

# ***MASTER CONTRACT***

***BETWEEN***

***THE WEST NOBLE CLASSROOM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION***

***AND***

***THE WEST NOBLE BOARD OF EDUCATION***

***EFFECTIVE July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024***

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This Master Contract by and between the Board of School Trustees of the West Noble School Corporation of Noble County, hereinafter called the "Board", and the West Noble Classroom Teachers Association, an affiliate of the Indiana State Teachers Association and the National Education Association, hereinafter called the "Association" was ratified by the Association on October 10, 2023, and by the School Board on October 23, 2023. All terms stated will exist for the contract term, from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 or until altered or omitted by mutual agreement of the parties.

**ARTICLE I**  
**Recognition and Definition**

**Section 1**

The Board hereby recognizes the West Noble Classroom Teachers Association as the exclusive representative of all teachers in the School Corporation.

**Section 2 - Definitions**

- A. The term "teacher", when used in this Contract, shall refer to all certified personnel employed by the Board. (Including those employed to supervise the alternative school program and teachers employed on a temporary contract(s) totaling sixty or more calendar days in a given school year) except; Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent; the Elementary, Middle School, and High School Principals; the Elementary, Middle School, and High School Assistant Principals; the Elementary, Middle School, and High School Directors of Student Activities; Administrative Assistants; Director of Athletics; Inter-Corporation Psychologist; Special Education Director; Inter-Corporation Director of Vocational Education; Retired Teachers; Curriculum Director; Transportation Director; Technology Coordinator; Business Manager and West Noble Administrators.
- B. The term "Local Association" shall mean the West Noble CTA.
- C. The terms "Board" and "Association" shall include authorized officers, representatives and agents.
- D. The term "School Corporation", when used in this Contract, shall refer to the West Noble School Corporation of Noble County of the State of Indiana.
- E. The term "retired teacher" shall be defined as any teacher currently drawing a benefit from Teacher's Retirement Fund based on their personal years of service.

**ARTICLE II**  
**Compensation and Expenses**

**Section 1**

- A. Second year teachers who have provided instruction to students in elementary or secondary grade levels without previous instructional experience in another Corporation may receive a compensation increase regardless of their evaluation rating. All other teachers who receive an evaluation performance rating of “Improvement Needed” or “Ineffective” shall not receive an increase.
- B. For school year 2023-2024, the FTE base salary range is established at \$42,000 - \$78,000. Should a teacher’s base compensation exceed the maximum, the excess dollars will be paid as a one-time stipend.
- C. Compensation Plan - The following plan will be used for school year 2023-2024.
  - a. Teachers who received an evaluation rating of ineffective or needs improvement will not receive an increase. The amount which would have been allocated for the salary increase of those rated ineffective or needs improvement shall then be redistributed to those teachers who receive effective or highly effective evenly as a stipend.
  - b. This base pay increase is retroactive to the beginning of the school year.
  - c. Teachers will receive an evaluation rating if they attended 90 or more days.
- D. The parties have bargained that there will be a salary increase of 7 levels or \$3500 for the 2023-2024 school year based on prior year’s evaluation rating (effective or highly effective).
- E. For those teachers who obtain a Master’s Degree in an area for which they are licensed to teach; a four (4) level increase will be applied to their base pay provided that criteria below are met.
  - a. Academic Need of students in the corporation
  - b. Teaching Degree must be related to the teaching assignment of the teacher and/or is part of an official plan of study for the completion of degree or certification requirements

- c. The teacher has not previously received a Master's or a BS +36 increase
- d. The course work must be completed prior to September 1

The teacher must notify the Superintendent prior to September 15, by providing a transcript confirming the attainment of a Master's Degree

F. For those teachers who obtain an ENL License as recommended by the IDOE, a two (2) level (\$1,000) increase will be applied to their base pay provided that criteria below are met.

- 1. Academic Needs of students in the corporation
- 2. The teacher is teaching in a licensed content area or another course
- 3. The teacher passes the required Educational Testing Service Praxis Exam for English Learners with a minimum score of 155
- 4. The coursework must be completed prior to September 1
- 5. The teacher must notify the Superintendent prior to September 15, by providing a transcript confirming the attainment of the ENL license and a copy of the Praxis scores

## **Section 2**

A. In addition to base salary, the Board will pay the 3% teacher contribution to the teacher's retirement fund (INPRS)

B. If the School Corporation requires the teacher to attend a conference, seminar or workshop the Corporation will pay the following expenses: registration, mileage at the IRS standard rate then in effect, room and meals. Any seminar or workshop where credit is given, the teacher will pay that particular part of the cost.

C. A teacher who is required to use his/her personal vehicle in the course of employment and qualifies for reimbursement will be paid for the miles driven at the IRS standard rate then in effect.

D. In the event that no substitutes are available, a teacher who covers a room lacking said substitute shall receive paid compensation for loss of their prep period. This period must occur during the school day in which students are in the building. Teachers will receive \$25 for one (1) period of coverage added to their paycheck within four (4) weeks.

E. A rate of \$25 per hour will be available for certified staff for professional development provided by or sponsored by West Noble School Corporation outside of the school day hours.

### **Section 3**

Regular salary payments will be made in twenty-six (26) installments. All part-time personnel would be given the option of receiving their pay in twenty (20) installments. In the years that have a 3 week pay period, the 3 week pay period will occur in the last half of the year in the month that would have had 3 pays. The Corporation shall provide written and/or electronic notification to every teacher no less than 90 days in advance of any 3 week pay period.

