

**AGREEMENT ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF  
EMPLOYMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS**

---

**ISD  279**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 279/OSSEO AREA  
SCHOOLS  
MAPLE GROVE, MINNESOTA**

**AND**

**REGISTERED NURSES & LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES  
EDUCATION MINNESOTA - OSSEO**

**July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024**

**AGREEMENT ON  
TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 279  
MAPLE GROVE, MINNESOTA**

**AND**

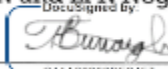
**REGISTERED NURSES AND LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as follows:

For the Education MN-Osseo  
Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical  
Nurses

DocuSigned by:  
  
8/31/2023

RN and LPN Negotiator

DocuSigned by:  
  
8/31/2023

Education Minnesota-Osseo President

For Independent School District 279



Chair



Clerk



Director, Labor Relations

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 20 23

**Addresses of Official Notice:**

EDUCATION MINNESOTA-OSSEO  
Local #1212  
9210 Wyoming Ave. N. #200  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

SCHOOL BOARD  
Office of the Superintendent  
11200 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N.  
Maple Grove, MN 55369

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT

Section 1. Parties.....	5
-------------------------	---

## ARTICLE 2 – EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE

Section 1. Appropriate Unit.....	5
Section 2. Recognition.....	5

## ARTICLE 3 - DEFINITIONS

Section 1. Terms and Conditions of Employment.....	5
Section 2. Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses .....	5
Section 3. School Board.....	6
Section 4. Other Terms.....	6

## ARTICLE 4 – SCHOOL DISTRICT RIGHTS

Section 1. Inherent Managerial Rights.....	6
Section 2. Management Responsibilities.....	6
Section 3. Effect of Laws, Rules and Regulations .....	6
Section 4. Reservation of Managerial Rights .....	6

## ARTICLE 5 – EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

Section 1. Right to Views .....	7
Section 2. Right to Join.....	7
Section 3. Personnel Files .....	7
Section 4. Dues Check-Off .....	7
Section 5. Claims Against the District.....	8
Section 6. Political Action Committee (PAC) Deduction .....	8
Section 7. Probation and Regular Status .....	8
Section 8. Seniority .....	8
Section 9. Holidays.....	8
Section 10. Posting of Positions .....	9
Section 11. Job Elimination - Registered Nurses & Licensed Practical Nurses 1 .....	9
Section 12. Job Elimination - Licensed Practical Nurses 2 .....	10
Section 13. Other Rights.....	10
Section 14. Progressive Discipline .....	10

## ARTICLE 6 - BASIC SCHEDULE AND RATES OF PAY

Section 1. Conditions .....	11
Section 2. Wages and Conditions.....	11
Section 3. Work Year .....	12
Section 4. Emergency Closing .....	12

## ARTICLE 7 – GROUP BENEFITS/INSURANCE

Section 1. Health and Hospitalization Insurance for Full-Time Employees .....	13
Section 2. Health and Hospitalization Insurance for Part-Time Employees.....	15
Section 3. Eligibility .....	16

Section 4.	Enrollment .....	16
Section 5.	Claims Against the School District .....	16
Section 6.	Duration of Insurance Contribution.....	16
Section 7.	Insurance Program Eligibility in the Event of Retirement .....	16
Section 8.	Section 125 Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Plan.....	17
Section 9.	Deferred Compensation Programs .....	17

**ARTICLE 8 - LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Section 1.	Sick Leave .....	17
Section 2.	Family Illness .....	19
Section 3.	Bereavement Leave .....	19
Section 4.	Personal Leave.....	20
Section 5.	Sick Leave Use as Personal Leave .....	20
Section 6.	Parental Leave .....	20
Section 7.	Long-Term Leave .....	23
Section 8.	Short-term Leave .....	24
Section 9.	Jury Duty .....	24
Section 10.	Religious Leave.....	25
Section 11.	Court Appearance Leave .....	25
Section 12.	Eligibility for Leaves and Absences.....	25
Section 13.	Extended Leave of Absence .....	25
Section 14.	Unexcused Absences.....	27

**ARTICLE 9 - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Section 1.	Grievance Definition.....	27
Section 2.	Representative .....	27
Section 3.	Definitions and Interpretations .....	27
Section 4.	Time Limitation and Waiver. ....	28
Section 5.	Adjustment of Grievance .....	28
Section 6.	School Board Review .....	29
Section 7.	Denial of Grievance .....	29
Section 8.	Mediation.....	29
Section 9.	Arbitration Procedures .....	29
Section 10.	General.....	31

**ARTICLE 10 - DURATION**

Section 1.	Terms and Reopening Negotiations.....	31
Section 2.	Effect.....	31
Section 3.	Finality .....	31
Section 4.	Severability.....	31
Section 5.	Savings Clause.....	31

**MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING**

Staff Development .....	33
Limits to Long-term Disability Insurance Coverage .....	34
Attendance Recognition .....	35
12-Month Positions Task Force .....	36

**ARTICLE 1  
PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT**

**Section 1. Parties:** This Agreement, entered into between the School Board, Independent School District 279, Maple Grove, Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the School Board and the Education Minnesota - Osseo Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses hereinafter referred to as the employee(s), is pursuant to and in compliance with the Public Employment Labor Relations Act, hereinafter referred to as the PELRA, and provides the terms and conditions of employment for employees during the term of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 2  
EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE**

**Section 1. Appropriate Unit:** Education Minnesota - Osseo will represent all the Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses of the School District as defined in this Agreement and in the PELRA.

**Section 2. Recognition:** In accordance with the PELRA, the School Board recognizes Education Minnesota - Osseo as the exclusive representative of Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses employed by the School Board of Independent School District 279. The exclusive representative will have those rights and duties as described by the PELRA and as described in this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 3  
DEFINITIONS**

**Section 1. Terms and Conditions of Employment:** Will mean the hours of employment, the compensation therefore, including fringe benefits, except retirement contributions or benefits, and the employer's personnel policies affecting the working conditions of the employees, but does not mean educational policies of the School District. The terms in both cases are subject to the provisions of the PELRA.

**Section 2. Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses:** Will mean persons employed by the School Board in a capacity exclusively associated with the School District's health services program. The term employee as used herein will not include confidential employees, supervisory employees, essential employees, part time employees whose service does not exceed the lesser of 14 hours per week or 35 percent of the normal work week in the bargaining unit, employees whose positions are basically temporary or seasonal in character and are not for more than 67 working days in any calendar year, and emergency employees.

**Subd. 1. Registered Nurse:** Will mean all persons employed by the School District in a position for which the person must be licensed as a Registered Nurse.

**Subd. 2. Licensed Practical Nurse 1:** Will mean all persons employed by the School District in a position for which the person must be licensed as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

**Subd.3. Licensed Practical Nurse 2:** Will mean all persons employed by the School District in a position for which the person must be licensed as a Licensed Practical Nurse by the State of Minnesota who are specifically responsible for providing for the 1:1 health care needs of individual students who require frequent care throughout the school day in order to attend school.

**Section 3. School Board:** For purposes of administering this Agreement, the term "School Board" may also mean the designated representative.

**Section 4. Other Terms:** Terms not defined in this Agreement will have those meanings as defined by the PELRA.

## **ARTICLE 4 SCHOOL DISTRICT RIGHTS**

**Section 1. Inherent Managerial Rights:** The employees recognize that the School District is not required to meet and negotiate on matters of inherent managerial policy, which include, but are not limited to, such areas of discretion or policy as the functions and programs of the School District, its overall budget, utilization of technology, the organizational structure and selection and direction and number of personnel.

