

MASTER AGREEMENT

between

**NORTHWEST EDUCATIONAL
SUPPORT PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION/JCEA/MEA/NEA**

and

**NORTHWEST COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017

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AGREEMENT

This Agreement entered into on this first day of July, 2015 between the Northwest Community Schools (hereinafter referred to as the "Board," "District" or "Employer") and the Jackson County Education Association (hereinafter referred to as the "Association").

(Note: The headings used in this Agreement and appendices neither add to nor subtract from the meaning but are for reference only.)

PURPOSE AND INTENT

The general purpose of this Agreement is to set forth terms and conditions of employment, and to promote orderly and peaceful labor relations for the mutual interest of the Employer, the Employees and the Association.

The parties recognize that the interest of the community and the job security of the employees depend upon the Employer's success in establishing a proper service to the community.

To these ends, the Employer and the Association encourage to the fullest degree friendly and cooperative relations between the respective representatives at all levels and among all employees.

ARTICLE 1 - RECOGNITION

- A. **Bargaining Unit Classifications.** Pursuant to and in accordance with all applicable provisions of Act 379 of the Public Acts of 1965, as amended, the Employer does hereby recognize the Association as the exclusive representative for the purpose of collective bargaining with respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment, and other conditions of employment for the term of this Agreement of all employees of the Employer included in the bargaining unit described below.

The bargaining unit shall consist of non-supervisory employees in the following classifications, subject to section "c" below:

Cafeteria	Library Aides
Custodial	Library Technicians
Maintenance	Bus Drivers
Mechanics	Delivery and Grounds
Student Supervisory Aides	Special Education Aides
Child Caregiver Aides	Instructional Aides
Student Services Rep	Utility Workers

- B. **Definitions.** The term "Employee" when used herein shall refer to employees included in the unit for bargaining as set forth in this Agreement and references to male employees shall include female employees. The term "Board" or "Employer" when used herein shall refer to the Board of Education. The Superintendent, and other central office administrators, principals, and assistant principals, and all other supervisory personnel are considered agents of the Board within the meaning of Act 379.

C. **Non-Covered Employees.**

1. Supervisors, substitute, temporary, irregular, and part time employees are not covered by this agreement. Part time employees include those who work less than ten (10) hours per week and work three (3) or fewer days per week.
2. Bus drivers must be regularly scheduled to work at least a one hour per day in order to be covered by this contract.

ARTICLE 2 - NEGOTIATION PROCEDURES

- A. This Agreement may be extended by mutual written consent of both parties.
- B. Both parties agree to enter into negotiations on a new Agreement on wages, hours, and working conditions at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date of this Agreement.
- C. This Agreement shall constitute the full and complete commitments between both parties and may be altered, only through the voluntary, mutual consent of the parties in written and signed amendment to this Agreement.
- D. If at the request of the Board an employee is engaged during the school day in negotiating in behalf of the Association with any representative of the Board, he shall be released from regular duties without loss of salary and without deduction from sick leave.
- E. The parties agree to bargain in good faith regarding any changes in this Agreement required to comply with the No Child Left Behind Act.
- F. All personnel must meet the requirements of all applicable Federal and State requirements.

ARTICLE 3 - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- A. **Grievance Defined.** A grievance is a written claim by an employee(s) or the Association that there has been an alleged violation of any provision of this Agreement.
- B. **Procedure.**
 1. **Informal Conference.** The grievant(s) shall discuss the complaint with the immediate supervisor within ten (10) work days of the alleged occurrence with the intent of resolving same. If the complaint involves an individual employee(s), an Association representative may be present if requested by either party.
 2. **Written Grievance.** If the problem is not resolved in the informal conference, it shall be reduced to writing and presented to the immediate supervisor within ten (10) workdays of the incident giving rise to the grievance.

All written grievances shall include:

- (a) Who is affected;
- (b) What happened;
- (c) When it happened;

- (d) Where it happened;
- (e) What section(s) of the contract have allegedly been violated;
- (f) What adjustment is requested;
- (g) The signature of the grievant and/or appropriate Association official.

Step 1 - Immediate Supervisor. The written grievance may be presented to and discussed with the immediate supervisor by the employee and/or no more than two (2) Association representatives. Within ten (10) workdays after receiving the written grievance, the supervisor shall communicate his/her decision in writing, together with the supporting reasons, to the Association. The grievance disposition will be delivered on same day that it is issued.

Step 2 - Superintendent. If the Step 1 decision is not satisfactory, the Association may appeal the grievance to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Such appeal shall be made within five (5) workdays from receipt of the supervisor's decision. The appeal shall include a copy of the written grievance accompanied by copies of previous decisions. Within ten (10) workdays after delivery of the appeal, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall investigate the grievance and shall communicate a decision in writing to the Association. As part of the investigation the Superintendent or his/her designee may give an opportunity for the grievant and the Association representative to be heard. The grievance disposition will be delivered on same day that it is issued.

Step 3 – Arbitration. If the grievance remains unresolved at the conclusion of Step 2, it may be submitted to binding arbitration at the request of the Association, provided written notice of the request is delivered to the superintendent within twenty (20) workdays after the receipt of the Step 2 written decision.

- (a) Following the written notice of request to arbitrate, the Association and a designee of the Board shall select an arbitrator. If mutual agreement on the selection of an arbitrator cannot be reached within fifteen (15) workdays after the date of the request for submission, the Association shall within thirty (30) workdays thereafter formally file a demand for arbitration with the American Arbitration Association and the arbitrator shall then be selected according to the rules of the American Arbitration Association.
- (b) The arbitrator shall have no authority except to pass upon alleged violations of the express provisions of this Agreement and to determine disputes involving the application or interpretation of the express provisions of this Agreement.
- (c) The arbitrator shall have no power or authority to add to, subtract from or modify any of the terms of this Agreement and shall not substitute his/her judgment for that of the Board where the Board is given discretion by the terms of this Agreement. No evidence shall be introduced in any arbitration hearing which has not been previously presented to the other party. The arbitrator shall not render any decision which would require or permit an action in violation of the Michigan School Laws. The termination of probationary employees shall not be subject to arbitration.
- (d) The arbitrator's fees and expenses shall be shared equally by the Board and the Association. The expenses and compensation of any witness or participant in the arbitration shall be paid by the party calling such witness or requesting such participant.

C. General.

1. Definition of Workdays. "Workdays" as used in this grievance procedure shall be all days, Monday through Friday, whether school is in session for students or not, but shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays, holidays observed by the Employer or when the central office is not open. The employer may assign custodians work week to be Tuesday through Saturday.
2. Extension of Time Limits. Time limits may be extended in any specific instance by mutual agreement in writing.
3. Failure at any step of the grievance procedure to communicate the decision on a grievance within the specific time limit shall permit lodging an appeal at the next step of the procedure within the time which would have been allotted had the decision been given.
4. A grievant(s) failing to meet the time limits as set forth herein shall forfeit the right to further process said grievance and therefore the District's last answer shall constitute the final disposition of said grievance.
5. Individual Employee Grievance. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent any individual employee from presenting a grievance and having the grievance adjusted without intervention of the Association if the adjustment is not inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement provided that the Association has been given the opportunity to be present at such adjustment as provided by law.
6. Waiver of Representation. When an individual employee signifies he does not want his/her Association representative to intercede for him at any stage of the grievance procedure, he shall sign a waiver to that effect.
7. Information Requests. All reasonable requests for available information necessary to the determination and processing of any grievance shall be honored by both parties.
8. Either party may involve their representative at any and all stages of the grievance proceedings.
9. When it is determined through the Grievance Procedure that the Employer violated the terms of this contract, causing the loss of wages for an employee, the Employer will reimburse the employee for the earnings he lost.
10. A Grievance Diagram is attached as Appendix B-1.

ARTICLE 4 - MANAGEMENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. It is expressly agreed that all rights and prerogatives, which ordinarily vest in and have been exercised by the Board, except those which are clearly and expressly relinquished herein by the Board, shall continue to vest exclusively in and be exercised by the Board without prior negotiations with the Association either as to the taking of action under such rights or with respect to the consequence of such action during the term of this Agreement. Such rights shall include, by the way of illustration and not by way of limitation, the right to:
1. Continue its rights, policies and practices of assignments and direction of its personnel, determine the number of personnel and scheduling of all the foregoing, but not in conflict with the specific provision of this Agreement.

2. The right to establish, modify, or change any work or business or school hours or days, but not in conflict with the specific provisions of this Agreement.
3. The right to direct the working forces, including the right to hire, promote, transfer, discipline and/or reassign employees, assign work or duties to employees, determine the size of the work force and to lay off employees, but not in conflict with the specific provision of this Agreement.
4. Determine the services, supplies and equipment necessary to continue its operations and to determine all methods and means of distributing and/or selling its services, methods, schedules and standards of operation, the means, methods and processes of carrying on the work, including automation or contracting thereof or changes therein, the institution of new and/or improved methods or changes therein.
5. Adopt reasonable rules and regulations.
6. Determine the qualifications of employees, including requirement for physical examination.
7. Determine the number and location or relocation of its facilities, including the establishment or relocations of new schools, buildings, departments, divisions or subdivisions thereof and the relocation or closing of offices, departments, divisions or subdivisions, building or other facilities.
8. Determine the placement of operations, production, service, maintenance or distribution of work and the source of materials and supplies.

B. Policy-making functions rest exclusively with the Board.

ARTICLE 5 - ASSOCIATION RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. **Grievance Investigation and Processing.** Association Representatives, during their working hours, shall suffer no loss of time or pay while investigating or processing a grievance to be presented to the Employer if the following procedure is followed:

1. On receipt of a grievance the Association Representative may find it necessary to process the grievance immediately. He/she shall therefore notify his/her immediate supervisor and request released time.
2. If a substitute is needed the Employer will obtain one as soon as possible. However, the Association Representative will not leave his/her assigned task until the substitute has arrived or until the determination has been that one is not necessary.
3. On arrival at the location of the alleged aggrieved employee's place of employment, the Association Representative shall report his/her presence to the person in charge or his/her authorized representative. Having completed his/her mission, he/she shall return to his/her assigned task and notify his/her immediate supervisor of his/her return.

B. **Association Representative.**

1. The Association shall keep the Employer advised, in writing, of the names of all officers, Association Representatives and alternate Association Representatives at all times.

2. A total of not to exceed 20 (twenty) hours per year of released time for each Association Representative shall be granted.

C. **Special Conferences.**

1. Special conferences for important matters will be arranged between the Unit Chairperson and the designated representative of the Employer upon the request of either party. Such meetings shall be between at least two representatives of the Association and two representatives of the Employer.
2. Arrangements for such special conferences shall be made in advance. Conferences shall be held between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. The members of the Association shall not lose pay for time spent in such special conferences. This meeting may be attended by a representative of the local Association and a member of the JCEA Affiliates Association.
3. The Association representative may meet at a place designated by the employee on the Employer's property. If the JCEA Association representatives are to appear, up to 1/2 (one-half) hour may be allowed for them to confer preceding the conference. If outside representatives are to be present, either party shall notify the other of their intent to call in same at the time arrangements are made for the meeting.

D. **Bulletin Boards.** The Employer will provide bulletin board space in each building which may be used by the Association for posting official Association notices.

E. Duly authorized representatives of the Association shall be permitted to transact official Association business on school property provided that this shall not interfere with or interrupt normal school operations.

F. **Use of Facilities.** The Association and its members will have the right to use school building facilities for meetings in accordance with school policy.

G. It is the responsibility of the Association to assist individual members in honoring Board policies and Administrative regulations.

H. The Board will furnish to the local chairperson the agenda and minutes of all public school board meetings.

I. **State Association Activities.**

1. Members of the Association elected to attend a function of the State Association such as conventions or educational conferences shall be allowed time off without pay to attend such conferences and/or conventions. No more than five (5) members shall be allowed to attend such conventions or conferences at any one time. No more than two (2) members from one classification will be allowed to attend such conventions or conferences at any one time.
2. The above provision is void unless the computerized absence system is executed and filed with the supervisor at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the date of the absence except in cases of emergency when forms shall be filed later.

J. **Association Release Time.**

1. During the work year the Association President, or his/her designee, will be given ten (10) work days for Association business. Said days shall be scheduled and used at the discretion of the Association President. Up to an additional ten (10) days for Association business shall be granted with the Association reimbursing substitute costs. Additional time may be granted by the Superintendent of Schools - should the seriousness of the situation warrant
2. The above provision is void if any of the above days are used by officers or members to participate in strike related activities in other school districts.

