

March 20, 2024

## Item 16 - BEA

### ARTICLE VIII LEAVES OF ABSENCE

#### Section 11. Paid Parental Leave

Subd. 1. The start of a physical disability absence for pregnancy, delivery, and recovery from childbirth shall be determined by the teacher's physician or certified health care professional. The end of a physical disability absence for childbirth shall be determined by the teacher's physician or certified health care professional at the time of the child's birth.

Subd. 2. To ~~access paid personal illness days~~ utilize paid parental leave and, if necessary, long-term disability insurance, the teacher must provide the estimated start of a physical disability to Human Resources no later than the start of the certified disability (usually the birth of the child). Estimated start and end times can be modified by the physician.

Subd. 3. The teacher is responsible for ensuring adequate preparation for substitute coverage in her absence (barring an emergency); i.e., enough time to find a long-term substitute, discuss transition, and provide communication to parents.

Subd. 4. A teacher who becomes disabled as a result of pregnancy, childbirth, and delivery shall have the right to utilize accrued sick leave and long-term disability benefits for the period of time they are disabled due to pregnancy, childbirth, and delivery shall continue to receive all benefits during the period of illness/disability in accordance with Article VII, Section 3 Long-term disability. In the event a teacher does not have enough sick leave to cover the period of time they are disabled, the district will grant up to eight weeks of leave days paid.

Subd. 5. A teacher's maternity absence may encompass school holidays and/or school vacations. Personal illness days are not used during school holiday and/or vacations. Holidays and/or vacations that fall during the period of disability, do not in and of themselves cause the period of disability to be extended.

Subd. 6 & 7 are unchanged.