### Agreement

between the

# Birmingham Public Schools Board of Education

and the

### **Birmingham Association of Education Office Personnel**

Covering the contracts negotiated for the periods:

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2026



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### **AGREEMENT**

This Agreement entered into this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023, covering the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026, by and between the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS, hereinafter called the "BOARD," and the BIRMINGHAM ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATION OFFICE PERSONNEL, hereinafter called the "UNION," desirous of establishing a harmonious collective bargaining relationship between themselves and for the purpose of defining their mutual obligations, do hereby agree as follows:

## ARTICLE 1: **RECOGNITION**

- A. The Board hereby recognizes the Union as the exclusive bargaining representative, as defined in Section 11 of Act 379, Public Acts of 1965, and specifically as determined in Michigan Employment Relations Commission Case No. R82 A-4, on May 10, 1982, except that "full time regular" shall be defined as those office clerical and secretarial employees who are scheduled to work ten hours or more per week and excluding the four confidential positions in Human Resources, the Operational Assistants to the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and Business Services.
- B. Membership in the Union is not compulsory. Employees have the right to join or not join the Union.
- C. Should the legislation prohibiting Agency Shop (MCL 423.14) be repealed, amended or otherwise determined to be invalid and such provision be permitted during the term of this Agreement, either party may request to reopen the Contract and bargain over the impact of the repealed or amended language. Provided further should MCL 423.210 (1)(b) pertaining to the collection of union dues be repealed, amended or otherwise held invalid, the District shall again permit payment of union dues through payroll deduction, upon receiving written authorization from the member in accordance with applicable law.

### ARTICLE 2: BOARD RIGHTS AND SECURITY

A. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall deny or restrict the Board of its rights, responsibilities and authority under the Michigan Revised School Code or any other national, state, county, district, or local laws or regulations as they pertain to education.

Except as specifically abridged or modified by this Agreement, or by an applicable statute, all of the rights, powers and authority the Board had prior to the execution of this Agreement are retained by the Board. Such rights, powers, and authority include, by way of illustration and not by limitation, the following:

- 1. The executive management and administrative control of the school district;
- 2. The Union agrees the Board shall have the exclusive right, responsibility and authority to direct and manage all employees. This right includes, but is not limited to, the hiring, determining the work hours of, transferring, assigning and laying off of the employees. Such rights shall be implemented and exercised by the Board in recognition of the express written terms of this Agreement;
- 3. Determine the educational program of the school district;
- 4. Develop and exclusively control the budget of the school district;
- 5. Determine the structure, authority and responsibilities of its school management organization;
- 6. Adopt rules and regulations, as long as such rules and regulations are not contrary to this Agreement.

B. During the term of this Agreement, the Union agrees that it or the employees shall not authorize, sanction, condone, or acquiesce in any strike as defined in the Michigan Public Act 336, as amended by Public Act No. 379 and Public Act No. 112. Strikes shall also be defined to include mass absences, slowdowns, stoppages, sit-ins, picketing, boycotts, or interference of any kind whatsoever with operations at any of the facilities of the Birmingham Public Schools.

In the event of any such violation of this article, the Union shall endeavor to return the employees to work as expediently and quickly as possible by:

- 1. Delivery immediately to the Board of a notice addressed to all employees repudiating such acts of the employees and ordering them to cease such acts and return to work; and,
- 2. Taking such other action that it deems reasonable and appropriate to bring about compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

There shall be no liability for damages on the part of the Union if it promptly and reasonably takes such action as indicated herein.

- C. The Board shall have the right to discipline, including discharge, any employee for taking part in any violation of this article.
- D. No lockout of employees shall be instituted by the Board during the term of this Agreement.

# ARTICLE 3: **PERSONNEL RIGHTS**

- A. Pursuant to Act 379 of the Public Acts of 1965, the Board hereby agrees that every employee of the Board shall have the right freely to organize, join and support the Union for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining or negotiation and other concerted activities for mutual aid and protection. As a duly elected body exercising governmental power under color of the law of the State of Michigan, the Board undertakes and agrees that it will not directly or indirectly discourage or deprive or coerce any secretarial/clerical personnel in the enjoyment of any rights conferred by Act 379 or other laws of Michigan or the Constitutions of Michigan and of the United States; that it will not discriminate against any employee by reason of membership in the Union or non-membership, participation or lack of participation in any activities of the Union or collective negotiations with the Board or institution of any grievance, complaint, or proceeding under this Agreement or otherwise with respect to hours, wages and any terms or conditions of employment. The Union likewise agrees that it will not intimidate or coerce any employee covered hereunder in the exercise of their rights set forth herein or under law.
- B. The Board specifically recognizes the right of its employees appropriately to invoke the assistance of the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, pursuant to the provisions provided by law.
- C. The Union and its members shall have the right to use school building facilities for meetings at reasonable hours, outside of the working day. No secretarial/clerical personnel shall be prevented from wearing insignia, pins, or other identification of membership in the Union either on or off school premises. Bulletin boards shall be made available to the Union in each work location.
- D. The Board agrees to furnish to the Union, in response to reasonable requests from time to time, all available information concerning the financial resources of the District that has been made public and such other information as will assist the Union in developing intelligent, accurate, informed and constructive programs on behalf of the secretarial/clerical personnel, together with such information that may be necessary for the Union to process any grievance or complaint.
- E. The Association shall be granted up to ten (10) days release time to conduct association business. If a substitute is required, the Association will reimburse the board for the pay of the substitute.

# ARTICLE 4: **COMPENSATION**

#### A. Compensation for the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 school years.

The rates of hourly compensation of employees covered by this Agreement are set forth in Schedule A that are attached hereto and made a part hereof. Such compensation schedule shall remain in effect during the entire term of this Agreement.

For the term of this Agreement, the Board shall assume the obligation for and make the full and direct payment of each employee's legally required Michigan Public School Employees Retirement Fund contribution.

B. **Overtime:** Time and one-half (1.5) the employee's regular hourly rate shall be paid for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in one day, forty (40) hours in one week and on Saturdays, but overtime shall not pyramid. Double time the employee's regular hourly rate shall be paid for work on Sundays and holidays. The District will comply with the mandatory record keeping as prescribed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) for all hourly employees. This record keeping may be done by either paper or electronic means.

In accordance with federal law, all paid overtime shall be paid within the pay period.

C. **Direct Deposit:** Salary and other pay for employees will be paid and posted by direct deposit, with all payment vouchers provided on-line rather than through printed copy.

#### D. Merit Pay

Employees will be eligible for merit pay pursuant to the following procedures:

- Each employee shall be provided a performance review each year.
- Upon completion of a yearly performance review, the employee shall receive the following merit pay tied to years of service.
- A supervisor's failure to complete a yearly review will not impact the employee's qualification for merit pay.
- Merit pay shall be awarded to any employee for the following years of service

• 0-2 years	\$100
• 3-5 years	\$300
• 6-9 years	\$350
• 10-15 years	\$450
• 16-20 years	\$500
• 20+ years	\$550

• Payment shall be included in the last pay of the school year. The amount paid shall be reported to the Michigan Public Schools Employees Retirement System.

#### **E.** Compensatory Time

For work done beyond regularly scheduled hours, secretaries will be eligible for compensatory time ("comp time"), computed at straight time for hours when the employee has worked less than 40 in a week and time and one-half for hours when the employee has worked in excess of 40 hours in a week, with the mutual agreement of the employee and supervisor. Such accumulated compensatory time shall not exceed 240 hours. Use of compensatory time earned is to be determined by mutual agreement of the building administrator and secretary. If compensation or compensatory time cannot be provided, the employee will not be required to work.

- 1. Compensatory time in lieu of compensation is voluntary on the part of the employee.
- 2. For compensatory time accumulated over 240 hours the employee shall be paid in the payroll period during which the time was earned.
- 3. The employee may request payment of compensatory time earned at any time and shall be paid within 30 days of the written request.
- 4. Compensatory time available to an employee shall be used prior to the use of Paid Time Off (PTO) provided by Article 6 of this Agreement.
- 5. The District shall maintain the official records of employee compensatory time.
- 6. **Adjustments to Comp Time, PTO or Vacation Days:** The District shall inform employees of any electronic accounting adjustment made to the use of compensation time, Paid Time Off (PTO), or vacation days. For example, if the Human Resource department changes a PTO deduction to Comp Time deduction for an employee, that employee shall be notified as to the reason for such a change.

#### F. Longevity

For the purpose of payment of Longevity under Schedule A, years of service shall refer to number of years permanently employed in Birmingham Public Schools in any capacity for the entire work year. Part-time employees are not prorated for years of service. An Employee who resigns from BPS and then is rehired loses their longevity status and must start over. An employee on paid leave or on layoff is not negatively affected by years of service.

