



AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AND

KENT COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

AND

ROCKFORD EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

2015-2016

Table of Contents

ARTICLE I.....	1
PREAMBLE	1
A. Intent	1
B. Mutual Interest	1
C. Contrary to Law	1
ARTICLE II	1
RECOGNITION	1
A. Inclusions and Exclusions	1
B. Individual Grievances	2
ARTICLE III.....	2
EMPLOYEE RIGHTS	2
A. Rights Under Act 379	2
B. Use of Facilities/Equipment.....	2
C. Access to Information	2
D. Unsafe Equipment.....	3
E. Transportation Policies	3
F. Discipline/Discharge.....	3
G. Files.....	3
H. Assault.....	4
I. Rights of Citizenship.....	4
J. Nondiscrimination.....	4
K. Employment Information.....	4
L. Released Time.....	5
1. Grievances and Negotiations	5
2. Released Time for Association Meetings	5
3. Released Time for Association Conferences and Sessions.....	5
4. President’s Released Time.....	5
ARTICLE IV	5
BOARD RIGHTS	5
A. Board Authority	5
B. Board Rights	6
C. Effect of Agreement.....	6
D. Additional Rights	6
ARTICLE V	7
NEGOTIATION PROCEDURES	7
A. Complete Agreement Clause	7
B. Timeline	7

C. Power to Negotiate.....	7
D. Mediation	7
ARTICLE VI.....	7
SENIORITY	7
A. Seniority Defined/Lists/Grievances	8
B. Probationary Period	8
1. Length	8
2. Additional Deficiencies, Discipline, Performance Evaluation	8
3. Association Representation.....	8
4. Part-Time Employees.....	9
5. Initial Day of Employment	9
C. Loss of Seniority	9
D. Temporary Employees and Seniority.....	9
ARTICLE VII	11
VACANCIES, TRANSFERS, PROMOTIONS AND EVALUATIONS.....	11
A. Bus Driver Vacancies	11
B. Custodians, Maintenance, Mechanics, Secretaries, Food Service and Non- Classroom Paraprofessionals	11
2. Filling Vacancies	12
3. Seasonal Openings.....	12
C. Classroom Paraprofessionals, Library Assistants and Crossing Guards Vacancies	12
D. Trial Period for Promotions	12
E. Transfer to Non-Bargaining Unit.....	12
F. Supervisory Positions.....	13
G. Involuntary Transfers.....	13
a. Health.....	13
b. Other	13
H. Evaluations.....	13
a. Framework	13
ARTICLE VIII.....	14
LAYOFF AND RECALL	14
A. Board of Education/Administration Discretion	14
B. Bus Drivers	14
C. All Others.....	14
D. Layoff Notice	15
E. Recall	15
F. Notice of Recall	15
G. Loss of Seniority	15
H. Reduction in Hours (Excluding Bus Drivers).....	15
ARTICLE IX.....	15
RETIREMENT/SEVERANCE.....	15

A. Mandatory Retirement	15
B. Retirement Pay	16
C. Severance Incentive	16
ARTICLE X	17
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS.....	17
ARTICLE XI.....	17
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.....	17
A. Grievance Defined	17
B. Time Limits.....	17
C. Grievance Procedure to be followed.....	18
D. Exclusions	19
E. Expenses	19
ARTICLE XII	20
HOLIDAYS AND VACATIONS.....	20
A. Holidays	20
1. Days Listed	20
2. Secretarial/Clerical.....	20
3. Requirements	21
B. Vacations.....	21
1. Eight-Hour/Twelve-Month Employees	21
2. Secretarial/Clerical.....	21
3. Scheduling Vacations – Twelve-Month Employees.....	22
4. Rate of Vacation Pay	22
ARTICLE XIII.....	22
TEMPORARY LEAVES.....	22
A. Sick Leave.....	22
B. Extended Illness Leave	23
C. Family Illness and Bereavement Leaves.....	24
D. Other Leaves	24
1. Paid Leaves	24
a. Jury Duty.....	24
b. Subpoena guidelines	24
2. Unpaid Leaves	25
E. Personal Business Leave.....	25
1. All Employees.....	25
F. Child Care Leave	25
G. Permissive Leaves – Non-Paid	26
H. Military Leave of Absence.....	26
I. Miscellaneous Conditions.....	26
J. Notification of Attendance.....	26
ARTICLE XIV	27

WORKERS' COMPENSATION.....	27
A. Benefits	27
B. Number of Days.....	27
C. Vacation/Christmas/Spring Breaks.....	27
ARTICLE XV.....	28
SALARY SCHEDULES/JOB CLASSIFICATIONS/WORKING CONDITIONS	28
Bus Drivers	28
Paraprofessionals, Crossing Guards, and Library Assistants.....	28
Secretaries	29
Food Service	32
Custodial / Maintenance / Mechanics	33
A. In-Service for All Employees	36
B. Working Conditions for All Employees	37
C. Bus Driver Working Conditions	41
D. Paraprofessional Working Conditions	44
E. Custodial/Maintenance/Mechanics Working Conditions	45
F. Cooks/Food Service Working Conditions	46
G. Secretarial/Clerical Working Conditions.....	47
ARTICLE XVI.....	48
INSURANCE.....	48
A. Qualifications	48
B. Policy Holder	48
C. Definition of Coverage	48
D. Interest Free Loan	51
ARTICLE XVII	52
MEDICALLY FRAGILE STUDENTS	52
ARTICLE XVIII.....	53
NO INTERRUPTION OF EDUCATION.....	53
ARTICLE XIX.....	53
SUPREMACY CLAUSE.....	53
ARTICLE XX.....	53
SUBCONTRACTING	53
DURATION OF AGREEMENT	55
APPENDIX A	56
OVERTIME WORK - MAINTENANCE.....	56
Yearly Sign-up Form	56
APPENDIX B	57
HEALTH CARE PROCEDURE AUTHORIZATION.....	57

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING	59
A. Severance Savings Provision	59
B. Food Service/Canteen Services.....	59
C. Team Drivers – Business Days and Sick Leave Accumulation (2/2/2004).....	60
LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING	61
LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING	62
GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM	63
LETTER OF AGREEMENT.....	65
COLLABORATIVE SETTLEMENT TENTATIVE AGREEMENT	65
A. Agency Shop.....	68

This Agreement is made and entered into the 1st day of July, 2015 by and between the Rockford Board of Education, Rockford Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan (herein called the “Board”) and the Kent County Education Association, K.C.E.A./M.E.A./N.E.A., representing the Rockford Educational Support Personnel Association, R.E.S.P.A. (herein called the “Association”). Adopted by the board June 30, 2015

ARTICLE I

PREAMBLE

A. Intent

It is the intent and purpose of the parties hereto that this Agreement shall promote and improve the operational and economic relationship between the Board and the Association, pursuant to P.A. 379.

B. Mutual Interest

It is recognized by both parties that they have a mutual interest and obligation to maintain friendly cooperation between the Board and the Association, which will permit the safe, economical and efficient operation and productive assignments and execution of duties of all employees.

C. Contrary to Law

If any provision of this Agreement is found to be illegal or contrary to law, it shall become null and void and no longer a part of the contract.

D. The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which results in this Agreement, each had the right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not removed by law from the areas of collective bargaining, and that the understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement.

ARTICLE II

RECOGNITION

A. Inclusions and Exclusions

1. The Board of Education hereby recognizes the Association as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for all bus drivers, special education drivers, all paraprofessionals working in special education, child care workers, bus paraprofessionals, playground, classroom, reading, library paraprofessionals in the secondary and elementary schools and office paraprofessionals, computer room

paraprofessionals, library assistants full-time and part-time and custodial employees (including cleaners and grounds employees), mechanics, maintenance employees, laundry and cafeteria workers, bus washer, crossing guards, hall monitors and for all personnel engaged in secretarial and clerical work, full-time and part-time.

2. The following employees shall be excluded: CTEA, high school and middle school study hall supervisors, special personnel, substitutes, supervisors, and all other employees including all central office staff.

3. Paraprofessionals are defined as those paraprofessionals hired to work with and/or for certified personnel in a classroom or other assignments. Assignments may include regular or special classrooms, library, reading, playground or other duties as assigned by the Administration.

B. Individual Grievances

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 representative has been given an opportunity to be present at such adjustment meeting.

ARTICLE III

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

A. Rights Under Act 379

The Board and the Association agree to abide by Act 379 of the Public Acts of Michigan for 1965 and all amendments thereto, and to all the applicable laws and statutes pertaining to employees' rights and responsibilities. The Board further agrees that it will not directly or indirectly discourage or deprive or coerce any employee in the enjoyment of their rights granted to them under the laws above stated.

B. Use of Facilities/Equipment

The Association shall have the right to schedule the use of school building facilities at reasonable time and intervals for Association meetings before or after regular class hours. Such meetings shall not be conducted in a place, or at a time, which might interfere with school activities, including extracurricular activities conducted after regular classroom hours. Prior notification of intent to hold a meeting shall be given and the Administration shall designate a suitable room in which the meeting is to be held. The Association shall be able to post with the supervisor's permission on designated bulletin boards. Mailboxes shall be available for Association use. Use of the copy machine, telephone and fax machine for necessary local calls will be permitted, provided they do not interfere with normal operation of the schools.

C. Access to Information

The Board agrees to furnish to the Association, upon request to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, copies of those school documents as it is required by law to make available to

the public which may be necessary for the Association to process any grievance or complaints, provided, however, that personal information respecting individual Association members shall not be disclosed.

D. Unsafe Equipment

No employee shall drive or operate a vehicle, machine or equipment that is unsafe or not properly equipped with safety equipment, nor a vehicle that is loaded over capacity for which it was designed as determined by state law. An employee will immediately notify the appropriate supervisor, appropriately tag such vehicle and file a work order. The immediate supervisor shall make the final determination as to the safety of the vehicle, machine or equipment.

E. Transportation Policies

1. Only persons hired and certified as bus drivers shall drive on regularly scheduled runs or on extra trips, except in case of emergency or when all regular drivers are unavailable. All drivers shall be properly licensed by the State of Michigan and comply with regulations of the Michigan Department of Education.

2. However, the School District may elect to drive any special activity groups out of the School District via charter bus. Normally, this would include out of state travel, elementary grade trips to Greenfield Village, Chicago Museum, MHSAA Playoffs, and specific non-conference contests. If this occurs, the District will notify the Association five (5) days before the trip is to occur.

3. It is clearly understood that teachers who are certified drivers using buses in the daily instructional programs (i.e., Agriculture, Building Trades, etc.) are exempt from any provision in paragraph E. It is also clearly understood that other employees may drive the vans and wagons to transport small groups (14 students or less). Normally not more than two (2) vans will be sent to the same event except when breakdowns, emergencies, driver unavailability or anything of a like and similar nature occurs.

F. Discipline/Discharge

The Board shall not discipline or discharge any employee covered by this Agreement without due process. Any meeting which the employee involved feels likelihood exists for discipline or discharge, he/she may request an Association representative be present. The Board agrees, upon the discharge or suspension of an employee, to notify, in writing, the Association president of the discharge or suspension. The Board agrees that if the employee has not had an opportunity to consult with an Association representative prior to the discharge or disciplinary suspension, the Administration will, upon request, allow the employee to meet with an available Association representative before being required to leave school property, when practical. Such meeting shall not unnecessarily interfere with the provision of services, nor unduly delay the employee's departure. Any complaint determined by the Administration to be serious shall be called to the employee's attention. The concept of progressive discipline will be used when employees have to be disciplined or discharged.

G. Files

Each person shall have the right to review his/her official personnel file excluding pre-employment materials, references and other confidential information, at reasonable times during normal work hours of the Administration. This review will occur only in the presence of an

authorized administrator or his/her designee. After two (2) years, an employee may request purging of reprimands. Final decision shall rest solely with the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. Only signed material should be in the employee file. Notification will be made to employee before placement in the file.

H. Assault

Any case of assault on a person which had its inception in a direct school-related problem shall be reported in writing to the principal or supervisor or designee. In the event of such assault, the person involved may request assistance in writing from the Board summarizing such matter. This request shall be made in writing within one (1) day to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee who may make a determination as to whether the conduct/actions of the person making such request justifies any assistance from the Board, and the extent thereof. The decision of the Superintendent of Schools shall be final.

I. Rights of Citizenship

Notwithstanding their employment, employees shall be entitled to full rights of citizenship, and no religious or political activities of any employee or the lack thereof shall be grounds for any discipline or discrimination with respect to the employment of such employee. Generally, the private and personal life and lawful activities of the employee are not within the appropriate concern or attention of the Board, unless they impact on the operation of the District.

In the event any employee(s) files a grievance alleging discrimination under this provision of the Agreement, the Board may, at its discretion, refuse to process the grievance or void any arbitration award or settlement of the grievance, should the employee(s), or anyone on their behalf, pursue a lawsuit or administrative proceeding in any forum, relating to or arising out of the basic facts.

J. Nondiscrimination

The provisions of this Agreement and the wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment shall be applied without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, sex or marital status, disability or handicap or membership on or association with the lawful activities of the Association. In the event any employee(s) files a grievance alleging discrimination under this provision of the Agreement, the Board may, at its discretion, refuse to process the grievance or void any arbitration award or settlement of the grievance, should the employee(s), or anyone on their behalf, pursue a lawsuit or administrative proceeding in any forum, relating to or arising out of the same basic facts.

K. Employment Information

The employer will make available upon written request to the treasurer of the Association the names of all employees separated from the payroll, recalled, hired, laid off, on approved leave of absence or changes in weekly hours.

L. Released Time

1. Grievances and Negotiations

An employee engaged during the school day on behalf of the Association with any representative of the Board or Administration in any grievance, including arbitration or negotiations, shall be released from regular duties without loss of salary. During arbitration proceedings, only employee witnesses necessary to testify will be released based upon a reasonable expectation their testimony is germane to the issue.

