

# **MASTER AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN THE**

**HAMILTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AND**

**OHIO ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL  
EMPLOYEES, LOCAL 711**

**JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027**

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## **ARTICLE 1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this agreement is to foster and maintain continuous and uninterrupted operation of the schools, to provide an orderly and practical method of negotiating agreements, to reduce to writing an agreement as the result of the collective negotiations for the purpose of facilitating the peaceful adjustment of differences that may arise from time to time, and promote harmony and efficiency for the mutual relations of both parties.

## **ARTICLE 2 RECOGNITION OF ASSOCIATION**

- A. The Ohio Association of Public School Employees, Local 711, is hereby recognized by the Hamilton City Board of Education as the sole and exclusive negotiation's representative for all full-time and regular short hour non-supervisory bus drivers, bus aides, non-CDL van drivers, and utility workers. This recognition is for the purpose of establishing salaries, working hours, and other working conditions of employment. All substitutes shall be excluded from the bargaining unit.
  - 1. The position of a non-CDL van driver shall be created for the purpose of providing daily or regular transportation of students under circumstances in which transportation by a school bus is impractical and consists of transporting "out of district" students, McKinney Vento Act students, fostered placed students, and students who are not typically transported by a traditional school bus.
- B. The Board agrees to deduct from or check-off on the wages of Association members for the payment of dues to the Association, upon presentation of written authorization individually executed by an employee. Dues deduction authorization shall remain in effect until revoked in writing in accordance with the terms of the signed membership application between the employee and Association.
- C. Dues shall be collected in twenty-four (24) annual pays of that current year. The Board further agrees to submit to the OAPSE State Treasurer (bi-weekly), a list of those employees for whom payment is made, the amount deducted, and a copy of the list shall be submitted to the Local Treasurer.
- D. The Association agrees to indemnify and hold the Board of Education harmless and shall defend the Board of Education against any and all claims arising out of an action taken by the Board of Education in reliance upon the language contained in this Article.
- E. PAC (PEOPLE):
  - 1. The employer agrees to deduct from the wages of any employee who is a member of the Union a PEOPLE (Public Employees Organized to Promote Legislative Equality) deduction as provided for in a written authorization.
  - 2. Such authorization must be executed by the employee and may be revoked by the employee at any time by giving written notice to both the employer and the Union.
  - 3. The employer agrees to remit any deductions made pursuant to this provision promptly to the Union together with an itemized statement showing the name of

each employee from whose pay such deductions have been made and the amount deducted during the period covered by the remittance.

### **ARTICLE 3 RECOGNITION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Union agrees that the Board retains unto itself all powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon it without limitation except to the extent the exercise of said authority is in conflict with a provision of this contract. It is agreed that these rights include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Determine matters of inherent managerial policy as provided in 3313.47 and 3313.20.A. of the Ohio Revised Code which include, but are not limited to areas of discretion of policy such as functions and programs of the Board, standards of school activities, its overall budget, utilization of technology, and the school district organizational structure;
2. Direct, supervise, evaluate or hire employees;
3. Maintain and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Board operations;
4. Determine the overall methods, process, means or personnel by which school district operations are to be conducted;
5. Non-renew; layoff; recall; transfer; assign; schedule; promote; retain; or, for just cause – suspend, discipline, demote, or terminate employees;
6. Determine the adequacy of the workforce;
7. Determine the overall mission of the school district;
8. Effectively manage the workforce in all aspects;
9. Take action to carry out the mission of the school district;
10. Make rules and regulations by which the students and the employees of the Board will be governed.

## **ARTICLE 4 PROCEDURES FOR NEGOTIATIONS**

### **A. Good Faith:**

Good Faith requires both parties to recognize negotiations as a shared process. Neither side is sent to the bargaining table with a "take it or leave it" ultimatum. If a proposal is unacceptable to one of the parties, that party is obligated to give its reason.

### **B. Directing Requests:**

1. The requesting party shall serve a NOTICE TO NEGOTIATE to the Board and a copy of the NOTICE and a copy of the current contract upon the State Employment Relations Board (SERB). Requests for the initial meeting should be submitted in writing to the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. An agreement will be reached within five (5) working days of the receipt of such request as to the time and place of the meeting. This meeting shall occur within fifteen (15) days after the request has been submitted unless both parties agree to an extension of this time.
2. The first item of business shall be the exchange of proposals between the parties. Other proposals may be added after the first meeting with mutual consent of both parties.
3. All issues proposed for bargaining shall be reduced to written comprehensive style.

