

AGREEMENT

Between

**SPRING LAKE EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION, MEA-NEA**

and

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027

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AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT entered into this 15th day of July, 2024 by and between the SPRING LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, SPRING LAKE, MICHIGAN, hereinafter referred to as the "Employer," and the SPRING LAKE EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION, MEA-NEA, hereinafter referred to as the "Union."

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE AND INTENT

The general purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the wages, hours, and working conditions which shall prevail for the duration of this Agreement and to promote orderly and peaceful labor relations for the mutual interest of the Employer, the employees, and the Union. Recognizing that the safety and well-being of students are the paramount concern of all employees of the District, the Employer and the Union, for and in consideration of the mutual promises, stipulations, and conditions hereinafter specified, agree to abide by the terms and provisions set forth herein for the duration of this Agreement.

ARTICLE II

RECOGNITION AND UNION SECURITY

Section 1.-Recognition

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 379 of the Public Acts of 1965 of the State of Michigan, as amended, the Employer does hereby recognize the Union as the exclusive representative for purposes of collective bargaining with respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment, and other conditions of employment of employees of the Employer as follows:

ALL REGULAR FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME BUS DRIVERS, MAINTENANCE, FOOD SERVICE AND MECHANICS. EXCLUDING SUPERVISORS AND ALL OTHER EMPLOYEES. AS CERTIFIED BY THE MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION ON APRIL 15, 1997 IN CASE NO: R97 B-40 AND ON OCTOBER 31, 2001 IN CASE NO.ROI 1-125.

Section 2.-Non-discrimination

The Employer and the Union agree that, for the duration of this Agreement, neither shall discriminate against an employee because of race, religion, color, creed, sex or nationality.

Section 3. Union Membership

Employees covered by this Agreement shall, in accordance with the policies and procedures of the MEA and of the Spring Lake Educational Support Personnel Association either (a) become a member of, and pay dues and initiation fees (if any) to the Union; or (b) not become a member of the union and not pay dues or initiation fees.

ARTICLE III

MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

Section 1. The Employer hereby retains and reserves unto itself, without limitation, all powers, rights, authority, duties, and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it by the laws and the constitution of the State of Michigan and of the United States, including but without limiting the generality of the foregoing the sole and exclusive right to manage and operate the Facility in any and all of its operations and activities:

- a) The right to hire, promote, discharge, discipline, layoff, and recall employees and to maintain discipline and efficiency;
- b) The right to determine and implement all matters pertaining to the services to be furnished, including the methods, procedures, means, equipment and machines required to provide such services;
- c) The right to determine the composition and number of facilities and their locations;
- d) The right to establish the numbers of personnel required;
- e) The right to assign work to employees within their classification;
- f) The right to direct and control operations;
- g) The right to discontinue combine or reorganize any services or any part or all of the operations;
- h) The right to direct the work force;
- i) The right to assign work in a reasonable manner in the interests of efficiency of operations and to determine the number of employees assigned to operations;
- j) The right to study and use improved methods and equipment, machinery, or processes, to change or eliminate existing equipment and institute technological changes, decide on materials, supplies, and equipment to be purchased;
- k) The right to construct new facilities or improve existing facilities;
- l) The right to determine the size of the work force and increase or decrease its size;
- m) The right to schedule hours of work and shifts as per this Agreement and to determine lunch rest periods and clean up times;
- n) The right to establish work schedules;
- o) The right to select employees for promotion or transfer to supervisory or other positions and to determine the qualifications and competency of employees to perform available work; and
- p) The right, in all respects, to carry out the ordinary and customary functions of management except as specifically restricted by the terms of this Agreement.

Section 2. The Employer shall have the right to promulgate at any time and to enforce any rules and regulations that it considers necessary or advisable for the safe, effective, and efficient operation of the Facility, so long as they are not limited or restricted by the terms of this Agreement. Any employee who violates or fails to comply therewith shall be subject to discipline or discharge just the same as if they were set forth in this Agreement. The Employer shall furnish the Union with a copy of the work rules and the Union shall have the right to grieve the enforcement of any work rule established by the Employer.

ARTICLE IV

STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

The Union agrees that, during the life of this Agreement, neither the Union, its agents, nor its members will authorize, instigate, aid, condone, or engage in a strike, work stoppage, refusal to work, slow down, or any other concerted interference with the operations of the Employer. The Employer agrees that it will not lock out the employees.

ARTICLE V

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A grievance is defined as any dispute claiming a violation of the meaning, interpretation, or application of the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

STEP ONE Informal Meeting with Supervisor

The grievance shall be discussed with the employee's respective supervisor. Any employee, group of employees or the Union who has/have any grievance must meet with the supervisor within fifteen (15) working days after the event occurred or within fifteen (15) working days after the employee is charged with knowledge of the event upon which the grievance is based, whichever is later. At the employee's request, arrangements will be made to have the proper steward present for such discussion. The employee's supervisor shall investigate and report his/her disposition of the complaint within five (5) working days after it has been made to him/her. In the event the complaint is not satisfactorily settled in this matter, the following procedure shall apply:

STEP TWO Written Grievance

A grievance must be in writing and must:

- 1) state the facts upon which it is based and when they occurred;
- 2) specify the section of the contract that has allegedly been violated;
- 3) be signed and dated by the employee who is filing the grievance;
- 4) be presented to his/her supervisor within five (5) working days after the answer at Step One; and
- 5) state the relief requested.

The supervisor shall give a written answer to the aggrieved employee within five (5) working days after receipt of the written grievance.

STEP THREE Administration Level

If the grievance is not settled in Step Two, any appeal to Step Three must be presented to the Director of Business or Director of Operations within five (5) working days after the Supervisor gives the employee the written Step Two answer. A meeting will be held within five (5) working days after the receipt of the grievance by the Director. The employee and/or the Union steward will be given a written, dated, and signed Step Three answer within five (5) working days following the meeting.

STEP FOUR Superintendent Level

If the grievance is not settled in Step Three, any appeal to Step Four must be presented to the Superintendent within five (5) working days after the Director gave the employee the written Step Three answer. The Superintendent shall meet with the grievant at a mutually agreed upon time; such meeting shall be scheduled within five (5) working days and held within thirty (30) working days after receipt of the written appeal. The Superintendent shall give the employee and/or the Union steward a written, dated, and signed Step Four answer within five (5) working days after he/she meets with the grievant at this step.

STEP FIVE Arbitration Level

If at this point the grievance has not been satisfactorily settled or withdrawn by the Union, the Union shall have the right to submit such grievance to arbitration. The Union shall advise the superintendent by written notice within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the Step 4 answer of its intent to arbitrate. The demand for arbitration and the proceedings thereafter shall be in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association.

- a) The arbitrator shall have no authority to add to, subtract from, or change, or modify any provisions of this Agreement, but shall be limited to the interpretation and application of this Agreement; however, the arbitrator shall have the authority to decide any valid grievance relating to whether or not the Employer had just cause for imposing discipline or discharge and whether the penalty is appropriate. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties hereto. The expenses and fees of the arbitrator and the American Arbitration Association shall be shared equally between the Employer and the Union.
- b) Grievances which are not appealed within the time limits specified in the grievance procedure shall be considered to be withdrawn by the Union and shall not be resubmitted. If the Employer fails or neglects to answer a grievance within the time limits specified at the various steps of the grievance procedure, the grievance shall move automatically to the next step.
- c) For purposes of this Article, "working days" shall be defined as those days when the Central Office is open.
- d) All grievance meetings held under the provision of this Article shall be held at such times as may be mutually agreed upon by the Union and the school administration. Should a grievance hearing or an arbitration hearing take place within an employee's work day and an employee is required to participate in the hearing as a grievant or witness, said employee shall not lose pay and shall not have accrued leave time deducted.
- e) The arbitrator shall have no authority to rule on any grievance concerning discharge or discipline that occurred during an employee's probationary period, nor any other specific grievance where an employee is seeking, or has sought, a remedy under OSHA or MDOT regulations.

