

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE PATTERSON FOUNDATION  
AND  
GOCIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUMMER LEARNING ACADEMY**

WHEREAS, the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is a community wide effort in Manatee and Sarasota counties to help children, especially those from low-income families, succeed in school by ensuring they read on grade level by the end of third grade;

WHEREAS, the statistics are troubling: 67 percent of children nationwide and more than 80 percent of those from low-income families are not proficient readers by the end of third grade;

WHEREAS, 40% of all third graders in Manatee County and Sarasota County are unable to read proficiently by the end of third grade;

WHEREAS, the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading was launched to reverse this potentially catastrophic trend by supporting common-sense solutions at the federal, state, and local levels;

WHEREAS, summer is a time of great inequity for young people. Over the summer, many young people and their families lose access to critical support that keeps them safe, healthy, and engaged in learning;

WHEREAS, research shows that low-income children can lose two months or more of reading skills over the summer, and children who do that consistently can wind up two years behind their classmates by the end of sixth grade;

WHEREAS, summer learning can be bolstered by coming up with effective ways to get more kids engaged in independent reading and encouraging communication about what they have read to ensure understanding;

WHEREAS, research shows that reading six books at the appropriate reading level during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing; and,

WHEREAS, summer learning is a key solution to closing academic and opportunity gaps that plague many communities across the country. Recent research from the RAND Corporation funded by The Wallace Foundation shows that high-quality summer learning programs can not only curb summer learning loss, they can even help boost student achievement. When children continue to learn during the summer, they are healthier, safer, and smarter, and their schools and communities are more successful.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants and consideration contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:



I. Program Name: Suncoast Summer Book Challenge 2017 ("SSBC")

II. Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"):

The Patterson Foundation ("TPF")  
2 N. Tamiami Trail, Suite 206  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
(941) 952-1413  
Beth Duda  
bduda@thepattersonfoundation.org

and

**Summer Location**

Name of location: Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy

Contact Name: Tamara Ellis

Address: 3450 Gocio Rd Extention

City, State, Zip: Sarasota, FL 34235

Phone Number: (941) 361-6405

Contact email: TAMARA.ELLIS@sarasotacountyschools.net

Facebook Page: facebook.com/sarasotacountyschools

Twitter Handle(s): twitter.com/Sarasotaschools

III. Effective Date of this MOU: This MOU will be executed and effective on the date of the final signature below.

IV. Termination Date of this MOU: Upon completion of the Suncoast Summer Book Challenge 2017 at the Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy.

V. Program Duration: Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will choose the duration of the SSBC at its location.

VI. Program Description: The SSBC is a program designed to encourage a culture of reading and summer learning. Any elementary school student in Manatee or Sarasota counties can participate.

TPF will provide the following support for Summer Locations serving predominantly low-income families (as determined by free and reduced lunch data) who fully participate in the SSBC.

Full Participation includes:



1. Each location will appoint one SSBC Leader/Contact person. This person will be responsible for communicating all summer learning plans and reporting pertinent information to TPF.
2. All adults and counselors who will be interacting with the children participating in the SSBC will participate in an orientation/information session. TPF will work with Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy to determine date, time, and content included in the orientation/information session. Volunteers may be included, if Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy would like to have them participate.
3. All participating students will be provided with the official SSBC Log.
4. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will award silicone bracelets, provided by the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, to students for reading the appropriate books. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will award the bracelets at least twice a week at Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy. (There will be a color system in place for the bracelets, one color for each book read up to 6 books.)
5. Students reaching 4 books read, 5 books read, 6 books read and beyond will be acknowledged in print at the Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy in at least one way. (For example: on a bulletin board, on a poster, in a newsletter, in an electronic letter home or listed on a board.)
6. A culture of reading will be embraced and encouraged by all staff members interacting with the children. The emphasis will be on cultivating a love of reading. Experiential learning related to reading will be offered.
7. The contact at Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will share their experiences each week during the summer (For example: sharing photos, sharing anecdotes, frequent Facebook posts, each location will provide at least one blog entry about activities and experiences.) demonstrating how they are engaging students in a love of reading.
8. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will keep a record of all participating children, including the name of the school they will be attending in the fall, their school identification # (n-number) and the number of books they have read. TPF will send a weekly survey to Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy each Friday to provide this and other information. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will respond to the survey by 6pm on each Friday.
9. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy agrees to encourage honesty in the accurate accounting of books read. Gocio Elementary School Summer





Learning Academy will ask each student, staff member and volunteer to recite the following Integrity Pledge:

**Integrity Pledge for students, staff, and educators:**

**I understand it is my responsibility to keep my brain, body, and character strong. I know that reading books over the summer is important for my brain and my future. I will keep a truthful record in this log of books I have read this summer. Watch as I build a better me!**

10. Upon completing the Integrity Pledge, the student will receive a packet explaining the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge which is to be shared with his/her parents.
11. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will partner with approved AFTA teaching artists, Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall Educators, county librarians, or other approved trained educators to plan at least two summer reading activities each week of the program. An emphasis on engagement and fun is strongly recommended. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy must present its list of partners to TPF prior to receiving the first support payment from TPF.
12. Support dollars received by TPF must be used to promote summer reading and may be used to compensate approved AFTA teaching artists, Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall educators, authors, librarians, or dedicated reading staff or remedial educators.
13. Once a child has read 6 books at the appropriate level, Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will give the child a golden bracelet. Information on students receiving golden bracelets will be sent to TPF electronically each Friday by 6:00pm during each week of the program. (TPF will send a weekly survey to Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy each Friday to provide this and other information. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will respond to the survey by 6pm on each Friday.)

