

LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
Memorandum of Understanding with  
LOS RIOS COLLEGE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

**Background**

Ally is currently available for instructors as an opt-in feature within Canvas. It provides an accessibility status of attached files as well as guidance for remediating accessibility issues. Ally does not fix issues. However, without any intervention on the part of faculty, Ally provides alternative formats of attached files for all users. Alternative formats include Tagged PDF, HTML file, ePub, Electronic Braille, and Audio (mp3). When integrated into Canvas, Ally immediately makes these alternate formats available for users to download. It is important to note that the degree of accessibility within the alternate formats is dependent upon the level of accessibility in the original document.

The Educational Technology Committee and District Academic Senate support enabling Ally for all LRCCD Canvas courses effective Fall 2020, as a benefit to students, with the understanding that Ally information cannot and will not be used to penalize instructors as part of the peer review process. The Educational Technology Committee also recommends that, concurrent with enabling Ally, a communication be sent to instructors with links to resources explaining how to use Ally, what the student view of Ally looks like, and suggestions for explaining how students can take advantage of the alternate formats Ally provides.

**Intent**

The current accessibility report out of Ally has the potential to provide inaccurate information regarding the overall accessibility of the course. The LRCFT shares the interest in implementing the recommendations of the Educational Technology Committee and District Academic Senate to enable Ally in all Canvas courses, and agrees that information related to Ally not be used as part of any faculty evaluation and that faculty are not penalized for information related to the use of Ally.

**Agreement**

- The parties agree that effective for Fall 2020 and subsequent semesters, all LRCCD Canvas courses will have Ally automatically enabled.
- The parties agree that prior to enabling Ally for all courses in Canvas, faculty will receive a communication about Ally with links to resources explaining how to use Ally, what the student view of Ally looks like, and suggestions for explaining how students can take advantage of the alternate formats Ally provides.
- The parties agree that any information derived from Ally will not be used as part of any faculty evaluation and that faculty will not be penalized for information related to the use of Ally.

Signed by:

LRCCD: Jamey Nye, Deputy Chancellor and Jake Knapp, Associate Vice Chancellor  
LCFT: Dean Murakami, President and Belinda Lum, Chief Negotiator