2. Released Time for Association Meetings

Each school year the Association will be allowed up to four (4) hours of released time per month from the second shift to attend association membership meetings. The four (4) hours may be apportioned for not more than nine (9) meetings each school year. The date, time, and place of the meetings shall be mutually arranged between the employer and the Association president, but the employer shall receive at least three (3) days notice of proposed meeting. Any second shift employees who are otherwise scheduled to work on the date and at the time of the meeting shall be released from their scheduled duties, without loss of pay, only if they shall attend the meetings, which shall include necessary travel time to and from their work sites. The released employees shall complete their assigned duties and shift upon conclusion of the meeting. The parties will endeavor to establish the meeting date, time, and place that will minimize the number of employees released from work, but which will reasonably assure maximum attendance.

3. Released Time for Association Conferences and Sessions

Each school year, the Association will be allowed seventy-eight (78) hours of released time for employees to attend conferences and training sessions endorsed by the Association, without loss of pay from the employees' scheduled work. Additional hours of release time may be granted by the Administration if the Association requests and the employee is engaging in professional development or some form of training that will benefit the District. Advance prior written notice to the supervisor and Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee of at least fifteen (15) workdays shall occur.

4. President's Released Time

In the sole discretion of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, the Association president may be released from normal employment duties to conduct Association business, assist in millage elections, etc.

ARTICLE IV

BOARD RIGHTS

A. Board Authority

It is understood and agreed that the laws of the State of Michigan make the Board legally responsible for the operation of the Rockford Public Schools. In meeting such responsibilities,

the Board at times acts through its administrative staff. Michigan law gives the Board authority necessary to discharge all of its responsibilities.

B. Board Rights

The Board on its own behalf and on behalf of the electors of the District retains and reserves unto itself, without limitation, all powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it by the laws and the Constitution of the State of Michigan and of the United States, and it is agreed the Board and the administrative staff shall be free to exercise all such rights and authority to the extent permitted by law, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the right:

1. to the executive management and administrative control of the School District and its properties and facilities;
2. to establish methods for overall operation of the District, all as deemed advisable to the Board;
3. to hire all employees, to determine their qualifications and conditions for their continued employment, or dismissal, demotion or assignment, and to promote, transfer, discipline, etc. all employees;
4. to determine hours, duties, responsibilities, educational programs and assignments of employees with respect thereto;
5. to determine the number and type of employees to be employed;
6. to lay off employees as deemed necessary in the discretion of the Board;
7. to exclusively determine the assignment and direction of work to all of its personnel, determine the shifts and hours of work and starting times, and scheduling of all of the foregoing and the right to establish, modify or change any work or business hours or days, employee codes of conduct/work rules, whenever the Board shall determine such action to be necessary and appropriate.

C. Effect of Agreement

The exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities by the Board, the adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices in furtherance thereof, and the use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith shall be limited only by the express and specific terms of this Agreement, and then only to the extent such specified and express terms hereof are in conformance with the Constitution and laws of the United States and State of Michigan.

D. Additional Rights

Nothing herein shall be considered to deny or restrict the Board of its rights, responsibilities and authority under the State School Laws, or any other national, state, county, district or local laws or regulations as they pertain to education.

ARTICLE V

NEGOTIATION PROCEDURES

A. Complete Agreement Clause

1. The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which results in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining, and that the understanding and Agreement arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement.

2. Therefore, the Board and the Association, for the life of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives the right, and each agrees that the other shall not be obliged to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to the grievance procedure as provided in Article XI in the contract, even though such subject or matters may not have been within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both parties at the time that they negotiated or signed this Agreement. It is understood that this paragraph shall not supersede or nullify any other clause of this Agreement.

B. Timeline

At least one hundred-twenty (120) days prior to the expiration of this Agreement, the parties will begin negotiations for the new Agreement covering wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment.

C. Power to Negotiate

In any negotiations described in this Article, neither party shall have any control over the selection of the negotiating or bargaining representative of the other party, and each party may select its representatives from within or without the School District. It is recognized that no final Agreement between the parties may be executed without ratification by a majority of the membership of the Association and by a majority of the Board of Education, but the parties mutually pledge that representatives selected by each shall be clothed with all necessary power and authority to make proposals, consider proposals, and make concessions in the course of negotiations or bargaining, subject only to such ultimate ratification.

D. Mediation

If the parties reach an impasse in the negotiations, either party may invoke mediation process with the State Employment Relations Commission in conformance with the state law.

ARTICLE VI

SENIORITY

A. Seniority Defined/Lists/Grievances

1. Seniority shall be defined as the continuous length of service within each employee classification class within the bargaining unit from the last date of hire. Classifications for seniority purposes shall consist of bus drivers, paraprofessionals, custodial/maintenance/mechanics and food service, and all personnel engaged in secretarial and clerical work. Date of hire shall refer to the first day of regular or continuous work within the classification. The Board agrees to furnish a classification seniority list to each employee covered by the classification at the beginning of each school year. Said list shall include starting dates and positions of seniority. When more than one employee is hired on the same day for the same classification, seniority will be determined by random draw.
2. Grievances over the seniority list must be filed within ten (10) working days of the change or entry complained about.

B. Probationary Period

1. Length

All newly hired or rehired employees will be employed on a probationary status. The probationary period shall be sixty (60) actual days of work taken from and including the first day of regular or continuous employment. If at any time prior to the conclusion of the sixty (60) working days probationary period the employee's work performance is of unacceptable quality, as determined in the employer's sole discretion, he/she may, upon the recommendation to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, be subject to immediate dismissal. The sixty (60) day period may be extended for any absence during that period by the amount of said absences.

2. Additional Deficiencies, Discipline, Performance Evaluation

Warning Periods: After the initial probationary period, if any employee's performance is later evaluated and determined in the sole discretion of the Administration as not being acceptable, the employee may be placed on other periods of warning.

When the Administration designates a deficiency-warning period, the employee will retain the same wages/sick leave and fringe benefits without reduction.

This additional discipline/performance evaluation may be used as a step prior to termination. Use of such periods of warning shall be subject to the grievance procedure. However, prior to a grievance being filed, the Association will first discuss all of its concerns with the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

3. Association Representation

The Association shall represent probationary employees for the purpose of collective bargaining in respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment and other conditions of employment as set forth in this Agreement, except that the employer will have the right to

discharge and take disciplinary action involving a probationary employee without a grievance filed or processed.

4. Part-Time Employees

Regular part-time employees' probation shall be equivalent to sixty (60) days of work, i.e., 450 hours, but not to exceed ninety (90) total days of work. Substitute and temporary employees, to the extent they are covered under this Agreement, shall be probationary regardless of the number of hours worked, and such service shall not be included as time completed for regular employment.

5. Initial Day of Employment

At the conclusion of a satisfactory period of probation, all matters pertaining to benefits and to seniority will revert to the employee's initial day of service and his/her name will be entered at the bottom of the attached seniority list.

C. Loss of Seniority

Any employee will lose his/her seniority and terminate his/her employment with the Board for the following reasons:

1. Employee quits or retires.
2. Employee is discharged and discharge is not reversed.
3. Employee is absent for two (2) working days without notifying the Board. Exceptions due to extenuating circumstances may be made by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.
4. If the employee fails to return to work when recalled from layoff as set forth in the recall procedure provided herein.
5. Involuntary layoff for one (1) year or length of work service in the District, not to exceed two (2) years, whichever is greater.
6. If the employee gives a false reason for a leave of absence.
7. If a settlement with the employee has been made for permanent total disability.
8. If the employee falsified pertinent information on his/her application for employment. (The falsification may come to light sometime after the employee's date of hire or acquiring seniority.)
9. If the employee uses a leave of absence to engage in other work without the District's express consent, or continues to engage in secondary employment which is inconsistent with the basis for the leave.
10. If the employee fails to return to work as provided in an approved leave of absence. Exceptions due to extenuating circumstances may be made by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

D. Temporary Employees and Seniority

1. An employee who is hired for only a limited period of time to substitute for one or more permanent, full-time employees or permanent part-time employees during their absence, because of illness or while on leaves or vacations, or for a job which is of limited duration not to exceed ninety (90) calendar days and who is so informed at the

time he/she is hired, shall be considered a temporary employee. He/she shall not acquire seniority by virtue of such temporary employment. Temporary assignments may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties.

2. Regular employees who are interested in being considered for temporary assignments within their classification and building as they arise during the year shall make that interest known, in writing, to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee by September 30th. The administrator shall determine whether to honor such requests before assigning the work within the unit or hiring a temporary employee.

ARTICLE VII

VACANCIES, TRANSFERS, PROMOTIONS AND EVALUATIONS

A. Bus Driver Vacancies

1. Prior to the beginning of the school year, regular runs will be selected by the drivers in order of seniority as determined by the master seniority list as determined by date of hire.
2. Notices of vacancies shall be posted in the bus garage. No vacancy shall be permanently filled until it has been posted for at least five (5) business days. At the end of the posting period, a vacancy shall be filled by assigning it to the most senior unit employee bidding on the vacancy. Subsequent openings caused by the original vacancy will be filled by the transportation supervisor without a posting procedure. It is clearly understood and agreed by both parties that assignment to special education positions, if available, shall be based upon qualifications as determined exclusively by the Board of Education.
3. Temporary vacancies shall be offered to team drivers by seniority before substitute drivers are hired.
4. All drivers shall be asked to sign a list stating whether or not they are interested in taking field trips or extra trips. These trips shall be scheduled on a regular rotation basis, beginning with the driver in the highest seniority position. When a trip is cancelled through no fault of the driver, said driver shall be inserted in the next unassigned opening in the rotation for that assignment cycle only.

If the assignment of an extra-duty trip would go to a driver estimated to be paid for forty (40) hours that week, the transportation supervisor maintains the sole discretion to skip the affected employee on the rotation list and go to the next employee who would receive straight time wages. The skipped-over employee would remain at the top of the rotation list and be eligible to receive the next extra trip which is estimated to be paid at straight time.

5. If a sufficient number of drivers do not sign up, the Administration shall have the absolute right to assign a driver to any unassigned extra trip after the original rotation list has been utilized.

B. Custodians, Maintenance, Mechanics, Secretaries, Food Service and Non-Classroom Paraprofessionals

1. Whenever any position covered by this Agreement occurs, or when a supervisory position occurs, the Board shall publicize the same by giving written notice of such vacancy to the Association and post the vacancy in every school building. The posting will include the principal qualifications desired, work location, if possible, and estimated

hours, if possible. During school vacation periods, the Board shall deliver or mail to the Association president a sufficient number of copies of the posting. No vacancy shall be filled except in a case of emergency on a temporary basis, until such vacancy shall have been posted for at least five (5) business days, defined as any day the Administration building is open.

2. Filling Vacancies

Employees covered by this Agreement may apply for any vacancy if the employee has not changed assignment for a one (1) year period of time. In filling vacancies within the unit, ability, work attitude, seniority and other relevant factors shall be considered. A minimum of three (3) of the most senior employees will receive interviews prior to interviewing outside candidates. If qualifications are judged equal, then seniority will be the determining factor. Final appointment to any vacancy will be determined and made by the Administration of the School District.

If an employee is denied the position, he/she will have the right upon request to discuss the reason(s) for not receiving the position.

3. Seasonal Openings

The parties agree that seasonal employment is not covered by this Agreement. However, where the District has seasonal openings during the summer break period, those positions will be posted and offered first to qualified RESPA applicants.

C. Classroom Paraprofessionals, Library Assistants and Crossing Guards Vacancies

Between June 1 and June 15 of any year, any paraprofessional who desires to be considered for another paraprofessional position, which may become vacant during the following school year, shall submit such desire to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee via written resume detailing qualifications. The final determination shall be made by the Administration. The Administration will attempt to place paraprofessionals in vacancies, consistent with their qualifications, their stated desire, the needs of the students, and the needs of the District. October 15 of the school year, the Administration will post a notice of the vacancy in the teachers' lounges for at least five (5) business days, defined as any day the Administration building is open. The notice will designate the type of position, the building and the hours. Paraprofessionals interested in the assignment should indicate their interest in writing, stating their qualifications, and submit it to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

D. Trial Period for Promotions

Any paraprofessional, cook, secretarial/clerical or custodial/maintenance/mechanic employee promoted shall serve a trial period of thirty (30) days on his/her new permanent job at regular rate for the new job. If, at the end of this time, he/she fails to meet all requirements, he/she shall be demoted to his/her previous position with the corresponding change in salary, with the final decision to be made by the Administration.

E. Transfer to Non-Bargaining Unit

If an employee takes a position out of the bargaining unit and remains in that position beyond two (2) years, then that employee's seniority within the bargaining unit shall be lost.

F. Supervisory Positions

When in the opinion of the Board there are no qualified supervisory applicants in the system, outside supervision may be hired.

G. Involuntary Transfers

a. Health

Employees under normal retirement age who, due to advanced age or health impairment, are unable to perform their regular duties will be placed in a vacant and available position provided they are physically and/or mentally capable of performing the full range of required job duties. Such employees shall be paid the applicable wage rate for the occupied position. The Board shall determine employees' capabilities and qualifications for the position. If the employee is determined to be unfit for the position, he/she shall remain on or be returned to medical leave. The Board may, at its sole discretion, create modified job assignments for such impaired employees and make wage adjustments and capability determinations as it deems appropriate. If and when an employee is fully qualified and medically released to return to the previous classification, he/she shall be returned provided a temporary employee is holding that position.

b. Other

All permanent transfers of employees shall be first discussed by the Administration with the Association president and classification vice-president. Final decisions rest with the Board of Education.

