

AGREEMENT ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

BETWEEN

OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS



**BOARD OF EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 279
MAPLE GROVE, MINNESOTA**

AND

OSSEO SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

Effective Dates: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

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**ARTICLE 1
PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT**

Section 1. Parties: This agreement, entered into between the School Board, Independent School District 279, Maple Grove, Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the school district, and the Osseo School Nutrition Association, hereinafter referred to as the school nutrition employees, is pursuant to and in compliance with the Public Employment Labor Relations Act, hereinafter referred to as PELRA, and provides the terms and conditions of employment for school nutrition employees during the term of this agreement.

**ARTICLE 2
EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVE**

Section 1. Appropriate Unit: The exclusive representative will represent all the school nutrition employees of the school district as defined in this agreement and in accordance with the PELRA.

Section 2. Recognition: In accordance with the PELRA as amended, the school board recognizes the Osseo School Nutrition Association as the exclusive representative of the Osseo School District school nutrition employees, employed by the school district of ISD 279. The exclusive representative will have those rights and duties as described by PELRA and as described in this agreement.

**ARTICLE 3
DEFINITIONS**

Section 1. Terms and Conditions of Employment: "Terms and conditions of employment" means the hours of employment, the compensation therefore including fringe benefits except retirement contributions or benefits other than school board payment of, or contributions to, premiums for group insurance coverage of retired employees or severance pay, and the school board's personnel policies affecting the working conditions of school nutrition employees. In the case of school nutrition employees "terms and conditions of employment" does not mean educational policies of the school board. "Terms and conditions of employment" is subject to the provisions of PELRA.

Section 2. School Nutrition Employee: Will mean any person employed by the school district in a capacity exclusively associated with the school district's nutrition program. The term employee as used herein will not include confidential employees, supervisory employees, essential employees, part-time employees whose services do not exceed 10 1/2 hours per week or 35% of the normal work week in the bargaining unit, or employees who hold positions of a temporary or seasonal character for a period not in excess of 67 working days in any calendar year and emergency employees.

Section 3. Full-Time Employee: "Full-time employee" will mean any school nutrition employee who is regularly scheduled to work 32 or more hours weekly.

Section 4. School Board: For purposes of administering this agreement, the term "school board" may also mean its designated representative.

Section 5. Other Terms: Terms not defined in this agreement will have those meanings as defined by the PELRA.

ARTICLE 4
SCHOOL DISTRICT RIGHTS

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

Section 2. Management Responsibilities: The exclusive representative recognizes the right and obligation of the school board to efficiently manage and conduct the operation of the school district within its legal limitations and with its primary obligation to provide educational opportunity for the students of the school district.

Section 3. Effect of Laws, Rules, and Regulations: The exclusive representative recognizes that all employees covered by this agreement will perform the services prescribed by the school district and will be governed by school board policies, rules, regulations, directives and orders which are not inconsistent with the terms and conditions of employment set forth in this agreement and which are issued by properly designated officials of the school district. Any provision of this agreement found in violation of any law, rule, or regulation there under, will be without force or effect.

Section 4. Reservation of Managerial Rights: The foregoing enumeration of school board rights and duties will not be deemed to exclude other inherent management rights and management functions not expressly reserved herein, and all management rights and management functions not expressly delegated in this agreement are reserved to the school district.

Section 5. Reporting: Incarceration, arrest, subsequent court directives, or loss of required certification/license that could impact the employee's ability to perform their job, and/or any allegation of child maltreatment, must be reported by the employee to human resources or the employee may be subject to discipline.

ARTICLE 5
SCHOOL NUTRITION EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

Section 1. Right to Views: Pursuant to PELRA, nothing contained in this agreement will be construed to limit, impair or affect the right of any employee, or their representative, to the expression or communication of a view, grievance, complaint or opinion on any matter related to the conditions or compensation of public employment or their betterment, so long as the same is not designed to and does not interfere with the full faithful and proper performance of the duties of employment or circumvent the rights of the school nutrition service employees, nor will it be construed to require any employee to perform labor or services against their will.

Section 2. Right to Join: School nutrition employees will have the right to form and join labor or employee organizations, and will have the right not to form and not to join such organizations. School nutrition employees in the unit will have the right by secret ballot to designate an exclusive representative for the purpose of negotiating grievance procedures and the terms and conditions of employment for such employees with the school board.

Section 3. Request for Dues Check-off: The Osseo School Nutrition Association will have the right to request dues check-off for the exclusive representative in accordance with the provisions of PELRA. Upon receipt of a properly executed authorization form from the employee, the school district will deduct in equal installments, from the employee's paycheck, the dues the employee has agreed to pay the exclusive representative during the effective period of authorization. The authorization will continue in effect until terminated by the employee in writing. Such dues deducted will be forwarded to the treasurer of the Osseo School Nutrition Association.

Section 4. Personnel Files:

Subd. 1. Right to Review/Frequency: Upon request by an employee, the school district will provide the employee with an opportunity to review their personnel files. The school district will not be required to provide an employee with an opportunity to review their personnel files if they have reviewed the personnel files during the previous six months; except that, upon separation from employment, an employee may review their personnel files only once at any time within one year after separation. During certain circumstances (e. g., grievance proceedings) an employee may review their personnel files more often than the previous six months.

Subd. 2. Review: Such request will be made to the human resources department. Human resources will schedule an appointment for the employee to review the employee's file and will notify the employee of such appointment.

Subd. 3. Documentation of Contents: The employee may review and have access to all the employee's personnel files generated in the school district only in the presence of a human resources designee.

Subd. 4. Right to Copy: The employee will have the right to reproduce any of the contents of their files.

Subd. 5. Right to Response: The employee may submit for inclusion in their file a written response to any material contained in such file.

Subd. 6. Destruction/Expunge: The school district may destroy or expunge such files as provide by law.

Section 5. Other Rights: School nutrition employees will have all other rights prescribed by PELRA.

