

**COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AND**

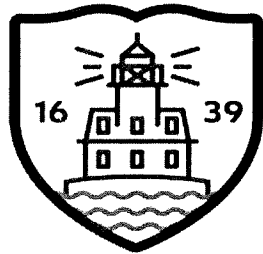
**FAIRFIELD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

**TOGETHER WITH RELATED**

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES**

**OF THE**

**FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



**FAIRFIELD  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**JULY 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2027**

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## **COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENT**

This booklet contains the Comprehensive Document developed between the Board of Education of Fairfield and the Fairfield Education Association, which is recognized by the Board of Education of Fairfield as the bargaining agent for the teaching staff of Fairfield Public Schools.

The Comprehensive Document is divided into two parts as follows:

### **Part 1**

Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiated by the Board of Education and the Fairfield Education Association effective July 1, 2024 and terminating June 30, 2027 containing herewith otherwise referenced documents.

### **Part 2**

Board/Administrative policies and memorandum. Throughout the document, those Policies are designated with an asterisk (\*). They are not part of the contract but are noted throughout in order to reference topics in a common location.

## **PART 1**

### **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

#### **PREAMBLE**

##### **Collective Bargaining Agreement**

The Board of Education of Fairfield (hereinafter called "Board") and the Fairfield Education Association (hereinafter called the "Association") recognize that, among the Board, the Superintendent and the Association, there currently exists a harmonious working relationship. This relationship is predicated on co-operation and good faith and is structured to ensure the best interest of public education in Fairfield.

In developing this Collective Bargaining Agreement, the Association recognizes the legal authority of the Board; the Board and the Association recognize the legal responsibility of the Superintendent to the Board and to the professional certified staff; the Board and the Superintendent recognize the Association and its statutory right to negotiate salaries and conditions of employment for the professional certified staff.

#### **ARTICLE I** **RECOGNITION**

1. The Board hereby recognizes the Fairfield Education Association as the exclusive representative of the teacher group of certified professional employees of the

Board, and of those employees holding Durational Shortage Area Permits (DSAP), except as excluded by Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-153b as amended; the Association having been designated pursuant to a designation petition certified by the Board of Education on December 20, 1965, and reaffirmed in a Representation Election held May 17, 1983. All of the provisions of the Agreement except Article V, Separation and Recall Procedure, apply to DSAP's.

2. The Board agrees that it will not negotiate or confer with any individual or organization of teachers, other than the Fairfield Education Association as long as said Association retains organizational recognition status.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS**

Upon a request of either party for a meeting to open negotiations, a meeting shall be held not more than 15 calendar days following such a request, unless mutually postponed by the parties.

This Agreement shall constitute the policy of the Board and the Association in the subject areas covered by the Agreement for the duration of the Agreement unless changed by the consent of the parties to this Agreement. Previously adopted policies, rules or regulations in conflict with this agreement are superseded by this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement which changes pre-existing Board of Education Policy will have retroactive applicability or operation.

#### **Translations Due to Changes**

If during the life of this contract, substantial changes in the school organization, instructional practices and/or program structures should render the language in any part of this contract inappropriate, the following shall occur:

- a. Either party may submit a written request for a meeting to translate the contract provisions in question into appropriate language.
- b. Within five days of receipt of such request, a meeting shall occur between the Superintendent and the FEA President and/or their designees to translate the contract provisions in question into language appropriate to the new situation.
- c. If within thirty days of the first meeting, the parties cannot reach an agreement, then the issue of translation shall be submitted to binding arbitration. A single arbitrator shall be mutually agreed upon, or failing that, shall be assigned from the CT. State Department of Education approved list of interest arbitrators. Said single arbitrator shall render his/her decision based on the criteria cited in C.G.S. 10-153f (c).

- d. The parties acknowledge that the high school schedule may be modified during the term of this Agreement (trimester, block schedule, etc.) and such may trigger an obligation to bargain the impact of any said change.

**ARTICLE III**  
**RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD**

Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, the Board and the Superintendent of Schools reserve and retain full rights, authority and discretion in the proper discharge of their duties and responsibilities, to control, supervise and manage the public schools of the Town of Fairfield and its professional staff under governing laws, ordinances, rules and regulations - Municipal, State and Federal.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORKING CONDITIONS**

**BASIC TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES**

The basic teaching assignment for all levels shall include:

- a. All scheduled teaching assignments during the school day, together with the usual assignments as the supervision of home rooms, study halls, guidance periods, cafeteria, playground, bus, student activity proctoring and special assignments because of emergencies created by the absence of teachers or by other unusual circumstances.
- b. All activities relevant to good teaching and professional status such as planning and preparation of work and homework, construction and correction of tests, evaluation of student work, extra help periods, and the completion of all requested reports related to the teaching process.
- c. All activities related to the development and maintenance of good school program, including desirable community relations such as faculty, house, subject area, grade level, committee or subcommittee meetings; responsibility for assembly program; sponsorship of clubs, councils and intramurals; parent conferences; special PTA and open house programs; and student programs for parent audiences. Such duties shall be shared as equally as possible by all members of the staff.

## **4.1 ELEMENTARY DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORKING CONDITIONS**

### **4.1.1 Preparation Time**

All certified teachers in the elementary schools will be provided with an average of forty continuous minutes or a class period (whichever is greater) of daily preparation time which shall occur during normal working hours, excluding wrap-around time.

Certified teachers in the elementary schools will be compensated for any loss of preparation time below 150 minutes per week. Said compensation shall be computed at the curriculum rate for such teachers. Exceptions to this clause may be made, on a reasonable basis, for emergencies which arise during the school day or in situations where the lack of preparation time is due to the failure of a specialist to notify the building principal of his/her absence by 7:15 a.m.

### **4.1.2 Duty Free Lunch**

All elementary teachers shall have at least 30 minutes continuous duty free lunch period.

### **Class Size and Staffing Adequacy**

The parties agree that, subject to legal and contractual limitation, the matters of class size and staffing adequacy are subject to the ultimate judgment of the Board of Education. The Board of Education agrees that prior to increasing the existing elementary class size average more than ten percent (10%) above the 1973-74 average class size, it will notify the Fairfield Education Association and give the Fairfield Education Association representatives an opportunity to discuss such modifications or changes.

- a. Special Education Intensive or Self-Contained\*
- b. Special Education - Resource\*

### **4.1.3 Elementary Class Size (Board Policy #6151)\***

#### **4.1.4**

The number of direct student contact teaching hours for 1.0 FTE elementary art, world language, teachers is 25.8 hours in a six day rotation, with corresponding reductions of hours per weeks proportionate to reduction in F.T.E. status (e.g.: .1 FTE teaching load is 2.15 hours per week.)

This direct student contact teaching time may be divided into a varying number and length of classes per week at the discretion of administration; provided however that no class shall

be scheduled for a length less than thirty (30) minutes, except for World Language which shall not be less than twenty-five (25) minutes.

For music and physical education teachers, direct student contact time is as follows:

Physical Education	Music
0.1 = 3 classes	.1 = 3 classes
0.2 = 7 classes	.2 = 7 classes
0.3 = 11 classes	.3 = 11 classes
0.4 = 15 classes	.4 = 14 classes
0.5 = 19 classes	.5 = 18 classes
0.6 = 23 classes	.6 = 22 classes
0.7 = 27 classes	.7 = 26 classes
0.8 = 30 classes	.8 = 29 classes
0.9 = 34 classes	.9 = 33 classes
1.0 = 38 classes	1.0 = 37 classes

Adaptive Physical Education: A single 30 minute class over a Five Day Schedule.

Pre-School Art, Music and Physical Education: A single 20 minute class over a Six Day Schedule.

Early Childhood Center Physical Education: Two 30 minute classes over a Six Day Schedule.

In addition, Elementary art teachers shall have one and one half hours per week of non-instructional time for the performance of art related building responsibilities.

## **4.2 MIDDLE SCHOOL DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORKING CONDITIONS**

### **4.2.1 Community Approach**

When students are organized in communities, the size of the community shall not exceed 120 students. This load applies to the core instructors – English, Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics, except for sixth grade wherein the Reading instructor shall also be included. Where the team determines that it may be in the best interest of the children to deviate from the 120 for grouping purposes such shall be accommodated within this community size in accord with Item 4.2.5 below.

### **4.2.2 Student Load and Class Size**

- a. Student load for middle school teachers (6-8) shall not exceed the following:

Art

120

Computer	110
World Language	110
Health	125 per day
Home Economics	
Lab	90
Non-Lab	120
Industrial Arts/Technology	
Shop	90
Drafting	120
Music	
General	150
Theory, History & Appreciation (30 per class)	120
Band, Orchestra, Choir, Chorus (No more than 5 assigned periods)	
Physical Education	150 per day

Student load shall be interpreted in accordance with the past practice of the parties.

- b. When students are not organized in communities, student load shall be pursuant to the loads for grades 9-12 as found in 4.3.1 below.

#### **4.2.3 School Counselors**

Within the middle school, there shall be at least one school counselor per grade. If the individual's student load is less than 150 or exceeds 250 students, the contract may be reopened for negotiations, but said negotiations will not be subject to binding arbitration.

#### **4.2.4 Special Education - Middle School\***

- a. Student load - Special Education Resource
- b. Student load - Special Education Intensive or Self-contained

#### **4.2.5 Student Load Excess**

If, any time after October 1, a teacher is assigned more students than allowed by the student load maximum, it shall be the responsibility of the teacher to notify the FEA president who shall request a meeting with the building principal and the teacher involved to discuss the reason(s) for such excess.

- a. If it can be shown that the overage is necessitated by the enrollment of new students in a school after July 1, the overage shall be permitted as long as the



individual teacher's student load does not exceed the contractual maximum by more than 5%.

- b. If the excess is caused by other factors, it shall be permitted unless the FEA submits a written exception to the Superintendent or designee within five working days of the meeting.
- c. Failure to file an exception to a specific overage shall not be considered as precedent setting nor shall it be applicable to any other situation.

#### **4.2.6 Grade 6 Foreign Language**

Effective 1994-95, if there are shortened periods for foreign language Grade 6, the teaching load can be increased in inverse proportion to the length of the instructional period; each child will count proportionally less toward the teacher's total load.

#### **4.2.7 Preparation Periods**

Full-time teachers shall have one class period of continuous, unbroken time per day or five (5) periods per week as a preparation period, which shall occur during normal working hours, excluding wrap-around time. If within the school day an emergency arises which necessitates that a teacher be required to cover another class or extra duty assignment during his/her scheduled preparation periods, the provisions of the previous sentence are waived.

#### **4.2.8 Secondary Class Size (Board Policy )\***

#### **4.2.9 Class Coverage - Middle School:**

If an administrator requests a teacher to cover a class for another teacher, in a non-emergency situation, the teacher covering the class shall be relieved of a duty.

### **4.3 HIGH SCHOOL DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORKING CONDITIONS**

#### **4.3.1 Student Load and Class Size**

Student load for high school teachers (grades 9-12) shall not exceed the following:

Art	125
Business Education	125
Counselor	250
English	110
Foreign Language	110

Health	130 per day
Home Economics	
Lab	95
Non-Lab	125
Industrial Arts/Technology	
Shop	95
Drafting	125
Mathematics	125
Music	
General	155
Theory, Hist. & Appreciation	125 (30 per class)
Band, Orchestra, Choir, Chorus	
(No more than 5 assigned periods)	
Physical Education	155 per day
Science	110
(24 students max in lab class)	
Social Studies	125

Student load shall be interpreted in accordance with the past practice of the parties.

#### 4.3.2 Student Load Excess

If, any time after October 1, a teacher is assigned more students than allowed by the student load maximum it shall be the responsibility of the teacher to notify the FEA president who shall request a meeting with the building principal and the teacher involved to discuss the reason(s) for such excess.

- a. If it can be shown that the overage is necessitated by the enrollment of new students in a school after July 1, the overage shall be permitted as long as the individual teacher's student load does not exceed the contractual maximum by more than 3%.
- b. If the excess is caused by other factors, it shall be permitted unless the FEA submits a written exception to the Superintendent or designee within five working days of the meeting.
- c. Failure to file an exception to a specific overage shall not be considered as precedent setting nor shall it be applicable to any other situation.

#### 4.3.3 Secondary Class Size (Board Policy)\*

#### 4.3.4 Special Education - High School\*

- a. Student load - Special Education Resource
- b. Student load - Special Education Intensive or Self-contained

#### **4.3.5 Preparation Periods- High School**

Full-time teachers shall have one class period of continuous, unbroken time per day or five (5) periods per week as a preparation period. Under a block schedule, full-time teachers will have one-mini block of continuous, unbroken time per day or five (5) mini-blocks per week as a preparation period, which shall occur during normal working hours, excluding wrap-around time. If within the school day, an emergency arises which necessitates that a teacher be required to cover another class or extra duty assignment during his/her scheduled preparation periods, the provisions of the previous sentence are waived.