**Section 2. Management Responsibilities:** The employees recognize the right and obligation of the School District to efficiently manage and conduct the operation of the School District within its legal limitations and with its primary obligation to provide educational opportunity for the students of the School District.

**Section 3. Effect of Laws, Rules and Regulations:** The exclusive representative recognizes that all employees covered by this Agreement will perform the services prescribed by the School District and will be governed by School Board policies, rules, regulations, directives and orders which are not inconsistent with the terms and conditions of employment set forth in this Agreement and which are issued by properly designated officials of the School District. Any provision of this Agreement found in violation of any law, rule or regulation there under, will be without force or effect.

**Section 4. Reservation of Managerial Rights:** The foregoing enumeration of School District rights and duties will not be deemed to exclude other inherent management rights and management functions not expressly reserved herein, and all management rights and management functions not expressly delegated in this Agreement are reserved to the School District.

## **ARTICLE 5 EMPLOYEE RIGHTS**

**Section 1. Right to Views:** Pursuant to the PELRA, nothing contained in this Agreement will be construed to limit, impair or affect the right of any employee, or their representative, to the expression or communication of a view, grievance, complaint or opinion on any matter related to the conditions or compensation of public employment or their betterment, so long as the same is not designed to and does not interfere with the full faithful and proper performance of the duties of employment or circumvent the rights of the employees; nor will it be construed to require any employee to perform labor or services against their will.

**Section 2. Right to Join:** Employees will have the right to form and join labor or employee organizations, and will have the right not to form and not to join such organizations. Employees in the unit will have the right by secret ballot to designate an exclusive representative for the purpose of negotiating grievance procedures and the terms and conditions of employment for such employees with the School District.

### **Section 3. Personnel Files:**

**Subd. 1. Access:** All individual employee evaluations and individual employee files generated within the School District will be available to the employee during regular School District hours upon the employee's request in accordance with the PELRA.

**Subd. 2. Request:** Such request will be made to the Human Resources Department. The department will schedule an appointment for the employee to review the employee's file and will notify the employee of such appointment.

**Subd. 3. Review:** The employee may review and have access to all the employee's evaluations and files generated in the School District only in the presence of a HR representative.

**Subd. 4. Right to Copy:** The employee will have the right to obtain a copy of any of the contents of their files.

**Subd. 5. Right to Response:** The employee may submit for inclusion in their file a written response to any material contained in such file.

**Subd. 6. Destruction/Expungement:** The School District may destroy or expunge such files as provided by law.

**Section 4. Dues Check-Off:** Employees will have the right to request dues check off for the organization of the exclusive representative in accordance with the provisions of the PELRA, as amended. Upon receipt of a properly executed authorization form from the employee, the School District will deduct, in 15 equal installments beginning on October 20 and ending on May 20, from the employee's paycheck, the dues the

employee has agreed to pay the exclusive representative during the effective period of authorization. The authorization will continue in effect until terminated by the employee in writing.

**Section 5. Claims Against the School District:** The exclusive representative hereby warrants and covenants that it will defend, indemnify and save the School District harmless from any and all actions, suits, claims, damages, judgments and executions or other forms of liability, liquidated or unliquidated, which any person may have or claim to have, now or in the future, arising out of or by reason of the deduction of the fair share fee specified by the exclusive representative as provided herein.

**Section 6. Political Action Committee (PAC) Deduction:** Employees will have the right to request a payroll deduction as a method of contributing to the Education Minnesota - Osseo PAC.

**Subd. 1. Authorization:** Upon receipt of properly executed authorization card, the School District will make the designated deduction per paycheck.

**Subd. 2. Terms of Authorization:** Authorization cards will be filed with the payroll department by the employee and will continue in effect until revoked by the employee on a form provided by the School District (payroll department). Application for PAC deduction will be accepted at any time with change in payment reflected as soon as is practicable, but within 45 days.

**Subd. 3. Schedule of Deductions:** Deductions will be made in 15 equal installments beginning on October 20, and ending on May 20.

**Section 7. Probation and Regular Status:** New employees will be considered probationary employees until June 30, provided they have worked 120 days from their hire date to June 30. If a school year ends prior to a probationary employee serving at least 120 workdays, such employee shall be on probation for the following school year, ending June 30. Workdays shall be defined as including days actually worked, personal leave, sick leave, and paid holidays. During this time, they will have no seniority privileges and may be transferred, discharged, reduced in hours of assignment, or terminated in the event of job elimination. Upon completion of the probationary period, the employee will establish regular status unless otherwise notified in writing by the employer prior to that date.

**Section 8. Seniority – Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses 1 & 2:**

**Subd. 1. Seniority Date:** An employee's seniority date will be the original date of employment in the School District within the unit (i.e. RN, LPN 1, & LPN 2). If the original date is the same between two or more employees, the tiebreaker will be the lowest value of the last 3 digits of the PERA number of the employee.



**Subd. 2. Forfeiture:** An employee who is discharged, resigns, or does not report for an assignment after being recalled will forfeit all seniority rights.

**Subd. 3. Seniority List:** A current seniority list of regular-status employees will be posted and maintained on the School District's intranet.

**Subd. 4. Request for Change:** The employee will have a right to surface any dispute about their seniority date and request for a change to human resources.

**Subd. 5. LPNs Who Earn RN Licensure:** Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, Licensed Practical Nurses who earn their Registered Nurse licensure will maintain their seniority date to their original hire date with the district. The Registered Nurse will be placed when an open Registered Nurse position, with equal or more hours than the current assignment, becomes available. If the Registered Nurse does not accept the open position, they must resign effective immediately.

**Section 9. Holidays:** Employees will be granted eight or eleven paid holidays as determined by the school board prior to July 1 each year.

The following paid holidays will be granted:

Thanksgiving	Winter Holidays (2 days)
Friday following Thanksgiving	Presidents' Day or Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
New Year's Day	Memorial Day
Spring Holiday	Juneteenth*
Labor Day*	4 <sup>th</sup> of July*

\* Enrollment center nurse(s) only.

**Section 10. Posting of Positions:** Vacancies to be filled will be posted for a period of five working days. The Supervisor will inform the employees of vacancies, including vacancies for Licensed School Nurses, prior to the posting. Employees interested in applying should make application to human resources. Employees who apply during the designated time frame will be considered on the basis of previous work experience, training, and job performance. The Supervisor will ensure that employees who apply for positions are informed of the status of their application after a final decision. Management reserves the right to make the final decision in filling positions, including the right to transfer or reassign employees. In the case of involuntary transfer or reassignment, management will first discuss with the employee(s) the need for the transfer or reassignment and consider the assignment preference(s) of the employee(s) involved before finalizing the transfer or reassignment decision.

**Section 11. Job Elimination – Registered Nurses & Licensed Practical Nurses 1:**

**Subd. 1. Seniority:** As of July 1, 2017, an employee that is on a performance improvement plan may not displace another employee, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Human resources and the union agree that due process was followed.
- 2) That the employee was placed on the performance improvement plan by December 1 that outlines a plan for professional growth and supports.

In the event of job elimination requiring layoff, the employee with the least seniority in the unit (e.g. RN, LPN 1, LPN 2) will be laid off first. If the seniority date is the same, the tiebreaker will be the lowest value of the last 3 digits of the PERA number of the employee.

**Subd. 2. Recall List:** A regular-status employee who has been displaced due to a layoff will be placed on a recall list. When a position becomes available, the most senior qualified employee will be recalled first. If the employee fails to report to work upon two weeks' notice of recall, this will cause the employee to lose all recall rights.

