

SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 833

COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA

2023-2025

PRINCIPALS CONTRACT

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**SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS  
PRINCIPALS CONTRACT**

**ARTICLE I  
PURPOSE**

Section 1. Parties: THIS CONTRACT entered into between the School Board of Independent School District No. 833, Cottage Grove, Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the School Board, and the South Washington County Principals Association, hereinafter referred to as the Association, pursuant to and in compliance with the Public Employment Labor Relations Act, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the P.E.L.R.A., provides the terms and conditions of employment for principals during the duration of this Contract.

Section 2. Terms: Terms as defined in this Contract shall have those meanings as defined by P.E.L.R.A.

**ARTICLE II  
RECOGNITION OF EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE**

Section 1. Recognition: In accordance with the P.E.L.R.A., the School Board recognizes South Washington County Principals Association as the exclusive representative of principals and assistant principals employed by the School Board of Independent School District No. 833.

Section 2. Appropriate Unit: The Association is recognized as the exclusive representative of all principals and assistant principals who devote more than 50% of their time to administration or to the supervision of employees and who are employed for more than 14 hours per week and more than 67 work days per year; excluding district administrators and supervisors, confidential employees, and all other employees.

Section 3. Job Classification: Job classifications agreed by the School Board and the Association to be included within the appropriate unit are as follows:

Principal – Senior High	Assistant Principal – Senior High
Principal – Middle School	Activity Director – Senior High
Principal – Elementary	Assistant Principal – Middle School
Principal - ALC	Assistant Principal – Elementary
	Assistant Principal (190 days) - Elementary

excluding all other job classifications of the School Board. Unless specifically noted otherwise, all references to principal in the Contract will be understood to include assistant principals. The District reserves the right to create new job classifications, and the Association reserves the right to negotiate the pay for new bargaining unit job classifications.

## ARTICLE III SCHOOL BOARD RIGHTS

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

Section 2. Management Responsibilities: The Association recognizes the right and obligation of the School Board to efficiently manage and conduct the operation of the School District within its legal limitations, and with its primary obligation to provide educational opportunity for the students of the school district.

Section 3. Effect of Laws, Rules, and Regulations:

Subd. 1. The Association recognizes that all principals covered by this Contract shall perform the duties and responsibilities prescribed by the School Board and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota and by School Board rules, regulations, directives, and orders issued by properly designated officials of the School Board. The Association also recognizes the rights, obligation and duty of the School Board and its duly designated officials to promulgate rules, regulations, directives, and orders which are not inconsistent with the terms of this Contract.

Subd. 2. All provisions of this Contract are subject to the laws of the State of Minnesota, federal laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and valid rules, regulations, and orders of State and Federal governmental agencies. Any provision of this Contract found by proper judicial or administrative authority to be in violation of any such laws, rules, regulations, directives, or orders shall be null and void and without force and effect.

Section 4. Placement on Schedule: All principals employed as of the beginning of this Master Contract shall be placed on the salary schedule according to their specific job title and classification, and according to the Agreement between the District and the Association, subject to the right of the District to withhold a portion or all of any increase for a principal or assistant where performance is deemed to be less than satisfactory.

Subd. 1. Newly hired principals or assistants will be placed on the salary schedule at the discretion of the School District regarding out of District building level administrative experience applicable to salary schedule placement.

Section 5. Reservation of Managerial Rights: The foregoing enumeration of School Board rights and duties shall not be deemed to exclude other inherent management rights and management functions not expressly reserved herein. All management functions not expressly delegated in this Contract are reserved to the School Board.

**ARTICLE IV  
PRINCIPALS' RIGHTS**

Section 1. Right to Join: Principals shall have the right to join the Association and shall have the right not to join the Association.

Section 2. Request for Dues Check-Off: Principals shall have the right to request and be allowed dues check-off for the Association, provided that the dues check-off and the proceeds thereof shall not be allowed the Association if it has lost its right to dues check-off pursuant to P.E.L.R.A.

Subd. 1. Upon receipt of a properly signed authorization card by the principal involved, the School Board will deduct from the principal's check the dues that the principal has agreed to pay the Association during the period provided in said authorization. Principals have the option of having deducted all local, state, and national dues, or any one of them individually.

Subd. 2. The School Board shall transmit the deducted fair share fees monthly to the treasurer of the Association.

Section 3. Personnel Files:

Subd. 1. Principals shall have the right to inspect their individual personnel files in accordance with M.S. 122A.40 et al.

Subd. 2. Principals shall receive a copy of evaluatory materials which are initiated by the School Board and placed in the principal's individual personnel file.

**ARTICLE V  
ASSOCIATION RIGHTS**

Section 1. Fair Share Fee: All principals covered by this Contract who are not members of the Association may be required by the Association to contribute a fair share fee for services rendered by the Association, to the extent permitted by P.E.L.R.A.

Subd. 1. The School Board, upon receipt of written certification from the Association designating the principals who are not members of the Association, shall deduct the certified fair share fee from those principals designated as not being members of the Association.

Subd. 2. The School Board shall transmit the deducted fair share fee monthly to the Treasurer of the Association.

Section 2. Indemnification: The Association shall indemnify and hold the School Board harmless against any and all claims, judgments, or orders issued against the School Board in the administration of Section 1 of this Article and Section 2 of Article IV.