K. **Use of District Mail Service.** At any time during the school year while school is in session the Association may use the District mail service for official communications to members. The Association shall assume responsibility for contents of communications.

L. The Association may have the opportunity to discuss, upon request, any new or modified fiscal, budgetary, educational policy, tax or construction programs prior to their adoption or publication.

M. **District Calendar Committee.** The Association president or designee shall have the right to attend all meetings of the calendar committee established by the Board and the Northwest Education Association. The Association representative shall be a voting member of the committee and shall not be able to block consensus on a calendar.

ARTICLE 6 - EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to deny or restrict to any employee rights he may have under the Michigan General School laws or other applicable laws and regulations.

B. **Personal Life.** Employee's personal lives are not within the appropriate concern of the Board of Education unless it adversely affects the performance of their duties or negatively reflects on the District.

C. **Assault.** Any case of assault upon an employee in performance of his/her duties shall be promptly reported to the Employer or its designated representative. The Employer will provide legal counsel to advise the employee of his/her rights and obligations with respect to such assault, and shall render all reasonable assistance to the employee in connection with handling of the incident by law enforcement and judicial authorities.

D. **Complaints.** Before disciplinary action is taken upon a complaint, an investigation will be conducted and the complaint will be brought to the employee's attention.

E. **Reimbursement for Personal Property.**

1. The Board will reimburse an employee for any loss, damage, or destruction of clothing or personal property, excluding cash and automobiles which have not been properly secured, of an employee while on duty in the school or on school premises, when such loss or damage is not a result of the employee's negligence.

2. Reimbursement shall be limited to the differences in cost between actual replacement costs and the amount actually and legally recovered from the persons involved, minus any amounts paid by the employee's or district's insurance company, and shall be made only upon the occurrence of one of the following events:
 - a. Assault on the employee.
 - b. Thefts from the employee.
 - c. Malicious destruction of the property of the employee.
3. In no event will said reimbursement exceed the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) cumulative to any employee in one (1) year.
4. None of the provisions of this Article are intended to duplicate either payments by or coverage by other insurance carriers.

F. **Student Discipline.**

1. The Employer will support and assist employees with respect to maintenance of control and discipline of students in the employees assigned work area. The Employer or its designated representative will take reasonable steps to relieve the employee of responsibilities in respect to students who are continually disruptive, repeatedly violate rules and regulations.
2. However, it is clearly understood that employees having direct supervision of students will maintain proper control and discipline of students under their jurisdiction. Failure to maintain proper control of students could result in discipline and discharge of the involved employee.
3. In the event inappropriate behavior or disturbances occur which may result in injury to another person or damage to property, employees are expected to take only such action that any reasonable and prudent adult would take.

G. Except as otherwise specified the Employer shall provide the tools and equipment necessary to do assigned work.

H. **Unsafe Work Conditions.** The employee(s) will inform the Board of any job hazard as soon as the employee first becomes aware of any unsafe areas, conditions, or defective equipment. The employee will exercise reasonable safety precautions in the pursuit of the employee's duties and correct hazardous and unsafe conditions occurring within the realm of the employee's responsibility and capability. The Board, upon notification of an alleged unsafe condition, shall investigate such condition and shall make reasonable adjustments in such condition if, as the result of the Board's investigation, the alleged unsafe condition is found to be a hazard to the employee(s).

I. The Employer agrees to provide the local president with an electronic version of this Agreement and post a copy of this Agreement on the District's web page.

J. **Second Shift Release.** Employees who work on the second shift shall be allowed one hour off without loss of pay to attend meetings of the Association. This shall not occur more than once a month and at least one custodian shall remain on duty in each building.

K. **School Improvement.** The parties agree employee participation in decision making is effective in providing positive results for education. The topic of School Improvement is of interest to both the District and the Association.

Participation, outside the normal workday, and the exceptions to the normal workday as provided in this Agreement, on any School Improvement Committee established pursuant to Section 1277 of the Revised School Code shall be voluntary. School Improvement Committee decisions that require a deviation from this Agreement will be permitted only after a properly executed Letter of Agreement between the Association and the Board.

L. **Least Restrictive/Medically Fragile.**

1. The Board shall, upon request, bargain with the Association about problems that may arise regarding the implementation of the Least Restrictive Environment concept or education of Medically Fragile students.

A committee comprised of the building principal, teachers and special education aides providing instructional services to a student with a disability (emotionally impaired, trainable mentally impaired, severely mentally impaired, severely multiply impaired, autistically impaired, physically or otherwise health impaired) shall on a case-to-case basis mutually determine the training, observation opportunities and other support to be provided to the teachers and special education aide and the level of information awareness to be provided to other building staff. The training shall include administration of medication and medical procedures, if any, required for the student. Due care will be taken to comply with the family educational rights and privacy act and appropriate confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

3. The Board shall give all staff who provide instructional services to a student with a disability the opportunity to attend the student's IEP meetings. Adequate notice to the appropriate staff member shall be given when the notice is prepared and sent to the Intermediate School District to send to the student's parents. Notice to staff of IEP meetings may also be given by email.
4. In cases where the aide has concern for the safety of the aide or student, the aide may ask for a review of the aide's caseload by the administrator and the teaching consultant. Within two (2) weeks, the review will be done with the input of the aide and the teacher. A joint recommendation to the superintendent shall be made to address the concerns. The superintendent will respond within a week of receiving the recommendation.

M. **Training.**

1. Paraprofessionals, bus drivers and food service may be provided training on current topics on parent teacher conference day or other staff development days. Paraprofessionals and food service employees will be paid for this training at their regular rate per hour. Bus Drivers will be paid at special trip rates if the training is required by the district, or may attend voluntarily without compensation with approval of their supervisor. The Association may suggest topics for training
2. The Association shall have a paraprofessional representative on any professional or staff development committee established at the building level.
3. The parties recognize that it may be beneficial for paraprofessionals to attend certain teacher professional development sessions. Paraprofessional attendance at such sessions shall be subject to approval by the Superintendent or designees.

- N. **School Code Mandates.** If a problem arises during the term of this Agreement because of new school code mandates, the parties shall upon request of either party, bargain in good faith in an attempt to resolve the problem.

ARTICLE 7 - ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

- A. Employees covered by this Agreement may join the Association and voluntarily pay dues or may choose not join the union and not pay dues.

ARTICLE 8 - EVALUATION

- A. Employees should be formally evaluated at least every other year. If an evaluation is not performed the employee's performance shall be considered acceptable.
- B. Evaluation records shall be kept on forms provided by the personnel office to the appropriate supervisor.
- C. Each employee shall receive a copy of his/her evaluation.
- D. An employee shall have the right to review the contents of his/her file and to have a representative of the Association accompany the employee in such a review.
- E. Evaluators/Child Care/Giver Aides will be evaluated by the Director of the Child Care Center or their designee. The Maintenance Supervisor with input from the building principal shall evaluate custodians. Should there be a dispute over the contents of the evaluation the Maintenance Supervisor shall conduct an on-site re-evaluation of the disputed areas in question.
- F. **Personnel File.**
1. No material originating in the District after original employment will be placed in his/her personnel file unless the employee has been furnished a copy of such material. The employee may submit a written notation regarding any material and the same shall be attached to the file copy of the material in question. The signature of an employee on any materials placed in his/her file not originating from the employee shall not signify agreement but only the fact that he is aware of such material. If the employee believes that material placed in his/her file is false or in error, such material will be removed or corrected upon evidence or proof of its invalidity or error.
 2. Any material originated by the District and contained in the employee's personnel file which is more than four (4) years old, and to which there is no more recent reference in the file, shall upon the request of said employee, be removed, providing the reference does not relate to gross misconduct.
 3. Any material removed from an employee's personnel file shall be destroyed or retained in a separate file as determined by the Board. Any material retained in a separate file shall not be disclosed to any third party except to prevent legal action against the District or in legal proceedings brought against the District.

ARTICLE 9 - DISCIPLINE, DEMOTION, DISCHARGE

- A. **Just Cause.** Employees may be disciplined only for reasons of just cause. This standard signifies that a disciplinary action must be supported by the results of an investigation, and that any resulting disciplinary action must have a rational relationship to the employee's conduct which forms the basis for the disciplinary action. The provisions of this paragraph shall exclude the failure to re-employ any probationary employee. Probationary employees shall be considered at-will and the Employer shall have the sole right to discipline, layoff, suspend or terminate probationary employees without limitation by the provisions of this Agreement or without recourse to the grievance procedure contained herein.

Disciplinary actions include but are not limited to: an oral warning (memorialized in writing), a written warning, a written reprimand, or paid or unpaid suspension. Nothing in this contract requires that these disciplinary measures be applied sequentially or progressively, however in making its determination the District agrees that, if the investigation of the situation supports a determination of gross misconduct or unprofessional behavior warranting a disciplinary action the decision to determine the level of discipline shall be guided by the following standards:

1. The seriousness of the offense, infraction or misconduct or other behavior on which the discipline is based;
 2. The employee's prior disciplinary record;
 3. How the employee's engaging in similar or like offenses have been disciplined in the past where there were comparable circumstances and involving similarly situated employees;
 4. The existence of aggravating or mitigating factors.
- B. **Progressive Discipline.** For instances that are not deemed gross misconduct or unprofessional behavior the Employer, in recognition of the concept of progressive correction shall notify the employee in writing of alleged delinquencies, indicate expected correction, and indicate a reasonable period for correction.
- C. **Demotion.** Employees may be demoted or downgraded to lower rated positions for any of the following reasons:
1. At the employee's request.
 2. Less than satisfactory performance in present position as supported by written documentation.
 3. Continuation in present position may injure the employee's health as supported by written documentation.
 4. For just and reasonable cause.
- D. **Association Notice of Discipline.** The Association shall be notified, in writing, of any disciplinary, demotion or discharge action within three (3) workdays of the date of such action.
- E. **Right to Representation (Weingarten).**
1. An employee shall be entitled to have present, a representative of the Association when he is being reprimanded, warned or disciplined for any infraction of rules or delinquency in professional performance. When such a request for such representation is made, no action shall be taken with respect to the employee until such representative of the Association is present. In any case, no employee shall be publicly reprimanded.

2. The discharged or disciplined employee will be allowed to discuss his/her discharge or discipline with the Association Representative of the District and the Employer will make available an area where the employee may do so before the employee is required to leave the property of the Employer. Upon request, the Employer or its designated representative will discuss the discharge or discipline with the employee and the Association representative.

ARTICLE 10 - PROBATIONARY PERIOD

- A. **Seniority.** New employees hired into the bargaining unit shall undergo a probationary period of one-hundred and twenty (120) days of work from their initial date of hire. Upon completion of his/her probationary period, the employee shall obtain seniority status and his/her name shall be entered upon the seniority list as of one-hundred and twenty (120) days of work after their initial date of permanent employment.
- B. **Representation.** Probationary employees shall be represented by the Association for all purposes under this Agreement during the probationary period except, that the termination of such probationary employee shall not be subject to the grievance procedure.
- C. **Insurance Benefits.** Probationary employees shall be entitled to insurance benefits as provided in Article XXI upon the successful completion of their probationary period.
- D. **Leave and Vacation Credit.** Leave day credit and vacation time credit shall accrue during the probationary period, but may not be used during such period. If a paid holiday falls within a probationary period, the employee shall be paid for such holiday as per the Master Agreement.
- E. **Extended Absence.** If a probationary employee is absent for an extended period of ten (10) consecutive work days or more due to a verified emergency such as accident, surgery or hospitalization, the probationary period may be extended by the duration of such emergency.

ARTICLE 11 - SENIORITY

- A. **Accrual of Seniority.** A master system District-wide seniority list and classification seniority list shall be compiled and posted each year on appropriate bulletin boards and copies given to the president of the Association for each member of the bargaining unit by October 15 and May 15 of each school year. New employees shall be added to these lists. System seniority shall commence on the date the employee commences regular employment. Classification seniority shall commence on the date on which an employee is assigned regularly to a department. For the purposes of both system and classification seniority, the following shall apply:
 1. In the event two (2) or more employees are assigned to a classification or begin work on the same day, the date and time of the job application from which they were hired shall determine the position on the list.
 2. An employee on an authorized leave of absence for more than twelve (12) months for reasons other than medical or Union business will not accrue seniority while on an approved leave.
 3. Seniority shall be measured from the last date of hire. That date shall become the seniority date and number for each employee.