#### **4.3.6 Duty Period Adjustments- High School**

The Administration shall make reasonable efforts to equalize duty periods and non-instructional duties. If a high school teacher has twenty six (26) or more instructional periods for the week, school administration shall make a reasonable effort to reduce the number of duties or non-instructional periods assigned to any such teacher.

#### **4.3.7 Teaching Preparations- High School**

Prior to assigning a secondary school teacher to more than three (3) different preparations (except where additional subjects or preparations are requested by the teacher in writing) school administration shall review the master schedule to determine whether any such additional preparation may be assigned to another teacher who currently has fewer than three (3) preparations. The administration will make a reasonable effort to adjust assignments based on that determination.

#### **4.3.8 Class Coverage - High School:**

If an administrator requests a teacher to cover a class for another teacher, in a non-emergency situation, the teacher covering the class shall be relieved of a duty.

#### **4.3.9** If a teacher's expected responsibilities are the simple coverage of a class, with no teaching, grading or preparation for coverage that class, they shall be paid \$40 for coverage of less than 75 minutes and/or \$60 for coverage of 75 minutes or more.

If a teacher's expected responsibilities in an assignment are more than coverage of a class, and require regular teaching grading and preparation, they shall be paid an additional .2 for the duration of the assignment, which shall not last beyond the end of the school year.

#### **4.4 WORKING CONDITIONS FOR PART-TIME STAFF AND SHARED STAFF**

##### **4.4.1 Teaching Assignment**

- a. Part-time Staff: The teaching and duty assignment for part-time staff shall be proportional to that of a full-time equivalent teacher.
- b. Shared Staff: In circumstances where a teacher is assigned in two or more buildings, the following shall be complied with to allow the most effective implementation of the teaching assignments.
  - i. The student load of a shared teacher shall be proportional to that of a full-time equivalent teacher as defined in Article IV, Section 4.2 subsection 4.2.2 (a) (b) (c).
  - ii. Teachers may be assigned to non-teaching duties in proportion to their teaching assignment.
  - iii. Staff have a responsibility to participate in parent conferences, building and system-wide meetings. The need for exception to this should be discussed with the administrator involved.
  - iv. Shared staff will be provided reasonable time for travel between buildings.

#### **4.5 TEACHER EVALUATION AND PERSONNEL FILE**

##### **4.5.1 Evaluation (Administrative Policy)\***

See evaluation document entitled Educator Professional Growth Plan. A copy of this publication can be obtained from the Human Resources Office. According to Connecticut General Statute §10-151b, any claims of failure to follow the established procedures of this Program shall be subject to the grievance procedure of Article XI.

##### **4.5.2 Personnel File**

The Superintendent will be responsible for the maintenance of personnel files in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151 a. (as amended).

Each professional employee certified by the State Board of Education and employed by any local or regional board of education shall be entitled to knowledge of, access to, and upon request, a copy of supervisory records and reports of competence, personal character and efficiency maintained in such employee's personnel file with reference to evaluation of performance as a professional employee of such board of education.

#### **4.6 FACULTY AND DEPARTMENT MEETINGS**

- a. Tuesday afternoons shall be reserved by all members of the professional staff for faculty or departmental meetings which shall last no longer than the following amounts after the regular full student school day:
  - i. The first meeting of the month shall last no more than sixty (60) minutes. The second, third and fourth meetings shall last no more than ninety (90) minutes. There shall be no fifth meeting if a month has five (5) Tuesdays.
  - ii. School psychologists, school social workers, special education teachers, and speech and language pathologists shall be excused from two ninety-minute meetings per month and shall not be assigned duties. (Examples: Hall duty, cafeteria duty, bus duty, recess duty). These employees shall be required to use the time that they are excused from Tuesday meetings for the purposes of case maintenance, report writing and other associated professional activities.

#### **4.7 PROMOTION OF STAFF MEMBER (ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY)\***

#### **4.8 EARLY LEAVE POLICY (ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY)\***

#### **4.9 PERMISSIBLE ABSENCES**

##### **4.9.1 Sick Leave**

- a. All regular employees shall be allowed full days for absence due to personal illness not to exceed fifteen (15) days in each school year. Unused sick leave may be accumulated from year-to-year, provided however, that the maximum of such accumulation shall not be more than one hundred fifty (150) days. A doctor's certificate may be required in the case of any absence due to illness over five (5) consecutive school days.
- b. The Fairfield Board of Education will observe in reference to pregnancy (disability) and childbirth leaves the provisions as outlined in the Connecticut General Statutes and as it may be amended from time-to-time.
- c. All regular employees shall be allowed up to twenty (20) days of his/her accumulated sick leave for the purpose of adoption of a minor child.
- d. All regular employees may use up to 5 sick days per year for a teacher's own doctor's visit and/or for the day of a teacher's surgery(ies).

- e. All regular employees may use up to 5 sick days per year to care for a sick family member (spouse, child, or relative residing in the teacher's household). A sick day to care for a child may be used only when the child cannot attend school because the child is sick. A sick day to care for a spouse may be used because the spouse either cannot work or provide care for himself/herself due to illness.
- f. In addition to section 4.9.1(e) above, regular employees may request up to an additional 5 sick days to care for a sick family member if the teacher would be eligible for leave to provide such care under the Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"). The teacher may be required to provide a doctor's note to support these absences if requested by the school administration.

**4.9.1.1** Notwithstanding the foregoing limitations, the Superintendent may allow sick leave with full pay according to the following guidelines:

- a. Up to thirty (30) additional days for employees with one to five years of service.
- b. Up to sixty (60) additional days for employees with five to ten years of service.
- c. Up to ninety (90) additional days for employees with ten or more years of service.

The Board of Education may allow any teacher with more than five years of service additional sick leave with pay equal to the difference between the regular salary of such teacher or supervisor and the pay of his/her substitute.

However, no such leave shall extend beyond the school year in which it is allowed, and no allowance shall be made without a doctor's certificate.

**4.9.1.2 Workers' Compensation:** If an employee is absent on workers' compensation, other than related to Connecticut General Statute Section 10-236a, the employee shall suffer no loss of regular pay for up to one calendar year provided that for each work day absent, one third of a sick day will be debited. If an employee has no sick days remaining, the Employee's compensation shall be reduced to the statutory amount.

**4.9.2 Personal Absence**

- a. In case of death in the family or immediate household of any regular employee, such employee shall be entitled to leave with full pay for not more than five days.

- b. Up to three (3) days in each school year may be allowed with pay for such absences, which in the opinion of the Superintendent of Schools, are needed to address important personal matters that cannot be reasonably attended to outside of working hours. Two (2) of such days may be private days. Personal days are subject to the following conditions: Only personal days with a reason may be used on the following days (1) on professional development days; (2) days that are tandem to a long weekend or school vacation; and (3) in May and June.
- c. Up to three (3) additional days may be allowed for causes which, while not unavoidable, are deemed important and reasonable by both the employee and the Superintendent of Schools. These three (3) days may be made available to the employee with pay equal to the difference between the regular salary and the pay of the substitute. Such absences are to be exclusive of allowable sick leave.
- d. Private days may not be used in May and June.
- e. Any pay loss for an individual on a per diem basis shall be figured at the rate of 1/187 times salary and if this absence is five or more days in length then in addition, loss of Board paid insurance cost will also be deducted for said period. The per-diem rate for 10 ½ month personnel shall be computed at a rate of 1/197 times salary.

**4.9.2.1 Personal or Private Absence Requests (Administrative Policy)\*** For Definition/Examples, see corresponding Administrative Section.

**4.9.2.2 Absence with Full Pay (Administrative Policy)\***

**4.9.2.3 Absence with Pay Less Substitute (Administrative Policy)\***

For days taken for reasons stated in 4.9.2.3 Policy Section: If an employee is absent on a non-instructional day and employee has personal days remaining per section 4.9.2(b) then there shall be no substitute pay loss; however, if no personal days remain, substitute pay will be deducted.

**4.10 DUTY FREE LUNCH**

All 50% or more FTE teachers shall have a minimum of thirty (30) continuous minutes of duty free lunchtime per day. Such lunch period shall be allocated in addition to the teacher's preparation period.

**4.11 TRANSFER**

A transfer is a change from one supervising unit to another. Any transfer shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent in the best interests of the school system.

The interests of the students and the educational program are paramount in the assignment of certified personnel. Transfers shall be made after every reasonable effort has been made to make staff aware of opportunities which may exist for voluntary transfers and to meet the requests and preferences of the individual staff members.

When a vacancy is known for the ensuing school year causing the administration to seek candidates from outside the district, the Human Resources Administrator will notify the FEA president. Present employees interested in being considered candidates will be provided an opportunity to be interviewed.

Although the Board and Association recognize that some involuntary transfer of certified personnel is unavoidable and in the system's best interest, they also recognize that frequent transfer of certified personnel can be disruptive to the educational program. The Board will make every effort to avoid repeated involuntary transfers of the same member of the certified staff.

An employee who is involuntarily transferred to another supervising unit solely because of declining enrollment shall have the right to return to their prior position, if it is reconstituted, for one year after the date of their transfer and school has not yet started in the current year.

Any employee affected by a potential transfer will be provided an opportunity to discuss with the Superintendent (or designee) the transfer in advance of the decision.

Notice of transfer shall be given to the teacher as soon as practicable and under normal circumstances not later June 1<sup>st</sup>.

All final and official notifications of transfers, reassignments, and changes in status of any position shall be issued electronically and/or in writing by the Executive Director of Human Resources and copied to the FEA President at the time of the notice's issuance. Final and official notifications shall not be communicated via text or voice mail.

#### **4.12 PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE**

Each member of the bargaining unit shall dress in a professional manner appropriate to ~~his/her~~ *their* assignment.

#### **4.13 Teaching Protection**

The Board of Education shall protect and save harmless any teacher from financial loss and expense, including payment of reasonable expenses incurred for medical or other service necessary as result of an assault on a teacher while they were acting



in the discharge of their duties within the scope of his/her employment or under the direction of the Board of Education, which expenses are not paid by the individual teacher's insurance, worker's compensation or any other source not involving an expenditure by such teacher (C.G.S. 10-236a).

When a teacher is assaulted as a result of ~~his/her~~ *their* employment, the Board will pay their full salary, less worker's compensation payments, while absent. These days will not be deducted from the teachers accumulated sick leave.

#### **4.14 Start of School Set Up and Preparation**

All teachers shall be allowed one full day of preparation time during the first four (4) non-student days prior to the start of school for purposes of set up of their classrooms, caseloads and other necessary tasks to prepare for the start of school. If necessary, teachers may request an additional block of time of 3 hours for moving classrooms, which shall be paid at the applicable curriculum rate. Building based administration will determine which of the four (4) days would be used for set up and preparation, and whether such additional class set up time in addition to the one-day block above is necessary. The professional development day of the above-referenced four (4) days shall be the same length of the regular work day, as are the other two of the four (4) days. The Board shall not extend the teacher work year beyond 187 days and as set forth in Article 10.4.1 and 10.4.4.

**4.15** Wrap-around time is that part of a teacher work day which is prior to and after the regular student school day when the teacher is required to be present.

**4.16** Except under extraordinary circumstances, and/or if time permits before the May 1 (or other) statutory deadline, non-tenured teachers shall be given no less than five-school days to submit their resignation prior to the issuance of a non-renewal letter. The FEA President shall be notified when the non-tenured teacher receives notice of their non-renewal. All final and official notifications of non-renewal shall be electronically transmitted or otherwise issued by the Superintendent and/or the Executive Director of Human Resources.

### **ARTICLE V SEPARATION AND RECALL PROCEDURE**

#### **5.1 SEPARATION**

Order of Layoff - When the Board determines that a reduction in professional staff is necessary, the following principles will be controlling:

Non-tenured teachers will be laid off before tenured teachers.

Less senior tenured teachers will be laid off before more senior tenured teachers who are qualified by certification, seniority to be determined by length of continuous service from most recent date of hire.

A teacher who will be laid off under this procedure shall have the option to replace a less senior teacher whose position they are qualified by certification to fill.

Any grievance filed under this provision shall proceed no further than Step 4 (Board Level).

