

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between



the Kansas State Department of Education



and

the Académie d'Orléans-Tours, France

BACKGROUND

In February 2009, representatives of the Kansas State Department of Education (hereafter referred to as the Department) and representatives of the *Académie d'Orléans-Tours* (hereafter referred to as the *Académie*) began a dialogue to discuss the details of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the mutual benefit of both the State of Kansas and the *Académie d'Orléans-Tours* in the field of education.

The undersigned:

Inspired by a common desire to strengthen ties between citizens of their respective territories, to collaborate in efforts to craft new educational models of which intercultural elements are essential, and to unify efforts to global understanding;

Convinced of the importance of English and French as languages of global communication in economics, science, history and culture;

Convinced of the possibilities that the collaboration of these entities can offer to the field of education;

This Memorandum of Understanding is hereby signed in due form, and in accord with the general principles established as follows:

I: GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The *Académie* and the Department have established that cooperative programs developed under this MOU will:

1. foster cultural and educational ties between the citizens of the respective communities;
2. advocate for high quality learning of the American language and culture in the *Académie d'Orléans-Tours* as well as of the French language and culture in the state of Kansas ;

3. promote mobility between the *Académie* and Kansas, to the benefit of students and of teachers, and promote school partnerships ;
4. improve their mutual knowledge and comprehension of the educational system of their partner ;
5. allow teachers and educational administrators to improve their knowledge in international issues and programs;
6. share resources and develop tools for the teaching of the French and English languages as well as Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) in English and French.

II. COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

The basic means of cooperation between the Department and the *Académie* will be implemented through the following programs:

1. **Collaboration between schools:** connect schools through specific pedagogical projects. These schools will be able to develop educational, linguistic and cultural projects together through Information and Communication Technologies (distance exchanges for students and sharing of resources or creation of teaching tools for teachers). Each school will be responsible for conducting these projects.
2. **Student exchanges:** facilitate internship opportunities for students in the partner region; help students from the partner region in their search for companies in order to do internships.
3. **Teacher exchanges and in-service training:** promote one-year "job-to-job" teacher exchanges in the national programs between France and the U.S.; institute short term observation and in-service opportunities for both teachers of foreign languages and other subjects in order to learn how their subjects are taught in the partner region; encourage the exchange of teaching methods and ideas as well as any other area of mutual interest through new technologies.
4. **Educational and institutional cooperation:** enable Kansas educators and personnel of the *Éducation Nationale* to enrich their knowledge of the teaching methods and practices and the educational systems of their partner through exchange seminars via ITV.

III. EVALUATION

A yearly joint report will assess the progressive implementation of the program and propose changes and improvements, if necessary. This report will be sent to

the Rector of the *Académie d'Orléans-Tours* and to the Commissioner of Education at the Kansas State Department of Education. A copy will be sent to the French Cultural Service at the Consulate General of France in Chicago.

IV. DURATION

1. The term of this M.O.U will be four years from the signed date. It may be terminated by either the Department or the *Académie* by written notice six months in advance.
2. Unless otherwise stipulated, any addendum to this M.O.U will take effect when signed by the Department and the *Académie*.
3. This M.O.U. will be renewed automatically for one year unless a written request for nullification is made prior to the expiration of the four-year term 30 days before the expiration date, in which case an addendum or a new memorandum will have to be signed.
4. The termination will not impact upon the rights and liabilities of both parties engaged in projects already started.
5. This formal agreement is signed in English and in French. The two documents are equally regarded.

Signed March 29, 2013

in Topeka, Kansas

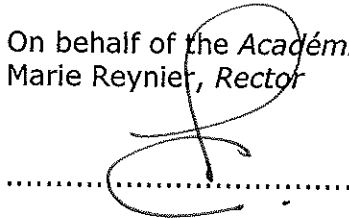
On behalf of the Kansas State Department of Education,
Diane DeBacker, Commissioner of Education



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in Orleans, France

On behalf of the *Académie d'Orléans-Tours*
Marie Reynier, Rector



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In Washington, D.C.

On behalf of the French embassy in the U.S.A.
Antonin Baudry, cultural counselor