4. Employees who change departments shall hold inactive seniority in the classification in which previously employed. Inactive seniority shall only be used for the purpose of layoff and recall.

Employees assigned on a temporary basis to another classification shall continue to accrue seniority in their original classification.

If the employee is currently employed in the temporary position he/she may use days exceeding one (1) year in the position to bid on posted positions within the temporarily assigned department. The one (1) year of temporary service must be continuous.

If successfully placed permanently in the department, a seniority date will be given effective on the date after one (1) year of temporary service.

5. A new employee may be granted up to two (2) years' experience credit (except for new maintenance and mechanic department employees who may be granted up to five (5) years of experience credit) only for purposes of placement on the wage schedule for prior comparable work experience.

B. **Discrepancies.** All alleged discrepancies in the seniority lists must be communicated in writing to the personnel office by 3:00 p.m., the third (3rd) Friday of November and June. If no discrepancies are noted within appropriate time this list shall become final. This date may be waived by joint agreement between the Association and the Board in the event of extenuating circumstances.

C. **Termination of Seniority.** Seniority shall terminate if:

1. The employee resigns, or is retired.
2. The employee is discharged and the discharge is not reversed.
3. The employee fails to return to work following recall as hereinafter provided.
4. The employee who is scheduled to work and is absent from work for five (5) consecutive workdays without proper notification shall be subject to disciplinary action and possible loss of seniority.
5. If the employee overstays a leave of absence granted for any reason, as hereinafter provided, unless an extension has been granted before lapse of absence.
6. Involuntary layoff for twenty four (24) months or the number of months of prior work service in the District, whichever is shorter.

D. **Unit Protection.** Notwithstanding their position on the seniority list, the unit president, vice president, and secretary shall, during the term of their office, in the event of layoff only, be continued at work at all times provided there is work in their classification or in a classification in which they previously worked.

ARTICLE 12 - REDUCTION OF STAFF

- A. **Definition.** The word "layoff" shall mean a reduction in the Employer's work force.
- B. **Joint Meeting.** When a layoff or reduction in hours is anticipated, a meeting will be held with the Administration and the Association. Factors to be explained will include cause of the layoff or reduction, personnel involved and other issues relating to the new work schedule. In the event of a reduction in hours, no bumping as provided below will be permitted unless the employee has had his/her schedule reduced by 30 or more minutes per day.
- C. **Layoff Procedure.**
1. The Employer shall first identify the number of positions in each classification in each department to be eliminated and shall notify the employees with the least classification seniority of their displacement.
 2. A displaced employee, or an employee whose hours have been reduced by more than thirty (30) minutes per day may use his/her classification seniority to bump the employee with the least classification seniority, working up to the same amount of hours. The employee may also bump into a lower paid position in the same classification.
 3. A displaced employee with inactive seniority in another classification may use such seniority to bump the least senior employee working the same amount of hours in the other classification, providing the employee requesting to bump back into their previous classification has greater District seniority than the person they are seeking to displace. If an employee has inactive seniority in more than one department the employee may only bump into the department in which such inactive seniority is the greatest.
 4. Displaced employees shall have five (5) calendar days after receiving a written notice of displacement to exercise such bumping rights.
 5. After the expiration of the five (5) day period, employees without a position and those remaining in the positions scheduled for layoff shall be given written notice of layoff at least fifteen (15) days prior to the effective date of the layoff.
 6. The remaining employees shall be assigned the remaining positions within each classification and department based on their department seniority. An employee may claim seniority over any other employee in the same classification for the purpose of maintaining the hours the employee previously worked, provided the employee has more department seniority than the employee sought to be replaced.

D. **Reduction in Hours.** When there is a reduction in the hours scheduled of more than 30 minutes per day in a classification without a layoff an employee may claim seniority over any other employee in the classification for the purpose of maintaining one's normal work schedule provided the employee has more classification seniority than the employee he/she seeks to replace, meets the qualifications for the position and demonstrates the ability to perform the work during a twenty (20) work day trial period as provided in Article XIII, B. 4. No reduction in hours shall take effect until the Department Supervisor gives three (3) work days written notice to the employee involved. An employee must exercise seniority rights under this section by written notice to the Department Supervisor within three (3) work days after receipt of a reduction in hours notice.

E. **Recall Procedure.**

1. Employees will be recalled by classification in the inverse order of layoff with the employee with the most seniority in the classification, active or inactive, recalled first.
2. Notice of recall shall be sent to the employee at the employee's last known address by registered or certified mail. It shall be the obligation of the employee to inform the District of their proper change of address during the period of layoff. If an employee fails to report to the Employer within ten (10) calendar days from the date of mailing of notice of recall, the employee shall be considered as a voluntary quit unless during said ten (10) calendar day period the employee is granted a leave of absence without pay by the Employer for a definite period of time, or an emergency situation beyond the control of the employee prevented the employee from returning as scheduled.
3. When a position is eliminated and is later reinstated, the employee transferred out of that position shall be offered the job before it is filled by recall or posted.
4. Employees shall have recall rights for a period of two (2) calendar years following the effective date of their layoff, after which time all recall rights shall expire.

F. **Child Care.**

1. Both parties recognize that the participation of children in the Child Care Center's programs may vary from day to day. Some Child Care/Giver Aides may have work available to them as determined by the enrollment at the Center on that given day. When it is necessary to reduce the working hours of the Child Care/Giver Aides, the employee with the least amount of department seniority will have his/her hours reduced first.
2. Child Care/Giver Aides who report to work and are then sent home for lack of enrollment will be paid for a minimum of one (1) hour work at their regularly hourly rate for that day.
3. In the event it becomes necessary to reassign staff in the Child Care Center because of fluctuating enrollment, Child Care/Giver Aides may be assigned to other than their regular room assignments for the given day. For purpose of clarification, such assignments are not transfers, but instead are made so that senior employees remain in the work-place.

ARTICLE 13 - VACANCIES, PROMOTIONS, TRANSFERS

A. **Vacancies:**

1. **Definition.** A vacancy shall be defined as any position within the bargaining unit, either newly created or a present position that is not filled, excluding temporary vacancies and current positions which are being eliminated or the District does not intend to fill. Any position filled on a temporary basis for one (1) year shall become a vacancy and be posted as per this Article.

2. **Child Care.**
 - a. Child Care/Giver Aides postings will not list individual room assignments. Individual Child Care/Giver Aides preferences for room assignment will be taken into consideration but the director of the program will be responsible for making final room assignments for Child Care/Giver Aides. Work in the Room Supervisor category will also be posted.

 - b. Due to fluctuations of enrollment in the Child Care program, twenty (20) workdays may lapse before the Board must make a determination whether to declare a job vacant, to change its duties and hours, or to add a new assignment. The position in question will be filled on a temporary basis until a determination is made within the twenty (20) workdays.

3. **Posting.**
 - a. Within five (5) workdays after a job becomes vacant, the Board may eliminate such vacancy, or subject to the terms of this Agreement, change its duties and hours of work. All eligible vacancies must be posted within five (5) workdays after the job becomes vacant. However, once a posting is made, it is to be considered factual and can only be changed by mutual consent. The Board must make known its decision on filling all posted jobs within ten (10) workdays after the expiration of the posting period.

 - b. Vacancies shall be posted in all buildings for at least five (5) working days before the appointment is made.

 - c. The following format shall be used to advertise the position:
 - (1) Type of work
 - (2) Place of work
 - (3) Starting date
 - (4) Rate of pay
 - (5) Hours to be worked
 - (6) Classification
 - (7) Qualifications, including any licensing requirements.
 - (8) Benefits (insurances, leave time, etc.) provided for the position.

 - d. If an employee's regular hours are increased by one (1) hour or more for at least ninety (90) out of one hundred-eighty (180) days in a school year, and the district plans on continuing the increase of hours into the next school year, the District will repost the position stating the regular hours which will be scheduled and allow any employees within the job classification to apply for the reposted position.

4. **Laid Off Employees.** If a vacancy occurs while there are employees on layoff the following procedures will be in effect.

- a. Recall laid off employee (s) per Article XII., to a vacancy while it is posted.
- b. Fill the vacancy and subsequent vacancies that may arise by posting while the laid off employee(s) works the posted job(s).
- c. At the point there are no more bidders allow the recalled employee(s) to remain in that "last" position.

5. **Application Process.**

- a. Any employee may apply for a posted vacancy. Ten (10) month employees will be sent notice of vacancies if they request such notice in writing prior to the end of their normal work year for vacancies that occur over the summer.
- b. It will be the employees' responsibility for contacting the Administration if they wish to bid on any job opening that occurs while they are on vacation or otherwise absent. Employees may bid on a vacancy while on any leave of absence, including Worker's Compensation, provided said employee is scheduled to return to work prior to the date the position is to be filled.
- c. If an employee desires to be considered an applicant for a posted position he/she shall make application in writing during the posting period.
- d. A posted position may be filled on a temporary basis during the posting period.
- e. If an employee awarded a posted vacancy elects to revert to the employee's former classification during the trial period or is removed from the new position during the trial period, the district may award the vacancy to one of the other qualified bidders in accordance with the standards set forth in this article, XIII-B, and shall not be required to repost the vacancy.

6. The Association President shall receive notice of all postings and the name of the employee selected by the Board.

7. **Rates For New Job.** When a new job is placed in the unit and cannot be properly placed in an existing classification, the Employer will notify the Association prior to establishing a classification and rate structure. In the event the Association does not agree that the description and rate are proper, it shall be subject to negotiation.

B. **Promotions -- Definition.** For the purpose of this Article, promotions shall be defined as advancing an employee within a classification with a greater hourly wage than the employee is currently earning.

1. **Applicants Within the Classification.** Promotions within the bargaining unit shall be filled by the applicant within the classification who has the ability to perform the work and possesses the necessary skills required for the job and is qualified to perform the same as determined by the Board. This means that with minimum instruction and a break-in period the work can be performed satisfactorily without impairing the efficiency of the operation. If the above conditions can be

equally met by the applicants the selection will be based on seniority. The applicant selected shall be granted a trial period of up to twenty (20) days of work to determine:

- a. His/her desire to remain in the position.
- b. His/her ability to perform the job as determined by the supervisor with advisory input from the department head or designated peer.
- c. If the promotion is to Building Custodian, Head Maintenance, Head Mechanic or Cafeteria Manager, the ability to direct others shall be a criteria to be considered.

2. **Applicants Outside the Classification.** In the event there are no qualified applicants from within the classification, the vacancy shall be posted outside the district. Candidates employed within the bargaining unit but outside of the classification of the open position shall be given equal consideration by the District prior to making its determination for filling the vacancy based on the highest qualifications of the candidates for the position. The applicant selected shall be granted a trial period of up to twenty (20) days of work to determine:

- a. His/her desire to remain in the position.
- b. His/her ability to perform the job as determined by the supervisor with advisory input from the department head or designated peer.
- c. If the promotion is to Building Custodian, Head Maintenance, Head Mechanic or a Cafeteria Manager, the ability to direct others shall be a criteria to be considered.

3. **Minimum Qualifications.** Current employees in any classification shall be given preference based on the District-wide seniority for any of the following open positions: cook helpers; student supervisory; delivery and grounds and maintenance helper. However if the applicant holds another position in the District he/she will not be given preference if his/her filling of the position will result in a schedule that is over forty (40) hours per week.

4. **Trial Period.** A current employee selected by the district to move from one classification to another shall be given a minimum of a twenty (20) workday trial period. The period may be extended up to an additional sixty (60) days if the District determines it is necessary to evaluate the ability of the employee to perform the function of the new classification. During the trial period, the employee shall have the opportunity to revert back to his/her former classification. If the employee is unsatisfactory in the new position, notice and reasons shall be submitted to the employee in writing by the employer. The matter may then become a proper subject for the grievance procedure.

5. **Seniority.** When an employee has been promoted to another classification, he/she shall carry with him/her up to two (2) years of system seniority only for purposes of determining his/her proper wage. However, his/her total system seniority shall apply to vacations, leaves of absence rights, and to any retirement pay pursuant to this Agreement.

C. **Transfers:**

1. **Definition.** Transfers shall be defined as re-assignment to a job within the same job classification and not to higher or lower rated positions. No transfers shall be made where an employee may

lose his/her seniority status or suffer a decrease in hourly rates unless such transfer is requested by the individual or for cause.