Section 3. Association Business: The Association may designate one or more principals who together may be absent to a maximum of 5 duty days per school year to conduct business necessary to the Association.

Subd. 1. Upon 3 calendar days written notice to the Superintendent the designated principals may be absent from duty without pay, provided, the absence would not interrupt the educational program, to conduct necessary Association business.

Section 4. Meet and Confer: The School Board and the Association recognize their obligation to meet and confer through their respective delegates regarding policies and those matters relating to employment not included under M.S., 179A.07, Subd. 1 & 2 pursuant to M.S. 179A.07, Subd. 3 of the P.E.L.R.A. Either party may request such a meeting.

Section 5. Right to Views: Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to limit, impair or affect the right of any principal or his/her representative to the expression or communication of a view, grievance, complaint or opinion on any matter related to the conditions or compensation of public employment or their betterment, so long as the same is not designed to and does not interfere with the full faithful and proper performance of the duties of employment or circumvent the rights of the exclusive representative, if there be one.

## ARTICLE VI SALARY SCHEDULES

### Section 1. Basic Salary Schedules:

#### Subd. 1. 2023-2024 Basic Salary Schedule:

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Principal – Sr. High	143,589	146,985	151,469	158,051	168,259
Principal - Middle School	135,879	139,109	143,354	149,701	159,571
Principal – Elementary	128,412	131,807	135,892	142,078	151,640
Principal – ALC	131,350	134,609	138,743	144,978	154,658
Assistant – Sr. High	124,612	127,650	131,561	137,571	146,952
Activity Director – Sr. High	122,519	125,563	129,420	135,378	144,669
Assistant – Middle School	118,835	121,739	125,470	131,301	140,428
Assistant – Elementary	110,403	113,234	116,729	122,324	131,087
Assistant – Elementary (190 days)	101,147	101,672	102,197	102,722	103,247

#### Subd. 2. 2024-2025 Basic Salary Schedule:

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Principal – Sr. High	150,768	154,335	159,042	165,954	176,672
Principal - Middle School	142,673	146,065	150,522	157,186	167,549
Principal – Elementary	134,832	138,397	142,687	149,181	159,222
Principal – ALC	137,917	141,339	145,680	152,227	162,391
Assistant – Sr. High	130,842	134,032	138,139	144,450	154,299
Activity Director – Sr. High	128,645	131,841	135,891	142,146	151,902
Assistant – Middle School	124,777	127,826	131,743	137,867	147,449
Assistant – Elementary	115,923	118,896	122,565	128,440	137,642
Assistant – Elementary (190 days)	106,204	106,755	107,306	107,858	108,409

Section 2. Mileage: Principals required by the School Board to use their personal vehicle in the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities shall be compensated at the current IRS rate with subsequent modification of the IRS rate effective upon notification to the school district. Reimbursement will be effective the first of the month following the announcement of the new rate.

Section 3. Professional Dues: The School Board will reimburse full-time principals to a maximum of \$850.00 each full year of employment for the cost of dues of approved professional associations authorized by the School Board to which the principal is a member, provided proof of membership is furnished, and further provided the association is not a "labor or employee organization" as defined in P.E.L.R.A., or provides economic benefits to the principal. Said amount does not include \$100.00 annual fee payable to the Minnesota Board of School Administrators which shall also be paid by the School Board.

Section 4. Doctorate Degree: As of July 1, 2004, the School Board shall pay full-time principals and assistant principals a \$1,500 per year stipend to those who presently have or obtain a doctorate degree in education or a doctorate degree in a field directly related to education. The Superintendent or delegated representative of the Superintendent will have final authority to determine whether a doctorate degree is eligible for a stipend. The parties agree that the issue of whether a doctorate degree is eligible for a stipend is not grievable.

**ARTICLE VII  
GROUP INSURANCE**

Section 1. Health and Hospitalization Insurance:

Subd. 1. Employee Coverage – District Contributions:

<b>Health Insurance monthly premium contributions provided by the District</b>					
<b>HealthPartners Open Access</b>					
<i>Contributions are effective January 1 - December 31 of identified years below</i>					
Coverage Options	Single Coverage		Coverage Options	Family Coverage	
	2024	2025		2024	2025
\$15 Co-Pay	\$787.04	\$865.74	\$15 Co-Pay	\$2,077.08	\$2,284.78
\$25 Co-Pay	\$780.90	\$858.99	\$25 Co-Pay	\$2,161.63	\$2,377.79
* High Deductible (up to)	\$758.21	\$834.03	* High Deductible (up to)	\$2,032.04	\$2,235.24

<b>Health Insurance monthly premium contributions provided by the District</b>					
<b>HealthPartners Achieve Network</b>					
<i>Contributions are effective January 1 - December 31 of identified years below</i>					
Coverage Options	Single		Coverage Options	Family Coverage	
	2024	2025		2024	2025
\$15 Co-Pay	\$810.86	\$891.94	\$15 Co-Pay	\$2,077.08	\$2,284.78
\$25 Co-Pay	\$780.90	\$858.99	\$25 Co-Pay	\$2,161.63	\$2,377.79
* High Deductible (up to)	\$712.73	\$784.00	* High Deductible (up to)	\$1,910.12	\$2,101.13

*High Deductible plans in both options receive a VEBA contribution of an annual amount of \$2,000 for single or \$4,000 for family. VEBA contributions are distributed according to the benefits schedule.*

Subd2. VEBA (Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Account): Employees enrolling in the High Deductible Insurance Plan, single or family, are eligible for the negotiated District VEBA contribution. The plan year shall run January 1st through December 31st. Any employees enrolling in the VEBA plan with an effective date other than the first day of the plan year would have their contribution prorated on a per pay period basis. Upon separation, an employee would retain what is in the employee’s account. Any balances in employee accounts will roll over into the next plan year.