### **C. Meetings:**

1. Further meetings shall be scheduled by agreement of the parties involved.
2. Prior to the conclusion of any meeting, the parties shall agree on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.
3. All meetings will be held in a mutually acceptable location and shall last for a maximum of three (3) hours in length. This time limit may be extended by mutual agreement.
4. Meetings shall be scheduled to interfere the least with school schedules. However, when necessary, members of the committee shall be released from school duties without loss of pay to attend these meetings.
5. Meetings shall be held at the Board of Education offices whenever possible.

### **D. Representation:**

There will be no more than five (5) representatives designated by the Board of Education to meet for negotiations. The Association will designate no more than five (5) representatives to serve on the negotiating team.

E. Assistance:

Both parties may call upon assistance, limited to three (3) people for either party at any one (1) meeting, to assist in negotiations. The expense of the consultant(s) shall be borne by the party requesting them.

F. Caucus:

Upon request of either party, the negotiating meeting shall be recessed to permit the requesting party a caucus period of no more than thirty (30) minutes, unless agreed upon by both parties.

G. Progress Reports:

Periodic progress reports may be made public only by mutual agreement.

H. Information:

A reasonable amount of information may be made available to the Association upon request, for issues under negotiation.

I. Agreement:

When an agreement is reached by the Bargaining team, it shall be reduced to writing and submitted to the Board and the Union Membership for a vote. If the Board and Union Membership vote to accept the tentative agreement, the contract shall be drawn up and signed by the authorized representatives of the Board and Union.

J. Disagreement:

In the event an impasse exists forty-five (45) days prior to the expiration of the contract, the parties agree to use the services of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS). If the parties are not able to reach an agreement on the re-openers, the employees have the right to strike under the provisions of Chapter 4117 of the Ohio Revised Code provided that the Association gives a ten (10) day prior written notice of an intent to strike to the Hamilton City Board of Education and the State Employment Relations Board.

K. The Union and its members shall not engage in partial or intermittent strikes. Participation in such strikes shall constitute just cause for discharge from employment.

**ARTICLE 5**  
**DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE AND/OR TERMINATION**

- A. Members may be disciplined or discharged only for just cause. "Just Cause" is defined as incompetence, inefficiency, dishonesty, drunkenness, immoral conduct, insubordination, discourteous treatment of public or others, neglect of duty, violation of rule(s) and/or regulation(s), failure of good behavior, or any other act of misfeasance, malfeasance or non-feasance.
- B. Any member disciplined or discharged shall be given written notice of the specific reasons for the action.
- C. Standards of progressive discipline shall be applied in normal circumstances in the administering of member correction. The immediate supervisor will administer the first two (2) steps of the standards, and the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources will administer the third through fifth steps. If the infraction is of a severe nature, any or all of these steps may be waived. These standards are:
1. Oral Warning
  2. Written reprimand
  3. One-day suspension without pay
  4. Three-day suspension without pay
  5. Termination of employment
- D. Members in the bargaining unit shall be subject to the following discipline under the following circumstances if he/she tests positive for alcohol, illegal drugs or controlled substances as defined in Board Policy 4162:
1. If a member is required to submit to a test because there is reasonable suspicion to believe he/she is using alcohol and/or drugs and the member tests positive for alcohol and/or tests positive for illegal drugs or controlled substances, that member may be terminated.
  2. If a member is required to take a test as a result of random selection and that member tests positive for alcohol at a level below .02, he/she shall be referred to the Member Assistance Program and will not otherwise be disciplined unless he/she has tested positive for alcohol or drugs at any time in the past, in which case, he/she may be terminated.
  3. Any member who tests positive for illegal drugs or a controlled substance as the result of a random testing may be subject to termination or a lesser penalty, at the option of the Board.
  4. Anyone testing more than .02 for alcohol as the result of a random test may be subject to dismissal at the discretion of the Board.
  5. Anyone testing positive for alcohol, controlled substances or illegal drugs after being involved in an accident shall be subject to termination at the discretion of the Board.