**ARTICLE 6
SALARY SCHEDULES, RATES OF PAY, AND WORKING CONDITIONS**

Section 1. Rates of Pay: Effective July 1, 2024, the following hourly rates and schedule will be a part of this agreement.

Class	Position	Step	Hourly Rate 24-25	Hourly Rate 25-26
1	School Nutrition Assistant	1	\$19.00	\$20.00

		2	\$19.50	\$20.13
		3	\$21.20	\$21.47
2	Assistant School Nutrition Manager	1	\$21.40	\$21.52
		2	\$22.16	\$22.44
		3	\$23.50	\$24.00
3	Elementary/OALC/OEC/Willow Lane School Nutrition Manager	1	\$23.60	\$23.90
		2	\$25.96	\$26.28
		3	\$27.52	\$28.11
4	Secondary School Nutrition Manager	1	\$27.20	\$27.54
		2	\$28.01	\$28.36
		3	\$29.35	\$30.00

Subd. 1. Employees must work a minimum of 120 paid days during the school fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) to move to the next step on the salary schedule on July 1 of the following year. Paid days refer to days actually worked, sick leave, paid holidays, and personal leave.

Section 2. Career Increments: Career increments will be paid based on years of consecutive employment as defined below:

	Beginning July 1, 2024
5+ Years	\$0.10
10+ Years	\$0.20
20+ Years	\$0.30

*Career increments shall be effective July 1, of the fiscal year in which an employee is scheduled to reach the requisite years of service.

Section 3. SNA (School Nutrition Association) Certification: The following rates will be paid for the following levels of SNA certification which must be kept current:

Effective July 1, 2019

Level 1:	\$ 0.36
Level 2:	\$ 0.43
Level 3:	\$ 0.90
Level 4:	\$ 1.10
SNS Credential:	\$ 1.25

The SNS credential will be paid to employees who have successfully completed the SFNS (School Food Service Nutrition Specialist) credential examination. Certifications received by human resources between the first and fifteenth of the month will be compensated on the fifth of the following month.

Certifications received by human resources between the sixteenth and the end of the month will be compensated on the twentieth of the following month.

The employee is responsible for renewing their certification. A copy of the current SNA certificate is required to be eligible for this increment. This copy will be kept on file by human resources.

Section 4. Employee Performance:

Subd. 1. Purpose: Each employee is entitled to a regular and fair performance review. This process shall be formative and designed to encourage employee growth and professional development aligned with the school district’s mission, core values, and strategic objectives.

Subd. 2. Step Movement, Career Increment, and Performance: Effective July 1, 2011, employees will be entitled to step movement and/or career increments only upon satisfactory job performance. Satisfactory job performance shall be determined by the employee’s most recent performance evaluation so long as the evaluation was done during the previous three years. Employees who do not receive a step increase or career increment due to job performance shall be eligible for such step increase or career increment the following July 1.

Section 5. Placement on Steps: School nutrition employees who are promoted will be placed on the step scale at the discretion of the director. The new rate shall never be less than the employee’s current rate.

Section 6. Replacement: If a school nutrition employee, other than a kitchen manager, assumes the role of a kitchen manager position, starting on the first day of the assignment in the manager position, the employee will qualify for the manager pay and will be placed one step beyond the first step that provides an increase in pay.

Section 7. Hours: School nutrition employees will work each day as assigned by school nutrition administration. Hours will be designated by the school nutrition administration and/or the building school nutrition manager, based on the need in each building. Additional hours may be assigned by the director of school nutrition services based on building or school district needs. The employee’s lunch period will not be considered part of an employees’ work day.

Section 8. Overtime: Employees who work over 40 hours in a week will be paid one and one-half times their regular salary. Overtime hours must be approved in advance by the immediate supervisor.

Section 9. Holidays: School nutrition employees regularly scheduled to work 10½ hours or more per week will be granted eight paid holidays as determined by the school district prior to July 1 each year.

The following eight paid holidays will be granted each school year to school nutrition assistants:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Thanksgiving Holidays (2 days) | Winter Holidays (2 days) |
| New Year's Day | Presidents’ Day or Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| Spring Holiday | Memorial Day |

School nutrition managers and assistant school nutrition managers will be granted nine paid holidays, to include those holidays listed above as well as Labor Day.

Subd. 1. Verification: The school district may require a school nutrition employee to furnish a medical certificate from a qualified medical provider as evidence of illness indicating such absence was due to illness in order to qualify for holiday pay in cases where a sick day is used the day before or the day after a holiday. **Absences prior to or after a paid holiday pursuant to an approved leave will not affect contracted holiday pay.** In the event that a medical certification will be required, the employee will be so advised.

Section 10. Special Event Pay: Anytime employees work billable hours for special events, other than their regular work shift, they will be paid \$4.00 over their regular hourly rate of pay for events Monday thru Friday. For special events that occur on a Saturday, employees will be compensated at time and a half. For special events that occur on a Sunday or district defined holiday, employees will be compensated at double time.

Section 11. Uniforms: The School District will provide uniform tops for School Nutrition employees. Uniforms are to be self-laundered. Employees will receive an annual stipend of \$100 for the purchase of work pants. Employees will receive an annual stipend of \$120 for the purchase of new work shoes.

Section 12. Probationary Period – New Employee: New employees will be considered probationary until June 30, provided they have worked 120 working days, from their hire date to June 30. Working days shall include days actually worked, sick leave, paid holidays, and personal leave. If a school year ends prior to a probationary employee serving at least 120 working days, such employee shall be on probation for the following school year, ending June 30.

Probationary employees will be evaluated by their immediate supervisor. During the probationary period, employees may be transferred, discharged, laid off, or terminated. In the first 2 weeks of employment, all new employees will be expected to complete an online food safety /sanitation and an introductory to school nutrition course provided by the nutrition department. These courses can be completed during the workday, time permitting or outside of the workday on a personal device. The employee will be allocated additional time to complete the course during their workday. If the courses are completed outside of the workday, the employee will be compensated equal to the required time to view each course at their regular rate of pay. Failure to complete this coursework within the first two weeks may result in disciplinary action.