## **5.2 RECALL OF SEPARATED CERTIFIED STAFF**

- a. A teacher within thirty 30 days of separation shall submit his/her name in writing by certified mail to the Superintendent of Schools to be placed on the Recall list, which Recall list shall be in effect for the next thirty-six (36) calendar months.
- b. A teacher will be recalled only to a department or specialty field in which that teacher has taught in the system. A teacher may be recalled to a comparable position in any department or specialty field in which he/she is certified and, in the judgment of the Superintendent of Schools, is qualified.
- c. The teacher must notify the Board of Education in writing of any address change within 30 days.
- d. A teacher who accepts a recall to a position of less than the full-time equivalency held by the teacher when separated, shall retain the right of recall to the next occurring full-time position or fraction above that to which they were recalled and for which they are certified and in the judgment of the Superintendent of Schools is qualified. The recall opportunity will be offered to said teacher no later than the beginning of the school year following the availability of said higher FTE position.
- e. A teacher's refusal to accept a position under these Recall procedures, when the position offered is less than the full-time equivalency held by the teacher when separated, will not cause the teacher's name to be removed from the list.
- f. Recall must be based on a reversal of the Separation procedure for Reduction in Professional Staff.
- g. If a teacher desires to accept a position offered under the provisions of this section, said acceptance must be made by certified mail and postmarked within two (2) weeks of receipt of the offer.
- h. Written notice by certified mail shall be adhered to by both parties.
- i. No new teacher shall be hired in a certification area until all teachers on the recall list with that endorsement and who, in the judgment of the

Superintendent, are qualified in that area, have been recalled or declined a position.

- j. Any teacher who requests appointment to a position of less than the FTE held at the time of separation shall not retain the option to return to a full-time position until all teachers on the recall list for that endorsement have been recalled.
- k. Any teacher separated under the provisions of this section shall have the same rights to the protection of the grievance procedure contained in Article XII as applied to a non-separated teacher.

### **5.3 SEPARATION OF HOLDERS OF DSAPS**

Should circumstances lead to a need to reduce the number of professional staff members, holders of durational shortage area permits (DSAPS) will be released before certified staff, provided there are appropriately certified teachers to perform the remaining work. Under no circumstances will an appropriately certified teacher be reduced while a DSAP holder remains in a position for which the DSAP teacher is certified.

## **ARTICLE VI LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

### **6.1 GENERAL**

- a. Any tenured certified professional employee may be granted a leave of absence as approved by the Superintendent of up to two years without pay for the purpose of study, travel, service in an organization such as VISTA or the Peace Corps, employment in a field related to his/her teaching area, illness or other purpose.
- b. While on a leave the individual shall be allowed to maintain the prevailing insurance coverage of the Collective Bargaining Unit by paying an amount equal to such premiums to the Board of Education in four equal quarterly payments in advance.
- c. Any person on leave of absence, upon filing written notice of intent to return at least 90 calendar days prior to expiration of the leave, shall be reinstated in a position in the Fairfield Public Schools comparable to that held at the time of granting the leave. Every reasonable effort will be made to reinstate the individual in the position held at the commencement of the leave of absence. It is understood that the reinstatement of said person returning from the leave of absence may affect the employment status of other staff members in accordance with the requirements of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Separation and Recall Procedures of this Agreement.

- d. In the event the Board has not received a written notice of intent to return within 80 calendar days prior to the expiration of the leave from a professional employee, the Board shall notify the individual at his/her most recently provided address by certified mail (return receipt requested) regarding his/her obligation to provide such written notice of intent to return within the next ten (10) business days. Failure to respond to this letter will constitute resignation.

## **6.2 CHILDREARING LEAVE**

Any certified professional employee shall be entitled, upon written request submitted to the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to an extended leave without pay for purpose of childrearing, apart from any period of childbirth disability leave with pay. Such employee shall be entitled to such leave for any school year, or reasonable requested portion thereof for the remainder of the school year in which the child is born, adopted, or fostered, and for an additional one half of another school year if requested by the employee.

Childrearing leave, shall be subject to the following provisions:

- a. Employees requesting leave shall submit not less than thirty calendar days written notice of the anticipated date of ending performance of duties.
- b. While on a leave, the individual shall be allowed to maintain the prevailing insurance coverage of the Collective Bargaining Unit by paying an amount equal to the total of such premiums to the Board of Education in four equal quarterly payments in advance.
- c. Any tenured certified professional employee on childrearing leave, upon filing written notice of intent to return at least 90 calendar days prior to expiration of the leave, shall be reinstated in a position in the Fairfield Public Schools comparable to that held at the time of granting of the leave. Every reasonable effort will be made to reinstate the individual in the position held at the commencement of the leave of absence. It is understood that the reinstatement of said person returning from the leave of absence may affect the employment status of other staff members in accordance with the requirements of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Separation and Recall Procedures of this Agreement. The expiration date of leave through the end of a school year is June 30.
- d. Non-tenured personnel on childrearing leave will be granted priority for a position in Fairfield Public Schools based upon certification. Every reasonable effort will be made to reinstate the person on leave of absence in the present position upon return.

- e. In the event the Board has not received a written notice of intent to return within eighty (80) calendar days prior to the expiration of the leave from a professional employee, the Board shall notify the individual at his/her most recently provided address by certified mail (return receipt requested) regarding their obligation to provide such written notice of intent to return within the next ten (10) business days. Failure to respond to this letter will constitute resignation.
- f. Personnel on childrearing leave who accept full-time employment or employment which approaches full-time may lose rights granted in this section at the discretion of the Superintendent. An individual coming under the provisions of this item is entitled to use of the grievance procedure.
- g. Any childrearing leave provided under this Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be used concurrently with FMLA leave.

### **6.3 SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES**

A teacher in the employment of the Fairfield Board of Education who enters the Armed Forces of the United States during a national emergency shall be entitled to the following:

- a. The same or a similar position in the school system upon their return from service.
- b. The salary upon renewal of service in the school system based upon the step in the salary schedule to which the teacher would have been entitled had he/she remained in continuous employment in the system.
- c. Credit for armed forces service time toward all seniority rights to which the teacher is entitled.
- d. A teacher who is under contract at the time of induction into the armed forces but who has not taught in the system shall be entitled to the following provision:
  - e. Such teacher shall be placed at the head of the list of applicants for any vacancy for which he/she may be eligible at the time of his application for reinstatement.
- g. All applications for reinstatement under the above provisions shall be made within 90 days of termination of service in the Armed Forces of the United States.

## **ARTICLE VII INCLUSION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILDREN**

**7.1 PRACTICES IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM INVOLVING THE INCLUSION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS (Memorandum of Understanding)**

- a. The Board and the Association agree that the matter of educational practices in the inclusion of special education students is not properly a subject for collective bargaining; rather, it is a matter of school board policy and administrative regulation.
- b. The Board and the Association agree that the report and procedures outlined below should be undertaken by the school system in implementing special education programs.

**7.2 INCLUSION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS**

Inclusion of Special Education students will be done in a manner consistent with the following policies and procedures:

- a. When a classroom teacher is required to attend a PPT, Early Intervention Plan (EIP) meeting or any other meetings, that teacher is not responsible for covering, providing, and arranging for instruction in the regular class.
- b. Every effort should be made to balance the distribution of students with special needs in arranging staff schedules.

**7.2.1 Notification to staff of IEP Goal Requirements (Administrative Policy)**

**7.2.2 Right to call for a Planning and Placement Meeting (Administrative Policy) \***

**ARTICLE VIII  
FRINGE BENEFITS**

**8.1 INSURANCE**

- a. The Board shall continue, through the life of this Contract, to provide medical, RX and dental insurance benefits under the State of Connecticut 2.0 Plan, as amended in 2017 and as may be amended from time to time, and as set forth under the conditions set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed by the Board and the Union on February 5, 2016 and February 8, 2016, respectively (unless the Board decides to withdraw under the terms of said Memoranda). The Board may further provide such benefits so long as it is done in accordance with the terms of said Memorandum.

During the term of this collective bargaining agreement, the employees shall pay the following premium cost share:

- Effective July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026 – 24.5%
  - Effective July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 – 25.5%
- b. A long-term disability insurance plan for the employee providing sixty percent (60) of his/her respective salary after a one hundred and eighty (180) day elimination period. Benefits payable should include but not be limited to such for sickness and accident to age 65, rights of survivorship, and primary social security leveled at the time of disability. The employee must apply to the State Teachers' Retirement for disability when filing for coverage under disability insurance. The employee will pay a premium cost share of \$.80 cents per month.
  - c. The Board shall have the right to provide increased or substantially equivalent coverage to the life insurance and aforementioned medical insurance provisions. The Board shall formally consult with the Association at least 60 days prior to the institution of any change in these provisions. Nothing herewith shall in any way diminish the benefits described above and/or modify the Plan administration (or function) to such an extent that teachers are no longer provided the substantially equivalent or increased coverage enjoyed from these specific insurance policies, except as may otherwise result from application of the Medical Insurance Sideletter.
  - d. The parties, if unable to define substantially equivalent coverage, shall submit the dispute to the American Arbitration Association to provide an arbiter specializing in matters of insurance benefits and be bound by the ruling of the A.A.A.
  - e. Recovery Incentive Program. Teachers are encouraged to scan their hospital bills for overcharges and shall be paid 25% of all monies recovered.
  - f. Any teacher may elect to resume board-provided insurance coverage upon written notice to the Board of Education. Upon receipt of such notice, insurance coverage shall be reinstated as soon as possible, subject, however, to any regulations or restrictions, including waiting periods, which may then be prescribed by the appropriate insurance carriers.
  - g. The Board of Education has established an IRS Section 125 for treating premium payment on a pretax arrangement. As of 1996-97, Subsections 106, 109, 119 will be available provided a sufficient number volunteer to participate. Participants shall pay any operating fees. Under Section 125, the Board of Education will make available those subsections that relate to dependent care and excess medical expenses.
  - h. The Board agrees to offer retiring teachers who, upon retirement, will be collecting a retirement allowance from the Connecticut Teachers Retirement Act, including dependents, the option to continue to be covered by the

following: a, b, c, and d above, and as those plans may be from time to time amended through collective bargaining for active employees.

Upon retiring on or after July 1, 1993, teachers with sufficient quarters to qualify for automatic Medicare Part A coverage at age 65 will be covered with medical insurance as required by Connecticut State Statute with costs borne by the employee.

This medical coverage will include a Medicare carve out. The Medicare carve out will be designed to coordinate with Medicare in order to provide a similar benefit to those enjoyed by active employees. The Medicare carve out will assume that plan participants are covered by Medicare Parts A and B and these are primary to the Board's medical insurance even in the event that the participant does not take Medicare Part A and Part B, if eligible.

- i. Payment by Retirees: Group rate premiums are to be paid quarterly in advance to the Board of Education.
- j. The Board shall mail and/or e-mail annual premium payment bill notification and any plan documentation to said retiree. Any subsequent amendments or change in insurance carrier shall also be mailed to participating retirees.
- k. The teacher must certify annually, on a form, provided by the Board, as to the dependent status of those enrolled in any of the Board's insurance programs, as well as provide information as to any qualifying events affecting eligibility.

## **8.2 DEATH BENEFIT**

Each certified employee shall be provided with life insurance in a principle amount of \$50,000. Coverage extends through the summer for personnel remaining in the employment of the Fairfield Public Schools.

## **8.3 NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE**

In the event that the Congress of the United States enacts a national health insurance program or the State of Connecticut enacts a state-wide insurance program which would duplicate any of the group insurance benefits provided by the Board under this Agreement, when and in that event, the Board and the F.E.A. shall meet to:

- a. verify the area(s) of duplication;
- b. verify the amount of money by which premiums will be reduced by the Board through elimination of that part of the Board's group insurance program which reflects said duplication, and;
- c. determine if there are rebates due, their amounts and their distribution.



#### 8.4 RETIREMENT SICK-LEAVE BENEFIT

If a teacher announces their retirement by November 1 of any given year, they shall receive a payment of \$100 for each unused accrued sick day over 100 days that they have at that time. This payment shall be reduced by the number of sick days that the teacher uses from November 1 until the last teacher workday. The payment shall be made on or before the July 31<sup>st</sup> following the November 1 announcement of retirement.

### **ARTICLE IX PROFESSIONAL GROWTH PROGRAM**

The unique needs of program and students in Fairfield, and the successful efforts undertaken by staff, justifies the Board's providing financial support for these professional growth activities in accord with the following provisions.

The Fairfield Education Association and Fairfield Board of Education have jointly developed, under the provisions of the *Connecticut General Statutes*, the Program for Evaluation of the Professional Staff. Through this program, teacher strengths and weaknesses are identified and goals are set for capitalizing upon strengths and improving teacher performance in appropriate areas. Teachers will maintain their qualifications for teaching through appropriate certification and study as determined by the "Focusing Form For Competent Tenured Staff on Goal Setting". Staff are granted the regular salary increment or salary adjustment (MX or MY) as they maintain qualifications through professional growth activity.

#### Provisions for Reimbursement:

1. At the discretion of the superintendent or designee, teachers will be reimbursed for the cost of conference expenses, workshop registration, and professional leaves that are incurred in pursuit of professional growth. In order to be reimbursable, such activities must be both:
  - a. identified by and agreed to between the staff member and his/her supervisor, and;
  - b. approved by the superintendent or his/her designee.