6. Further, it shall be grounds for dismissal if a member refuses to take a drug and alcohol test post-accident, if randomly selected or as the result of a directive to do so because of reasonable suspicion. In addition, a member's refusal and/or failure to take follow-up drug and alcohol tests if directed to do so will result in termination.
  7. Members will be compensated at their hourly rate for the actual time spent for testing, which includes travel time.
  8. A member testing negative on a test shall be compensated for all assigned hours he/she did not drive that day as a result of taking the test.
- E. A member shall have the right to have a witness of their choice present at any disciplinary hearing or meeting. This provision does not apply to a meeting at which the Supervisor directs the member to be tested because the Supervisor suspects the member is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
  - F. While under suspension, a member will not be permitted to make any field trips.
  - G. Any action taken through this section may be subject to the Grievance Procedure.

## **ARTICLE 6 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

- A. The Grievance Procedure may be used by any member in the bargaining unit. A grievance is defined as a dispute a member or a group of members may have with the Board relating to the interpretation, application, or alleged violation of the express terms of this Agreement, or the discipline or discharge of a member. A grievance from a group of members must have arisen out of identical factual circumstances affecting each member of said group to constitute a group grievance.
- B. Members and groups of members have the right to present grievances without the intervention of the Association at Step 1. A copy of the grievance, however, must be sent to the Association's President. A member of the grievance committee shall be present at the adjustment meeting. The adjustment must not be inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement. If the member chooses to have representation, he/she shall utilize representatives of OAPSE's choosing. Steps 2, 3 and 4 will have a member of the Association's grievance committee present.
- C. The field representative may be asked to be present at Steps 2 and 4. The field representative will be asked to contact the Board's designee to set up a mutual time for hearings. The Board's designee in Steps 2 and 4 of this grievance procedure shall have the right to have other Board representatives present at these hearings. Additional persons may be asked to be present at any Step by mutual agreement between the member or group of members and the Board's representative directly involved at that Step.
- D. The word "days" when used in the Agreement shall mean work days unless specifically stated otherwise.
- E. An earnest effort shall be made to adjust grievances promptly in the following manner and order:

Step 1 Any member with a grievance may approach the Transportation Supervisor within seven (7) days with his/her complaint in writing. The Supervisor shall communicate his decision to the member and the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources in writing within seven (7) days of the receipt of the written complaint.

Step 2 In the event the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved as a result of Step 1, the member may appeal the Supervisor's decision in writing within seven (7) days to the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, or in his absence, his designee. If a hearing is requested, a hearing shall be held at a time mutually agreed to by the parties. The individual who heard the grievance shall communicate his decision to the member and the Superintendent in writing within seven (7) days of the receipt of the written complaint or the conclusion of the hearing, whichever is later.

Step 3 In the event the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved at Step 2, the grievant may request grievance mediation through FMCS within seven (7) days after receiving the Step 2 decision. The mediator will be asked to establish a date within thirty (30) days of receiving the request for mediation.

Step 4 The grievance may be submitted to arbitration by the Association within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of mediation, subject to the following principles and procedures:

1. A wholly disinterested arbitrator will be selected from a list submitted to the Board and the Association by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.
2. It is the duty of the arbitrator to hear both parties to the dispute, draw conclusions, and make recommendations to the parties which will be binding on all affected.
3. The arbitrator's function is to decide cases of alleged violations of the provisions of this Agreement. The arbitrator shall not supplement, enlarge, diminish or alter the scope of meaning of this Agreement and appendices as may exist from time to time, or any provisions therein, nor entertain jurisdiction of any subject matter not covered thereby. (Except to the extent necessary to determine his jurisdiction).
4. All hearings will be held in Hamilton, Ohio, unless the Association and the Board mutually agree to another location.
5. The arbitrator will provide two (2) copies of his decision to each party within thirty (30) days after the closing of the hearings.
6. The compensation and expenses of the arbitrator shall be borne by the party whom the arbitrator found against.

7. The party advancing the grievance to arbitration shall be responsible for the administrative fee charged by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.
- F. Every grievance hearing shall be held, whenever possible, at a time when there shall be no interruption in the school program. Whenever a member and/or his representative shall be required by the Board to attend a hearing during the school day, the member shall suffer no loss of pay due to his/her absence from their regular duties.
- G. All Steps and time limits specified in this Article are mandatory, but the Steps may be waived and the time limits extended only by mutual written agreement.
- H. Any grievance which has not been presented in the Grievance Procedure within the time limits for presentation of grievances, and any grievance which is not appealed to the next Step of the grievance within the applicable time limits specified herein, shall be considered as settled and shall not be subject to further discussion or appeal.
- I. Any grievance which is not answered by the Administration within the prescribed time shall advance to the next Step. The relief granted must be within the scope of the Contract. If the relief requested is not issued within ten (10) days, any dispute shall proceed directly to the mediation Step upon the written demand of the Union or the Administration.
- J. It is hereby agreed that since this Agreement provides a procedure to process grievances, the Board, Association and members are subject solely and exclusively to the Grievance Procedure of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 7 SENIORITY**