Section 13. Probationary Period – Continuing Status Employee: An employee awarded a position in a higher classification will serve a trial probation period of 30 working days in the new position. If the employer determines that the employee's performance in the new position is unsatisfactory, the employer will have the right to reassign the employee to a vacant position in the same classification as the employee's original position. An employee will also have the right to return to a vacant position in the same classification as the employee's original position during this trial probation period if the employee wishes to do so. An employee awarded a position within the same classification will serve a trial probation period of 15 working days in the new position. If the employer determines that the employee's performance in the new position is unsatisfactory, the employer will have the right to reassign the employee to a vacant position in the same classification as the employee's original

position. An employee will also have the right to return to a vacant position in the same classification as the employee’s original position during this trial probation period if the employee wishes to do so.

Section 14. Emergency School Closings: If school starts late or is closed early due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, employees will be paid for their normal work assignment for that day. On such days, the work assignment will be determined by the immediate supervisor.

In the event school is cancelled due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, employees will be paid for up to three days, per school year, for their normal work assignment. This provision will apply for full days only when school has been cancelled prior to the opening of the normal school day.

The superintendent reserves the right to require that employees report to work for any school closing. Employees will receive their normal compensation for that day and no additional compensation.

In the event an employee was scheduled to take a single sick day, personal leave day, or bereavement day that coincides with an emergency school closing day, the employee will not be charged for their scheduled sick day, personal leave day, or bereavement day. If the employee was scheduled to take a series (two or more) of connected sick days, personal leave days, or bereavement leave days and one of those connected days falls on the emergency school closing day, the employee will be charged for the day(s) that coincides with the emergency school closing day(s).

Section 15. Retirement Savings Plan: The school district will match the contribution of an eligible employee according to the following schedule towards an approved 403(b) retirement savings plan. The plan must meet the school district’s guidelines for approval. These contributions will be paid annually (pay periods during the school nutrition employee’s contract year).

Subd. 1. District Annual Match: The school district’s match of an eligible employee’s contribution will be the amount listed below. The school district’s match is applicable only for eligible employee contributions made towards the school district’s approved 403(b) plan.

<p><u>Employees Whose Service Began on or After July 1, 1998</u> Employees are eligible immediately upon hire.</p>	<p>Maximum District Annual Match Amount \$570</p>
<p><u>Employees Whose Service Began Before July 1, 1998</u></p>	<p>Maximum District Annual Match Amount \$220*(~\$11.58 per paycheck)</p>

*Employees may choose to defer more than the district annual match amount. Federal law determines the maximum amount an individual can contribute annually.

Section 16. Retirement Incentive Pay:

Subd. 1. Eligibility: Full-time employees who have completed at least 15 years of continuous employment service, in any capacity with the school district and who are at least 50 years of age

will be eligible for retirement incentive pay pursuant to the provisions of this section upon submission of a written resignation accepted by the school board.

Subd. 2. Exclusion: This section will apply only to employees whose service has been full-time as defined by this Agreement and whose service began on or prior to July 1, 1998. For school nutrition employees whose employment began after this date, the provisions of this section will not be applicable.

Subd. 3. Calculation of Benefit: An employee will be eligible to receive as incentive pay upon retirement, the amount obtained by multiplying 50% of unused number of sick leave days, but in any event not to exceed 75 days, times their daily rate of pay.

Subd. 4. Determination of Daily Rate: In applying these provisions, an employee's daily rate of pay will be the basic daily rate at the time of retirement, as provided in the basic salary schedule for the basic school year, and will not include any additional compensation.

Subd. 5. Payment Schedule 50-54: A school nutrition employee who retires at age 50-54 will receive their incentive pay on July 20 if their birth date is between January 1 and June 30 in the year they reach age 55. If their birth date is between July 1 and December 31, they will receive their incentive pay on January 20 of the following year.

Subd. 6. Payment Schedule 55 and over: Incentive pay for retirement at or after age 55 will be paid by the school district on July 20 of the same year if the retirement date is between January 1 and June 30. If the retirement date is between July 1 and December 31, it will require payment on January 20 of the following year.

Subd. 7. Exceptions: Incentive pay will not be granted to any employee who is discharged by the school district.

Section 17. Job Elimination: In the event of job elimination requiring layoff, employee(s) terminated will be at the discretion of the program director based on performance and programmatic needs of the system.

Section 18. Substituting at Other Locations: Employees that agree to work at a site other than their regular site will be paid an additional \$3.00/hour for all work done at the temporary location.

ARTICLE 7 GROUP BENEFITS/INSURANCE

Section 1. Health and Hospitalization Insurance for Full-Time Employees (employees scheduled to work 32 or more hours weekly): The selection of insurance carriers and policies will be made by the school district.

Subd. 1. Basic Group Health and Hospitalization Plans:

The district will contribute up to the following amounts towards the district's group health insurance premiums for each full-time employee. Any portion of the premium that exceeds the district contribution will be paid by the employee and paid by payroll deduction.

Effective July 1, 2024

	Single	Employee +1	Family
High*	\$609.38	\$947.68	\$1,518.37
Value	\$639.85	\$995.06	\$1,594.29
HSA Plan	\$509.20	\$991.40	\$1,587.20

Effective July 1, 2025

High*	\$609.38	\$947.68	\$1,518.37
Value	\$659.05	\$1,024.91	\$1,642.12
HSA Plan	\$524.48	\$1,021.14	\$1,634.82

*The High Plan is no longer available for new enrollment. All existing members of the High Plan will continue to receive the district contribution to the High Plan health insurance as indicated in the table above.