H. Evaluations

Employees shall be evaluated bi-annually as defined in the district support staff evaluation framework (see below) by formal observation by their supervisor with input from the building administrator if they remain in the same position, school and/or building. If an employee has a change of assignment, or is put on a plan of assistance, they shall be evaluated that same year regardless of when they were last evaluated. The evaluation shall contain a written clarification of any deficiency noted and set goals for improvement. Results of this evaluation shall be discussed with the employee, and a copy of the evaluation will be placed in the employee's personnel file. The employee shall sign and receive a copy of the evaluation, but such signature shall not be construed as agreement with the contents of the evaluation. The employee may submit a written response to the evaluation. Evaluations will be completed by July 1 for full year employees and by the last day of school for school year employees.

a. Framework

- i. **Purpose:** Evaluation should be an on-going process to improve the quality of performance as well as identify areas of strengths and required improvement.
- ii. **Probationary Employee:** Probationary employees are all newly hired or rehired employees. The probationary period shall be sixty (60) actual days of work taken from and including the first day of regular continuous employment. A newly hired employee will be evaluated twice a year during the first two years of employment. One evaluation will occur during the

probationary period, and one evaluation after the probationary period, but before the end of the school year. During the second year of employment an employee will be evaluated once during the first semester and once during the second semester. An I.D.P. (Individual Development Plan) goal sheet must be completed by October 15th of each school year.

- iii. **Senioered Employee in a New Position or Facility:** Senioered employees are all employees who have successfully completed their probation period and have worked in the district for more than two (2) full years. All senioered employees in a new position or facility will be evaluated twice a year, once each semester, for the first year they are in a new position or facility. After that, senioered employees in a new position or facility will be evaluated every other year (just like a senioered employee), or unless their immediate supervisor determines a more frequent basis. An I.D.P. (Individual Development Plan) goal sheet must be completed by October 15th of each school year.
- iv. **Senioered Employee:** Senioered employees are all employees who have successfully completed their probation period and have worked in the district for more than two (2) full years. All senioered employees will be evaluated every year, unless their immediate supervisor determines a more frequent basis. Senioered employees on a Plan of Assistance shall be evaluated once each semester by their immediate supervisor. An I.D.P. (Individual Development Plan) goal sheet must be completed by October 15th of each school year.

ARTICLE VIII

LAYOFF AND RECALL

A. Board of Education/Administration Discretion

It is recognized the Board of Education in its sole discretion shall have the right to lay off personnel. Layoff means reduction of the work force.

B. Bus Drivers

When the Board of Education reduces the work force, the last person on the seniority list shall be the first laid off. When the working force is increased, the persons are to be returned to work in the reverse order in which they were laid off.

C. All Others

If a layoff is implemented, the employee with the least classification seniority shall be laid off provided the more senioered employee is qualified to do the work as determined exclusively by the Board and/or Administration.

D. Layoff Notice

No employee shall be laid off with less than twenty-one (21) calendar days notice except classroom paraprofessionals shall be given no less than five (5) calendar days notice.

E. Recall

Recall shall be in inverse order of classification seniority provided the employee is qualified as determined exclusively by the Administration.

F. Notice of Recall

Notice of recall shall be sent by certified mail to the employee's last known address. The employee shall have ten (10) working days from receipt of the recall notice to return to work. Failure to return within the specified time shall be deemed a voluntary quit barring extenuating circumstances as determined by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

G. Loss of Seniority

Where recall to a part-time position would cause an undue hardship on the employee, he/she may seek an exemption from the Administration provided the employee makes such request in writing prior to the report date and provides such information as requested by the Administration.

H. Reduction in Hours (Excluding Bus Drivers)

If the Administration determines to reduce an employee's hours, the employee shall have the right to trade assignments with the least senior employee within their classification whose assigned hours are equal to the affected employee's previously assigned hours. Such transfer of assignments is expressly conditioned upon both employees being qualified to assume the full responsibilities of the assignment to which they will be transferred.

If the Board of Education determines a reduction in hours is necessary, the local president of the union shall be consulted and any fringe benefits the employee(s) was previously eligible for shall remain in full force for one (1) full year if the person works at least one-half (1/2) time.

One-half (1/2) time shall be defined as working a minimum of twenty (20) regularly scheduled hours per week. However, it is clearly understood and agreed the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee may authorize a health insurance subsidy for an employee who demonstrates a specific, justifiable need. Such implementation below the twenty (20) hour minimum shall not be subject to the grievance procedure.

ARTICLE IX

RETIREMENT/SEVERANCE

A. Mandatory Retirement

Employees in the bargaining unit shall be retired in compliance with existing federal and state laws. However, the Board of Education may require retirement prior to the existing age laws of any employee whose physical or mental health, as determined by a Board-designated and paid

physician, makes it impossible for the employee to meet the normal obligations of regular assignments.

B. Retirement Pay

A terminal leave payment may be paid to an employee upon retirement based upon one-half (1/2) of the total accumulated sick leave accrued on the date of retirement provided written notice is given to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee a minimum of three (3) months (90 calendar days) in advance and subject to the following provisions:

1. The employee must qualify and meet the minimum requirements of the State of Michigan retirement system.
2. The employee must have applied for and be eligible to receive retirement benefits from the Michigan Public Employees Retirement System.
3. The employee must have had a minimum of ten (10) continuous years of active service in the Rockford Public Schools.
4. The parties agree that the Rockford Public Schools will implement a tax qualified special pay plan under IRS Code 403(b) (AIG – Valic, special pay plan) for members of the bargaining unit represented by the Association.
5. The Board of Education and the Association recognize the importance of each employee pursuing an active retirement savings program and in providing sound investment alternatives to assist them in achieving their retirement savings goal. The parties agree that MEA Financial Services Products, along with any other mutually selected investment providers shall be named as vendor(s) in the 204(b) plan document as appropriate under IRS regulations.

6.	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Maximum Payout</u>	<u>Sick Leave Pay</u>
	10 years	\$5,000	50%
	15 years	\$5,500	60%
	20 years	\$6,000	75%
	25 years	\$6,500	90%
	30 years	\$7,500	100%

C. Severance Incentive

If a staff member does not qualify for State of Michigan Retirement System benefits and the staff member has ten (10) years continuous service in the District they shall be entitled to a payment as described below upon separation from employment provided:

1. The staff member shall be in good standing (no charges filed) and the separation shall be by voluntary resignation;

2. The staff member provides the District with a written resignation 90 days prior to time of severance and any resignation notice given between March 15 and June 15 will not be eligible for the severance pay. Lesser notice may be allowed under appropriate circumstances as determined by the Administration.

Payment shall be made following payoff of contract.

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Maximum Payout</u>
10 years	\$1,000
20+ years	\$2,000

ARTICLE X

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Bus drivers' and mechanics' annual physical examinations shall be paid for by the Board, based on the Board-approved physician fee. Physical examination forms provided by the personnel office shall be used.

ARTICLE XI

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A. Grievance Defined

It is mutually agreed that should any grievance arise concerning any employee or employees with respect to alleged violations, misinterpretations, or misapplication of the specific and express sections or Articles of this Agreement, an employee or employees may file a written grievance.

The purpose of this procedure is to secure at the lowest possible administrative level, equitable solutions to grievances. Both parties agree these proceedings shall be kept as informal and confidential as may be appropriate at any level of the procedure.

B. Time Limits

All specified time limits shall consist of only workdays. A workday is defined as any day the Administration office is regularly open for business. Time limits specified in this Article shall be strictly adhered to and may be extended only by mutual written consent. In the event the Association fails to properly process a grievance, within the particular time limit, the invoked grievance shall be deemed abandoned. In the event the management fails to supply the Association with its answer to a particular step, within the specified time limit, the grievance shall be automatically appealed to the next step.

C. Grievance Procedure to be followed

STEP 1: Within ten (10) days after the occurrence of an alleged violation, the employee, and a representative of the Association, if the employee so desires, will meet with their immediate supervisor to discuss the alleged violation.

STEP 2: If not resolved at Step 1, the employee shall within five (5) days present the alleged violation in writing to the Supervisor who will note his/her answer within five (5) days in writing on the grievance form.

STEP 3: If not resolved at Step 2, the grievant will notify the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee that the grievance is being appealed and request to discuss such grievance, within three (3) days. The Supervisor will deliver to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee his/her copies of the grievance form. Upon request of the grievant, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will meet within six (6) days with the aggrieved member or members and their representative and attempt to settle the grievance.

Decisions on grievances appealed to this step will be given in writing by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee on the grievance form, on which the grievance was presented by the representative, not more than six (6) days after this meeting.

If the grievance is not carried to the third step, the Supervisor will return a copy of the grievance to the Association.

STEP 4: If the grievance is denied at Step 3, the aggrieved member and his/her representative and/or negotiating committee will meet with the Board of Education or its committee within thirty (30) days, and submit grievance in writing, stating all steps taken at this point to settle the grievance. Final determination of the grievance shall be made within ten (10) days following the next Board meeting, in writing.

STEP 5: If the grievance remains unresolved at the conclusion of Step 4, it may be submitted (as stated in Step 2) for binding arbitration at the request of the Association, provided written request for submission to arbitration is delivered to the Board within fifteen (15) workdays from the date of the Board's (or committee thereof) written decision at Step 4.

An impartial arbitrator shall be selected to decide the matter. If the parties are unable to agree upon a mutually agreeable arbitrator, the party seeking arbitration shall file a request with the American Arbitration Association to submit a list of qualified arbitrators to the parties.

The arbitrator shall then be selected according to the rules of the American Arbitration Association. The case shall be heard and presented in accordance with rules of the American Arbitration Association. The power of the arbitrator shall be limited to the

interpretation of the specific and express terms of this Agreement, and he/she shall have no power to alter, add to or subtract from the specific and express terms of the Agreement as written, nor can he/she grant an award which in effect grants the Association that which it was unable to obtain through negotiations.

Both parties agree to be bound by the award of the arbitrator and agree that judgment thereon may be entered into any court of competent jurisdiction.

Prior to submission of the grievance to the Board of Education and arbitration, the Executive Board of the Association must have discussed the grievance and given its consent.

D. Exclusions

The termination of services, discipline or failure to reemploy any probationary employee shall not be the basis for any grievance or arbitration proceedings.

E. Expenses

The total cost of the arbitrator's fees and expenses shall be borne and paid for by the losing party as determined by the arbitrator.

ARTICLE XII

HOLIDAYS AND VACATIONS

A. Holidays

1. Days Listed

All employees shall be eligible for the following days off with pay:

- a. Labor Day
- b. Thanksgiving Day
- c. Day after Thanksgiving Day
- d. Christmas Eve Day
- e. Christmas Day
- f. New Year's Eve Day
- g. New Year's Day
- h. Good Friday (only if school is not in session)
- i. Memorial Day

Twelve-Month Employees Shall Also Be Eligible For:

- j. 4th of July

2. Secretarial/Clerical

Secretaries and personnel engaged in secretarial and clerical work will receive, without loss of pay, the same holiday days during the school year as are given to students and teaching staff including legal holidays as follows:

- a. Labor Day
- b. Thanksgiving Day
- c. Day after Thanksgiving Day
- d. Christmas Eve Day
- e. Christmas Day
- f. New Year's Eve Day
- g. New Year's Day
- h. Good Friday (only if school is not in session)
- i. Memorial Day
- j. 4th of July (for those working)

Any secretary requested to work on any of the above holidays will receive compensatory days.

Where any of the above days falls on a Saturday, it will be observed on Friday; or if it falls on Sunday, it will be observed on Monday, unless school is in session, then the employee will be paid for the holiday, but time off will not be allowed.

3. Requirements

- a. To qualify for holiday pay, the employee must work on the last scheduled working day before the holiday and the first scheduled working day after the holiday. In the event of serious illness, serious accident or other approved paid leave, the day before or day after requirement may be waived by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. It is clearly understood that a physician's statement may be required.
- b. Reading paraprofessionals will be paid for Labor Day.

B. Vacations

1. Eight-Hour/Twelve-Month Employees

All twelve-month, eight-hour per day employees shall be eligible for vacation on the following schedule:

After one (1) year _____	five (5) days
After two (2) years _____	ten (10) days
After three (3) years _____	eleven (11) days
After four (4) years _____	twelve (12) days
After five (5) years _____	thirteen (13) days
After six (6) years _____	fourteen (14) days
After seven (7) years _____	fifteen (15) days
After fifteen (15) years _____	twenty (20) days
After twenty (20) years _____	twenty-one (21) days

2. Secretarial/Clerical

1. School Year Secretarial/Clerical Personnel

Secretaries and personnel engaged in secretarial and clerical work will receive, without loss of pay, the same vacation days during the school year as are given to students and teaching staff.

2. Twelve-Month Secretaries Only

In addition to the days specified in subsection 3.a. above, secretaries shall be eligible for paid vacations on the following schedule:

After one (1) year _____	five (5) days
After five (5) years _____	ten (10) days

Total Maximum: Vacation days per year may not exceed twenty-two (22) days.

3. Scheduling Vacations – Twelve-Month Secretaries

Secretaries requested to work during the Christmas holidays and spring vacations will receive compensatory vacation days with approval of their supervisor or the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

3. Scheduling Vacations – Twelve-Month Employees
- a. Vacation time may be requested at any time, subject to the school calendar and the school schedule of events. Vacations requested during Christmas holidays and spring vacation may not be granted.
 - b. Normally vacation time should be taken in a period of consecutive days. Vacations may be split into one or more weeks, providing such scheduling does not drastically interfere with the normal operation. However, single vacation days may be granted .
 - c. Employees with the greatest seniority shall be given preference with respect to the time they take their vacation. As the performance of the duties of employees in the bargaining unit must be continuous during the year, it is not possible for all employees in a classification to be absent and on vacation at the same time.

An employee shall submit a request in writing for approval a minimum of five (5) days before the start of his/her vacation day preferences and such request will be subject to the employer's school calendar and schedule of events and seniority of other employees who make request prior to March 1 to be honored. Vacations must be taken for each year within twelve (12) months after an employee becomes eligible for a vacation. A vacation may not be waived by an employee and extra pay received for work during that period.