- A. Seniority shall be defined as length of employment by the member in a particular job classification as computed from the member's most recent date of entry into such job classification as determined by the appointment date by the Board of Education. Job classification shall correspond with the job classifications set forth on the salary schedule as published by the Board. The President/designee shall be provided a seniority list upon request. The Board shall supply the Union President with the name, address, hire date, and hourly rate of pay of newly-hired transportation employees within ten (10) days of Board approval.
- B. Breaks:
  1. Breaks in continuous service due to Board approved medical leaves shall not constitute a break in continuous service, and shall not cause an adjustment in the initial date of employment of the member for the purpose of seniority and seniority based benefits. Any other leaves shall constitute a break in continuous service and shall cause an adjustment in the initial date of employment of the member. It is understood that a member who is rehired or reinstated has a new effective date of employment for the purpose of seniority and seniority-determined benefits. Reinstatement is not automatic.
  2. Time on unpaid leave shall not count as time worked for seniority purposes, but shall not constitute a break in service.

- C. A copy of all seniority-based eligibility work lists will be provided to the Union President weekly with all changes noted.

**ARTICLE 8  
APPOINTMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, TRANSFERS, LAYOFFS, DISSOLUTION  
AND ALTERATION OF ROUTES; ASSIGNMENT OF NEW ROUTES  
WHEN ALL ROUTES ARE REWRITTEN**

A. Appointments of members to full-time regular positions:

1. Bus drivers and utility workers must possess a valid CDL Ohio license, have passed a physical examination and possess a current bus driver's certificate from the Superintendent, a current Ohio Pre-Service School Bus Driver Training Program and Certificate of Completion and a valid Transportation medical form (t-8) on file. Non-CDL van drivers shall be van certified.
2. Currently employed substitute bus drivers and bus aides shall be given first opportunity to fill a full-time, regular position. If Administration determines that a candidate has relevant experience for a vacant position, the Board may place a new hire at any step up to step five (5) on the Wage Schedule. In addition, the Board may place a new hire between steps six (6) and ten (10), but only if: (a) no qualified, internal candidate applies for the vacant position; and (b) Administration first notifies and consults with the Union President. Substitute bus drivers and aides will apply through the District's on-line application process. Currently employed bus drivers and bus aides, when applying for vacant positions, shall be provided a means to bypass the test which is included in the District's on-line application process.
3. After being appointed, a member shall be on probation for a period of 150 continuous workdays. During this probationary period, the member may be discharged for any reason in the sole discretion of the Board, and said discharge is not subject to the grievance procedure.
4. Once a member has successfully completed the probationary period, he/she shall be subject to all disciplinary rights set forth in this contract. Should a member separate employment with the Board for any reason and subsequently be rehired, the employee shall again serve the probationary period set forth in this Article.
5. In the event a member is removed during the probationary period, the member shall be provided written notice of their removal, including reasons for the removal, and shall be returned to their formal classification, if applicable.
6. Open routes will be posted in the order of number of hours beginning with the highest hours, and newly hired members will have a choice of available routes in accordance with the date of his/her application for employment.

This provision supersedes any provisions of the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 124 and rules and regulations of the Hamilton City Civil Service Commission.

7. Assignments Bus Aides

- a. Orthopedic Aides will remain on their routes year to year. If this route becomes vacant, it will be posted for bid and awarded by seniority.
- b. Non-Orthopedic Aide positions lasting longer than ten (10) days will be posted throughout the school year for bid and awarded by seniority.