## ARTICLE 5: **NEGOTIATIONS PROCEDURES**

- A. Within sixty (60) calendar days prior to the termination of this Agreement, as provided for in Article 19, Duration of Agreement, the parties will commence negotiations on a successor agreement.
- B. In any negotiations described in this Article, neither party shall have any control over the selection of the negotiating or bargaining representatives of the other party, and each party may select its representatives from within or outside of the school district. It is recognized that no final agreement between the parties may be executed without ratification by a majority of the Board and by a majority of Birmingham Association of Educational Office Personnel (BAEOP) membership voting, 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.
- C. The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted 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 understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement. Therefore, the Board and the Union, for the life of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives the right and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter referred to or covered in this Agreement, or with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement, even though such subject or matter may not have been within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time that they negotiated or signed this Agreement.
- D. An employee engaged in collective bargaining with the Board during regular work hours will suffer no loss of regular straight time compensation.

### ARTICLE 6: ABSENCES AND LEAVES OF ABSENCE

#### A. Paid Time Off Days

Twelve, Eleven and Ten month full time employees shall be granted paid time off pursuant to the following formulas:

	Current PTO								
	12-r	nonth	11-month			10-month			
	Days Hours		Days	Hours	Days	Hours			
PTO	13.5	108	11.5	92	10.5	84			

- 1. **Twelve Month Employees** All full time twelve (12) month employees shall be granted 108 paid time off (PTO) hours at the rate of 1.125 days per month or thirteen and one half (13.5) days per year.
- 2. **Eleven Month Employees** All full time eleven (11) month employees shall be granted 92 paid time off (PTO) hours at the rate of 1.0455 days per month or eleven and one-half (11.5) days per year.
- 3. **Ten Month Employees** All full time ten month employees shall be granted 84 paid time off (PTO) hours at the rate of 1.05 days per month or ten and one-half (10.5) days per year.
- 4. At the beginning of each school year, employees will be credited with the full allotment of days as determined by the formulas. Employees leaving the District during the year will have proper adjustments made for PTO not actually earned unless they had accumulated days available.
- 5. PTO days may accumulate to a total of one hundred ninety three and one-half (193.5) days or 1,548 hours.
- 6. An employee shall not accumulate a PTO allowance for any month in which the employee receives pay for less than the majority of the scheduled working days in that month.
- 7. PTO days may be taken in no less than 15 minutes (.25 of an hour) increments.
- 8. PTO can be used on a day an employee is scheduled or required to work.

#### **Pay for Unused PTO Days**

Each employee with a minimum of five (5) years' service in the district and a minimum of thirty (30) accumulated PTO days (240 hours) shall, upon voluntary resignation or retirement from the district, receive payment of forty dollars (\$40) for each accumulated day up to the maximum allowable accumulation of one hundred ninety three and one-half (193.5) days.

- B. When a bargaining unit member is absent, the procedure will be as follows:
  - 1. Record absence in the district's Attendance Management Program
  - 2. The absent employee must notify the building administrator/supervisor of their absence
  - 3. The building will make the decision as to whether a sub will be called. Should a sub be required, the building will contract the sub employee.

- C. Any employee within the Agreement may be required to provide written evidence from a physician (MD or DO) or Chiropractic doctor as to the condition of the health of the employee after three (3) days PTO are utilized on consecutive working days.
- D. PTO days may be granted for the day preceding or following holidays or vacations but only under the most unusual conditions will PTO be granted on the first and last days of the school year.
- E. Employees are encouraged to schedule vacation prior to PTO to avoid loss of unscheduled vacation at year end.
- F. Personal excused absences, without payroll or sick leave deductions, may be authorized by the Superintendent, for affairs relative to community service.

#### **G. Religious Observations**

Upon application an employee will be granted up to two (2) days (16 hours) per school year for required religious observance. An employee who requests such time will identify the holiday(s) and provide their Supervisor with the dates to be taken sufficiently in advance of the holiday to allow the Supervisor to make any arrangements they may deems necessary to cover that employee's job responsibilities. Examples of acceptable religious holidays where school may be in session include, but are not limited to, Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashanah, Easter Monday and Eid-al-Fitr.

The two (2) days (16 hours) shall not be charged against the employee's PTO leave accumulation. Any days taken for additional religious observance described above will be deducted from the employee's PTO hours as defined and provided for in above.

#### H. Bereavement

- 1. Up to fifteen (15) days may be used for a death in the immediate family and/or member of the secretary's household. The first five (5) days are not deducted from and members PTO bank. Any bereavement time used beyond the first five (5) days shall be deducted from available PTO days, comp time, vacation days (in that order), or go unpaid.
- 2. Immediate family shall consist of: spouse, children/in law, siblings/in law, parents/in law, grandparents/in law, grandchildren/in law, domestic partner, and members of the household. Additional days may be used due to unusual circumstances with the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources.
- 3. Up to three (3) leave days for a death of a friend or relative not defined as immediate family member. Additional days may be used due to unusual circumstances with the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. Any days used for this purpose will come from available PTO days, comp time, or vacation days.
- 4. To use bereavement days, a secretary should notify Human Resources or building secretary of the number of days to be used, and those days will be entered into the system. If a secretary is unable to notify human resource in time, then the secretary should enter in illness days in the absence reporting system and then they will later be converted to be eavement days as per allotment in this agreement.

#### I. Donation of Days

1. An employee may voluntarily donate up to two (2) PTO days (16 hours) to another employee who has exhausted their accumulated days. The donation shall be submitted to the Human Resources Department using the approved form. The form is attached as Exhibit D.

- 2. An employee may receive up to thirty (30) days (240 hours).
- 3. An employee must have exhausted his/her compensatory, PTO and Vacation time prior to utilizing donated days.
- 4. Donated days may not be utilized for day-to-day illness unless related to a specific illness.

#### J. Worker Related Injury Absences

Any employee who is absent because of an injury or disease compensable under the Michigan Workers' Disability Compensation Act (Workers' Compensation) shall receive, if the employee elects, from the Board the difference between the Workers' Compensation payment prescribed by law and his/her regular bi-weekly gross earnings, to the extent and until such time as such employee shall have used up any sick pay provided herein. The parties acknowledge that both short-term and long-term disability benefits are offset by workers compensation benefits. Any employee who remains on workers' compensation leave for eight or more calendar days, shall be given the option to use a proration of leave time to make up the difference in workers' disability payment and their regular daily earnings for each day after the seventh day that they remain on workers' compensation leave. The District and employee shall discuss and determine preference before the eighth calendar day. For an employee who remains on workers' compensation leave for fifteen or more calendar days, any leave days used during the initial seven calendar days shall be returned to the employee.

K. <u>Childcare Leave</u> A childcare leave of absence without pay of up to one (1) year shall be granted to an employee upon the written request for such leave. The employee may be required to present evidence of the reason for such leave.

#### L. Union Business Leave

Any employee who has acquired seniority elected to or selected for a full time Union office or position which takes an employee from employment with the Board shall be granted a leave of absence without pay for a period not to exceed one (1) year, subject to renewal, if necessary, at the end of the year. An employee's seniority shall accumulate during such leave of absence. The parties agree a maximum of six (6) employees shall have the right to exercise this right at any one time. Such leaves shall be requested in writing far enough in advance so that replacement arrangements, if any, can be made.

#### M. Jury Duty Leave

An employee who is summoned and reports for jury duty as prescribed by applicable law shall be paid the difference between the fee received for such service and the amount of straight time earnings lost for such service up to a limit of eight (8) hours per day and forty (40) hours per week. If the time required for such service on any one (1) day is four (4) hours or less, the employee will be required to return to work for the remainder of the day to regular duties with the Board.

Such compensation shall be payable only if the employee (1) gives the Board prior notice of such service, and (2) presents proper evidence as to the service performed and the fee received, excluding the expense allowance fee. An employee on jury duty shall continue to accumulate seniority, vacation and PTO days allowance eligibility. An employee shall also continue to have hospitalization and life insurance coverage, set forth in Article 14, continued during the time of jury duty service.

#### N. General Leave

- 1. A leave of absence without pay of up to a period of one (1) year duration may be granted by the Board upon the written request of an employee for any substantial and worthwhile purpose. The Board may extend the leave upon written application for a period of up to one (1) additional year.
- 2. If an employee granted a general leave of absence of ninety (90) calendar days is replaced, it will be on a temporary basis.
- 3. If an employee granted a general leave of absence in excess of ninety (90) calendar days is replaced, it shall be on a permanent basis. An employee, when returning from such a leave shall be employed in a classification in the same level as permanently assigned to when the leave commenced.
- 4. Seniority shall accumulate during a leave under this section up to a maximum of ninety (90) calendar days.