**Subd. 3. Recall Period:** A regular employee will be kept on the recall list up to 12 months after the layoff if no position has been offered.

## **Section 12. Job Elimination – Licensed Practical Nurses 2:**

**Subd. 1.** In the event of job elimination requiring layoff, employees will be terminated at the discretion of the program supervisor.

**Subd. 2. Recall List:** A regular-status employee who has been displaced due to a layoff will be placed on a recall list. When a position becomes available, the most senior qualified employee will be recalled first. If the employee fails to report to work upon two weeks' notice of recall, this will cause the employee to lose all recall rights.

**Subd. 3. Recall Period:** A regular employee will be kept on the recall list up to 24 months after the layoff if no position has been offered.

**Section 13. Other Rights:** Employees will have all other rights prescribed by PELRA.

**Section 14. Progressive Discipline:** The school district recognizes the concept of progressive discipline consisting of 1. Oral reprimand; 2. Letter of Expectation; 3. Notice of Deficiency; 4. Suspension without pay; 5. Discharge. Notwithstanding this concept, the school district reserves, in its sole discretion, to impose discipline at any level.

**ARTICLE 6**  
**BASIC SCHEDULES AND RATES OF PAY**

**Section 1. Conditions:**

Subd. 1. Hours: Employees covered by this Agreement will not regularly exceed 37.50 hours per week for RN's, and 35 hours per week for an LPN 1's assigned to elementary schools, early childhood programs, OALC, or OEC, and 32.5 hours for any other LPN 1 in any combination of duties without prior approval. All work assigned beyond the normal assignment will have prior approval from human resources or supervisor. All such work assigned up to 40 hours per week will be performed at the regular wage rate.

Subd. 2. Placement on Schedule: New personnel covered by this Agreement and employees changing positions included in this Agreement will be assigned and placed on the wage scale at the discretion of Human Resources.

Subd. 3. Overtime Compensation: Hours worked beyond 40 hours per week will be paid at time and one-half. All overtime work must be authorized in advance by the supervisor.

Subd. 4. Duty Free Lunch: Each employee will have a scheduled duty-free lunch period of 30 minutes. Emergencies causing interruption of duty-free lunch period, including walkie talkie calls, will be compensated at regular rate. If the employee is on-call and working, the employee will be compensated at their regular hourly rate.

**Section 2. Wages and Conditions:**

Subd. 1. Rates of Pay: The following hourly rates will be for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.

2022 - 2023 Hourly Rates		
Step	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse
1	\$ 32.50	\$ 26.00
2	\$ 32.80	\$ 26.15
3	\$ 33.70	\$ 26.70
4	\$ 35.05	\$ 27.30
5	\$ 35.05	\$ 27.30

2023 - 2024 Hourly Rates		
Step	Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse
1	\$ 32.92	\$ 27.05
2	\$ 35.35	\$ 27.65
3	\$ 36.30	\$ 28.30

**Subd. 2. Movement on Schedule:** Effective July 1, employees will be entitled to step increases only upon satisfactory job performance. Satisfactory job performance shall be determined by the employee’s most recent performance evaluation so long as the evaluation was done during the previous two years. Employees who do not receive a step increase due to job performance shall be eligible for such step increase the following January 1<sup>st</sup> or July 1<sup>st</sup> whichever occurs first after satisfactory job performance review, provided the employee has worked 120 workdays prior to the performance review. Days worked shall include days actually worked, personal leave, sick leave, and paid holidays.

**Subd. 3. New hire incentive:** Effective July 1, 2021, all newly hired Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses who complete the school year and have worked at least 120 days during the school year will receive a \$1,000 stipend.

- a. The stipend will be prorated for employees who have completed the 120 days required; however, did not work the full school year, i.e., those who were hired after the start of the school year.
- b. The \$1,000 stipend will be paid on the last payroll of the school year.

**Section 3. Work Year:** The work year for Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses 1 and Licensed Practical Nurses 2 will be the same as the student contact days. Additional days are outlined in the chart below. All nurses will have access up to 10 additional float hours, in addition to the chart below. All nurses will be paid their hourly rate for attending Open House (up to 4 hours) and Kindergarten Orientation (up to 2 hours) above and beyond their normal work hours.

	<b>Elem. RN</b>	<b>Elem. LPN</b>	<b>Middle School RN</b>	<b>Middle School LPN</b>	<b>High School RN</b>	<b>High School LPN</b>
Additional days prior to students reporting	6	4	7	4	7	4

**Subd. 1. Hours:** Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses 1 staff resources will be appropriately distributed and assigned as determined by the identified health needs of students in each school building/program, available financial resources, and School District Administration. Licensed Practical Nurses 2 are assigned at the discretion of the School District Administration.

**Section 4. Emergency Closing:** If school starts late or is closed early due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, employees will be paid for their normal work assignment for that day. On such days, the work assignment will be determined by the immediate supervisor.

In the event school is cancelled due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, employees will be paid for up to three days, per school year, for their normal work assignment. This provision will apply for full days only when school has been cancelled prior to the opening of the normal school day.

The superintendent reserves the right to require that employees report to work for any school closing. Employees will receive their normal compensation for that day and no additional compensation.

When the Superintendent determines that the district will follow an e-learning day, the district will follow Minnesota Statute 120A.414 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/120A.414>).

In the event an employee was scheduled to take a single sick day, personal leave day, bereavement day or vacation day that coincides with an emergency school closing day the employee will not be charged for their scheduled sick day, personal leave day, bereavement day or vacation day. If the employee was scheduled to take a series (2 or more) of connected sick days, personal leave days, bereavement leave days or vacation days and one of those connected days falls on the emergency school closing day, the employee will be charged for the day(s) that coincides with the emergency school closing day(s).

**ARTICLE 7  
GROUP BENEFITS/INSURANCE**

**Section 1. Health and Hospitalization Insurance for Full-Time Employees (employees scheduled to work 32 or more hours weekly):** The selection of insurance carriers and policies will be made by the School District.

**Subd. 1. District Contributions for Basic Group Health and Hospitalization Plans:**

The district will contribute up to the following amounts towards the district’s Group Health Insurance premiums for full-time employees. Any portion of the premium that exceeds the district contribution will be paid by the employee and paid by payroll deduction.

**Effective July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022**

	Single	Employee +1	Family
High	\$610.42	\$947.68	\$1,518.37
Value	\$610.42	\$947.68	\$1,518.37
HSA Plan	\$478.20	\$927.56	\$1,484.08

**Effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023**

	Single	Employee +1	Family
High	\$610.42	\$947.68	\$1,518.36
Value	\$637.66	\$990.33	\$1,586.71
HSA Plan	\$616.88	\$969.30	\$1,550.86

**Effective January 1, 2024**

	Single	Employee +1	Family
--	--------	-------------	--------

High	\$610.42	\$947.68	\$1,518.37
Value	\$666.35	\$1,034.89	\$1,658.11
HSA Plan	\$672.40	\$1,012.92	\$1,620.65

Effective July 1, 2023, employees who are a new hire and enrolling for the first time, will not be able to elect the high advantage health insurance plan.

Effective January 1, 2024, employees will no longer be able to switch into the high advantage health insurance plan.

District contributions to the HSA trust account will be made each month. Contributions for July will be made at the same time as the August contribution. In the event of hardship, the parties agree to meet and confer to discuss alternatives to the contribution timelines.

The school district will pay all administrative fees associated with the plan.