Subd. 2: High Deductible Health Plan (HSA Plan) - Contributions to Health Savings Accounts

As recommended by the School District Insurance Advisory Committee, those employees participating in the HSA compatible health plan shall receive the following contributions to a qualifying health savings account (HSA). Contributions will only be made to a district approved HSA depository.

- Single HSA Coverage: \$200 per month
- Employee+1 Coverage: \$400 per month
- Family Coverage: \$400 per month

Subd. 3. Married Couples in District with Family Coverage: When an employee and their spouse are both employed by the school district and are eligible for the school district’s group health and hospitalization plan, and both employees enroll in the same hospitalization plan, the full premium will be paid by the school district.

Subd. 4. Group Term Life Insurance: The school district will pay the premium for group term life insurance for all full-time employees employed by the school district who qualify for and enroll in the existing group term life insurance plan of the school district. Full-time employees who qualify and enroll will be covered by group term life insurance in the amount of \$50,000. Part-time employees who qualify and enroll will be covered by group term-life insurance at \$20,000.

Subd. 5. Supplemental Group Term Life Insurance: Full-time School Nutrition employees will have the option, subject to the conditions established by the School Board’s carrier, for group term life insurance as provided in Subd. 4, to purchase supplemental group term life insurance in the amounts of \$50,000, \$75,000, \$100,000, \$125,000 or \$150,000, not to exceed 3x annual salary. The cost of the supplemental coverage will be paid by the employee and paid by payroll deduction.

Subd. 6. Long-Term Disability Income Protection: The school district will pay the premium for employee coverage in the existing long-term disability income protection plan of the school district for all full-time employees employed by the school district who qualify for and enroll in such coverage. This coverage will apply to base annual salary. See the MOU on Long-Term Disability Coverage for Mental Health & Chemical Dependency.

Subd. 7. Dental Insurance:

- a) **Single Coverage:** The school district will pay up to \$28.00 per month for individual coverage for each full-time school nutrition employee who qualifies for and enrolls in the school district's group dental insurance plan.
- b) **Family Coverage:** The premium cost of the family/dependent coverage for each full-time school nutrition employee who qualifies for and enrolls in the school district's group dental insurance plan and who qualifies for family/dependent coverage will be paid in total by the school nutrition employee, minus the district contribution for single coverage detailed above, and paid by payroll deduction. Whether the school district offers family/dependent coverage is subject to the conditions as established by the carriers.

Section 2. Health and Hospitalization Insurance for Part-Time Employees (employees scheduled to work 30 hours but less than 32 hours weekly): The selection of insurance carriers and policies will be made by the school board.

Subd. 1. Basic Group Health and Hospitalization Plans:

Effective July 1, 2024

	Single	Employee +1	Family
High*	\$597.43	\$597.43	\$597.43
Value	\$627.30	\$627.30	\$627.30
HSA Plan	\$484.94	\$971.95	\$1,556.08

Effective July 1, 2025

High*	\$597.43	\$597.43	\$597.43
Value	\$646.12	\$646.12	\$646.12
HSA Plan	\$499.49	\$1,001.11	\$1,602.76

*The High Plan is no longer available for new enrollment. All existing members of the High Plan will continue to receive the district contribution to the High Plan health insurance as indicated in the table above.

Subd. 2: High Deductible Health Plan (HSA Plan) - Contributions to Health Savings Accounts

As recommended by the School District Insurance Advisory Committee, those employees participating in the HSA compatible health plan shall receive the following contributions to a qualifying health savings account (HSA). Contributions will only be made to a district approved HSA depository.

- Single HSA Coverage: \$200 per month
- Employee+1 Coverage: \$400 per month
- Family Coverage: \$400 per month

Subd. 3 Participants who enroll in the high deductible plan will receive the HSA contributions in equal installments consistent with the payroll cycle. Contributions for July and August will be made at the same time as the September contribution. In the event of hardship, the parties agree to meet and confer to discuss alternatives to the contribution timelines.

Subd. 4. The school district will pay the cost of the administration of the plan and the cost of the trustee.

Section 3. Enrollment: All employees qualifying will enroll for such coverages in accordance with the procedures established by the school Bboard. Effective 2012-2013, employees will be allowed to waive health coverage in the district’s health plan upon sufficient proof that the employee has obtained group health coverage through another source (e.g., a spouse). The human resources department shall determine the basis for sufficient documentation of group coverage from another source. The district retains the right to re-examine waiver of health coverage on a year-to-year basis. If an employee waives health coverage under this section, the employee will not receive any district contribution for health insurance benefits.

Section 4. Claims Against the School District: It is understood that the school board's obligation is to purchase an insurance policy and pay such amounts as agreed to herein and no claim will be made against the school board as a result of a denial of insurance benefits by an insurance carrier.

Section 5. Duration of Insurance Contribution: An employee is eligible for school board contributions as provided in this article as long as the employee is employed by the school board. Upon termination of employment, all school board participation and contribution will cease effective on the last working day of the month in which employment terminates.

Section 6. Insurance Program Eligibility in the Event of Retirement: An employee who retires is eligible to participate in the health/hospitalization plan upon retirement per Minnesota statute, but must pay the entire premium for the plan selected. The right to continue participation in such plan, however will be in accordance with conditions of the carrier and/or until they qualify for coverage under another program.

Section 7. Section 125 (Flexible Spending) Plan: The school district will provide a section 125 plan under the Internal Revenue Code for all employees.

Subd. 1. Description: The section 125 (flexible spending) plan will be available to both active and retired staff. The section 125 offered by the school district is a plan established to provide a way to save money on costs for medical and dependent care expenses. The three components allow payment for health insurance premiums, certain out-of-pocket health care expenses, and dependent care expenses with pre-tax dollars. It is a salary reduction plan permitting participants to choose among more than one benefit. It is classified as a “cafeteria plan” for federal income tax purposes.