Section 2. Life Insurance: The School Board shall contribute the full monthly premium cost of the life insurance program for all eligible full-time principals employed by the School Board who qualify and are enrolled, in an amount of 3 times the principal's base salary.



Section 3. Long Term Disability Insurance: The School Board shall make available to all full-time principals, a group long term disability program at the employee's expense. All eligible full-time principals shall be enrolled in the school district long term disability program.

Section 4. Employee Dental Insurance: The School Board shall contribute \$40.82 toward the monthly premium for employee coverage for all eligible full-time principals employed by the School Board who are enrolled in the School Board's group dental program.

Section 5. Family Dental Insurance: The School Board shall contribute \$114.42 toward the monthly premium for employee coverage for all eligible full-time principals employed by the School Board who are enrolled in the School Board's group dental program.

Section 6. Payroll Deductions: The difference between the monthly premium costs and the School Board's contributions established by Section 1, Section 3, Section 4, and Section 5 of this Article, shall be paid by enrolled principals through payroll deduction.

Section 7. Voluntary Participation: Participation by any full-time principal in the insurance programs established by this Article is voluntary, with the exception as established in Section 3 above. Eligible full-time principals who choose not to participate shall receive no additional compensation in lieu thereof.

Section 8. Health Care Savings Plan: Effective July 1, 2020, the School Board will contribute \$2,350 per year into a Minnesota State Retirement System Health Care Savings Plan for all employees covered by the Principal Contract.

Section 9. Wellness Incentive: Principals will contribute three days of paid absence leave into Health Care Savings Plan. If three days are not available, the principal must convert the remaining hours of their paid absence leave into the Health Care Savings Plan. For purposes of this provision, a day shall be valued at \$500. The maximum conversion shall be three days per year.

## **ARTICLE VIII PAID ABSENCES**

Section 1. Date of Accumulation: All full-time Elementary and Secondary Principals and Assistant Principals shall earn paid absence leave amounting to 15 days per year. Unused paid absence leave shall accumulate to an unlimited amount.

Subd. 1. If a principal resigns, all accumulated paid absence leave will be forfeited. If all accumulated paid absence leave has been used, any paid absence leave used in excess of the accumulated will be deducted from the principal's last paycheck at the daily salary rate of pay. If the paycheck does not have sufficient funds, the principal will reimburse the School Board.

Subd. 2. Paid absence leave shall be allowed by the School Board whenever a principal's absence is found to have been due to illness, injury, or temporary disability which prevented attendance at school and the performance of duties on that day or days.

Subd. 3. Prior to final approval of the use of paid absence leave the School Board may require a principal to furnish a medical certificate from the school health officer or from a qualified physician as evidence of illness or injury indicating such absence was due to illness or injury.

Subd. 4. In the event a medical certificate will be required, the principal will be so advised.

Subd. 5. Approved paid absence leave shall be deducted from the accumulated paid absence leave of the principal.

Subd. 6. Paid absence leave requests should be submitted to the employee's supervisor for approval.

Section 2. Family Illness or Injury: Pursuant to Minn. Statute. 181.9413, a Principal may use paid absence leave for absences due to an illness or injury to the Principal's child, for such reasonable periods as the Principal's attendance with the child may be necessary, on the same terms that a teacher is able to use paid absence leave for personal illness or injury. An absence occasioned by illness or injury of a member of the principal's family (spouse, father, mother, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister, brother, or household member) may be granted for 3 days per year by the Superintendent or designee. Absences exceeding 3 days per year may be granted solely at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. Approved days of absence will be deducted from the principal's accumulated paid absence leave.

Section 3. Bereavement and/or Funeral Leave: An absence not exceeding 3 days per death of a member of the principal's family will not be deducted from accumulated paid absence leave.

Subd. 1. A principal may take up to 2 additional days which will be deducted from accumulated paid absence leave. Members of the immediate family shall be defined as: family member, household member, and/or friend.

Subd. 2. Principals may be permitted to attend the funeral of a member or former member, of the district staff with no deduction in paid absence leave or loss of pay.

Section 4. Leave for Adoption or Foster Placement: Full time, benefit eligible, and part-time employees with accrued paid absence leave will be granted up to 6 weeks leave for adoption of a child. The period of time shall, at the direction of the adoptive parent, begin before or at the time of, the child's placement in the adoptive parent's home, for the purpose of arranging for placement or caring for the child after placement. Additional days may be requested, subject to the approval of the Director of Human Resources on a case-by-case basis. Approved paid absences for the purposes of adoption shall be deducted from the employee's paid absence leave. Employees shall be granted up to ten (10) paid absence leave per school year for the placement of a foster child. Additional days may be requested, subject to the approval of the Director of Human Resources on a case-by-case basis. Approved paid absences for the purposes of foster placement shall be deducted from the employee's paid absence leave.

