



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Northwest Educational Services District 189 – Behavioral Health Services Interlocal Agreement
DATE: June 7, 2021

Attached is an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Northwest Educational Services District (ESD) 189 for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for substance use disorder prevention services necessary to contribute to the improvement of behavioral health outcomes. The Student Assistance Program is an evidence-based and cost-beneficial program designed to support a range of behavioral health needs and increase access to critical school and community services. The Northwest Educational Service District continues to exceed expected services levels and to demonstrate positive outcomes that meet identified goals, as highlighted in the attached exhibits.

Services will primarily support a Student Assistance Professional in the Nooksack Valley School District, ensuring that all seven school districts maintain these prevention and intervention services.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

The source of funding for this agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$121,000, is the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization and the Behavioral Health Program Fund. Funding for this agreement is included in the 2021 budget. Council approval is required per RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

▪ **Differences Between Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract; however, funding for these services has been provided through similar contracts between Whatcom County and Northwest ESD 189 since 2014.

Please contact Anne Deacon, Human Services Manager at 360-778-6054 (ADeacon@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