### **Section 4**

- A. The current extra-curricular salary schedules are set forth in Appendix C.
- B. A teacher may submit in writing to the Superintendent a request to work on curriculum development. The request must designate the amount of hours and include an outline of the work to be accomplished. This request must receive the approval of the Building Principal and the Superintendent of Schools. One of the criteria for granting approval will be based on the inability to accomplish this task by giving released time during the teacher's day. The teacher requesting to write curriculum during the textbook adoption cycle will receive preference. The pay rate for curriculum writing will be twenty dollars (\$20) per hour for those hours approved. Teachers who are approved to do tutoring or work with students outside the regular teacher's day will be paid the higher of either \$32.50/hour if the teacher has a Bachelor's degree or \$35.00/hour if they have a Masters degree. Volunteer workshops, seminars, and other in-service sessions may qualify for the professional pay rate at twenty (\$20) per hour. Portions of this provision were not bargained, but included for information purposes only.

### **Section 5**

Summer School Benefits -

- Teachers of summer school shall be paid at their hourly professional rate of \$32.50 with a Bachelor's Degree or \$35.00 with a Master's Degree.
- Teachers of summer school may use one PTO day, and shall only be charged one half PTO day.
- Teachers of summer school are allowed to use bereavement days.
- Teachers shall have a minimum of thirty minutes for preparation daily.

## **Section 6**

Safe Work Environment - Any teacher who misses school because of an assault by a student shall not have that time deducted from sick leave until such time as the teacher qualifies for disability benefits. The School Corporation shall reimburse the teacher for all medical expenses the teacher incurs in such a situation, which are not covered by another source (such as insurance) up to, but not to exceed, medical insurance co-pays and deductibles which will be based solely on West Noble's group health policy. With respect to property damage, reimbursement or payment shall be limited to the teacher's deductible amount or the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), whichever is less, if the damage occurs off school premises. If the damage occurs on school premises the payment shall be limited to the teacher's deductible or the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), whichever is less.

## **Section 7**

Sick Day Pay Out – Each year, certified employees are granted twelve (12) PTO days. At the close of the 2023-2024 and the school years, any teacher who has a combined forty-five (45) days of accumulated sick days and has not used their allotted twelve (12) PTO days for that school year is eligible to be compensated for up to five (5) days of the unused leave days at the lower of the substitute rates per day. The teacher must have an accumulated sick day count of 45 days as of June 30, 2023 to be eligible. Notification to opt out of the sick day payout will be sent via email to staff by May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. If an employee has more than five (5) days of PTO days remaining as of June 30<sup>th</sup> of any given year, those days over five (5) will be added to their accumulated sick day total. If a teacher borrows from the accumulated sick day bank at any time during the year, no additional compensation will be awarded.

## **ARTICLE III** **Leaves**

### **Section 1 – Immediate Family**

Immediate Family - Immediate family shall include: current spouse, child, sibling, parent, grandparent, or grandchild. Family members named include teacher and/or the teacher's spouse. Immediate Family also shall include any other person who qualifies by IRS regulation as a dependent or person placed in the household by the court. For bereavement only, the definition of the immediate family shall also include siblings of the

teacher's current spouse, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law and grandchildren of the spouse.

## **Section 2 – Paid Time Off (PTO)**

Teachers will be given twelve (12) leave days to use for personal business, personal illness, family illness, or for funerals.

PTO Days will not require written request or prior permission except for any of the following limitations:

- No more than two (2) PTO days may be used on consecutive school days not related to illness without the approval of the Superintendent prior to the start of the leave.
- Only one (1) day per year may be used to extend a break.
- No more than one (1) day is to be used in May for non-illness or non-bereavement reasons.

Written requests must be submitted in advance to the Superintendent.

PTO days may be used to extend bereavement leave.

Teachers will schedule absences in the substitute system 48 hours in advance whenever possible.

If an extended illness occurs in which a teacher uses multiple sick days, the PTO days would be used until the teacher reaches ten (10); at that point two (2) days would be reserved for personal affairs and accumulated sick days would be used if still needed for the illness.

Principals will conference with individuals who have missed nine (9) days. If poor attendance choices are indicated, the employee will receive a written notice that continued poor attendance is likely to result in a one point deduction for core professionalism.

Unused PTO days roll over to sick days the following year. Previously accumulated sick days will remain as sick days and cannot be used as PTO days.



In the event that a teacher finds it necessary to leave for one and one-half (1 1/2) hours or less during the school day for any of these reasons he/she shall be charged in one-fourth (1/4) day increments. A leave time when a teacher has no direct responsibility for students shall not count.

### **Section 3 – Accumulated Sick Leave**

The maximum accumulation of sick leave is unlimited.

Sick leave days accumulated by a teacher prior to a leave of absence shall be credited to the teacher upon return.

### **Maternity/Paternity Leave**

A Maternity/Paternity leave utilizes the teacher's available PTO and accumulated sick days while under a doctor's care. Such a leave commences the day following the birth, or adoption, of the child and continues for twelve (12) weeks. During this twelve (12) week period, the teacher may use up to sixty (60) available PTO and accumulated sick days. If the teacher has fewer than sixty (60) available accumulated sick days, the teacher may choose to take the remainder of the twelve (12) week period as an uncompensated leave.

If the birth, or adoption, of the child occurs over the summer break, the provisions will not be granted if the leave is set to expire prior to the first day of the school year. If the provision has not expired over the summer break, then the teacher may use any/all of the residual days, beginning with the first day of the new school year and continuing consecutively.

If the teacher is medically disabled, as verified by a physician's statement, beyond the provisions cited here within, the teacher may use more of his/her available sick days to cover the time period of the disability.