ARTICLE VI

UNION RIGHTS

- a) The Union Grievance Committee is composed of the President, one (1) steward from the maintenance working night shift, one (1) steward from the maintenance working day shift, one (1) steward for the bus drivers and one (1) steward for the food service. The Union shall furnish a list of stewards to the Employer.
- b) For purposes of layoff only, the President and the stewards shall be considered to have the highest seniority in their respective groups and will be continued at work, provided they can perform the available work.
- c) The following conditions shall govern Union responsibilities that must be conducted during scheduled work hours:
 - 1. Grievances -
 - (a.) For investigations, up to one (1) hour paid time will be granted with their supervisor's permission unless to do so would interfere with an immediate job or program.
 - (b.) For meetings with administration or supervisors, up to one (1) hour of paid time will be granted with their supervisor's permission at a mutually agreed upon time.
 - 2. Negotiations - Paid time will be granted if the hours cannot be rescheduled at a mutually agreeable time.
 - 3. Arbitrations - Paid time will be granted with no rescheduling of loss work time.
- d) At the beginning of each school year, the Union shall be provided with a total of thirty-two (32) hours of paid time to be used by Union officers and stewards to attend Union conventions or educational conferences or to attend to Union matters outlined above. For conventions or conferences, the President shall notify the Superintendent or his/her designee five (5) working days in advance. These days shall be non-cumulative. An additional thirty-two hours without pay shall be allowed.
- e) The employer will provide bulletin board space in each building that may be used by the Union for posting notices of its activities and matters of Union concern. The Union shall have reasonable use of the Employer's internal mail delivery system, provided such use does not interfere with the Employer's operations and/or with any employee's duty time.
- f) The Union and its members shall have reasonable access to school building facilities for scheduled Union meetings.

ARTICLE VII

SENIORITY

Section 1.-Definition

"Seniority" shall be defined as an employee's length of continuous service with the Employer since his/her last hiring date or transfer into the bargaining unit. "Last hiring date" shall mean the date upon which an employee first reported for work in a bargaining unit position since which he/she has not quit or been discharged.

Section 2.-Seniority List

- a) Between the first student day and September 30th of each year, the Employer shall post and furnish to the Union, a copy of the seniority list of the most senior employee, in seniority order, most senior employees appearing first and listed by unit: (Unit 1) Bus drivers and (Unit 2) Maintenance and Mechanic and (Unit 3) Food Service. The Employer will advise in writing the President of new hires and employees whose seniority is terminated for any reason.
- b) As between any two (2) or more employees who have the same seniority date, seniority shall be determined by (1) the date first reporting and (2) if the same, the date and time hired. If the foregoing does not break the seniority tie, a random drawing shall be held to determine the seniority ranking.
- c) Objections to the seniority list shall be submitted by October 15th of each year; thereafter the list shall be final and conclusive

Section 3.-Probationary Employees

An employee shall be considered to be on probation and he/she shall have no seniority, until after he/she has completed sixty (60) working days. The employer may extend the probationary period up to an additional sixty (60) working days provided the Association and the employee are given written notice prior to expiration of the first sixty-day probationary period. The written notice shall include specific areas that need improvement and specific steps to be taken by the employee. Once an employee has completed his/her probationary period he/she shall be ranked on the seniority list from their last date of hire. "Working days" shall mean days that the probationary employee actually worked.

Section 4.-Loss of Seniority

An employee shall lose his/her seniority for the following reasons only:

- a) He/she quits;
- b) He/she is discharged and the discharge is not reversed through the grievance procedure set forth in this Agreement;
- c) He/She is laid off for a period of eighteen (18) months;
- d) He/She is on sick leave of absence for a period of two (2) years;
- e) He/She accepts employment elsewhere while on a leave of absence (other than military service leave of absence), or is self-employed for the purpose of making a profit, during a leave of absence;
- f) He/She fails to report for work at his/her starting time on his/her first workday after expiration of a leave of absence;
- g) If the Employee fails to return after receipt of a recall notice; provided that the Employee had at least five (5) working days' notice; or
- h) He/She is absent from work, without permission, for three (3) consecutive working days.

Section 5.-Seasonal Help

- a) Help hired for the summer or other temporary periods when school is not in session shall not be subject to the terms or benefits of this Agreement provided such seasonal help shall not be used to cause the layoff of bargaining unit personnel. Bargaining unit personnel not working full-time during the time when seasonal employees will be used will be given first consideration for such seasonal employment. The Employer shall post notice of such positions at least ten (10) days in advance on the bulletin boards. Employees who desire seasonal work as herein provided shall sign the posting. Notice of seasonal work after the last student instruction day of the school year shall be mailed to those bargaining unit members who have expressed an interest.
- b) These employees shall not be used to take the place of regular employees already on the payroll.
- c) If an employee classified as seasonal help is retained as a regular employee or works beyond the length of seasonal employment, he/she shall have seniority from the date the employee was employed as seasonal and shall be covered by all provisions of this Agreement except that the probationary period provided by Article VII, Section 3, shall be served after the date the employee is retained as a regular employee.

ARTICLE VIII

VACANCIES, TRANSFERS, LAYOFFS & RECALLS

Section 1.-Basic Principle.

Seniority shall be applied on a Unit basis: (1) Bus Drivers, (2) Maintenance and Mechanic, and (3) Food Service in transfers, layoff, and recall within seniority units based on seniority, qualifications, and ability to perform the job.

Section 2.-Permanent Vacancies.

- a) The Employer will post notice of a vacancy in a bargaining unit job within ten (10) working days from the date of the vacancy (providing the position is going to be filled) setting forth the position, location, and shift, and it shall be posted for a period of five (5) working days. A vacancy exists when there are more positions than employees in the bargaining unit. Any interested employee may apply in writing. After the end of the posting period, an employee may not apply, regardless of his/her reason for failure to apply during the posting period, and also regardless of his/her seniority standing relative to those who did bid during the posting period. The Employer may fill a posted job on a temporary basis during the posting period.
- b) The position shall be awarded within fifteen (15) working days from the end of the posting period. The vacancy shall be filled based on the equally weighted components of skill, ability to acquire the necessary knowledge to perform the job, prior job performance and seniority. Employees who have applied for a posted vacancy, upon request, shall be informed in writing of the reason(s) for not being selected. A copy of the notification will be placed in the employee's file. The Employer shall provide the Union President with a copy of the posting, the names of the applicants and to whom the position was awarded.

- c) During the first ten (10) days on his/her new job, the employer will provide assignment specific training to the employee. During the first forty-five (45) working days on his/her new job, a successful applicant may elect to return to his/her former job, or the Employer may elect to retransfer the applicant to his/her former job at the former pay rate and benefit level in the event he/she fails to demonstrate his/her ability to do the required work with written notice of documented reasons with a copy to the President. This shall not be subject to the grievance procedure. If the job is so vacated, the Employer may select another applicant from the earlier posting.
- d) After an employee's successful application, he/she shall be ineligible to apply for another posted job for six (6) months. However, if a vacancy arises in a higher paying position, an employee may apply after thirty (30) days in position.

Sub-sections c and d do not apply to the Transportation unit (drivers).

- e) Employees may submit a request to the Director of Operations and/or Chief Financial Officer for a transfer within their classification. The request for transfer should state the reason(s) for the transfer. If the request is not granted the employee will, upon request, be given a written statement indicating the reason(s) for not implementing the transfer. No transfer shall take place until the replacement employee is adequately trained.
- f) The employer shall provide on the job training to any employee seeking to upgrade their skills in their current job classification. Upon receipt of appropriate written requests, the training will be completed within a year. The time and location of the assignment shall be at the discretion of the employer.

Section 3.-Temporary Transfer

- a) If there is a temporary surplus or deficiency of employees, the Employer may assign employees to other work within the bargaining unit, regardless of classification.
- b) Where there is more than one (1) employee in the classification from which the transfer is to be made, and whenever it is practicable, the junior employee will be selected, provided he/she has the present ability to perform the work required or a substitute may be used unless the temporary transfer is an upgrade to a higher-paid work and/or an addition of hours, in which case the senior employee so qualified will be offered the transfer. During the period of a temporary transfer an employee shall be paid the rate of his/her classification or the rate of the classification to which he/she is transferred, whichever is higher.

Section 4.-Transfer

- a) Any employee who has been or in the future is promoted from the bargaining unit to a supervisory position or other job with the Employer outside the bargaining unit shall continue to maintain but not accrue seniority for a period of one (1) year. Employees shall be permitted to return to the bargaining unit within the one (1) year period by replacing the employee with the lowest seniority in the classification from which he/she was promoted.
- b) If it becomes necessary to schedule a position that includes Saturday or Sunday as part of its standard workweek, the least senior qualified employee will be assigned if the posting is unfilled. The employer shall post this position regardless of any contractual waiver of the posting process.

Section 5.-Layoffs and Recalls

When the size of the work force is to be reduced, or is to be increased after a reduction, employees in each classification in the seniority unit affected shall be laid off or recalled, as the case may be, in accordance with the principle set forth in Section 1 of this Article. Probationary employees and part-time employees in the classification in the seniority unit affected, however, shall be laid off first and recalled last. Employees to be laid off will have at least ten (10) calendar days' notice of layoff. The Union President will be furnished a list from the Employer of the employees being laid off when the notices are issued to the employees.

Employees laid off shall have the right to replace a less senior employee in a different classification within their unit only, provided they are qualified and notice is given to the Employer within three (3) working days after notice of layoff is received. Part-time employees shall not be permitted to exercise their seniority to displace full-time employees.