#### O. Emergency Leave

An emergency leave without pay may be granted for up to five (5) workdays. The duration of the emergency leave may be increased following the Board's receipt of a written request containing the employee's reasons to extend the emergency leave. If practicable, an emergency leave may commence on the day it is applied for.

#### P. Sick Leave of Absence

After acquiring seniority, an employee will be granted a leave of absence for illness for up to one hundred eighty (180) days, concurrent with the employee's sick leave allowance days. Two (2) renewals of ninety (90) days each may be granted upon the advice of the doctor. An employee during the first ninety (90) days of sick leave without pay shall continue to accumulate seniority, vacation and sick leave days allowance eligibility.

When returning from any approved leave of absence, the employee shall be employed in the classification in the same level as assigned when the leave commenced.

#### Q. Leave Procedures.

An employee shall, other than for an emergency leave, apply for a leave of absence in writing and through the immediate supervisor as soon as possible, but not less than by thirty (30) workdays in advance of its requested starting date.

A leave of absence application will be processed promptly so that the Board's written decision on it may be rendered by at least five (5) workdays prior to the requested leave starting date. If circumstances preclude the Board from rendering a decision on the leave by this time, the employee will be notified and kept informed of the status of the leave application. If requested, the reason(s) for denying a leave will be given to the employee in writing.

R. It is agreed by the parties that an employee on a leave of absence shall be subject to the operation of Article 10, Section D.

### ARTICLE 7: TERMINAL PAY

- A. Qualified secretarial/clerical personnel will receive terminal pay, based on the table below, upon retirement, death, or resignation due to illness from the Birmingham Public School district. To qualify for terminal pay, the employee must have been employed for a minimum of fifteen (15) consecutive years with the Birmingham Public School district, and have applied for retirement benefits from the Michigan Office of Retirement Services. An employee who qualifies for terminal pay shall receive \$1,500 after fifteen (15) years of service and then \$100 per year for the next five (5) years of service and \$150 per year after that, to a maximum of \$3,500. These amounts will be paid only upon retirement, death, or resignation due to illness. In the event of death, the full retirement terminal pay will be paid to the beneficiary of the employee's estate.
- B. Consecutive years of service are defined as a continuous period during which time the employee fulfills the rules and regulations of the Board of Education policy for employment. Unpaid leaves of absence will not count as credit towards the minimum fifteen (15) years of employment; however, such leave will sustain the employee's eligibility toward qualification. Retirement shall be defined as the discontinuance of employment in any Michigan Public School System and upon receipt of retirement payments from the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement Fund.

Years of Service	Amount of Terminal Pay				
15	\$1,500				
16	\$1,600				
17	\$1,700				
18	\$1,800				
19	\$1,900				
20	\$2,000				
21	\$2,150				
22	\$2,300				
23	\$2,450				
24	\$2,600				
25	\$2,750				
26	\$2,900				
27	\$3,050				
28	\$3,200				
29	\$3,350				
30	\$3,500				

C. Upon retirement, the employee must take the initiative of notifying the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources if eligible for the retirement terminal pay. The Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources will check the official school records and forward to the employee and to the Finance Manager the outcome. If an employee is eligible, the Finance Manager will determine the amount of terminal pay and will inform the applicant who shall receive the terminal pay funds through a 403(b) account.

Terminal pay will not be paid until the applicant shows evidence of actually receiving payments under the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement Fund Law.

### ARTICLE 8: DISCIPLINE AND DISCHARGE

The Board shall have the right to discipline or discharge any employee for just cause. An employee so affected, except a probationary employee, may file a grievance protesting the Board's action. A grievance protesting a discharge shall commence at Step 3.

## ARTICLE 9: **PROBATIONARY PERIOD**

Newly hired employees during the term of this Agreement shall be on probation for the first ninety (90) calendar days. The Board may extend the probationary period for justifiable reasons for an additional thirty (30) workdays. The Board shall notify the Union of any such extension.

The Union agrees the Board shall have the unconditional right to terminate a probationary employee and Article 11, Grievance Procedure and Arbitration, shall not be implemented in such instances.

### ARTICLE 10: **SENIORITY**

- A. An employee shall acquire seniority after completing the probationary period. The seniority date shall be the most recent date of hire.
- B. Seniority shall be lost and an employee shall be removed from the seniority list for the following reasons:
  - 1. If an employee quits or retires.
  - 2. If an employee is absent without notice for three (3) consecutive work days.
  - 3. If an employee is discharged.
  - 4. If an employee fails to return to work from a layoff within the three (3) work days following the date of the written notification of recall to the last address on file with the Board.
  - 5. If an employee overstays a leave of absence, unless it is due to reasons satisfactory to the Board.
  - 6. If an employee is on layoff for a period of two (2) years.
  - 7. If an employee materially or deliberately falsifies his/her employment application and this is discovered within the first five (5) years of employment.

The parties agree this time limit shall not be operative if the basis or nature of the falsification is detrimental or threatening to the health or safety of the school district, its employees, and/or its pupils. Also, an employee shall lose seniority if, at any time, it is determined the falsification was for the purpose of gaining an advantage or benefit they would otherwise not have merited.

- 8. If an employee falsifies a leave of absence application.
- C. The Board will provide the Union a seniority list within two (2) weeks after the effective date of this Agreement and annually thereafter during the term of this Agreement. The list shall contain each employee's name, seniority date, classification, location, step and level.
- D. In the event of a layoff, persons working on a temporary or seasonal basis will be terminated. Next to be terminated will be probationary employees if the number of qualified replacements for them, determined to be required by the Board, are available from among the remaining seniority employees in the work force.
  - 1. Further reductions shall be on the basis of employees' seniority, qualifications, and ability to perform the duties of the classifications' assignments they are given by the Board.
    - a. An employee whose classification assignment is eliminated for any reason shall have the right to bump the least senior employee in the same classification assignment, unless there is a vacancy in the same classification.

If there is no less senior employee in that classification assignment the employee shall bump the least senior employee in that classification if the employee has greater seniority, and is qualified and possesses the ability to perform the work. If the employee cannot perform the duties of that classification assignment or there is no less senior employee within that classification the employee may bump the least senior employee in the next lower classification on the same basis as set forth above.

Provided, however, if the least senior employee is assigned to the position of finance assistant, the employee who is eligible to bump, if not qualified and able to perform the duties of that assignment, may bump the next least senior employee in the same classification.

The employer will meet with the association representative at the time such eliminations are formally announced, to discuss who has enough seniority to bump and into which position she/he may bump.

An employee who is bumped out of a classification assignment shall follow the same procedures as provided above and herein in subsection D-2.

- b. An employee shall be given not less than ten (10) and up to twenty (20) supervised days to satisfactorily perform the responsibilities and duties assigned by the operation of Article 10, Section D. An employee not meeting the qualifications after the trial period shall be notified of the reasons in writing.
- c. If an employee is not continued in employment by the operation of subsection D-2, a-b above, she/he shall be laid off out of the work force.
- 2. The parties agree no employee, as the result of any layoff, shall be allowed to advance to a classification assignment in a higher classification level through bumping procedure.
- 3. Failure of any laid off employee to take advantage of the rights to bump under this section shall result in the permanent removal from the work force and the seniority list.

- 4. Seniority shall accrue during a layoff to a maximum of two (2) additional years. Such seniority, however, shall be applicable only for purposes of layoff and recall and shall not be applicable to or be the basis of increasing the affected employee's eligibility for any employee benefits provided for elsewhere in this Agreement. An employee's eligibility for and the right to such benefits shall be suspended at the time an employee is laid off out of the work force, except as provided in Article 14, Section B.
- 5. An employee who is laid off out of the work force may request the vacation pay eligible for at the time of the layoff.
- 6. The Board, except in those cases which are beyond its control, shall give an employee who is to be laid off out of the work force two (2) weeks' notice of such layoff.
- 7. In the event of temporary layoffs due to conditions or occurrences not initiated or controlled by the Board, an employee may be laid off without regard to seniority for a period of ten (10) workdays.
- 8. Recall shall be in reverse order of layoff, provided that a recalled employee possesses the qualifications and ability to perform the work of the classification assignment to which he/she is recalled.