Any deviation from the original approved vacation request may be granted at the discretion of the Administration.

- d. When a holiday is observed by the employer during a scheduled vacation, the vacation will be extended one (1) day continuous with the vacation.

4. Rate of Vacation Pay

Each eligible employee shall be paid his/her current base hourly rate, and shall receive vacation pay for the same number of hours per day as corresponds to his/her daily schedule at the time of his/her vacation.

ARTICLE XIII

TEMPORARY LEAVES

A. Sick Leave

- 1. All employees absent from duty on account of personal illness, or any other approved reason, shall receive full salary not to exceed accumulated sick leave.
- 2. Regularly scheduled and assigned twelve (12) month employees shall be eligible to earn twelve (12) days per fiscal year with a maximum accumulation of two-hundred fifty (250) days for the duration of this contract. Full-time (7-hour) school year employees shall be

entitled to ten (10) days per year to a maximum accumulation of two-hundred twenty-five (225) days. Sick leave days shall be computed in hours based on standard hours.

Regularly scheduled and assigned employees who work less than twelve (12) months per year shall be eligible to earn ten (10) days per fiscal year with a maximum accumulation of one-hundred sixty-five (165) days for the duration of this contract.

3. During the first year of employment, sick days will be credited at the rate of one (1) day (or equivalent hours) per full month worked up to the maximum allowable for that category for that year. After the first year, sick days will be credited at the commencement of the work year.

4. Written proof of illness signed by a licensed medical or osteopathic physician acceptable to the Board may be requested in a timely manner, verifying the physician personally examined the employee on the date(s) absent, and affirming the employee was too ill to work.

5. Sick leave may be used only for the personal illness of the employee or immediate family. No more than five (5) days sick leave may be used for illness of immediate family per school year.

6. Individual Donation of Sick Leave

Any employee whose sick leave accumulation is forty (40) days or more may relinquish no more than one (1) sick day to a single employee annually whose sick leave has been exhausted. A maximum of two (2) days may be donated per year by any employee. This donation may only occur if the employee with depleted sick leave is seriously ill or seriously injured and only after the seriously ill or seriously injured employee has been subject to a wage deduction for a minimum of seven (7) workdays.

Should employees desire to donate, a written letter shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee by the union president requesting a meeting to review all aspects of the request. A committee consisting of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee and the union president shall meet to review the merits of the request.

A maximum of sixty (60) days may be utilized by the seriously ill or seriously injured employee. Donated days shall not be utilized by anyone collecting Worker's Compensation.

B. Extended Illness Leave

1. Employees whose personal illness extends beyond the period covered under A.2 above may be granted a leave of absence without pay or any other compensation for a period not to exceed one (1) year.

2. Written verification by a Board-approved physician shall be required at any time of all employees granted a leave of absence without pay or other compensation if personal illness occurs.

3. An employee who has exhausted accumulated sick leave, or who returns from an extended illness leave, shall be required to reapply for insurance coverage subject to all underwriter's requirements as necessary.

4. Secretarial/Clerical Only: If the secretary/clerical employee returns, every reasonable effort will be made to assign the employee to the same position.

C. Family Illness and Bereavement Leaves

1. No more than five (5) days leave of absence with pay per year (non-accumulative) shall be made available for hospitalization and/or outpatient care of immediate family, or for funeral attendance of the immediate family.

Immediate family is hereby defined as spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, sister, brother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, step-children, grandchildren, grandparents, grandparents-in-law or step-family or persons who stand in the same capacity as listed above.

Prior approval of the Administration is required. These days may also be used with administrator approval for critical illness, serious accident or death in the immediate family as defined specifically in this paragraph.

In the event circumstances require more than five (5) days, these can be granted at the sole discretion of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

D. Other Leaves

1. Paid Leaves

Leaves of absence, with pay, not chargeable against sick leave, will be granted for:

a. Jury Duty

An employee when summoned for jury service and while performing jury duty shall receive the difference in pay between that received as juror and his/her regular pay for the period of jury service;

b. Subpoena guidelines

If subpoena is issued to an employee and the subpoena was a result of the employee being a witness to a crime, accident, etc. during working hours and while on duty, the time off from the job will be paid and no leave days or vacation days will be deducted from the employee. However, the employee must give the district the reimbursement check from the courts.

If a subpoena is issued to an employee, because employee was arrested, committed a crime, was involved in a crime or accident, etc. and if there are no personal and/or business days or vacation days left, the time off from work will be non-paid but the employee can keep the reimbursement check from the courts.

If a subpoena is issued to an employee, as a witness to a crime, accident, etc, after work hours and while the employee was off duty, the following language would apply:

1. Use personal and/or business day first.
2. If personal and business days are gone and the employee has vacation that should be used and because vacation time was used, employee may keep the reimbursed expense from the court to them.
3. If personal, business and vacation days are used up; sick leave can be applied.
4. If personal, business, vacation and sick days are used up; employee receives no pay and can keep reimbursed expense from the court.

- c. Court appearances arising out of employment responsibilities;
- d. Meetings called by the Board of Education or Administration during scheduled hours;
- e. Time necessary for the Selective Service exam;
- f. Other leaves approved by the Administration.

2. Unpaid Leaves

Non-paid days off shall be discouraged and must be approved by the supervisor in advance.

E. Personal Business Leave

1. All Employees

- a. Not more than three (3) paid business days per year may be used at the discretion of the employee provided a minimum of one (1) work day's notice is given in advance. It is understood and agreed this day shall be used before any consideration is given to pre-approved, non-paid time by the supervisor. These days shall be used as whole days or half days only and shall be expressly limited to no more than one (1) employee per classification using this day on any single day. However, additional employees may be allowed these leave days provided qualified substitutes are available. In no event shall the number of employees exceed three (3) per classification on any single day.

2. Up to three (3) unused business leave days will be credited to the individual's sick leave accumulation for the following year.

F. Child Care Leave

1. Employees with one (1) year or more of service may receive an unpaid child care leave of up to 180 days for their newborn child or newly adopted infant. Request for such leave must be made in writing at least 120 days prior to the requested leave date. Actual commencement and termination dates shall be established by mutual agreement between the employee and the Administration. Such leaves shall be continuous and shall include any previous leave allowed related to childbirth.

2. In lieu of the above provisions for child care leave, a pregnant employee shall have the right, if she so desires, to use accumulated sick leave days for the period of time she is no longer able to continue work and is physically incapacitated as determined by a medical certificate.

G. Permissive Leaves – Non-Paid

Leaves of absence without pay may be granted upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee and approval of the Board not to exceed one (1) year for reasons deemed appropriate by the District.

H. Military Leave of Absence

In accordance with applicable laws these leaves shall be granted to any employee who shall be inducted or shall enlist for military duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States.

Employees on military leave shall be given the benefit of any increments which would have been credited to them had they remained in active service with the school system. Reinstatement on completion of such service shall be in accordance with the requirements of the applicable laws of the United States.

I. Miscellaneous Conditions

1. Seniority shall continue to accrue for the duration of approved extended illness leave, workers compensation, or approved childcare leave.

2. Seniority for all other approved unpaid leaves shall accrue for a maximum of thirty (30) days.

3. Bus drivers' runs may be assigned at the discretion of the transportation supervisor if a medical leave (paid, unpaid, or combination of both) exceeds twelve (12) weeks or for any other leave which exceeds ten (10) days.

4. Abuse of leave privileges as stated in this contract shall be cause for discipline up to and including dismissal as determined by the Administration.

5. All leave requests, excluding sick leave, shall be processed only through the office of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

J. Notification of Attendance

Upon 12 normal absences (8 normal absences for school-year employees), an employee will receive a letter of notice. On the 16th (12th for school-year employees) normal absence, the employee will have a meeting with the RESPA president (MEA UniServ if need be), their supervisor or his/her designee and the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. A written notice will be generated by the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, and placed in the employees personnel file, regarding the discussion of the meeting.

Attendance may be cause for dismissal as determined by the Administration.

ARTICLE XIV

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

A. Benefits

In the event of an on-the-job accident in which the employee is entitled to benefits under Worker's Compensation, the employee will be paid by the Board of Education for the total number of days of accumulated sick leave without loss of sick leave benefits or accumulated days to the employee. This provision applies to all persons covered by this contract. Employee agrees to reimburse employer the compensation received by Worker's Compensation in exchange for reimbursed equivalent sick days.

EXAMPLE: John Doe - thirty (30) days accumulated sick leave

Daily pay - \$20.00 ---John Doe's Worker's Compensation - \$12.00
Est. - Board of Education pays \$8.00 - Equal to daily rate of \$20.00
Board would pay \$8.00 per day up to thirty (30) days

B. Number of Days

The number of sick leave days used for Worker's Compensation purposes would be subtracted from the total accumulated sick leave. The checks received from Worker's Compensation will need to be reimbursed to the employer in exchange for 66 2/3% reimbursement of sick days back to the employee. Should the employee run out of sick days, they could then cash any checks received from Worker's Compensation.

C. Vacation/Christmas/Spring Breaks

An employee freezes sick days and draws only a Worker's Compensation check during Christmas and/or Spring Breaks, saving vacation days until he/she is able to return to work. An employee who has vacation time earned per Master Agreement and, due to receiving worker comp wages is unable to use vacation days, these days may be converted to sick days at the end of the fiscal year or at the time an employee has used all sick days. Upon approval of the supervisor, an employee may elect to use the vacation days rather than convert to sick days. Consideration must be given to the work schedule so as not to cause a hardship to the department.

ARTICLE XV

SALARY SCHEDULES/JOB CLASSIFICATIONS/WORKING CONDITIONS
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For all salary schedules, “Steps” does not necessarily equate to “Years of Service”.

Bus Drivers

	2015-2016
Step 1	\$15.33
Step 2	\$16.97
Step 3-6	\$17.67
Step 7-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$17.91
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$17.97
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$18.04
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$18.09
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$18.14
Extra Trips:	
Step 1-6	\$15.33
Step 7-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$15.57
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$15.63
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$15.70
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$15.75
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$15.80
Designated Special Education Driver*	\$0.45 added per hour
Designated Team Driver*	\$0.35 added per hour
Designated Bus Driver Trainer	\$ 15.29
*- Special Education Drivers that are also Team Drivers will receive a total of \$0.45 added per hour	

Paraprofessionals, Crossing Guards, and Library Assistants

STEPS	2015-2016
Step 1	\$12.02
Step 2	\$12.36
Step 3	\$12.93
Step 4	\$13.52
Step 5-7	\$14.26
Step 8-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$14.50
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$14.56
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$14.63
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$14.68
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$14.73
Noon Playground Duty	\$0.25 added per hour
Certified Recess Duty	\$0.20 added per hour

High School FC Alt. Ed.	\$0.10 added per hour
CI/ECSC/LD	\$0.20 added per hour
Special Education/ Resource Room	\$0.10 added per hour
High School CBI	\$0.50 added per hour
Medically Fragile *	\$0.50 added per hour
TV Studio Technician	\$2.00 added per hour
ELL Project Coordinator	\$2.00 added per hour
Library Paraprofessionals	\$0.85 added per hour
Transition Technician Para (RITS Program)	\$1.00 added per hour
RITS Para (not combined with Transition Technician)	\$0.50 added per hour

* Medically Fragile is defined as: the handling of bodily functions, assistance with toileting/diapering and/or any triaging of medically related problems or diagnosed conditions/diseases.

Secretaries

CLASS I:

- ◆ Part-time Secretarial/Clerical Personnel (those who regularly work less than a normal week)
- ◆ Reading Secretaries
- ◆ Substitute Secretaries

CLASS II:

- ◆ Elementary Secretaries
- ◆ Assistant Principals' Secretaries
- ◆ Media Secretaries
- ◆ Attendance Secretaries
- ◆ Title 1 Director's Secretary
- ◆ Secretaries to Directors (i.e., High School Media Center, Special Services, Transportation, Athletic and Guidance Secretaries)
- ◆ Alternative Education Secretaries
- ◆ High School (10-12) Registrar

CLASS III:

- ◆ High School Principal's Secretary
- ◆ Middle School Principal's Secretary
- ◆ Elementary Principal's Head Secretaries
- ◆ Director of Community Services Secretary
- ◆ Director of Special Services Secretary
- ◆ Webmaster Secretary

CLASSIFICATIONS/STEPS	2015-2016
CLASS I:	
Step 1	\$12.87
Step 2	\$13.40
Step 3	\$13.91
Step 4	\$14.63
Step 5	\$15.42
Step 6-7	\$16.47
Step 8-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$16.71
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$16.77
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$16.84
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$16.89
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$16.94
CLASS II:	
Step 1	\$13.20
Step 2	\$13.68
Step 3	\$14.23
Step 4	\$14.90
Step 5	\$15.73
Step 6-7	\$16.74
Step 8-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$16.98
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$17.04
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$17.11
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$17.16
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$17.21
CLASS III:	
Step 1	\$13.58
Step 2	\$14.14
Step 3	\$14.64
Step 4	\$15.35
Step 5	\$16.21
Step 6-7	\$17.18
Step 8-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$17.42
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$17.48
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$17.55
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$17.60
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$17.65

SECRETARIAL/CLERICAL-HOURLY WAGES

Part-time secretaries and substitute secretaries shall receive Class I, Step 1 salaries or higher at the discretion of the Administration.

The WORK YEAR will normally commence two (2) weeks before the beginning of the school year and end two (2) weeks after the final student day. Those who work additional weeks will be paid according to the schedule. Prior to the end of each school year, at the beginning of, or during the

school year when the Board adopted budget is altered and/or adjusted, the administration will notify the RESPA President of the start and end date for secretarial and clerical personnel for the upcoming school year.

School year transportation secretaries (includes bus router position) shall normally work three (3) weeks after the completion of the school year and four (4) weeks prior to the beginning of the new school year. Any change in schedule will be at the supervisor's discretion.