ARTICLE IX

DISCHARGE OR DISCIPLINE

No non-probationary employee shall be disciplined without just cause and no non-probationary employee shall be discharged without just cause. Any such non-probationary employee discipline or discharge shall be subject to the grievance procedure, hereinafter set forth in Article V, including arbitration. Any probationary employee discipline or discharge shall be subject to the grievance procedure, excluding arbitration. The specific grounds for disciplinary action will be presented in writing to the bargaining unit member and the Union utilizing Appendix A.

The employer will follow a policy of progressive discipline, unless the seriousness of the offense warrants accelerated discipline.

In imposing discharge or discipline on a current charge, the employer will not take into account prior discipline less than suspensions that occurred more than four years previously.

A bargaining unit member shall be entitled to have present a representative of the Union during any meeting that will or may lead to disciplinary action by the Employer.

ARTICLE X

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Section 1.-Paid Leaves

a) Sick Leave - The amount of sick leave granted each year is provided for in the individual classification articles in this Agreement (i.e., Transportation, Article XVII; Maintenance and Mechanics, Article XVIII; Food Service, Article XIX).

- 1) The employee must report the absence to the Employer as soon as possible, but at least one (1) hour prior to the shift from which the employee will be absent. Second and third shift employees shall call in at least two (2) hours before their shift begins. Failure to timely call in may result in disciplinary action.

- 2) Upon returning to work, the employee must submit a request for sick leave pay using Munis.
 - 3) The employer may request a certificate from a medical doctor stating the nature of the illness or injury if:
 - (a.) Such absence exceeds three (3) consecutive working days
 - (b.) There is a pattern of absenteeism
 - (c.) Such absence is on the employee's last scheduled working day before and/or the first scheduled working day after the employee's regular vacation or any of the holidays specified in this Agreement.
 - 4) An employee who makes a false claim for paid sick leave shall be subject to disciplinary action or discharge depending upon the circumstances involved.
- b) Bereavement Leave - Three (3) paid leave days shall be provided to make arrangements for or to attend the funeral of a spouse, parent, or child (including all in-laws), siblings, grandchildren or grandparents, (including all in-laws). An additional two (2) days of sick leave may be taken for such family members.
 - c) Personal Leave - Employees will be allowed two (2) days leave each year for personal business reasons. These days shall be non-cumulative from year to year and will be deducted from the paid leave days. A personal business day may be used for necessary business or activities of a personal nature that cannot be conducted at any time other than a school day employee's scheduled work time. An employee planning to use personal leave day shall notify his/her supervisor. Request for personal business days shall be made at least (2) days in advance except in cases of emergency. The employee may be asked to explain the reasons for any personal leave requested for a school day immediately before or after a holiday or vacation period and reasonable restrictions may be imposed on personal leaves on such days. Personal leave days shall be available for the practice of individual religious preferences. One additional personal day per year shall be granted for personal business reasons provided such request is due to unavoidable circumstances. Eligible employees must have accrued 50% or more of their sick day cap. Another personal day with the above parameters shall be granted to employees who have accrued 50% or more of their sick day cap and have ten (10) or more years of service.
 - d) Jury/Witness Service - During the period when an employee is performing required jury service or is required to serve as a witness as a result of being served with a subpoena, the Employer will pay for the difference, if any, between the jury duty or witness service compensation and the employee's normal wage, provided that the employee gives the Employer at least 48 hours advance notice of jury duty or witness service and, thereafter, provides evidence of performance of jury duty or witness service, and of the payment received for it.

Section 2.-Unpaid Leaves - Upon written application to the Superintendent or his/her designee and subsequent approval, a non-probationary employee shall be granted a leave of absence for:

- a) Union or Public Service - Serving in an elected or appointed position for a maximum of two (2) years.
- b) Illness/Disability - Physical illness or disability verified by a physician's statement, not to exceed (1) one year. The Superintendent or his/her designee may grant an additional year.
- c) Child care - Care for a newborn or newly adopted child, not to exceed six months.

- d) Personal-Leave for good cause, but not for seeking work elsewhere, not to exceed sixty (60) days.
- e) Military - as provided by law.

Section 3.-Provisions for Unpaid Leaves

- a) Employees shall not accrue seniority while on leaves of absence of twenty-one (21) working days or more. At the completion of the leave, employees shall be returned to a position to which their adjusted seniority entitles them.
- b) Vacations and sick leave that have been earned prior to the leave will be retained. Vacation and sick leave shall not be earned during leaves of absence of 21 working days or more.
- c) Upon return from an approved leave, the employee shall be placed at the same longevity, salary step, and/or retain other benefit levels, as when the employee commenced leave unless provided otherwise by state or federal law or this Agreement.
- d) The Employer may terminate a leave of absence if substantial evidence indicates such leave is no longer applicable. The employee shall be notified by certified mail of such fact and shall report for work, or submit rebuttal evidence supporting the employee's qualifications for the unpaid leave within seven (7) working days. Should the employee fail to return to work or submit rebuttal evidence within the seven (7) working day period, the employee shall be considered to have voluntarily resigned. If the employer finds substantial evidence still exists indicating such leave is no longer applicable after reviewing the rebuttal evidence, the Employer shall proceed with the termination of the leave and require the employee to return to work within forty-eight (48) hours or be considered to have voluntarily resigned if the employee fails to report within the required time period.
- e) Upon an employee's intent to return from any leave of absence, the Employer may require a physical examination prior to allowing the employee to return to work.

ARTICLE XI

SICK BANK

In the event of an employee's catastrophic illness or accident and depletion of said employee's accrued sick days and their written request, the superintendent and/or designee shall meet with union officials to discuss voluntary sick day/hour donation from other employees within the same department to the absent employee. A mutually agreed upon transfer of sick days/hours, whichever is applicable, from other employees' sick banks to the employee on leave will then be implemented. Such transfer shall not occur if the absent employee is eligible for short-term disability or long-term disability compensation.

ARTICLE XII

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

Employees who have worked for the District for at least twelve (12) months and for 1,250 hours over the previous twelve (12) months of employment are eligible for Family and Medical Leave. Leaves of absences under this policy shall be administered consistent with the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993, any revisions of same, and its regulations.

Section 1.- Purpose of Leave

Up to twelve (12) weeks of leave may be granted for any of the following reasons:

- a. To care for employee's child after birth or placement for adoption or foster care; or
- b. To care for the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent who has a serious health condition.
- c. For a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job.
- d. Other reasons to the extent permitted by the FMLA.

Leaves in excess of the time periods indicated above may be granted for up to one(!) year within the sole discretion of the Superintendent and subject to conditions as established by the Superintendent.

Section 2. Notice, Duration and Certification

When the need for leave is foreseeable, employees are expected to provide thirty (30) days advance notice. When not foreseeable, employees are required to provide notice of the need for leave as soon as practicable. When leave is needed for planned medical treatment, employees must attempt to schedule treatment so as not to unduly disrupt the District's operations. Failure to provide appropriate notice may result in the denial of leave.

Leave for a newborn or newly placed child may be taken only within twelve (12) months from the date of birth or placement and may only be taken continuously.

When medically necessary, leave to care for a family member or for the employee's own serious health condition may be taken on an intermittent or a reduced work schedule basis. If an employee requests intermittent leave for foreseeable treatment, either for a family member or for the employee, and the employee would be on leave for more than 20% of the total number of working days during the period of planned treatment, the District may require the employee to either take leave for a period or periods of a particular duration or temporarily transfer the employee to an equivalent position that is better suited to periods of intermittent or reduced schedule leave. All time taken, whether by choice or requirement, will count toward the employee's annual entitlement for family and medical leave.

The District will require medical certification to support a request for a leave because of a serious health condition and may require second or third opinions (at the District's expense) and a fitness for duty report to return to work. The medical certification must include the first anticipated date of absence from service to the District and the expected date of return. For leaves in excess of twelve (12) weeks, the medical certification must be from an MD/DO. The medical certification to support a leave for family medical reasons must include a statement indicating that the employee's presence is necessary or would be beneficial for the care of the family member and the period of time care is needed or the employee's presence would be beneficial.

When leave is required for a serious health condition, employees will normally be given fifteen (15) calendar days to obtain the necessary medical certifications to support the leave. Employees will be required, unless the District waives the requirement, to recertify the need for the leave at least every thirty (30) days and must report in on a periodic basis no less often than every two (2) weeks with respect to their progress, the progress of their parent, spouse or child, and their anticipated date for return to work.

Section 3.- Wages and Benefits

Leave will be unpaid except as covered by any paid benefit. At the District's or the employee's option, accrued, but unused, paid vacation leave or personal days may be substituted for unpaid leave. At the employee's discretion, up to five (5) days may be withheld to be used after returning from the unpaid leave. Sick leave may be used for the employee's own serious health condition or the illness of his or her child, spouse or parent who has a serious health condition.