Uncompensated leave may continue for up to one (1) year following the birth, or adoption, of the child. The teacher granted such a leave shall have the right to maintain, at his/her sole expense during the leave, all insurance benefits in which he/she was enrolled at the time of the request. A teacher on uncompensated leave is required to return within one (1) year following the birth, or adoption, of the child, except the return date may be adjusted beyond the child's first birthday to the first day of the next grading period. The teacher granted such a leave will be returned to the same

assignment or one that is comparable and equal in benefits as determined by the Administration.

#### **Section 4 – Accumulated Sick Day Transfer**

Accumulated sick days from a previous school corporation shall transfer.

#### **Sick or Personal Leave Accumulation**

Sick and personal leave shall not accumulate for a school year when the teacher did not teach. For teachers who do not teach the entire school year, credit for personal or sick leave shall be credited on a twenty-five (25) percent basis for every forty-five (45) teacher contract days. Recognizing that sick and personal leave are "credited" to the teacher as of the first day of the Fall Semester, if this policy necessitates "deducting" sick or personal days, such adjustment shall be made in the school year of the teacher's return to teaching at the School Corporation. Each situation will be unique and FMLA laws shall fully apply.

#### **Section 5 – Sick Leave Bank**

The Board will recognize a sick leave bank to be administered by the Association subject to the limitations specified below:

- A. Any teacher may elect to donate one (1) day of his/her annual sick leave credit to the sick leave bank. A teacher's election shall be irrevocable. A list of those teachers electing to donate one day of sick leave to the sick leave bank shall be submitted by the Association to the Superintendent's office by December 1 of each year. Upon retirement, an individual may donate up to ten (10) accumulated sick days to the Certified Sick Bank.
- B. Any teacher who is otherwise entitled to sick leave with pay, who elected to participate, and who has exhausted all leave accumulation because of personal illness (including family illness days or physical disability), shall be eligible for sick leave bank credits until he/she has fulfilled the qualifying period for long term disability insurance.
- C. The Association shall have the full responsibility in granting, denying or suspending grants of sick days from the bank. The Association may not grant more than the

days necessary to fulfill the waiting period for Long Term Disability of the days granted for teacher illness.

D. Administrative provisions to implement this Article shall be mutually agreed to between the Board and the Association. They are as follows:

1. Purpose: The general purpose of the Sick Leave Bank is to help those members of the Sick Leave Bank who have used all their own sick leave to meet emergency, illness, injury or hospitalization of the teacher or a member of the teacher's household as defined by the IRS. The Sick leave bank may not be used for routine doctor's appointments.
2. Responsibility: A standing committee of West Noble teachers, representing all the buildings in the corporation shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the West Noble Classroom Teachers Association. They shall have the responsibility for granting, denying or suspending grants of sick days from the bank. Their decision shall be final. The secretary of this committee will keep records and report to the Superintendent's Office. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent's Office to notify the Sick Bank Committee when a participating teacher has exhausted his/her sick and family illness days.
3. General Procedure: As per Master Contract Article VIII, Section 3, any teacher may donate three (3) days to the bank at the rate of one (1) day each year for three years. When the accumulated days in the bank drop below two-hundred fifty (250) days, the teachers will be required to donate another day each. Failure to donate when requested will terminate the teacher's right to participate in the bank. Those who borrow from the bank shall continue to donate two (2) days a year until their donation is equal to the number they have personally drawn. They can voluntarily pay back more days if they desire. Upon leaving the West Noble School Corporation, the borrower must repay the Sick Leave Bank any accumulated sick days up to the number he/she has previously drawn if at the point of severance the borrower has any accumulation.
4. Procedure for Borrowing: The applicant, or a member of the applicant's family, will contact his/her building's Sick Bank representative. The representative will call a Sick Bank Committee meeting. The applicant will be notified of the decision. The Sick Bank application form will be filled out in triplicate. One copy will go to the Superintendent's Office, one will be kept on file with the committee, and the applicant will retain the third.

## **Section 6 – Court Leave**

Court leave with pay shall be granted to teachers for the time necessary to make appearance(s) in any court proceeding resulting from activities relating to the teacher's employment with the School Corporation, except when the teacher is a plaintiff in court proceedings to enforce Section 14, Public Law 217, Acts of 1973. The Board will pay a teacher for court appearance resulting from a subpoena to testify in a court proceeding, the difference between what the courts pays the teacher and teacher's daily wage. However, if a teacher is charged in a school connected criminal matter requiring his/her appearance in court, pay shall not be granted if the teacher is proven guilty of the charge.

## **Section 7 – Jury Duty**

When requested, a teacher may serve on jury duty. The Board shall pay the teacher his/her full salary less any daily remuneration granted by the court; pay for court-incurred expenses shall not be considered as court pay and shall not be deducted from the teacher's salary; provided, however, the teacher will join with the School Corporation in requesting the court for an excuse from jury duty when, in the opinion of the School Corporation, the teacher's absence would create a hardship on the educational program.

When requested, a teacher may serve on an election board. The Board shall pay the teacher his/her full salary less any remuneration granted by the election board.

## **Section 8 – Bereavement and Funeral Leave**

Up to five (5) consecutive school days of absence, without loss of pay, within 8 days of the death, commencing with the first day requested by the teacher, shall be granted to a teacher for a death in the immediate family, including miscarriage.

Up to three (3) consecutive school days of absence, without loss of pay, within 8 days of the death, commencing with the first day requested by the teacher shall be granted to a teacher for a death of a niece, nephew, aunt, or uncle. The 8 day rule may be waived by the Superintendent in extreme circumstances.

PTO days may be used to extend bereavement without limitations.

If attendance for the visitation and/or funeral requires extended travel or if the teacher is involved in funeral arrangements for someone other than immediate family, the teacher may request additional leave from the Superintendent.

