

**College of Engineering**  
Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering  
300 Weil Hall  
1949 Stadium Road  
P.O. Box 116550  
Gainesville, FL 32611-6550

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**  
**EQUIPD GRANT SUMMER PROGRAMS**

**University of Florida Board of Trustees on behalf of Herbert Wertheim  
College of Engineering**

**and The School Board of Hernando County, Florida on behalf of**

**Nature Coast Technical High School and Hernando High School (Program  
Locations)**

**UF# AGR00034199**

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is entered into between The University of Florida Board of Trustees, hereinafter called “the University”, acting by and within the above-mentioned program, and The School Board of Hernando County, Florida, hereinafter called “the District”, acting on behalf of Nature Coast Technical High School and Hernando High School, together “the Parties,” mutually agree that:

1. The following EQUIPD Grant Summer Programs selected below will be provided at the Program Locations of Nature Coast Technical High School and Hernando High School .

[X] Goldberg Gator Engineering Explorers – Introductory Program

Effective Program Dates: June 9<sup>th</sup> through June 12<sup>th</sup>

Location: Nature Coast Technical High School

Session 1:	June 9 <sup>th</sup> - June 12 <sup>th</sup>
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An introductory programming summer camp for middle school students designed to build coding skills through engineering design and hardware use by actualizing the code they develop. The Introductory Program experience focuses on programming Micro:bit microcontrollers and developing creative products for design challenges.

[ ] Goldberg Gator Engineering Explorers – Advanced Program

Effective Program Dates: N/A

Session 1:	N/A
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A more advanced programming summer camp for middle school students that expounds upon the coding skills developed in the Introductory Program and focuses on building a basic understanding of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML).

[X] Powering the Community Energy Explorers

Effective Program Dates: June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Location: Nature Coast Technical High School

Session 1:	June 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 - June 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
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[ ] Rural Scholars Summer Program

Effective Program Dates: N/A

Session 1:	N/A
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A high school camp designed to investigate the role of AI and data in agriculture and explore the way smart farms work using sensors and probes to collect data. Students can also build smart farms and self-driving tractors.

[X] MathWorks High School AI Summer Camp

Effective Program Dates: June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 through July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Location: Nature Coast Technical High School

Session 1: Hurricane Forecasting	June 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2025 – June 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
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Location: Hernando High School

Session 1: Music & Sports	July 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 – July 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
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A high school summer camp designed to introduce students to MATLAB, data analysis, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) through one of two available programs: Music & Sports or Hurricane Forecasting.

2. The following outlines the scope of work defined for each party:

**The District agrees and promises to:**

**A. Program Facilities and Staffing**

- i. Provide appropriate classroom and activity spaces containing the required classroom technology to complete the program (i.e. computers, projectors, device charging, etc.).
- ii. Ensure the availability of qualified faculty and staff to implement the program curriculum and supervise student participants.
- iii. Support the University staff in program logistics, including scheduling, training, student recruitment, and providing necessary resources.

**B. Program Materials and Technology**

- i. Provide the required materials and technology for the selected summer programs to be hosted:

☒ [X] Goldberg Gator Engineering Explorers – Introductory Program

Micro: bit (V2), STEM kits, Computer Access, Whitelisted Program Access (see Exhibit A – Section 1), Printing, Craft Supplies, Scissors, Paper, Tape, Markers, Pencils.

☐ [ ] Goldberg Gator Engineering Explorers – Advanced Program

Micro: bit (V2), STEM kits, Computer Access, Whitelisted Program Access (see Exhibit A – Section 2), Printing, Craft Supplies, Scissors, Paper, Tape, Markers, Pencils.

☒ [X] Powering the Community Energy Explorers

Snap Grid Circuits, Breadboards, Dupont/Jumper wires, LEDs lights, resistors, 9V batteries, Buckle Connectors, Power Meters, Computer Access, Whitelisted Program Access (see Exhibit A – Section 3), Presentation Equipment, Craft Supplies, Scissors, Paper, Tape, Markers, Pencils.