For leaves of up to twelve (12) weeks under this policy, the District will maintain the employee's health coverage under the existing group health plan. Any employee contributions to the health plan must be maintained during the leave to maintain coverage. Employees who fail to return from a leave will be obligated to reimburse the District for the cost of all paid health coverage, except when the employee's failure to return is due to the continuation, recurrence, or onset of a serious health condition that would entitle the employee to medical or family leave or other circumstances beyond the employee's control.

Section 4.- Return to Work

Upon return from a leave of twelve (12) weeks or less, employees will be restored to their original or equivalent position with equivalent pay, benefits and other employment terms. The employee will not lose any employment benefit that accrued prior to the start of the leave. Every effort will be made to return employees on leaves in excess of twelve (12) weeks to the same or a comparable position.

Section 5.- Eligibility Year

For purposes of determining eligibility for a leave, the District hereby adopts a rolling twelve (12) month period whereby each time an employee takes family and medical leave, the remaining leave entitlement will be any balance of the twelve (12) weeks that has not been used during the immediately preceding twelve (12) months.

ARTICLE XIII

EQUIPMENT, ACCIDENTS, AND REPORTS

- a) The Employer shall not require employees to take out on the streets or highways any vehicle that is not in safe operating condition or equipped with the safety appliances prescribed by law. It shall not be a violation of this Agreement where employees refuse to operate such equipment unless such refusal is unjustified. In such case the driver is to immediately report the unsafe condition to the Director of Transportation. The director and a bus mechanic will then determine whether or not the vehicle is safe to drive. Should it be determined to be safe, the driver shall operate the vehicle or be subject to disciplinary action.
- b) Under no circumstances will an employee be required or assigned to engage in any activity involving dangerous conditions or danger to person or property, or in violation of an applicable statute or court order, or governmental regulation relating to safety of person or equipment.
- c) Any employee involved in any accident shall immediately report said accident and any physical injury or property damage sustained. When required by his/her Employer, the employee, before starting his/her next shift, shall make out an accident report, in writing, on forms furnished by the Employer and shall turn in all available names and addresses of witnesses to any accidents. Failure to comply with this provision shall subject such employee to disciplinary action by the Employer.

- d) Employees shall immediately, or at the end of their shift report all defects of building or equipment on forms provided by the employer. The employee may retain a copy. The employer shall not ask or require any employee to take out equipment that has been reported by any other employee as being in an unsafe operating condition until same has been approved in writing as being safe by the mechanical department.

Every employee shall observe all safety rules that are established as required by the Employer and shall use such safety devices or equipment as required by the Employer. Any infraction of such safety rule or failure to use such devices or equipment shall subject the employee to disciplinary action, including discharge.

ARTICLE XIV

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Section 1. - Supervisory Work

Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to prohibit the Employer from using supervisory employees for bus driving, food service and/or maintenance work, provided that it does not result in a reduction of an employee's regularly scheduled work hours.

Section 2. - Communication

Employees shall be required to keep the Employer informed at all times as to their current address and telephone number. It is understood that any communication addressed to an employee at his or her last address on record with the Employer shall constitute notice to the employee of the contents of such communication.

Section 3. - Complaint against an Employee

Complaints and/or criticisms pertaining to an employee that are to be placed in the employee's personnel file shall be brought to the employee's attention and discussed with the employee at the earliest mutually agreeable time. The employee shall have an opportunity to respond to such complaints and/or criticisms, verbally and/or in writing, and any written response shall be attached to the complaint/criticism in the personnel file.

Section 4. - FOIA Requests

In the event that the District receives a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for the personnel file(s) of any employee(s), the administration shall notify the Union in a timely manner. Upon request and insofar as time reasonably permits, the Board's designated FOIA office shall meet with the affected employee and/or the employee's representatives to review the Board's proposed response to the request. In order to allow the employee and the Union to seek legal relief, the Board may delay granting the request to the extent permitted by law. Consideration shall be given to the employee's privacy interests and all available Freedom of Information Act exemptions to compelled disclosure and viewing of information.

This provision shall not prevent the Union from having access to any employment records related to its duties as the exclusive bargaining representative.

ARTICLE XV

LONGEVITY PAY

Eligible maintenance/maintenance-mechanic, food service, and transportation employees will receive longevity pay based on the number of years of service at the completion of the school year as follows (years of service is defined as the date of hire with the district):

| Years of Service | Longevity Pay |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 5 | \$500 |
| 6 | \$600 |
| 7 | \$700 |
| 8 | \$800 |
| 9 | \$900 |
| 10 | \$1,000 |
| 11 | \$1,100 |
| 12 | \$1,200 |
| 13 | \$1,300 |
| 14 | \$1,400 |
| 15 | \$1,500 |
| 16 | \$1,600 |
| 17 | \$1,700 |
| 18 | \$1,800 |
| 19 | \$1,900 |
| 20 | \$2,000 |

ARTICLE XVI

WORKER'S COMPENSATION

To the extent an employee has accumulated sick leave, such sick leave may be used until worker's compensation payments begin. After worker's compensation payments begin, the employee shall not be allowed to use any remaining sick leave in connection with the disability.

ARTICLE XVII

TRANSPORTATION

LICENSE

It shall be the responsibility of each employee to meet the qualifications for any license required for the performance of the job responsibilities. Any license required must be kept valid and up-to-date to qualify for continued employment. The cost of the license shall be the responsibility of the Employer.

SICK DAYS

For each newly hired permanent bus driver, the District shall compute and grant pro-rata paid sick leave credit on the first July 1st after his/her last hiring date. Every July 1 thereafter with continuous employment, the employee shall be eligible to receive ten (10) days of paid sick leave.

- a) Paid sick leave credits for bus drivers shall be cumulative from year to year to one hundred (100) days. This cap shall be calculated annually at the start of each school year. Said days, (c) shall be computed by dividing the accumulated hours of leave, (a) by the employee's current regularly scheduled hours per day, (b). (e.g. 366 [a]/ 6 hours per day, [b], = 61 days [c]).
- b) In the event that an employee has maintained this cap for two years, the employee is guaranteed to remain at the cap regardless of the current number of daily hours worked if the annual usage of sick time is less than the annual earned sick time.
- c) The employee must report the absence to the Employer as soon as possible, but at least one (1) hour prior to the shift from which the employee will be absent. Failure to timely call in may result in disciplinary action.
- d) All regular employees who complete the fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) and who minimize their use of sick leave days as defined in Article X Leaves of Absence except sick days used in conjunction with bereavement leave shall be eligible for a single payment to be paid at the end of the school year as follows:

Twelve-month employees

- Three hundred dollars (\$300) if zero (0) sick days are used
- One hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) if no more than one (1) sick day is used
- Seventy-Five (\$75) if no more than two (2) sick days are use

Nine-month employees

- Two hundred dollars (\$200) if zero (0) sick days are used
- One hundred dollars (\$100) if no more than one (1) sick day is used
- Fifty dollars (\$50) if no more than two (2) sick days are used

- e) Upon retirement from the District, each bargaining unit member who is eligible, shall receive one of the following for each unused accumulated sick day. An unused accumulated sick day is defined in Article XVII, Sick Days, a).
 1. \$10.00 per day, after 5 years of employment, up to a \$500.00 maximum payout.
 2. \$25.00 per day if cap in Section a above has been reached.

HOLIDAYS

All bus drivers will be eligible for the following holidays: Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve Day, New Year's Day and Memorial Day, provided the employee is regularly employed and shall be paid at their regular straight time rate for the normal number of hours employed.

When any of the above holidays occurs on a Saturday or a Sunday, the Friday before or the Monday after shall be considered as the holiday, whichever is more applicable.

To be eligible for holiday pay, an employee must work his/her last regularly scheduled workday before the holiday and his/her first regularly scheduled work day after the holiday, unless the employee was excused, on vacation, or on paid leave.

HOURS OF WORK

Section 1.- Regularly Scheduled Daily Routes

- a) The Employer shall establish the routes and combined routes and shall determine which bus is assigned to which route. The Employer shall establish combined routes that, whenever possible, include both secondary and elementary routes for both the morning and the afternoon. The Employer shall also establish Single routes. Tech routes and special needs routes. The Employer may change the routes, combined routes, bus stops and assigned bus as deemed necessary.

The combined route times for HS/MS and EL/SLIS will be as follows (times are approximate):

6:25 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. (includes pre-trip)

2:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. (includes pre-trip)

All combined routes will be 4.75 hours. Drivers assigned to combined routes shall be paid 4.75 hours, including when the drive time and pre-trip time are less than 4.75 hours. Drivers who finish their routes prior to 4.75 hours may be assigned additional duties during their 4.75 hour scheduled time. Drivers assigned combined routes shall be compensated for any time worked above 4.75 hours.