One (1) funeral day without loss of pay may be granted to a teacher for the death of someone outside of the above listed criteria with Superintendent approval.

### **Section 9 – Worker’s Compensation**

A teacher who is absent from work because of injury received on the job shall not be charged for use of sick leave days taken in connection with the injury as long as it is in compliance with the Indiana State Workers Compensation Law. The teacher will be paid by the School Corporation the difference between Workman's Compensation and his regular pay not to exceed the total dollar value of his total accumulated sick leave.

### **Section 10 – Professional Leave**

The Board agrees that two (2) professional leave days with pay may be granted for the following purposes:

Attending and/or participating in professional meetings relating to educational workshops, seminars, or conferences sponsored by industry, professional associations, colleges, universities or governmental agencies concerned with public school matters.

The visitation to other school corporations or educational institutions for the purpose of observing instructional techniques or other instructionally-oriented programs.

For special education staff, an additional two (2) days may be granted for the purposes of writing/completing IEPs.

The Board agrees to provide sufficient funds to pay mileage, at the IRS standard rate which is incurred in connection with the above mentioned professional leaves within the boundaries of the State of Indiana or a two-hundred fifty (250) mile radius of the Corporation. Request for other professional leave expenses may be paid by the School Corporation if a request for such additional expenses is made to the Superintendent or his designee prior to the use of the professional day leave. Teachers shall be expected to give adequate notification to the office of the Superintendent on the proper form.

Forms are available from the building principal, the personnel office, or the Association. Further, teachers may be requested to report the nature of the professional meetings attended and to give a resume of the program. The School Corporation has the right to limit the use of professional leave days to fifteen (15) percent of the teachers on any one (1) school day. In the event that the School Corporation exercises the right to limit the use of professional leave, the School Corporation shall limit the use of professional leave to the first fifteen (15) percent of the teachers who request professional leave for that day.

This section would not jeopardize any of the other provisions of the professional leave.

### **Section 11 – Association Leave**

A total of five (5) days may be used by teachers for Association business. These days must be approved by the Association Presidents. Three additional days are available if approved by the Association Presidents and the Superintendent. No one person shall use more than four (4) Association days in the one school year.

### **Section 12 – Notification of Teacher's Intent**

Notification will be given to the Board of Education, through the Superintendent of Schools, by April 1 of the teacher's intention for the forthcoming school year in order to reduce RIFs and to aid in planning for staff. This will apply to all teachers who have been granted a leave by the Board of Education and to retiring teachers. A statement of this condition will be given to the teacher who is granted a leave.

## **Article IV** **Retirement /Severance Benefit**

### **Section 1 – Insurance**

A teacher, as defined in Article 1 Section 2A, who is employed by the Board at the time of retirement or severance from employment, will be eligible for the following benefits provided the teacher has otherwise satisfied the requirements and conditions described below.

Group Health Insurance - Immediately following severance, the teacher and his/her spouse, if any, shall have the option of participating in the Corporation's current

group health insurance plan if all of the following conditions are met as of the date of severance and thereafter:

1. While the retired teacher and spouse, if any, are enrolled in the health insurance plan, the retired teacher and spouse shall pay the entire insurance premium applicable to the insurance coverage, with the monthly payment to be made on or before the first day of each month.
2. Within ninety (90) days of the severance date, the teacher has provided a written request to the School Corporation for continuing insurance coverage of the teacher and spouse, if any. When a retired teacher first becomes eligible for Medicare, the teacher's eligibility to continue to participate in the Corporation's group health insurance plan shall terminate, if not earlier terminated according to applicable law. (The same termination of eligibility shall also apply when a retired teacher's spouse first becomes eligible for Medicare.) It is acknowledged that the parties intend these provisions to comply with applicable federal and state laws that establish an eligible teacher's right to continue health insurance for the teacher and spouse, including if otherwise applicable, Indiana Code 5-10-8-2.6.
3. In the event that there is a death of a current employee on the West Noble insurance plan, the corporation agrees to continue coverage and pay the employer portion of the insurance plan for up to sixty (60) days following the date of death, provided the individual is on the family plan.

Term Life Insurance - The retired teacher may convert the School Corporations term policy into a whole life policy to continue coverage. To continue this coverage, the retired teacher must pay the entire insurance premium applicable to the insurance coverage according to the payment schedule of the new policy.

## **Section 2 – On Going Contributions to Severance Benefits**

The Corporation shall contribute 1% of each certified teacher's base salary annually into a 401(a) account in the individual teacher's name for the remainder of their contracted time at West Noble School Corporation. The base salary does not include extracurricular assignments, extended contracts, and/or other assignments above and beyond the base salary. This contribution will be made on a regular basis, no less than quarterly.

**ARTICLE V**  
**403 (b) ANNUITY PLAN**

Each teacher may elect to make a salary reduction election and make tax deferred contributions, to a plan described in section 403 (b) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code") to the maximum limits allowed by the Code. The Board shall forward salary reduction money to the appropriate vendor monthly.

The School Corporation will provide a list of approved investment vendors for the salary reduction contributions made to the 403 (b) Plan.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**Insurance**

**Section 1**

Teachers whose first day of work is/was prior to July 1, 2008 are eligible for a corporation contribution on both single and family health insurance should they choose to participate, provided they are contracted for 50% or more full-time equivalency (FTE) per week. Teachers whose first day of work is/was on or after July 1, 2008 are eligible for a corporation contribution to the single plan, provided they are contracted for 50% or more FTE per week. They are also eligible to a corporation contribution on the family plan if they are contracted at least 90% FTE or greater.