B. Route assignments at the beginning of the school year:

1. AM and PM routes shall be established, published and available for inspection at least one (1) week before public schools are open. Mid-day routes shall be established, published and available for inspection one (1) week before public schools are open to the extent possible. Members who wish to be considered for reassignment should submit their requests in writing at least one (1) week before public schools are open to indicate their preference for route assignment.
2. No route currently held by a member shall be open for assignment unless he/she requests consideration for reassignment, or the member's performance has been documented as being unsatisfactory. Any member who is to be removed from his/her route shall be given the reason(s) in a conference with the Transportation Supervisor. The member may be accompanied by a representative of the Association. If the member is not satisfied with the results of the conference, he/she may immediately appeal on Step 1 of the Grievance Procedure.
3. The process of making route assignments will begin with members having the most seniority in the Hamilton City School District and proceed to the least senior member. This does not ensure that the most senior member will get their first preference. However, if past work performance has been equally satisfactory for all applicants, then the most senior will receive their first preference.
4. Special routes will be posted for bid. The run will be awarded by seniority, provided that it does not put the member into working more than eight (8) hours every day in a week. The driver will not be compensated for safety check time for these routes. If the route is run, the member will be paid for two (2) hours.
5. If mid-day routes are not assigned by the start of the school year, those members who had a mid-day route last year and are willing to work a mid-day this year will not have their stretch pay altered at the beginning of the year. However, if your mid-day route has been eliminated the new school year, stretch pay will be altered accordingly. As soon as the mid-day routes are ready, the bidding will take place and if the member had stretch pay altered he/she will time sheet until on or about October 1 when pays are adjusted. Every effort will be made to have the mid-day routes ready at the in-service meeting in August. When a four (4) day mid-day becomes a five (5) day mid-day (*i.e.* added student(s) on a Friday) the Friday fifth day run will be offered to the top senior driver/aide who does not have a five (5) day mid-day. This will revert back to the top of the seniority list each time this type of run becomes available.
6. Non-CDL Van drivers may only bid upon A.M. and P.M. van routes by seniority and will not include any routes that are defined as a mid-day. Non-CDL Van drivers

are not eligible for other duties, routes, or work, currently performed by CDL Bus drivers. Routes currently driven by CDL Bus drivers such as, but not limited to, A.M., P.M. routes, Mid-days, tutoring runs, activity runs, shuttles, early dismissals, summer work, and extra work, will not be split, assigned to, or broken up, to create work or a route for a non-CDL Van driver.

Employees and job applicants who do not possess a CDL shall be offered these positions prior to bus drivers being considered.

Bus Drivers who temporarily drive a van or fill in for a non-CDL position will be paid their regular hourly rate of pay.

If a member elects to bid on an open non-CDL position, then they will receive the non-CDL rate of pay.

C. Transfers during the school year:

1. When a route (a.m. and p.m. or mid-day) becomes vacant during the school year due to resignation or a new route is being established, it will be posted as vacant within ten (10) work days. The route will be reduced to a basic route before going up for bid, with a copy provided to the Union President at the time of posting. The extra time that would have been attached to that route will also go up for bid and be covered by C-5. Members will have an opportunity to request consideration, in writing, for reassignment prior to consideration of new applicants. A member may request consideration for as many different routes as they desire. However, no member will be transferred more than once during a given school year unless the Transportation Supervisor believes it is in the best interest of the Hamilton City School District.
2. There will be a maximum of two (2) transfers for any given vacancy (a.m. and p.m. or mid-day). The use of "bumping rights" shall not count as a transfer.
3. If no one chooses to request consideration for reassignment, or there has been one (1) transfer for a given vacancy, then the route will be filled by a new hire within thirty (30) calendar days.
4. All vacated routes, a.m. and p.m., mid-day, and other routes, will be posted for a period of five (5) member workdays. Members who wish to be considered must submit a written request to the Transportation Supervisor within five (5) member workdays of the date of the posting to indicate their interest. Members will be transferred to a new assignment within seven (7) member workdays after postings, unless there are extenuating circumstances.
5. If it becomes necessary to make additions to existing routes, this extra time will be posted if the anticipated driving time is more than one (1) hour per week. This extra time will be attached to, and considered a part of, a regular morning/afternoon or mid-day route. Any member assigned extra time will have that time paid him/her when on an excused absence including, but not limited to, personal illness days, bereavement, personal leave, professional leave, and calamity days. Dissolution of the extra time is not subject to Section E below. All members shall be eligible to bid, in writing, on such routes with the understanding

that the selection will be based primarily on seniority if fifteen (15) or fewer minutes of lay-over time per day are involved. If more than fifteen (15) minutes per day are involved, what is more beneficial to the Hamilton City School District will prevail.

6. All lateral transfers will be made on the basis of seniority.
7. All awarded work will be highlighted and posted for five (5) workdays.