Outside work experience credit of not more than four (4) steps may be allowed by the Board of Education, dependent upon the applicant's experience, qualifications and other factors as determined exclusively by the Board.

The parties mutually agree the Administration has the right to assign secretaries to levels, duties and placement on wage scales based on job level categories.

Both parties also mutually agree various circumstances may arise where the Administration has the right to compensate a secretary up to fifteen (15) cents more per hour when additional full-time secretarial help is provided due to growth or other reasons. This provision normally would be applicable to Class III principals' secretaries in the elementary schools.

Any secretary in this situation shall describe in writing how her circumstances will have this provision applicable to her and send such request to her principal.

RE-CLASSIFICATION OF JOB LEVEL

No secretarial/clerical job level/category shall be changed or otherwise modified except under the following conditions:

1. There is a definite change in the duties and responsibilities of the secretarial/clerical position which warrants such re-classification by the Administration.
2. If the performance of the secretarial/clerical personnel, with cause, is determined to be inadequate by the Administration.
3. If there is a change of personnel at that position.

Food Service

	2015-2016
Probationary/Part Time (less than 6 hours per day):	
Step 1-5	\$12.29
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$12.53
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$12.59
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$12.66
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$12.71
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$12.76
Regular (6 or more hours per day):	
Step 1-5	\$13.80
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$14.04
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$14.10
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$14.17
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$14.22
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$14.27
Baker	\$0.38 adder per hour
Coordinator	\$1.35 added per hour
Head Cook	\$0.60 added per hour
Food Service Driver	See Class II Custodial Maintenance below

Custodial / Maintenance / Mechanics

CLASS 1:

Part-Time Laborers

Persons in this classification work with custodians in housekeeping chores. Usually work less than eight (8) hours per day.

CLASS 2:

Custodians, Cleaners, Food Service Driver and General Laborers

This classification includes building custodians, drivers (including food service driver), mowers, snowplowers and any others in the General Labor areas of the operation. Also includes laundress.

CLASS 3:

Specialists/Pool Operators

The specialist classification includes those employees with expertise in one or two areas or more, and assigned to specific jobs. Included in this group are painters, carpenters, snowplowers and similar craftsmen, pool operator and general maintenance.

CLASS 4:

Head Custodians and General Maintenance

Designated head custodians fill this classification. Included in this group are skilled painters, carpenters, snowplowers and similar craftsmen.

- a. General maintenance employees, after their eighth (8) consecutive year of service, may request to the director of operations, to be re-classified as skilled maintenance (class 5). Experience, certification, staff development or other work related issues will be taken into consideration when reaching a decision. Appeals can be filed to the Superintendent of Human Resources or his/her designee.

CLASS 5a:

Skilled Maintenance,

The top class is for persons employed as skilled maintenance personnel. Skilled maintenance men shall be proficient in several areas and have necessary certification. The areas may include plumbing, electrical, heating, motors, engines, welding and machine shop. Assignment to maintenance will be determined by experience and proficiency exams or as determined by the Administration in Class 4 Section A above.

CLASS 5b:

Truck Mechanics

The top class is for persons employed as skilled truck mechanics. Truck mechanics must have the mechanical and/or auto body skills and required certification.

CLASS 5c:

Licensed Plumbers and Electricians

Plumbers and Electricians employed by the Rockford Public School District provided they are certified, licensed journeymen or a master.

CLASSIFICATION	2014-2015
CLASS I: Part-time laborers	
Step 1-5	\$14.96
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$15.20
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$15.26
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$15.33
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$15.38
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$15.43
Second and Third Shifts	\$.20 added per hour
Part Time Labor (Discretionary)	\$8.19-9.44
CLASS II: Custodians, Cleaners, Food Service Driver and General Laborers:	
Step 1-5	\$17.23
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$17.47
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$17.53
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$17.60
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$17.65
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$17.70
Second and Third Shifts	\$.20 added per hour
High School	\$.20 added per hour
CLASS III: Specialist/Pool Operators:	
Step 1-5	\$17.85
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$18.09
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$18.15
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$18.22
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$18.27
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$18.32
Second and Third Shifts	\$.20 added per hour
High School	\$.20 added per hour
CLASS IV: Head Custodians/Maintenance:	
Step 1-5	\$18.45
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$18.69
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$18.75
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$18.82
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$18.87
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$18.92
Second and Third Shifts	\$.20 added per hour
High School	\$.20 added per hour

CLASS Va: Skilled Maintenance:	
Step 1-5	\$20.20
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$20.44
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$20.50
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$20.57
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$20.62
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$20.67
CLASS Vb: Truck Mechanics:	
Step 1-5	\$20.20
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$20.44
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$20.50
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$20.57
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$20.62
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$20.67
CLASS Vc: Licensed Plumbers/Electricians:	
Step 1-5	\$20.20
Step 6-10 (Includes \$.24)	\$20.44
Step 11-15 (Includes \$.30)	\$20.50
Step 16-20 (Includes \$.37)	\$20.57
Step 21-25 (Includes \$.42)	\$20.62
Step 26-30 (Includes \$.47)	\$20.67

The first year rate may be up to \$1.00 per hour below the class rate. An additional \$0.20 per hour may be awarded for merit. A certified mechanic will normally receive merit.

A. In-Service for All Employees

1. Bus Drivers

Required in-service meetings sponsored by the Michigan Department of Education or the Board of Education will be paid at the regular rate beginning in the 2008-2009 school year. The first (1) staff development day prior to the first student instructional day, Any drivers not attending will not be compensated. For purposes of staff development days, a day is considered 6 hours (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. non-paid lunch and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.). A half-day of staff development is considered 3 hours.

Additionally, if an employee is required and assigned to work beyond the compensated time for his/her regular trip assignment for: (a) construction of Special Education runs, (b) construction of student ridership lists, (c) in-person on-site attendance at a parent conference if required to attend, (d) other required duties as assigned by the supervisor, but only if the time actually spent extends beyond the normal compensated time. All such time shall be compensated at the regular rate of pay beginning in the 2008-2009 school year.

2. Paraprofessionals and Library Assistants

In-Service Required in-service meetings sponsored by the Michigan Department of Education or the Board of Education will be paid at the regular rate of pay beginning in the 2008-2009 school year. The first (1) staff development day prior to the first student instruction, as well as the full staff floating development day will be required. Any employees not attending will not be compensated. When in-service school improvement and record days are held during the school year paraprofessionals will not attend unless requested by their Principal. When in attendance at their building school improvement and record days they will be compensated at their regular hourly rate of pay. For purposes of staff development days, a day is considered 6 hours (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. non-paid lunch and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.). A half-day of staff development is considered 3 hours.

- a. Library paraprofessionals and computer room paraprofessionals will work standard hours on in-service days.
- b. Head elementary and secondary/media paraprofessionals shall work their regular standard hours on all student half days, parent/teacher conference days, exam days and all teacher professional development days (including NCA school improvement, etc.) during the school year.

3. Custodial/Maintenance/Mechanics

For school year custodians/cleaners, regular in-service meetings sponsored by the Michigan Department of Education or the Board of Education will be paid at the regular rate of pay beginning in the 2008-2009 school year. The first (1) staff development day prior to the first student instruction day, as well as the full staff floating development day will be required. Any employees not attending will not be compensated. For purposes of staff development days, a day is considered 6 hours

(8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. non-paid lunch and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.). A half-day of staff development is considered 3 hours.

4. Cooks/Food Service

Regular in-service meetings sponsored by the Michigan Department of Education or Board of Education will be paid at the regular rate of pay beginning in the 2008-2009 school year. The first one (1) day staff development prior to the first student instructional day will be required. Any employees not attending will not be compensated. For purposes of staff development days, a day is considered 6 hours (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. non-paid lunch and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.). A half-day of staff development is considered 3 hours.

5. Secretarial/Clerical

Skill Improvement Secretaries should improve their skills by attending workshops and in-service meetings held for that purpose. The members of the secretarial/clerical classification covered by this Agreement are encouraged to attend certain conventions, workshops or institutes throughout the year. Attendance which is required or approved in advance by the building principal and central Administration shall not result in loss of pay to the secretarial/clerical personnel involved. For those secretarial/clerical personnel participating in approved conventions, workshops or in-service, a rotation system will be adopted by the Administration to permit attendance when work duties limit the number of individuals participating. Expense for attendance at the above conferences and workshops will be reimbursed by the School District in keeping with the Board policy. One required in-service day per school year to coincide with the teaching staff will be scheduled.

Activities to be suggested by the vice-president of the secretarial group for review and approval by the Administration. A written plan shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of the in-service date. Expenses incurred for the in-service are to be covered by the Board and attendance will not result in loss of wages. All secretaries shall participate and attend any assigned in-service days and will not be compensated unless absent on a prearranged approved leave by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Administration may schedule more in-service days in its discretion should it deem necessary.

B. Working Conditions for All Employees

1. Salary Payments/Deductions Salary payments will be made not less than every second Friday. Withholding tax and insurance deductions will be made where required by law or authorized by the individual. Employees shall be responsible for any premiums not covered by Board contributions and will reimburse the Board for any such premium costs advanced.

2. Health In order to provide continuing health protection for students, it shall be the policy of the Board that:

a. Upon initial employment, each employee may be required to have a physical examination certifying that the individual is capable of carrying out his/her particular assignment.

b. All employees must have a tuberculin skin test or chest x-ray every three (3) years.

3. Mileage Employees will be paid at the current IRS rate, for any required use of their vehicles and for the distance between work sites when work is at more than one site.

4. School Closings

a. Bus Drivers, Paraprofessionals, school year Custodial/Cleaner, Cooks, Hall Monitors, Crossing Guards and Library Assistants, and Computer Room Paraprofessionals.

1. In the event school is closed or delayed due to conditions determined by the Administration to be beyond the control of school authorities (for example, adverse weather conditions, health concerns, equipment breakdowns or other reasons), employees shall be paid the wages that they were scheduled to work (total of five (5) days per school year). If school is closed beyond what the law or school act provides (currently thirty (30) hours), the Board of Education shall be entitled to reschedule such days. Employees shall work on such rescheduled days and then will be compensated for working on these rescheduled days.

2. Should legislation repeal the need for these “make up” days, the above language will return to the previous language which stated: “In the event school is cancelled, employees will receive pay for their regularly scheduled assigned hours.”

3. On days that school is delayed, paraprofessionals will be compensated for their regular scheduled standard hours.

b. Secretarial/Clerical/Custodians/Maintenance/Mechanics

All of the above are to report on all days included in the contract with the following exceptions:

If conditions necessitate deviation from normal working hours, the employee will notify their administrator of such conditions. They must make every reasonable effort to report as soon as conditions permit and will be paid for a full day. If the employee is truly unable to report to work at all due to extremely severe weather conditions, they may submit a written report to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee for review of the conditions within three (3) days requesting that day

as a paid day. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall make a final decision after receiving this input.

In the event of a tornado watch or severe storm during the workday, employees may be dismissed by the principal after clearance with the central Administration office.

If an employee fails to report for work, he/she will not be paid for such day. If employees are instructed not to report for work, they will be paid.

5. Hours of Work Work time which is initiated, required and assigned by the employer shall be compensated.

6. Overtime

a. The rate of one and one-half (1 ½) times the hourly rate of the employee will be paid for the following:

1. Work over eight (8) hours per day (excluding bus drivers).
2. Work over forty (40) hours per week

Also, for those employees working in different positions, no employee will be scheduled to work more than eight (8) hours per day. For those employees working in different positions, they must work the regular hours for which position they are scheduled. There will be no duplication or overlap of pay. Half days may not apply.

b. The rate of two (2) times the hourly rate of the employee will be paid for the following:

1. All holiday work.
2. All Sunday work.

It is understood and agreed that during periods of revenue shortages, millage defeats or other circumstances, and/or emergency situations, the Board may not be able to afford to implement the double hourly rate mentioned above. When this occurs, the employee will receive one and one half (1 ½) times their regular base pay, only after the Association president and chief negotiator have had input regarding this decision.

c. Employees called into work on nonscheduled hours shall receive a minimum of two (2) hours pay. The employee will stay for the time needed to complete the necessary inspection, repairs or assignment, unless released by their supervisor, and shall productively work during such time. This provision shall not apply to scheduled overtime at the beginning or end of the workday. Custodians assigned to conduct building checks during non-scheduled hours shall receive a minimum of one (1) hour of pay at one and one-half (1 ½) times the hourly rate.

Any person who is assigned to check two (2) buildings shall receive one and one-half (1 ½) hours of pay.

- d. Overtime must be authorized by the appropriate supervisor where practicable.
 - e. Any cook who regularly works shall receive one and one-half (1 ½) times the hourly rate for any work performed on Saturdays or two (2) times the rate of pay on Sunday.
7. Experience Credit Any employee hired or rehired with past classification experience may be credited with no more than two (2) years experience on the salary schedule, but such experience shall not be reflected on the master seniority list.
8. Breaks Any employee (excluding bus drivers) working three (3) hours per day shall be entitled to one (1) duty-free fifteen (15) minute break per day. Any employee working six (6) hours or more per day shall be entitled to two (2) such breaks per day. The time of breaks shall be assigned and/or determined by the Director or Supervisor.
9. Lunch/Dinner Any custodial/maintenance employee, mechanic, secretary or paraprofessional who is regularly assigned to six (6) hours or more per day shall receive a duty-free unpaid meal period of up to one (1) hour as assigned by the supervisor. If the meal period is interrupted for necessary work, a later duty-free period will be provided or the employee will be compensated for the interruption. Employees may leave the school premises during the period, except for second and third shift personnel, who shall remain at their assigned building.
10. Employee Absences If an employee is absent, it is the employee's responsibility to directly inform his/her supervisor no later than the assigned time so a possible substitute or revised work schedule for existing employees can be developed and then assigned. Employees may have their work schedule modified as determined by the Board to address work normally done by an absent employee.
- If an employee is to be absent, it is the employee's responsibility to directly inform the supervisor as follows:
- a. First shift employees – No later than one (1) hour before the beginning of the first shift
 - b. Second and third shift employees – No later than three (3) hours before the beginning of these shifts
11. Assignments will be made within classifications. Personnel interested in moving to higher classifications shall notify personnel office for future consideration.
12. Employees interested in additional work must notify the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in writing by August 1 of any given year specifying areas of work and time availability.
13. In the event an employee believes extra aid is necessary to deliver services to the students and the community, the employee shall first discuss such perceived need with the

immediate supervisor, confine rationale in writing, and submit it to the supervisor for review. If, after passage of a reasonable period of time (two to four weeks) and there is no response from the supervisor, or the employee is not pleased with the decision, the employee may feel free to contact the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee for a final review. A final decision will be communicated to the employee within four (4) weeks upon request.

