

AGREEMENT OF EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION OF MEXICO AND THE CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PRIOR COLLABORATION

The bilateral educational and cultural cooperation between the Secretary of Public Education of Mexico and the State Department of Education of California began in 1983 at which time the collaboration was in the area of teacher training. Courses in language, methodology, and children's literature were developed especially for the last five years of the exchange between the two educational systems.

In November of 1984 in Los Angeles, representatives from both agencies met to discuss and analyze the possibility of implementing a program which would meet the needs of the Spanish-speaking population and which would be developed for educators of California.

Subsequently, it was considered that in order to implement a program of this nature, it would be advantageous for North American teachers to be assisted by Mexican teachers who teach the aforementioned target population.

In January of 1985, at the invitation of the authorities of the State Department of Education in California, Mexican and Californian representatives met in Sacramento to propose the Exchange of ideas and analyze, among other topics, the possibility of sending Mexican teachers to teach classes in the American educational system.

In November 1986 at the International Seminar on Bilingual Education in Mexico, U.S.A. and Canada held in Oaxtepec, Morelos, representatives continued to explore the possibilities of signing an agreement between the two agencies and of exploring the various options of an exchange and collaboration.

In January 1987, in Anaheim, California, representatives from both agencies again met with the intent to detail and sign an Agreement of Exchange and collaboration which would not be limited exclusively to sending Mexican teachers to teach in the educational system of California, but, also to explore the mutual benefits in the area of cultural and educational exchanges which would necessarily take the elaboration of a document which both parties would analyze and revise with the intent to sign.

In consideration of the above, both the Mexican and North American parties agree that signing of this Agreement of Exchange and Collaboration is based in part on the contents of the program of cultural and educational cooperation between the United States of Mexico and the United States of America for the period between 1987-1990, which was signed at the Sixth Conference of the Cultural and

Educational Commission Between both countries in Washington, D.C. on June 1, 1987. That program, in Education Chapter I, clause 7 says:

“The two parties encourage contact between SEP and state departments of education and school districts from the United States of America. With respect. To the Mexican side, SEP demonstrates its interest in continuing to support the type of activities which are delineated in the Agreement of Exchange and Collaboration between the General Director of International

Relations for the Secretary of Public Education of Mexico and the State Department of Education of Louisiana, related to the teaching of Spanish as a second language and which was signed on April 15, 1986.

OBJETIVES

Establish cooperative educational and cultural ties which expand the framework of bilateral relations and reaffirm the experience achieved by both educational systems.

Carry out comparative studies which would permit a knowledge of pedagogical and technical innovations with respect to various areas of instruction.

Promote an exchange of specialists in educational and cultural programs which permit capacity building and which improve the academic preparation of our human resources.

BASIC APPROACH

Within the framework of this Agreement, the Secretary of Public Education and the State Department of Education of California will facilitate the development of programs between various cultural and educational institutions.

Both parties will establish adequate mechanisms to execute joint programs which enrich the activities of our teachers.

These parties acknowledge the need to establish long and short range educational programs that are beneficial to both Mexico and the State of California.

These programs will include, among others, the following:

- A. Reciprocal visits of administrative personal from the two educational agencies.

The States Department of Education wishes to provide its educational administrative staff the opportunity to visit Mexico in order to increase their knowledge and understanding of Mexico's educational system. The Mexican Secretary of Public Education, which offers these type of programs

through the Department of International Relations will explore the possibility of receiving a group of educational administrators from California, Upon request, the California state Department of Education would prepare a similar program for administrative personnel involved in education in Mexico.

- B. Reciprocal staff development programs for teachers from California in Mexico and for teachers from Mexico in California during the summer.

California has expressed a need to implement staff development programs in bilingual education for elementary and secondary teachers during the summer month. The secretary of Public Education in Mexico offers these programs.

The California State Department of Education and a selected university will continue offering English as a second language courses and programs for Mexican teachers during the summer.

- C. Academic Collaboration with Individual School Districts

California Schools Districts have expressed an interest in contracting Mexican teachers work in the educational system in California.

In this report, priority will be given to said school districts which adhere to this document which programs that assist in the development of education as well as to districts which constitute a part of this agreement and would be confirmed by the sanctioning authorities (see Attachment 1)

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The Secretary of Public Education of Mexico will explore the possibility of sending to California cultural programs which would include theatre, music, painting, sculpture, dance and handicrafts as well media and social communication programs based on cost sharing.

CONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS AND PLANNING TO RESPOND TO ONGOING NEEDS

The Secretary of Public Education of Mexico and the California State Department of Education Agree to continue and expand these programs and activities in cultural and educational areas. Both parties will maintain communication and will meet annually to evaluate the existing programs and to plan responses to future needs.