**Section 2**

Plan 1: Traditional

The Board agrees to pay eight thousand, eighty-four dollars (\$8,084) towards a single plan and nineteen thousand, seven hundred and twenty-six dollars (\$19,726) towards a family plan for medical and hospitalization insurance effective upon ratification by the West Noble CTA and the West Noble School Board. The teacher electing to be covered may select either the single plan or family plan and shall pay any necessary difference for the premium. If there



is/are an increase(s) in premium prior to the expiration of this contract, the Board agrees to pay sixty percent (60%) of all premium increases.

Plan 2 High Deductible Health Plan (H.S.A. Qualified):

- b. The Board agrees to pay \$6,525 toward the single High Deductible Health Plan and contribute \$1000 toward the employee's Health Savings Account.
- c. The Board agrees to pay \$15,583 toward the family High Deductible Health Plan and contribute \$2000 toward the employee's Health Savings Account.

Plan 3 (High Deductible Plan without H.S.A)

- d. The Board agrees to pay five thousand, four hundred and sixty-three dollars, (\$5463) toward the single high deductible plan
- e. The Board agrees to pay thirteen thousand, four hundred and twelve dollars (\$13,412) toward the cost of the high deductible family plan. This high deductible family plan includes the spouse only if the spouse is not eligible for any other employer offered health insurance coverage.

\*\* This amount may increase but not decrease due to changes in premiums.

- f. Should both a husband and wife be entitled to the benefit of this section, such persons may, as group insurance participants, elect either to enroll in separate single plans or combine their individual monthly entitlements so that both such monthly entitlements for a single plan are applied toward payment of one family plan.
- g. Any employee who does not carry the medical insurance provided by the corporation will be offered the opportunity to participate in the "wellness" program. The corporation will pay \$300 toward a yearly physical as described in the current medical insurance policy.

### **Section 3 – Medicare Language**

In lieu of Health Insurance, the Board shall pay full premium cost of a Medicare supplemental health insurance program for all members of the bargaining unit age sixty-five (65) and over and still teaching.

### **Section 4 – Life Insurance**

The Board will pay the full amount of the group term life insurance policy in the face amount of \$50,000 with double indemnity for accidental death until such time as the contract with the subject carrier reduces such benefit amount according to that contract's "Reduction Formulas" at which time, the employee's life benefit amount provided by the West Noble School Corporation will be reduced by the amount provided within such reduction schedules.

### **Section 5 – Long Term Disability Insurance**

The Board will pay one-hundred (100%) percent of the annual premium of the Long Term Disability insurance plan with a ninety (90) calendar day waiting period and sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) benefit level.

Teachers on long-term disability may collect retirement benefits when they qualify. If they collect such, they cease eligibility for Long-term Disability payments on the date of their receipt of the first retirement payment.

### **Section 6 – Vision Insurance**

The Board will pay the full cost of a vision insurance program for all employees and their eligible dependents. Such plan shall provide one exam and new frames and lenses (with no deductible) for each family member every twelve (12) months. With our current vendor (VSP), this coverage ends for dependents at the age of 19 if not a college student and 25 if a college student.

### **Section 7**

In the event of any refund by insurance companies made on teacher-related policies, such refunds shall either be returned and paid to the teacher who paid the premiums on a pro rata basis or be applied to adjusting future premium payments in such insurance plan.

### **Section 8**

Subject to any applicable rules of the insurance carriers, any teacher on a leave who is not being compensated for such leave or whose compensation for such leave has expired, may continue his/her insurance by paying to the School Corporation an amount equal to the total sum of the monthly premiums for such insurance for the anticipated length of such leave, or at least one (1) month in advance, prior to such leave (or when compensated leave expires), and the School Corporation shall thereupon continue the insurance for such teacher for the duration of the leave so anticipated. This does not apply to the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993.

### **Section 9 – Section 125**

The Board shall provide, without cost to participants, a Section 125 Plan (Generation I and II).

### **Section 10 – Insurance Holidays**

If due to low claims, the insurance fund cash balance grows to exceed \$1.6 million dollars, the superintendent or CTA will begin discussion regarding an insurance holiday. With the recommendation of the insurance committee, the approval of the president(s) of the CTA, and the approval of the WN school board; an insurance holiday may be implemented allowing the employees and the employer to skip one or more insurance payroll contributions.

## **ARTICLE VII** **Grievance Procedure**

### **Section 1 – Definitions**

A. A "Grievance" is an alleged violation or claimed misinterpretation or misapplication of a specified Article or Section of this Agreement.

- B. The terms "teacher" and "grievant" include any individual or group of individuals in the bargaining unit.
- C. The term "day" when used in this Article shall mean teacher days (as that term is used in the school calendar of 185 days). During the summer recess, the term shall mean weekdays (Monday through Friday).
- D. The term "building principal" includes regular licensed Principal or Assistant Principal at each educational institution in the system.

## **Section 2 – Grievant and Representation**

- A. An individual teacher or group of teachers may present a grievance and may do so with the aid of the exclusive representative. The exclusive representative will thus be given an opportunity to be present at all stages of the grievance machinery. The adjustment of any grievance shall not be inconsistent with the terms of this Contract. The purpose of the grievance procedure is to settle grievances which may arise at the lowest possible administrative level.
- B. The Association shall have the right to file system-wide grievances at Step Three, subject to the time limits of Step Two, paragraph 3.

## **Section 3 – Procedure**

Step One. A grievance may be initiated in one (1) of the following ways.

1. The teacher may approach the building principal concerned and discuss the matter in his/her own behalf.
2. The teacher may request that a representative of the Association accompany the teacher and in such case the building principal shall not initiate any consultation with the grievant prior to any scheduled meeting at which the representative is to be present.
3. The teacher may bypass this step of the procedure if the grievance is of a personal nature.