- Single HSA Coverage: \$200 per month
- Employee+1 Coverage: \$400 per month
- Family Coverage: \$400 per month

**Subd. 2. Married Couples in District with Family Coverage:** When an employee and their spouse are both employed by the School District and are eligible for the School District’s group health and hospitalization plan, and both employees enroll in the same hospitalization plan, the full premium will be paid by the School District.

**Subd. 3. Group Term Life Insurance:** The School District will pay the premium for group term life insurance for all full-time employees employed by the School District who qualify for and enroll in the existing group term life insurance plan of the School District. Full-time employees who qualify and enroll will be covered by group term life insurance in the amount of \$50,000.

**Subd. 4. Supplemental Group Term Life Insurance:** Full-time employees will have the option, subject to the conditions established by the School Board’s carrier for group term life insurance as provided in Subd. 4 of this Section, to purchase supplemental group term life insurance in the amounts of \$50,000, \$75,000, \$100,000, \$125,000 or \$150,000, not to exceed 3 x annual salary. The cost of the supplemental coverage shall be borne by the employee and paid by payroll deductions.

**Subd. 5. Long-Term Disability Income Protection:** The School District will pay the premium for employee coverage in the existing long-term disability income protection plan of the School Board for all full-time employees who qualify for and enroll in such coverage. This coverage will apply up to the employee’s base annual salary. See the LTD MOU.

**Subd. 6. Dental Insurance:**

- a. **Single Coverage:** The School District will pay up to \$28.00 per month for individual coverage for each full-time employee who qualifies for and enrolls in the School District's group dental insurance plan.
- b. **Family Coverage:** The premium cost of the family/dependent coverage for each full-time employee who qualifies for and enrolls in the School District's group dental insurance plan and who qualifies for family/dependent coverage will be paid in total by the employee and paid by payroll deduction. Whether the district offers family/dependent coverage is subject to the conditions established by the carriers.

**Section 2. Health and Hospitalization Insurance for Part-Time Employees (employees scheduled to work 30 hours but less than 32 hours weekly):** The selection of insurance carriers and policies will be made by the School Board.

**Subd. 1. District Contributions for Basic Group Health and Hospitalization Plans:**

Effective July 1, 2022- December 31, 2022

	Single	Employee +1	Family
High	\$586.72	\$586.72	\$586.72
Value	\$586.72	\$586.72	\$586.72
HSA Plan	\$449.11	\$880.61	\$1,408.98

Effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

	Single	Employee +1	Family
High	\$586.72	\$586.72	\$586.72
Value	\$612.08	\$612.08	\$612.08
HSA Plan	\$579.35	\$920.25	\$1,472.38

Effective January 1, 2024

	Single	Employee +1	Family
High	\$586.72	\$586.72	\$586.72
Value	\$639.62	\$639.62	\$639.62
HSA Plan	\$631.51	\$961.66	\$1,538.64

Effective July 1, 2023, employees who are a new hire newly hired and enrolling for the first time will not be able to elect the high advantage health insurance plan.

Effective January 1, 2024, employees will no longer be able to switch into the high advantage health insurance plan.

**Subd. 2. Employee +1 and Family Coverage High or Value Plan:** The employee may choose to purchase Employee +1 coverage or family coverage at the cost of the Employee +1 coverage or family coverage premium minus the monthly sum contributed by the School District towards the Single coverage rate as described in Subd. 1 of this Section. To receive this District contribution, the employee must qualify and enroll in the School District's basic group health and hospitalization plan and qualify for dependent payroll deduction.

**Subd. 3.** District contributions to the HSA trust account will be made each month. Contributions for July will be made at the same time as the August contribution. In the event of hardship, the parties agree to meet and confer to discuss alternatives to the contribution timelines.

- Single HSA Coverage: \$200 per month
- Employee+1 Coverage: \$400 per month
- Family Coverage: \$400 per month

The school district will pay all administrative fees associated with the plan.

**Section 3. Eligibility:** Full-time employees are eligible for group insurance. Those employees working a full school year schedule consisting of 32 or more hours per week will be considered full-time for purposes of eligibility for group insurance. Qualifications will include those established by the School District and the carrier of the coverage. Part-time employees, employees working 30 hours but less than 32 hours per week will be considered part-time for purposes of eligibility for group insurance.

**Section 4. Enrollment:** All employees qualifying will enroll for such coverages in accordance with the procedures established by the School District.

**Section 5. Claims Against the School District:** It is understood that the School District's obligation is to purchase an insurance policy and pay such amounts as agreed to herein and no claim will be made against the School District as a result of a denial of insurance benefits by an insurance carrier.

**Section 6. Duration of Insurance Contribution:** An employee is eligible for School District contributions as provided in this Article as long as the employee is employed by the School District. Upon termination of employment, all School District participation and contribution will cease effective on the last day of the month in which employment terminates.

**Section 7. Insurance Program Eligibility in the Event of Retirement:** An employee who retires is eligible to participate in the health/hospitalization plan upon retirement per Minnesota Statute, but must pay the entire premium for the plan



selected. The right to continue participation in such plan will be in accordance with conditions of the carrier and/or until they qualify for coverage under another program.

**Section 8. Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Section 125 Plan:** The School District will provide a FSA Section 125 Plan under the Internal Revenue code for all employees.

**Subd. 1. Description:** The Section 125 Plan (Flexible Spending Plan FSA) offered by the School District is a plan established to provide a way to save money on costs for medical and dependent care expenses. The three components allow payment for health insurance premiums, certain out-of-pocket health care expenses, and dependent care expenses with pre-tax dollars. It is a salary reduction plan permitting participants to choose among more than one benefit. It is classified as a “Cafeteria Plan” for federal income tax purposes.

The plan year will be determined by the School Board. There are three components to the plan:

1. Health insurance premium deduction with pre-tax dollars (Article 7, Section 1, Health Insurance).
2. Dependent care reimbursement account.
3. Medical expense reimbursement account.

**Section 9. Deferred Compensation Programs:** In accordance with Section 457 or 403b of the internal revenue code and MS.356.24, the School Board will match the contribution of an eligible employee according to the following schedule towards either the Minnesota State Deferred Compensation Program (Section 457) or an approved 403b tax sheltered annuity plan. The plan must meet the School District’s guidelines for approval. The contribution and match are forwarded each pay period to the plan account. Employees who have been contributing to a 457 plan prior to the ratification of the 2014-2016 contract will be grandfathered in, with the district contributing matching funds to the 457 plan.

District Match Upon First Day of Employment

<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Current employees and newly hired employees that enroll in the deferred compensation program will have matching funds contributed by the district up to the maximum.	\$660 (\$34.74 per paycheck)

**ARTICLE 8  
LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

**Section 1. Sick leave:**

**Subd. 1. Earn:** Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses 1 & 2 will be granted sick leave at the rate of one day per month worked for a total maximum of ten days annually. A "day" of sick leave is defined as the normal working day of the employee. Unused sick leave days may accumulate to 100 days leave per employee. Employees who currently have more than 100 days will retain their current balance and not accrue days unless they drop below 100 days. Such accrual will be non-retroactive.

**Subd. 2. Use:** Sick leave with pay will be allowed when an employee's absence is due to personal illness which prevented their attendance at work and performance of duties on that day or days, provided that the employee has unused sick leave at the time of such absence. Sick leave may also be used for the illness of a minor child as provided for in M.S. 181.9413 (Sick or Injured Child Care Leave) provided the employee has unused sick leave at the time of the absence.