The amount of reimbursement for such activities shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee, and up to 100% of such cost.

2. Costs of college/university courses which have:
  - a. been identified by and agreed to between the staff member and his/her supervisor, and;
  - b. received prior approval by the superintendent or his/her designee, will be reimbursed according to the following:
    - i. Courses that relate to one's teaching assignment will be reimbursed at 80% of the cost for the first course taken during the contract year and 50% for the second.
    - ii. Courses taken to add an additional endorsement to a Professional certificate will be reimbursed at one-third the cost.
    - iii. Courses approved for degree change shall be reimbursed at 25% of the cost.
    - iv. Reimbursement for courses will be in direct proportion to their FTE for part-time teachers.

If a request satisfies two of the above mentioned categories, then the higher rate shall prevail. In any contract year, the Board is obligated to a limit of two courses, not to exceed ten (10) graduate credits maximum. Reimbursement for dissertation advisement will be limited to a maximum of two semesters.

3. A professional growth leave normally requires approval by the superintendent during the fiscal year prior to any granting and such leaves shall not be granted to more than 2% of the total staff in any one year. Full reimbursement under this program shall be given for college and/or university tuition that is paid to any accredited institution of higher learning, provided that the teacher already holds a Master's Degree.
4. Upon completion of the approved Professional Growth Activity, reimbursement shall be given by submission to the Personnel Office. Requests must be submitted within 60 days of the employee's receipt of his or her final grade in a class.
5. Return from Professional Growth Leave

Any person on professional growth leave, as described in this section, shall be reinstated in a position in the Fairfield Public Schools comparable to that held at the time of granting the leave. Every reasonable effort will be made to reinstate the individual in the position held at the commencement of the leave of absence. It is understood that the reinstatement of said person returning from the leave of absence may affect the employment status of other staff members in accordance with the requirements of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Separation and Recall Procedures of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE X**  
**SALARIES**

**10.1 SALARY UPON APPOINTMENT**

- a. No regular teacher shall be appointed at a salary lower than that of the first step on the Teachers Salary Schedule within the training level column in which such person belongs.
- b. In the initial placement of new staff on the salary schedule, the Superintendent may place the staff member on the proper step of the salary schedule according to his/her previous record of teaching service or education, or give placement credit for non-teaching experience related to the area of the teacher's professional responsibility or assignment, or may place the teacher on the step the Superintendent feels is necessary to employ the teacher, in areas of teacher shortage as identified by the State Department of Education or by Fairfield's own staffing needs as reflected in current teacher vacancies which the Board is unable to fill.
- c. The word "service" shall be interpreted as (i) any service recognized by the State Teachers' Retirement Board, or, (ii) teaching service in a private school.

**10.2 PAY PLAN OPTION**

- a. The Board of Education shall allow any member of the certified staff to select payment of annual salary in one of the following manners:
  - i. 22 pay plan.
  - ii. 26 pay plan.
- b. Initial Check for the Year:
  - i. If the teacher school year commences before Labor Day then the first pay date shall be the Friday following Labor Day. Subsequent paychecks will be in intervals of no more than two weeks.
  - ii. Should the teacher school year start after Labor Day then the first pay date will be the eighth school day of employment. Subsequent paychecks will be in intervals of no more than two weeks commencing on the second Friday following.
  - iii. All 10 1/2 month employees will be issued their first pay check for the school year on the first Friday following Labor Day and then follow the calendar as noted above for subsequent pay checks.

- iv. Health insurance cost-share deductions will be evenly deducted over 20 pay periods (twice a month for the ten-month school year), unless the date of hire is after July 1. If there is an increase in health insurance premiums on July 1 of a given year, any increase will also be distributed evenly among the remaining pay periods (May and June).
- c. Extra Pay Payment
  - i. The extra pay salaries for sports/activities will be divided into *5 equal payments* on the following schedule for seasonal appointments:
    - Fall- on the fourth through eighth payroll
    - Winter - on the eleventh through fifteenth payroll
    - Spring - on the seventeenth through the twenty- first
  - ii. The extra pay salaries for sports/activities will be divided into *5 equal payments* on the following schedule for yearlong appointments:
    - Last payday in October
    - Last payday in December
    - Last payday in February
    - Last payday in April
    - Last payday in June

### **10.3 DEGREE CHANGE**

In order to be placed on a new lane at the start of one year, notice of intention to complete applicable lane change requirements must be submitted in writing to the Personnel Office no later than the preceding October 1. The Personnel office shall notify staff prior to October 1st of the October 1st deadline. A teacher who provides said notice shall not be penalized for failure to complete lane change requirements. This section shall not otherwise affect the current practice regarding the time of recognition of degree changes.

To move from one salary schedule to another, the following evidence must be presented to the administration:

- a. To go from the "Bachelor's" schedule to the "Master's" schedule, satisfactory evidence (official transcript) must be presented that at least 30 credits of approved graduate work have been earned beyond the bachelor's degree in areas related to either education or the teacher's certification (usually a master's degree).

- b. To go from the "Master's" schedule to the "Sixth Year" schedule, satisfactory evidence that one of the following requirements has been met.
- i. Sixty credits of approved graduate work at accredited colleges or universities (official transcript or transcripts required) beyond a bachelor's degree. Credits must be approved in advance. Transcripts of approved graduate work already on file will not have to be resubmitted and those credits will count towards lane advancement.
  - ii. Writing a book which would be within the professional scope of the person and which shall have been accepted for publication.
  - iii. Travel of at least one year duration that shall have been accompanied by specific plans and objectives consistent with a field of concentration.
  - iv. Teacher's participation in Exchange Teacher Program that shall have included an intense program of study and teaching and a series of planned visitations that shall insure personal contacts with the people and culture of a land.
  - v. A minimum of twenty-two (22) credits of graduate work and a maximum of eight credits for equivalent activities such as noted below.
- The relative value of these activities and the amount of credit they shall receive (within the range of 2 to 8 credits) shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee and the existing Board of Credit Review in the event of an appeal by any person involved. No more than 6 credits shall be awarded in any one category.
- (a) Travel of not less than two months duration, but containing a planned program with specific objectives. The planned program shall be NEA or university sponsored.
  - (b) Writing of two articles that shall have been published in a recognized professional publication.
- c. For teachers on the Sixth Year schedule to receive a Seventh Year stipend, satisfactory evidence shall be submitted that thirty (30) hours of approved graduate work beyond the sixth year (earned after the

sixth year) at accredited colleges or universities (official transcripts required) beyond the Sixth Year have been earned. Credits must be approved in advance.

If one has earned sixty (60) credits of approved graduate work at accredited colleges or universities in order to move from a "Master's" to the "Sixth Year" schedule, then movement from the "Sixth Year" schedule to entitlement for the "Seventh Year" stipend may also be accomplished by submitting satisfactory evidence of ii through v above.

## **10.4 SALARY PROVISIONS**

- 10.4.1** a. The teacher salary schedule for the 2024-2025 school year is set forth in Appendix B. The teacher salary schedule for 2025-2026 shall be as set forth in Appendix C. The teacher salary schedule for 2026-2027 shall be as set forth in Appendix D.

Personnel with a position which extends beyond the school year referred to in §10.4.4, shall have each additional day compensated at their individual per diem salary for each additional work day.

For ten and one half month positions, a multiplier of 1.053 will be utilized.

- b. The salary for staff members who hold vocational certificates but do not have a bachelor's degree shall be \$500 less than the appropriate step on the BA lane.
- c. If the Board establishes an eleven month work year for any bargaining unit position, a 1.095 multiplier will be utilized. No current employee (on the payroll as of June 30, 2023) will be required to occupy any such position.

- 10.4.2** The work year for coordinators, deans, school psychologists, social workers, audiologists, school counselors, work/study specialists and all other teachers referred to in 10.4.1, shall be the teacher work year plus the five (5) consecutive non-holiday workdays immediately preceding and the five (5) consecutive non-holiday workdays following the teacher year.

The regular work year for teachers who are hired and/or assigned in 1993-94 or thereafter to any of the positions referenced in this subsection, shall be the regular teacher work year. Increases beyond the regular work year or

decreases back to the regular work year for these teachers are changes of assignment, with corresponding changes in compensation. Teachers shall be required to report to work four (4) days before classes start. The Board shall not extend the teacher work year beyond 187 days and as set forth in Article 10.4.1 and 10.4.4.

The required flexibility as set forth in the settlement agreement of the school psychologists' grievance dated January 1992 shall continue. Scheduling of the workdays in excess of 187 days must be reasonable in time and scope.

**10.4.3 Length of the Teacher's Day**

If the teacher's regular workday, not including contractually-required after school obligations, is lengthened beyond seven hours and ten minutes, either party may submit after prior negotiations, the issue to binding arbitration to determine the remedy. (Shortened school days or contractually extended workdays are not included in the "teacher's regular workday").

**10.4.4 Length of the School Year**

If the scheduled employment year is extended beyond 187 days either party may submit, after negotiations, the issue to binding arbitration to determine the remedy.

**10.4.5** In order to allow the scheduling of evening conference nights, teachers and students would have an early release day with teachers returning for a time not to exceed the afternoon release time in the evening. Conferences should be scheduled district-wide during the conference week for either the elementary or middle school level. Teachers without conference responsibilities will adhere to the normal schedule. Evening conferences shall not exceed three (3) per year.

**10.4.6 Evening Meeting Attendance**

Attendance by School Counselors, Social Workers and Psychologists at evening meetings will be divided evenly to the extent possible among the above referenced positions by the Director Pupil Personnel Services.

**10.5 EXTRA COMPENSATION FOR EXTRA CLASS ACTIVITIES (See Appendix's E, F & G)**

Appendix E:

Effective July 1, 2024, all existing stipend positions shall receive an increase of 5.0%. There shall be no increase to stipend positions during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years.

- b. All extra pay staff shall sign an individual agreement for each assignment they accept.

#### **10.5.1 Placement of Personnel on Schedule and Payment**

- a. If an individual has had experience in the extra class activities program and is appointed to the same assignment, he/she will be placed on the appropriate step of the schedule according to his years of experience in the assignment.
- b. If an individual changes assignments outside of his/her category (e.g., from yearbook advisor to chess advisor), he will be placed on the first step on the new assignment.
- c. If an individual changes assignments within the same category, then the following pattern will apply:
  - i. If the assignment is upgraded (e.g., from assistant football coach to Varsity football coach), then the individual will be placed on the nearest step to earning more dollars than he/she is currently receiving.
  - ii. If the assignment is downgraded (e.g., from Varsity tennis coach to JV Tennis coach), then the individual will be placed on the appropriate step reflecting his/her years of experience in the category.
- d. If an individual new to Fairfield is appointed to an activity he/she will be placed on the schedule reflecting previous comparable experience on the same level. It is the responsibility of the individual to submit adequate proof of the previous experience.

#### **10.5.2 Provisions for Modifications**

- a. Qualifications for Participation
  - (aa) In order to participate in the extra compensation program, a staff member must:
    - i. be designated by the building administrator as the advisor of an approved activity.
    - ii. show evidence that the duties related to such activity are beyond those designated as the basic teaching responsibility.



- iii. be endorsed by the building administrator that such duties conform to the job description.
  - iv. submit such documentation to the Board of Review for study and point assignment.
- (bb) When a vacancy occurs in a building in the extra compensation program, the administration shall announce the position on a system-wide basis. If there is no qualified, competent applicant in the Fairfield Public Schools, the position will then be opened to qualified, competent persons outside the Fairfield Public Schools.
- b. Extra pay will not be considered for duties that are basic teaching responsibilities.

**10.5.3 Provisions for Supervision and Evaluation**

- a. All approved activities in the Extra Compensation Program will be under the supervisory responsibility of the appropriate building administrator.

**10.5.4 Board of Review**

- a. A Board of Review with representation from the Association and Administration shall be created for the purpose of studying requests for the inclusion of additional activities, and making recommendations to the Superintendent or his/her authorized designee regarding the placement of such activities on the extra pay salary schedule on a once-a-school-year basis. This committee shall meet by October 15 of each school year. No activities under this section shall constitute negotiations.
- b. Membership on the Board of Review shall include the following:
  - (aa) Four members, including the Chairman, drawn from the non-teaching staff to be appointed by the Superintendent.
  - (bb) Four members of the teaching staff representing all levels to be appointed by the President of the Fairfield Education Association.
- c. Appointment to the Board of Review shall be for a three-year term on a staggered basis to provide for continuity of operation.

- d. The operating procedures shall be determined by the Board of Review.

**10.5.5 Grievances**

All grievances related to the implementation of this program shall follow established procedures.

**10.6 OTHER SALARY PROVISIONS AND SCHEDULES**

**10.6.1 Adult Education**

The Board of Education shall maintain a uniform Salary Schedule for certified teachers. The opportunity to teach in the program will be first offered to certified employees of the Fairfield Board of Education.