C. Bus Driver Working Conditions

1. Licenses Any required chauffeur's license for public school employees required by the District to drive others as part of their job responsibilities is to be obtained and kept current by each employee, with the expense of the license to be reimbursed by the Board, upon presentation of a paid receipt.

2. Warm-up Time

a. Regular drivers who are scheduled an A.M./P.M. route will be paid a pre-trip inspection of twenty-five (25) minutes per day, which includes 15 minutes for the first route/trip of the day and 10 minutes for the second scheduled route/trip and an additional 10 minutes for each route/trip after that. Team drivers and "as need subs" will be paid a pre-trip inspection of fifteen (15) minutes for the first route/trip of the day and 10 minutes for additional route/trip after that. This includes a complete inspection, including under the hood (as described under CDL vehicle code and beginning bus driver curriculum). Warm-up time shall be included for extra field trips as determined by the supervisor. Pre-trip inspections shall be included in the warm-up time and completed prior to all trips leaving the premises.

b. Consecutive duties in a vehicle, which has a one (1) hour or less layover, shall not be allocated warm-up/pre-trip inspection time.

c. All drivers will start and warm-up their assigned buses unless released or otherwise assigned by the transportation supervisor.

d. Warm-up time for regular assigned runs shall be considered paid time for purposes of paid leave and insurance benefits.

3. Cleaning of Buses

a. Drivers will be paid three-quarters (3/4) hours per week for cleaning interior of bus.

b. Commencing summer of 2006, all bus drivers will be asked to thoroughly clean his/her individual bus following the last student run of each school year, as described below.

Bus drivers will be given up to six (6) hours of pay at \$10.00 per hour to clean his/her bus in accordance with the cleaning list/criteria provided by the Director of Transportation or his/her designee. If the bus does not meet the cleaning standard (cleaning list/criteria), the bus driver shall accommodate the cleaning request at no additional cost to the district. Bus drivers shall have up

to three (3) weeks after the school year is over (last instructional day) to complete the cleaning task.

While bus drivers are strongly encouraged to clean his/her own bus, he/she may decline. All buses that are left to be cleaned will be offered to the two (2) top-senior bus drivers and continue down the seniority list until a cleaner(s) can be found.

It is understood that up to six (6) hours will be allotted to clean a single bus. If two (2) drivers decide to clean a bus, each driver will receive up to three (3) hour of pay.

4. Pay for Warm-up and Cleaning Hourly rates will apply to warm-up and cleaning time.
5. Minimum Call-In Pay Drivers called in for duty and not needed shall be paid one (1) hour minimum.
6. Extra Trip Minimum Extra trips will pay one and one-half (1 1/2) hour minimum. Drop-off only trips will be paid two (2) hour minimum.
- 7.
8. Overnight Trips Overnight trips to pay one-half (1/2) trip pay for all down-time, plus expenses, if judged reasonable and required by the Administration.
9. Layover Time It is understood and agreed layover time shall be paid only for waiting time between the regularly scheduled secondary and elementary runs. Layover time is included as necessary, based upon the daily run. . When the Elementary and Secondary parent teacher conferences are on different calendar days, all drivers will be compensated for thirty (30) minutes layover time for those days.
10. Payment Computation
 - a. Bus drivers driving time shall be assigned according to the Versa Trans Routing program times. If additional time is deemed necessary by drivers, this matter shall be discussed with the Director of Transportation. If a decision cannot be reached, the bus driver may request that actual driving time be recorded daily by the Director of Transportation over a period of ten (10) to fifteen (15) days. This total shall then be rounded off to the nearest one-quarter (1/4) hour at the conclusion of this period. Total hours shall be multiplied by the hourly rate and then divided by ten (10) to fifteen (15) days to determine the average daily rate for that designated assigned run.

- b. It is understood and agreed by both parties that the success of this system will depend upon the integrity of the employee reporting accurate times. Those not reporting accurate times shall be subject to discipline.
- c. Runs shall be timed in a manner acceptable to both the association and board during the first three weeks of school.

11. Meal Allowance Policy to be Used Only for Extra Trips

- a. A meal allowance will be paid up to the stated maximums upon presentation of an itemized receipt based upon the following schedule:

Breakfast and Noon Meal:	Up to \$5.50 per meal
Evening Meal:	Up to \$6.50 per meal
Breakfast:	When the assigned departure time begins between 5:00 a.m. and 10:59 a.m.
Noon Meal:	When the assigned departure time begins between 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
Evening Meal:	When the assigned departure time begins between 2:30 p.m. and 12:00 p.m.
- b. For each three (3) hours you complete on a trip, you will be entitled to one (1) meal, with a maximum of three (3) meals per 24-hour period.
- c. Meal money is excluded for drop-only trips.
- d. Should any extra trip require the overlapping of the above schedule, the meal allowance may then be combined not to exceed the total allowable expense of \$17.50 maximum per day per assignment.
- e. The Administration expressly retains the sole discretionary judgment to approve other meal allowances dependent on circumstances. This discretionary decision is subject to the grievance system, but only through Step 3.

12. Lift-Enabled Buses The lift shall be operated only by the driver or trained assistants. A driver or trained assistant must secure the wheel chair, and remove the securements at the school or home.

13. Definitions of Trips, Shuttles, Runs

Trips: A service provided to a group of students, which is not to and from home or school.

Shuttles: A shuttle is a service added to a run, without adding time beyond the actual time it takes and will not involve layover time.

Runs: A run is to and/or from school service that transports students to educational programming.

14. Senior Graduation Night Trip

Any extra duty trips, including senior graduation night, that are not attached to regular runs, shall be rotated by seniority (per extra duty trips sign-up lists).

D. Paraprofessional Working Conditions

1. Classroom Paraprofessional Assignment

a. When a classroom paraprofessional has a current assignment which is seventy-five percent (75%) or less than the previous year's assignment, the paraprofessional shall be assigned to the next available classroom paraprofessional or lunch room paraprofessional position in the District provided the times are compatible with his/her current assignment and he/she is qualified for the available position. When more than one classroom paraprofessional is affected, qualified and acceptable, the earlier date of hire shall be given preference.

b. The paraprofessional shall notify the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee in writing of the circumstances within five (5) days of such event of their interest in and availability for additional assignments.

c. The Rockford Public Schools and the RESPA agree that two representatives of RESPA's choosing shall be invited to Administrators' Meeting in the summer to observe and provide suggestions regarding the assignment of paraprofessional duties. After the summer placement meeting each school year, the local Association president may notify, in writing, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee of a desire to reassess the current assignment of classroom paraprofessionals, where it appears the length of service to the District is not adequately reflected in the hours of the classroom paraprofessional aide's assignments. Classroom paraprofessional assignments may be revised once after this review to adjust hours of assignment in consideration of length of service.

2. Special Education, Health Care, Reading and Elementary and Secondary Library Paraprofessionals, Hall Monitors, Library Assistants and Computer Room Paraprofessionals Assignments

Special Education, health care, reading and Elementary and Secondary library paraprofessionals, hall monitors, library assistants and computer room paraprofessionals in the elementary schools can generally expect to be reassigned to their previous position for the following year assuming the positions are determined to be available and necessary by the Administration and in the absence of an unsatisfactory evaluation by the Administration.

3. Paraprofessionals assigned to noon playground duty will be paid an additional \$0.25 per hour only while assigned to this specific duty (does not apply to hall monitors/crossing guards).

4. Library paraprofessionals and computer room paraprofessionals will work one (1) week before students begin school and one (1) week after students last day of school.

Head elementary and secondary library/media paraprofessionals shall begin work two Mondays prior to the first student day and one week (five work days) after the last student day.

5. For current paraprofessionals who have to meet the requirements of (20 USC 6319(c)) of the No Child Left Behind Act through an academic assessment, the district agrees to pay for the costs associated with taking, or taking the test a second time, the WorkKeys assessment or other required test.

E. Custodial/Maintenance/Mechanics Working Conditions

1. Working Hours

a. All maintenance and custodial and grounds employees are normally required to work a total of forty (40) hours per week during the year. These hours will normally be Monday through Friday. Any exceptions will be by mutual agreement of the Board and the Association. (Individual work schedules showing employee's shift and hours shall be furnished to all employees by their immediate supervisor.)

b. Shifts - The superintendent or his/her designee shall meet with the association president and solicit input regarding the change in shift time.

The Board reserves the right to change the above regular starting hours in order to accommodate special needs.

c.

d. Second and third shift employees shall receive a paid meal period provided they are scheduled for an eight (8) hour shift. Such meal period shall normally be one-half (1/2) hour, as assigned by the supervisor. These employees shall be restricted to their assigned buildings for these meal periods.

e. Each full-time employee's work schedule will provide for two (2) fifteen (15) minute breaks during the work period. Breaks and lunch schedules will be determined by the director of operations or his/her designee, based on the employees work schedule. Normally, the first break shall be as follows:

First shift	9:45 – 10:00 a.m.
Second shift	4:15 – 4:30 p.m.
Third shift	2:15 – 2:30 a.m.
Day employees' afternoon break	2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

f. At the close of the workday, equipment and tool clean up shall be scheduled to be finished at the final quitting time. Prior to lunch and quitting time, five (5) minutes will be allowed for personal wash up and/or changing of clothing. At no time will school vehicles be used for transportation for lunch or coffee breaks or other affairs.

g. Personal time away from the job shall take place only if approval is received from the supervisor.

2. Clothing Allowance

a. To maintain a high standard of appearance, all custodian and maintenance personnel are required to wear uniforms. The Board shall pay \$120.00 toward the purchase of uniforms for full-time/full year (8 hours per day/-/40 hours per week) employees and \$90.00 towards three (3) uniforms for full-time/school year cleaners annually. All uniforms must be alike. The uniforms shall be purchased at an outlet approved by the Board of Education.

b. In the event the employee has a sufficient number of uniforms to maintain a high standard of appearance, the employee may use the subsidy to purchase safety shoes or a jacket approved by the supervisor.

3. Policy of Work/Overtime Assignments All overtime work will be assigned and rotated on an equitable basis. All employees in each school shall have the opportunity for the overtime work on a rotated basis by seniority. If no one volunteers for the overtime work, it will be the responsibility of the office manager to call the employees that have signed up on the district overtime list. If no one volunteers to take the overtime, the office manager will assign such time on an inverse building seniority basis..

4. District Overtime Lists Bargaining unit members who wish to be placed on the overtime rotation list for a particular building(s), or the entire district, shall send a list of the buildings they wish to work overtime in to the operations director during the first week of school (Form included in Appendix A).

F. Cooks/Food Service Working Conditions

1. Working Hours Cafeteria workers will work as assigned by the person in charge of the food service program, the beginning and end of which is determined by the person in charge of the food service program. Regular workers are expected to start the first

week of school and finish the last week of school, or thirty-eight (38) weeks coinciding with the school year.

Cooks will work two (2) half (1/2) days or its equivalent cleaning, at normal rate of pay, as assigned by the Administration.

2. Clothing Allowance The Board of Education will pay an annual allowance for cooks' uniforms. Uniforms are to be alike. Determining style, material, etc. will be done by the local Association. Annual allowances are as follows:

Part-time (less than 4 hours per day)	\$ 95.00
Full-time	\$115.00

3. When additional hours become available in the High School, Freshman Center, East Middle, or North Middle Schools Food Service Department, the Food Service Supervisor shall offer these hours to the employee within each building with the greatest seniority (on a rotating basis). If there is no employee available in the building, the Food Service Supervisor shall offer the hours to the other two (2) schools according to their seniority (on a rotating basis). If there are still not enough employees available to work, then the hours will be offered to the elementary school employees according to seniority (on a rotating basis). The Food Service Supervisor has the option of requiring a head cook (or equally trained/certified employee) to work the extra hours.

4. A food service employee will be paid two (2) hours whenever a kitchen is used for an activity outside of the normal school day, to insure against loss and damage. On some events normally dealing with activities for Rockford students, this requirement can be waived by mutual agreement.

G. Secretarial/Clerical Working Conditions

1. Summer Hours

a. The normal hours for all secretarial/clerkal personnel are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during a normal week of Monday through Friday.

b. In the event the Administration shall adjust the above normal workday and week, any full-time secretary affected shall be considered a full-time employee as expressed in Articles XIII, XIV and XVI.

c. The building principals and directors will determine the summer office hours.

d. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the Board in reducing hours during periods of revenue reductions or other circumstances.

ARTICLE XVI

INSURANCE

A. Qualifications

1. The insurance benefits provided herein shall begin only after the employee has properly completed the necessary forms and the application has been accepted and approved by the carrier.
2. The provisions of this insurance section shall be controlled by the underwriter's requirements regarding benefits, eligibility and other matters.
3. Upon termination, it is the responsibility of the employee to contact the carrier to determine if any conversion rights exist or if any insurance can be extended on a direct pay basis at the employee's cost.
4. It is expressly understood and agreed that the Board's subsidy for benefits shall terminate upon unpaid leaves of absence, resignation, retirement, layoff, dismissal, death, or other terminating circumstances. The Board will continue subsidy for benefits for up to six (6) months for employees on extended illness leave or worker's compensation.
5. There shall be no duplication of health insurance coverage, except as approved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.
6. Insurance coverage or subsidy shall be provided for twelve (12) months for all eligible employees unless subject to termination under Paragraph 4 above.