D. Lay-off and recall:

1. If it becomes necessary to reduce the number of Transportation employees as a result of a lack of work, funds, or to derive greater efficiency, the Administration will follow the following procedure: Seniority shall prevail and "bumping rights" shall be in accordance with this Section.
2. In lay-offs, seniority shall prevail and lay-offs shall be by classification. A lay-off list shall be established for bus drivers, non-CDL van drivers, and aides.
3. All persons with less than permanent appointment shall be laid off first.
4. Permanent members still on probation shall be laid off next in inverse order of their seniority.
5. When a lay-off condition exists, new applicants will not be considered for work until the last qualified member has been recalled to work. Laid off members shall have first consideration for work on substitute basis. When re-employed, the member receives seniority as of the last date hired on a regular continuous basis by the Board of Education. Time lost due to lay-off shall not be considered as a break in seniority if the member reports to Board employment within two (2) weeks of the notice or recall by the Board of Education.
6. If a member is the least senior member in a classification, that member may return to a formerly held classification provided that member worked in that classification no more than five (5) years ago, that the member currently possesses the minimum requirements for that classification and that the member has more seniority than the least senior member in the classification they are returning to. A member removed from a former classification for disciplinary action is not eligible to return to their former classification within one (1) year of said disciplinary action.
7. Laid off members shall be placed on a recall list, by classification in order of seniority, with the right of recall for two (2) years. As vacancies occur, those jobs will be offered to the senior member(s) remaining on the list. Each member shall be given the right to refusal one (1) time before being removed from the list. It shall be the responsibility of the member to notify the Board of Education of change of address, phone number, etc.

E. Alteration of routes during the school year:

If the total driving time for the route is reduced more than thirty (30) minutes per day, and if the route has been assigned and driven for one (1) month, the member affected may implement "bumping rights" within their classification.

**F. Assignment of new routes when all routes are rewritten:**

When the Administration declares that a majority of routes have been changed substantially for greater efficiency at the beginning of a school year, all routes shall be assigned following the normal bidding process based on seniority. The Transportation Supervisor shall have authority to assign routes on other than a seniority basis. However, if past work performance has been equally satisfactory for all applicants, then the most senior will receive their first preference. The Transportation Supervisor will make every reasonable effort to assign a bus to a member who has driven that bus in previous years, if the member so desires.

**G. If the Board determines that an OBI is needed, the position will be posted and will include the necessary qualifications. The senior applicant who, in the opinion of management, meets the necessary qualifications shall be selected for the position. Upon request, an employee who is not selected for the position will be given written notification of the reason(s) that they were not selected for the position.**

**H. Non-Public Routes:**

If a member works non-public routes on a day that Hamilton City Schools are not in session, they must be available the entire shift (*i.e.* morning, mid-day and afternoon). Members shall not be permitted to miss partial shifts due to the use of pre-scheduled sick leave or personal leave.

**I. Short Notice Route Coverage:**

In the event the Transportation Supervisor is given one (1) hour or less notice of a vacant route that day, Administration can assign the most senior driver or aide who is available at the time the notice of vacancy is received to cover the route for the day.

**ARTICLE 9  
OVERTIME**

All time worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half (1 1/2).

**ARTICLE 10  
SICK LEAVE**

**A. Sick Leave:**

1. All members will be granted one and one-quarter (1 1/4) days of sick leave on the first of each month for the previous month's work providing the member was in active work status on one (1) of the work days of the previous month.

Unused sick leave shall accumulate up to 300 days.

All members may be eligible to receive up to a total of five (5) days of advanced sick leave during the school year (July 1 through June 30) as follows:



- a. Upon first employment.
  - b. Upon prior approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources.
2. Any sick leave advanced a member must be repaid before any additional sick leave days are advanced.
3. A member may use sick leave credit in the amounts hereafter specified for absence due to personal illness, injury, pregnancy, quarantine, family illness, bereavement leave, and/or funeral leave.
4. Member Attendance:
  - a. An absence from duty is defined as the failure of any member to report to work when scheduled. This applies to any assignment, e.g., AM route, mid-day route, PM route. One absence of any assignment (AM and/or mid-day and/or PM) is considered an occurrence. An occurrence may include 1/3 day, 1/2 day or full day. An occurrence may also include more than one day (i.e. extended illness, surgery, injury, etc.). If a physician releases the member from work in writing, the occurrence is considered "excused". An occurrence without a physician's release in writing is considered "unexcused". Physician certification documents are required on the first day the member returns to work following an occurrence.
  - b. Any member who fails to call in and/or report for work by the designated time is considered "no call-no show". No calls-no shows are considered as two (2) unexcused occurrences.
  - c. Any member who fails to call in and/or report for two (2) consecutive days is voluntarily terminating their employment.
5. Sick leave accumulated prior to a leave of absence shall be credited upon return to employment.
6. Attendance Control:
  - a. Based on the number of unexcused occurrences in a school calendar year, a member will be subject to disciplinary action under the following guidelines:
    - Two (2) unexcused occurrences will result in an attendance conference with Transportation Supervisor.
    - A third (3<sup>rd</sup>) unexcused occurrence will result in a documented oral warning.
    - A fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) unexcused occurrence will result in a documented writing warning.