Section 5. Injury on Duty: Upon the request of a principal who is absent from duty as a result of a compensable injury covered under the provisions of the Worker's Compensation Act, the School Board will pay the difference between the compensation benefits received by the principal, pursuant to the Worker's Compensation Act, and the principal's daily rate of pay to the extent of the principal's accumulated paid absence leave.

Section 6. Absences Because of Personal Business:

Subd. 1: For absences required for personal business that cannot be completed outside normal work hours, up to two (2) days during a fiscal year may be deducted from accumulated PAL. Personal business is not carried over to the following year.

Subd. 2. Requests for personal business leave shall be made at least 7 calendar days in advance, except in the event of an emergency and shall be subject to the approval of the Assistant Superintendent.

Section 7. Jury Duty Leave:

Subd. 1. In the event a principal is called to serve on a jury, the principal shall receive the difference between jury fees, excluding travel and meal reimbursement, and the principal's base daily salary rate of pay for each work day of absence, without deduction from the principal's accumulated paid absence leave.

Subd. 2. In the event that the time required for jury duty is 1/2 day or less and the principal is excused temporarily from further jury service on a duty day, the principal will be expected to report for regularly assigned duties.

**ARTICLE IX  
LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Section 1. Sabbatical Leave of Absence:

Subd. 1. Requests for sabbatical leave must be made by January 1 and will be considered by the School Board on an individual basis.

Subd. 2. A principal may be granted Sabbatical Leave of Absence after 7 years as a Principal and shall be compensated at 1/2 of the principal's salary for the period of leave of absence.

- A. During a Sabbatical Leave of Absence, a principal shall be eligible to participate in group insurance benefits as established by Article VII.
- B. A principal's paid absence leave shall be "frozen" at the amount accumulated as of the date of the beginning of the Sabbatical Leave of Absence. As of the date of return to duty the "frozen" paid absence leave shall be reinstated to the principal's credit. Paid absence leave shall not be earned during the period of a Sabbatical Leave of Absence.

Subd. 3. A principal on a Sabbatical Leave of Absence shall deliver in person or by certified mail written notice to the Superintendent of the principal's intention to return to duty on or before March 1 prior to the school year of return. Failure to give such notice shall result in the forfeiture of the surety bond described in Subd. 5.

Subd. 4. A principal returning from a Sabbatical Leave of Absence shall be assigned to the principal's previous position or to another position in the bargaining unit for which the principal is licensed and qualified, subject to applicable provisions of Minnesota statutes and the collective bargaining agreement. If no such position exists, the principal shall be assigned to a position outside of the bargaining unit, for which he is licensed and qualified, subject to applicable Minnesota statutes and any applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Subd. 5. A principal returning from a Sabbatical Leave of Absence shall be required to remain in the employment of the School Board for two (2) full consecutive years following completion of the Sabbatical Leave of Absence. If the principal discontinues service for any reason the principal shall reimburse the School Board a pro-rata amount of the Sabbatical leave stipend and insurance premium contributions. The principal shall provide the School Board with an acceptable corporate surety bond to insure the principal's responsibility of fulfilling the Sabbatical Leave Agreement.

Section 2. Military Leave of Absence. A principal who is drafted or enlists in the military service shall be granted an unpaid Military Leave of Absence in accordance with Minnesota Statutes.

### Section 3. Unpaid Leave of Absence

Subd. 1. A principal who has been employed by the School Board for two (2) full years may request a Leave of Absence without pay.

Subd. 2. The request shall be in writing and may be granted by the School Board subject to the following conditions:

- A. An Unpaid Leave of Absence, when granted, shall be for a period of time as agreed upon between the Superintendent and the principal and approved by the School Board.
- B. A principal returning from an Unpaid Leave of Absence may apply for any vacant position for which the principal is qualified. The principal shall accept or refuse a vacant position which is offered within 15 calendar days. A principal who refuses an offered position or who does not respond within the 15 calendar days shall be considered to have resigned.

Subd. 3. Subject to the provisions of this Contract, and the limitations of the group insurance plans established by Article VII, a principal on an Unpaid Leave of Absence may continue to participate in the group insurance plans. A principal choosing to continue participation shall pay the entire monthly premiums of such plans effective on the date the Unpaid Leave of Absence begins.

**ARTICLE X  
SENIORITY AND UNREQUESTED LEAVE**

Section 1. The School Board shall prepare and distribute to principals a seniority list on or before November 1 of each school year. Principal seniority shall be based on the employee's time of service in the principals bargaining unit. The employee's "first date of service" shall be used in determining time of service in the principals bargaining unit. Principals may not assert seniority rights to attain promotional positions.

Section 2. Tie Breaker: When two or more principals have the same seniority date, as defined in Section 1 of this Article, the ties shall be broken in accordance with the following:

- A. First date of service to the District in a licensed teaching position.
- B. File folder number (lowest number shall be listed first).

Section 3. Seniority List. A principal may challenge the correctness of the seniority list by filing a grievance as provided in Article XII of this Agreement. In the absence of a grievance being filed within twenty (20) days from the date of distribution, the seniority list will be conclusively deemed to be correct.

**ARTICLE XI  
WORK STOPPAGES**

Principals, in the event of a strike or work stoppage by any group of School Board employees, may be required to report for duty to carry out assignments as directed by the School Board.

