## LRCCD/LRCFT Memorandum of Understanding

LRCCD Deaf Culture and American Sign Language Studies Departments

## **Background**

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, uncertainty regarding availability of vaccines, and the continuing concerns for public health make it difficult to predict when our colleges can return to normal operations. The Federation and District have a shared interest in protecting the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff.

Currently, the State of California has a mandatory mask ordinance. It is unknown when this will be lifted. Additionally, LRCCD is currently developing safety protocols related to the future re-opening of the LRCCD Campuses.

The current safety precautions mandated by the State, and potential mask wearing protocols directly impact the pedagogy of classes taught in the Deaf Culture and American Sign Language Studies Departments across the District. For example, faculty and students must be able to see non-verbal facial expressions, to touch their face while signing. This is integral to reaching the student learning outcomes for their courses.

## Agreements

- 1. Deaf Culture and American Sign Language Studies Departments will not be required to return to onground classes until the mask mandate imposed by Los Rios Community College District is lifted.
- 2. All courses will be offered in the online modality,
  - a. If the LRCCD is no longer under a local declaration of emergency, courses must have nonemergency DE approval from the curriculum committee.

COLLEGE DISTRICT	LOS RIOS COLLEGE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS
Jamey Nye, Deputy Chancellor	Belinda Lum, Chief Negotiator
Chanelle Whittaker Associate Vice Chancellor of HR	Jason Newman, President
<u>4/26/2021</u> DATE	<u>4/26/2021</u> DATE