☐ [ ] Rural Scholars Summer Program

Computer Access, Whitelisted Program Access (see Exhibit A – Section 4 and 5), Sensors, Probes, Smart Tractors, Weather Sensors, Data Analysis Program (excel), Craft materials, Paper, Pencils, Tape, Markers, Scissors

☒ [X] MathWorks High School AI Summer Camp

Computer Access, Whitelisted Program Access (see Exhibit A – Section 6), Craft materials, Paper, Pencils, Tape, Markers, Scissors.

- ii. Any technology or materials loaned to the District by the University are to be returned upon the completion of the summer program.

**C. Student Recruitment and Enrollment**

- i. Identify and recruit eligible students from the school to participate in the summer program(s), ensuring that the selection process is equitable and inclusive.

**D. Student Transportation**

- i. Optional arrangement of any internal district transportation for students.

E. Program Costs

- i. The District will be responsible for funding program technology, camp materials, optional student transportation, and any district- or school-based staff member assigned to the program.
- ii. If the District and University have discussed and agreed upon requiring additional support from the University to host the District's summer program(s), see the terms outlined in, Section 2.C.ii. Additional support may include loaning technology, providing camp materials, or hiring a single district- or school-staff member through the University for the respective program duration.
- iii. There is no transfer of funds between the two parties.

F. Program Supervision and Communication

- i. School teacher(s) to coordinate with University staff to communicate with students' families regarding program expectations, schedules, and other relevant information.
- ii. Ensure that district policies related to student conduct and behavior are adhered to during the program.
- iii. Supervise student participants while the partake in the selected summer camp program(s) hosted by the teacher at the school.

G. Program Feedback

- i. Collaborate with the University to collect feedback from students, parents, and district staff to support continuous program improvement.

**3. The University agrees and promises to:**

a. Program Management

- i. Handle Program logistics including scheduling, student registrations, youth compliance, curriculum development, training development, providing necessary promotional and student registration materials, and resources.
- ii. Provide the school with lists of technology, materials, and resources for the summer program(s).
- iii. Manage the registration process, including processing student registrations, sending updates to the school, providing attendance materials, and collecting necessary documentation such as parental participant consent, release, and waiver of liability forms.
- iv. Ensure the availability of qualified university undergraduate mentors who support district teachers in the classroom teachers virtually over video conferencing software. Ensure the undergraduate mentors meet the university's youth compliance requirements – level-2 DCF background screening, completed affidavit of good moral character, finger printing, and completion of FERPA and Youth Protection Training.

b. Curriculum Development

- i. Develop and implement a curriculum that aligns with the goals of the selected summer camp program(s), focusing on programming and building computational and system thinking skills.
- ii. Develop training materials in the form of facilitator guides and tutorial videos.

- iii. Integrate activities that promote creativity, design thinking, problem-solving, and critical thinking.
- c. Program Costs
  - i. The University will be responsible for funding the costs associated with undergraduate mentors, development of curriculum and training materials, and program management staff.
  - ii. In the case where the District and University have discussed and agreed upon requiring additional support from the University to host the District's summer program(s), the two parties have agreed upon the following selected terms, if any:
    - [ ] The University has agreed to loan technology required for the summer program(s). The District, therefore, agrees to return said technology to the University upon the conclusion of the summer program(s).
    - [ ] The University has agreed to provide consumable camp materials required for the summer program(s).
    - [ ] The University will hire and onboard one member of the district- or school-staff for the duration of the summer program. The staff member is required to complete all training, compliance, and safety measures required by the University.
  - iii. There is no transfer of funds between the two parties.
- 4. Term. The Term of this MOU is effective on the date last signed by the parties and will terminate at the end of the business day August 1st, 2025.
- 5. Liability. Each Party will bear its respective risks and liabilities incurred by it as a result of its obligations and efforts under this Agreement and shall not be liable for the acts of third parties or the consequences of the acts of third parties. This MOU does not waive sovereign immunity by any agency or political subdivision to which sovereign immunity may apply, or of any rights or limits of liability existing under § 768.28, Fla. Stat. (2024). This term survives the termination of all performance or obligations under this MOU and is fully binding until any applicable statute of limitations bars any proceeding brought under this MOU.
- 6. Independent Contractors. This MOU will not be construed to create a general partnership, joint venture, or any other organizational combination of the parties, nor will it authorize either Party to act as an agent for or bind the other party in any manner. University and District will remain independent entities with respect to the performance of their respective duties and obligations hereunder.
- 7. Non-Discrimination. Neither Party will subject any person to discrimination because of age, race, color, disability, pregnancy, gender, marital status, national origin, or religion,