**ARTICLE XII  
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Section 1. Grievance Definition: A "grievance" shall mean an allegation by a principal resulting from a dispute or disagreement between the principal and the School Board as to the interpretation or application of this Contract.

Section 2. Representative: The principal or School Board may be represented during any step of the procedure by any person or agent designated by such party to act on their behalf.

Section 3. Definitions and Interpretations:

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

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

Subd. 3. Computation of Time: In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by procedures herein, the date of the act, event, or default for which the designated period of time

begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be counted, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday.

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

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

Section 5. Adjustment of Grievance: The School Board or its designee and the principal shall attempt to adjust all grievances which may arise during the course of employment of any principal in the following manner:

Subd. 1. Level I: If a grievance is not resolved through informal discussions, the School Board designee shall give a written decision of the grievance to the parties involved within 10 days after receipt of the written grievance.

Subd. 2. Level II: In the event the grievance is not resolved in Level I, the decision rendered may be appealed to the Superintendent, provided such appeal is made in writing within 5 days after receipt of the decision in Level I. If a grievance is properly appealed to the Superintendent, the Superintendent or designee shall set a time to meet regarding the grievance within 15 days after receipt of the appeal. Within 10 days after the meeting the Superintendent or designee shall issue a decision in writing to the parties involved.

Section 6. School Board Review: The School Board reserves the right to review any decision issued under Level I or Level II of this procedure, provided, the School Board or its representative notify the parties of its intention to review within 10 days after the decision has been rendered. In the event the School Board reviews a grievance under this Section, the School Board reserves the right to reverse or modify such decision.

Section 7. Denial of Grievance: Failure by the School Board or its representative to issue a decision within the time periods provided herein shall constitute a denial of the grievance and the principal may appeal it to the next level.

Section 8. Arbitration Procedures: In the event the principal and the School Board are unable to resolve a grievance, the grievance may be submitted to arbitration as defined herein:

Subd. 1. Request: A request to submit a grievance to arbitration must be in writing, and such request must be filed with the Superintendent within 10 days following the decision in Level III of the grievance procedure.

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

Subd. 3. Selection of Arbitrator: Upon the proper submission of a grievance under the terms of this procedure, the parties may attempt to agree upon the selection of an arbitrator. Either party may request the Bureau of Mediation Services to submit a list of arbitrators pursuant to PELRA.

Subd. 4. Hearing: The grievance shall be heard by a single arbitrator and both parties may be represented by such person or persons as they may choose and designate.

Subd. 5. Decision: The decision by the arbitrator shall be rendered within 30 days after the close of the hearing. Decisions by the arbitrator in cases properly before the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties subject, however, to the limitations of arbitration decisions as provided in the PELRA.

Subd. 6. Expenses: Each party shall bear its own expenses in connection with arbitration including expenses relating to the party's representatives, witnesses, and any other expenses which the party incurs in connection with presenting its case in arbitration. A transcript or recording shall be made of the hearing at the request of either party. The parties shall share equally fees and expenses of the arbitrator, the cost of the transcript or recording if requested by either or both parties, and any other expenses which the parties mutually agree are necessary for the conduct of the arbitration.

Subd. 7. Jurisdiction: The arbitrator shall have jurisdiction over disputes or disagreements relating to grievances properly before the arbitrator pursuant to the terms of this procedure. The jurisdiction of the arbitrator shall not extend to proposed changes in terms and conditions of employment as defined herein and contained in this written agreement; nor shall an arbitrator have jurisdiction over any grievance which has not been submitted to arbitration in compliance with the terms of the grievance and arbitration procedure as outlined herein; nor shall the jurisdiction of the arbitrator extend to matters of inherent managerial policy, which shall include but are not limited to such areas of discretion or policy as the functions and programs of the School Board, its overall budget, utilization of technology, the organizational structure and selection and direction and number of personnel. In considering any issue in dispute, the arbitrator shall give due consideration to the statutory rights and obligations of the School Board to efficiently manage and conduct its operation within the legal limitations surrounding the financing of such operation.

**ARTICLE XIII  
WORK YEAR**

Section 1. Assistant Principal – Elementary (190 days)

190 duty days  
10 holidays  
200 contract days

Section 2. Assistant Principal - Elementary:

206 duty days  
12 holidays  
2 floating holidays  
17 vacation days  
237 contract days  
24 non-duty days

Section 3. Assistant Principal – Middle School:

211 duty days  
12 holidays  
2 floating holidays  
18 vacation days  
243 contract days  
18 non-duty days

Section 4. Assistant Principals - Senior High:

217 duty days  
12 holidays  
2 floating holidays  
19 vacation days  
250 contract days  
11 non-duty days



Section 5. Activity Director – Senior High:

217 duty days  
12 holidays  
2 floating holidays  
19 vacation days  
250 contract days  
11 non-duty days

Section 6. Principal - Elementary:

217 duty days  
12 holidays  
2 floating holidays  
19 vacation days  
250 contract days  
11 non-duty days

Section 7. Principal - Senior High, Middle School and ALC:

227 duty days  
12 holidays  
2 floating holidays  
20 vacation days  
261 contract days

Section 8. Those employees in the Assistant Principal: Elementary job classification as of June 30, 2023, shall remain in that classification until they transfer out of or terminate employment at the district.

