



## **Memorandum of Understanding**

### **Colonial Connections Project**

The Colonial Connections Project will be the method by which the Shrewsbury Public Schools will endeavor to meet the following strategic goals under the district's strategic priority of *Connected Learning for a Complex World*:

- Build community partnerships with businesses, institutions, and individuals in order to increase access to experiential learning and career awareness and to enhance learning in the STEAM fields (science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics)
- Provide opportunities that help students develop independence after graduation, including exposure to career choices

In order to meet these goals, our school district needs to develop three key elements of capacity:

- 1) A leadership role that can devote time and attention to establishing and nurturing partnerships with local businesses and other institutions (higher education, non-profits)
- 2) The ability to transport small groups of students off site for "real-world" learning experiences
- 3) Funding for special events, communications, and associated equipment and supplies

The Colonial Connections Project is a bridge between Shrewsbury Public Schools and the business community that provides opportunities for our students to develop real-world skills and career awareness in order to prepare them for future success beyond their education and to help them decide on their higher education and career paths.

### **Benefits for SFCU**

- Designated and named as the "Signature Sponsor" of this innovative program and school-business partnership
- Significant brand exposure through exclusive on-vehicle advertising with SFCU logo on van to be used for program transportation
- Commitment to host Colonial Connections business partnership meetings at SFCU, bringing many local business leaders through SFCU's doors on a regular basis.

**Benefits for SFCU (continued)**

- Dedicated and lead presence on program website with SFCU click-through logo
- Dedicated presence with SFCU click-through logo on email blasts regarding Colonial Connections news sent to the families of over 6,200 students
- Ongoing mentions/credits on social media posts made by the Colonial Connections program

**Benefits for SPS**

In return for the above, SFCU agrees to the following commitment over a five-year period in the form of annual gifts to the Shrewsbury Public Schools, totaling \$400,000 in a declining contribution schedule:

Fiscal Year	Contribution from SFCU	Use of funding
FY 2020	\$200,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Purchase van for Colonial Connections transportation of students to offsite, real-world learning opportunities (\$45,000)</li><li>● Fund addition of Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships &amp; Well-Being (\$145,000)</li><li>● Colonial Connections activities (\$10,000) (e.g., career fair, learning project curriculum materials, career &amp; parent night keynote speakers, etc.)</li></ul>
FY 2021	\$93,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships &amp; Well-Being position offset (\$85,000)</li><li>● Colonial Connections activities (\$8,000) (e.g., career fair, learning project curriculum materials, career &amp; parent night keynote speakers, etc.)</li></ul>
FY 2022	\$57,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships &amp; Well-Being position offset (\$50,000)</li><li>● Colonial Connections activities (\$7,000)</li></ul>
FY 2023	\$33,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships &amp; Well-Being position offset (\$30,000)</li><li>● Colonial Connections activities (\$3,000)</li></ul>
FY 2024	\$17,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Assistant Superintendent for Community Partnerships &amp; Well-Being position offset (\$15,000)</li><li>● Colonial Connections activities (\$2,000)</li></ul>

## **Term**

The term of this partnership understanding is July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2024.

## **Successor Understanding**

Both parties will express their intent to make a successor understanding no later than October 1, 2023 so as to ensure for continuity of the program and provide adequate time for budget building for each party. Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union has the right of first refusal to maintain its designation as the “Signature Sponsor” to make a successor understanding with the Shrewsbury Public Schools for the Colonial Connections Project subject to negotiations between the two parties. This right of first refusal must be exercised and result in a successor understanding by December 1, 2023 so as to ensure continuity of the program and ensure budget resources are available.

## **Ownership Rights for Vehicle, Equipment, Supplies**

All equipment, supplies, and the Colonial Connections vehicle purchased using funds donated by the Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union will be sole property of the Town of Shrewsbury under the management of the School Department.

## **Right to Seek Other Business Sponsors/Partnerships and Supplemental Funding**

The Shrewsbury Public Schools retains its right to seek additional business partners, funding, and in-kind good/services from other donors to operate the Colonial Connections Program. However, SFCU will maintain its status as the named “Signature Sponsor”.

## **School District Commitment to the Colonial Connections Program**

The school district agrees to fund the balance of program costs to maintain the continuity of the program subject to annual appropriation.

## **Indemnification and Hold Harmless Agreement**

Each party shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the other party, including affiliates and each of their respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, representatives, agents, successors and assigns from and against all claims against one another or of third parties, and all associated losses, related to the Colonial Connections Program, to the extent permitted by law.

## **Termination of Understanding**

This Understanding may be terminated by either party provided that they give the other party one (1) year’s notice in writing.

## **Sole and Entire Understanding**

This Memorandum of Understanding represents the entire and sole understanding between both parties for the Colonial Connections Project partnership and all of its binding terms.

By signing below, I certify that the governing board of my organization has approved this understanding and the entirety of its terms and conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Palitsch, Chairperson  
Shrewsbury School Committee

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Thomas Josie, Chairperson  
Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date