- A fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) unexcused occurrence will result in referral to the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and may result in suspension of employment pending investigation and review.
- A sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) unexcused occurrence will result in referral to the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and may result in suspension or termination of employment, pending investigation and review.

b. Patterns of absences (i.e. Mondays, Fridays, before/after holidays or school breaks, etc.) may result in disciplinary action per Article 5 of this collective bargaining agreement.

**B. Family illness:**

1. Within the school year, each member with less than 1,250 hours within the preceding twelve (12) months may use a reasonable number of days of his/her sick leave allowance or accumulation (under the first paragraph of this section) for illness of the member's spouse, parent, father-in-law and mother-in-law (current), child (foster, step, and/or exchange student), live-in relative or persons living in the same household. Those members who are subject to the Family and Medical Leave provisions may use this section for relatives included in this section who are not covered by the Family and Medical Leave provisions.
2. Members shall submit a written signed statement for a form prescribed to justify the use of sick leave. If medical attention is required, the member's statement shall list the name and address of the attending physician and the dates when he/she was consulted.
3. Paid emergency sick leave in excess of the limitations herein contained may be granted by the Superintendent of Schools upon providing proper justification for such use.
4. In the event of the death of a member, the member's beneficiary will be paid the accumulated sick leave at the same ratio as listed under Article 11.
5. If sick leave is exhausted, members may use personal leave days and/or extra vacation time. Members using personal or vacation days for sick leave purposes may do so only upon the submission of a physician's statement indicating that leave is necessary, or pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave provisions contained herein.

**C. Death in the Immediate Family**

1. Members who have a death in the immediate family may be granted an absence with no deduction in pay. This leave shall be charged against sick leave.
2. For the purpose of this section, immediate family is to be interpreted to mean spouse, children, stepchildren, brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers, stepparents, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews, relatives-in-law, and any person living in the same household as the member.

D. Funeral Leave:

Members attending the funeral of a relative not in the immediate family and who had not been living in the same household shall be allowed absence for the day of the funeral with no deduction in pay, but charged against accumulated sick leave.

**ARTICLE 11  
RETIREMENT PAY**

A. Upon retirement, all members will be paid for unused sick leave at the following rate:

1. First 150 days at 1:4.
2. The remaining 135 days at 1:2.

With an accumulation up to 285 total days.

B. Retirement pay will be issued after the Treasurer has received proof of retirement from SERS. In order for a member to receive retirement pay, he/she must have been employed by the Hamilton City School District in the final year of service (180 days). Application for retirement must be submitted to SERS within four (4) months of last day of employment.

**ARTICLE 12  
ABSENCE DUE TO CALAMITY**

A. All employees shall be required to make up any calamity days beyond seven (7) in a contract year. These make-up days may or may not involve the attendance of students. If a make-up day(s) is deemed necessary by the Superintendent then a make-up schedule will be developed by the Superintendent and communicated to both the Board and the Union. All employees shall not realize a loss of pay for all days or part of a day when school is closed due to an epidemic or other public calamity.

In the event that employees are required to report on a day that school is cancelled for students, employees shall not be required to report until 10:00 a.m. and shall end their work day at 3:00 p.m. Employees will not be required to report to work if there is a Level 2 snow emergency ordered in Butler County.

If it is impossible for the member to work for the school district due to epidemic, public calamity, or other reason necessitating the closure of one or more schools ("Calamity Day") as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee, the employee shall be entitled to receive the employee's regularly scheduled compensation for the first seven (7) days that school is cancelled. Any days which school is closed for calamity beyond seven (7) days shall not be compensated unless the school days are subsequently made up.