Section 9. Non-duty days: Non-duty days shall be taken on teacher non-duty days.

Section 10. In the event of an emergency, the Superintendent or designee may require Principals or Assistant Principals to work non-duty days. Compensation for work specifically required on non-duty days shall be compensatory time off or additional pay, as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

Section 11. Any vacation days taken during student contact days must have the approval of the Superintendent or designee.

Section 12. A maximum of 45 vacation days shall be carried over from school year to school year, with a maximum of 50 vacation days payout at retirement or resignation. Principals may cash in up to 20 days of unused vacation annually at their daily rate of pay effective June 30, 2022.

Section 13. Beginning July 1, 2022, at retirement or resignation an amount of up to 50 days at their daily rate of pay shall be deposited into the principal's Minnesota State Retirement System Health Care Savings Plan.

Section 14. Principals with 261 contract days shall observe twelve (12) paid holidays.

Independence Day - 1 day	Christmas - 2 days
Labor Day - 1 day	New Year's - 2 days
Thanksgiving - 2 days	Easter - 1 day
Memorial Day - 1 day	Martin Luther King Day - 1 day
Juneteenth - 1 day	

Section 15. Principals with 190 contract days shall observe ten (10) paid holidays.

Labor Day - 1 day	Martin Luther King Day - 1 day
Thanksgiving - 2 days	Easter - 1 day
Christmas - 2 days	Memorial Day - 1 day
New Year's - 2 days	

Subd. 1. In the event that a principal is assigned to work by his/her supervisor on an established holiday, the principal shall be granted an alternative holiday on a mutually agreed date during the same contract year (July 1 - June 30).

Subd. 2. If a mutual agreement cannot be reached on an alternate holiday under Subd. 1 of this Section, unused paid holidays shall be compensated at the principal's current base daily salary rate of pay.

#### **ARTICLE XIV TRANSFERS**

Section 1. Principals and Assistant Principals shall be notified by April 1 prior to the effective date of their transfers between buildings.

Section 2. In the event that a Principal or Assistant Principal believes that a building transfer is disciplinary in nature, he or she may request a hearing before a committee of the School Board. The School Board reserves the right to transfer the Principal or Assistant Principal subsequent to a hearing.

Section 3. Before recommending transfers or reassignments of principals, the Superintendent shall confer with the affected principal, to provide for an exchange of views and reasons for the recommended action.

**ARTICLE XV  
CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Section 1. Conferences and Workshops: All principals will be expected to participate in local, state, and national conferences and workshops in an effort to remain updated on current trends and innovations in areas directly related to their specific position responsibilities. The School Board will reimburse principals for travel, room, board, and fees for such activities subject to the prior approval of the Superintendent.

Section 2. Staff Development: The School District will establish a Principal Professional Development Fund that will provide each principal up to \$1,500 a year for staff development, starting the 2014-2015 school year.

Section 3. Out-of-State Approvals: An Administrative Report shall be prepared by the principal and presented to the Superintendent describing intended principal participation at out-of-state conferences or workshops. The Superintendent shall forward a copy of the report to the School Board indicating approval or disapproval.

Section 4. Out-of-State Report: An Administrative Report shall be prepared by the principal and presented to the Superintendent describing the results of out-of-state conferences and workshops.

Section 5. Tuition Reimbursement: All principals are encouraged to increase their education and development in ways that will benefit them in their employee with the District. Principals may request reimbursement up to an annual maximum of \$500 per school year which has been approved in advance by their immediate supervisor. Decisions regarding tuition reimbursement will be final and binding and will not be subject to the grievance process.

**ARTICLE XVI  
SEVERANCE**

Section 1. Eligibility: A Principal who is employed by the district on September 1, 2002, in a job classification as provided in Article II, Section 3, who has completed at least 15 years of continuous service with the School Board and who are at least 50 years of age, shall be eligible for a severance payment, pursuant to the provisions of this Article, upon submission of a written resignation accepted by the School Board.

Subd. 1. Leave of Absence: Time spent on approved Leaves of Absence, as provided in Article IX, Sections 1, 2, and 3 shall be included in the calculation of years of continuous service.

Subd. 2. Determination of Age: For purposes of this Article, a principal's age shall be that attained during the school year, at the end of which, the principal elects to retire. The school year shall be defined as beginning on July 1 of one year and ending on June 30 of the year following.

Subd. 3. Discharge for Cause: This Article shall not apply to any principal who has been discharged for cause by the School Board.

Section 2. Base of Severance Payment:

Subd. 1. Payment for Years of Service: A principal, upon retirement, shall be eligible to receive a severance payment which shall be equal to 10 days of the principal's base salary rate for each full year of full-time continuous service to the School Board, not to exceed a total of the pay for 50% of the number of the principal's duty days in a year.

Subd. 2. Payment for Unused Paid Absence Leave: In addition to the payment provided in Subd. 1, a principal upon retirement, shall be eligible to receive a severance payment in an amount obtained by multiplying 50 percent of the principal's unused paid absence leave at the time of retirement, not to exceed a total of the pay for 50% of the number of the principal's duty days in a year, times the principal's base daily salary rate.