#### **E.** Vacancies and Transfers

- 1. Before posting a position, covered under this contract, the District shall share the posting with the Association for their review.
- 2. The Board will notify electronically all employees actively at work of a permanent vacancy or opening that exists in any and all classification assignment covered by this Agreement by posting the vacancy for five (5) consecutive workdays, provided that during July the posting will be for fifteen (15) calendar days. An employee interested in the vacancy shall send a letter of interest to the Human Resources Department. Awarding of the opening will be made on the basis of previous training, experience, evaluations, seniority, qualifications required and possessed and ability. No probationary employee is eligible to apply for such a vacancy. An employee shall also not be eligible to apply if previously awarded a vacancy in the same classification level or a lower classification level on the basis of this section within the previous six (6) months measured from the original date of the posting unless the employee is the only applicant. No internal application shall be made by an employee not actively employed at the time of the posting, except an employee who is laid off out of the work force or an employee scheduled to return from a leave of absence granted pursuant to Article 6. A subsequent and permanent vacancy or opening that may result by virtue of the original posting shall also be posted immediately following the supervised days listed in number 4 below.
- 3. All internal candidates applying for a position shall be provided an interview. An unsuccessful internal candidate may request from the selecting administrator a written statement delineating the reasons for the denial based on an analysis of the criteria in the posting.
- 4. If a permanent vacancy or opening in a classification assignment is not filled by the application procedure set forth above, the Board shall have the right to hire a new employee, permanently transfer, or recall an employee having the same qualifications, ability, previous training and experience as required of the original applicants for assignment to the permanent vacancy or opening.

5. An employee who is awarded a vacancy shall be provided necessary and relevant training in order to perform all duties and responsibilities of the awarded position. During this training and transitioning period, the employee shall be given a minimum of thirty (30) and up to sixty (60) supervised days to qualify by demonstrating the ability to satisfactorily perform the duties and responsibilities of the classification assignment to which employee has been awarded, or be returned to this/her/their former position.

A formal evaluation will be given the employee before or by the thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) supervised day. An employee who fails to qualify by the thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) day may be given up to a total of sixty (60) supervised days at the discretion of the supervisor or will be returned to his/her former position. In event the former position has been eliminated, the employee shall exercise seniority as provided in Section D above (bumping procedure). During the first twenty (20) supervised days, an employee shall, at their request, be returned to his/her former position.

- 6. The Association will be given a written notice of each vacancy and a written notice of the awardee. If a new employee is hired to fill the vacancy or opening, this information will also be given to the Union President.
- 7. A transfer of a secretarial/clerical employee may be made by the Board in order to permit efficiency or to meet emergency situations. For the first five (5) days of such transfer, the employee will maintain the current rate of pay. After five (5) days, the employee will be placed on the proper salary classification of the job they are temporarily filling, provided that the salary is greater than that of the current position. When such temporary transfer goes beyond ninety (90) workdays, it will be posted as a temporary vacancy. An employee in the same classification who bids shall be preferred over another applicant.
- F. The parties agree final decisions on the assignment, retention and/or recall of an employee, in accordance with Sections D and E above, shall be the right and responsibility of the Board.

#### G. Transfer Out of Bargaining Unit

An employee who is transferred to a position outside of the bargaining unit with the Board shall retain seniority for a period of one (1) year from the time of transfer. If during the one (1) year period the employee is transferred back to the bargaining unit, employee shall return to any unbid posted vacancy that exists that the employee is qualified to perform. If no such vacancy exists, the employee shall if qualified, displace the lowest seniority employee in the bargaining unit, in accordance with provisions of Section D above.

#### **H.** Temporary Positions:

No district retiree shall be permanently hired to perform secretary duties that cover a previously recognized position in the bargaining unit. If there is a temporary need to cover secretary duties, a retiree or substitute may work in the role to cover the temporary vacancy, or in the case of an open position, can work in the role for no more than the length of time it would normally take for the district to fill the position.

If the District is unable to fill the position through its normal hiring procedures and there is a long-term need to fill a position with a retiree or substitute, the district will discuss future options with the Association.

# ARTICLE 11: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE AND ARBITRATION

A. The parties hereby agree to and adopt the following method and process for resolving all matters of dispute, problems, or differences that may arise during the term and based on the application or interpretation of the express written terms of this Agreement, except as otherwise provided below and elsewhere.

It is agreed that Article 11 shall not be applicable to or be utilized to question, protest, or influence any of the following:

- 1. Any Board decision or action based on Article 11 of this Agreement;
- 2. The decision, rule, regulation, policy, eligibility, benefit decision, or contract terms of any insurance carrier providing coverage described elsewhere in this Agreement;
- 3. Where the Board is without authority to take the action sought or legally it cannot act;
- 4. The termination or failure to re-employ any probationary employee.

Nothing contained herein will be construed as limiting the right of an employee having a grievance to discuss the matter informally with the Board and having the grievance adjusted without intervention of the Union, provided the adjustment is not inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement and that the Union has been given the opportunity to be present at such adjustment.

#### B. Step One

An employee or one (1) member of a group of employees may file a grievance with the immediate supervisor or appropriate Board representative within the ten (10) days immediately following the event or condition which gives rise to the grievance. A meeting shall be held to attempt to resolve the matter promptly within the five (5) days immediately following submission of the grievance. During this meeting, all the known facts and the Agreement's written term(s) claimed to have been violated will be stated. The disposition of the grievance will be issued within the five (5) days immediately following the Step One meeting.

If the Step One grievance is reduced to writing, it shall be delivered within the day immediately following the Step One meeting. The Step One written disposition will be issued within the next five (5) days.

The written Step One grievance shall contain the aggrieved employee's signature, all the related facts and the Agreement's written term(s) claimed to have been violated. The disposition to a Step One written grievance will be entered on the same grievance form and be signed by the Board representative rendering it.

The aggrieved employee and Union representative and two (2) Board representatives may be present at the Step One meeting.

#### Step Two

If the grievance is not settled, it may be submitted in writing at Step Two to the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources or his/her designee as provided for above in Step One. The submission of the Step

Two grievance shall be within the five (5) days immediately following the issuance of the written Step One disposition. A meeting shall be held within the five (5) days immediately following submission of the grievance. The Step Three disposition of the grievance will be issued in writing within the five (5) days immediately following the Step Two meeting.

The aggrieved employee and a maximum of three (3) Union representatives and a total of up to four (4) Board representatives may be present at the Step Two meeting unless otherwise mutually agreed.

#### **Step Three - Arbitration**

If the grievance is still unsettled, the Association may, within ten (10) working days after the Step Two answer and by written notice to the other party, request arbitration.

Within ten (10) working days after such notice to arbitrate, the Union and the Board shall endeavor to agree upon a mutually acceptable arbitrator. If the parties are unable to agree, the party seeking arbitration will make a request for a list of arbitrators to the American Arbitration Association.

The parties will be bound by the rules and procedures of the American Arbitration Association in the selection of an arbitrator.

The arbitrator so selected will hear the matter promptly and will issue a decision not later than thirty (30) days from the date of the close of the hearing. The arbitrator's decision will be in writing and will set forth the findings of facts, reasoning and conclusions on the issue submitted.

The power of the arbitrator stems from this Agreement and the arbitrator's function is to interpret and apply this Agreement and to pass upon alleged violations thereof. The arbitrator shall have no power to add to, subtract from, or modify any of the terms of this Agreement. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the Board, the Union and the grievant, provided that the arbitrator shall not substitute his/her judgment for that of the Board or of the Union.

The costs for the arbitrator's services, including expenses, if any, shall be borne equally by the parties.

- C. Any grievance occurring during the period between the termination date of this Agreement and the effective date of a new agreement shall not be processed. Any grievance that arose prior to the effective date of this Agreement shall not be processed.
  - If no Agreement between the parties exists and an employee is severely disciplined, i.e., received a disciplinary layoff in excess of ten (10) work days or is discharged, the employee may appeal the discipline or discharge first to the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, next to the Superintendent or designee and finally to the Board of Education, itself. Thereafter the Association may exercise its rights pursuant to Step 3 and file for arbitration
- D. The time limits provided for in Section B above may only be altered by the written mutual consent of the parties. A grievance not filed or appealed within the time limits provided herein will be deemed to be withdrawn. Failure to render a disposition within the time provided shall be the basis of the grievance proceeding to the next step.
- E. The term "days" when used in Section B above shall mean all work days (Monday through Friday) occurring during the term of this Agreement. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays observed by employees covered by this Agreement shall not be counted in establishing any time limits' dates set forth in Section B above. Days during the month of July, however, will not count towards any time limit dates.

- F. An employee's grievance may be withdrawn at any step, but that same grievance shall not be filed a second time.
- G. The filing of a grievance shall in no way interfere with the right of the Board to proceed in carrying out its management responsibilities, subject to the final decision of the grievance procedure.
- H. The grievant must be present at any and all grievance hearings; otherwise, it will constitute an automatic acceptance of the decision previously rendered and shall constitute a waiver of any future appeal concerning the particular grievance, unless it is agreed by both parties to postpone the grievance hearing.
- l. Any written agreement reached between the Board and the Union is binding on all employees affected and cannot be changed by any employee or the Board.
- J. Union Representation. For purposes of the grievance procedure, employees shall be represented by employees designated as Union Reps as follows:

K.