in the performance of the Parties' respective duties, responsibilities, and obligations under this MOU.

8. District Authority. In consideration of the District's responsibility for the care and safety of its students, the District may remove from or refuse access to its facilities to any mentor or University staff member, who does not continuously meet the District's professional requirements or the requirements of any appropriate authority controlling and directing District facilities and services. In the event of any inappropriate actions by a mentor or University staff member, District staff will notify the University so that the University may take appropriate action. In the event of a threat to student safety, which will be determined by the District in its sole discretion, the District will take immediate action and verbally notify the University as soon thereafter as is practicable.

9. Public Records. IF UNIVERSITY HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO UNIVERSITY'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS CONTRACT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS AT: <https://www.hernandoschools.org/our-district/public-records-request>

10. Confidentiality of Student Records. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary within this MOU, University (its employees and/or mentors) must:

- a. fully comply with the requirements of Sections 1002.22, 1002.221, 1002.222, 1006.1494, Fla. Stats. (2024); the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C § 1232g (FERPA) and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 99), the CONTRACTOR shall comply with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) 15 U.S.C. ss. 6501-6506; 16 CFR Part 312; and the Protection of Pupil Rights (PPRA); 34 CFR Part 98 implementing section 445 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)(20 U.S.C. 1232h), and with any other state or federal law or regulation regarding the confidentiality of student information and records;
- b. hold any education records in strict confidence and not use or redisclose same except as required by this MOU or as required or permitted by law unless the parent of each student or a student age 18 or older whose education records are to be shared

provides prior written consent for their release in accordance with Fla. Admin. Code R. 6A-1.0955;

- c. safeguard each education record through administrative, physical, and technological safety standards to ensure that adequate controls are in place to protect the education records and information in accordance with FERPA's privacy requirements;
- d. utilize the education records solely for the purposes of providing products and services as contemplated under this MOU; and will not share, publish, sell, distribute, target advertise, or display education records to any third party;
- e. notify District immediately upon discovery of a breach of confidentiality of education records by telephone and email using the District's contact information contained herein, and take all necessary notification steps as may be required by federal and Florida law, including, but not limited to, those required by Section 501.171, Fla. Stats. (2024);
- f. fully cooperate with appropriate District staff to resolve any privacy investigations and concerns in a timely manner;

All education records will remain the property of District, and any party contracting with the District serves solely as custodian of such information pursuant to this MOU and claims no ownership or property rights thereto and, upon termination of this MOU will, at District's request, return to District or dispose of the education records in compliance with the applicable Florida Retention Schedules and provide District with a written acknowledgment of said disposition.

**11. Child Neglect.** University and its employees or mentors will be subject to the requirements of § 39.201, Fla. Stats. (2024) that requires the reporting of child abuse or child neglect to the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families via the Florida Abuse Hotline 1-800-962-2873; report online at <https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us/>; or fax a report to 1-800-914- 0004.