The Single routes, tech routes and special needs routes times shall be determined by the Transportation Supervisor and subject to the bid process. Drivers assigned to said routes shall be paid for the route time and pre-trip.

- b) The assignment of routes, including combined routes, single routes, Tech routes and special needs routes shall be made on the basis of bidding by seniority at an annual meeting to be held the second Wednesday of August. Elementary and Secondary routes will be bid separately at the meeting and the a.m. and p.m. routes selected by each driver shall be a combined route. A two (2) week advance notice of the meeting shall be given to each driver. Elementary routes shall be posted for a.m. and p.m. routes as a single assignment.

The Bid Meeting is mandatory for all bidding drivers. Failure to arrive on time or failure to attend the Bid Meeting will be determined as forfeiture of the driver's right to bid. Exception: In the event of an emergency, if a driver is unable to attend the bid meeting, the driver must submit their 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. choices by the beginning of the bid meeting, or the employee(s) shall be assigned the last routes available, by order of seniority, before they are offered to non-bargaining unit members.

- c) Drivers shall maintain updated student lists. Clean up and warm-up shall be part of the normal responsibilities of each driver, including the washing and fueling of buses as required for safety when the Mechanic is unavailable to do it.
- d) A notice shall be posted by June 1 of each year requesting drivers for scheduled summer routes. All drivers interested shall sign the posting and among those qualified, seniority shall be the determining factor for selection of drivers.
- e) If a driver has to wait to start and/or complete their assigned route due to circumstances beyond their control, they shall be paid for this time at their regular hourly rate of pay.
- f) If a regular route is cancelled due to an outside district's school closing or delay, but not including scheduled days off, the driver shall be paid at his/her regular rate of pay for hours lost and there shall be no deduction from the SLPS school closure allowance. The driver may be assigned other driving assignments during this time period as required by the Transportation Supervisor.
- g) Except in unusual circumstances, drivers are expected to report anticipated absences at least one (1) hour prior to their starting time. Failure to report may result in loss of sick pay.
- h) Bus drivers advised not to report to work, or reporting to work and then sent home due to circumstances such as weather, fire, or other conditions beyond the control of the Employer, will be paid for the balance of that day provided the employer is not required by law to make up the days during the school year and it was not a scheduled day off for the employee. If the employer is required to make up the day, the bus drivers that worked-a-partial-day-shall-be-paid for the time worked in addition to the day made up.
- i) Employees reporting late for work, or leaving work early, or working overtime, shall have all such hours computed for pay purposes to the nearest one-quarter (1/4) of an hour including any fraction thereof.
- j) Absenteeism coverage shall require priority be given to drivers by order of seniority. If no driver is available, routes will be offered to substitute drivers.
- k) Any regular driver that trains a new driver for employment at Spring Lake Public Schools shall receive their regular drive time pay.

Section 2.- Outside Runs

- a) Outside runs for bus drivers shall be any field trip, athletic trip, or unscheduled run other than their regular work time. To the extent possible, the Employer shall post all extra hour trips at least one (1) day in advance.
- b) Outside run board shall be assigned by seniority on a rotation basis. An up-to-date list showing the next person on the rotation shall be posted in the transportation building. Should an employee choose not to take his/her turn in the rotation he/she shall be excluded until the next rotation. Employees absent when it is their turn in the rotation shall be included provided that the employee leaves written instructions with the Transportation Director or Administrative Assistant regarding their preference for the outside run.

- c) The Transportation Supervisor will establish shuttle runs, which may be one-way or two-way and will be paid at regular pay.
- d) All outside trip slips must be turned in to the transportation office at the end of the run. If a run ends after hours, the trip slip must be turned in to the box outside the transportation office door.
- e) Whenever a bus driver has been scheduled or notified to report for work outside the regular work day and is sent home due to no fault of his or her own, he/she shall receive one (1) hour of pay.
- f) Drivers interested in driving routes or outside runs during the period after the last student day of the school year and the first student day of the school year shall make their desire known in writing. Runs and routes will be awarded by seniority only to drivers that have so indicated. Any outside run between August 15 through the end of the student school year shall be awarded as per (b) above.
- g) When an outside bus runs that is scheduled consecutively with regular a route exceeds eight (8) consecutive hours up to nine (9) consecutive hours, said employee will receive ten dollars (\$10.00) per diem. For combined runs and routes of nine (9) hours or more consecutively scheduled, said employee will receive fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per diem.
- h) When an assigned outside run is cancelled, the driver assigned to that outside run shall bid on the next available outside run.

Section 3. - Distribution of Extra Hours

- a) Extra hours shall be defined as all hours above an employee's regularly scheduled bid hours.
- b) All extra hours must be approved by the supervisor prior to the extra hours worked.
- c) Extra hours will be performed by the employee normally assigned to the bus route involved. Whenever possible, regular drivers shall be used for extra hour driving if a person is fully qualified. Extra hours will be offered to regular drivers on the basis of seniority before they are offered to substitute drivers.

Section 4. - Overtime Premium

- a) Time and one-half (1/2) shall be paid as follows: For all hours worked over 40 (forty) hours per week.
- b) Double time plus holiday pay shall be paid for all hours worked on holidays that are defined in this Agreement.
- c) Double time shall be paid for all hours work on Sundays.

INSURANCE

Section 1.- Full Time Bus Drivers

The Employer shall provide the choice of MESSA Choices with the \$500/\$1000 deductible, \$20 office co-pay, MESSA Saver RX or ABC Plan 1 for full time employees and eligible dependents including, ADN-self-funded Dental I, II, III, IV 80/80/80/80: \$1,000 annual max, \$1300 lifetime max and Vision NVA- fully insured (mirrors VSP 2 coverage).

For eligible and participating full-time employees, the Board's contribution toward the cost of group health insurance coverage, including premiums and any other Board payments or contributions, relating to such coverage, shall be limited to the so-called maximum "hard cap" levels prescribed in the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act (Act 152 of 2011; MCL 15.561-569), as the same may be amended from time to time.

Except for the Board's insurance premium contributions, all remaining health insurance premium costs shall be paid by participating employees by payroll deduction.

Full time for insurance purposes is defined as an employee regularly working thirty-two (32) or more hours per week. If an employee elects not to receive the health coverage, he/she shall receive cash-in-lieu of such coverage in the amount of \$350 per month; and employees choosing the cash-in-lieu of health insurance benefit under the District's section 125 Plan may thereafter elect to have the cash contributed to a tax-deferred annuity.

The Association shall determine any additional or different MESSA plans to be offered during any plan year. The Association must provide written notice to the District no later than October 1 of each year of its intent to add to or change its current MESSA plans.

Section 2.- Part Time Bus Drivers

- a) Employees who work at least thirty (30) regular hours per week but less than thirty-two (32) regular hours per week shall elect annually either an employer paid \$1200.00 annuity or \$1200.00 employer contribution to the district's Flex plan. Employees shall be eligible for expense reimbursement in accordance with the Flex guidelines.
- b) Employees who work at least twenty (20) regular hours per week but less than thirty (30) regular hours per week shall elect annually either an employer paid \$1000.00 annuity or a \$1000.00 employer contribution to the district's Flex plan. Employees shall be eligible for expense reimbursement in accordance with the Flex guidelines.
- c) Employees who work at least ten (10) regular hours per week but less than twenty (20) regular hours per week shall elect annually either an employer paid \$800.00 annuity or a \$800.00 employer contribution to the district's Flex plan. Employees shall be eligible for expense reimbursement in accordance with the Flex guidelines.
- d) September and October shall be the qualifying period for transportation employee benefits. Any benefits that an employee qualifies for during this period shall be in effect for one (1) calendar year with an effective date of January 1.

Section 3.- Retirement Benefits

The Employer agrees to provide an employee who retires pursuant to the Michigan School Employees Retirement System with single person hospitalization insurance from the time the employee retires, provided the employee has attained the age of 59, to the time the employee becomes eligible for Medicare.

CLASSIFICATION AND RATES (per hour)

| 2024-2025 | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year | 3 rd Year + |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Regular drive wage, including outside runs, drive and wait time, meetings and training | \$22.00 | \$23.25 | \$25.50 |

| 2025-2026 | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year | 3 rd Year + |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Regular drive wage, including outside runs, drive and wait time, meetings and training | \$23.00 | \$24.25 | \$26.50 |

| 2026-2027 | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year | 3 rd Year + |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Regular drive wage, including outside runs, drive and wait time, meetings and training | \$24.00 | \$25.25 | \$27.50 |

1. Regular drive wage will apply for outside runs, including drive and wait time; this extends to other areas considered wait time, including meetings and training.