#### **Representation Group**

One (1) Building Rep to cover each Senior High School

One (1) Building Rep to cover each Middle School

Two (2) Building Reps to cover all Elementary Schools

One (1) Building Rep to cover the Administration Building

One (1) Building Rep to cover the Technology Services, Community

**Education and Transportation** 

Union Representatives shall include the Executive Director of the Association. The names of all Union Representatives, including the Union President, shall be filed in writing with the Human Resources Department within five (5) days after their appointment. No Union Reps shall be recognized or act on behalf of the Union until the department has been so notified.

Investigation and processing of grievances shall be allowed during working hours as long as it does not interfere with or interrupt the performance of the duties of any employee covered by this Agreement. A rep or the Union President must receive prior permission of the immediate supervisor prior to utilizing time during the working day to investigate or process a grievance. Such permission shall not be unreasonably withheld and will be granted within twenty-four (24) hours of the request. Abuses of this privilege by a rep shall be the basis of a reprimand. The Union agrees it shall replace a representative who receives two (2) such reprimands.

# ARTICLE 12: HOLIDAYS AND VACATIONS

#### A. Holidays

1. An eligible full time employee shall be granted the following holidays for which an employee shall receive regular straight time hourly rate:

Independence Day Day after Thanksgiving New Year's Day

Labor Day Day before Christmas Martin Luther King Day

Day before Thanksgiving Day Christmas Day Good Friday
Thanksgiving Day Day before New Year's Day Memorial Day

Juneteenth

2. When the holiday falls on a Saturday, the immediately preceding Friday or the succeeding Monday will be honored as the holiday; and when the holiday falls on a Sunday, the immediately preceding Friday or succeeding Monday will be honored as the holiday. In the case of 12/24, 25 and 31 and 1/1, the holiday may also be observed on the preceding Thursday or the succeeding Tuesday, at the request of the board.

#### **B.** Vacations

1. Regular full time employees who are on the payroll as of June 30<sup>th</sup> each year shall receive the following vacations with pay:

#### For employees hired before 7/2/2011:

		Length of Employee Work Year					
Vacations with Pay		12 month	11 month	10 month			
	Days	at hours	at hours	at hours			
6-10 months' of service	5	40	37	33			
10 months' – 6 years' of service	10	80	73	67			
6 to 10 years' of service	15	120	110	100			
11 years' of service	16	128	117	107			
12 years' of service	17	136	125	113			
13 years' of service	18	144	132	120			
14 years' of service	19	152	139	127			
15 years' of service	20	160	147	133			
16 years'& more of service, maximum	22	176	161	147			

#### For employees hired on/or after 7/1/2011:

(NEW) Vacations with Pay									
	12-month 11-month 10-month								
Service Requirement	Days	Hours	Days	Hours	Days	Hours			
90 days to <1 year	5	40	0	0	0	0			
1 to < 6 years	10	80	5	40	2	16			
6+ years	15	120	8	64	4	32			

	Annual Vacation Expiration:
12-month	6/30; may roll up to 5 total days to 7/31
11-month	6/30
10-month	5 days after last day of school

	Report to Work Dates:
12-month	Continuous
11-month	8/1
10-month	10 days before first day of school

#### 2. Work During Vacation Break Periods

a. Ten- and Eleven-month employees may work during traditional break periods during the school year when students are not in school (for example Winter, Mid-Winter, and Spring Break) when approved by the building administrator. The total of the work hours is not to exceed 40 hours.

For those ten-and eleven-month employees, the days are unpaid unless the employee has available compensatory days, or vacation days and chooses to schedule one or more of those paid days during the break period.

- b. 12-month employees may use Compensatory Time or vacation, or PTO (or some combination of those paid days) on any scheduled paid day on the Exhibit B Calendar (wherein scheduled days are updated and indicated annually). Compensatory days shall be scheduled first per Article 4 E (4). Employees are encouraged to schedule vacation prior to PTO to avoid loss of unscheduled vacation at year end.
- c. See Calendar Exhibit B for additional clarification
- 3. If approved, days without pay can only be used when students are not in attendance.
- 4. New eleven (11) month and twelve (12) month employees hired after the start of the school year shall receive vacation days based on the percentage of the school year worked upon successful completion of their probationary service.
- 5. Employees on unpaid leave do not earn vacation time.
- 6. Employees hired into the Bargaining Unit from other positions in the District shall receive vacation day allotments based on their overall years of service in the District. For example, a paraprofessional transferring to a position in this bargaining unit with six years of service as a paraprofessional shall be immediately eligible for 120-64-32 hours of vacation time depending on the number of months assigned to the position to be held.
- 7. Regular employees who do not work the full scheduled year shall be paid a pro-rated vacation based on the number of days worked during that year and the seniority table in Section B-1 above.
- 8. Except as provided in Section B-6 below, an employee shall not receive vacation pay in lieu of paid vacation time off provided for herein.

- 9. An employee who, by voluntary separation and is no longer employed by the District, permanently leaves the employment of the Board during a fiscal year due to just cause as ascertained by the Superintendent of Schools or delegated representative shall be eligible for full or pro-rata vacation pay in accordance with all the other provisions set forth elsewhere in Section B of Article 12.
- 10. An employee who leaves the employment of the Board during the current fiscal year (between July 1 and June 30 of the succeeding year) as the result of dismissal or who has less than six (6) months of service shall forfeit all vacation rights and is not eligible for any paid vacation time or pay.
- 11. A twelve month secretary who is unable to use all of her or his vacation on or before June 30 in a given school year because of the necessity to complete the end of the school year work or activities may carry up to five (5) vacation days into the immediately following July.

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# ARTICLE 13: WORK SCHEDULES AND JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Full time and permanent employees' daily work hours when schools are in session will typically be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday but can be flexed by mutual agreement of the supervisor and employee, on an eight (8) consecutive hours per day, forty (40) Consecutive hours per week basis. However, an employee's daily starting or ending work time may be different as determined by the Board. Each employee shall normally receive a daily one (1) hour unpaid, duty-free lunch period, the time of which shall be determined by the employee's immediate supervisor.
  - 1. When schools are not in session an employee's daily work hours may commence before 8 a.m. and may conclude before 5 p.m. The employee may elect to work seven (7) consecutive hours per day and thirty-five (35) hours per week.

The hours of work set forth above do not constitute a guaranteed minimum or maximum for any employee.

2. The Association agrees the Board has the unilateral right to schedule the work hours and work year of each new employee hired subsequent to the effective date of this Agreement and the work hours and work year for each temporary vacancy filled and any permanent vacancy posted during the term of this Agreement.

#### 3. Remote Work

The default work setting is in the school buildings or district departments. On occasion, the employee and immediate supervisor may agree to remote work at the discretion of the supervisor. This may only occur if work is able to be accessed remotely. If a secretary is required to remain home due to an illness covered by the district, county, state or national health emergency guidelines, and is not experiencing symptoms of illness, they may elect to work remotely with permission of their administrator, without using a PTO day.

#### B. Relief Period

Secretarial/clerical employees shall be entitled to a fifteen (15) minute relief period during the day. The scheduling of such relief period shall be set forth by the employee's immediate supervisor.

#### C. Return from Leave

An employee granted a general leave of absence, as provided in Article 6, Section N-2, shall be returned to the number of work hours the employee was working at the time the leave commenced except that in the event of the elimination of the previous position, or reduction in hours in the previous position, the employee shall be returned to a position and hours appropriate for their seniority, ability and current hours of the position at the time their general leave expires.

#### D. New Technology & Job Responsibilities

Additional or new office equipment, technology or job responsibilities that may have a major or significant effect on the working conditions, hours and wages of the employees covered by this agreement shall be shared and discussed with the Association and affected employees either before the upcoming school year or before implementation. Necessary training shall be provided prior to

implementation. The Association can request to meet and discuss significant changes in job responsibilities or technology. The supervisor or District representative shall take into consideration the employee's suggestions regarding implementation of the new responsibilities.

The Board agrees to give any employee whose present classification is directly influenced and involved with such technological changes reasonable time to qualify on such new equipment and/or new technology. Any new jobs that may be created by such changes, if they are customarily or generally determined to be of the variety of classifications herein covered, shall be posted as provided for in Article 10 Section E.

#### E. New Position

In the event a secretary acquires a new position and training is necessary to perform the functions of the job responsibilities, technology or equipment, the employee will be provided necessary and relevant training by the district, building or department.

Employees applying for these jobs may have to qualify by taking aptitude tests. Employees who qualify will be given preference in the filling of such openings.