The plan year will be determined by the school board. There are three components to the plan:

1. District-provided health insurance premium deduction with pre-tax dollars
2. Dependent care reimbursement account
3. Medical expense reimbursement account

ARTICLE 8 LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Section 1. Sick Leave

Subd. 1. Earn and Accumulation: All school nutrition employees will accrue sick leave at the rate of one day per month of employment for a total of nine days annually. Unused sick leave days may accumulate to an unlimited number of days per employee. Such accrual will be non-retroactive. If an employee is discontinued and has used more sick leave than entitled to, such excess amount will be deducted from the last paycheck.

Subd. 2. Use: Sick leave with pay will be allowed during the school year and during summer employment when an employee's absence is found to have been due to personal illness, which prevented their attendance at school and performance of duties on that day or days, provided that the employee has unused sick leave at the time of such absence. Sick leave may also be used for the illness of a minor child as provided for in MINN. STAT. § 181.9413 (sick or injured childcare leave) provided the employee has unused sick leave at the time of such absence. Effective July, 1, 2021, accrued sick leave may be used in hourly increments.

Subd. 3. Medical Verification: The school district may require a school nutrition employee to furnish a medical certificate from a qualified medical provider as evidence of illness, indicating such absence was due to illness, in order to qualify for sick leave pay. However, the final determination as to the eligibility of an employee for sick leave is reserved to the school district. In the event that a medical certification will be required, the employee will be so advised.

Subd. 4. Accrual Deduction: Sick leave allowed will be deducted from sick leave days accrued by the school nutrition employee.

Subd. 5. Approval: Sick leave pay will be approved only upon submission of a request in the district's absence management system-

Subd. 6. Payroll Deduction: Any days used in excess of the number of days of sick leave accrued will be deducted from the employee's salary for the pay period during which the absence not covered by sick leave occurred and will be subject to disciplinary action up to termination of employment.

Subd. 7. Utilization of Sick Leave Benefits During Absences Covered by Workers' Compensation and/or Long-Term Disability:

- a) Upon the request of an employee who is absent from work as a result of a compensable injury incurred in the service of the school district under the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act and/or an absence covered by the school district's long term disability

insurance, the school district will pay the difference between the compensation received by the employee pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Act and/or LTD and the employee's base rate of pay to the extent of the employee's earned accrual of sick leave.

- b) A deduction will be made from the employee's accrued sick leave according to the pro rata portion of days of sick leave which is used to supplement Workers' Compensation and/or LTD payments.
- c) Such payment will be paid by the school district to the employee only during the period of disability.
- d) In no event will the additional compensation paid to the employee by virtue of sick leave pay result in the payment of a total daily, weekly, or monthly compensation that exceeds the base compensation of the employee.
- e) An employee who is absent from work as a result of an injury compensable under the Workers' Compensation Act and/or an absence qualifying the employee for LTD payments who elects to receive sick leave pursuant to this agreement, will submit the Workers' Compensation check and/or LTD payment, endorsed to the school district prior to receiving payment from the school district for this absence.

Section 2. Family Illness:

Subd. 1. Use: Employees will be granted up to a maximum of 10 days absence per year for critical illness in the employee's or spouse's immediate family that may or may not otherwise be covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and/or state statute. The immediate family will include parent, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, grandchildren, guardian and any other relative or non-relative who stands in the same relationship with the employee. These days will be deducted from accrued sick leave. If the employee does not have sufficient accrued sick leave, there will be a salary reduction based on the employee's daily rate of pay, and will be subject to disciplinary action up to termination of employment.

Section 3. Bereavement Leave:

Subd. 1. Use-Immediate Family: School nutrition employees will be granted up to but not to exceed five days for absence due to death of each member of the employee's or spouse's immediate family. The immediate family will include parent, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, grandchildren, guardian and any other relative or non-relative who stands in the same relationship with the employee. Such absences will be deducted from accrued sick leave. If the employee does not have sufficient accrued sick leave, the employee will not be paid for the day. Additional absence, but not to exceed five additional days, may be granted as a short-term leave following the guidelines of short term leaves as defined in this contract. In no case will this additional period exceed five days.

Subd. 2. Use-Not Immediate Family: Absence due to the death of a person not listed in subd. 1 will be limited to one day per incident. Such absence will be deducted from sick leave. If the employee does not have sufficient accrued sick leave, the employee will not be paid for the day.

Section 4. Personal Leave: A School nutrition employee will be credited one personal leave day per year, accumulative to five days. Personal leave may be used for activities during the school year and during summer employment requiring the employee's personal attention not covered under other provisions of this Agreement. Personal leave shall only be used in full or half-day increments.

Subd. 1. Requests: Requests for personal leave must be made in writing to Human Resources at least three days in advance of the leave, except in the event of emergencies. The day(s) will not be deducted from sick leave.

Subd. 2. Limit: At no time will more than 3 employees covered by this agreement be granted personal leave.

Subd. 3. Exclusion: A personal leave day will not be granted for the first and last week of the school year, except in cases of emergency

Section 5. Child Care Leave:

Subd. 1. Purpose: An employee may be granted a childcare leave of absence according to the procedures outlined in this section. This leave will be granted to one parent of a newborn child provided such parent is caring for the child on a full-time basis.

Subd. 2. Request: A pregnant employee will notify human resources in writing not later than the end of the sixth month of pregnancy, and, also at such time provide a physician's statement indicating the estimated date of delivery of the child.

A non-childbearing employee will make a request for such leave not less than 90 days in advance of usage. The employee will submit a written request to human resources for childcare leave, including commencement date and return date. Once a childcare leave commences pursuant to this section, an employee will not be eligible for sick leave pursuant to section 1 of this article.

Subd. 3. Pregnancy: If the reason for the childcare leave is occasioned by pregnancy, an employee may utilize sick leave pursuant to the sick leave provisions of the agreement during a period of physical disability. During this period of disability, the employee will be required to concurrently take a leave pursuant to the Family/Medical Leave Act (FMLA). A pregnant employee will also provide at the time of the leave application a statement from their physician indicating the expected date of delivery.