2. Regular drive wage will apply if a coach and/or supervisor of a student group requests supervision of a student(s) and verifies such request with Transportation Supervisor. Benefit is not to be construed with normal interest in and supervision of equipment (bus or other vehicle) by assigned driver.

VACATION

All drivers who have completed one (1) or more years of continuous service at the beginning of the school year shall receive (5) days of paid vacation.

Drivers with less than one (1) year of service at the beginning of the school year shall receive a prorated number of vacation days on their one (1) year anniversary date and five (5) additional vacation days at the beginning of the next school year. Example: A driver with a hire date of 01/15/24 will receive 2.5 vacation days on 1/15/25 and an additional five (5) vacation days in September 2025.

ARTICLE XVIII

MAINTENANCE AND MECHANIC

SICK DAYS

For each newly hired permanent, full-time Maintenance and Mechanic employee, the District shall compute and grant pro-rata paid sick leave credit on the first July 1st after his/her last hiring date. Every July 1 thereafter with continuous employment, the employee shall be eligible to receive twelve (12) days of paid sick leave.

For each newly hired permanent, part-time Maintenance and Mechanic employee, the District shall compute and grant pro-rata paid sick leave credit on the first July 1st after his/her last hiring date. Every July 1 thereafter with continuous employment, the employee shall be eligible to receive ten (10) days of paid sick leave.

- a) Paid sick leave credits for full-time Maintenance and Mechanics employees shall be cumulative from year to year to one-hundred eighty (180) days.
- b) Paid sick leave credits for part-time Maintenance and Mechanics shall be cumulative from year to year to one hundred (100) days. This cap shall be calculated annually at the start of each school year. Said days, (c) shall be computed by dividing the accumulated hours of leave, (a) by the employee's current regularly scheduled hours per day, (b). (e.g. 366 [a]/ 6 hours per day, [b], =61 days [c]).
- c) In the event that an employee has maintained this cap for two years, the employee is guaranteed to remain at the cap regardless of the current number of daily hours worked if the annual usage of sick time is less than the annual earned sick time.
- d) All regular employees who complete the fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) and who minimize their use of sick leave days as defined in Article X Leaves of Absence except sick days used in conjunction with bereavement leave shall be eligible for a single payment to be paid at the end of the school year as follows:

Twelve-month employees

- Three hundred dollars (\$300) if zero (0) sick days are used
- One hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) if no more than one (1) sick day is used
- Seventy-Five (\$75) if no more than two (2) sick days are use

Nine-month employees

- Two hundred dollars (\$200) if zero (0) sick days are used
- One hundred dollars (\$100) if no more than one (1) sick day is used
- Fifty dollars (\$50) if no more than two (2) sick days are used

- e) Upon retirement from the District, each bargaining unit member who is eligible, shall receive one of the following for each unused accumulated sick day. An unused accumulated sick day is defined in Article XVIII, Sick Days, a) and b).
 1. \$10.00 per day, after 5 years of employment, up to a \$500.00 maximum payout.
 2. \$25.00 per day if cap in Section a above has been reached.

HOLIDAYS

All Maintenance, and Mechanics employees will be eligible for the following holidays: The Friday before Labor Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve Day, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, and Independence Day (2 days), provided the employee is regularly employed and shall be paid at their regular straight time rate for the normal number of hours employed.

- a) When any of the above holidays occurs on a Saturday or a Sunday, the Friday before or the Monday after shall be considered as the holiday, whichever is more applicable.
- b) To be eligible for holiday pay, an employee must work his/her last regularly scheduled work day before the holiday and his/her first regularly scheduled work day after the holiday, unless the employee was excused, on vacation, or on paid leave.

VACATION

Section 1.-Full-time/Part-time Employees

- a) All full-time employees covered by this Agreement within the Maintenance and Mechanics classifications shall receive vacation in accordance with the following schedule, to be computed by July 1 of each year:

Note: Employees with less than one (1) year of service at the beginning of the school's new fiscal year shall receive a prorated number of vacation days on their one (1) year anniversary date.

| TOTAL YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT AS A MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE ORMECHANIC | MAXIMUM PAID VACATION PER YEAR- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| | WEEKS | WORKING DAYS | HOURS |
| 1. After one (1) year- seven (7) years | Two (2) | Ten (10) | Eighty (80) |
| 2. Beginning year eight (8) - year thirteen (13) | Three (3) | Fifteen (15) | One hundred twenty (120) |
| 3. Beginning year fourteen (14) -year twenty-six (26) | Four (4) | Twenty (20) | One hundred sixty (160) |
| 4. Beginning year twenty- seven (27) & Over | Five (5) | Twenty-five (25) | Two Hundred (200) |

- b) Part-time employees in the Maintenance, and Mechanic classifications regularly scheduled for twelve (12) months, shall be entitled to a pro-rated vacation on the above schedule, based on their actual work hours worked annually as a fraction of two thousand (2000) hours (e.g. an employee working one thousand (1000) hours annually would receive one-half (1/2) the vacation benefits of a full-time employee).

- c) Vacation pay will be paid on the employee's regular payday as if the employee had worked during such period.
- d) If an employee resigns or retires from the District he/she shall receive any unused portion of vacation pay including that portion accrued in the current year in his/her final paycheck.

Section 2.-Vacation Periods

Paid vacations shall not be cumulative from year to year, but must be taken after the July 1 date upon which they were earned and the next succeeding July 1 date, provided, however, that there must be an interval of at least one (1) month between any year's vacation and the next year's vacation unless otherwise mutually agreed.

- a) The Employer shall determine the number of employees, if any, who can be spared for vacation purposes at any one time. No vacation time will be granted for the two weeks prior to the first student day of the school year. No more than two consecutive weeks of vacation will be granted, and there must be two weeks between vacations.
- b) Employees shall be required to submit a written request for vacation at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance. If there are two (2) or more employees who request the same vacation time off and, both, or all, cannot be spared at the same time, preference will be given to the employee with the greatest seniority. An employee may make a request for vacation with less than fourteen (14) days' notice. Such request may be approved based upon the needs of the operation, without preference to seniority. The Employer must answer all employees' requests for vacation leave within ten (10) calendar days of receipt.
- c) In order to receive vacation pay, an employee must take the time off, unless otherwise approved by the administration.

HOURS OF WORK

- a) Standard work hours, regardless of starting time, are eight (8) hours per day and forty (40) hours per week, Monday through Friday, unless otherwise mutually agreed, or as a newly created and posted position, with a half hour unpaid lunch period. Employees are not required to stay in the building during the unpaid lunch, provided there is always at least one (1) Maintenance employee remaining in the building. Work hours for each employee are set by the supervisor, and must not be changed without permission of the supervisor. Employees shall be provided at least (7) calendar days' notice of a permanent shift change.
- b) A Maintenance employee who is directed by his/her supervisor to check his/her building on days off during the heating season will be paid at the applicable time rate for each day he/she performs this assignment.
- c) Full-time employees may take a work break in the first half and the second half of their regular shift. Part-time employees may take one work break during their regular shift. Work breaks will be. Fifteen (15) minutes each at a time scheduled by the supervisor. Full-time are employees normally scheduled six (6) hours per day; part-time less than six (6) hours per day. Employees scheduled for six (6) hours or more will have a half hour unpaid lunch period.

- d) In the case of unscheduled school closures, Maintenance employees and Mechanics not required to work will not lose time or pay because of the closing. An exception to this would be where an employee is absent because of vacation, sick leave, or an approved day off as provided for in this Agreement.
- e) When the Employer determines a need for scheduled overtime, the District shall post at all time clocks a request for volunteers to fill the necessary hours.
- f) The least senior employee(s) not otherwise scheduled to work shall be assigned overtime if no other employees have signed up for overtime. All overtime shifts of 6 (six) or more hours will have a half hour unpaid lunch period.
- g) Employees reporting late for work, or leaving work early, or working overtime, shall have all such hours computed for pay purposes to the nearest one-quarter (1/4) of an hour including any fraction.
- h) In the case of absenteeism reported less than 48 hours in advance, the Employer shall cover such assignments with any means available.

Section 1.-Distribution of Posted Overtime

- a) Extra hours shall be defined as all hours above an employee's regularly scheduled hours. All extra hours must be approved by the supervisor prior to the extra hours worked.
- b) Extra hours for Maintenance shall be assigned on a seniority rotation basis within the classification and/or building. An up-to-date list showing the next person to be assigned will be kept in each building. Should an employee choose not to take his/her turn in the rotation he/she shall be excluded until the next rotation. An exception to this would be where an employee is absent because of vacation, sick leave, or an approved day off as provided for in this Agreement.

Section 2.-Overtime Premium

- a) Time and one-half (1/2) shall be paid as follows: For all hours worked over 40 (forty) hours per week. Paid days off, including vacation, sick days and paid holidays shall count as "hours worked."
- b) Double time plus holiday pay shall be paid for all hours worked on holidays that are defined in this Agreement.