# ARTICLE 14: INSURANCE BENEFITS PROGRAMS

- A. **Insurance Program Provisions:** The Board will provide each eligible employee who makes timely application for hospital-medical-surgical benefits (hereinafter, "health benefits") and his or her eligible pursuant to the following provisions:
  - 1. Pursuant to the Publicly Funded Health Contribution Act, (MCL 15.561 et seq) the District shall pay the "Hard Cap Amount" determined by the State Treasurer for the following plan year. The employee shall be responsible for paying the difference between the premium costs and Hard Cap amount, if any, by pre-tax payroll deduction. If the annual premium costs are less than the Hard Cap maximum, BPS will contribute to the secretary's Health Savings Account ("HSA") or Flexible Savings Accounts ("FSA") the difference between the Hard Cap maximum amount and the premium costs. Further, employees may make contributions to their HSA or FSA by pretax payroll deduction as permitted by law. The District's contribution to the FSA or HSA shall be made in the first pay period following January 1 each school year.
  - 2. The health benefit option shall be MESSA Choices with the \$1000/\$2000 deductible, the \$20/\$25/\$50 office visit rider and the Saver Rx prescription rider, the MESSA ABC 1 Plan with a **\$1,500/\$3,000 deductible**, or the MESSA ABC 2 Plan with a **\$2.000/\$4,000 deductible**. Both ABC Plans are a federally recognized high deductible plans and provide for the establishment of a H.S.A. Employees selecting the Choices program may participate in a Flexible Spending Account plan. Employees selecting either ABC Plan may participate in a Health Savings Account.
  - 3. The parties understand that in the event the minimum deductible necessary for a medical plan to comply with HSA eligibility is increased beyond the current deductible level in MESSA ABC Plan 1, the deductible will automatically adjust to meet the federal minimum requirement.
  - 4. Employees electing to forgo health benefits from the District will receive \$2,400 cash in lieu of the health benefit. The parties acknowledge this benefit is available to an employee whose spouse is employed by the District when the spouse is receiving health benefits covering the employee and his/her dependents through the District. Payments will be made over 24/20 pays.
  - 5. For the term of this Agreement employees selecting vision and/or dental coverage will pay 10% of the premium. All employees shall pay 10% of the premium for Long Term Disability Coverage.

#### B. Medical Coverage for the 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26 School Years:

- 1. It is expressly understood that the determination of the carrier or the decision to self-insure is the right of the board. For the duration of this agreement, an employee may choose health benefits from the following:
  - a. MESSA choices with the 1,000/\$2,000 deductible, the 20/\$25/\$50 office visit rider and the Saver Rx prescription rider or
  - b. MESSA ABC Plan 1 with the \$1,500/\$3,000 deductible.
  - c. MESSA ABC Plan 2 with the \$2,000/\$4,000 deductible
- 2. The Board will publish plan documents which gives details of the benefits available on the district's website.

The parties agree that the Board has no obligation to provide hospital-surgical-medical insurance coverage to either the spouse or dependents of an employee who are otherwise eligible to be covered by any such comparable insurance benefits elsewhere; for example, by virtue of the employment of the spouse.

This coverage shall remain in effect during the duration of this Agreement. Provided, however, the parties have agreed to form and participate in an insurance committee to review health insurance issues two months prior to Open Enrollment for the 2024 plan year. Should the committee issue recommendations regarding possible changes to coverage or other matters relating to insurance, the parties will initiate bargaining with 45 calendar days of receipt of the recommendations. This does not mandate a change in the insurance coverage provided during the terms of this Contract or other matters relating to insurance.

Beginning with January 2024 through December 2026, the hard cap will be paid by the Board towards insurance costs for both plan years. Any balance owing for premiums after the hard cap is applied shall be paid by the employee in 20 (for 10 and 11 month employees) or 24 (for 12 month employees) equal contributions. Any balance left over from the hard cap after the payment of premium will be contributed by the Board to the employee's HSA or FSA. This formula will be applied to the 2024, 2025, and 2026 plan years (January 1 - December 31) of each year.

- C. Coverage for new employees shall become effective immediately upon hire.
- D. In the case of spouses, both employed in the district, one shall choose the health coverage necessary to cover his/her family as outlined in 14, A.1., above, and the other shall choose this cash in lieu option. This section, above, shall be subject to the procedures, policies and/or rules of any insurance carrier or organization providing coverage and benefits on the basis of the terms of this Agreement.

#### E. Life Insurance

Upon application by a permanent and full-time employee, the Board shall provide group term life insurance coverage in the amount of \$45,000, including accidental death and dismemberment.

#### F. Continuation of Health Coverage

An employee who is on a leave of absence in accordance with Article 6 or who is laid off in accordance with Article 10 shall continue to have the Board provide the insurance coverages set forth in Section A above for the first three months immediately following the month the leave of absence, or layoff becomes effective and after, subject to the approval of the insurance carriers. Such an employee on a leave of absence or who is laid off who elects to have these coverages continued during the following nine (9) months or until the termination of the layoff or leave of absence, whichever occurs sooner, shall pay directly to the Board the total and current monthly premium for the insurance coverages continued for the employee on this basis.

The three (3) months of extended health insurance provided under this provision will not be applicable to employees on a leave pursuant to Article 6 (L), Union Business, and (N), General Leave, of a month or more in length.

#### **G.** Coverage Proration

The coverage's set forth in Section A and B above shall apply to all permanent employees.

**30 hours or more a week:** All employees whose regular work week is thirty (30) hours or more may elect to take District provided health insurance where the Board will pay the full hard cap amount for each employee.

**20-29 hours a week:** All employees whose regular work week is between twenty (20) and twenty-nine (29) hours who elect District provided health insurance shall pay 1/4 the monthly premiums for insurance.

**Less than 20 hours a week:** Employees scheduled to work nineteen (19) hours or less per week and elect to take District provided health insurance shall pay one half (50%) the monthly premium for insurance.

#### I. **Dental Insurance**

The Board shall provide all eligible permanent and full time employees, i.e., those employees who have acquired seniority and who are regularly scheduled to work a minimum of five (5) straight time hours per work day and twenty-five straight time hours per week, dental insurance coverage (100%, 80%, 180% maximum annual coverage \$1,000 per person) as specified and limited according to the following description:

- a. Benefit Level: Class I 100% of customary and reasonable fees.
   Oral Exam, Prophylaxes, Topical Fluoride, Emergency, palliative, two cleanings in 12 months.
- b. Benefit Level: Class II 80% of customary and reasonable fees.
  Radiographs, restorative, gold crowns, jackets, oral surgery, endodontic, Periodontic.
- c. Benefit Level: Class III 80% of customary and reasonable fees
- d. <u>Construction and Replacement of Dentures and Bridges:</u> <u>Gold</u>: Inlay or onlay, gold fill, gold crowns.
- e. Benefit Level: Class IV 80% of customary and reasonable fees.

  Orthodontics: \$1,000 lifetime maximum per eligible dependent to age 19 years old.

The Board shall pay the monthly premium obligation for each covered employee and it is agreed that this is the Board's only obligation under this provision. Any differences or problem that may arise on the plan's benefits and/or coverage between an employee and the carrier shall be exclusively resolved by them and Article 6 of the Agreement shall not be operative with reference to the resolution of any such differences or problem.

The carrier shall be exclusively selected by the Board.

An employee who applies for this coverage shall confirm in writing his/her own eligibility and his/her spouse's and/or dependents eligibility according to the foregoing.

This plan also provides for internal and external coordination of benefits.

The Union also agrees an employee's coverage will terminate at the end of the calendar month during which the employee's retirement, resignation, termination, or layoff becomes effective.

An employee who is on a leave of absence shall receive this coverage until the end of the third calendar month of such leave.

After a new employee satisfactorily completes ninety (90) calendar days of service, the employee will, if otherwise eligible for this coverage, as provided above, have this coverage implemented on the first day of the calendar month immediately following the completion of ninety (90) calendar days of service.

Subject to all of the foregoing provisions, a permanent employee who has acquired ninety (90) calendar days of service and who is regularly scheduled to work less than five (5) straight time hours per day and less than twenty-five (25) straight time hours per week, but at least a minimum of four (4) straight time hours per day and twenty (20) straight time hours per week, shall be eligible for this coverage by paying one-half (1/2) of the appropriate monthly premium for this coverage.

#### J. Disability Plans

- <u>Short Term Disability Plan</u>. The Employer shall provide each employee the option of purchasing, at his/her own expense, short term disability insurance through MESSA.
- <u>Long Term Disability Plan</u>. Effective when the Board arranges this coverage with an insurance carrier and for the term of this Agreement, the Board shall provide Long-term disability insurance for all eligible, permanent and full time employees who have acquired seniority and whose normal work week schedules are for a minimum of six (6) hours per work day and thirty (30) hours per work week.