**Subd. 3. Medical Verification:** The School District may require an employee to furnish a medical certificate from a health care provider as evidence of illness when the absence is 3 days or more, indicating such absence was due to illness, in order to qualify for sick leave pay. However, the final determination as to the eligibility of an employee for sick leave is reserved to the School District. In the event that a medical certificate will be required, the employee will be so advised.

**Subd. 4. Deduction:** Sick leave allowed will be deducted from sick leave days accrued by the employee.

**Subd. 5. Excess Use:** Any days used in excess of the number of days of sick leave accrued will be without pay.

**Subd. 6. Use -Absences Covered by Workers' Compensation and/or Long-term Disability (LTD):**

- a. Upon the request of an employee who is absent from work as a result of a compensable injury incurred in the service of the School Board under the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act and/or an absence covered by the School District's long-term disability insurance, the School Board will pay the difference between the compensation received pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Act and/or LTD by the employee and the employee's base rate of pay to the extent of the employee's earned accrual of sick leave.
- b. A deduction will be made from the employee's accrued sick leave according to the pro rata portion of days of sick leave which is used to supplement workers' compensation and/or LTD payments.
- c. Such payment will be paid by the School Board to the employee only during the period of disability.

- d. In no event will the additional compensation paid to the employee by virtue of sick leave pay result in the payment of a total daily, weekly, or monthly compensation that exceeds the base compensation of the employee.
- e. An employee who is absent from work as a result of an injury compensable under the Workers' Compensation Act and/or an absence qualifying the employee for LTD payments who elects to receive sick leave pursuant to this Agreement, will submit their workers' compensation check and/or LTD payment, endorsed to the School Board prior to receiving payment from the School District for this absence.
- f. An employee who is unable to perform their duties and responsibilities due to an injury which occurs while on duty as a result of a student-related incident, will be entitled to compensation without use of sick leave for the first three days of absence per incident. Any additional days needed by the employee without the use of sick leave will be mutually agreed to in collaboration between the district and the union up to a total of 15 days. The district may require the employee to be seen by a district selected medical provider and provide documentation that outlines return to work conditions. Thereafter, the compensation will be paid per a. through e. of this subdivision.
- g. If an employee incurs an injury as described in f. of this Subdivision, and such injury causes the employee to work less than their contracted hours, the School District will continue to contribute its share of the cost of the health and hospitalization insurance plan in which the employee is enrolled.

## **Section 2. Family Illness:**

**Subd. 1. Use:** Employees will be granted up to ten days absence per year for illness in the employee's or spouse's immediate family that may or may not otherwise be covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and/or State statute. The immediate family will include a parent, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, grandchildren, guardian, and any other relative or non-relative who stands in the same relationship with the employee. Such absences will be deducted from accrued sick leave. If the employee does not have accrued sick leave, an amount equal to the cost of a substitute rate of pay will be deducted from the employee's salary.

## **Section 3. Bereavement Leave:**

**Subd. 1. Use – Immediate Family:** An employee will be granted up to five days for absence due to death of each member of the employee's or spouse's immediate family. The immediate family will include parent, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, grandparent, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandchildren, guardian and any other relative or non-relative who stands in the same relationship with the employee. Such absences will be deducted from accrued sick leave. If the

employee does not have sufficient accrued sick leave, the day will be unpaid. Exceptions to the immediate family designations may be granted with pre-approval of Human Resources in extenuating circumstances.

Subd. 2. Use – Not Immediate Family: Absence due to the death of a person, not listed in Subd. 1 will be limited to one day per occurrence. Such absence will be deducted from accrued sick leave. If the employee does not have sufficient accrued sick leave, the day will be unpaid. Exceptions may be granted with approval of Human Resources in extenuating circumstances.

**Section 4. Personal Leave:** An employee will be credited with one personal leave day per year, accumulative to five days. Personal leave may be used for activities requiring the employee's personal attention not covered under other provisions of this Agreement.

Subd. 1. Request: Requests for personal leave must be made at least three days in advance of the leave, except in event of emergencies.

Subd. 2. Limit: At no time will more than two of the employees covered by this Agreement be granted personal leave.

Subd. 3. Exclusion: A personal leave day may be granted on the first and last days of the student school year; however, such leave will only be granted for special circumstances with written explanation by the employee and approval of School District Administration.

**Section 5. Sick Leave Use as Personal Leave:** Employees shall be allowed to use sick leave as personal leave each year under the following conditions:

Subd. 1. Employees must have a minimum balance of 50 sick leave days prior to conversion.

Subd. 2. If an employee has a minimum balance of 50 sick leave days, the employee may be granted one additional personal day each year. If an employee has 75 sick leave days, the employee may be granted two additional personal days each year. This additional personal day will be deducted from the employee's sick leave accrual, and can only be granted after the exhaustion of accrued personal days.

**Section 6. Parental Leave:**

Subd. 1. Purpose: An employee, upon request, may be granted a leave for the purpose of child care of a newborn child or for the adoption/foster care of a child. The employee will be required to concurrently take a leave pursuant to the Family/Medical Leave Act (FMLA). This leave will be granted to one parent of a newborn or adopted child provided such parent is caring for the child. Employees may be granted partial leaves of absence appropriate to the job assignment.

**Subd. 2. Request:** An employee making application for parental leave will inform human resources in writing of the intention to take the leave at least three calendar months before commencement of the intended leave. For an adoption leave, the employee will inform human resources in writing at the earliest opportunity of the intention to take the leave.

**Subd. 3. Use of Sick Leave for Pregnancy:** If the reason for the leave is occasioned by pregnancy, an employee may utilize sick leave pursuant to the sick leave provisions of this Article during a period of physical disability. A pregnant employee will also provide at the time of the leave application, a statement from a health care provider indicating the expected date of delivery.

**Subd. 4. Use of Sick Leave for Adoption/Foster Care:** An employee may request to use up to 30 days of accumulated sick leave for adoption to assist in preparation and legal reasons of the adoption, as well as necessary travel and initial adjustment of the child. These days need not be taken consecutively.

**Subd. 5. Date of Leave:** The effective beginning date of a parental leave and its duration will be determined by mutual consent between the employee and human resources. In determining the date of the commencement and duration of the leave, Human resources will review each case on its individual merits taking into consideration the following:

- a. The continuity of the health services program for students. The commencement of the leave should normally coincide with some natural break in the school year, e.g., winter vacation, spring vacation, end of a grading period, the end of the school year or the like.
- b. The request of the employee.
- c. The specific employment duties of the employee involved.
- d. The health and welfare of the employee, unborn child or adopted child.
- e. The recommendation of the employee's licensed physician.

**Subd. 6. Duration:** In making a determination concerning the commencement and duration of a childcare/adoption leave, the School Board will not in any event be required to:

- a. Grant any leave of more than 12 months in duration.
- b. Permit the employee to return to their employment prior to the date designated in the request for the leave, unless by mutual agreement of the employee and the Human Resources.

**Subd. 7. Approval of Leave:** If the employee complies with all provisions of this Section and a leave is granted by the School Board, the employee will be notified in writing.

**Subd. 8. Termination of Leave:** Interruption of pregnancy will terminate the leave. Human Resources may require in such cases 45 days' notice to return.

**Subd. 9. Reinstatement:** An employee returning from parental leave will be re-employed in the position occupied prior to the leave, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The position has not been abolished.
- b. The employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the essential duties of such position.

**Subd. 10. Failure to Return:** Failure of the employee to return pursuant to the date determined in this Section will constitute grounds for termination by the School District unless the School District and the employee mutually agree to an extension of the leave.