Section 3.-Uniform allowance

Maintenance and Mechanic employees to be provided five (5) district approved uniforms per year which must be worn while working. Additionally, each Maintenance and Mechanic employee to be provided a \$75.00 annual allowance toward the purchase of approved work footwear.

Any full-time or part-time Maintenance and Mechanic employee who leaves employment within 90 days of hire date, shall reimburse the department 50% of the cost of uniforms. This amount will be deducted from their final paycheck.

INSURANCE

Section 1.- Full Time Employees

The Employer shall provide the choice of MESSA Choices with the \$500/\$1000 deductible, \$20 office co-pay, MESSA Saver RX or ABC Plan I for full time employees and eligible dependents including, ADN-self funded Dental I, II, III, IV 80/80/80/80: \$1,000 annual max, \$1300 lifetime max and Vision NVA-fully insured (mirrors VSP-2 Coverage).

For eligible and participating full-time employees, the Board's contribution toward the cost of group health insurance coverage, including premiums and any other Board payments or contributions, relating to such coverage, shall be limited to the so-called maximum "hard cap" levels prescribed in the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act (Act 152 of 2011; MCL 15.561-569), as the same may be amended from time to time.

Except for the Board's insurance premium contributions, all remaining health insurance premium costs shall be paid by participating employees by payroll deduction.

Full time for insurance purposes is defined as an employee regularly working thirty-two (32) or more hours per week. If an employee elects not to receive the health coverage, he/she shall receive cash-in-lieu of such coverage in the amount of \$350 per month; and employees choosing the cash-in-lieu of health insurance benefit under the District's section 125 Plan may thereafter elect to have the cash contributed to a tax-deferred annuity.

The Employer shall pay the full cost per month in year one (July 1, 2011) of the Life and Long-Term Disability Insurance (mirrors 2010-2011 MESSA Plan I coverage) for full time and Mechanic personnel. Benefits shall begin after termination of sick leave or one-hundred eighty (180) calendar days whichever is greater. Benefits shall be paid at a rate of 66 2/3% (two-thirds) of the employee's salary (based on hourly rate).

The Association shall determine any additional or different MESSA plans to be offered during any plan year. The Association must provide written notice to the District no later than October 1 of each year of its intent to add to or change its current MESSA plans.

Section 2.-Part Time Maintenance and Mechanic Employees

- a) Employees who work at least thirty (30) regular hours per week but less than thirty-two (32) regular hours per week will be entitled to single person MESSA Choices or ABC Plan I per Section 1 · (a) above with the Board paid premium as follows:

| Years in the District | Percentage paid of single person MESSA Plans |
|-----------------------|--|
| 0-1 | 0 |
| 1-2 | 50% |
| 2-3 | 60% |
| 3-4 | 65% |
| 4-5 | 70% |
| 5+ | 80% |

- b) If an employee elects not to receive the above insurance coverage, he/she shall receive cash-in-lieu of such coverage in the amount of \$175 (0-5 years employed in the District) or \$350 per month (5+ years employed in the District); and employees choosing the cash-in-lieu of health insurance benefit under the District's section 125 Plan may thereafter elect to have the cash contributed to a tax-deferred annuity.
- c) School year employees who work at least twenty (20) regular hours per week but less than thirty (30) regular hours per week shall elect annually either an employer paid \$1,050.00 annuity or a \$1,050.00 employer contribution to the district's Flex plan. Employees shall be eligible for expense reimbursement in accordance the Flex guidelines.
- d) School year employees who work at least ten (10) regular hours per week but less than twenty (20) regular hours per week shall elect annually either an employer paid \$850.00 annuity or a \$850.00 employer contribution to the district's Flex plan. Employees shall be eligible for expense reimbursement in accordance the Flex guidelines.

Section 3.- Retirement Benefits

The Employer agrees to provide an employee who retires pursuant to the Michigan School Employees Retirement System with single person hospitalization insurance from the time the employee retires, provided the employee has attained the age of 59, to the time the employee becomes eligible for Medicare.

CLASSIFICATION AND RATES (per hour)

| 2024-2025 | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year | 3 rd Year+ |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Maintenance/Mechanic | \$24.00 | \$25.50 | \$27.00 |
| Maintenance | \$22.50 | \$24.00 | \$25.50 |

| 2025-2026 | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year | 3 rd Year+ |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Maintenance/Mechanic | \$25.00 | \$26.50 | \$28.00 |
| Maintenance | \$23.50 | \$25.00 | \$26.50 |

| 2026-2027 | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year | 3 rd Year+ |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Maintenance/Mechanic | \$26.00 | \$27.50 | \$29.00 |
| Maintenance | \$24.50 | \$26.00 | \$27.50 |

ARTICLE XIX

FOOD SERVICE

SICK DAYS

- a) For each newly hired permanent food service employee, the District shall compute and grant pro-rata paid sick leave credit on the first July 1st after his/her last hiring date. Every July 1 thereafter with continuous employment, the employee shall be eligible to receive ten (10) days of paid sick leave.
- b) Paid sick leave credits for food service employees shall be cumulative from year to year to one hundred (100) days. This cap shall be calculated annually at the start of each school year. Said days, (c) shall be computed by dividing the accumulated hours of leave, (a) by the employee's current regularly scheduled hours per day, (b). (e.g. 366 [a]/ 6 hrs. per day, [b], = 61 days [c]).
- c) In the event that an employee has maintained this cap for two years, the employee is guaranteed to remain at the cap regardless of the current number of daily hours worked if the annual usage of sick time is less than the annual earned sick time.
- d) All regular employees who complete the fiscal year (July 1 -June 30) and who minimize their use of sick leave days as defined in Article X Leaves of Absence except sick days used in conjunction with bereavement leave shall be eligible for a single payment to be paid at the end of the school year as follows:

Twelve-month employees

- Three hundred dollars (\$300) if zero (0) sick days are used
- One hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) if no more than one (1) sick day is used
- Seventy-Five (\$75) if no more than two (2) sick days are used

Nine-month employees

- Two hundred dollars (\$200) if zero (0) sick days are used
- One hundred dollars (\$100) if no more than one (1) sick day is used
- Fifty dollars (\$50) if no more than two (2) sick days are used

- e) Upon retirement from the District, each bargaining unit member who is eligible, shall receive one of the following for each unused accumulated sick day. An unused accumulated sick day is defined in Article XIX Sick Days, (b).
1. \$10.00 per day, after 5 years of employment, up to a \$500.00 maximum payout.
 2. \$25.00 per day if cap in Section a above has been reached.

HOLIDAYS

All food service employees will be eligible for the following holidays: Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve Day, New Year's Day and Memorial Day, provided the employee is regularly employed and shall be paid at their regular straight time rate for the normal number of hours employed.

- a) When any of the above holidays occurs on a Saturday or a Sunday, the Friday before or the Monday after shall be considered as the holiday, whichever is more applicable.
- b) To be eligible for holiday pay, an employee must work his/her last regularly scheduled workday before the holiday and his/her first regularly scheduled work day after the holiday, unless the employee was excused, on vacation, or on paid leave.

HOURS OF WORK

- a) Tentative work assignments shall be given to each employee not later than seven (7) calendar day's prior the beginning of each school year.
- b) Employee's work year shall start at least one (1) workday prior to the first serving day of the student school year. Additional hours may be scheduled before the start of the employee's work year and will be based on building and classification need as determined by the district. Any additional hours will be distributed evenly among all employees in the respective building and classification where the additional hours are scheduled.
- c) The employer shall give a seven (7) calendar day notice to the union and employee if an employee's work schedule is to change permanently.
- d) All employees working over four (4) hours/ day shall receive a fifteen (15) minute paid break except employees working eight (8) hours/ day who will receive a thirty (30) minute paid break.
- e) During the school year on days when students are dismissed before lunch is served, (i.e. P/T conferences, teacher in-service days, etc.) employees may be offered the opportunity to work based on building and classification need as determined by the district. Any additional hours will be distributed evenly among all employees who accept the opportunity to work in the respective building and classification where the additional hours are scheduled. If no employees in the respective building and classification accept the additional work and the district still desires the work to be completed, the assignment shall be offered district wide based on seniority, qualifications and availability. The least senior employee shall be scheduled to work if no other employees sign up for the assignment.
- f) When given at least a forty-eight (48) hour advanced written notice of an employee absence, food service employees within the same kitchen will have the opportunity to substitute in another position within that kitchen if it results in a gain of hours. Employees will be provided this opportunity based on seniority and the skill level necessary to fulfill the duties of the assignment as defined by the classification requirements. Any substitute hired shall fill the position with the fewest hours. In the event that no employee within that kitchen fills the position, employees from another kitchen may substitute if it results in a gain of hours. Such substitutions shall be done on a seniority basis.
- g) Food service employees shall not be required to work on the playground.
- h) In the case of absenteeism reported less than 48 hours in advance, the Employer shall cover such assignments with any means available.
- i) When a group uses a school building's kitchen after regular school hours for food preparation, a food service employee shall be assigned to work the hours the kitchen is in use. The assignment shall be offered to employees in the respective kitchen on a rotation basis based on seniority and the skill level necessary to fulfill the duties of the assignment as defined by the classification requirements.