The signing Parties Agree to:

The California State Department of Education will:

1. Provide, in a timely manner, the Secretary of Public Education with all pertinent information regarding activities and programs included in this agreement.
2. Make the necessary arrangements to enable Mexican teachers to be contracted and placed in the state educational system.
3. facilitate the participation of Mexico public school teachers of English in training in current methodologies in English language instruction through summer program during the term of this Agreement.
4. Facilitate the participation of Mexican teachers and students of public secondary schools in courses on the planning and development of computer instruction.
5. Encourage the exchange of instructional materials and the training of teachers in the area of technical/vocational education at an advanced level.
6. The California State Department of Education will disseminate information to, and encourage the participation of, its teachers in staff development programs and courses organized by the Secretary of Public Education of Mexico.
7. The California State Department of Education will recognize and endorse all the programs that are derived from this Agreement which are in force and valid during the period to which both parties agree.

The Secretary of Public Education in Mexico will:

1. Provide, in a timely manner, the California State Department of Education with all pertinent information regarding activities and programs included in this agreement.
2. Pre-select teachers from Mexico who meet California credentialing requirement, and provide support and orientation for said teachers in conformity with specific programs which may be added to this Agreement.
3. Encourage Mexican teachers of English to participate in summer programs which offer courses in methodologies of teaching English as a second language during the term of this Agreement.
4. Collaborate with California in the supervision and evaluation of Mexican teachers placed in California Schools.
5. Cooperate to the extent possible with the representatives of the Department of Education to develop educational guides and materials.

6. Promote the exchange of educational and cultural materials, including audio-visual aids that encourage the understanding of both educational systems.
7. The Secretary of Public Education of Mexico will recognize and endorse all the programs that are derived from this Agreement which are in force and valid during the period to which both parties agree.

This Agreement will be in force for two years beginning with the date signed and may be renewed, if both parties are willing, for periods agree upon for the purposes stipulated.

Both parties may revoke this Agreement of Exchange and Collaboration by means of six month advance written notice.

For the Secretary of Public
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For The California State
Department of Education

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Oct. 8, 19876
Date

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Date

ATTACHMENT 1

Collaborative program between the Secretary of Public Education of Mexico and the Los Angeles Unified School District for 1987-1989.

OBJETIVES

- Support the educational programs of the Los Angeles Unified School district with Mexican teachers.
- Enrich the educational experience of Mexican teachers and Americans who will share classrooms in the district schools.
- Develop comparative studies that allow us to understand pedagogical innovations in the area of bilingual education.
- Promote an exchange of educational materials, bibliographies and visual aids between the school district and the Secretary of Education.
- Explore the possibility of organizing in the district, once a year, a book fair of materials published by Secretary of Public Education.

The signing parties agree to the following:

The Los Angeles Unified School District will:

1. Contract a maximum of 25 Mexican teachers who meet the requirements of the pattern of academic preparation for the State of California to work in positions as bilingual teachers in the Los Angeles Unified School district.
2. Limit the contract of each Mexican teacher to a maximum of two years.
3. Perform the final selection of the candidates in Mexico City during the first 20 days in March each year. Selection in 1987 will be made prior to August 10th.
4. Offer an orientation program to the selected teachers before each school year begins.
5. Pay each Mexican teacher a salary that represents the equivalent of an amount United States teachers receive in the State of California.
6. Assist the participating teachers to obtain housing upon their arrival in Los Angeles.
7. Provide information about how to obtain a credit union loan to Mexican teachers to cover initial and food cost.

The secretary of public Education will:

1. Pre-select the teachers for this program who meet the requirements of the pattern of academic preparation for teaching credentials in the State of California, U.S.A.
2. Collaborate in the supervision and evaluation of the Mexican teachers performance.
3. Collaborate with California in the evaluation of the program.
4. Arrange for the granting of an advance for the selected teachers to purchase round trip airline tickets from Mexico-Los Angeles- Mexico, which would be reimbursed within a maximum of three months beginning with the date work commences.
5. Promote an exchange of educational materials, bibliographies and visual aids between the school district and the Secretary of Education.
6. Facilitate the organization and conduct of a book fair in the school district with materials published by the Secretary.

The California State Department of Education Will:

1. Provide to the Secretary of Public Education the requirements of the pattern of academic preparation for teaching credentials in the State of California, U.S.A.
2. Examine the candidates pre-selected by the Secretary of public Education to ensure that they qualify for teaching credentials, and that they have the requisite level of English proficiency to work in California, U.S.A. schools.
3. Implement, with the Los Angeles Unified School District, the visa procedures for the Mexican teachers.
4. Facilitate the registration of Mexican teachers in California universities so that they can be trained in the various pedagogical areas that are offered in higher education in the state.
5. Jointly supervise with the signing parties the effective development of the program.

For the Secretary of Public
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For the California State Department
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Instructional Support Services
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Oct. 8, 1987
Date

Oct. 8, 1987
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For the Los Angeles Unified
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Irene M. Yamahara
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Administrative Coordination
Certificated Personnel

10-19-87
Date