2. **Notice.** Notice of transfer shall be given in writing to the employee and to the Association three (3) workdays prior to execution. It is recognized that the Employer may make involuntary transfers.
3. **Grievability.** A decision to involuntarily transfer an employee will be subject to the grievance procedure, if the transfer is made for disciplinary purposes rather than a realignment of the workforce.
4. **Limits.**
 - a. No employee may transfer within his/her job classification more than once a year except where circumstances such as shortfalls in revenue or reduction in students justify such a transfer. Where an employee refuses a transfer, he/she shall not be permitted to contest the seniority of one who does take the job. However, he/she shall not be disqualified from accepting further transfers in the future.
 - b. The Board retains its responsibilities of determining at the end of twenty (20) workdays, whether or not, the employee transferred shall be given permanent status. If the employee is not placed on a permanent status, he/she shall return to his/her former job without loss of seniority.
 - c. An employee who bids on and is awarded a vacancy in a classification shall not be entitled to a trial period if the employee has successfully completed a trial period in the same classification within the last five (5) years. For purposes of this provision, an employee shall be considered to have successfully completed a trial period if the employee is not removed from the classification during the trial period before the employee returns to the employee's former classification.
5. **Reasons For Denial.** In the event the senior applicant is denied the transfer, reasons for denial shall be given in writing to such employee. In the event the senior applicant disagrees with the reasons for denial, it shall be a proper subject for the Grievance Procedure.
6. **Reasons For Involuntary Transfer.**
 - a. Involuntary transfers may occur at the discretion of the Board for the following reasons.
 - (1) Less than satisfactory performance in the present position.
 - (2) Continued presence in the present position would be injurious to the employee's health.
 - (3) Personal difficulties with fellow employees or students or parents. If requested, such difficulties will be given to the employee in writing.
 - (4) To open a position for an employee whom the Employer has determined it is necessary to transfer.
 - (5) To meet work requirements with reasons given upon request.

- b. **Pre-Meeting.** In the event of a necessary involuntary transfer, the Board shall meet with the affected employee and an Association representative prior to the involuntary transfer in order to discuss the reasons for such action.
 - c. **Association Notification.** In all cases of involuntary transfers, the Association will be notified, in writing, three (3) workdays prior to the effective date of such transfer.
 - d. **Posting.** The position from which the employee was involuntarily transferred will be posted.
 - e. **Job Trade.** If no one applies, the least senior employee in the department shall trade jobs with the transferee. The employee who moves into the transferees job shall incur no losses as a result of the trade and will be granted a trial period of up to twenty (20) work days during which time he/she will be subject to involuntary transfer.
7. **Transfer of Employees Out of Unit:** If an employee is transferred to a position under the Employer not included in the unit and is thereafter transferred again to a position within the unit, he/she shall not have accumulated seniority while working in the position to which he was transferred but he/she shall retain seniority previously accumulated.
8. Section C of this Article is not applicable to Child Care/Giver Aides. Due to fluctuations of enrollment in the Child Care Center, it is necessary for the Child Care Center Director to be able to assign Child Care/Giver Aides to different care room assignments on any given day. For purposes of clarification, such assignments are to be minimized and not to be treated as transfers.

ARTICLE 14 - TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Temporary vacancies of absent employees may be filled by substitutes on a day-to-day basis until the employee is absent for ninety (90) consecutive work days and the temporary vacancy is filled. A temporary vacancy shall be posted as a temporary vacancy as provided in Article XIII, A. 3 when it is determined that the employee will be absent for more than ninety (90) consecutive work days or upon the expiration of the ninety (90) consecutive work day period, whichever occurs first.
- B. **Substitute Head Mechanic, Head Maintenance, Building Custodian and Cafeteria Manager.**
- 1. **Head Mechanic/Head Maintenance.** When a head mechanic, or head maintenance employee is absent, the position will be filled at the discretion of the District.
 - 2. **Cafeteria Manager.** When a cafeteria manager is absent for more than 4 hours, the position will be filled from the first day with the food service employee in the same building with the most seniority in the food service department who meets the requirements and qualifications for such a position.
- C. **Rate of Pay.** A regular employee who substitutes on a day-to-day or temporary basis in a classification in another department will be paid at step 1 of the salary schedule of the department and classification in which the employee substitutes or fills a temporary vacancy.

- D. Substitutes may be used to fill a temporary vacancy for the duration of an extended absence if no regular employee volunteers to fill the temporary assignment.
- E. Substitutes will not be used for the purpose of filling any vacancy on a permanent basis.
- F. **Laid Off Employees.**
1. It is understood between the parties that laid off bargaining unit members will be called on a seniority basis to fill temporary assignments prior to substitutes being called. If that member declines or cannot be reached within a reasonable time, the next member will be contacted, etc. until all vacancies for that day are filled.
 2. If a laid off bargaining member fills a temporary assignment in the same classification from which the employee was laid off, the employee shall receive his or her regular pay from the first day of the assignment, but benefits will not begin until the member is in the assignment for more than sixty (60) consecutive work days.
 3. If a laid off bargaining member fills a temporary assignment in a classification other than the classification from which the employee was laid off, the employee shall receive the Step 1 rate of pay for that classification, but benefits will not begin until the member is in the assignment for more than sixty (60) consecutive work days.
 4. It is further understood that such work does not impair the bargaining unit member's recall rights nor does it supersede the rights of bargaining unit members not on layoff.
 5. The intent of this Section is to give preference to laid off bargaining unit members over substitutes for available work.

ARTICLE 15 - NON-UNIT EMPLOYEES

- A. **Summer Youth Programs:** The use of young adults involved in Summer Youth Programs is at the discretion of the Board and is outside the scope of this contract providing the program does not result in the layoff or displacement or any reduction of hours or other benefits of regular employees. Regular employees shall not be requested to supervise such individuals.

ARTICLE 16 - SUMMER WORK ASSIGNMENTS

- A. **Summer Custodial/Maintenance Work.** Summer maintenance or custodial work if available, will be assigned to employees in the bargaining unit over new employees, provided they make written application.
- B. **Rate of Pay.** Employees other than (12) twelve month employees who are awarded summer work that is available within their job classification, shall receive ten (10) dollars per hour, except Child Caregiver Aides. Employees assigned to another classification for the summer, shall be paid ten (10) dollars per hour, except Child Caregiver Aides.
- C. **Accrual of Vacation and Leave Time.** Employees other than twelve (12) month employees who are awarded summer work positions within bargaining unit shall not accrue leave days, or vacation time credit for this supplemental work. Child Caregiver Aides who work in the summer, may use sick or personal days, with the approval of the District, as per Article 19 of this agreement.

- D. **Seniority.** Employees awarded summer work in their classification, shall be awarded such work on a classification seniority basis; provided, however, that an employee who abandons or quits his/her summer work assignment before completion, without just cause, shall not thereafter be eligible for summer work without the Employer's approval.
- E. **Application.** Employees other than twelve (12) month employees who wish to be considered for summer work assignments must apply in writing to the Maintenance or Transportation Supervisor before May 15 of each year.
- F. **Child Care.** Ten (10) month Child Care/Giver Aides who wish to be considered for summer work must apply in writing to the Supervisor of the Child Care program before May 15 of each year. Ten (10) month Child Care/Giver Aides will be offered work in any and all summer child care programs prior to that work being offered to persons outside the Child Care/Giver Aides Classification, providing they possess the skills and ability to perform the work posted.

ARTICLE 17 - WORKING HOURS

- A. Working hours for all departments except bus drivers and Child Care/Giver Aides:
 - 1. The regular full working day shall consist of eight (8) hours per day.
 - 2. **Lunch Period.** There shall be thirty (30) minutes off for lunch excluded from the eight (8) hour period.
 - 3. **Breaks.** All full time employees working more than six (6) hours may take a ten (10) minute "coffee break" in the a.m., and also a ten (10) minute "coffee break" in the p.m. or the first half and second half of their regular shift, whichever may apply. All employees working four (4) to six (6) hours may take one ten (10) minute "coffee break."
 - 4. **Call Back Guarantee.** An employee who has left work and is reporting back for additional duty beyond their regular work day shall be guaranteed at least two (2) hours pay at their regular straight-time pay, or if they qualify, overtime. This does not apply to hours worked in conjunction with the regular work shift.
 - 5. **Child Care.**
 - a. Child Care/Giver Aides working four (4) but less than six (6) hours per day may take one (1) ten minute break near the mid-point of their duty shift.
 - b. Child Care/Giver Aides working six (6) hours per day but less than eight (8) hours per day shall be allowed one (1) ten minute break near the end of the first one third of their duty shift and a thirty (30) minute duty free lunch period near the end of the second one third of their duty shift. The duty free lunch period shall be exclusive of the more than six (6) hour duty shift. The duty free thirty (30) minute lunch period may be waived by mutual agreement between Supervisor and Employee.
 - c. Child Care/Giver Aides working eight (8) hours per day shall have a thirty (30) minute duty free lunch period exclusive of the eight (8) hour workday and shall have a ten (10) minute

break during the first half of the work shift and a ten (10) minute break in the last half of the work shift.

B. Time and One-Half and Double Time for All Departments.

1. Time and one-half will be paid for all hours over forty (40) hours in one week. The regular work week for custodial or maintenance may include Monday through Saturday; for all other employees, Monday through Friday.
2. Double time will be paid for all hours worked on Sundays and holidays. For calculation purposes, hourly pay received for work on a paid holiday shall equate to two (2) times the regular hourly rate.

C. Equalization of Overtime Hours:

1. When it is determined by the Administration that overtime work is needed, the Building Custodian involved will coordinate the work through the Maintenance or Transportation Supervisor.
2. The District will strive to assign overtime on an equitable basis within buildings and job classifications, however, the parties recognize that emergency situations and/or maintaining a natural workflow and efficiency of the operation may justify assignment to a particular employee without regard to their past overtime worked.

D. Inclement Weather - Malfunctions.

1. **Ten-Month Employees.** When school is declared not in session due to inclement weather, severe storms, fires, epidemics, mechanical break downs or health conditions, all ten month employees shall not report to work and will not be paid. Those ten (10) month employees will be required to report to work and will be paid on days rescheduled to insure 180 days of pupil instruction.
2. **"Act of God" Days.** If, at any time during the life of this Agreement it becomes lawful to count as days of pupil instruction, days when pupil instruction is not provided due to conditions not within the control of school authorities such as due to inclement weather, severe storms, fires epidemics, mechanical break downs or health conditions, it is agreed that all employees in the bargaining unit shall be paid for the day. When the start of a school day is delayed due to inclement weather or other conditions beyond the control of school authorities, bus drivers with Career Center runs shall be paid for runs not made that are not required to be made up at a later time.
3. Notwithstanding the above, the parties agree no employee will be paid for the 1st "snow day" or other "Act of God" day of the school year, unless they are required to report to work that day. In that instance they will be paid at their regular hourly rate for hours worked, and will not receive additional compensation. A day is defined as a full work day. If the snow or "Act of God" day constitutes less than a full day the unpaid time (hours) will be prorated and accumulated until a full day is reached prior to receiving compensation under other provisions of this agreement. As an example (but not limited to the only example): a half day snow day will be counted as a half day for the purposes of the agreement. Child Care workers will be eligible for inclement weather (snow day) pay for 2 "snow days" only. Child care workers working on a snow day, will received straight time only.
4. **Duty to Report.** In either of the above situations, all day custodians, the delivery person, mechanics, maintenance men and those cooks essential for caring for food planned for the day

shall report for work as soon as they can reasonably do so. Afternoon shift custodians will report to work at their regular shift time unless it has been determined that the inclement weather emergency still exists. If the inclement weather emergency still exists, those afternoon shift custodians asked to report to work will be paid for hours worked. For the purposes of this agreement, the district shall determine when employees are required to report for work. All employees shall be expected to report to work unless, 1) they are notified otherwise by the employer or; 2) it is determined that the weather emergency prevents it.