**12. Termination.** Either Party may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the other.

- 13. Notices.** The Parties shall provide all notices for this Agreement to the Administrative contact with a copy to the Technical Matters contact. All notices shall be provided in writing by email, recognized national overnight courier, or registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the following addresses:

<b><u>If to District:</u></b>	<b><u>If to University:</u></b>
<b>Administrative Matters:</b>  Nicole Blair 919 N. Broad St. 352-797-7015 x. 247 Blair_n@hcsb.k12.fl.us  <b>Technical Matters:</b>  Joe Amato 919 N. Broad St. 352-797-7000 x. 102 Amato_j1@hcsb.k12.fl.us	<b>Administrative Matters:</b>  Division of Sponsored Programs University of Florida 207 Grinter Hall Gainesville, FL 32611-5500 (352) 392-9267 <a href="mailto:ufawards@ufl.edu">ufawards@ufl.edu</a>  <b>Technical Matters:</b>  Dr. Nancy Ruzycki (352) 846-2991 <a href="mailto:nruzycki@mse.ufl.edu">nruzycki@mse.ufl.edu</a>

- 14. Governing Law.** This Agreement is governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. The Parties shall bring any action in connection with this Agreement in courts of competent jurisdiction in Hernando County, Florida.
- 15. Assignment.** Neither Party may assign this Agreement voluntarily, by operation of law, or through change of control without the prior written consent of the other, which the Party may not unreasonably withhold or delay. This Agreement is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the Parties and their permitted successors and assigns.
- 16. Agreement Modification or Amendment.** The Parties may only modify or amend this Agreement by a written instrument signed by both Parties. Any waiver of rights or failure to act in a specific instance relates only to that instance and is not an agreement to waive any rights or fail to act in any other instance. A purchase order may only be used for billing purposes. No other terms of this Agreement may be modified by terms included in a



purchase order. The terms and conditions of such a purchase order do not apply, and such terms or conditions in a purchase order are null and void.

17. Force Majeure. Neither Party is responsible for delays in fulfilling or performing any term of this Agreement (except for any obligations to make payments to the other Party hereunder) resulting from causes reasonably beyond its control, including fire, explosion, flood, tropical storm, hurricane, war, strike, pandemic, or riot, provided that the nonperforming Party uses reasonable efforts to avoid or remove causes of nonperformance and continues performance under this Agreement with reasonable dispatch after the causes are removed.
18. Dispute Resolution. The Parties shall attempt to cooperatively resolve any and all disputes and/or claims that arise under this Agreement by first engaging appropriate administrative officials of each Party who shall negotiate in good faith to seek a cooperative resolution. For any dispute related to this Agreement that the Parties cannot resolve by mutual agreement, the Parties must submit to formal mediation in Hernando County, Florida, or other mutually agreed upon dispute resolution options. Upon dispute resolution failure, either Party may pursue any available legal remedy.
19. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability does not affect any other provision of this Agreement, and the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to modify the Agreement to preserve, to the extent possible, their original intent.
20. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to its subject matter and supersedes all prior agreements or understandings between the Parties relating to its subject matter.
21. Counterparts and Execution. The Parties may execute this Agreement in one or more counterparts, each of which is an original, and all of which together are the same instrument. Delivery of a signed Agreement by reliable electronic means, including email, shall be an effective method of delivering the executed Agreement. This Agreement may be stored by electronic means and either an original or an electronically stored copy of this Agreement can be used for all purposes, including in any proceeding to enforce the rights and/or obligations of the Parties to this Agreement.

- 22. E-Verify.** Pursuant to section 448.095, Florida Statutes, the University shall use the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system <https://e-verify.gov>, to verify the employment eligibility of all employees hired during the term of this Agreement. If the University enters into a contract with a subcontractor, the subcontractor must provide University with an affidavit stating the subcontractor does not employ, contract with, or subcontract with an unauthorized alien and the University shall provide a copy of such affidavit to the School Board upon receipt and shall maintain a copy for the duration of the Agreement. Failure to comply with this provision is a material breach of the Agreement and the School Board may choose to terminate the Agreement at its sole discretion and seek damages pursuant to Florida Statute. By signing below, University affirms that it is registered with and uses the E-Verify system, is otherwise in compliance with section 448.095, Florida Statutes, and acknowledges that it is required to maintain such compliance throughout the term of any agreement entered between the parties

[SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW ON NEXT PAGE]

**SIGNATURES**

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name:**


\_\_\_\_\_  
**Title:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**[Date of signing]**

**District - Designated Contact and EQuIPD Grant Summer Programs Location(s):**

Nicole Blair, College and Career Specialist (352) 797-7015 EXT. 247	
Nature Coast Technical High School 4057 California St, Brooksville, FL 34604 Phone: (352) 797-7088	Hernando High School 111 Ernie Chatman Run Brooksville, FL 34601 Phone: (352) 797-7015

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

 Digitally signed  
by Nicole Munroe  
Date: 2025.06.18  
10:27:25 -04'00'

Date 6/18/2025

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Nicole Munroe, Contracting Officer  
Division of Sponsored Programs  
207 Grinter Hall  
PO Box 115500  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5500  
Phone: (352) 392-9267  
[ufawards@ufl.edu](mailto:ufawards@ufl.edu)

**University – Designated Contact:**

Nancy Ruzycki, Ph.D.  
Principal Investigator for the EQuIPD Grant  
[nruzycki@mse.ufl.edu](mailto:nruzycki@mse.ufl.edu)  
Phone: 352-846-2991

## EXHIBIT A – WHITELISTED WEBSITES

1. Goldberg Gators Engineering Explorers - Introductory Program
  - a. Microsoft Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com>
  - b. Makecode: <https://makecode.microbit.org/>
  - c. Draw.io/Diagrams.net: <https://app.diagrams.net/>
2. Goldberg Gators Engineering Explorers - Advanced Program
  - a. Microsoft Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com>
  - b. Makecode: <https://makecode.microbit.org/>
  - c. Micro:bit Create AI: <https://createai.microbit.org/>
  - d. Draw.io/Diagrams.net: <https://app.diagrams.net/>
  - e. Quickdraw: <https://quickdraw.withgoogle.com/>
  - f. Machine Learning for Kids: <https://machinelearningforkids.co.uk/>
    - i. <https://scratch.machinelearningforkids.co.uk/?url=https://machinelearningforkids.co.uk/api/scratch/74f175a0-e527-11ed-8a0f-c59cb1a927819e1a79ff-6196-44b4-aafe-d1b012bc6324/extension3.js>
  - g. Playground Raise: <https://playground.raise.mit.edu/create/>
3. Powering the Community Energy Explorers
  - a. Microsoft Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com>
  - b. PhET Labs Circuit Construction Kit: DC – Virtual Lab: [https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/circuit-construction-kit-dc-virtual-lab/latest/circuit-construction-kit-dc-virtual-lab\\_all.html](https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/circuit-construction-kit-dc-virtual-lab/latest/circuit-construction-kit-dc-virtual-lab_all.html)
  - c. Autodesk TinkerCad: <https://www.tinkercad.com/joinclass>
  - d. Google My Maps: <https://www.google.com/mymaps>
4. Rural Scholars Summer Programs – Smart Tractor Track
  - a. Microsoft Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com>
  - b. Tractor programming site – Will be provided at training
5. Rural Scholars Summer Programs – Greenhouse Track
  - a. Microsoft Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com>
  - b. Makecode: <https://makecode.microbit.org/>
6. MathWorks High School AI Summer Program
  - a. Microsoft Teams: <https://teams.microsoft.com>
  - b. MATLAB Online: <https://matlab.mathworks.com/>
  - c. MathWorks: <https://www.mathworks.com/>
  - d. Spotify API: <https://developer.spotify.com/>
    - i. <https://open.spotify.com/>
  - e. Sport Radar: <https://developer.sportradar.com/>
  - f. Yahoo Sports: <https://sports.yahoo.com/>
  - g. Hurricane Data Sites – Will be provided at training