**Subd. 11. Probationary Period:** The parties agree that the applicable periods of probation for Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses are intended to be periods of actual service enabling the School District to have an opportunity to evaluate the employee's performance. The parties agree, therefore, that periods of time for which the employee is on parental leave will not be counted in determining the completion of the probationary period.

**Subd. 12. Experience Credit:** An employee who returns from parental leave within the provisions of this Section will retain all previous experience credit for pay purposes and any unused leave time accumulated under the provisions of this Article at the commencement of the leave. The employee will not accrue additional experience credit for pay purposes or leave time during the period of absence.

**Subd. 13. Salary:** Any parental of absence granted under this Section will be a leave without pay except as provided in Section 1 of this Article.

**Subd. 14. Insurance:** An employee on parental leave of absence is eligible to participate in group insurance programs if permitted under the insurance policy provisions, but will pay the entire premium for such programs as the employee wishes to retain, at the conclusion of an FMLA leave.

**Subd. 15. Notification to Return:** An employee on parental leave of absence will be sent a Notification of Assignment from human resources according to the following schedule:

- a. When the return date of the leave is intended to coincide with the opening of school, notification will be given by April 1st.
- b. At least 60 days prior to the specified return of the leave when such date falls at any other time during the school year.

Subd. 16. Failure to Return Contract: The employee will lose all re-employment rights if the employee refuses or fails to return the contract within ten days.

## **Section 7. Long-Term Leave:**

Subd 1. Eligibility: Employees who have a minimum of three years of experience in the School District may apply for an unpaid leave of absence once during their district employment, due to health reasons, educational purposes, election to political office, approved travel, or a career change/retraining. Additional leaves may be granted at the discretion of Human Resources for health reasons or election to political office.

Subd. 2. Requests: Requests for leaves must be made at least 30 days in advance except in emergencies and submitted to the administrator in charge for their recommendation. Final approval will be made by Human Resources. Normally, the number of staff on approved leave at any given time will not exceed two.

Subd. 3. Duration: Leave may be granted for a period of time up to one year.

Subd. 4. Benefits: An employee on leave will retain their accrued benefits as of the beginning date of the leave. No benefits will accrue during the period the employee is on leave.

Subd. 5. Reinstatement: An employee returning from long-term leave for education, approved travel, family reasons, retaining, or career change reasons will be re-employed in the position occupied prior to the leave, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The position is vacant.
- b. That the position has not been abolished.
- c. That the employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the essential duties of such position.

An employee returning from long term leave for health or election to political office reasons will be re-employed in the position occupied prior to the leave, subject to the follow conditions:

- a. That the position has been abolished
- b. That the employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the essential duties of such position.

Subd. 6. Notice to Return: An employee on long-term leave will be notified of the position and specified date of return by Human Resources at least 60 days prior to the specified return date of said leave. The employee will lose all re-employment rights if the employee refuses or fails to notify the district of their intention to return within ten days of this notification.

### **Section 8. Short-Term Leaves (Ten Days or Less):**

Subd. 1. Salary: Short-term leave will be without pay.

Subd. 2. Duration: Short-term leave may be granted for not more than ten working days per year.

Subd. 3. Requests: Requests for short-term leave will be made five days in advance except in the case of emergencies. The request will be submitted through the district's absence management system. Any special conditions or arrangements established by the administrator for a short-term leave will be in writing to the individual requesting the leave. All conditions established must be met to be eligible for the leave.

Subd. 4. Approval: Short-term leave will be granted only in extraordinary circumstances and must be approved by human resources.

Subd. 5. Duration: Short-term leave will normally be available not more than once every year.

Subd. 6. Limit: The number of staff on short-term approved leave at any given time will not exceed two of the employees covered by this agreement.

### **Section 9. Jury Duty:**

Subd. 1. Notice to District: Employees who receive a summons for jury service are to send a PF22 and a copy of the summons to the HR Attendance Specialist immediately. Instructions for entering absences and finding a substitute will be given once the summons is received by the Attendance Specialist, if applicable.

Subd. 2. Remittance of Stipend: Employees may receive a stipend for jury service will need to reimburse the district for the per diem amount only. Typically, this is \$20 per day.

Subd. 3. Pay: Employees will have no loss of pay as a result of being summoned for jury service if the provisions of Subd. 1 and 2. of this section are completed. Failure to do so will result in the deduction of pay for the day(s) of work missed.



**Subd. 4. On-call:** Employees on-call for jury duty will need to report to work until they are summoned for jury duty. Failure to do so will result in deduction of pay for the day(s) of work missed.

**Section 10. Religious Leave:** An employee may be granted up to three days of religious leave. An employee must make application including a brief statement of the request to human resources at least three days prior to the religious leave. Human resources will notify the supervisor to make the necessary arrangements allowing the employee to make up the days at some other prearranged time. An employee may utilize provisions outlined in Section 4, Personal Leave, or may take the leave with full loss of pay.

**Section 11. Court Appearance Leave:**

**Subd. 1. Request of School Board:** When the school board is a party in a litigation, and an employee of the School District appears at the request of the school board or as codefendant in a case against the school board, the employee will be entitled to their pay and no deduction of any leave provision will be charged to the employee.

**Subd 2. Other Requests:** If an employee receives a notice to supply information or testify in a civil or criminal court proceeding, as a result of their employment, they must notify their principal/supervisor human resources. If the employee must appear at the proceeding, the employee will be entitled to their pay and no deductions of any leave provisions will be charged to the employee. If the matter is a result of actions for which the employee has been found to have acted improperly and thus disciplined by human resources, the day(s) absent will be deducted from Personal Leave or Short-term Leave referenced in this article.

**Subd. 3. Action Against School Board:** If the matter is a result of actions by the employee against the school board/district, the day(s) absent will be deducted from personal leave or short-term leave. Additional short-term leave will be granted if necessary.

**Section 12. Eligibility for Leaves and Absences:** An employee who is regularly employed on a school year basis will be eligible for leave and absence benefits.

**Section 13. Extended Leave of Absence:**

**Subd. 1. Eligibility:** Employees must have a minimum of seven consecutive years of service in the School District, and at least ten years of allowable service under PERA to be eligible for extended leave of absence.

**Subd. 2. Authority:** The School Board may grant an extended leave of absence of at least three years but no more than five years. However, the granting of extended leaves of absence is purely within the discretion of the school board and the school

board reserves the right to refuse to grant any and all extended leaves, if, in the judgment of the school board, such leaves should not be granted.

**Subd. 3. Conditions:** The school board will consider the granting of extended leaves only under the conditions outlined below.

- a) The duration of an extended leave of absence under this section must be determined by mutual agreement of the school board and the employee at the time the leave is granted. If the school board denies an employee's request, it must provide reasonable justification for the denial.
- b) The school board shall not be obligated to reinstate an employee who takes a full-time or part-time position as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse in another school district while on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section.
- c) **Benefits:** An employee on an extended leave of absence shall receive all of the health, accident, medical, surgical and hospitalization insurance or benefits, for both the employee and the employee's dependents, for which the employee would otherwise be eligible if not on an extended leave. An employee shall receive the coverage if such coverage is available from the school district's insurer, if the employee requests the coverage, and if the employee reimburses the district for the full amount of the premium necessary to maintain the coverage within one month preceding the district's payment of the premium.