Subd. 4. Date of Leave: The effective beginning date of such leave and its duration, or resignation if the employee so elects, will be determined by human resources and submitted to the school Bboard for its action.

In recommending the date of commencement and duration of the leave or the effective date of commencement and duration of the leave or the effective date of the resignation, human resources will review each case on its individual merits taking into consideration the following:

- a) The request of the employee
- b) The specific employment duties of the employee involved
- c) The health and welfare of the employee or unborn child
- d) The recommendation of the employee's physician

Subd. 5. Duration: In making a determination under subd. 4 concerning the commencement and duration of a childcare leave of absence or resignation, if the employee elects to resign, the school board may, but will not in any event be required to:

- a) Grant any leave more than 12 months in duration.
- b) Permit the employee to return to employment prior to the date designated in the request for a childcare leave, unless by mutual agreement of the employee and the school district.

Subd. 6. Approval of Leave: If the employee complies with all provisions of this section and a childcare leave is granted by the school board, the school board will notify the employee in writing of its action.

Subd. 7. Termination of Leave: Interruption of pregnancy will terminate the childcare leave. Human resources may require in all cases 45 days' notice to return.

Subd. 8. Reinstatement: An employee returning from childcare leave will be re-employed in the position occupied prior to the leave, subject to the following conditions:

- a) That the position has not been abolished
- b) That the employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the duties of such position

Subd. 9. Failure to Return: Failure of this employee to return pursuant to the date determined in this section may constitute grounds for termination in the school district.

Subd. 10. Probationary Period: The parties agree that the applicable periods of probation for employees as set forth are intended to be periods of actual service enabling the school district to have opportunity to evaluate an employee's performance. The parties agree, therefore, that periods of time for which the employee is on childcare leave will not be counted in determining the completion of the probationary period.

Subd. 11. Salary: The parties further agree that any childcare leave of absence granted under this section will be a leave without pay.

Subd. 12. Experience Credit: An employee who returns from childcare leave within the provisions of this section will retain all previous experience credit for pay purposes and any unused leave time accumulated under the provisions of this agreement at the commencement of the leave. The employee will not accrue additional experience credit for pay purposes or leave time during the period of absence.

Subd. 13. Insurance: An employee on child care leave is eligible to participate in group insurance programs if permitted under the insurance policy provisions, but will pay the entire premium, if required by FMLA, for such programs as the employee wishes to retain. The right to continue

participation in such group insurance programs, however, will terminate if the employee does not return to the school district pursuant to this section.

Subd. 14. Notification to Return: An employee on childcare leave will be sent a notice of assignment from human resources at least 60 days prior to the specified return of said leave.

Subd. 15. Failure to Return Notice: The employee will lose all re-employment rights if the employee refuses or fails to return the notice of assignment within 10 days.

Section 6. Adoption/Foster Care Leave: Purpose: An employee may, upon request, be granted a leave for the adoption of a child.

Subd. 1. Request: An employee making application for adoption/foster care leave will inform human resources in writing of intention to take the leave at least three calendar months before commencement of the intended leave.

Subd. 2. Date of Leave: The effective beginning date of such leave and its duration or resignation if the employee so elects, will be determined human resources and submitted to the school district for its action.

Subd. 3. Use of Sick Leave: An employee may request to use up to 15 days of personal sick leave to assist in needed medical and health care for the child, commencing the date of the child's arrival in the employee's custody.

Subd. 4. Duration: In making a determination concerning the commencement and duration of an adoption/foster care leave, the school district will not in any event, be required to:

- a) Grant any leave more than 12 months in duration.
- b) Permit the employee to return to their employment prior to the date designated in the request for adoption/foster care leave.

Subd. 5. Reinstatement: An employee returning from adoption/foster care leave will be re-employed in the position occupied prior to the leave, subject to the following conditions:

- a) That the position has not been abolished.
- b) That the employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the duties of such position.

Subd. 6. Failure to Return: Failure of the employee to return pursuant to the date determined under this section will constitute grounds for termination.

Subd. 7. Probationary Period: The parties agree that the applicable periods of probation for the employees are intended to be periods of actual service enabling the school district to have opportunity to evaluate the employee's performance. The parties agree, therefore, that periods of time for which the employee is on adoption leave will not be counted in determining the completion of the probationary period.

Subd. 8. Experience Credit: The employee who returns from adoption leave within the provisions of this section will retain all previous experience credit for pay purposes and any unused leave

time accumulated under the provisions of this agreement of the beginning of the leave. The employee will not accrue additional experience credit for pay purposes or leave time during the period of absence.

Subd. 9. Insurance: An employee on adoption leave is eligible to participate in group health or dental insurance programs if permitted under the insurance policy provisions, but will pay the entire premium, if required by FMLA, for such programs the employee wishes to retain. The right to continue participation in such group insurance programs will terminate if the employee does not return to the School District pursuant to this section.

Subd. 10. Notification to Return: An employee on adoption leave will be sent a notice of assignment from human resources at least 60 days prior to the specified return date of said leave.

Subd. 11. Failure to Return Notice: The employee will lose all re-employment rights if the employee refuses or fails to return the letter of assignment within 10 days.

Subd. 12. Salary: The parties agree that any adoption leave granted under this section will be leave without pay.

Section 7. Long-Term Leave: Eligibility: School nutrition employees with a minimum of three years of experience in the school district may apply for an unpaid leave of absence once during their school district employment. Additional leave may be granted at the discretion of human resources for health reasons.

Subd. 1. Duration: Leave may be granted for a period of time up to one year.

Subd. 2. Insurance: An employee on an approved long-term leave is eligible to continue participating at their own expense in the health and hospitalization and/or dental program of the school district. This participation will be subject to the conditions prescribed by the insurance carrier.