**10.6.2 Homebound Tutoring**

The hourly rate for homebound tutors shall be \$75 per hour, effective July 1, 2024. Classroom teachers shall not be responsible for grading or instructional responsibilities for homebound students.

**10.6.3 Summer and Curriculum Workers**

The hourly rate of pay for curriculum workers and approved summer work shall be \$60 per hour, effective July 1, 2024.

**10.6.4 Summer School**

- a. The hourly rate of pay for summer school teachers shall be \$60 per hour, effective July 1, 2024.
- b. Summer school principal positions may be open to members of the administrators' bargaining unit and teachers' bargaining unit and shall be paid at a rate to be agreed upon.

- c. Grievance procedures will follow the regular day school procedures for members of this bargaining unit.
- d. Recruitment of Teachers
  - aa. Positions will be offered first to qualified members of the Fairfield Public School certified staff who have applied for summer school.
  - bb. Selection of teachers will be based on the following criteria:
    - i. Certification appropriate to the assignment.
    - ii. Prior teaching experience in the appropriate subject area or level.
- e. The teacher will be notified in writing of his/her appointment as soon as possible.
- f. The normal school day for summer school teachers will extend from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm.

**10.6.5 Special Assignments, Ticket Selling and Collecting at Varsity Football and Basketball, Volleyball and Track Meets.**

If done by teachers, will be a special assignment done on a voluntary basis. Teachers who apply for and are accepted for these special assignments will be paid the following:

Ticket collector/Scoreboard Operator/Announcer/Linesperson/ Track Timer (dual meet)	\$45.00
Ticket Seller (accountable for money) and Track Starter (dual meet)	\$50.00
Track Timer (tri-meet)	\$55.00
Track Starter (tri-meet)	\$60.00
Track Timer (quad-meet)	\$65.00
Track Starter (quad-meet)	\$70.00

If done by teachers, will be a special assignment done on a voluntary basis. Teachers who apply for and are accepted for these special assignments will be paid the following as of July 1, 2011:

Ticket collector/Scoreboard Operator/Announcer/Linesperson/ Track Timer (dual meet)	\$45.90
Ticket Seller (accountable for money) and Track Starter (dual meet)	\$51.00
Track Timer (tri-meet)	\$56.10
Track Starter (tri-meet)	\$61.20
Track Timer (quad-meet)	\$66.30
Track Starter (quad-meet)	\$71.40

**10.6.6 Secondary Intramural Supervisors**

The hourly rate for Secondary Intramural Supervisors shall be \$40.

**10.6.7 Middle School Team Liaison**

The annual rate of pay for Middle School Team Liaison shall be \$3,893.34.

**10.6.8 High School Department Liaison**

The annual rate of pay for High School Department Liaison shall be \$3,893.34.

**10.6.9 Mentors**

The annual rate of pay for Mentors shall be \$1,143.42 per mentee.

**10.6.10 Subject Area Lead Teacher**

The annual rate of pay for Subject Area Lead Teacher shall be \$1,373.94.

**10.6.11** There will be no increase to the rates above for the term of the Agreement, except for the Secondary Intramural Supervisor.

**10.6.12** In-District Professional Development - For each hour of presentation of an in-district professional development activity, each presenter will be compensated for one and one-half hours of planning time at the curriculum per hour rate. This compensation stipend shall be paid only once for the same presentation topic, even if the topic is delivered more than once.

**10.7 PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS**

The Board of Education shall allow any member of the certified staff to change payroll deductions for credit union and annuities with 30 days advance notice.

**10.7.1 PAYROLL SLOTS**

The Board of Education shall provide two (2) additional payroll deduction slots. One shall be for additional contributions to the FEA (the account addressee) and the other shall be for voluntary individualized accounts which will be administered at no cost to the Board.

**10.7.2 DIRECT DEPOSIT**

Effective July 1, 2015, all employees must enroll in direct deposit.

**10.8 DUES DEDUCTION AND SERVICE FEE DEDUCTION**

1. DEDUCTIONS

- a. In the event a unit member resigns or otherwise terminates his or her employment or receives a leave of absence, the Association shall inform the Board of Education of the amount of dues to be deducted from the final check.
- b. The Association shall meet its legal obligations to inform non-members as to the dues and their deductions, and the Board shall refer all inquiries concerning such dues to the Association.

2. SUBSEQUENT EMPLOYMENT

Those teachers whose employment commences after the start of the school year shall pay a pro-rated amount equal to the percentage of the remaining school year. Teachers hired after October 1 will have their dues deducted in equal installments from the remaining paychecks, from which service fees are deducted.

3. FORWARDING OF MONIES

The Board of Education agrees to forward to the Association each month a check for the amount of money deducted during that month

in accordance with present practice. The Board shall include with such check a list of teachers for whom such deductions were made.

4. LISTS

No later than the first paycheck in October of each school year, the Board of Education shall provide the Association with a list of all employees of the Board of Education and the positions held by said employees. The Board shall notify the Association monthly of any changes in said list.

5. REFERENCE TO ASSOCIATION

The singular reference to the "Association " herein shall be interpreted as referring to the Fairfield Education Association, the Connecticut Education Association, and the National Education Association.

6. SAVE-HARMLESS

The Association shall indemnify and save the Board and/or the Town harmless against all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability, which may arise by reason of any action taken in making deductions and remitting the same to the Association pursuant to this Article.

**ARTICLE XI**  
**GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

A grievance is a specific claim of a violation of the rights of employment allegedly caused by a misinterpretation or inequitable application of established policy or the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. A grievance may be brought by an individual who is a member of the bargaining unit or by the President acting for the Association.

**Step 1:**       **Informal Level** - In an effort to resolve the issue, the individual (and/or representatives of the Association) who is aggrieved, discusses the matter informally with his or her immediate supervisor or the person whose decision or action gave rise to the grievance, who for the purpose of this grievance procedure, shall be referred to as "supervisor". Such discussion must be requested within thirty (30) school days of the action causing the matter to have occurred. No formal written records other than the date when such request was made will be maintained at Step 1. It is understood that the grievant has attempted to resolve the problem on his/her own before initiating Step 1.

**Step 2:**       **Formal Level** - Failing a resolution of the issue at the informal level in Step 1, the aggrieved individual prepares a written statement of the grievance and requested remedy and submits it within five (5) days of the meeting in Step 1 to the supervisor. The written statement will contain the following:

- a.       A statement of the nature of the dispute.
- b.       A citation of the specific contract or policy language alleged to have been violated (or past practice, policy, and regulation).
- c.       A terse statement of what action has given rise to the grievance.
- d.       A statement of what remedy the grievant is seeking. The supervisor will respond in writing to the formal statement of the grievance within three (3) days of its presentation. Should other members of the administrative and supervisory staff, other than the Superintendent, have line authority over the supervisor involved in Step 3 proceedings, the aggrieved individual and/or representatives of the Association, if not satisfied with the administrative reply, may initiate similar Step 2 proceedings with the next level of administration. Under an additional Step 2 procedure, the same requirements apply to the grievant and the administrator as in the initial Step 2 process.

**Step 3:**       **Superintendent's Level** - If the grievant, and or the Association, is not satisfied with the response at Step 2, a copy of the grievance and any written administrative replies are to be forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools within three (3) days of receipt of the response. The Superintendent of Schools will schedule a hearing, which will take place within (5) days of receipt of the grievance. Effort will be made at the grievance hearing to resolve the differences between the parties to the dispute. If the grievant and/or the Association and Superintendent agree, however, a hearing may be waived. If a resolution is not possible, the Superintendent will issue a written decision on the matter within three (3) days of the hearing or receipt of the written grievance statement if no hearing is held.

**Step 4:**       **Board of Education Level** - If the aggrieved and/or the Association is not satisfied with the Superintendent's decision, he or she may, within three (3) days after the decision, submit the grievance for appeal to the Board. The Board shall, no later than its next scheduled meeting, or within fifteen (15) days, whichever occurs first, meet with the grievant and any representative of the Association for the purposes of hearing the grievance and making a determination in the matter. The Board shall render its decision and the reasons therefore in writing to the aggrieved person with copies to the Association within three (3) days after such meeting.

**Step 5:**        **Arbitration Level** - If the Association is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance by the Board, it may, within twenty (20) days of receipt of such Board decision submit the grievance to arbitration by filing a demand for arbitration with the American Arbitration Association and notifying the Board in writing. The Chairman of the Board and the President of the Association, or their designated representatives, shall, within five (5) days after such written notice, jointly select a single arbitrator or request from the American Arbitration Association their listing of available arbitrators. If the parties are unable to agree upon an arbitrator, it is agreed that the selection of an arbitrator shall be determined by the then existing rules and regulations of the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator shall be without power or authority to alter, amend, delete or disregard provisions of this Agreement, and the arbitrator shall be without power or authority to make any decision which requires the commission of an act prohibited by law or which is a violation of the provisions of the Agreement. The decision of the arbitrator shall be binding upon all parties only where the grievance is a claim of a violation, misinterpretation, or inequitable application of any of the provisions of this Agreement. The decision of the arbitrator on grievances claiming a violation allegedly caused by misinterpretation or inequitable application of established policy shall be advisory unless the parties agree in writing beforehand that such decision shall be binding upon all parties of interest. The cost for the services of the arbitrator shall be borne equally by the Board and the Association. If the arbitrator's award is binding, nothing shall prevent either party from attempting to modify, vacate, or enforce such decision in court.

**General Provisions:**

1. All days referred to in Article XI shall be school days.
2. If possible, any grievance filed prior to June 1 would be processed within the current school year.
3. Any grievance filed that reaches the stage of arbitration on or after May 15, shall become a matter of expedited arbitration in order to resolve this matter during the current school year.
4. Time limits may be extended by mutual agreement, in writing, of the parties involved.
5. The term "Representative of The Association" shall be interpreted to include any representative of the CEA or NEA who may be requested by the FEA.
6. Rights of Teachers to Representation:
  - a. No reprisals of any kind shall be taken by the Board of Education or by any member of the administration against any teacher by reason of his/her participation



in the grievance procedure or his/her support of any participant in the grievance procedure.

b. Any aggrieved person may be represented at any stage of the grievance procedure by a bargaining unit member of his/her own choosing, and he/she may not be represented by a representative of any teacher organization other than the Association. When an aggrieved person is not represented by the Association, the Association shall have the right to be present and to state its views at any stage of the grievance procedure.

## **ARTICLE XII** **CONTINUATION CLAUSE**

Any section included in this Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be automatically included in any subsequent Collective Bargaining Agreement after the same has been duly adopted, ratified and approved by all applicable parties and authorities provided that no provisions of such sections has been a subject of negotiations between the parties. This clause shall survive the duration of this document.

## **ARTICLE XIII** **JUST CAUSE**

- a. No teacher shall be disciplined in any manner without just cause. This provision does not apply to teacher terminations which are covered under Connecticut General Statute §10-151.
- b. Unit members shall have the right to respond to any document or material placed in their personnel file or permanent record, and their response shall be attached to the file copy.
- c. Unit members shall have the right upon request to review and copy the contents of his/her own personnel file. Unit members have the right to have other individuals with proper authorization review their personnel file or permanent record.

## **ARTICLE XIV** **SEVERABILITY**

In the event that any provision of this Agreement at anytime is declared invalid by any Court of competent jurisdiction or becomes invalid by passage of, or operation, of any law, federal or state, such action shall not invalidate the other provisions of this Agreement. It is the express intention of the parties hereto that all other provisions not so invalidated shall remain in full force and effect during the term thereof.

**ARTICLE XV**  
**DURATION**

Effective July 1, 2024 this Collective Bargaining Agreement shall extend through June 30, 2027. If either party wishes to amend or modify any provision of this Agreement, it shall do so in accordance with Article II, Procedures for Conducting Negotiations, as set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**ARTICLE XVI**

If the State of Connecticut at any time during the term of this Agreement forces TRB funding upon the municipality, the Board of Education may re-open this contract in order to negotiate all impacts of such action(s) upon the collective bargaining relationship between the board and the union. If such mid-term bargaining fails, the parties shall resolve said issues through the binding interest arbitration procedures set forth in Connecticut General Statutes 10-153. The Board shall further have this ability in the event the State elects to not fund the Teachers' Retirement Board contributions, payments or obligations, or otherwise places such responsibilities onto the Town and/or Board in whole or in part. This section shall sunset at the end of the term of this Agreement.

In Witness Whereof, the parties have caused their names to be signed.

FAIRFIELD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

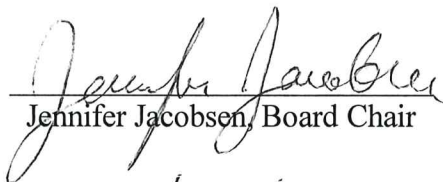


Mick McGarry, President

12/12/23

Date

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION



Jennifer Jacobsen, Board Chair

12/12/23

Date

**APPENDIX A**  
Insurance Prior to State Plan 2.0

The teachers' premium cost shares for the PPO will be based on allocation rates if the plan is self-funded, and based on fully insured equivalent rates if the plan is fully insured.