The maximum Long Term Disability benefits provided under this coverage, based on the insurance carrier's policies, procedures and practices, will provide 66-2/3 percent of the employee's straight time monthly earnings in effect at the time becoming totally disabled, up to a maximum of \$2,500 per month, commencing 180 days after the date the employee becomes totally disabled and continues until the employee is able to return to work, or expires, whichever occurs soonest. For employees with one (1) year of service with the district and found eligible for long term disability benefits, the district shall provide up to one (1) year of health insurance benefits to the employee, spouse and family without cost to the employee except for any shortage that would be payable resulting from a shortage in the amounts available under the Hard Cap.

The employee's straight time monthly earnings shall be computed by dividing regular straight time annual earnings by twelve (12) months. Further, the amount of monthly benefits a totally disabled employee receives shall be reduced by any primary or secondary remuneration an employee is eligible for and/or receives from the Board, the Michigan Public Schools Employees' Retirement Fund, the Federal Social Security Act, Railroad Retirement Act, Veteran's benefits, Workers' Compensation Act or any other such Board sponsored pension and insurance benefits plans.

The Union agrees an employee's coverage will terminate effective on the date of retirement, resignation, termination, layoff, or leave of absence for any reason becomes effective. The carrier and an employee and/or the Union shall resolve any problems or differences that may arise between them and Article 6 of the Agreement shall not be operative with reference to the resolution of such problems or differences.

K. <u>Vision Care Program</u>. For those who choose the traditional plan, the district will continue to offer Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan VSP or similar program, which includes an annual eye examination and an annual pair of frames and lenses or contacts. Employees who choose vision only will continue to receive BCBS Series A-80 benefits.

- L. The Board, by the payment of the premium for the insurance coverage provided herein, totally satisfies and limits any and all the obligations it has, as set forth herein. It is also agreed a disagreement, dispute, or difference of opinion that may arise on benefits, coverage, eligibility, etc., shall not be the subject of a grievance or form the basis of any other similar action by the employee against the Board or the Union.
- M. The Board, by payment of the premium payments required to provide the insurance coverage and the proper discharge of all other obligations set forth in Article 14, Insurance Programs, shall be relieved from all other liability and obligations with respect to the providing of such insurance coverage. All other aspects of such insurance coverage shall be as set forth in the insurance carriers' policies, contracts with the Board and their rules and regulations.

The failure of an insurance carrier to provide any of the benefits for which it has contracted, for any reason, shall not result in any liability to the Board or the Union, nor shall such failure be considered or claimed as a violation of any of the provisions of this Agreement.

### ARTICLE 15: **SEVERABILITY**

It is agreed by the parties that the written terms of this Agreement and their application and implementation shall be subject to and governed by the constitutions, statutes, legal opinions, ordinances and governmental regulations of the United States, the State of Michigan and Oakland County. If any court of competent jurisdiction, governmental administrative agency, the Attorney General, or any other authority holds, interprets, or rules that any written terms included in this Agreement or the application, implementation, or presence of such written term is unconstitutional, illegal, invalid, or that it violates, contradicts, or operates contrary to the intent of any federal, state, or county law, ordinance, regulation and/or legal opinion, the Agreement's written term so affected shall become null and void. Either party may demand to bargain over the consequences of such a circumstance. Such determination shall not invalidate the remaining written terms of this Agreement.

### ARTICLE 16: ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement supersedes any previous agreements, based on alleged past practices, between the Board and Union and constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

### ARTICLE 17: WAIVER CLAUSE

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted 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 understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement. Therefore, the Board, for the life of this Agreement, unless by mutual agreement, shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter referred to or covered by this Agreement.

### ARTICLE 18: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

A. This Agreement shall supersede any rules, regulations, or practices of the Board which shall be contrary to or inconsistent with its terms. The wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment of secretarial/clerical personnel shall be expressly subject to the provisions of this Agreement. The provisions of this Agreement shall be incorporated into and be considered part of the established policies of the Board.

#### B. Copies of Agreement

Within thirty (30) days following the ratification and execution of this Agreement, The Board will provide the Association fifty (50) paper copies. The Agreement will be posted and made electronically available on the District's "I" drive.

- C. It is agreed and understood by the parties that wherever the word "Board" appears in this Agreement it may also mean the Superintendent of Schools and/or all other administrators or persons employed or designated by the Board to represent it or otherwise act in its stead.
- D. The Board, the Union and all employees agree not to discriminate against anyone on the basis of his/her race, creed, color, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, sexual identity, gender, marital status, or membership and participation or non-membership or nonparticipation in any organization.

#### E. **Personnel File**

An employee shall have the right to examine all the material in their personnel file which has accrued after their employment and which is related to the job. A representative of the Union may, at the employee's request, accompany the employee in the review.

#### F. Reimbursement

- 1. **Mileage:** The Board shall reimburse an employee, who is authorized and required to drive their personal car in the course of performing work, at the mileage rate consistent with the prevailing IRS mileage reimbursement allowance for actual miles driven in the performance of their duties.
- 2. **Property**: The Board will reimburse an employee for any loss, damage, or destruction of occupationally appropriate and required clothing or personal property while fulfilling the duties and assignments, which exceeds ten dollars (\$10), providing reasonable care has been taken by the employee. In the implementation of this section, the Board may require an employee to file a police report when appropriate, and may require reasonable documentation of the original cost, date acquired and other pertinent information regarding the loss. Further, the Board's payment hereunder shall be reduced by the amount of any insurance carrier's payment to the employee requesting reimbursement under this section.
- G. An employee shall be held responsible for loss within the school, or while on official school business, of school property or students' property when proof of negligence is established.
- H. Special Conferences for important matters will be arranged between the Union President and the Board's designated representative upon the request of either party. Unless otherwise agreed, such meetings, at mutually agreed to times and places, shall be attended by up to three (3) representatives of the Board and the Union. Unless otherwise agreed, arrangements for such Special Conferences shall be made at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance. An agenda of the matters to be taken up at the meeting together with the names of the conferees representing the requesting party shall be presented at the time the conference

is requested. Matters taken up in Special Conferences shall be confined to those included in the agenda. No additional compensation will be paid to such employees for time spent in such conferences beyond regular work hours.

#### I. Accommodations

The Board and the Association recognize their respective responsibilities to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) or other similar federal or state legislation, including steps needed in order to reasonably accommodate an employee's disability, such as, but not limited to, restructuring a job or position, reallocating or redistributing job functions or requirements, altering when or how job functions are performed, creating modified or part time work schedules, granting preference in work schedules or shifts, creating flexible leave policies, providing disabled employees with transfers or reassignments to vacant positions and providing benefits that may be necessary to reasonably accommodate disabilities. In accordance with these principles, the Board will provide notice to the Association of any potential need for accommodation and seek Association input on proposed accommodations. The employer will consider a specific plan of reasonable accommodation proposed by an affected employee and the Association. In the event of a claim by the Association alleging that this provision has been misinterpreted or misapplied, this provision shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the ADA and other similar federal and state legislation.

#### J. <u>Classification Upgrade</u>

Upon the recommendation of the administrator in charge of the location to which the employee is assigned, an employee's position will be reviewed by an administrative committee which will determine whether new and different duties have been added to the responsibilities of that position, such that their addition increases the employee's workload to a point that warrants that the position be upgraded. The decision of the administrative committee shall be final. No new request for an upgrade in the same position may be made until the administrator can document that they believe a clearly demonstrable alteration in the kind of duties associated with that position has been made, i.e., the position will not be reviewed if the kind of assignments remain the same.

In accordance with Section 15 of the Public Employment Relations Act, MCL423.215, this agreement or specific provisions of this Agreement may be rejected, modified, or terminated by an emergency manager appointed under the Local Government and School District Fiscal Accountability Act, MCL141.1501 to 141.153.

This clause is included in this Agreement as required by State law. The Association has not agreed to it, nor acknowledged that it is binding on the parties. The Association reserves all rights to challenge its application and enforceability.

#### K. Health and Safety Rights

- 1. **Legal Guidelines:** The district shall follow local, state and federal guidelines relative to health, safety and working conditions to the best extent possible. Employees will not be expected to work in conditions that violate the safety protocols set forth in all applicable county, state or federal health or safety guidelines.
- 2. **Reporting and Protective Measures**: Concerns by bargaining unit members surrounding matters of health or safety should be promptly raised to District administration. District representatives shall attend to the situation within a reasonable timeframe, based on the severity of the issue, and report the steps being taken to resolve the issue. For example, if it is determined that necessary personal protective equipment or protective measures are needed in a particular situation then it should be dealt with right away. If the resolution of such concern may involve a modification of working

conditions or change in work location, the District and Association will meet to discuss the steps taken to resolve the matter.