If no food service employee in the respective building accepts the work, the assignment shall then be offered to all other employees based on the skill level required and seniority on a rotation basis. The least senior employee shall be scheduled to work if no other employees sign up for the assignment.

- j) Community Child Care summer work will be posted as per Article VIII of this agreement. This assignment shall be compensated at the employee's step or the classification equal to the Community Child Care summer work job requirements.
- k) Food Service employees advised not to report to work, reporting to work and then sent home due to circumstances such as weather, fire, or other conditions beyond the control of the Employer, will be paid for the balance of that day provided the employer is not required by Jaw to make up the days during the school year and it was not a scheduled day off for the employee. If the employer is required to make up the day, the Food Service employees that worked a partial day shall be paid for the time worked in addition to the day made up. Employees reporting late for work, or leaving work early, or working overtime, shall have all such hours computed for pay purposes to the nearest one-quarter (1/4) of an hour including any fraction thereof.

Section 1.-Distribution of Extra Hours

Extra hours shall be defined as all hours above an employee's regularly scheduled hours. All extra hours must be approved by the supervisor prior to the extra hours being worked.

Section 2.-Overtime Premium

- a) Time and one-half (1/2) shall be paid as follows:
 - 1) For all hours worked over 8 (eight) hours per day.
 - 2) For all hours worked over 40 (forty) hours per week.
 - 3) For all hours worked on Sunday, unless part of the employees regularly scheduled workweek.
- b) Double time plus holiday pay shall be paid for all hours worked on holidays that are defined in this Agreement.

Section 3 -Food Service: Banquets

- a) All Food Service employees who want banquet work will be provided that opportunity. Notification of all banquet work shall be provided to the 4 work sites prior to employee assignment. Banquet work will be put up for bid by the Food Service Director based on the classification skills required and on a seniority rotation basis, with those employees who decline said work going to the bottom of the list. Employees should accept/decline banquet work within twenty-four (24) hours of notification of eligibility. Employees, if any, that have successfully held a higher classification position than their current assignment level and have not received an involuntary demotion while an employee at Spring Lake Public Schools, shall be identified at such higher level at the beginning of each school year for the purpose of banquet assignments.

- b) Banquet work shall be defined as any function where any group or individual requests the services of the Food Service Department for food preparation and/or serving of food to said group. This would require the assignment of Food Service employees beyond their normal scheduled workday. The District agrees to use Food Service employees for all banquet work.
- c) Employer shall provide equipment and clothing required to meet state regulations for health and safety standards.

INSURANCE

Section 1.- Full Time Employees

- a) The Employer shall provide the choice of MESSA Choices with the \$500/\$1000 deductible, \$20 office co-pay, MESSA Saver RX or ABC I for full time employees and eligible dependents including, ADN-self funded Dental I, II, III, IV 80/80/80/80: \$1,000 annual max, \$1300 lifetime max and Vision NVA-fully insured (mirrors VSP-2 coverage).

For eligible and participating full-time employees, the Board's contribution toward the cost of group health insurance coverage, including premiums and any other Board payments or contributions, relating to such coverage, shall be limited to the so-called maximum "hard cap" levels prescribed in the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act (Act 152 of 2011; MCL 15.561-569), as the same may be amended from time to time.

Except for the Board's insurance premium contributions, all remaining health insurance premium costs shall be paid by participating employees by payroll deduction.

The Association shall determine any additional or different MESSA plans to be offered during any plan year. The Association must provide written notice to the District no later than October 1 of each year of its intent to add to or change its current MESSA plans.

- b) Full time for insurance purposes is defined as an employee regularly working thirty-two (32) or more hours per week. Full time insurance benefits shall continue for employees who have full time coverage prior to July 1, 1994, provided these employees continue to work thirty (30) or more hours per week. If an employee elects not to receive the health coverage, he/she shall receive cash-in-lieu of such coverage in the amount of \$350 per month; and employees choosing the cash-in-lieu of health insurance benefit under the District's section 125 Plan may thereafter elect to have the cash contributed to a tax- deferred annuity.

Section 2.- Retirement Benefits

The Employer agrees to provide an employee who retires pursuant to the Michigan School Employees Retirement System with single person hospitalization insurance from the time the employee retires, provided the employee has attained the age of 59, to the time the employee becomes eligible for Medicare.

Section 3 Part Time Employees

- a) Employees who work at least thirty (30) regular hours per week but less than thirty-two (32) regular hours per week shall elect annually either an employer \$1200.00 annuity or employer contribution to the district's Flex plan. Employees shall be eligible for expense reimbursement in accordance with the Flex guidelines.

- b) Employees who work at least twenty (20) regular hours per week but less than thirty (30) regular hours per week shall elect annually either an employer paid \$1000.00 annuity or a \$1000.00 employer contribution to the district's Flex plan. Employees shall be eligible for expense reimbursement in accordance with the Flex guidelines.

CLASSIFICATIONS AND RATES (per hour)

2024-2025

| Level | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year + |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Food Service I | \$20.50 | \$21.25 |
| Food Service II | \$20.00 | \$20.75 |
| Food Service III | \$18.25 | \$19.00 |
| Food Service IV | \$18.00 | \$18.50 |

2025-2026

| Level | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year + |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Food Service I | \$21.50 | \$22.25 |
| Food Service II | \$21.00 | \$21.75 |
| Food Service III | \$19.25 | \$20.00 |
| Food Service IV | \$19.00 | \$19.50 |

2026-2027

| Level | 1 st Year | 2 nd Year + |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Food Service I | \$22.50 | \$23.25 |
| Food Service II | \$22.00 | \$22.75 |
| Food Service III | \$20.25 | \$21.00 |
| Food Service IV | \$20.00 | \$20.50 |

VACATION

Vacation time is to be used on non-student days only.

All food service employees who have completed one (1) or more years of continuous service at the beginning of the school year shall receive (5) days of paid vacation.

Employees with less than one (1) year of service at the beginning of the school year shall receive a prorated number of vacation days on their one (1) year anniversary date and five (5) additional vacation days at the beginning of the next school year.

ARTICLE XX

SEPARABILITY AND SAVINGS CLAUSE

If any Article or Section of this contract, or of any riders thereto, should be held invalid by operation of law, or by any tribunal of competent jurisdiction, or if compliance with or enforcement of any Article or Section should be restrained by such tribunal pending a final determination as to its validity, the remainder of this contract and of any rider thereto, or the application of such Article or Section to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it has been invalid or as to which compliance with or enforcement of has been restrained, shall not be affected thereby.

In the event that any Article or Section is held invalid or enforcement of or compliance with which has been restrained, as above set forth, the parties affected thereby shall enter into immediate collective bargaining negotiations upon the request of either party for the purpose of arriving at a mutually satisfactory replacement for such Article or Section during the period of invalidity or restraint. If the parties do not agree on a mutually satisfactory replacement, either party shall be permitted all legal or economic recourse in support of its demands, notwithstanding any provision in this contract to be contrary.

ARTICLE XXI

ENTIRE AGREEMENT CLAUSE

This Agreement supersedes and cancels all previous agreements, verbal or written or based on alleged past practices, and constitutes the entire agreement between the parties. Any amendment or agreement supplemental hereto shall not be binding upon either party unless executed in writing by the parties hereto.

ARTICLE XXII

DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement represents the entire Agreement between the Board and the Union and supersedes all prior Agreements between the parties and shall become of full force and effect until midnight, June 30, 2024. This Agreement shall not be extended orally, and it is expressly understood that it shall expire on the date indicated.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives on this 15th day of July, 2024.

**SPRING LAKE EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION, MEA-NEA**

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Transportation Representative

President, Board of Education

Maintenance Representative

Secretary, Board of Education

Food Service Representative

Superintendent of Schools

UniServ Director

Appendix A

Spring Lake Public Schools
Discipline Report

Employee Name: _____

Action Taken:

Verbal Warning: _____

1st Written Warning: _____

2nd Written Warning: _____

_ Day Suspension: _____

Termination: _____

Other: _____

Incident: _____

Employee Signature & Date

Department Supervisor Signature & Date

Director of Business Signature & Date

Director of Operations Signature & Date

Union Representative Signature & Date