Subd. 3. Benefit Accrual: A School Nutrition employee on approved leave will retain accrued benefits as of the beginning date of the leave. No benefits will accrue during the period the School Nutrition employee is on leave.

Subd. 4. Purpose: Consideration for granting long-term leaves will be given for:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Health | Election to Political Office |
| Retraining or Career Change | Approved Travel |
| Education | |

Subd 5. Requests: Requests for leaves must be made at least 30 days in advance except in emergencies and submitted to the administrator in charge for recommendation. Final approval will be made by human resources.

The number of staff on approved leave at any given time will not exceed 2% of the total school nutrition staff.

Subd. 6. Reinstatement: An employee returning from long-term leave for reasons other than their own or an immediate family member's serious medical condition will be re-employed in the position occupied prior to the leave, subject to vacancy and ability to perform duties.

An employee returning from long-term leave due to their own or an immediate family member's serious medical condition will be re-employed in the position occupied prior to the leave, subject to the following conditions:

- a) That the position has not been abolished
- b) That the employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the duties of such position

Subd. 7. Notice to Return: A school nutrition employee on long-term leave will be sent a notice of assignment from human resources according to the following schedule:

- a) When the return date of said leave is intended to coincide with the opening of school, notification will be given by April 1 of the preceding year.
- b) At least 60 days prior to the specified return of said leave when such date falls at any other time during the school year.

Subd. 8. Failure to Return Notice: The School Nutrition employee will lose all re-employment rights if the School Nutrition employee refuses or fails to return the notice within 10 days.

Section 8. Short-Term Leave (10 Days or Less): School nutrition employees may apply for a short-term leave of absence.

Subd. 1. Salary: Short-term leave will be without pay.

Subd. 2. Duration: Short-term leave may be granted for not more than 10 working days per contract year.

Subd. 3. Requests: Requests for short-term leave will be made five workdays in advance except in the case of emergencies. No request will be approved until all personal paid time has been exhausted. The request will be on a leave of absence request and will clearly state the reason for such request. Any special conditions or arrangements established by the administrator for a short-term leave will be in writing to the individual requesting the leave. All conditions established must be met to be eligible for the leave.

Subd. 4. Approval: Short-term leave may be granted only in special circumstances and must be approved by the director of food services.

Subd. 5. Limit: At no time will more than three of the employees covered by this agreement be granted a short-term leave.

Section 9. Jury Service Leave: An employee summoned to jury duty will be granted time off with pay.

Subd. 1. Notice to School District: Employees who receive a summons are to call and/or email the Human Resources Attendance Specialist and their supervisor immediately to notify them of the proposed dates of service.

Subd. 2. Remittance of Stipend: Employees who receive a stipend for jury duty are to reimburse the School District for the amount received, minus the mileage allowance if they were on jury duty during school time.

Subd. 3. Commencement of Leave: Employees on-call for jury duty will need to report to work until they are summoned to appear for jury duty. Failure to do so will result in a deduction of pay for the days of work missed.

Subd. 4. Pay: Employees will have no loss of pay as a result of jury duty if the provisions of Subd. 1 through 3 are met.

Section 10. Religious Leave:

Subd. 1. Use: School nutrition employees may be granted up to three days of religious leave. School nutrition employees must make application, including a brief statement of the request, to human resources at least three days prior to the religious leave. Human resources will notify the employee's supervisor to make the necessary arrangements allowing the employee to make up the days at some other prearranged time. However, an employee may utilize provisions outlined in section 4, Personal Leave, or section 1, Sick Leave, if so desired. If the employee chooses none of the options as outlined herein, the leave will be granted with full loss of pay.

Section 11. Eligibility for Leaves and Absences: Only employees who are assigned for the full school term or year are eligible for leave and absence benefits.

Section 12. Unexcused Absences: Employees who are absent without approved leave (with the exception of emergencies) may be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge from employment.

ARTICLE 9 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1. Grievance Definition: A "grievance" will mean an allegation by an employee of the Osseo School Nutrition Association regarding in a dispute or disagreement between the employee(s) and the school district as to the interpretation or application of terms and conditions of employment insofar as such matters are contained in this agreement.

Section 2. Representative: The employee, supervisor, or school district may be represented during any step of the procedure by a member or agent of the designated unit to act on the employee's behalf.

Section 3. Definitions and Interpretations:

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

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

Subd. 3. Computation of Time: In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by procedures herein, the date of the act, event, or default for which the designated period of time begins to run will not be included. The last day of the period so computed will be counted, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday.

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

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

Section 5. Adjustment of Grievance: The school board and the employee will attempt to adjust all grievances which may arise during the course of employment of any employee within the school district in the following manner:

Subd. 1. Informal Discussions: Before a written grievance is submitted, informal discussions will take place between the aggrieved party, the principal or supervisor. Through these discussions, the parties will attempt to resolve the problem.

Subd. 2. Level 1: If the grievance is not resolved through informal discussions, the aggrieved party may submit the grievance in writing to human resources. Human resources will give a written decision on the grievance to the parties involved within five days after receipt of the written grievance.

Subd. 3. Level 2: In the event the grievance is not resolved in Level 1, the decision rendered may be appealed to the superintendent, provided such appeal is made in writing within five days after receipt of the decision in Level 1.

If a grievance is properly appealed to the superintendent, the superintendent or designee will set a time to meet regarding the grievance within 15 days after receipt of the appeal. Within 10 days after the meeting, the superintendent or designee will issue a decision in writing to the parties involved.

Subd. 4. Level 3: In the event the grievance is not resolved in Level 2, the decision rendered may be appealed to the school board, provided such appeal is made in writing within five days after receipt of the decision in Level 2.

If a grievance is properly appealed to the school board, the school board will set a time to hear the grievance within 20 days after receipt of the appeal. Within 20 days after the meeting, the school board, will issue its decision in writing to the parties involved. At the option of the school board, a committee or representative(s) of the school board may be designated by the school

board to hear the appeal at this level, and report its findings and recommendations to the school board. The school board will then render its decision.