**Subd. 4. Requests:** Requests for extended leaves of absence must be submitted to the director of human resources by March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding the school year for which the extended leave of absence would commence. Requests to begin an extended leave of absence at a time other than the beginning of the school year may be considered by the School District. If approved, the employee will be granted a long term leave for the remaining duty days of the current school year and the extended leave of absence will then commence on the first duty day of the following school year.

**Subd. 5. Reinstatement:** An employee returning from an extended leave of absence will be reinstated according to the following guidelines and subject to the following conditions:

- a) That the position has not been abolished.
- b) That the employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the duties of such position.
- c) That an employee with more seniority would not be displaced.

- d) If the employee is on an extended leave of absence for more than the equivalent of one FTE year, the employee may return to the original building by mutual agreement between the employee and the District if an opening exists in the building. If there is not mutual agreement or if a position does not exist at the original building, the employee will be placed by the District according to applicable staffing needs.

**Subd. 6. Notification of Return:** The district is not obligated to reinstate any employee who is on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this Section unless the employee advises the district in writing of the intention to return before February 1<sup>st</sup> in the school year preceding the school year in which the employee wishes to return, or by February 1<sup>st</sup> in the calendar year in which the leave is scheduled to terminate.

**Subd. 7. Failure to Return:** The employee will lose all re-employment rights if the employee refuses an assignment, or fails to notify the district within ten days after being notified of their assignment.

**Section 14. Unexcused Absences:** Employees who are absent without approved leave (with the exception of emergencies) may be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge from employment.

## **ARTICLE 9 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

**Section 1. Grievance Definition:** A "grievance" will mean an allegation by an employee resulting in a dispute or disagreement between the employee and the School District as to the interpretation or application of terms and conditions of employment insofar as such matters are contained in this Agreement.

**Section 2. Representative:** The employee, supervisor, or School Board may be represented during any step of the procedure by any person or agent of the employee's designated unit to act on their behalf.

**Section 3. Definitions and Interpretations:**

**Subd. 1. Extension:** Time limits specified in this Agreement may be extended by mutual agreement.

**Subd. 2. Days:** Reference to days regarding time periods in this procedure will refer to working days. A working day is defined as all week days not designated as holidays by state law.

**Subd. 3. Computation of Time:** In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by procedures herein, the date of the act, event, or default for which the designated period of time begins to run will not be included. The last day of the period so computed will be counted, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal

holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday.

**Subd. 4. Filing and Postmark:** The filing or service of any notice or document herein will be timely if it bears a postmark of the United States mail within the time period.

**Section 4. Time Limitation and Waiver:** Grievances will not be valid for consideration unless the grievance is submitted in writing to the school board's designee, setting forth the facts and the specific provision of the Agreement allegedly violated, and the particular relief sought within 20 days after the date the event giving rise to the grievance occurred. Failure to file any grievance within such period will be deemed a waiver thereof. Failure to appeal a grievance from one level to another within the time periods hereafter provided will constitute a waiver of the grievance. An effort will first be made to adjust an alleged grievance informally between the employee and the School Board's designee.

**Section 5. Adjustment of Grievance:** The school board and the employee will attempt to adjust all grievances which may arise during the course of employment of any employee within the School District in the following manner:

**Subd. 1. Informal Discussions:** Before a written grievance is submitted, informal discussions will take place between the aggrieved party, the principal or supervisor. Through these discussions, the parties will attempt to resolve the problem.

**Subd. 2. Level 1:** If the grievance is not resolved through informal discussions, the aggrieved party may submit the grievance in writing to Human Resources. Human Resources will give a written decision on the grievance to the parties involved within five (5) days after receipt of the written grievance.

**Subd. 3. Level 2:** In the event the grievance is not resolved in Level 1, the decision rendered may be appealed to the superintendent, provided such appeal is made in writing within five days after receipt of the decision in Level 1. If a grievance is properly appealed to the superintendent, the superintendent or designee will set a time to meet regarding the grievance within 15 days after receipt of the appeal. Within ten days after the meeting, the superintendent or designee will issue a decision in writing to the parties involved.

**Subd. 4. Level 3:** In the event the grievance is not resolved in Level 2, the decision rendered may be appealed to the school board, provided such appeal is made in writing within five days after receipt of the decision in Level 2. If a grievance is properly appealed to the school board, the school board will set a time to hear the grievance within 20 days after receipt of the appeal. Within 20 days after the meeting, the school board will issue its decision in writing to the parties involved. At the option of the school board, a committee or representative(s) of the school board may be designated by the school board to hear the appeal at this level, and

report its findings and recommendations to the school board. The school board will then render its decision.

**Section 6. School Board Review:** The school board reserves the right to review any decision issued under Level 1 or Level 2 of this procedure provided the school board or its representative notifies the parties of its intention to review within ten days after the decision has been rendered. In the event the school board reviews a grievance under this section, the school board reserves the right to reverse or modify such decision.

**Section 7. Denial of Grievance:** Failure by the school board or its representative to issue a decision within the time periods provided herein will constitute a denial of the grievance and the employee may appeal it to the next level.

**Section 8. Mediation.** At any time prior to submission of a grievance to arbitration as referenced in Section 9 below, the parties may mutually agree to utilize the assistance of the Bureau of Mediation Services (BMS) to attempt to mediate a resolution of the grievance.

**Section 9. Arbitration Procedures:** In the event that the employee and the school board are unable to resolve any grievance, the grievance may be submitted to arbitration as defined herein:

**Subd. 1. Request:** A request to submit a grievance to arbitration must be in writing signed by the aggrieved party, and such request must be filed in the office of the superintendent within ten days following the decision in Level 3 of the grievance procedure.

**Subd. 2. Prior Procedure Required:** No grievance will be considered by the arbitrator which has not been first duly processed in accordance with the grievance procedure and appeal provisions.

**Subd. 3. Selection of Arbitrator:** Upon the proper submission of a grievance under the terms of this procedure, the parties will, within ten days after the request to arbitrate, attempt to agree upon the selection of an arbitrator. If no agreement on an arbitrator is reached, either party may request the BMS to appoint an arbitrator, pursuant to PELRA, providing such request is made within 20 days after request for arbitration. The request will ask that the appointment be made within 30 days after the receipt of said request. Failure to agree upon an arbitrator or the failure to request an arbitrator from the BMS within the time periods provided herein will constitute a waiver of the grievance.

**Subd. 4. Submission of Grievance Information:**

- a. Upon appointment of the arbitrator, the appealing party will within five days after notice of appointment forward to the arbitrator, with a copy to the School Board, the submission of the grievance, which will include the following:

1. The issues involved
  2. Statement of the facts
  3. Position of the grievant
  4. The written documents relating to Section 5, Article 7, of the grievance procedure
- b. The school board may make a similar submission of information relating to the grievance either before or at the time of the hearing.

**Subd. 5. Hearing:** The grievance will be heard by a single arbitrator and both parties may be represented by such person or persons as they may choose and designate, and the parties will have the right to a hearing at which time both parties will have the opportunity to submit evidence, offer testimony, and make oral or written arguments relating to the issues before the arbitrator. The proceeding before the arbitrator will be a hearing de novo.

**Subd. 6. Decision:** The decision by the arbitrator will be rendered within 30 days after the close of the hearing. Decisions by the arbitrator in cases properly presented will be final and binding upon the parties, subject, however, to the limitations of arbitration decisions as provided for in PELRA.