Subd. 3. Maximum Severance Payment: A principal, upon retirement, shall be eligible, subject to all the provisions of this Article, for a severance payment not to exceed \$68,000 as defined and limited by Subd. 1 and 2 of this Section.

Subd. 4. Base Daily Salary Rate: The base daily salary rate shall be determined by dividing the principal's basic Salary Schedule compensation established by this Contract, for which the principal is eligible during the last full year of service prior to retirement by the number of duty days as defined in Article XIV. Additional compensation for extra-curricular assignments, extended time assignment, summer school assignments, or any other assignments shall not be included when determining a principal's base daily salary rate.

Section 3. Payment: Subject to the limitations listed below, the School District shall contribute an amount equal to the value of the retiring principal's severance, as determined by this Article, directly into the retiree's 403B account. The retiree will not receive any direct payment from the School District for severance pay. These payments will be made one-half of the severance amount on or about July 30<sup>th</sup> and one-half of the severance amount on or about January 15<sup>th</sup>. The School District's annual contribution into the retiree's 403B account must not exceed the IRS annual contribution limit. The School District will only make contributions to accounts with investment vendors that have current hold harmless agreements on file with the School District.

Subd. 1. Deductions: Deductions shall be made from the severance payment(s) only as required by law.

Subd. 2. Beneficiary: If the principal dies after the effective date of retirement but before the total severance payment has been received, the balance due shall be paid to a named beneficiary or, lacking same, to the estate of the deceased.

Section 4. Tax Deferred Employee Matching Annuity Plan: Principals may participate in a tax-sheltered annuity/deferred compensation plan, pursuant to the provisions of this section.

Subd. 1. Contributions: The School District shall provide an equal match to an eligible Principal's contributions to an employee managed tax-sheltered annuity/deferred compensation plan, to a maximum of \$4,800 annually effective January 1, 2023.

Subd. 2. Deduction from Severance: Upon retirement, if an employee would be eligible for a severance payment as provided in Sections 1 through 3 of this Article, their final severance amount shall be calculated as follows;

1. Calculate severance amount based upon Section 2, Subd. 1 & 2.
2. Deduct from severance amount 50% of previously paid District contributions to employee's 403B plan.
3. Apply maximum severance cap, Section 2, Subd. 3.

Section 5. Insurance: Principals who retire prior to qualification for Medicare, shall be eligible to continue to participate in the group health and hospitalization insurance plan established by Article VII, Section 1 of this contract.

Subd. 1. For eligible principals the School District shall pay 100% of the monthly individual health and hospitalization premium of such insurance plan in which retired principals elect to continue to participate.

Subd. 2. Retired principal's eligibility for participation on the group health and hospitalization plan as defined in this Section shall cease upon qualification for Medicare.

Section 6. Application and Reimbursement: To be eligible for the benefits of this Article a Principal must submit a written request for severance pay and the employee's written notice of intention to resign prior to February 1 of the school year at the end of which severance will take place and cooperate with the school district in the submission of any forms which may be necessary for the school district to obtain any reimbursements available from the state. Actual written resignation must be received no later than April 1. Any reimbursements obtained shall be the property of the school district.

## **ARTICLE XVII DURATION**

Section 1. Term and Reopening Negotiations: This Contract shall remain in full force and effect for a period commencing on July 1, 2023, unless provided otherwise herein, through June 30, 2025. If either party desires to modify or terminate this Contract commencing on July 1, 2023, it shall give written notice of such intent no later than April 1, 2025. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the parties shall not commence negotiations more than 60 calendar days prior to the expiration of this Contract.

Section 2. Effect: This Contract constitutes the full and complete agreement between the School Board and the Association as the exclusive representative of building principals. The provisions herein relating to terms and conditions of employment supersede any and all prior contracts, resolutions, practices, School Board policies, and rules and regulations concerning the terms and conditions of employment inconsistent with these provisions.

Section 3. Finality: Any matters relating to the current contract term, whether or not referred to in this Contract, shall not be open for negotiations during the term of the Contract, provided, the School Board and the Association may mutually agree to amend the Contract during its term.


Section 4. Individual Contracts: Individual contracts issued by the School Board and executed by an individual principal shall be subject to and consistent with this Contract. In the event of a conflict between the individual principal contract and this Contract, the provisions of this Contract shall be controlling.

Section 5. Severability: The provisions of this Contract shall be severable, and if any provisions thereof or the application of any such provision under any circumstances is held invalid, it shall not affect any other provision of this Contract or the application of any provision thereof.

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

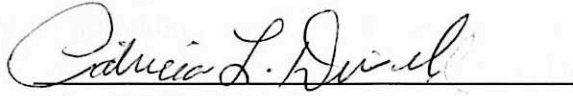
FOR SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY  
PRINCIPAL'S ASSOCIATION:

FOR SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #833:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Association President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School District Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Association Chief Negotiator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School District Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Association Negotiator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
School District Chief Negotiator

Dated this 9 day of January, 2024

Dated this 9 day of January, 2024

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Section 1. Purpose: The purpose of this Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) is to implement the provisions of M.S. 122A.40 Subd. 10. This MOA shall constitute the required plan for unrequested leave of absence (“ULA”) because of discontinuance of positions, lack of pupils, financial limitations, or merger of classes caused by consolidation of school districts.

Section 2. Definitions:

Subd. 1. “Principal” shall mean a continuing contract principal or assistant principal appropriately licensed. Throughout this MOA, unless otherwise states, references to “principal” shall include assistant principals.