Step Two. In the event the grievance is not resolved in Step One, the grievant may file a formal grievance in writing with the building principal on the form shown in the Appendix.

1. The grievance form shall be filed in quadruplicate with one (1) copy for the Association, the grievant, the building principal, and the Superintendent's office.
2. The grievance shall (a) name the other teacher(s) involved, if any; (b) state the facts giving rise to the grievance; (c) identify the specific provisions of this agreement alleged to have been violated or misinterpreted; (d) state the contention of the grievant with respect to the grievance; (e) indicate the specific relief requested; and (f) be signed by the grievant (s). In the case of an Association grievance under Section 2B, the grievance shall be signed by the President(s) of the Association.
3. The grievance should be filed as soon as possible, but any grievance not presented in writing in Step Two within twenty (20) days of the time the grievant knew, or reasonably should have known, of the grievance shall be deemed waived and shall not be processed.
4. The teacher may request a meeting with the building principal, and the Association representative may accompany the grievant. In any event, within three (3) workdays after receiving the written grievance, the building principal shall communicate his/her answer, in writing to the grievant and the Association representative, and said answer shall be attached to the grievance.

Step Three. If the grievance is not settled in Step Two, it may be appealed to the Superintendent of Schools by filing a written notice with the Superintendent. The statement of grievance should be submitted within three (3) work days from the time the employee has received a reply from the immediate supervisor concerning his/her original statement of grievance. The Superintendent shall give the answer in writing no later than three (3) work days after the receipt of the written grievance. A copy of this answer will be sent to the employee submitting the grievance as well as the President(s) of the Classroom Teachers' Association of the West Noble School Corporation.

Step Four.

1. If the grievance is not resolved in Step Three, the teacher may, within three (3) work days of receipt of the Superintendent's answer, appeal to the Board by filing the grievance and the building principal's answer, along with a written response

of the teacher, if desired, with the office of the Superintendent who signs a receipt. Any such response by the grievant shall be attached to the grievance.

2. A meeting with the Board or its designated members shall be held within ten (10) work days following the receipt of such notice, and the Superintendent shall promptly notify the grievant and the Association of the date, the time, and the place where the appeal shall be heard. The Board's written answer shall be transmitted to the grievant and the Association within five (5) work days after the informal hearing.

Step Five. Within twenty (20) days after receipt of the decision in Step Four, the Association, upon written notice to the School Board, may submit the grievance to advisory arbitration under and in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association pursuant to the following procedure:

1. The two (2) parties, the School board and the Association, shall attempt to select an arbitrator by mutual agreement. If the two (2) parties cannot agree on the arbitrator, within ten (10) work days after notification is given, the arbitrator shall be selected in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association.
2. The parties agree that neither party shall be permitted to present matters outside the scope of the grievance and its attachments.

#### **Section 4 – Powers of Arbitrator**

A. The role of the arbitrator is advisory only. The arbitrator shall have no power:

1. To add to, subtract from, disregard, alter, or modify any of the terms of this agreement;
2. To rule on the termination of services or failure to re-employ any teacher.
3. To rule in regard to any claim or complaint for which there is another remedial procedure or course established by law or by regulation having the force of law, including but not limited to any matter subject to the procedures specified in the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, or other legislation, addressed to race, religious origin, sex, or age discrimination;
4. To advise on any practice, policy, or rule of the Board unless such practice, policy,

or rule shall be in conflict with this Agreement.

- B. The decision of the arbitrator shall be advisory and not binding on the Association, the Board, or the School Corporation.
- C. The fees and expenses of the arbitrator shall be shared equally by the Board and the Association. All other expenses shall be borne by the party incurring them.

### **Section 5 – Other Provisions Relating to the Grievance Procedure**

- A. No reprisal of any kind shall be taken by or against any participant in the grievance procedure by reason of such participation.
- B. All documents, communications, and records dealing with the processing of a grievance shall be filed separately from the personnel file of the participant (s) and are not valid basis for evaluations.
- C. Time limits herein may extend only by mutual written agreement, signed by the parties.
- D. Time limits herein apply to teachers on leave of absence, other than sick leave, as if such teacher were present and working.
- E. All steps of the grievance procedure shall be conducted during mutually agreed to times.
- F. If there is a failure at Step One or Two to communicate the decision on a grievance within the specified time limit, the grievant shall then have the right to appeal at the next step of the procedure.
- G. Any grievance not advanced from one step to the next within the time limits and if not processed by the teacher or his/her representative shall be deemed resolved by the answer at the previous step. Any answer not received from the Board or its representative as outlined previously in this Article shall cause the implementation of the remedy sought by the grievant.
- H. Any grievance which arose prior to the effective date of this Agreement shall not be processed.
- J. No teacher shall use the grievance procedure to appeal any decision of the Board or

Administration if such decision is pursuant to any order of or compromise agreement with any State or Federal regulatory commission or agency.

K. This step is the last appeal.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 Salary Schedule**

#### **New Hires Starting Salaries**

The Superintendent will make a beginning base salary recommendation to the School Board based on the following:

Category 1 - Teachers with 0 years of experience with a bachelor's degree will be recommended a beginning salary of \$42,000 FTE. Teachers with 0 years of experience with a master's degree will be recommended for a beginning salary of \$44,000 FTE for the 2023-2024 school year.

Category 2 - Experienced teachers with classroom teaching experience with an accredited public or private school will be placed on a level similar to WN teachers of comparable experience and qualifications. See Appendix B.

Category 3 - In the situation where there are 2 or less qualified applicants, a stipend up to \$4,500 may be offered.