**Subd. 7. Expenses:** Each party will bear its own expenses in connection with arbitration including expenses relating to the party's representatives, witnesses, and any other expenses which the party incurs in connection with presenting its case in arbitration. A transcript or recording will be made of the hearing at the request of either party. The parties will share, equally, fees and expenses of the arbitrator, the cost of the transcript or recording if requested by either or both parties, and any other expenses which the parties mutually agree are necessary for the conduct of the arbitration.

**Subd. 8. Jurisdiction:** The arbitrator will have jurisdiction over disputes or disagreements relating to grievances properly before the arbitrator pursuant to the terms of this procedure. The jurisdiction of the arbitrator will not extend to proposed changes in terms and conditions of employment as defined herein and contained in this written Agreement; nor will an arbitrator have jurisdiction over any grievance which has not been submitted to arbitration in compliance with the terms of the grievance and arbitration procedure as outlined herein; nor will the jurisdiction of the arbitrator extend to matters of inherent managerial policy, which will include but are not limited to such areas of discretion or policy as the functions and programs of the employer, its overall budget, utilization of technology, the organizational structure, and selection and direction and number of personnel. In considering any issue in dispute, in its order, the arbitrator will give due consideration to the statutory rights and obligations of the public school boards to efficiently manage and conduct its operation within the legal limitations surrounding the financing of such operations.

**Section 10. General:**

**Subd. 1. Reprisals:** No reprisals of any kind will be taken by the School Board or by any member of the administration against any aggrieved person, any representative of an aggrieved person, or any other participants in the grievance procedure by reason of such participation.

**Subd. 2. Employee Rights:** Nothing herein will be construed to limit, impair or affect the right of any employee, as provided in state statutes.

**ARTICLE 10  
DURATION**

**Section 1. Term and Reopening Negotiations:** This Agreement will run from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024, and thereafter until modifications are made pursuant to PELRA. If either party desires to modify or amend this Agreement commencing on July 1, 2024, it will give written notice of such intent no later than May 1, 2024. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the parties will not commence negotiations more than 120 days prior to the expiration of this Agreement.

**Section 2. Effect:** This Agreement constitutes the full and complete agreement between the school board and the employees of Independent School District 279. The provisions herein relating to terms and conditions of employment supersede any and all prior agreements, resolutions, practices, School District policies, rules or regulations concerning terms and conditions of employment inconsistent with these provisions.

**Section 3. Finality:** Any matters relating to the current term of this Agreement, whether or not referred to in this Agreement, will not be open for negotiation during the term of this Agreement.

**Section 4. Severability:** The provisions of this Agreement will be severable, and if any provision thereof or the application of any such provision under any circumstances is held invalid, it will not affect any other provision of this Agreement or the application of any provision thereof.

**Section 5. Savings Clause:** Any provision of this Agreement found to be in violation of any applicable laws, rules, regulations, directives or orders will be subject to re-negotiation insofar as any provision is in violation of such applicable laws, rules, regulations, directives or orders.

**MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS (ISD 279)  
AND  
EDUCATION MINNESOTA-OSSEO  
REGISTERED NURSES & LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES,**

<b><u>TOPIC</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE</u></b>
Staff Development .....	33
Long-term Disability Plan Design Change.....	34
Attendance Recognition .....	35
12-Month Positions Task Force .....	36



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS, ISD 279  
AND  
EDUCATION MINNESOTA – OSSEO  
REGISTERED NURSES AND LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES**

TOPIC: Staff Development

EFFECTIVE DATES: July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2024

The following contains the full text of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Osseo Area Schools, ISD 279, and Education Minnesota – OSSEO Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses, relating to staff development.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to provide an opportunity to allocate additional work hours to the Registered Nurses & LPN Nurses' work year in order to provide additional time for required staff development and collaboration.

This MOU shall designate 12 hours per year to be devoted to paid staff development and/or training. These hours may or may not coincide with mark reporting days, teacher workshop days, or other times where there is no student contact during the school year.

These 12 hours of staff development/training time shall be scheduled by the District Nurse with input provided by a voluntary staff development team of nurses. Nurses who elect to support the planning of professional development under this MOU will be timecarded and paid at their regular hourly rate of pay.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS, ISD 279  
AND  
EDUCATION MINNESOTA – OSSEO  
REGISTERED NURSES AND LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES**

***Limits to Long-Term Disability Insurance Coverage***

TOPIC: Potential Plan Design Change - Long-Term Disability Insurance Coverage

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon ratification

The plan design for long-term disability coverage for chemical dependency and mental health may be changed to a combined 24 months of coverage per claim. These changes will only go into effect contingent on the agreement of all other bargaining groups in the Osseo Area School District, approval of the Insurance Advisory Committee and approval by the School Board. If no agreement is reached among the groups, or if the Insurance Advisory Committee and/or School Board do not approve the design of the request for proposal (RFP) and/or the bid/proposal itself, this language will be null and void. In the interim follow Article 7, Section 1, Subd. 5.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS, ISD 279  
AND  
EDUCATION MINNESOTA – REGISTERED NURSES AND LICENSED PRACTICAL  
NURSES**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

**TOPIC:** Attendance Recognition

The following contains the full text of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Osseo Area Schools, ISD 279, and Education Minnesota – Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses (RN/LPN), relating to a Post-Employment Health Care Account (PEHCA) contribution associated with attendance recognition for qualified RN/LPNs.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this MOU is to define criteria that RN/LPNs must meet to be eligible for the PEHCA contribution of \$200.00, payable each school year this MOU is in effect.

**CONDITIONS:** The District and Education Minnesota – RN/LPNs agree to the following:

RN/LPNs who use the equivalent hours of 3 days or less of sick leave each year (either 10 month or 12 month) shall verify their own eligibility for a \$200.00 PEHCA contribution by reviewing their own sick leave balance and usage. Verification of eligibility must be sent on a completed Attendance Recognition form to Human Resources between May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The following criteria must be met. The RN/LPNs must:

- be hired on or before October 31<sup>st</sup>;
- have used 3 days or less (based on the equivalent number of hours in the employee’s work assignment) of sick leave in the school year for any reason except for absences due to Workers Compensation;
- have a balance of at least 120 hours of accumulated sick leave on June 1<sup>st</sup> in their sick leave account
- be an active employee, not on an approved medical leave, long-term leave, or separated from ISD 279; and
- be an active employee at the time the PEHCA contribution is paid. The PEHCA contribution will be paid no later than September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

RN/LPNs that use additional sick leave after the completed request form has been submitted may affect their eligibility and subsequently may not qualify for the PEHCA contribution.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS, ISD 279  
AND  
EDUCATION MINNESOTA – REGISTERED NURSES AND LICENSED PRACTICAL  
NURSES**

TOPIC: 12-Month Positions Task Force

BEGIN: July 1, 2023

AGREEMENT:

The following contains the full text of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Osseo Area Schools, ISD 279 and the Education Minnesota – Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses (RN/LPN) relating to the mutual establishment of a task force, designed to explore and assess current RN/LPN 10-month positions that could be extended to 12-month positions, and provide a recommendation to that effect.

The focus of the task force will be to create a plan that will serve to:

- Review existing 10-month positions
- Explore existing needs and available work during the summer months
- Create job descriptions that align with available work, year-round, if possible
- Analyze how these new jobs would align with current unit work and where they would fall within the collective bargaining agreement, including classification and benefits
- Provide a recommendation based on the findings of the task force
- Align with the School District’s mission, core values and strategic objectives
- Promote feedback, collaboration, and understanding

The Task Force will be comprised of members of the Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses unit, and members of administration appointed by the Labor Relations Director of Human Resources. Both sides agree to discuss at meet & confer if either side feels a need to adjust representation.