5. **Individual School Closings.** If an individual school is closed due to a mechanical malfunction, all involved employees will be instructed as to whether:
 - a. They should report to work at the closed school.
 - b. They should remain at school or return home.
 - c. Employees that elect not to report for duty will not be paid for the hours that the school is closed due to mechanical malfunction.
 - d. In the event an employee receives unemployment compensation benefits (which as used herein also includes "under employment benefits") during the school year (associated with his/her regular work assignment) due to days of instruction not being held when scheduled because of conditions not within the control of school authorities as stated above, and those days of instruction are rescheduled so that the employee works those instructional days at a later time, the employee will have his/her pay adjusted, such that his/her unemployment compensation plus the wages paid to the employee for the year will be equal to the regular annual wages he/she would have earned for the school year had there not been scheduled days of instruction canceled for such reasons. This provision shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The total of unemployment compensation plus wages earned by employment in the District shall not be below that which the employee would have received had there not been any instructional days canceled for such reasons.
 - (2) The total of unemployment compensation plus wages earned through employment in the District shall not be less than the employee's regular wages from the same or similar period during the preceding school year.
6. **Snow Days for Child Care.** Child Care/Giver Aides will be required to report to work as scheduled unless notified otherwise by the Supervisor of The Child Care Center or "Red Alert" system that they are not to report to work. Those required to work will receive straight time pay. Child Caregiver Aides will be expected to report for work on "Act of God" or snow days unless they are otherwise notified by the District. If the District determines not all Child Caregiver workers are needed due to a decline in enrollment on such a day, the District will implement a rotation system for sending one or more Child Caregiver Aide workers home, starting with the most senior worker and rotating through all Child Caregiver workers sequentially through the course of a school year. For the first two (2) days of being sent home under this provision the Child Caregiver workers that are sent home, will receive snow day pay for their regular workday hours. For more than two (2) such days, there will be no compensation for Child Caregiver workers who are not required to work. .

7. **Seniority and Compensation to Report to Work.** Child Care/Giver Aides will be required to report to work as scheduled unless notified otherwise by the Supervisor of the Child Care Center or "Red Alert" system that they are not to report to work. Those required to work will receive straight time pay. Child Caregiver Aides will be expected to report for work on "Act of God" or snow days unless they are otherwise notified by the District. If the District determines not all Child Caregiver workers are needed due to a decline in enrollment on such a day, the District will implement a rotation system for sending one or more Child Caregiver Aide workers home, starting with the most senior worker and rotating through all Child Caregiver workers sequentially through the course of a school year. For the first two (2) days of being sent home under this provision the Child Caregiver workers that are sent home, will receive snow day pay for their regular workday hours. For more than two (2) such days, there will be no compensation for Child Caregiver workers who are not required to work. .
- E. **Work Schedule.** Prior to October 1 of each school year a work calendar will be presented to all members of the Association listing the work schedule for all departments for the school year.
- F. **Dual-Department Employees.** When an employee holds jobs in two (2) departments (i.e., bus driver and cafeteria worker), the employee shall give first priority to the employee's regular scheduled work hours in each department; provided, however, that when a required in-service or training session conflicts with the employee's regular scheduled hours in another department, first priority shall be given to the required in-service or training session. Establishment of dual-department employees is at the sole discretion of the District and will not be permitted in a situation which results in regular overtime pay.

ARTICLE 18 - HOLIDAYS AND VACATIONS

A. Employees shall receive full pay for the following holidays if they work the scheduled workday before and the scheduled workday after the holiday or are on an approved paid vacation or bereavement.

1. Holidays for 12-month employees (including Child Care/Giver Aides):

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Labor Day | 7. New Years Day |
| 2. Thanksgiving Day | 8. Good Friday |
| 3. Friday after Thanksgiving | 9. Memorial Day |
| 4. Christmas Eve Day | 10. July 4 th |
| 5. Christmas Day | 11. President's Day |
| 6. New Years Eve Day | |

2. Holidays for employees working ten (10) or more hours per week during the school year only, plus all bus drivers that regularly drive ten (10) or more hours a week, and ten (10) month Child Care/Giver Aides: (Child Care/Giver Aides Only – See Article XVIII, D. 3:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Labor Day (Child Care/Giver Aides Only – See Article XVIII, D. 3 | 5. Christmas Day |
| 2. Thanksgiving Day | 6. New Years Eve Day |
| 3. Friday after Thanksgiving | 7. New Years Day |
| 4. Christmas Eve Day | 8. Good Friday |
| | 9. Memorial Day |
| | 10. President's Day |

3. Paraprofessional Aides:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Thanksgiving Day | 6. New Years Day |
| 2. Friday after Thanksgiving | 7. Good Friday |
| 3. Christmas Eve Day | 8. Memorial Day |
| 4. Christmas Day | 9. President's Day |
| 5. New Years Eve Day | |

B. **Employees on Leave.** When a holiday is observed by the Employer while an employee is on allowable paid leave, the holiday will not be charged against the employee's accumulated sick leave and will be considered as time worked.

C. **Holiday Observance.** If a holiday falls on Sunday the Monday following will be considered the holiday. If a holiday falls on Saturday the Friday preceding shall be the day off for those employees entitled to the day off providing that school is not in session. If school is in session those entitled shall receive an additional vacation day at the time of their vacation.

D. **Payment for Holiday Work.**

1. If an employee works on one (1) of the above holidays, he/she will receive eight (8) hours holiday pay plus their regular rate of pay for the hours worked.
2. Employees regularly working less than eight (8) hours per day will receive their holiday pay on their regular workday basis, plus their regular rate of pay for hours worked.
3. Child Care/Giver Aides (ten-month) who work the week before Labor Day will receive Labor Day as a paid holiday beginning in 2010.

E. When state or federal statutes, laws, or regulations require that any of the holidays designated in Section A. of this Article be observed on a day other than set forth above, the holiday shall be observed on the day or date prescribed by state or federal statute whichever is controlling.

F. **Vacation.**

1. **Vacation Eligibility.** Twelve (12) month employees shall earn vacation according to the following schedule of completion of months of employment:

- Completion of the 1st month through the 48th month - .833 days/month.
- Completion of the 49th month through the 108th month - 1.25 days/month
- Completion of the 109th month and thereafter - 1.66 days/month

Twelve (12) month Child Care/Giver Aides shall have one (1) week vacation per year for the first three (3) years and two (2) weeks of vacation per year after three (3) years of employment.

Twelve (12) month Child Care/Giver Aides vacation days shall be paid on the basis of their school year hours.

2. **Vacation Period.**

- a. Vacations will be granted at such times as suitable considering both the wishes of employees and the efficient operation of the department concerned. Vacation request shall be made on the computerized absence form.
- b. Vacations will be taken in a period of consecutive days. Vacations may be split into one or more weeks (exceptions may be made due to extenuating circumstances) providing such scheduling does not significantly interfere with the operation of this District.

- c. When a holiday is observed by the employee during a scheduled vacation, the vacation will be extended one (1) day continuous with the vacation.
- d. A vacation may not be waived by an employee and extra pay received for work during that period.
- e. If an employee becomes ill and is under the care of a duly licensed physician during his/her vacation, his/her vacation may be rescheduled at his/her request. In the event his/her incapacity continues through the year, he will be awarded payment in lieu of vacation.
- f. **Advances.** Vacation days cannot be used in advance of earning same. All vacation days earned from July 1, through June 30 must be used by the following December 31st or forfeited.
- g. **Carry-Over.** By written request, up to five (5) days vacation can be carried over from December 31 to the next June as long as it is clearly understood that all such carried over vacation time must be used by the end of June following the December 31st that marked the carry-over period. However, any unused vacation days will be added to the employees' sick leave accumulation to be used as extra sick leave.

3. **Vacation Pay.**

- a. If an employee is laid off or retired, the employee will receive any unused vacation days including that accrued in the current budget year.
- b. Rate during vacation. Employees on vacation will be paid their current rate based on their average regularly scheduled days and will receive credit for any benefits provided for in this Agreement.
- c. Twelve month employees who are approved to work ten hour days in the summer may take sick leave and/or vacation leave during the summer in increments of ten (10) hours.

G. Employees working in two different departments will have his/her holiday and vacation pay figured separately on the basis of hours worked in each individual department.

ARTICLE 19 - LEAVES OF ABSENCE WITH PAY

A. **Sick Leave.**

- 1. **Accumulation.** All twelve (12) month employees covered by this Agreement shall accumulate .75 of a sick leave day per month not to exceed nine (9) days per year with one hundred, sixty-nine (169) days maximum accumulation. All employees working less than twelve (12) months will receive .80 of a day per month not to exceed eight (8) days per year with one hundred thirty (130) days maximum accumulation.

2. **Transfer.** In case of transfer from one classification to another, the number of days accumulated to the date of the transfer shall be amended on a pro-rata basis based on the ratio of the number of hours per day worked in the prior classification to the number of hours per day worked in the new classification. However, the total accumulation allowed to be credited shall not exceed the total established for the employee's new classification.
3. Sick leave is to be credited on the last day of each month in which the employee worked eleven (11) or more days.
4. An employee while on sick leave will be deemed to be on continued employment for the purpose of computing all benefits referred to in this Agreement and will be construed as days worked specifically.
5. **Personal Illness.** An employee may use all or any portion of his/her earned sick leave for personal illness, personal injury or physical disability including maternity related disability. If an employee elects to use paid sick leave for maternity related disability, such leave will be used in place of an unpaid leave of absence and can be used only for the actual time of disability. The Board may require examination at Board expense and/or Doctor's certificate for apparent illness, injury or disability.
6. **Family Illness.** A maximum of ten (10) days sick leave per year may be used for a serious illness in the immediate family. See Article XIX. - F., for definition of immediate family.
7. **Additional Uses of Sick Leave.** In addition to personal illness or injury, sick leave may be utilized for the following:
 - a. Fire, accident, pallbearer
 - b. Marriage or graduation of a member of the immediate family and of the employee himself
 - c. Required court appearance
 - d. Child born to wife
 - e. Immediate member of family leaving for service
 - f. Emergency illness or injury in the family which requires the employee to make arrangements for necessary medical and nursing care
 - g. Surgery for a member of the employee's immediate family
 - h. Dental and doctor appointments
 - i. Adoption of a child

The use of sick days for the foregoing purposes shall be limited to one (1) day for each incidence or occurrence except the use of sick days for the adoption of a child shall be a maximum of fifteen (15) days for each child. The Superintendent or designee may approve the use of additional days for such purposes or the use of sick days for any other purpose. However, the granting of leave in a given situation does not establish a precedent for the future granting of a leave.

- B. **Funeral Leave.** An employee shall be allowed three (3) working days, per occurrence, as funeral leave days not to be deducted from sick leave for a death in the immediate family. These days shall be available at the time of the death only. If additional time is needed two (2) workdays, per occurrence may be granted and deducted from sick leave.

All employees shall be allowed one (1) working day per year without loss of pay as a funeral leave day, not to be deducted from sick leave, for the death of a friend.

- C. **Personal Leave.** Personal Leave in addition to sick leave will be granted with a maximum of two days each year. These days shall not be cumulative. All regular Child Care/Givers and Paraprofessional Aides working more than ten (10) hours per week are included.
1. To apply for business days the employee must submit an electronic request on the district's system at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the desired leave.
 2. In cases of an emergency, a verbal request will be considered timely but must be entered into the District's computerized absence system within three (3) days after returning to work.
 3. Except in cases approved by the Superintendent the leave may not take place before or after a holiday or vacation period.
 4. Personal leave days shall be transferred to accumulated sick leave if not used each year.
 5. Employees who do not qualify for health insurance through the District will be given one (1) additional personal leave day each year.
- D. **Jury Duty.** An employee who serves on Jury Duty will be paid the difference between his/her pay for jury duty and his/her regular pay provided he/she makes himself/herself available for work within his/her regular work schedule when not occupied with jury duty. It is understood by the foregoing provisions that on any day on which the employee is dismissed within three (3) hours from the beginning of his/her shift, he/she shall be required to work the balance of his/her shift. Night shift employees shall not be required to report for work if jury duty requires morning attendance.
- To be eligible for a jury duty pay differential, the employee must furnish the Board with a written statement from the appropriate public official listing the dates he/she received pay for jury duty.
- E. **Armed Forces, Reserve and National Guard Duty.** Employees who are in some branch of the Armed Forces, Reserve or the National Guard will be paid the difference between their reserve pay and their regular pay with the District a maximum of two (2) weeks per year when they are on full time active duty in the Reserve or National Guard, provided proof of service and pay is submitted.
- F. Immediate Family is to be defined as follows: Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Wife or Husband, Son or Daughter (Biological, adopted, foster child, stepchild, legal ward) Mother-in-law, Father-in-law, Brother-in-law, Son-in-law, Sister-in-law, Daughter-in-law, Grandparents, Grandchildren, Step Father and Step Mother. For purposes related to use of sick leave or unpaid leaves, immediate family shall be defined as: Mother, Father, Step Parent, Grandparent, Grandchild, Spouse, Son, Daughter, Adopted Child, Step Child or child for which the employee is in loco-parentis.
- G. **Snow Days.** If school is closed due to inclement weather or other conditions on an employee's sick leave or personal day and the employee is eligible for a snow day under article XVII-D, the day shall not be deducted from the employee's accumulated sick leave or personal days.