- The teacher must maintain an effective or highly effective rating to obtain the stipend for the school year.
- The stipend will be paid over a 3-year period with 25% of the stipend to be paid at the completion of first year of service, 25% of the stipend to be paid at the completion of the second year of service, and 50% of the stipend to be paid at the completion of the third year of service.

Category 4 - If the superintendent and CTA president(s) agree that there is a critical need situation (zero qualified candidates) then the superintendent may make a recommendation to place a teacher on a salary similar to WN teachers of comparable experience and qualifications plus up to an additional \$5,000 on their base salary. The salary shall not fall below \$42,000 or exceed \$80,500 for the 2023-2024 school year.

A new hire may fall under more than one category and as such have multiple guides applied.



## APPENDIX B

### Salary Schedule for 2023-2024

Level	Amount		Level	Amount		Level	Amount
4	40,000		31	55,000		61	70,000
2	40,500		32	55,500		62	70,500
3	41,000		33	56,000		63	71,000
4	41,500		34	56,500		64	71,500
5	42,000		35	57,000		65	72,000
6	42,500		36	57,500		66	72,500
7	43,000		37	58,000		67	73,000
8	43,500		38	58,500		68	73,500
9	44,000		39	59,000		69	74,000
10	44,500		40	59,500		70	74,500
11	45,000		41	60,000		71	75,000
12	45,500		42	60,500		72	75,500
13	46,000		43	61,000		73	76,000
14	46,500		44	61,500		74	76,500
15	47,000		45	62,000		75	77,000
16	47,500		46	62,500		76	77,500
17	48,000		47	63,000		77	78,000
18	48,500		48	63,500		78	78,500
19	49,000		49	64,000		79	79,000
20	49,500		50	64,500		80	79,500
21	50,000		51	65,000		81	80,000
22	50,500		52	65,500		82	80,500
23	51,000		53	66,000		83	81,000
24	51,500		54	66,500		84	81,500
25	52,000		55	67,000		85	82,000
26	52,500		56	67,500		86	82,500
27	53,000		57	68,000		87	83,000
28	53,500		58	68,500		88	83,500
29	54,000		59	69,000		89	84,000
30	54,500		60	69,500		90	84,500

## Appendix C 2023-2024 Extracurricular Schedule

<b>Non-Athletic Activity</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b># of Positions</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Pep Band	High School	1	\$877
Music Concerts	All Levels – Per Show	1	\$125
Robotics	High School	2	\$1,633
Speech & Debate	High School	1	\$1,933
Yearbook	High School	1	\$1,613
Yearbook	Middle School	1	\$1,130
Class Advisors	High School – senior	2	\$485
Class Advisors	Junior Magazine Sales	1	\$306
Class Advisors	Junior Class Advisor	1	\$517
Class Advisors	High School – Other	2	\$204
Student Council	High School	1	\$1,485
Student Council	Middle School	1	\$1,485
Plays	High School – Spring	1	\$1,130
Plays	High School – Fall	1	\$1,130
Plays	High School – Musical	1	\$1130
Musical Pianist	High School - Musical	1	\$650
Plays	High School – Assistant	2	\$646
Clubs/Organizations	High School	12	\$502
Clubs/Organizations	Middle School	12	\$502
Academic Super Bowl	High School	1	\$784
Athletic Leadership Council	High School	1	\$500
BPA	High School	2	\$784
FFA	High School	1	\$896
FCCLA	High School	1	\$673
Spelling Bee	Coordinator Host Year	1	\$247
Team Leaders	High School	9	\$1,050
Team Leaders	Middle School	10	\$1,050
Team Leaders	Elementary/Primary	15	\$1,050
Dual Credit/AP Teachers	High School	As Assigned	\$500/sem per class
Art Show Outside School Day	All Levels – Per Show	1	\$125
Concessions Coordinator	High School	1	\$2400
Concessions Coordinator	Middle School	1	\$1229
*Link Crew	High School	2	\$1,100
*High Ability Liaison	All Levels	6	\$800
*High Ability Coordinator	All Levels	1	\$1,095
*EL Professional Dev. Team	All Levels	8	\$950

\*Denotes that the positions are available only if the funding grants are available

**Appendix C 2023-2024 Extracurricular Schedule**

<b>ATHLETIC ACTIVITY</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b># OF POSITIONS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Athletic Director Assistant	Fall	1	\$2400
Athletic Director Assistant	Winter	1	\$2700
Athletic Director Assistant	Spring	1	\$1700
Athletic Director Assistant	Middle School (year)	1	\$1500
Baseball/Softball	High School	2	\$4000
Baseball/Softball	High School Assistant	4	\$2300
Basketball	Varsity	2	\$7500
Basketball	High School Var. Assist.	2	\$2500
Basketball	Junior Varsity	2	\$3,542
Basketball	Freshman	2	\$2500
Basketball	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2	\$2000
Basketball	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Asst.	1	\$1200
Basketball	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2	\$2000
Basketball	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4	\$1200
Cheerleading	High School Var. Head	1	\$2600
Cheerleading	High School Var. Ass	1	\$1400
Cheerleading	Middle School Head Coach	1	\$1400
Cross Country	High School	2	\$3500
Cross Country	Middle School	2	\$1400
Cross Country	Middle School Assistant	1	\$1000
Football	High School	1	\$7500
Football	High School Assistant	4	\$3200
Football	Middle School	1	\$2100
Football	Middle School Assistant	3	\$1400
Golf	High School	2	\$3000
Golf	Middle School	2	\$1400
Gymnastics	High School	1	\$2500
Gymnastics	High School Assistant	1	\$1,211
Gymnastics	Middle School	1	\$1400
Gymnastics	Middle School Assistant	1	\$1000
Soccer	High School	2	\$4000
Soccer	High School Assistant	2	\$2000
Soccer	JV High School	2	\$2000
Soccer	Middle School	2	\$1400
Soccer	Middle School Assistant	2	\$1000
Tennis	High School	2	\$3000
Tennis	High School Assistant	2	\$1211
Tennis	Middle School Head	2	\$1400
Tennis	Middle School Assist.	2	\$700
Track	High School	2	\$4000
Track	High School Assistant	4	\$2000
Track	Middle School	2	\$1400
Track	Middle School Assistant	2	\$1000
Volleyball	High School	1	\$4000
Volleyball	High School Assistant	1	\$2217
Volleyball	JV High School	1	\$2217
Volleyball	Freshman	1	\$1,211
Volleyball	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1	\$1400
Volleyball	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1	\$1400
Volleyball	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2	\$1000
Wrestling	High School	1	\$4000