B. Policy Holder

It is the understanding of the Board and the Association that the Board will declare itself policyholder of the negotiated M.E.S.S.A insurance coverage and M.E.S.S.A will then change the P.A.R agreement to accord policyholder status to the Board. Policyholder status will not impair or change the benefit level or carrier negotiated in this agreement or the current claims processing established by M.E.S.S.A.Benefits

C. Definition of Coverage

The Board shall offer M.E.S.S.A. ABC Plan 1 with a 20% contribution cost to employees who qualify

Eligibility

The Board will contribute the following cost per month toward the purchase of M.E.S.S.A. Choices II/with preferred Rx or M.E.S.S.A. ABC Plan 1(as outlined above) , provided the employee is not currently covered by a medical insurance plan which is subsidized in whole or in part.

a. For employees regularly scheduled and assigned to work thirty (30) hours or more a week the Board will contribute up to the full family subscriber rate of M.E.S.S.A. Choices II/with preferred Rx or M.E.S.S.A. ABC Plan 1(as outlined above). Full coverage shall be inclusive of member only; member and spouse; member and child; member, spouse and child as appropriate under the circumstances. The Board agrees to pay their portion of the increases in the cost of the designated plan (as defined in Article XVI.B.1.), provided, however, the coverage is not increased by M.E.S.S.A.

b. For employees regularly scheduled and assigned to work twenty-three (23) to twenty-nine (29) hours per week, the Board will contribute up to \$180 toward hospitalization coverage.

The parties agree to the following provisions regarding the insurance provisions of Article XVI-Insurance, of the Master Agreement.

1. To determine eligibility for insurance benefits, bus drivers' hours shall be computed on the prior year's total time worked within the district in regularly scheduled job(s) (i.e., bus run, trips, k-runs, shuttles, attendant duties, in-service, etc. in the transportation department) and current year time spent working in any other union position as per standard hours (i.e., food service).

Subbing a day or week from time to time will not count for determining hours for insurance benefits eligibility.

2. Regular hours worked shall be all hours paid by the employer (as indicated in 1 above).
3. To determine the actual hours worked per week, the GPS (Global Positioning System) may be used or the Director of Transportation may be asked to accompany the bus driver on his/her route.
4. This process shall be repeated each year to determine placement for the following year.
5. Newly hired drivers with no previous year's work record, shall receive or not receive insurance benefits based upon anticipated hours of work. Should the employee fail to complete the hours of work after the employer has provided benefits, the employee shall repay the employer for money spent, through equal monthly installments by payroll deduction in the succeeding work year.

- c. For employees regularly scheduled and assigned to work twenty (20) to twenty-two (22) hours per week, the Board will contribute up to \$130 toward hospitalization coverage.
- d. **While an employee is on a qualified LTD leave, medical insurance will be carried for up to 24 months from the LTD qualifying date.**

3. Life Insurance

All employees will receive \$30,000 in term life insurance with a double indemnity clause.

4. Dental Insurance: The Board will provide a 60-60-60 dental plan applicable for all other employees working twenty (20) hours or more per week with a \$1,500.00 annual maximum through the remainder of this agreement; included is an orthodontic lifetime \$1,000.00 maximum.

5. Option 1 with N.V.A. (National Vision Administration) For all eligible twelve (12) month employees enrolled in the medical insurance plan and eligible school year employees.

All school year employees (other than 12 month employees and those not on the option plan) must work the minimum hours per week as described under Article XVI, Section B.2. Health Insurance, b., and 5, c.

6. Secretaries Only For those full-time secretaries not eligible for medical coverage as determined exclusively by the Administration, they shall be provided with a full-family dental plan.

7. Beginning with the 1993-1994 school year, a long term disability plan covering only twelve (12) month employees who are regularly scheduled and assigned to work thirty (30) hours per week.

The following conditions shall apply:

- a. There will be a 150-calendar day waiting period or expiration of sick leave whichever is greater.
- b. Maximum payment receipt from all sources shall be \$1500 per month.
- c. Sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of regularly scheduled wages.
- d. All offsets such as Worker's Compensation, retirement income, social security benefits or income from any other group or wholesale franchise plan.

8. Options (for those not taking health)

a. Each employee who waives health insurance coverage will be paid cash in lieu if they meet the hour requirements as follows:

SCHOOL YEAR EMPLOYEES:

- (1) Employees regularly scheduled to work thirty (30) or more hours per week will receive \$1,170.00 annually. Spouses who are dual employed by the district will be paid \$585 cash in lieu annually.
- (2) Employees regularly scheduled to work twenty (20) or more hours per week will receive \$819.00 annually. Spouses who are dual employed by the district will be paid \$409.50 cash in lieu annually.

School year employees' cash in lieu payments shall begin in October ending with the last pay in June. The last pay in June will include cash in lieu due during the summer months.

52 WEEK EMPLOYEES:

- (3) 52 week employees regularly scheduled to work thirty (30) or more hours per week will receive \$1,287.00 annually. Spouses who are dual employed by the district will be paid \$643.50 cash in lieu annually.
- (4) 52 week employees regularly scheduled to work twenty (20) or more hours per week will receive \$31.50 per pay / \$819.00 annually. Spouses who are dual employed by the district will be paid \$409.50 cash in lieu annually.

A new hire employee will be required to sign the Flexible Benefits Plan election form, which includes a waiver of health coverage. The cash in lieu will begin the month following completion of the election form. If the recipient delays in completing the election form in a timely manner, the Board will not be liable for any retroactive payments.

The above amounts will be prorated to actual time worked for employees who do not complete a school year due to starting late or leaving early.

c. Upon completion of the required enrollment form, option group employees will also be eligible for VSP 2 vision plan, paid by the Board.

D. Interest Free Loan

For the **2016** calendar year, the District will also make an interest-free loan available to each employee at the beginning of the calendar year in order to enable the employee to make an immediate HSA contribution so that they have sufficient funds in the employee's HSA at the beginning of the plan year to satisfy the deductible. The loan shall be interest-free and shall be documented by an election form/loan agreement. In order to obtain the loan, each employee will be required to sign an election form and loan agreement under which the employee will agree to repay

the loan amount by payroll deduction, and if there is an interruption in pay due to an unpaid leave or termination of employment, the employee shall further agree to otherwise timely repay the loan.

COST CONTAINMENT OF INSURANCE

Both the Board of Education and the Unions shall make a definite and serious commitment to study and review cost containment and possible premium reduction options of all insurances.

It is agreed and understood that any changes in current benefits must be negotiated between the Board and respective Associations.

ARTICLE XVII

MEDICALLY FRAGILE STUDENTS

1. Prior to any bargaining unit member performing health care related services to students required by an IEPC, written authorization signed by a licensed physician and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be received by the District and available to the bargaining unit member. Such authorization should include specific health care related procedures that are to be performed, the underlying condition calling for such services and the specific conditions under which the services are to be provided. (See Appendix B)
2. Any bargaining unit member who has a medically fragile student assigned to him/her will be trained by licensed medical personnel in conjunction with the child's parent to handle the student's special health care needs.
3. The District agrees to supply the bargaining unit member with the necessary communication equipment to allow direct communication with appropriate licensed medical personnel (i.e., portable phone, etc.).
4. Any bargaining unit member working with any school student is covered as an agent for the school under the Board's liability policy in the amount of \$3,000,000. The insurance shall specifically cover personal liability for the employee(s) providing such services. The Association will be provided a copy of the policy and any applicable riders annually upon request.
5. The employee shall not be required to provide any supplies or equipment necessary for the services to medically fragile students.
6. If the preceding five steps are not followed, the bargaining unit member has the right to refuse to perform the health care procedures requested. The employee shall promptly notify, in person, a responsible administrator if he/she cannot perform the required procedures. Such notice should be as far in advance as possible.

ARTICLE XVIII

NO INTERRUPTION OF EDUCATION

The Board and the Association recognize that their primary responsibility is to the children of the District, and declare that their mutual objective is to provide those children with a proper education. To that end, it is agreed that during the life of this Agreement, they will not permit, cause or encourage any interruption, disturbance, or interference with the continuous, normal education of such children by sanction, concerted activity or otherwise, and that any difference of opinion or dispute which there may be between or among themselves will be resolved by the methods provided herein including arbitration, and will not be allowed to affect in any way the normal education afforded the children of the Rockford Public School District.

ARTICLE XIX

SUPREMACY CLAUSE

This Agreement shall supersede any rules, regulations or practices of the Board which shall be contrary to or inconsistent with its terms. The provisions of the Agreement shall be incorporated into and be considered part of the established policies of the Board of Education.

ARTICLE XX

SUBCONTRACTING

The right to contract or subcontract is expressly vested in the Employer. The Employer agrees, however, that contracting or subcontracting of bargaining unit work will not be utilized to deny bargaining unit members their regularly scheduled and normal working hours. The Employer retains the right to contract or subcontract work, which cannot be performed by existing regular employees during their regular work schedule in addition to their regular duties. The Employer further retains the right to contract or subcontract work for which existing equipment and/or material is not sufficient to attain the desired quality and/or for work which existing employees are not already trained and qualified to perform.

Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the Board of Education and Administration reserves the unqualified, exclusive right to continue its past practices of subcontracting which includes, by way of illustration and not limitation, the following:

1. The use of parent, persons or non-bargaining unit members as volunteers.
2. The utilization of persons who have skills, i.e., electricians, plumbers, H.V.A.C., carpet installation, etc.
3. The use of construction persons in buildings, renovations, etc.
4. The use of persons which may aid the School District in property maintenance, i.e., blacktop re-surfacing, roofing, copy machines, masonry and cement work, communications systems, excavating and anything of a like and similar nature.

5. The use of persons for services/repairs, i.e., landscaping, sprinkling systems installation, water pump, playground equipment, etc.
6. Any and all items/work, which are part of a bond issue, building and site issue or of an emergency nature.
7. Services and/or repairs which are needed to be timely completed to provide for the safe and continuous operation of the School District.
8. The use of substitutes or temporary employees.

DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This contract will be effective for 2015-2016
school years starting July 1, 2015 and expiring June 30, 2016

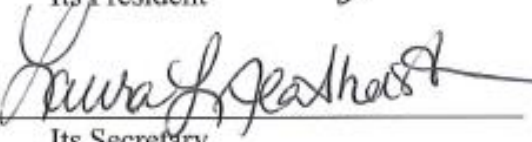
KENT COUNTY EDUCATION
ROCKFORD EDUCATION SUPPORT
STAFF ASSOCIATION
ROCKFORD, MICHIGAN

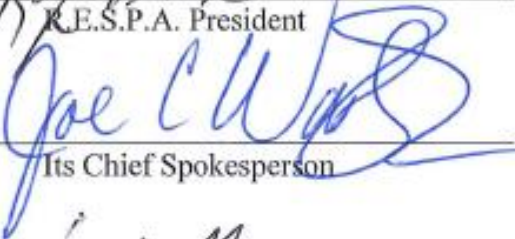
ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ROCKFORD, MICHIGAN
KENT COUNTY

By 
K.C.E.A. President

By 
Its President

By 
K.E.S.P.A. President

By 
Its Secretary

By 
Its Chief Spokesperson

By 
Its Superintendent of Schools

By 
Committee Member

By 
Its Assistant Superintendent for
Human Resources

By _____
Committee Member

By 
Its Chief Spokesperson

By 
Committee Member

By 
Its Assistant Spokesperson

By 
Committee Member

By _____
Uniserv Director

APPENDIX A

OVERTIME WORK - MAINTENANCE Yearly Sign-up Form
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In order to eliminate many unnecessary phone calls and save valuable time, every member of the custodial staff who wishes to work overtime during the school year, must fill out one of these forms. Please return these to Maintenance office by September 10th of every school year.

Name: _____

School: _____

_____ I am willing to work overtime in any building.

_____ I am willing to work overtime only in my own building.

_____ I am willing to work any overtime.

_____ I am willing to work on Sundays.

_____ I am unwilling to work on Sundays.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX B

<p style="text-align: center;">HEALTH CARE PROCEDURE AUTHORIZATION For Medically Fragile Students</p>
--

Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address (if different): _____

Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Note to physician: Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact (teacher)

_____ at _____

or the Director of Special Services _____ at _____

I. Verification of Medical or Health Status:

- A. Attach pertinent reports or records (see signed Release of Information).
- B. Identify any medical or health concerns that are not addressed in A above.

II. Procedures/Interventions:

- A. List health care procedures/interventions required and their frequency.
- B. Identify any additional restrictions or modifications in school activities or health care that would be necessary for the student to participate in the school.
- C. Identify additional special equipment, aids, restraints, or mobility assistance needed for the student to safely participate in school.
- D. Identify training required for staff to provide the supervision or interventions addressed in II.A.

III. Recommendations for Transportation and School Attendance:

(1) Based upon the above information and identified procedures, this student is able to be safely transported to and from and attend school and, therefore, transportation and school attendance is recommended.

(2) Based upon the above information and procedures, this student is NOT above to be safely transported to and from school and, therefore, transportation is not recommended.

(3) Based on the above information, it is recommended that the Individualized Educational Planning Committee (IEPC) be convened to determine appropriate school and support services.