Section 6. School Board Review: The school board reserves the right to review any decision issued under Level 1 or Level 2 of this procedure provided the school board or its representative notify the parties of its intention to review within 10 days after the decision has been rendered. In the event the school board reviews a grievance under this section, the school board reserves the right to reverse or modify such decision.

Section 7. Denial of Grievance: Failure by the school board or its representative to issue a decision within the time periods provided herein will constitute a denial of the grievance and the employee may appeal it to the next level.

Section 8. Arbitration Procedures: In the event that the employee and the school board are unable to resolve any grievance, the grievance may be submitted to arbitration as defined herein:

Subd. 1. Request: A request to submit a grievance to arbitration must be in writing signed by the aggrieved party, and such request must be filed in the Office of the Superintendent within 10 days following the decision in Level 3 of the grievance procedure.

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

Subd. 3. Selection of Arbitrator: Upon the proper submission of a grievance under the terms of this procedure, the parties will, within 10 days after the request to arbitrate, attempt to agree upon the selection of an arbitrator. If no agreement on an arbitrator is reached, either party may request the BMS to appoint an arbitrator, pursuant to PELRA, providing such request is made within 20 days after request for arbitration. The request will ask that the appointment be made within 30 days after the receipt of said request. Failure to agree upon an arbitrator or the failure to request an arbitrator from the BMS within the time periods provided herein will constitute a waiver of the grievance.

Subd. 4. Submission of Grievance Information:

- a) **Material Request:** Upon appointment of the arbitrator, the appealing party will within five days after notice of appointment, forward to the arbitrator, with a copy to the School Board, the submission of the grievance which will include the following:
 - (1) The issues involved
 - (2) Statement of the facts
 - (3) Position of the grievant
 - (4) The written documents relating to section 5, article 9 of the grievance procedure
- b) The school board may make a similar submission of information relating to the grievance either before or at the time of the hearing.

Subd. 5. Hearing: The grievance will be heard by a single arbitrator and both parties may be represented by such person or persons as they may choose and designate, and the parties will have the right to a hearing at which time both parties will have the opportunity to submit

evidence, offer testimony, and make oral or written arguments relating to the issues before the arbitrator. The proceeding before the arbitrator will be a hearing de novo.

Subd. 6. Decision: The decision by the arbitrator will be rendered within 30 days after the close of the hearing. Decisions by the arbitrator in cases properly before them will be final and binding upon the parties, subject, however, to the limitations of arbitration decisions as provided for in PELRA.

Subd. 7. Expenses: Each party will bear its own expenses in connection with arbitration, including expenses relating to the party's representatives, witnesses, and any other expenses which the party incurs in connection with presenting its case in arbitration. A transcript or recording will be made of the hearing at the request of either party.

The parties will share, equally, fees and expenses of the arbitrator, the cost of the transcript or recording if requested by either or both parties, and any other expenses which the parties mutually agree are necessary for the conduct of the arbitration.

Subd. 8. Jurisdiction: The arbitrator will have jurisdiction over disputes or disagreements relating to grievances properly before the arbitrator pursuant to the terms of this procedure. The jurisdiction of the arbitrator will not extend to proposed changes in terms and conditions of employment as defined herein and contained in this written agreement; nor will an arbitrator have jurisdiction over any grievance which has not been submitted to arbitration in compliance with the terms of the grievance and arbitration procedure as outlined herein; nor will the jurisdiction of the arbitrator extend to matters of inherent managerial policy, which will include but are not limited to such areas of discretion or policy as the functions and programs of the employer, its overall budget, utilization of technology, the organizational structure, and selection and direction and number of personnel. In considering any issue in dispute, in its order, the arbitrator will give due consideration to the statutory rights and obligations of the public school boards to efficiently manage and conduct its operation within the legal limitations surrounding the financing of such operations.

ARTICLE 10 DURATION

Section 1. Term and Reopening Negotiations: This Agreement will run from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026, and thereafter in accordance with the provisions of PELRA. If either party desires to modify or amend this agreement it will give written notice of such intent no later than May 1, 2026. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the parties will not commence negotiations more than 90 days prior to the expiration of this agreement.

Section 2. Effect: This agreement constitutes the full and complete agreement between the school board and the school nutrition employees of Independent School District 279. The provisions herein relating to terms and conditions of employment supersede any and all prior agreements, resolutions, practices, school district policies, rules or regulations concerning terms and conditions of employment inconsistent with these provisions.

Section 3. Finality: Any matters relating to the current term of this agreement, whether or not referred to in this agreement, will not be open for negotiation during the term of this agreement.

Section 4. Severability: The provisions of this agreement will be severable, and if any provision thereof or the application of any such provision under any circumstances is held invalid, it will not affect any other provision of this agreement or the application of any provision thereof.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS (ISD 279)
and
OSSEO SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

TOPIC: Retirement Incentive Severance Pay

EFFECTIVE DATES: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

AGREEMENT:

Subject to the limitations listed below, the School District will contribute severance pay to eligible employees as follows:

Post-Retirement Health Reimbursement Arrangement – 100% of Pay

All School District payments will be made according to the timeline and payment schedule as provided in the Terms and Conditions of Employment. This is the full and complete agreement of the parties on this issue. There are no other oral or implied agreements. This agreement does not set any precedent for any future issue.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS (ISD 279)
and
OSSEO SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

TOPIC: Limits to Long-Term Disability Insurance Coverage

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon ratification

Long-term disability coverage for chemical dependency and mental health will be limited to a combined 24 months of coverage per claim. The limitations will go into effect contingent on the agreement with all other bargaining groups in Osseo Area School District. If no agreement is reached among the groups, this language will be void. In the interim follow article 7, section 1, subd. 6.