cedar Creek High School.

Under this agreement, students at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, or Cedar Creek High School will be guaranteed admission into Stockton as full-time matriculated students under the following conditions:

- graduate from Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, or Cedar Creek High School with an earned high school diploma;
- earn a minimum GPA of 3.0 or better (students with GPAs below 3.0 will be reviewed on an individual basis); and
- satisfy all other admissions application requirements.

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• If a student does not meet Stockton's minimum admissions requirements, the student will be conditionally accepted to Stockton and encouraged to initially matriculate at Atlantic Cape under the existing Stockton Transfer Pathways partnership.

In accordance with the terms and condition of this MOU, Stockton will:

- waive the undergraduate admission application fee;
- provide on-site personal admissions advisement at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School for prospective students and parents;
- provide on-site general college search and financial aid workshops and presentations at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School; and
- award competitive academic and partnership scholarships to qualified students at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School.

In accordance with the terms and condition of this MOU, GEHRHSD will:

- publicize the agreement to students and parents of Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School;
- provide regular arrangements for Stockton admissions and financial aid counselors to visit and meet with students at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School; and
- develop a mutually agreed-upon process for mailing information about the Memorandum of Understanding to incoming students of Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School with the costs to be incurred by Stockton.

### Partnership Scholarships

Stockton will provide institutional academic and merit scholarships to qualified graduates of Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School. These scholarships are renewable for up to 4 years of undergraduate coursework provided the student remains a full-time student and maintains at least a Stockton Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 as defined by the Stockton. When a scholarship is awarded, Stockton will inform the student of the GPA requirements to ensure renewal of the scholarship. In accordance with the terms and condition of this MOU, Stockton will award a combination of academic and merit scholarships for the (2022-2023) academic year. Students are not required to submit SAT or ACT scores as part of the scholarship review process. Stockton will be utilizing both academic and extracurricular achievement to determine scholarship eligibility.

#### Academic:

Official High School Transcript

# Extracurricular:

- Work (part-time or summer jobs)
- Volunteerism or Community Engagement
- Family responsibilities
- School/Community clubs/organizations
- Arts/Music/Sports
- Other experiences that have been meaningful to the student

For scholarship consideration, students must complete the activity section within the Common Application or submit the Stockton University Scholarship Activity Survey. Students may enter up to ten (10) activities to be considered for scholarship consideration.

# **Dual Credit College Courses**

Stockton agrees to work collectively with the administration at GEHRHSD to increase the number of dual credit course offerings so that students at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School can complete 32 credits during their first three years of high school. Stockton will accept college credits earned by students at Oakcrest High School, Absegami High School, and Cedar Creek High School who are enrolled in the GEHRHSD's dual credit programs, provided that:

- the course(s) are taught by colleges and universities that are regionally accredited by organizations recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation;
- the course(s) are recorded on the regionally accredited college or university's official academic transcript;
- the student earns a grade of C or better; and
- the student enrolls at Stockton as a degree-seeking matriculated student.

## **Additional Opportunities for Collaboration**

Additionally, GEHRHSD and Stockton will agree to explore other appropriate ways the institutions might collaborate including:

- joint public relations, student recruiting, marketing, and promotion opportunities;
- joint grant-funding opportunities;
- visiting faculty lectures and professional presentation exchanges;
- student collaboration and peer mentoring;
- facility and other resource sharing opportunities;
- internship and cooperative education opportunities.

### Term, Renewal, and Termination

A. This Memorandum of Understanding shall act as an affiliation agreement among the parties so that the students and each institution may rely upon the intentions and actions of the other institutions. This MOU shall have an initial term of five (5) years from the Effective Date, and

the parties shall meet and review annually the status, assessments and any changes to support the educational opportunities set forth herein and as agreed to by the institutions.

- B. This MOU may be terminated by Stockton or GEHRHSD by written notice to the other institutions if:
  - 1. There shall have been a material breach of any of the agreements set forth in this MOU on the part of any institution, which breach (if susceptible to cure) is not cured within one hundred twenty (120) days following written notice to the institution committing the breach, or;
    - 2. An institution shall cease to maintain its accreditation or licensure, or;
  - An institution or any of its employees or agents shall engage in any conduct that could reasonably be expected to adversely affect the reputation of the institution seeking termination.
- C. After the initial five (5) year term, any institution may terminate this MOU for any reason or no reason upon one year's written notice to the other institutions.
- D. In the event that this MOU is terminated, it is understood and agreed that the termination will not apply to those students already accepted to Stockton and GEHRHSD under the terms of this MOU.

#### Compliance with Applicable Laws

- A. Each institution agrees to abide by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") and any other applicable federal and state laws/regulations addressing student privacy. Any student data proposed to be shared (whether before or after the execution of this MOU) will be shared only in compliance with FERPA or any other applicable federal and state laws.
- B. Stockton and GEHRHSD, in their programs and services, shall adhere to New Jersey's non-discrimination policy for Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity. In accordance with that policy, all institutions participating in this MOU will not discriminate based upon race; creed; color; national origin; ancestry; age; sex; marital status; familial status; affectional or sexual orientation; atypical heredity, cellular, or blood trait; genetic information; liability for training and service in the Armed Forces of the United States; or disability.
- C. This MOU will be governed by, and construed under, the laws of the State of New Jersey without regard to conflicts-of-laws principles.
- D. This MOU may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original of this MOU and all of which will be deemed to constitute the same letter. To the extent

permitted by law, a signature delivered via facsimile or email will be considered as an original for the purposes of acknowledging and agreeing to the terms of this MOU.

Date 9/3/2/

Date 9-3-21

GREATER EGG HARBOR REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mrs. Carol Houck, Board of Education President

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

Dr. Harvey Kesselman, President