Subd. 2. “Seniority” shall mean employment under a continuing contract as principal or assistant principal with a seniority date as determined by Section 3 hereof involving continuous service with the School District. For purposes of seniority, it is understood that a principal on a leave of absence pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement shall continue to accrue seniority during such leave of absence.

Subd. 3. “Association” or “Unit” shall mean the recognized exclusive representative for principals and assistant principals.

Section 3. Establishment of a Seniority List:

Subd. 1. The District shall annually establish a seniority list to be prepared from District records. The list shall be distributed electronically to all members of the principals bargaining unit.

Subd. 2. All principals will have a seniority date on the principal seniority list.

Subd. 3. Any principal who disagrees with the order of seniority on the list shall have 20 days from transmission of the list to discuss the matter with the district. Absent an agreement, the matter may be resolved through the contractual grievance process.

Subd. 4. In the event the principals have equal seniority, their seniority ranking shall be determined by:

- A. First date of service to the District in a licensed teaching position.
- B. File folder number (lowest number shall be listed first).

Subd. 5. A principal who has held seniority as a full-time principal shall continue to retain the original seniority date and hold seniority if such principal becomes employed in a part-time position involving continuous service.



#### Section 4. Placement on Unrequested Leave of Absence:

Subd. 1. The School Board may place on unrequested leave of absence, without pay or fringe benefits, as many principals as may be necessary because of discontinuance of position, lack of students, financial limitations, or merger of classes by consolidation. The unrequested leave shall be effective at the close of the school year. In the event a principal or assistant principal must be placed on a unrequested leave of absence due to discontinuance of position, lack of students, financial limitations, or merger of classes by consolidation the provisions of M.S. 122A.40, as amended, shall apply.

Subd. 2. Principals and assistant principals shall be placed on unrequested leave in reverse order of their hiring as stated on the principal seniority list.

Subd. 3. Principals may assert a seniority right into a position that is not a promotion. This limitation applies both to the placement of principals on ULA and to reinstatement therefrom. A promotion is a position that is ranked higher than the position the principal occupies at the time of placement on ULA. The principal positions covered by this MOA are listed below in promotional rank order with the first position listed being highest:

- a) Principal – Senior High
- b) Principal – Middle School
- c) Principal – Elementary
- d) Principal – ALC
- e) Assistant Principal – Senior High
- f) Assistant Principal – Middle School
- g) Assistant Principal – Elementary
- h) Assistant Principal – Elementary (190 days)

Subd. 4. For purposes of placement on unrequested leave, only service in the unit as a principal or assistant principal may be counted.

Subd. 5. Principals placed on unrequested leave have the right to return to other positions requiring a license in the district for which they are licensed and for which they are senior.

Subd. 6. Any challenge by a principal who is proposed for placement on ULA or reinstatement therefrom shall be subject to the hearing and review procedures as provided in Minn. Stat. 122A.40 and, therefore, shall not be subject to the grievance procedure contained in the collective bargaining agreement.

#### Section 5. Reinstatement:

Subd 1. Principals shall be recalled from an unrequested leave of absence to available positions in the School District in fields for which they are licensed in the inverse order in which they were placed on unrequested leave of absence.

Subd. 2. The School District shall maintain a recall list in accordance with this MOA. This list shall be updated every October 1<sup>st</sup>, and a copy shall be forwarded to the Association.

Subd. 3. No appointment of a new principal shall be made while there is available, on unrequested leave, a principal who is properly licensed to fill such vacancy. The principal's right to reinstatement shall terminate if the principal fails to file with the board by April 1 of any year a written statement requesting reinstatement.

Subd. 4. Notification of available positions shall be by certified mail to the last known address of the principal as recorded in the business office. In the event a principal declines a principal position or fails to notify the School Board in writing of the principal's intentions within fifteen (15) days of the date of mailing the notification, the principal shall be removed from the recall list. Failure of a notice to reach the principal shall not be the responsibility of the District if the notice has been mailed as provided in this MOA.

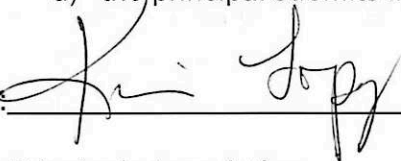
Subd. 5. A principal placed on unrequested leave of absence may engage in teaching or any other occupation during the period of this leave. Nothing in this MOA shall be construed to impair the rights of principals placed on unrequested leave of absence to receive unemployment compensation, if otherwise eligible.

Subd. 6. The unrequested leave of absence shall not impair the continuing contract rights of a principal or result in the loss of any benefits accrued under the Master Contract while the principal was employed by the School District.

Subd. 7. The unrequested leave of absence of a principal who is not reinstated shall continue until the earliest occurrence of one of the following:

- a) The three-year reinstatement period ends on the first day teachers return to duty for the commencement of the third school year following the principal's placement on unrequested leave.
- b) the principal fails to respond within fifteen (15) days of the date of mailing the notification of an available position or
- c) the principal declines reinstatement to an available position or
- d) the principal submits in writing a request to be removed from the recall list

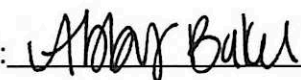
Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For the Principals Association

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 1/9/24

For the District

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