- H. **Attendance Incentive Payments.** An employee who has perfect attendance for a school year will be paid an amount equal to four (4) days incentive payment as provided below. An employee who has one (1) day absence from work for a school year shall be paid an amount equal to three (3) days incentive payment as provided below. For purposes of this clause, absences for school business, Association business, jury duty and bereavement for immediate family shall not be counted. Use of personal business days will be counted as absence from work. A partial day missed shall count as a full day missed from work. The incentive payment shall be as follows:

Category	Incentive Payment
12 Month Employees	\$60.00/Day
10 Month Employees	\$60.00/Day Prorated Based On Hours Worked
Bus Drivers – less than 2 hours per day	\$20.00/Day
Bus Drivers – more than 2 hours & less than 4 hours per day	\$30.00/Day
Bus Drivers – more than 4 hours per day	\$55.00/Day

- I. For the purposes of this article paid leave, when granted, will be compensated based on how many hours the employee was to work based on his/her regular schedule or as established by the District.

ARTICLE 20 - LEAVES OF ABSENCE UNPAID

- A. **FMLA.** The unpaid leave provisions of this Agreement shall be construed consistently with the requirements of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. All unpaid leaves required by that Act shall be cumulative with, and not in addition to, any other applicable leave, paid or unpaid, provided for in this Agreement.
- B. **Duration.** Unpaid leaves of absence not to exceed one (1) year or the length of their seniority whichever is less may be granted without loss of seniority with accrual of seniority during the leave, upon written request to, and approval by, the Superintendent or his/her designee.
- C. **Eligibility.** Eligibility for a leave of absence requires a minimum of one (1) year of continuous employment by the Board as a permanent employee except in cases of health, maternity or military leaves or leaves required by the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- D. Reasons for Leaves of Absence are as follows:
1. **Infant Child Care Leave.** Infant child care leave will be granted in accordance with Section A. of this article.
 2. Upon the recommendation of a physician a health leave without pay shall be granted in accordance with the FMLA for prolonged illness in the immediate family, spouse or children and employee for up to twelve (12) weeks. See Article XIX, F for definition of immediate family.
 3. Leaves for other purposes may be granted at the discretion of the Board upon written request.
 4. Service in a governmental agency.
 5. Members of the Association elected to Local Association positions or selected by the Association to do work which takes them from their employment with the Employer shall at the written request of the Association receive temporary leaves of absence without pay for periods not to exceed one

(1) year or the term of office, whichever may be shorter, and upon their return shall be re-employed at work with accumulated seniority. An extension of such leave not to exceed one (1) year may be approved by the Superintendent.

6. Each employee may use up to four (4) days of unpaid leave per year and, for all reasons, except sick leave, approval must be given in advance.

E. **Return from Leave of Absence.**

1. Employees on leave for health reasons must return, resign, or request a special extension for a maximum of one (1) additional year.
2. When an employee's health permits his/her return, he/she shall make his/her request known in writing to the Superintendent and will submit a statement from a physician of the employee's fitness for work. In the event there is a question of the employee's fitness to return to work, the Board has the right to request an examination at Board expense.
3. An employee returning from an approved leave of absence of one (1) year or less shall be reinstated to the position and classification he/she held when the leave began. An employee returning from a leave of absence of more than one (1) year shall be returned to a position in the same classification he/she was in when the leave began, based on departmental seniority.
4. An employee returning from a leave of absence of less than and including sixty (60) calendar days shall be required to notify the Board in writing, of his/her intent to return at least five (5) working days prior to the date of his/her return.
5. Employees wishing to return from a leave of absence of more than sixty (60) calendar days shall be required to notify the Board in writing of his/her desire to return at least twenty (20) working days or to request an extension which is subject to the discretion of the District, or to submit a resignation, otherwise the employee will be considered as terminating his/her employment with the District.

F. **Armed Forces Service.** Any employee who terminates employment in the school district to perform active services in the Armed Forces of the United States is entitled to re-employment rights in the position he/she vacates, or one of like status and pay scale provided:

1. The position vacated is other than temporary.
2. He/she is honorably discharged from the Armed Forces.
3. He/she applies for re-employment within ninety (90) calendar days from being certified physically fit after discharge from a hospital resulting from a service incurred injury.

ARTICLE 21 - INSURANCE PROTECTION

Insurance Coverage. The District agrees to furnish the following insurance protections as specified:

A. **Health Insurance Coverage.**

1. Current employees who are eligible for and receiving health insurance benefits paid by the District shall receive up to \$5,992.30 for 15-16 and the state cap amount for 16-17 per annum (prorated on a monthly basis) for single subscriber premium payments, beginning July 1, 2015. Employees may choose additional coverage paid at their own expense, subject to rules and regulations of the insurance carrier.
2. All bargaining unit members eligible for health coverage as of June 30, 2012 shall continue as eligible providing they otherwise meet requirements for coverage.
3. All bargaining unit members not eligible for health insurance as of June 30, 2012, and all new hires employed on or after July 1, 2010 (District date of hire), who are employed for thirty-five (35) hours per week or more, shall be eligible to receive up to \$5,992.30 for 15-16 and the state cap amount for 16-17 per annum (prorated on a monthly basis) for single subscriber premium payments, beginning July 1, 2015. Employees may choose to purchase additional coverage at their own expense, subject to the rules and regulations of the insurance carrier.
4. Drivers with a Single Run. For bus drivers with the equivalent of a single run who were employed by the District on or before June 30, 2010 (District date of hire), the Employer will pay one-half (1/2) of the cost of Plan A single health subscriber rate to be applied to either Plan A or Plan B with the Employee paying any excess amounts.
5. Less Than Thirty-five (35) Hour Employees. For cafeteria, custodial, maintenance, mechanic, supervisory aide, library aide/tech, delivery and grounds, and utility employees working less than thirty-five (35) hours per week in a single position, no insurance shall be paid by the Employer.
6. Special Education Aides. Special Education Aides hired on or after January 1, 1999, Instructional Aides, Child Care Aides and Transportation Aides and Library Technicians working thirty (30) or more hours a week in a single position shall receive Plan B without the cash option. All such employees working less than thirty (30) hours a week in a single position shall not be eligible for any insurance benefits.
7. Eligibility / New Hires. Employees hired on or after July 1, 2010 (District date of hire) shall be eligible for a health premium of up to \$5,992.30 for 15-16 and the state cap amount for 16-17 per year, prorated on a monthly basis, for single subscriber coverage, paid by the Employer provided that the new employee is hired into a position of thirty-five (35) or more hours per week.

B. Eligible bargaining unit members must elect to be covered by appropriate coverage of Plan A or Plan B:

Plan A (For Employees Electing Health Insurance)

Health Insurance Coverage.

1. Current employees who are eligible for and receiving health insurance benefits paid by the District shall receive up to \$5,992.30 for 15-16 and the state cap amount for 16-17 per annum (prorated on a monthly basis) for single subscriber premium payments, beginning July 1, 2015. Employees may choose additional coverage paid at their own expense, subject to rules and regulations of the insurance carrier.
2. All bargaining unit members eligible for health coverage as of June 30, 2013 shall continue as eligible providing they otherwise meet requirements for coverage.
3. All bargaining unit members not eligible for health insurance as of June 30, 2012, and all new hires employed on or after July 1, 2010 (District date of hire), who are employed for thirty-five (35) hours per week or more, shall be eligible to receive up to \$5,992.30 for 15-16 and the state cap amount for 16-17 per annum (prorated on a monthly basis) for single subscriber premium payments, beginning July 1, 2015. Employees may choose to purchase additional coverage at their own expense, subject to the rules and regulations of the insurance carrier.

MESSA Negotiated Long-Term Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 66 2/3% - 90-Calendar Day Modified Fill● \$2,500/Month Maximum● Freeze on Offsets● Alcoholism/Drug Addiction – same as any other illness● Mental/Nervous – same as any other illness
Delta Dental	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● MESSA/DELTA Dental 80/80/80: \$1,000 annual max● for Class I, II, III; \$1,200 annual max effective July 1, 2010● 75% \$750 for Ortho lifetime max; \$950 lifetime max effective July 1, 2010● COB
MESSA Negotiated Group Term Life	\$20,000 AD&D

Plan B (For Employees Not Electing Plan A)

Cash Option. For such Employees not electing Plan A, but electing Plan B, the District will provide a cash option of seventy dollars (\$70.00) per month. The District will formally adopt a qualified plan document which complies with Section 125 of the Internal Revenue code. The amount of the cash payment received may be applied by the member to any tax deferred/sheltered annuity selected by the employee with a company that is a District approved carrier.

MESSA Negotiated Long-Term Disability	Same as in Plan A above.
Delta Dental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MESSA/DELTA Dental 80/80/80: \$1,000 annual max • for Class I, II, III; \$1,200 annual max effective July 1, 2010 • 80% \$1,300 for Ortho lifetime max; \$1,500 lifetime max effective July 1, 2010 • COB
MESSA Negotiated Group Term Life	\$25,000 AD&D
Vision	VSP 3 Gold

- C. **Term of Eligibility.** Insurance coverage for those eligible shall begin when an employee has completed his/her probationary period. The insurance premium will cease to be paid when the person quits or for some reason is no longer an employee. Insurance coverage ends on the effective date of retirement because the member is then eligible for the retirement system insurance.
- D. **Employee Responsibility.** It shall be the responsibility of the employee to request and fill out the application for such insurance within the prescribed time limits or forfeit his/her insurance rights until the next open enrollment period. It shall also be the responsibility of all employees to apply for new coverage or changes in coverage within the time limits prescribed by the insurance carrier.
- E. **Insurance Information.** The Board shall provide information about insurance benefits at the time of initial employment and/or upon employee request.
- F. **Benefits During Layoff.** If an employee is laid off, insurance benefits will continue to remain in effect to the maximum extent possible through the insurance carrier at the employees' expense.
- G. The terms of any contract or policy issued by an insurance company hereunder shall be controlling as to all matters concerning benefits, eligibility and termination of coverage and other related matters.
- H. **Liability Exclusions.** The Board by payment of the premium payments required to provide the coverage, shall be relieved from all liability with respect to the benefits provided by the insurance coverage as above described. The failure of an insurance company to provide any of the benefits for any reason shall not result in any liability to Board or the Association, nor shall such failure be considered a breach by either of them of any obligation.

- I. **Workers' Compensation.** Absence due to injury or illness covered by Workers' Compensation incurred in the course of the employee's employment shall not be charged against the employee's personal sick leave for the first seven and five-tenths (7.5) work days of such absence. Following this period, the employee may choose "1." or "2." below.
1. An employee eligible for Workers' Compensation benefits will receive those benefits provided in accordance with the Act exclusively.
 2. Personal accumulated sick leave days shall be made available to the injured employee during the period he/she is unable to work as a result of an accident. If the employee chooses this option of using sick leave days, his/her Workers' Compensation benefits shall be supplemented by school funds to give the employee the equivalent of his/her regular daily rate. The employee's personal accumulated sick leave will be charged with a proportionate amount of time lost, based on the ratio of the school funds used to make the employee's regular daily rate. The employee will continue to draw a regular bi-weekly pay check, but will sign over the Workers' Compensation benefit check(s) to the District.
- J. **Employee Premium Contributions.**
1. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, when applicable, the Employee contributions to the health insurance premium shall be made under the District's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan. All support employees are eligible to participate, with a payroll deduction, in the District's Flexible Spending Account Plan.
- K. **Section 105 Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan.** All employees in the bargaining unit who are not eligible for health insurance coverage under Plan A or the ACA shall be eligible to participate in the Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan (Appendix H), as follows:

<u>Regularly Scheduled Hours Per Week</u>	<u>Annual Plan Benefit</u>
Less than 10 hours per week	Not Eligible
10-14 hours per week	\$350
15-20 hours per week	\$400
21-25 hours per week	\$600
26-29 hours per week	\$700
30 or more hours per week	\$900

Reimbursements will be available after October 1st of the 2015-2016 school year.