Signature of Physician

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

The Rockford Board of Education ("Board") and the Rockford Education Support Personnel Association, MEA/NEA ("Association") in arriving at a labor contract for 1988-1991 have reached a number of agreements and understanding regarding the application of the contract. These understandings and agreements are as follows:

A. Severance Savings Provision

The Board and the Association understand and agree that all Custodial/Maintenance employees, Cooks and Bus Mechanics employed (date of hire) prior to July 1, 1988, shall retain these rights specifically agreed to in the previous Agreement as follows:

1. A terminal leave payment of one-half (1/2) of the total accumulated sick leave at the time of retirement will be paid upon retirement to employees hired prior to July 1, 1988, provided written notice is given three (3) months prior to time of retirement. The employee must have ten (10) years of continuous service and meet the minimum requirement of the State of Michigan retirement system to qualify.
2. Beginning with the 1974-75 contract, only those employees who are full-time (7 hours per day or more year-round or school year) will be eligible for terminal leave pay. All eligible employees hired before July 1, 1988, will be covered under the provision as stated in Section A.

B. Food Service/Canteen Services

To minimize the impact of the transition to supervision of the food service program by Canteen Services, the Board and the Association agree to the following conditions:

1. For cooks employed in 1987-88, there will be no reduction in hours for the school year 1988-91;
2. There will be no subcontracting of food service unit work for the life of this contract 1988-91;
3. To the extent that the following named employees' hours of employment during the 1987-88 school year made them eligible for Board paid health insurance benefits, they shall remain eligible as full-time employees unless reductions in the program reduce their regularly scheduled and assigned hours to less than twenty-five (25) hours per week:

Dorothy Hill
Rosella Russell

4. To the extent that the employees listed in C-3 above qualified for early retirement benefits under paragraph 2 above, they shall remain eligible as full-time employees.

C. Team Drivers – Business Days and Sick Leave Accumulation (2/2/2004)

Business Day:

An employee's business day is based on his/her standard hours. Within an employee's standard daily hours, he/she may work more hours in either the a.m. or p.m. As a result, when an employee uses half business days, he/she may not use all of the standard daily hours. Therefore, when business days are used, the total number of standard daily hours may be used in a current year regardless of how many days that may be considered. When team drivers use a full business day, he/she shall receive his/her standard plus two (2) hours of compensation.

Team Drivers Sick Leave Accumulation:

Team drivers will be expected to take a run when needed. He/she shall not decline a run is asked. Therefore, at the beginning of each school year, team drivers will be given an additional twenty (20) hours of sick leave time over his/her standard hours. When a team driver has been assigned a run and calls in sick, he/she shall be paid for his/her standard hours plus two (2) hours. When a team driver has not been assigned a run and calls in sick, he/she shall be paid for his/her standard hours only.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

1. Recess Duty for Certified Paraprofessionals
 - a. Beginning the 2000-2001 school year, certified paraprofessionals will be hired to cover recess duty so the recess time will count as hours of instruction per State of Michigan School Code. The administration may discontinue this policy due to change in State law and/or any other reason deemed necessary.
 - b. Because of the policy referenced in paragraph a. above, during the 2000-2001 school year there will be no loss of paraprofessional positions due to certified recess paraprofessionals, but cannot guarantee loss of paraprofessional positions due to other factors.
 - c. All personnel hired for certified recess paraprofessionals will be covered under the RESPA Master Agreement.

2. Library Assistants (Equalization of Hours)
 - a. Beginning the 2000-2001 school year, library assistants' hours will be equalized at all elementary buildings as identified in the scale below. The administration has the right to discontinue library positions and/or reduce the number of hours. If a reduction of hours is deemed necessary, the administration and Association shall first meet to discuss the reduction and solicit input from the Association.
 - b. All library assistants will be covered under the RESPA Master Agreement.

EQUALIZATION OF HOURS

450+ students	15.0 hours per week
450- students	12.0 hours per week
Meadow Ridge Elementary (ECSC)	28.25 hours per week

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

It is agreed upon with the Board of Education and the Support Association that the following items have been removed from this agreement, because the Special Education Region 1 drivers are now employed by the Kent Intermediate School District. If, in the future, special education transportation is the responsibility of Rockford Public schools, the following will be reinstated:

Article VII., Section A.

2. At the beginning of the school year, designated handicapped special education drivers already employed in such positions as of the date this Agreement is signed will maintain their positions, provided positions are available. In the event a designated handicapped special education driver chooses to vacate his/her position, regular drivers may bid on the opening or openings created.
3. Temporary handicapped special education runs shall be offered to unit employees at the supervisor's discretion.

Article VIII., Section B.

It is clearly understood by both parties that designated special needs drivers must possess greater qualifications than other drivers. Therefore, designated special needs drivers already employed in such positions will maintain these positions, absent poor performance, or elimination of these positions.

Article XII., Section B.

2. Special Education Drivers Twelve-month Special Education drivers who work six (6) hours or more per day shall be eligible for vacation on the following schedule:

After one (1) year _____ five (5) days
After five (5) years _____ ten (10) days
After fifteen (15) years _____ fifteen (15) days

Vacation times will be designated by the Board of Education so as not to conflict with the provision of services. Normally vacations will be designated during the winter and/or spring break.

Article XV.

Designated Handicapped Special Education	\$0.45 added per hour	\$0.45 added per hour
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Article XV. Section C.

14. Special Education Buses: A special education bus is a bus that transports with 51% of its area occupied by students that are handicapped or part of Special Education programs. A bus that is equipped with a lift is not necessarily a "special education" bus. If this bus is primarily transporting with 51% of its area filled with regular education students it shall be considered a "regular education" bus. The lift shall be operated only by the driver or trained assistants. A driver or trained assistant must secure the wheel chair, and remove the securements at the school or home.

GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM

ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Grievance # _____ Date Filed: _____

(Submit to Supervisor in Duplicate)

STEP 1:

A. Date Case of Grievance Occurred: _____

B. 1. Statement of Grievance: _____

2. Relief Sought: _____

C. Date of Initial Verbal Meeting with Supervisor: _____

D. Position of Grievant: _____

Signature of Grievant Date

STEP 2:

A. Date of Second Meeting with Supervisor: _____

B. Disposition by Supervisor: _____

Signature of Supervisor Date

C. Position of Grievant: _____

Signature of Grievant Date

(Submit to Superintendent of Schools or His/Her Designee)

STEP 3:

A. Date of Meeting with Superintendent of Schools or His/Her Designee: _____

B. Disposition by Superintendent of Schools or His/Her Designee: _____

Signature of Designee

Date

STEP 4: Board Consideration

A. Grievance Submitted to Board: _____

B. Disposition by Board: _____

Signature of Board Agent

Date

STEP 5: Arbitration

A. Date Submitted to Arbitration: _____

B. Disposition of Arbitration: _____

LETTER OF AGREEMENT
Collaborative Settlement Tentative Agreement

Rockford Public Schools

March 8, 2010

Representatives from the Kent County Education Association and the Kent Intermediate School District have met on a number of occasions to discuss a joint county-wide collaborative settlement agreement. The goal of all parties is to recognize the financial situation all districts now face and the need to continue to provide high quality instruction to the students of Kent County. As a result, the following settlement agreement was jointly agreed upon and proposed by all parties:

Salary: All Staff will incur a 0% increase on the base; however, will receive his/her designated step increase, and the equivalent of a 1% increase at the 2010-2011 rate will be placed in a 403(b) annuity at the staff member's severance/retirement from the district. This will be an off schedule payment.

Benefits: The district will maintain the current MESSA benefits with the following exceptions. Teaching staff will contribute \$65.00 (pre-tax deduction) and support staff will contribute \$38.00 (pre-tax) per month towards insurance premium. Teaching staff will move to the \$100/\$200 deductible and a \$10.00 office co-pay. Super Care election will be eliminated.

Duration: This agreement is one year in duration.

Extension Review: By January 30, 2011, the parties mutually agree to review all relevant factors to determine if an extension of this agreement will occur.

Language: The parties agree to form local contract maintenance committees to review contract language issues, as well as those issues necessary to meet the educational reform initiatives included in the Race to The Top legislation. Any changes would be accomplished through mutually agreed upon letters of agreement.

Privatization: All districts agree not to privatize any KCEA/MEA unionized services for the life of this agreement.

Revenue: The parties agree during the coming year to work collaboratively on political strategies/actions and other revenue producing activities.

Majority Support: In order to effectuate this agreement, both the local membership and the local Board of Education must ratify the aforementioned terms. In the absence of an agreement

by either the Board or local membership, the parties agree to bargain the terms of their own contract settlement.


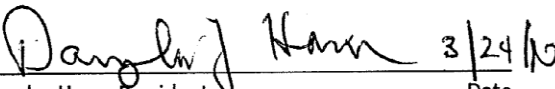
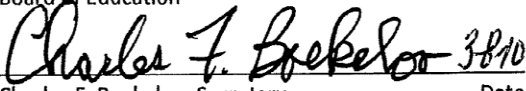
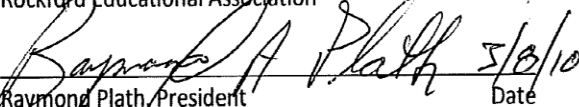
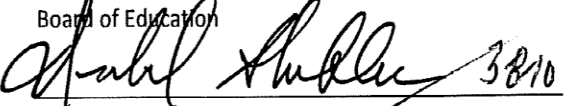
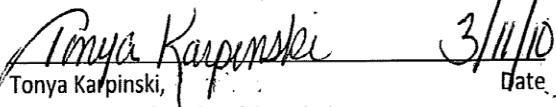
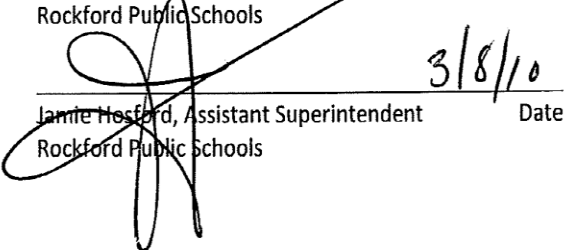
Tentative Agreement with this proposal must be met by Monday, February 22, 2010.

Ratification of the agreement shall occur no later than Monday, March 8, 2010.

All agreements which have been ratified by the local membership and Board of Education will immediately terminate if a majority of bargaining locals and districts fail to support and ratify this agreement by March 8, 2010. For the purposes of this agreement "local membership" shall be defined as the teaching and support staff from the same local and will count as one local. Example: KISD teachers, support staff = one local.

Sunset: All parties agree to sunset this plan at the end of the 2010-2011 school year. At that time current contract language will be restored unless a county-wide successor agreement is reached at the end of the agreement.

Nothing in this agreement shall preclude the enhancement of any of the aforementioned provisions, as agreed upon by the Board and local membership.

 _____ Tamara J. Schollgart, President Board of Education	3-8-10 Date	 _____ Douglas Haan, President Rockford Educational Association	3/24/10 Date
 _____ Charles F. Boekeloo, Secretary Board of Education	3-8-10 Date	 _____ Raymond A. Plath, President Rockford Educational Support Personnel Association	5/8/10 Date
 _____ Dr. Michael Shibley, Superintendent Rockford Public Schools	3-8-10 Date	 _____ Tonya Karpinski, Kent County Educational Association	3/11/10 Date
 _____ Jamie Hestford, Assistant Superintendent Rockford Public Schools	3/8/10 Date		

LETTER OF AGREEMENT – Agency Shop

This Agreement is between the Rockford Board of Education and the Rockford Educational Association (REA).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, based on the passage of 2012 PA 349, certain language in the Agency Shop Section of the 2010-2013 collective bargaining agreement could not be included in the 2013-2016 collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, the parties are aware of pending legal challenges to the constitutionality and/or validity of PA 349; and

WHEREAS, the parties are willing to negotiate regarding inclusion of agency shop language in the 2013-2016 collective bargaining agreement in the event 2012 PA 349 no longer prevents an agency shop during the term of the 2013-2016 collective bargaining agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties have agreed to the following:

1. If at any time during the term of the 2013-2016 collective bargaining agreement 2012 PA 349 is determined to be invalid, unconstitutional, or to not prevent or prohibit an agency shop provision, by any court of appropriate jurisdiction (to which there is no appeal filed), or if 2012 PA 349 is repealed, the parties shall engage in negotiations to address whether the Agency Shop Section of the 2010-2013 collective bargaining agreement or a modification of that language should be added to the 2013-2016 collective bargaining agreement. (See attached).

2. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as amending or deleting any other provision in the parties' collective bargaining agreement.

3. This Agreement is without precedent for any further relationship or practice between the parties.

FOR THE UNION:

FOR THE EMPLOYER:

Ray Plath Date
Rockford Education Support Personnel
Association President, Chief Negotiator

Dr. Michael Shibler, Ph.D. Date
Superintendent of Schools

Gezelle Oliver Date
MEA/NEA Uniserv Director

Jamie Hosford Date
Chief Negotiator

Attachment

ARTICLE III - RECOGNITION AND ASSOCIATION RIGHTS – Agency Shop

A. Agency Shop

1. The following provisions shall be implemented:
 - a. Such employee may elect to join the Association and pay its regular and usual initiation fees and its regular and usual dues by authorizing the deductions of such amounts from his/her salary.
 - b. Such employee may elect not to join the Association but will pay a service fee, as determined by the Association and authorizing the same to be deducted from his/her salary. This service fee shall be paid in full by November 30 of each year.
 - c. Employees who elect to pay a service fee to the Association shall have the same representation rights through the Association, but will not have voting rights or the right to hold office.
 - d. The agency shop service fee shall not be more than the regular dues as determined by the Association.
 - e. The employer shall deduct from the pay of each employee who is an Association member and has submitted to the employer an individual written authorization for such deduction, the amount of the Association dues certified to the employer by the treasurer of the Association. The employer shall deduct from the pay of each employee who is not an Association member an amount equal to the established service fee. Such individual's written authorization shall be revocable by the employee upon written notice to the employer and R.E.S.P.A. by/or during August for the subsequent year.
 - f. Save Harmless: The Association hereby agrees to indemnify and save the employer harmless against all legal claims, demands, suits or any other forms of liability that may arise out of the employer's compliance with the provisions of Article III.J. of this Agreement. The Board agrees to cooperate with the Association to settle such disputes.