VII. TPF will provide the following for fully participating Summer Locations:

1. Programs with **more** than 30 children enrolled in the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge: (The Summer Program must be open at least three days each week to qualify.)
  - a. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will receive \$400 for conducting the staff orientation/information session; and
  - b. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will receive \$500 for each week the Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy program is in session. (For example a 6-week program with 30 or more children will receive \$400 for orientation and \$3,000 for the program, for a total of \$3,400. Likewise, a 10-week program would receive \$5,400.)



2. Summer programs with **at least 10 but fewer than 30 children** enrolled in the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge: (The Summer Program must be open at least three days each week to qualify.)
  - a. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will receive \$400 for conducting the staff orientation/information session; and
  - b. Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will receive \$200 for each week the Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy program is in session. (For example a 6-week program with more than 10 but less than 30 children will receive \$400 for orientation and \$1,200 for the program, for a total of \$1,600. Likewise, a 10-week program will receive \$2,400.)
3. If all conditions are met, payments from TPF to Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy will be as follows: 50% on or around June 1, 2017 and 50% on or around July 20, 2017.

VIII. Bonus Pool: A bonus pool of \$50,000 will be established by TPF and used as follows:

- TPF will obtain i-Ready reading data for each student from the last diagnostic test prior to summer and compare this to the first diagnostic when students return in the fall for all students, K-3, participating in the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge.
- Incoming Kindergarten students will be given pre and post reading tests by the Summer Location. A common measurement tool will be used, and this tool will be determined by Summer Location, and approved by TPF.
- The bonus pool of \$50,000 will be set aside to be awarded to fully participating Summer Locations based upon the K-3 i-Ready results of their students.
- The bonus pool will be split according to the number of Golden Bracelets awarded by each summer location over the summer. Summer Location will be allocated a % of the bonus pool.
- If Summer Location's students lose equal to or less than an average of 2 months of reading proficiency, Summer Location will receive 10% of their allocation.
- If Summer Location's students lose equal to or less than an average of 1.5 months of reading proficiency, Summer Location will receive 20% of their allocation.
- If Summer Location's students lose equal to or less than an average of 1 month of reading proficiency, Summer Location will receive 30% of their allocation.
- If Summer Location's students lose equal to or less than an average of .5 months of reading proficiency, Summer Location will receive 40% of their allocation.

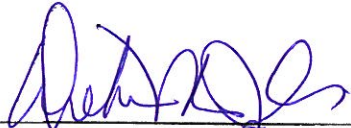


- If Summer Location's students don't on average lose any reading proficiency, Summer Location will receive 75% of their allocation.
- If Summer Location's students on average gain reading proficiency over the Summer months, Summer Location will receive 100% of their allocation.
- If the Summer Location work weekly with AFTA Teaching Artists, Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall educators, or work with area libraries, 25% of the Bonus Dollars awarded to Summer Location will be shared with AFTA, the Van Wezel, or the Library Systems.
- All bonus pool decisions will be final.

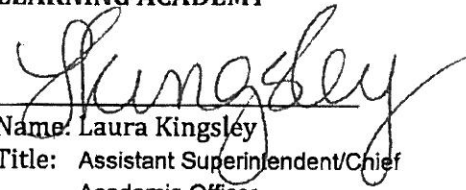
IX. **Communications:** Gocio Elementary School Summer Learning Academy agrees to abide by the TPF Media Policy as described in Exhibit A.

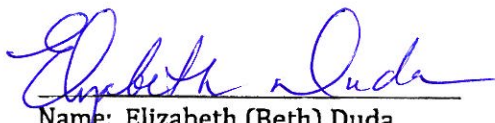
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have been duly authorized to bind their respective parties to this Agreement and have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the date noted above written.

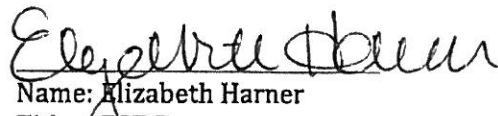
**THE PATTERSON FOUNDATION**

  
 Name: Debra M. Jacobs  
 Title: President and CEO  
 Date: 5-25-17

**GOCIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUMMER LEARNING ACADEMY**

  
 Name: Laura Kingsley  
 Title: Assistant Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer  
 Date:

  
 Name: Elizabeth (Beth) Duda  
 Title: Director, SCGLR  
 Date:

  
 Name: Elizabeth Harner  
 Title: ESE Resource  
 Date:





## **Exhibit A: Partner Media/Public Relations/Social Media Policy**

The Patterson Foundation values working collaboratively with partners and vendors for ultimate impact. Part of being an active and engaged vendor means a mutual coordination of strategy, messaging and timing of communications efforts for a streamlined and consistent approach. To this end, we've created the following process to align efforts.

Partners should ensure their internal strategy aligns with this media procedure below, so all internal stakeholders know where to direct media inquiries:

### **Media Inquiries and Interviews**

Direct all media inquiries and questions **related to The Patterson Foundation** to:  
Roxanne Joffe: 941-685-5412 (cell) or rjoffe@magnifygood.com.

PLEASE NOTIFY VIA PHONE CALL FIRST and follow up via e-mail.

### **Media Releases**

1. All press releases originating from The Patterson Foundation will be written and distributed by The Patterson Foundation communications partner, Magnify Good.
2. Use of The Patterson Foundation name and/or quotes from employees/initiative managers are not permitted without prior written approval from The Patterson Foundation. An email from TPF constitutes sufficient written approval.
3. To ensure the integrity of The Patterson Foundation and its media policy and strategy, please submit a draft of your press release and your distribution list for review prior to desired release date. Please email to bjacobs@magnifygood.com.

### **Other Communications & Social Media**

Prior to engaging in any other publicity or communications, including social media activity (that includes without limitation texting, posting, blogging, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn) referencing your work with The Patterson Foundation or mentioning The Patterson Foundation, please coordinate with TPF as noted above for approval.