The Board may implement a comprehensive plan as an alternative to the PPO plan; and may also implement an HDHP/HSA plan as an alternative to the PPO plan. Details and premium cost share of the comprehensive plan or HDHP/ HSA plan shall be as determined by the Board. Participation by any teacher in the comprehensive plan or HDHP/ HSA plan is voluntary.

Effective July 1, 2015, the PPO (insurance and prescription) Plan design and copayments are as follows:

<u>Medical Benefits</u>	<u>In Network</u>	<u>Out of Network</u>
Deductible (ind/fam)	\$0	\$325/\$650/\$975
Coinsurance	0%	20%
Out-of-Pocket Maximum <sup>(1)</sup>	\$5,000/\$10,000	\$1,075/\$2,150/\$3,225
Lifetime Maximum	Unlimited	Unlimited
PCP Office Visit Copay	\$35	20% after ded.
Specialist OV Copay	\$40	20% after ded.
Hospital Copay	\$275	20% after ded.
Urgent Care Copay	\$35	Not Covered
Emergency Room Copay	\$150	\$150
Outpatient Surgery Copay	\$100	20% after ded.
Well Child Care	\$0	20% after ded.
Periodic, Routine Health Exam	\$0	20% after ded.
Routine Eye Exams	\$0	20% after ded.
Routine OB/Gyn Exam	\$0	20% after ded.
Mammography	\$0	20% after ded.
Hearing Screening	\$0	20% after ded.
Outpatient MH/SA	\$35	20% after ded.
Diagnostic Lab and X-Ray (hosp affiliated)	\$0	20% after ded.
Diagnostic Lab and X-Ray (free standing)	\$0	20% after ded.
Allergy Services	\$35	20% after ded.
Semi-Private Room	\$275	20% after ded.
Inpatient MH/SA	\$275	20% after ded.

Skilled Nursing Facility	\$275	20% after ded.
Inpatient Rehabilitative Services	\$275	20% after ded.
High Cost Diagnostics <sup>(2)</sup>	\$75	20% after ded.
Ambulance	\$0	\$0
Outpatient Rehabilitative Services	\$35	20% after ded.
Durable Medical Equipment	\$0	20% after ded.
Prescription Benefits <sup>(3)</sup>		
Retail Generic	\$10	20% after ded.
Retail Brand Formulary	\$25	
Retail Brand Non-Formulary	\$40	
Mail Order Generic	\$10	
Mail Order Brand Formulary	\$25	
Mail Order Brand Non-Formulary	\$40	
Rx Annual Maximum	Unlimited	

<sup>(1)</sup> Out-of-Pocket maximum equals deductible plus coinsurance maximum

<sup>(2)</sup> high cost diagnostic procedures include CAT, CTA, PET, SPECT, MRA and MRI

<sup>(3)</sup> mandatory generic substitution, and 30 day supply at retail, unless specified DAW

b. Effective July 1, 2018, the employee shall pay 23% of the cost share.

**APPENDIX B**  
**FAIRFIELD TEACHERS**  
 10-Month Employees  
 2024-25

Step	BA	MA	6th	7th	PhD
5	55,082	60,430	65,778	68,452	71,126
6	56,687	62,035	67,383	70,057	72,730
7	58,830	64,175	69,523	72,197	74,871
8	62,035	67,383	72,730	74,649	78,079
9	67,383	71,126	76,474	78,982	81,821
10	68,990	74,871	80,218	82,725	85,566
11	70,594	78,614	83,964	86,469	89,309
12	73,266	82,360	87,707	90,212	93,056
13	74,871	87,707	91,449	93,957	96,796
14	76,474	89,309	96,796	99,303	100,540
15	78,079	90,914	98,403	104,420	105,887
16	80,754	93,587	100,004	106,025	107,492
17	83,919	96,796	104,284	110,301	111,769
18	87,083	100,403	107,887	113,905	115,376
19		103,867	112,137	118,141	120,410
20		107,330	116,387	122,377	125,443

All teachers not at maximum shall advance one step on the salary schedule, except that teachers formerly on steps 1-4 advance to step 5 prior to normal step advancement. Steps 1-4 were eliminated.

The schedule reflects an increase of 2.25% GWI to the salary schedule. Furthermore, a new penultimate step was added to each salary lane, and step 18 was increased by \$2,000, in addition to the GWI, in the MA, 6<sup>th</sup> Year, 7<sup>th</sup> Year, and PhD columns.

**APPENDIX B**  
**FAIRFIELD TEACHERS**  
**10.5-Month Employees**  
**2024-25**

Step	BA	MA	6th	7th	PhD
5	58,058	63,696	69,332	72,150	74,968
6	59,751	65,384	71,024	73,842	76,660
7	62,002	67,639	73,277	76,094	78,911
8	65,384	71,024	76,660	79,478	82,296
9	71,024	74,968	80,606	82,407	86,240
10	72,685	78,911	84,551	87,191	90,187
11	74,405	82,858	88,499	91,140	94,133
12	77,223	86,806	92,441	95,083	98,079
13	78,911	92,441	96,387	99,029	102,024
14	80,197	94,133	102,024	104,667	105,969
15	82,296	95,824	103,715	110,059	111,605
16	86,431	98,642	105,407	111,749	113,298
17	90,566	102,024	109,915	116,257	117,807
18		105,715	113,605	119,948	121,499
19		109,370	118,089	124,420	126,808
20		113,024	122,572	128,891	132,117

All teachers not at maximum shall advance one step on the salary schedule, except that teachers formerly on steps 1-4 advance to step 5 prior to normal step advancement. Steps 1-4 were eliminated.

The schedule reflects an increase of 2.25% GWI to the salary schedule. Furthermore, a new penultimate step was added to each salary lane, and step 18 was increased by \$2,000, in addition to the GWI, in the MA, 6<sup>th</sup> Year, 7<sup>th</sup> Year, and PhD columns.

**APPENDIX C**  
**FAIRFIELD TEACHERS**  
 10-Month Employees  
 2025-26

Step	BA	MA	6 <sup>th</sup> Year	7 <sup>th</sup> Year	Doctorate
5	56,321	61,790	67,258	69,992	72,726
6	57,962	63,431	68,899	71,633	74,366
7	60,154	65,619	71,087	73,821	76,556
8	63,431	68,899	74,366	76,329	79,836
9	68,899	72,726	78,195	80,759	83,662
10	70,542	76,556	82,023	84,586	87,491
11	72,182	80,383	85,853	88,415	91,318
12	74,914	84,213	89,680	92,242	95,150
13	76,556	89,680	93,507	96,071	98,974
14	78,195	91,318	98,974	101,537	102,802
15	79,836	92,960	100,617	106,769	108,269
16	82,571	95,693	102,254	108,411	109,911
17	85,807	98,974	106,630	112,783	114,284
18	89,042	102,662	110,314	116,468	117,972
19		106,204	114,660	120,799	123,119
20		109,745	119,006	125,130	128,265

All teachers not at maximum shall advance one step on the salary schedule. The schedule reflects an increase of 2.25% GWI to the salary schedule.

**APPENDIX C**  
**FAIRFIELD TEACHERS**  
 10.5-Month Employees  
 2025-26

Step	BA	MA	6th	7th	PhD
5	59,364	65,129	70,892	73,773	76,655
6	61,095	66,855	72,622	75,503	78,385
7	63,397	69,161	74,926	77,806	80,686
8	66,855	72,622	78,385	81,266	84,148
9	72,622	76,655	82,420	84,261	88,180
10	74,320	80,686	86,453	89,153	92,216
11	76,079	84,722	90,490	93,191	96,251
12	78,961	88,759	94,521	97,222	100,286
13	80,686	94,521	98,556	101,257	104,320
14	82,001	96,251	104,320	107,022	108,353
15	84,148	97,980	106,049	112,535	114,116
16	88,376	100,861	107,779	114,263	115,847
17	92,604	104,320	112,388	118,873	120,458
18		108,094	116,161	122,647	124,233
19		111,831	120,746	127,219	129,661
20		115,567	125,330	131,791	135,090

All teachers not at maximum shall advance one step on the salary schedule. The schedule reflects an increase of 2.25% GWI to the salary schedule.



**APPENDIX D**  
**FAIRFIELD TEACHERS**  
 10-Month Employees  
 2026-27

Step	BA	MA	6th	7th	PhD
5	57,515	63,100	68,684	71,476	74,268
6	59,191	64,776	70,360	73,152	75,943
7	61,429	67,010	72,594	75,386	78,179
8	64,776	70,360	75,943	77,947	81,529
9	70,360	74,268	79,853	82,471	85,436
10	72,037	78,179	83,762	86,379	89,346
11	73,712	82,087	87,673	90,289	93,254
12	76,502	85,998	91,581	94,198	97,167
13	78,179	91,581	95,489	98,108	101,072
14	79,853	93,254	101,072	103,690	104,981
15	81,529	94,931	102,750	109,033	110,564
16	84,322	97,722	104,422	110,709	112,241
17	87,626	101,072	108,891	115,174	116,707
18	90,930	104,838	112,653	118,937	120,473
19		108,456	117,091	123,360	125,729
20		112,072	121,529	127,783	130,984

All teachers not at maximum shall advance one step on the salary schedule. The schedule reflects an increase of 2.12% GWI to the salary schedule.

**APPENDIX D**  
**FAIRFIELD TEACHERS**  
 10.5-Month Employees  
 2026-27

Step	BA	MA	6th	7th	PhD
5	60,623	66,510	72,395	75,337	78,280
6	62,390	68,272	74,162	77,104	80,047
7	64,741	70,627	76,514	79,455	82,397
8	68,272	74,162	80,047	82,989	85,932
9	74,162	78,280	84,167	86,047	90,049
10	75,896	82,397	88,286	91,043	94,171
11	77,692	86,518	92,408	95,167	98,292
12	80,635	90,641	96,525	99,283	102,412
13	82,397	96,525	100,645	103,404	106,532
14	83,739	98,292	106,532	109,291	110,650
15	85,932	100,057	108,297	114,921	116,535
16	90,250	102,999	110,064	116,685	118,303
17	94,567	106,532	114,771	121,393	123,012
18		110,386	118,624	125,247	126,867
19		114,202	123,306	129,916	132,410
20		118,017	127,987	134,585	137,954

All teachers not at maximum shall advance one step on the salary schedule. The schedule reflects an increase of 2.12% GWI to the salary schedule.

**APPENDIX E**  
2024-27 Extra Pay Salary Schedule

*All stipends that currently exist shall be increased by 5% effective July 1, 2024.  
There shall be no increase to the stipends for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years.*

<b>Sport/Activity</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>2024-27</b>
	Activity Director	13,481
	Advisory Coordinator	1,408
Athletic Site & Equipment	Manager, Fall	7,042
	Manager, Winter	7,042
	Manager, Spring	7,042
American Field Srvs.	Advisor	4,930
	Assistant	3,721
Auditorium	Manager	3,824
Baseball	Head Coach	7,243
	1st Assistant	5,453
	2nd Assistant	5,251
	3rd Assistant	4,267
Basketball	Head Coach	8,149
	1st Assistant	6,257
	2nd Assistant	4,869
	Middle School	3,781
	Middle School Assistant	3,069
	Middle Schl. Fac. Mgr.	2,040
Bowling	High School	3,120
Cheerleader Advisor	Head Coach Varsity Football	3,824
	Head Coach Varsity Basketball	4,426
	Head Coach Competitive	4,426
	1st Assistant Basketball	3,623
	Middle School	2,114

<b>Sport/Activity</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>2024-27</b>
Chess Advisor	Advisor	1,408
Class Advisor	Advisor Jr./Sr.	4,528
Cross Country	Co-Ed Coach	6,942
	1st Assistant	5,052
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant	5,052
Dance Team	Advisor	3,623
Debate Club		3,421
Dramatics	High School Director	6,641
	H.S. Drama Music Director	3,259
	Middle School	4,327
Fencing	Head Coach	6,538
Football	Head Coach	10,061
	1st Assistant	7,687
	2nd Assistant	7,484
	3rd Assistant	6,116
	4th Assistant	5,916
French Hospitality Club		3,219
Golf	Head Coach	5,936
	1st Assistant	4,749
Gymnastics	Head Coach	7,142
	1st Assistant	5,453
High School-Bowl	Coach	4,528
	Odyssey of Mind/Team	1,911
Hockey - Field	Head Coach	7,042
	1st Assistant	5,413
	2nd Assistant	4,284