- L. All staff covered by this Agreement, not eligible for employer paid health care, may purchase the District's current negotiated health plan at the District group rate. Payment may be made under the District's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan.

ARTICLE 22 - PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

- A. All employees in the bargaining unit must have on file an exemption card for withholding tax as required by the IRS in the administration building. Any employee desiring a change in exemptions shall do so by filling out a new card. Deductions are based upon a schedule supplied by the federal government.
- B. The Board shall deduct from the pay of each bargaining unit member from whom it receives authorization to do so and make appropriate remittance for service charges, annuities, credit union, charitable donations or any other programs approved by the Board.

ARTICLE 23 - RESIGNATION AND RETIREMENT

- A. Notice. When an employee desires to terminate his/her employment there must be at least a ten (10) workdays written notice given to the Board. Upon mutual agreement between the parties, all or part of this notice may be waived. In the event of re-employment such an employee shall be considered as a new employee. Failure to comply with these requirements shall mean forfeiture of any and all benefits.
- B. Terminal Leave. In the case of retirement under the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement Act or in the event of death of the employee, a terminal leave payment will be made to the employee or his/her estate. Such payment will be made for all accumulated sick days at the rate of \$30.00 per day earned for employees working five (5) or more hours per day and \$15.00 per day earned for employees working less than five (5) hours per day. However, in no instance, shall the total payment to one individual under this provision exceed \$3,500.00. For purposes of computing such payments total hours will mean total hours worked for the District per day at the time of retirement or death of the employee.

ARTICLE 24 - NO STRIKE CLAUSE

- A. The Association agrees that it will in good faith cooperate with the Employer in attempting to assure that reasonable work standards, schedules and the rules and regulations of the Employer are complied with and that it will not directly or indirectly encourage, permit or cause any concerted work stoppage, slowdown, strike or other interference with the day-to-day operations of the Employer.

ARTICLE 25 - HEALTH AND SAFETY

- A. **Driver Annual Health Examination.** Up to \$45.00 per year shall be paid to each bus driver for his/her annual health examination upon submission of completed forms furnished by the school. The examinations are to be taken on the employees' own time.
- B. **Board Required Examination.** The Board reserves the right to require any employee to submit to a medical examination if, in its opinion, there is a question of the employee's ability to perform his/her work. This shall also be at Board expense.
- C. **Safety Committee.** A safety committee consisting of employees and Employer representatives is established. This committee shall include no more than three (3) representatives of the Union and three (3) representatives of the Employer and shall meet upon request of their party at a time mutually agreed upon by the parties. They shall meet for the purpose of making safety recommendations.

ARTICLE 26 - MISCELLANEOUS

- A. **Anti-Discrimination**. Neither party shall unlawfully discriminate against any employee because of the employee's religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, marital status or disability and neither party shall unlawfully discriminate against any employee because of the employee's membership or non-membership in the Association.
- B. **Continuation of Contract**. If any provision of this Agreement or any application of the Agreement to any employee or group of employees shall be found contrary to law, then such provision or application shall not be deemed valid and subsisting, except to the extent permitted by law, but all other provisions or applications shall continue in full force and effect.
- C. **Superseding Clause**. This Agreement shall supersede any rules, regulations, or policies of the Board which shall be contrary to or inconsistent with its terms.
- D. **Bus Mechanics Uniform**. The Board agrees to furnish bus mechanics with three changes of work uniforms per week (shirt and pants).
- E. **Direction for Building Operations**. The building principal will give directions for the operation of the building through the building custodian.
- F. **Food Service Review**. A Board designee will review the food service operation with an Association-designated representative from food service.

ARTICLE 27 - COMPENSATION

- A. **Hourly Rates**. The hourly rates of employees covered by this Agreement are set forth in Appendix E which is attached to and incorporated in this Agreement.
- B. **Probation Rate**. The probationary rate shall be 90% of the step rate at which employees are hired.
- C. **Cafeteria Personnel Lunches**. Cafeteria personnel shall pay for their lunches at the same rate as other adult employees.
- D.
E. The employer shall pay the full employer insurance contribution allowable by law, the employee shall pay the full employee insurance contribution.
- F. **Advancement Date**. Advancement from one step to another will take place on the anniversary date of employment for each employee except that advancement from probationary to step I shall take place on the 121st day of work, except for Child Care/Giver Aides.
- G. **Rate for Banquet Preparation**. Cafeteria workers involved in banquet preparation after regular working hours will be paid their regular rate. Cafeteria workers involved in preparations after regular working hours will be paid time and one half if said hours exceed forty (40) hours per week.

- H. **Longevity.** All ten (10) month employees completing ten (10) years of service as a school district employee by December 31, and working at least twenty (20) hours per week will receive \$466.94 in December. All twelve (12) month employees completing ten (10) years of service by December 31, and working at least forty (40) hours per week will receive \$585.09 in December.

Longevity for employees working less than twenty (20) hours per week will be based on a pro-rata basis.

The above amounts shall be increased by any across-the-board increases in the Salary Schedule.

I. **Compensation for Training/In-Service.**

1. All employees required to attend in-service meetings or training programs shall be compensated at their regular hourly rate for all hours spent in such meetings. For bus drivers, this compensation rate shall be the rate for special runs.
2. Compensation for employee attendance at in-service meetings or training programs, not required by the Employer, may be approved by the Superintendent or designee.
3. In any school year in which the calendar contains more than seven (7) half days for students, the District shall provide in-service meetings, training programs, or other work, for not less than four (4) of the half days for those members of the bargaining unit scheduled to work a full day on the four (4) half days. The intent of this provision is to allow employees to work the hours they would have worked if the four (4) half days had been full days for students. Such make-up hours may be scheduled at times other than on the four (4) half days.

- J. An ESP employee who holds a teaching certificate and serves as a substitute teacher will be paid his/her regular ESP rate if it is greater than the substitute teacher per diem rate.

ARTICLE 28 - JOB SHARING

- A. Job sharing shall be defined as two (2) bargaining unit employees voluntarily assuming one (1) full time bargaining unit position.
- B. Employees interested in a job sharing situation must present a written application to the Director of Finance in Central Office by no later than June 1 of the school year. The plan submitted must include a description of:
1. Employees involved.
 2. Position to be shared. (Please use job sharing application attached as Appendix D.)
 3. During the life of this Agreement the parties will try to develop a way that drivers can participate in job sharing.
- C. Employees so interested will be informed by June 15th of the school year if the proposed job sharing plan has been accepted. Denial shall be accompanied by written reasons.
- D. Shared jobs shall last for one (1) fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). A renewal application for job sharing may be submitted for one additional year.

- E. Job sharing will not be used to create part-time bargaining unit positions. Bargaining unit members who job share will accrue the same benefits and rights as though they held a full time job except their pay shall be prorated according to hours worked. Hours worked shall include breaks but be exclusive of lunch period.
- F. A bargaining unit member who job shares shall retain the right to his/her former position. The bargaining unit member who occupies the former position shall be permitted to exercise seniority when job sharing is terminated.

**ARTICLE 29 - ANNEXATION, CONSOLIDATION, OR OTHER
REORGANIZATION OF THE DISTRICT**

- A. During the life of this Agreement, if annexation, consolidation, or reorganization with one or more districts in whole or in part is to take place, the Board agrees to notify the Association in advance so that the Association may negotiate the effect of such change upon its members prior to such annexation, consolidation, or reorganization taking place.

ARTICLE 30 - DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall become effective as of the date of ratification by both parties July 1, 2015 and shall continue in full force and effect until June 30, 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this instrument to be executed on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

JACKSON COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

By: 
Pam Schultz, President
Jackson County Education Association

By: 
Marcy Hartung
MEA UniServ Director

By: 
Corey Shelton
MEA SNAP/Chief Negotiator

NORTHWEST BOARD OF EDUCATION

By: 
Geoff Bontrager
Superintendent

By: 
Shawn White
Board President

APPENDIX A - BUS INFORMATION

A. **Bus Run Classifications.**

1. **More than 2 hour and less than 4 hour Run.** A **More than 2 hour and less than 4 hour** run consists of a single pick-up and delivery of children along an established route before and after school.
2. **Less than 2 hour Run.** A **Less than 2 hour** run is either a pick-up or delivery before or after school along an established route.
3. **More than 4 hour Run.** A **More than 4 hour** run consists of a double pick-up and delivery of children along an established route or routes before and after school.
4. **Shuttle Run.** A shuttle run is a regularly scheduled pick-up of a group of children at a school within or outside the District when a majority of the children on the bus are dropped off at another school. In other words, the run begins at one school and ends at another school within or outside the District.

- B. **Bus Washes.** The District will pay for up to ten (10) washes per year at the rate of \$10.00 per wash as verified by bus wash slips. The final wash is to be done after the last trip of the school year. Drivers using buses during the summer will be paid for up to two (2) washes additional as verified by wash slips. The last bus wash is to be done when the bus is turned in.

C. **General Provisions:**

1. **Assignment of Bus Runs When applying for any bus route, any Driver including a dual department employee, may not chose a route that puts them into regular overtime.**
 - a. **Secondary Runs.** At least one week before the start of each school year a secondary run shall first be assigned to each driver by the Employer to the area of the driver's home if possible.
 - b. **School Year Vacancies.** During the school year all new runs or old runs that have been turned in shall be posted for five (5) working days and the drivers shall bid on them; the most senior bidder shall be awarded the run providing that the award of such run does not result in the weekly payment of overtime wages. To expedite the bidding process, a meeting of all interested drivers may be held in lieu of posting at which time the open runs shall be awarded by seniority, as long as the assignment does not result in regular overtime. This meeting shall be held upon agreement with the Association. The time of the meeting shall be established by mutual agreement of the parties.
 - c. **Selection of Elementary Run.** At least one week before the start of each school year, all elementary runs be selected by seniority, as long as the assignment does not result in regular overtime, providing that any of these runs not selected may be assigned by the Employer to drivers without elementary runs regardless of seniority.

Once selected or assigned all runs must be driven for at least four (4) weeks except that any driver may bid on any posted run.

- d. **Submitting A Bid.** Drivers who are interested shall so indicate by submitting a bid on the run during the five (5) day posting period, as long as the assignment does not result in regular overtime.
- e. **Senior Qualified Driver.** From those drivers submitting a bid, a run shall be awarded to the senior qualified driver, as long as the assignment does not result in regular overtime.
- f. **Compensation for Setting Up Runs.** Compensation at run rate per run is to be paid to the drivers at the beginning of the school year on a one time basis for setting up bus runs with exception of take home only.
- g. **Special Education and Career Center Run.** Special Education runs and Career Center runs may be assigned in the spring, for the next school year, to the driver(s) who volunteer to be assigned such run(s), as long as the assignment does not result in regular overtime. If more than one driver volunteers, the most senior shall be awarded the run(s). If, however, the compensation or a run assigned in the spring changes prior to the start of school, the runs shall be posted as per the Master Agreement.

2. Dependent non-student personnel will not be transported on school buses as passengers.
3. **Complaints.** Any written complaint against a driver shall be brought to the driver's attention.
4. **Split Routes.** When a route is split, the more senior driver will have the choice of which to take.
5. .
6. When it becomes necessary for a driver to pick up or deliver students from more than one (1) route, the assignment shall, whenever practical, be made to the most senior bus driver with a route in the same area of the school district. The Transportation Department will prepare and maintain a list of drivers in each area.

D. **Special Trips.**

1. **Rotation.** Special trips will be rotated among those drivers starting with most senior driver that has indicated in writing a desire to drive special trips. After the most senior driver has been offered a special trip, the next most senior driver who has indicated a desire to drive special trips will be offered the next special trip until all drivers who have expressed a desire to drive special trips have been offered an opportunity to drive a special trip. Then the rotation will begin again with the most senior driver being offered the next trip. Provided however, if taking the special would result in overtime being paid, the District may skip the driver for that trip. That driver will then receive first consideration for the next special trip, providing it does not result in the payment of overtime.
2. **Notification.** Whenever possible drivers shall be notified a week prior to the scheduled trip for which they are assigned. If a special trip is canceled without at least one (1) hour notice to the driver the driver shall receive two (2) hours pay.
3. **Refusal of Trip.** If a driver refuses a trip, he/she shall be charged with that trip.
4. If a special trip of three (3) hours or more conflicts with the regular run, another driver will be assigned the regular run. It shall be considered a conflict if the driver is unable to return to the bus

garage and be prepared for their regular run at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the regular run.