Wrestling	High School Assistant	3	\$2000
Wrestling	High School JV	1	\$2000
Wrestling	Middle School Head	1	\$1500
Wrestling	Middle School Assistant	1	\$1000
Open Gym Supervisor	HS – not to exceed 100 hours	1	\$16 per hour
Weight Training	Each Semester	1	\$1050
Additional High School Assistants		As Needed	\$1,211
Additional Middle School Assistants		As Needed	\$826

If the principal, AD and head coach are in agreement, any position may be held by more than one person, sharing the compensation. All parties must come to agreement as to how the pay will be divided.

## Appendix D

### 2023-2024 Extended Contracts

By state law, the number of days worked is set by the Corporation. Extended contracts are listed here for reference only. For 2023-2024 school years, West Noble intends to extend these contracts. Extended contracts are paid at negotiated professional rate.

<u>EXTENDED CONTRACTS</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Vocational Agriculture	80 hours
Worked Based Learning Coordinator– High School	40 hours
Industrial Arts Coordinator – High School	16 hours
Band/Orchestra – High School	*80 student contact hrs
Band/orchestra – Middle School	**40 student contact hrs
Social Worker &/or Guidance (6 total)	
HS (2)	***HS 200 hours
MS (2)	MS 80 hours
Elem (1)	40 hours
Primary (1)	40 hours
Librarian – High School	40 hours
Librarian – Middle School	40 hours
Librarian – Elementary Schools (2)	40 hours

\*An additional forty-five (45) contact hours are available if needed and principal approved. A time-sheet shall be filled out and submitted for those additional hours.

\*\*An additional ten (10) contact hours are available if needed and principal approved. A time-sheet shall be filled out and submitted for those additional hours.

\*\*\* An additional two hundred (200) contact hours are available if needed and principal approved. A time-sheet shall be filled out and submitted for those additional hours.

**Appendix E**

**GRIEVANCE FORM**

WEST NOBLE SCHOOL CORPORATION

Name of Aggrieved Teacher Seeking Relief:

Date of Alleged Violation:

Name of Other Employee (s) Involved, if Any:

\_\_\_\_\_

Identification of Specific Provisions of Agreement Violated or Misinterpreted:

\_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Facts Giving Rise to the Grievance: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Specific Relief Requested:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Teacher Seeking Relief

Received By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Level of Process and Referral Date:

Principal

Superintendent

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

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

Board

Arbitrator

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

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix F

### IC 20-29-6-6 (b) - Public Hearing/Public Meeting

*This subsection applies to a collective bargaining agreement ratified after June 30, 2023. A ratified collective bargaining agreement shall include a provision specifying the date on which the public hearing described in section 1(b) of this chapter and the public meeting described in section 19 of this chapter occurred as well as an attestation signed by both parties attesting that the public hearing described in section 1(b) of this chapter and the public meeting described in section 19 of this chapter occurred on the dates specified in the ratified collective bargaining agreement. The governing body shall indicate as part of the attestation whether governing body members or members of the public were allowed to participate in the public hearing or public meeting by means of electronic communication.*

#### Article 1

On the 11th day of September, 2023 at 7:00 pm, a public hearing as described in IC 20-29-6-1(b) was held at West Noble Board Room.

On the 9th day of October, 2023 at 7:00 pm, a public meeting as described in IC 20-29-6-19 was held at West Noble School Corporation.

#### Article 2

During the public hearing held on the 11th day of September, 2023 at 7:00 pm, governing body members were not allowed to participate in the public hearing by means of electronic communication. During the public hearing held on the 11th day of September, 2023 at 7:00 pm the members of the public were not allowed to participate in the public hearing by means of electronic communication.

During the public meeting held, the governing board members were not allowed to participate in the public hearing by means of electronic communication. During the public meeting held on the 9th day of October, 2023 at 7:00 pm, members of the public were not allowed to participate in the public hearing by means of electronic communication.

The terms and conditions of this agreement shall become effective on July 1, 2023, and shall continue in effect through June 30, 2024 with all issues having been considered and agreed upon.

Therefore, this agreement is made and entered into this 23rd day of October, 2023 between the Board and the Association, as defined herein, and is attested to by the representatives whose signatures appear below. The Board ratified the CBA on this 23rd day of October, 2023 and the Association ratified the CBA on this 23rd day of October, 2023 and is attested to by the respective representatives whose signatures appear below.

Article 1 is attested to by the Board and Association representatives whose signatures appear below. Article 2 is attested to by the Board representatives whose signatures appear below.

Attested on this the 23rd day of October, 2023

Board President

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Board Secretary

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Association Bargaining Team Spokesperson

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Board Member

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Superintendent

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