<b>Sport/Activity</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>2024-27</b>
Hockey - Ice	Head Coach	7,446
	1st Assistant	5,654
	2nd Assistant	4,468
Intramural	HS & MS Coordinator	2,216
Key Club	Advisor	6,237
Lacrosse	Head Coach	6,840
	1st Assistant	4,849
	2nd Assistant	4,164
Literary Magazine	Advisor	3,319
Math Advisor	High School Advisor	2,216
	Middle School Advisor	2,216
Mock Trial	High School Team	5,534
	Middle School Team	4,528
Music	Band Director - HS	6,439
	Ass't Band Director - HS	4,647
	Chamber Orchestra – HS & MS	3,721
	Choral Director - HS	4,224
	Assistant Choral Director	2,721
	Honors Band Director - MS	2,615
	Honors Band Assistant Band Director – MS	2,563
	6th Grade Honors Band	2,721
	High School Orchestra	4,528
	Honors Orch. Cond. - MS	2,721
	Honors Assistant Cond. - MS	2,615
	Vocal Ensemble - MS	2,721
	Jazz Band - MS	2,721
	Jazz HS Ensemble	5,231
	Mid. Sachl. Mus. Drama	4,023
	5th Grade Honors Orchestra	2,721
	High School Vocal Ensemble	3,721
5th Grade Honors Orchestra - Asst.	2,040	

<b>Sport/Activity</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>2024-27</b>
National Honor Society	Advisor	6,237
Sailing	Head Coach	5,453
	1st Assistant	4,346
School Paper Advisor	High School	4,125
	Middle School	2,615
Secondary Bookroom	Manager	11,025
	Assistant Manager	4,760
Ski Team	Head Coach	6,641
	1st Assistant	5,052
Soccer	Head Coach	6,439
	1st Assistant	5,010
	2nd Assistant	4,284
	3rd Assistant	3,985
Softball	Head Coach	6,641
	1st Assistant	5,052
	2nd Assistant	4,749
	3rd Assistant	3,864
Stage Manager	Head	5,232
	Assistant	2,717
Student Council	High School	6,237
	Middle School	2,414
	Elementary School	2,062
Swimming	Head Coach	7,243
	1st Assistant	5,573
	2nd Assistant	5,573
Tennis	Head Coach	6,237
	1st Assistant	5,151
TV Production	High School	5,231

<b>Sport/Activity</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>2024-27</b>
Track	Head Coach	7,446
	1st Assistant	5,552
	2nd Assistant	5,552
	Indoor - Head Coach	6,840
	1st Assistant - Indoor	4,829
Unified Sports	High School Coach	3,120
Volleyball	Head Coach	5,834
	1st Assistant	4,447
Volleyball	2nd Assistant	3,461
Weight Training	Year Long	4,125
	Fall	4,023
	Winter	4,829
	Spring	3,521
	Team	5,534
Wrestling Coach	Head Coach	8,550
	1st Assistant	6,158
	2nd Assistant	4,629
Yearbook	High School Adv.	7,243
	Middle School Adv.	2,919
	High School Treas.	5,052
Unified Sports	Coach	3,058
Chemical Hygiene	Officer	4,760
Best Buddies		4,930
Student Fan Club		2,216

## PART 2

### **BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES**

#### **4.1.4 Elementary Class Size and Staffing Adequacy**

- a. Special Education - Intensive or Self-Contained

Intensive or Self-Contained elementary Special Education students will be assigned to a class in accord with the recommendation of the Planning and Placement Team and following the system's Intensive/Self-Contained model as noted below:

Not more than ten (10)

- b. Special Education – Resource

Elementary Special Education students will be assigned to a resource class in accord with the recommendation of the Planning and Placement Team and following the system's Resource model as noted below:

Not more than twenty (20)

#### **4.1.5 Elementary and Secondary Class Size (Board Policy #6151)**

- a. Class size shall be consistent with the requirements for good instructional procedure and efficient use of teaching personnel.
- b. For normal class instruction, a class not exceeding 25 pupils will be considered desirable.
- c. A class size of 15 shall be considered a minimum for efficient utilization of the teaching staff.
- d. When class size in grades K-2 exceeds 30, the class may be divided or a teaching assistant provided.
- e. When class size in grades 3-6 exceeds 35, the class may be divided or a teaching assistant provided.
- f. Secondary class size shall not exceed 35 for normal class operation.



#### **4.3.4 Secondary Special Education Class Size (Administrative Policy)**

- a. Student Load - Special Education - Intensive

Intensive Secondary Middle School Special Education students will be assigned to a class in accord with the recommendation of the Planning and Placement Team and following the system's Secondary Middle School model as noted below:

Not more than ten (10)

- b. Student Load - Special Education - Resource

Secondary Middle School Special Education students will be assigned to a Resource class in accord with the recommendation of the Planning and Placement Team and following the system's Resource model as noted below:

Not more than twenty (20)

- c. Student Load - Special Education - Intensive

Intensive Secondary High School Special Education students will be assigned to a class in accord with the recommendation of the Planning and Placement Team and following the system's Intensive Secondary model as noted below:

Not more than twelve (12)

- d. Student Load - Special Education - Resource

Secondary High School Special Education students will be assigned to a Resource class in accord with the recommendation of the Planning and Placement Team and following the system's Resource model as noted below:

Not more than twenty-five (25).

#### **4.6 After School Meetings**

- i. Excused absence shall be based upon extraordinary or unavoidable circumstances beyond the control of the person involved and approved by the teacher's immediate supervisor.
- ii. Absence from faculty or departmental meeting shall be communicated to the chairman of the meeting in advance by the teacher.

- iii. Those personnel who have coaching assignments are excused from faculty or departmental meetings only at those times when an interscholastic contest is to be held.
- iv. Unexcused Absence
  - a. All unexcused absences shall be reported in writing by the chairman of the meeting, to the immediate supervisor of the teacher.
  - b. The immediate supervisor will discuss the problem with the teacher concerned to rectify the situation.
  - c. If there is a second occurrence, a written report shall be submitted to the Administrative Assistant for Personnel by the immediate supervisor with a copy to the staff member involved.

#### **4.7 PROMOTION OF STAFF MEMBERS (Administrative Policy)**

- a. When administrative vacancies occur in the system, notice is given to staff. Such notice contains the minimum qualifications in terms of education and experience, the duties and certification requirements.
- b. Candidates are evaluated by the Superintendent in conjunction with a screening committee appointed by the Superintendent. All recommendations are referred to the Board of Education for action subsequent to the following procedures:
  - aa. Determination of qualifications.
  - bb. Announcement of vacancy.
  - cc. Evaluation of credentials of candidates.
  - dd. Interview of final candidates.
  - ee. Recommendation by committee to the Superintendent.
  - ff. Recommendation by Superintendent to Board of Education.
  - gg. Appointment by Board of Education.

#### **4.8 EARLY LEAVE POLICY (Administrative Policy)**

For a request for early leave to be considered, the teacher must notify the Administrative Assistant for Personnel, in writing, on or before April 1, that he or she has applied for a certain program, giving details of time, place and nature of program. Teachers should realize that their selection for a certain program requiring early leave because of distance or date of start of program will not necessarily guarantee early leave permission.

Request for early leave will require deduction of substitute pay, if such leave is permitted, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

#### **4.9.2. Personal or Private Absence Requests (Administrative Policy)\***

For Definition/Examples, see corresponding Administrative Section.

Personal or private absence with pay or personal absence with pay less substitute shall be granted subject to the formal approval of the superintendent of schools. Such absence shall not be charged against the staff member's sick leave allowance.

##### **4.9.2.1. Personal or Private Absence Requests**

Personal or private business days shall be used only in situations of urgency for the purpose of conducting business which is impossible to transact on the weekend or after school hours. Before making any requests for absences of such nature, staff members should bear in mind that their professional and moral responsibility is to be in the classroom or at the appropriate place of assigned work.

Staff members wishing to utilize a personal or private business day must submit the appropriate form to the Superintendent at least five (5) school days in advance of the anticipated absence. The general reason shall be indicated on the form. The moral and professional responsibility for personal or private judgment shall rest with the individual staff member.

If the nature of the request is that of an extreme emergency, the appropriate form must be submitted at the earliest possible time. Personal or private business days cannot be used prior to or following vacations, single holidays or Teachers' Convention Day if the purpose is an extension of such holiday or vacation, even if the day immediately preceding or following the above days is taken with loss of pay. All non-permitted days of absence prior or subsequent to days of permitted absence, taken in sequence, shall be deducted. Any situation involving absence which in the opinion of the Superintendent needs investigation may be explored by the proper legal authority.

#### **Definitions**

- a. Immediate Family

Spouse, Child, Parent, Guardian, Ward, Sibling, Civil Union Partner.

b. Near Relative

Parent-in-law, Sibling-in-law, First Cousin, Aunt, Uncle, Niece, Nephew, Grandparent, Grandchild.

c. Immediate Household

Anyone other than a member of the immediate family or a near relative, with whom the employee resides

**4.9.2.2 Absence with Full Pay**

a. Business Absence

Any absence for business which requires the presence of the individual; and,

- aa. Bank business
- bb. Conference with author/publisher
- cc. Military training obligation
- dd. Moving arrangements

b. Legal Absence

Any absence for legal proceedings which require the presence of the individual and which could not be conducted at times other than the school day.

- aa. Court appearance
- bb. Property closing
- cc. Estate settlement
- dd. Adoption proceedings

c. Death

- aa. Immediate family

- bb. Near relative or member of the immediate household
- cc. Close friend
- d. Family Obligations (absolutely necessary)
  - aa. Emergency in the home
  - bb. Personal recognition, honors, citations for members of the immediate family or immediate household
  - cc. Wedding in the immediate family or immediate household
  - dd. Transportation for incapacitated member of the immediate family or the immediate household
  - ee. Illness of member of the immediate family or immediate household
  - ff. Birth of a child
- e. Religious
  - aa. Ordination/profession of member of the immediate family, immediate household or near relative
  - bb. Sacred rites for members of immediate family, immediate household, or near relative
- f. Educational
  - aa. School registration of child
  - bb. College conference concerning member of immediate family or immediate household
  - cc. University commencement of member of immediate family or immediate household
  - dd. Approved attendance at conference, convention, seminar
  - ee. Fellowship (travel)
  - ff. Interviews for fellowships and doctoral requirements
  - gg. Observing in another town (course requirement)

- hh. Approved school business (these days would not be counted against the allowed personal days)
- ii. Approved visitation at own or at other schools
- jj. Doctoral examinations
- g. Medical
  - aa. Illness of immediate family or member of immediate household.
  - bb. Medical, dental, psychiatric consultation, examination, surgery
- h. Private

One of the allowed days may be used for an absence which in the professional judgment of the employee, is deemed important and reasonable.

#### **4.9.2.3 Absence with Pay Less Substitute**

- a. Business Absence
 

Any absence for business which requests but does not require, the presence of the individual, and which could not effectively be done at times other than the school day

  - aa. Fraternal, philanthropic organization, meeting
  - bb. Interview for a job
- b. Legal Business
 

Any absence for legal proceedings which request but do not require the presence of the individual and could not effectively be done at times other than the school day.

  - aa. Consultation with attorney
- c. Death - Close friend
- d. Family Obligation (not absolutely necessary) i.e. Wedding of near relative or friend
- e. Religious

- aa. Ordination/Profession of near relative or friend
- bb. Sacred rites of a friend
- f. Educational
  - aa. Commencement of near relative or friend
  - bb. School visit of child
- g. Medical
  - aa. Medical exam for overseas teaching
  - bb. Medical exam for marriage

**7.2.1 Notification to Staff of IEP Goal Requirements\***

The Building Planning and Placement team is responsible to provide each teacher involved in any part of a special education student's instructional goals with necessary information in a timely manner.

**7.2.2 Right to Call a Planning and Placement Meeting\***

Regulation 10-76d-11 provides that each Planning and Placement Team shall review and, if appropriate, revise each child's individualized education program periodically but not less than annually. In addition, a review shall be made upon request of the parents or personnel working with the child, provided the child's educational performance indicates the need for a review.

The regulation provides any member of the professional staff working with the child the right to request a Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting to consider a change in the Individual Education Program (IEP). It is incumbent upon the chairperson of the PPT to call the meeting and to follow the procedure prescribed by the state and federal law.

**OTHER SELECTED POLICIES AND MEMORANDA**

**AS OF THIS PRINTING**

**PHYSICAL EXAMINATION - (BOARD POLICY 4114)**

All personnel, on appointment, shall present evidence of physical and mental fitness in accord with the requirements prescribed by the Fairfield Department of Health.

On request of the Superintendent, any staff member may be required to present evidence from a qualified physician that he/she is physically and/or mentally qualified to perform his/her duties in a satisfactory manner.

**ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL - (BOARD POLICY 4115)**

Assignment of personnel shall be made by the Superintendent in the best interest of the Fairfield Public Schools.