5. There shall be no trading of trips among drivers.
6. **Extended Special Trips.** It is mutually agreed and understood that in the case of extended special trips when lay-over time exceeds total driving time, drivers may be assigned to make the trip to take a group to the activity and to return immediately and to make another trip to pick them up and return to the point of origin. However, in such case, the bus driver shall be paid a minimum of two (2) hours for each of these trips. If the driver desires to remain at the activity the driver will be paid for the actual time it would have taken to make the trip both ways twice but not less than four (4) hours.
7. **Trips of More Than One Day.** In the case of special trips scheduled for more than one (1) day, the Employer agrees to pay the driver as follows:
 - a. For the day the driver is required to stay overnight the special rate for actual trip time (special trip and side trips) but not less than eight (8) hours.
 - b. The special rate for actual trip time for the day of the return trip.
 - c. For side trips on days other than the day the driver is required to stay overnight the special rate for actual trip time but not less than two (2) hours.
 - d. Pay for a trip on Saturday shall be time and one half (1-1/2) the special rate and pay for trips on Sunday shall be double the special rate.
 - e. Further, the Employer will provide lodging and meals at or near the location of the activity and will provide reimbursement for other meals not provided. Proper documentation of the meal expenditures will be required.
8. In either of the cases described in 6 and 7 above, if more than one driver returns between trips, only one bus shall be driven back after the first trip unless the Transportation Supervisor directs otherwise.
- 9.

E. **Bus Information:**

1. **Field Trips.** Unless special arrangement is made with JCEA beforehand field trips that take place during the school day will be taken by school bus.
2. **Extracurricular Trips.** Unless special arrangement is made with JCEA beforehand all athletic trips and extracurricular trips such as, band, vocal music, classroom oriented trips originating outside of school day will be taken by school bus.
3. **Clubs.** Clubs totally non funded by school monies and parent sponsored extracurricular field trips may rent school buses or use public and private carriers at the option of the Board.
4. **Use of School Vans.** School organizations may use school vans without use of school bus drivers for a trip during the school day and outside of the school day when the total group actually involved in the trip contains no more than eight (8) students. The van may be used if the number of students is between eight (8) and fifteen (15), but a bus driver must take the trip.

F. **Supervision of Students.** Drivers will be on their buses when Northwest students are dismissed from school.

G. **Special Trips.** The following procedure will be followed for special trips of one (1) day or less:

1. If a special trip is one-hundred (100) miles or more from Northwest Schools, one-way, the driver shall remain with the group, regardless of the number of event hours. The driver shall be compensated for all hours, including driving and non-driving time until the trip has arrived back to its original point of departure.
2. If a special trip is less than one-hundred (100) miles, one way, and the event layover time is six (6) hours or less, the driver shall remain with the group and be compensated for all driving and non-driving time until the trip has arrived back to its original point of departure, unless it is agreed by both parties to have the bus return.
3. If a special trip is less than one-hundred (100) miles, one way, and the event layover time is more than six (6) hours, the driver will be compensated for two (2) hours to take the group to the event and return and shall be compensated for a minimum of two (2) hours to return to the event and bring the group back upon completion of the event. Driver shall be compensated for actual driving time, if combined time exceeds four (4) hours.

When practical, drivers choosing Saturday trips will be notified of return times on the Friday before the trip. The coach will provide the driver with the return time on Saturday if it has not already been provided.

When practical, coaches will be notified in advance that the bus is to make a return trip rather than stay at the event.

APPENDIX B-1 - GRIEVANCE DIAGRAM

Alleged Violation or Event	
Informal Discussion with Immediate Supervisor/Administrator	
Written Grievance (Step 1)	10 days
Meeting with Immediate Supervisor/Administrator	
Immediate Supervisor/Administrator Disposition	10 days
Superintendent's Referral (Step 2)	5 days
Superintendent's Disposition	10 days
Written Intent to Arbitrate (Step 3)	20 days (or 10 days after Step 2)
Mutual Selection of Arbitrator.....	15 days
Referral to American Arbitration Association	30 days

D. Position of Grievant and/or Association: _____

Signature

Date

STEP II - SUPERINTENDENT

A. Date Received by Superintendent or Designee: _____

B. Disposition of Superintendent or Designee: _____

Signature

Date

C. Position of Grievant and/or Association: _____

Signature

Date

STEP III - ARBITRATION

A. Date Submitted to Arbitration: _____

B. Disposition and Award of Arbitrator: _____

Date of Decision _____

Signature: _____

APPENDIX C - JOB SHARING APPLICATION

Name: _____ Current Assignment: _____

Name: _____ Current Assignment: _____

Job to be shared: _____

Brief description of how duties will be handled: _____

Explanation of the distribution of overlapping duties: _____

Approved

Denied

If denied, reasons: _____

Comments and/or suggestions: _____

Date

Principal's Signature

Classification	STEP 1 15-16	STEP 2 15-16	STEP 3 15-16	STEP 4 15-16	STEP 5 15-16	STEP 6 15-16
Support employees receive for the 15-16 school year - one percent (1%) on each step of the salary schedule (except Child Care) and a step if eligible. New salary schedule for Child Care.						
Cafeteria Classification						
Cafeteria Manager	12.97	13.42	13.81	14.15	14.60	15.14
Cook/Baker	12.28	12.66	12.96	13.40	13.78	14.25
Cook's Helper/Cashier	11.70	12.06	12.30	12.76	13.06	13.56
Satellite Mgr.	12.81	13.21	13.53	13.94	14.34	14.87
Custodial Classification						
Head Custodian (one (1) on secondary & on elementary campus, total of	16.07	16.53	16.90	17.39	17.80	18.47
Custodian	15.07	15.53	15.90	16.39	16.80	17.47
Student Services Classification						
Student Services Rep	12.91	13.30	13.67	14.07	14.43	14.98
Maintenance Classification						
Head Maintenance	19.00	19.56	20.13	20.72	21.24	22.00
General Maintenance	17.53	17.97	18.49	19.05	19.56	20.31
Maintenance Helper	15.07	15.53	15.90	16.39	16.80	17.47
Delivery and Grounds Classification						
Delivery and Grounds	15.07	15.53	15.90	16.39	16.80	17.47
Utility Worker Classification						
Utility Worker	12.42	12.75	13.05	13.50	13.76	14.21
Mechanics Classification						
Head Mechanic	19.00	19.56	20.13	20.72	21.24	22.00
Mechanic	18.00	18.45	18.98	19.53	20.05	20.82
Student Supervisory Aides Classification						
Student Supervisory	10.75	11.06	11.42	11.75	12.07	12.47
Transportation Aides Classification						
Transportation Aide-Sp Ed	10.75	11.06	11.42	11.75	12.07	12.47
Library Aide Classification						
Library Aides	11.60	11.92	12.27	12.59	12.93	13.35
Library Technician Classification						
Library Technician	11.86	12.21	12.58	12.91	13.28	13.75
Bus Driver Classification						
Driver Hourly Rate	15.52	15.94	16.36	16.79	17.21	17.81
Grandfathered Hourly Rate (Terri Hoffman, Stacey Boley and Laurie Sibley only; for Career Center Runs only)	17.15	17.68	18.17	18.69	19.25	19.91
Special Run	12.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Special Education Aides Classification						
Special Education Aides	11.87	12.16	12.47	12.93	13.19	13.59
Instructional Aides Classification						
Instructional Aides	11.87	12.16	12.47	12.93	13.19	13.59
Child Care/Giver Aides Classification						
Child Care/Giver Aides ***	8.50	8.55	8.60	8.89	0.00	0.00

Classification	STEP 1 16-17	STEP 2 16- 17	STEP 3 16-17	STEP 4 16-17	STEP 5 16-17	STEP 6 16-17
Cafeteria Classification	Support employees receive for the 16-17 school year - 1.25% on the top step only (except Child Care) and a step if eligible. New salary schedule for Child Care.					
Cafeteria Manager	12.97	13.42	13.81	14.15	14.60	15.33
Cook/Baker	12.28	12.66	12.96	13.40	13.78	14.43
Cook's Helper/Cashier	11.70	12.06	12.30	12.76	13.06	13.73
Satellite Mgr.	12.81	13.21	13.53	13.94	14.34	15.06
Custodial Classification						
Head Custodian (one (1) on secondary & on elementary campus, total of 2)	16.07	16.53	16.90	17.39	17.80	18.70
Custodian	15.07	15.53	15.90	16.39	16.80	17.69
Student Services Classification						
Student Services Rep	12.91	13.30	13.67	14.07	14.43	15.17
Maintenance Classification						
Head Maintenance	19.00	19.56	20.13	20.72	21.24	22.28
General Maintenance	17.53	17.97	18.49	19.05	19.56	20.56
Maintenance Helper	15.07	15.53	15.90	16.39	16.80	17.69
Delivery and Grounds Classification						
Delivery and Grounds	15.07	15.53	15.90	16.39	16.80	17.69
Utility Worker Classification						
Utility Worker	12.42	12.75	13.05	13.50	13.76	14.39
Mechanics Classification						
Head Mechanic	19.00	19.56	20.13	20.72	21.24	22.28
Mechanic	18.00	18.45	18.98	19.53	20.05	21.08
Student Supervisory Aides Classification						
Student Supervisory	10.75	11.06	11.42	11.75	12.07	12.63
Transportation Aides Classification						
Transportation Aide-Sp Ed	10.75	11.06	11.42	11.75	12.07	12.63
Library Aide Classification						
Library Aides	11.60	11.92	12.27	12.59	12.93	13.52
Library Technician Classification						
Library Technician	11.86	12.21	12.58	12.91	13.28	13.92
Bus Driver Classification						
Driver Hourly Rate	15.52	15.94	16.36	16.79	17.21	18.03
Grandfathered Hourly Rate (Terri Hoffman, Stacey Boley and Laurie Sibley only; for Career Center Runs only)	17.15	17.68	18.17	18.69	19.25	20.16
Special Run	12.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Special Education Aides Classification						
Special Education Aides	11.87	12.16	12.47	12.93	13.19	13.76
Instructional Aides Classification						
Instructional Aides	11.87	12.16	12.47	12.93	13.19	13.76
Child Care/Giver Aides Classification						
Child Care/Giver Aides ***	8.90	9.03	9.13	9.26	0.00	0.00

Probationary Child Care/Givers will be paid at least minimum wage. All Child Care/Givers Aides hired prior to and as of April 1st of any given year shall be considered employed for the full year as of the following September for purposes of placement on the salary schedule.

Any conflict between the provisions of this document and any other District document purporting to explain the rights, benefits, or obligations of the parties hereunder shall be resolved in favor of this Plan document. In the event that a tribunal of competent jurisdiction shall determine in a final judgment or decree that one or more of the provisions of this Plan is invalid due to the provisions of applicable law, this Plan shall be interpreted as if the offending language had been stricken from its provisions and the remainder of the Plan document shall continue in full force and effect.

In adoption of this Plan document, the responsible officer(s) of the District have set forth their signatures below, this _____ day of _____, 2015.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

By: _____
Superintendent

APPLICATION FOR SUMMER WORK

Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Current Position: _____

Availability:

Dates: _____

Work: _____

Applicant's Signature

Seniority Date: _____

Received: _____

Operations Officer

cc: Association President
(All employment letters for summer work to Association President)

NON-CONTRACTUAL ITEMS – NWESP CONTRACT

1. **Health and Safety:** Permanent health and safety committees for the District and each building shall meet to consider and make recommendations on health and safety issues in the District. The committees will work to establish a common plan to deal with the issues in the District dealing with health and safety. The committee shall be composed of representatives from both bargaining units and the Administration.
2. **Special Education:** The ISD consultants will be contacted by the Administration and will be urged to maintain an IEPC calendar at each building.
3. **ESP Training and Certification Committee:** A committee composed of two (2) Administrators, or their representatives, three (3) ESP members, and the UniServ Director, will meet to discuss any changes that require employees to have any additional training or certificate, or to require any additional certification to remain in present position. This committee will formulate plans on how to inform and assist people in meeting any change in requirements.
4. **Staff Development:** It is agreed that any staff development which takes place will be offered equally to all members of a classification.