- 3. **Discipline Support:** Staff who are acting within the appropriate and approved scope of their employment responsibilities with respect to maintaining control and discipline of students shall be given support and assistance by the District. Continued effort will be made to assure staff that they can provide student support and other services with a minimum of disruption and abuse, physical or verbal, in an appropriate learning environment.
- 4. **Protection Training:** Secretary members may protect themselves or another person from attack, physical abuse, or injury using appropriate Crisis Prevention/Intervention (CPI) techniques. Appropriate professional development, including de-escalation training, shall be provided to all secretaries.
- 5. **Contract Work:** To the best possible extent, contractor work of a significant nature should be reported to staff prior to the start of such work. This notification shall include location, date, and type of work. If the contractor work creates an unsafe or disrupted work environment, the employee and supervisor may find a reasonable alternate location to work. If such duties cannot be completed at a reasonable alternate location then the employee shall be permitted to work remotely.
- 6. **Working Alone:** If working alone at a worksite, a secretary may request to lock the door of their office when not expecting visitors (students, staff, families, etc.).
- 7. **Resolution Process:** The Association agrees to urge its members to raise such health and safety problems with the District and seek internal resolution. However, this understanding does not in any way preclude the rights of members in the Bargaining Unit to make use of contract language afforded in the grievance procedure.

#### L. Medical Procedures

1 Employees may be required to provide medical procedures to students during the school day. All reasonable attempts will be made to obtain appropriate employee volunteers to perform such duties before the duty is assigned. Employees required to perform such duties shall be provided a copy of the student's care plan, which should include instructions and emergency plan information, and appropriate training by qualified medical personnel at the start of each school year, prior to students beginning class. The employee may request additional training.

The Board will provide legal counsel to the employee if a legal action is brought against the employee providing such service. The Board will maintain adequate liability insurance coverage for employees providing such service.

2 Secretaries assigned to the distribution of medication to students or the use of an Epi-Pen shall do so in accordance with the requirements of the rules and regulations of the Michigan Department of Education and other applicable laws.

A secretary distributing medication to students shall do so in the presence of another adult, unless it is an emergency situation that threatens the life of health of a student. At the start of each school year the building administration and responsible secretary shall establish a procedure identifying who shall serve as the second adult for the dispensing of medication.

### M. Substitute List

The District shall strive to maintain a list of Secretary substitutes among its retirees or through the District substitute system and make the list available to its employees.

# ARTICLE 19: **DURATION OF AGREEMENT**

This Agreement initially became effective as of July 1, 2023 and continues in full force and effect until 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2026. If either party desires to terminate this Agreement, it shall, sixty (60) days prior to June 30, 2026 give written notice of termination.

BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
By Dean T. Niforos
Assistant Superintendent for Human
Resources  A. Eub J. Robert
By Dr. Embekka Roberson
Superintendent
By Amy Hockhammer President
By Lori Ajlouny Secretary

Scott Warrow
Executive Director

# SCHEDULE A: COMPENSATION

#### **YEAR ONE (2023/24)**

- Eliminate Steps 1 and 2
- Redo the Wage Scale (see below)
- Secretaries move on their same scale as follows:

CURRENT	NEW
Step 1/2	goes to Step 1
Step 3/4	goes to Step 2
Step 5	goes to Step 3
Step 6	goes to Step 4
Step 7	goes to Step 5
Step 8	goes to Step 6
Step 9	goes to Step 7
Step 10/11	goes to Step 8

#### 2023-2024 Salary Schedule

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9
A	16.45	17.20	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	24.00	25.00	26.00	27.00
В	15.80	16.50	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	24.00	25.00	26.00

#### **Longevity Scale**

• After Completing 10 years of service in BPS \$.25/hr.

• After Completing 15 years of service in BPS \$.45/hr.

• After Completing 20 years of service in BPS \$.65/hr.

#### **YEAR TWO (2024/25)**

• Increase each Longevity Step by \$.25. Longevity Steps reflect the following

After Completing 10 years of service in BPS
After Completing 15 years of service in BPS
\$.70/hr.

• After Completing 20 years of service in BPS \$.90/hr.

• All Secretaries will move one step up on the salary schedule

#### 2024-2025 Salary Schedule

-	 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				•		1		
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9
A	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	24.00	25.00	26.00	27.00
В	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	24.00	25.00	26.00

### **YEAR THREE 2025/26)**

• Increase each Longevity Steps Longevity Steps reflect the following

After Completing 10 years of service in BPS
After Completing 15 years of service in BPS
After Completing 20 years of service in BPS
\$1.00
\$1.20

• Add New Step 10

• All Secretaries will move one step up on the salary schedule

#### 2025-2026 Salary Schedule

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
A	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	24.00	25.00	26.00	27.00	28.00
В	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	24.00	25.00	26.00	27.00

#### **CLASSIFICATION ASSIGNMENTS**

Classification A	Classification A	Classification B
Payroll	Community Ed.	Std. Act./Sup All, High School
	Maintenance	Attendance, High School
	Assessment	Counselors, Middle School
		Media, Middle & High Schools
SECRETARY	SECRETARY	Book Processor, Technology Services
Director/Community Relations	Counselors, High School	Receptionist, High School
Director/Student Support Services	Registrar, High School	Athletics, High School
Director/Instruction		Office Assistant, Elementary School
Director/Technology Services		Receptionist, Middle School
Elementary School Principal		Attendance, Middle School
Middle School Principal		Office Assistant, Middle School
High School Principal		
Maintenance		
Autistic		
Special Education		
Bookkeeper, High School		

#### **EXHIBIT A:**

### SECRETARIAL AND CLERICAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW GUIDELINES

- 1. On an **annual basis**, secretaries shall receive job coaching and a performance review using the processes established in this Appendix.
- 2. All secretaries within the first year at a new position shall meet with their supervising administrator within the **first two weeks of employment** to discuss their job duties and expectations. This meeting does not replace either of the two-job coaching / performance review meetings.
- 3. All secretaries shall meet at **once a year for a job coaching / performance** review meeting with their supervising administrator. The meeting shall before the conclusion of the work year (May-June).
- 4. The employee may suggest areas of performance they would like the supervisor to focus on in their review.
- 5. The administrator shall write a narrative following the last performance review of the school year. This written narrative will be shared with the employee and will be included in the personnel file. If the employee disagrees with the narrative, they may write and attach a response within thirty (30) days of receiving the written narrative.
- 6. The job coaching / performance review meetings should focus on a variety of topics, including but not limited to the following:
  - \*What are the performance areas the employee feels they have excelled at?
  - \*What are the performance areas the employee feels they need to improve upon?
  - \*What support does the employee feel they need to be more successful?
  - How does the employee feel they communicate in written or oral formats? Are the communications timely and professional?
  - How does the employee feel they handle stressful situations and particular times of the year that can be more difficult than others?
  - How has the employee continued to advance their technical skills? Are resources or support needed?
  - How has the employee prioritized their roles and responsibilities?
  - How does the employee view their role in the building or department?
  - How does the employee view themselves as a supportive member of the secretarial team (if applicable) or objectives of the building or department?
  - How does the employee support the overall core business of supporting students?
    - \* Indicates that it must be included during the meeting and as part of the narrative.
- 7. Before putting an employee on a performance improvement plan, the employee must have been previously trained on any new job duty or technology. If not, then the training shall occur as soon as possible before a performance plan is considered.
- 8. If it is determined by the supervising administrator that the employee needs additional support, the administrator shall work with the employee and Association to develop a Performance Improvement Plan.

- 9. An Employee Performance Review Committee composed of two (2) members representing each party shall be established. The Employee Performance Review Committee shall be charged with the following:
  - Assess procedural matters dealing with employee; performance review and
  - Recommend changes in performance review policies and procedures. This committee shall meet at as needed at the request of one of the parties to this agreement.

#### 10. Performance Review Copies and Distribution

The performance review form shall be prepared and distributed as follows:

Original First Copy Second Copy Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Employee Building File

# EXHIBIT B: CALENDARS

The calendars for 2023-24 are below. Calendars for 2024-25 and 2025-26 will be released prior to each school year.

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First/Last day students report

2023-2024 BAEOP 12-month Calendar.xlsx

Holidays

260 | Non-work days

First/Last day of work

44

### EXHIBIT C: LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

Should financial circumstances result in the need for either party to request to renegotiate items contained herein, it is agreed that said negotiations will occur on notification to the other party. Further, it is expressly understood that only items directly associated with the demonstrated need shall be considered.

# EXHIBIT D: FORM FOR DONATION OF SICK LEAVE DAYS

Name	voluntary donat	e from my accumulated bank of sick leave days
days to		for his/her use. I understand the days
Number of	Name	
	from my accumulated bank. I und ne employee and not the school dis	erstand the donation is voluntary and has been trict or the Association.
Signature of empl	oyee making the donation	
HR Verification:		