The Superintendent shall specify and assign duties to personnel, and shall be responsible for the enforcement of such rules and other contractual obligations as the Board may from time to time establish for the proper and efficient operation of the school district.

The assignment of personnel may include assignments at times not restricted to the traditional school day in order to maximize the effectiveness of staff, programs, and time for instruction.

Transfers shall be made in the best interest of the Fairfield Public Schools.

**TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT - (BOARD POLICY 4119)**

Employees possessing firearms or legally defined weaponry while on school premises will be subject to employment termination proceedings.

**SMOKING BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES - (BOARD POLICY 4119.5)**

Smoking by school employees will not be permitted in any public school building or on school grounds in the Town of Fairfield during the school day. Smoking is permitted by students and staff in Continuing Education, and adults attending meetings in school buildings in designated outside areas which are equipped with receptacles for ashes and associated debris.

PA93-304 prohibits smoking in school buildings while school is in session or student activities are being conducted. There is no designated area in the school building for employees.

**CHILD ABUSE - (BOARD POLICY 4119.6)**

In compliance with the Connecticut General Statutes §17-A101, the Fairfield Board of Education recognizes all professional and paraprofessional school employees as mandated reporters in all suspected cases of child abuse in and out of school. In order to protect children from injury and neglect, any suspicion of abuse must be immediately reported (within 72 hours) to the agency designated by State Statutes and to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Failure results in a fine.

**DRUG-FREE WORK PLACE - (BOARD POLICY 4119.7)**



In accordance with the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free School Act, it is the policy of the Fairfield Public Schools to prevent and prohibit the use or possession of drugs and alcohol on school premises and, further, to prohibit any use of drugs or alcohol which would impair an employee's performance during school hours.

Violations of this policy, including the possession, use, distribution of any drug or alcohol, or drug paraphernalia and/or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school property or at any school sponsored event, will be dealt with in accordance with Administrative Regulations.

Since drug or alcohol use and abuse may be indicative of serious underlying problems, the Board of Education shall make every effort to offer an employee help and assistance that could include early identification of substance abuse problems, referral for treatment and aftercare.

In dealing with infractions, school personnel recognize that a sanctuary will not be provided for those who violate local, state, and federal law. Administrative Regulations will govern the involvement of the Police Department with respect to violations which occur on school property or at school sponsored events.

#### Administrative Regulations

1. Employees who violate the provisions of Board of Education Policy 4119.7 Drug-Free Work Place, will be subject to disciplinary action, consistent with applicable state and federal laws which may include referral for criminal prosecution. Disciplinary action will include at a minimum a letter of reprimand and may include but is not limited to suspension or termination from employment. Enrollment and successful completion of an appropriate substance abuse rehabilitation program may be required at the discretion of the administration.
2. Employees of the Fairfield Public Schools shall report any suspected violation of Board Policy 4119.7 Drug-Free Work Place, to an administrator or directly to the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent or his/her designee will immediately investigate the allegation and meet with the alleged violator. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed will ensure that similar violations are treated similarly.
3. All employees will be notified of this policy on a yearly basis, and are to recognize that compliance is mandated.
4. Information about available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation and re-entry programs will be made available to employees.

#### **POLICY REGARDING SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

It is the policy of the Fairfield Public Schools to maintain a working and learning environment free from harassment, insults or intimidation on the basis of sex or sexual orientation. Sexual harassment is against the law and against school district policy. (Connecticut General Statutes Section 46a-60 as amended and Title VII and Title IX of the Education Amendment (29 C.F.R. SS1604.11)).

"Sexual harassment" is defined as any unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors or any conduct of a sexual nature when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or, (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

Sexual harassment also includes any such conduct on the part of an employee toward a student.

No employee shall engage in any such conduct or condone such conduct by students. Furthermore, retaliation against an employee or student making a complaint is also prohibited.

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action. This disciplinary action may include but is not limited to a reprimand, probation, suspension or termination.

Complaints should be referred to the Title IX Coordinator at Fairfield High School if the occurrence involved the high school. All other complaints should be referred to the District Title IX Coordinator. Investigations of the alleged violations shall commence immediately and a report rendered to the Superintendent within forty (40) days. Those involved with a sexual harassment investigation are expected to protect the confidentiality of all individuals and information related to the case. Investigations will be documented with a written, factual report, regardless of the investigation's outcome. Findings of an investigation may be appealed to the Board of Education.

### **POLICY REGARDING PHYSICAL FORCE -**

#### **(BOARD POLICY 5113)**

Corporal punishment as a disciplinary measure is prohibited in the Fairfield Public Schools. Notwithstanding this, physical force may be used to quell a disturbance which threatens physical injury to others, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects, for the purpose of self-defense, and for the protection of persons and property.

### **POLICY REGARDING ELECTRONIC MONITORING**

Pursuant to the authority of Public Act 98-142, the Board of Education hereby gives notice to all its employees of the potential use of electronic monitoring in its workplace. While the

Board may not actually engage in the use of electronic monitoring, it reserves the right to do so when determined to be appropriate by the Board or the Superintendent of Schools at their discretion.

“Electronic monitoring,” as defined by Public Act 98-142, means the collection of information on school district premises concerning employees’ activities or communications, by any means other than direct observation of the employees. Electronic monitoring includes the use of a computer, telephone, wire, radio, camera, electromagnetic, photo-electronic or photo-optical systems. The law does not cover the collection of information (A) for security purposes in any common areas of the Board of Education premises which are open to the public, or (B) which is prohibited under other state or federal law.

All staff members are made aware of the following:

- Virtually all electronic devices retain a record of each use, and the information about that use may be recoverable.
- Electronic communications may not be secure and therefore may not be an appropriate means by which to communicate confidential or sensitive information.
- Freedom of information Regulations apply to information maintained and/or communicated electronically as well as to information maintained or communicated on other media.

The law also provides that, where electronic monitoring may produce evidence of misconduct, the school district may use electronic monitoring without any prior notice when the Board and/or Superintendent have reasonable grounds to believe employees of the school system are engaged in conduct that (1) violates the law, (2) violates the legal rights of the Board of Education or other employees, or (3) creates a hostile work environment.

### **USE OF WORKPLACE FACILITIES, PROPERTY AND RESOURCES**

The Board of Education gives notice to all employees that school system facilities, property, and resources are provided for uses which are consistent with the employee’s job responsibilities. Other uses of school system facilities, property, and resources require prior approval of the employee’s supervisor, with the exception of incidental personal use.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY)**

#### **(BOARD ACTION DECEMBER 12, 1995)**

a. Elementary Level

There will be three (3) early release Professional Development and Planning days during the school year.

b. Middle and High School

Require 10 additional work hours per year of Professional Time for each staff member.

This proposal allows for teachers to develop plans relative to the improvement of instruction priorities in our school system. The time used to work on these plans is an addition to the established work day or work year. The work time should be scheduled in a flexible manner acceptable to both teachers and building administrators.

Plans can take, but are not limited to, any of the following forms:

1. Professional Development
2. Curriculum and Program Planning
3. Professional Collaboration
4. Observation of Other Schools and/or Programs

Plans developed by teachers must be submitted to the designated Administrator and approved in advance.

### **MEMORANDUM OF INTENT**

Following negotiations with the Fairfield Board of Education and the Fairfield Education Association, for a contract to be effective July 1, 1990 and terminating June 30, 1993, it was agreed that some further clarification was necessary as it relates to the new language in Article VIII i, Insurance Cost Containment. Both parties had a mutual interest in meeting for clarification. The following is reflective of the mutual intent of both parties and should help to serve as clarification and guidance for administrative implementation of the language.

Re: Recovery Incentive Program

It is the intent that the responsibility rests with the employee to follow up on any perceived errors and report same with appropriate documentation to the Board of Education insurance clerk.

Re: Stipend of \$500

It is provided to teachers who elect to waive in writing all health insurance coverage provided by the Fairfield Board of Education. It is clear that those individuals who had already waived insurance coverage would not be affected by the new contract waiver program. This stipend would be available only to individuals presently covered in part or in all for health insurance coverage and who elect to sign a waiver to remove themselves from all Board of Education sponsored insurance.

Re: Number of Payments

While the contract language suggests four equal payments, it is understood that should the Business Office believe a single payment would be more easily managed, then, such would be communicated by the Business Administrator to the president of the FEA prior to the initial implementation. It is understood that this stipend is a one-time payment.

Re: Employed Spouses

It is recognized that there are employees within the bargaining unit who have spouses also employed within the school district. It is the understanding of the parties that the intent was to encourage individuals to remove him/herself from health insurance coverage provided by the Fairfield Board of Education. Hence, to drop coverage and rejoin under one's spouse does not meet the intent of the program..

Re: Electing to Resume Board Provided Insurance

Benefits will not be provided for pre-existing conditions, disease, or ailment if the condition existed within a period of six months immediately prior to the member's effective date of reinstatement in such a manner as would cause a reasonably prudent person to seek diagnosis, care or treatment, or, medical advice or treatment was recommended or received. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such benefits will be provided for pre-existing conditions after twelve months following the member's reinstatement. The pre-existing condition exclusion is not applicable to benefits for newborns.

Re: Waiver Disclaimer

The waiver which an individual signs to remove him or herself from the Board insurance program so as to qualify for the stipend should, at the same time, have included within or as part of this waiver document a disclaimer indicating the conditions that must be met and/or situations that are excluded. There must be fair and reasonable warning to protect both the Association and Board of Education.

Re: Hardship Situations

Both parties recognize that there are circumstances or hardships that might cause one to opt back into the insurance program. In such cases, arrangements should be made and/or efforts to allow in a most expeditious manner, the complete and full restoration to benefit

coverage. Such circumstances might include death of a spouse or family member, divorce, and/or involuntary loss of employment on the part of the insuring spouse.

Re: Both parties recognize that as this intent document is prepared, there may be issues or circumstances that neither party conceives or is aware of and for which further discussions may be necessary as it relates to the intent of the newly negotiated language.

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**IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Human Resources Office .....(203) 255-8462  
Fairfield Education Association.....(203) 255-2627  
Payroll Office.....(203) 255-8386  
Insurance Office.....(203) 255-8381  
State Certification Board.....(860) 566-4561  
State Teachers' Retirement Board.....(860) 566-5285

**CREDIT UNIONS**

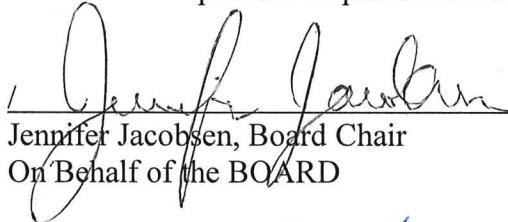
Fairfield/Bridgeport Teachers' Credit Union .....(203) 576-0554  
Town of Fairfield Credit Union .....(203) 256-3133

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

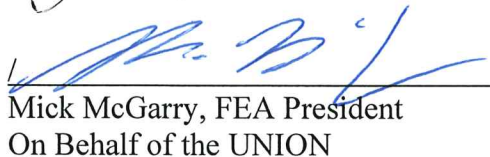
This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is being entered into by and between the Fairfield Board of Education (the “BOARD”) and the Fairfield Education Association (the “FEA”). The purpose of this MOU is to confirm the PARTIES’ understanding as to how to address “legacy” employees who may be entitled to advance to the 7<sup>th</sup> year lane of the salary schedule on July 1, 2024 based on the BOARD’s agreement to FEA proposal Number 36 during the negotiations for the 2024-2027 collective bargaining agreement (“CONTRACT”).

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A “legacy” employee is one who, prior to July 1, 2024, earned at least 60 approved credits after entering the Masters’ lane, or earned 30 approved credits after having entered lane 6. Legacy employees may apply to advance into the 7<sup>th</sup> year lane according to the BOARD’s current application deadline to advance lanes.
2. The number of **legacy** employees who may advance to the 7<sup>th</sup> year lane in any year shall be capped at a sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) in **salary lane** costs to the BOARD as a result of the number of **legacy** employees who are entitled to advance into the 7<sup>th</sup> year lane.
3. The **legacy** employees who may advance to the 7<sup>th</sup> year lane up to the \$50,000 cap each year shall be determined by seniority for those whose credits have been approved. Seniority shall be defined as the uninterrupted employment in the Fairfield Public Schools dating from when the **legacy** employee signed their first employment contract and was included in the group covered under Article I of the parties’ collective bargaining agreement.
4. This MOU shall only apply to the 2025-2026 and the 2026-2027 school years.
5. Nothing in this MOU shall prevent either the UNION or the BOARD from proposing a change to the cap or anything else in this MOU during future negotiations for a successor CONTRACT. Further, this MOU shall not establish a practice or precedent for future matters.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Jacobsen, Board Chair  
On Behalf of the BOARD

12/12/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mick McGarry, FEA President  
On Behalf of the UNION

12/12/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date