The Board will schedule three (3) make-up days after the use of the first seven (7) calamity days so that drivers shall not lose pay for these three (3) days. After the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) calamity day, employees may use vacation and/or accrued paid personal leave to receive compensation for calamity days. Use of personal leave for this purpose shall not count against the attendance bonus contained in Article 25 N.

- B. No member shall suffer a loss of pay as the result of any delay. Any member reporting to work who has not been properly notified of a delay or cancellation through the usual media by 5:45 a.m. shall be granted two (2) hours of pay for reporting to work.
- C. Members who transport children to a private school, charter school, community school, or other school for which Hamilton City School District is required to provide transportation, will receive double pay only if the remaining members of the Union are off work with pay due to the Hamilton City School District being closed for three (3) consecutive school days or less due to calamity. Such member is guaranteed that the minimum number of days of work during a given school year will not be less than the Hamilton City School District.
- D. Any member required to work in order to perform their regularly scheduled duties on days in which the schools of the District are closed for three (3) consecutive school days or less due to calamity will be compensated double-time for their regular route and safety check hours. Any member required to take a field trip on a calamity day due to weather conditions will be compensated the regular rate for the field trip and safety check time. A member will have the option to refuse to take the trip on a calamity day and will not be charged any accumulative hours.
- E. A school closure under this Article shall not include any day in which the school building is closed to in-person instruction, but the District delivers remote instruction to its students and/or the day had previously been designated as a non-student, employee work day. On such days, the employee will:
  - 1. Perform work within their job classification or within their bargaining unit.
  - 2. When available, management will provide training and professional development during work time in which there is not work available within the employee's job classification or bargaining unit.
  - 3. If work is not available within 1. and 2., above, then management may assign employees other duties that fall within their physical capabilities and which do not require specialized training. Employees may choose to accept, but shall not be required by Administration, to work an assignment that falls within the job duties of another bargaining unit of the Hamilton City School District.

Employees shall not be paid an hourly rate greater than that which the employee would have otherwise earned, unless the employee's hours worked qualify them for overtime pay.

### **ARTICLE 13 PERSONAL LEAVE**

- A. Unit members shall be granted a maximum of three unrestricted days per year (July 1 through June 30), which are not cumulative, for personal or emergency leave. Personal leave days will not be approved on the opening or closing day of school or days preceding or following a holiday or vacation, except for extenuating circumstances.
- B. Request for personal or emergency leave shall be made five (5) member work days in advance in writing by the member to the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources through the member's immediate supervisor.

- C. Any personal leave days remaining unused at the end of the year will be converted to sick leave days.
- D. Any personal leave days utilized by a bargaining unit member shall not be counted and used against calculation of drivers availability/eligibility for an attendance bonus.

#### **ARTICLE 14 FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE**

- A. Family leave for reasons of birth of a child, adoption, child rearing or extended child care, and medical leave to care for a spouse, parent, child, grandchild, or person living in the same household with a serious health condition or due to a serious health condition which prevents the member from performing his/her duties shall be granted without pay to the member. Said leaves shall be granted for a period not to exceed two (2) consecutive school years, except for military leave which may be for a longer period. The Board may extend the term of one's absence upon a written request by the member. Qualifying sick leave shall be used concurrently with FMLA.
- B. For members who have been employed with the Board for at least twelve (12) months and who have worked 1250 or more hours in the twelve (12) months preceding the leave, the following will apply: In cases of family leave occurring within twelve (12) months of the birth, adoption, or placement of a foster child, the member shall be required to use all accumulated sick leave, vacation and personal days up to twelve (12) weeks. The Employer portion of health insurance will be paid by the Board during the first twelve (12) weeks of leave. In all cases of medical leave, the member shall be required to use all accumulated sick leave, vacation and personal days up to twelve (12) weeks. The employer portion of health insurance will be paid by the Board during the first twelve (12) weeks of leave. Members not returning from leave shall be required to repay the cost of insurance as provided by the Family Medical Leave Act of 1993.
- C. The use of Intermittent or Reduced Leaves shall be controlled by the provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.
- D. The Board may require certifications regarding Parental and Family Leaves as set forth in the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.
- E. All such requests shall be submitted in writing to the Administrator designated by the Superintendent at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the requested date of leave.
- F. The member's position will be held for the member during the first six (6) months of leave. Members returning from leaves of longer than six (6) months shall be assigned to the first available position, which is comparable to the one which they held prior to leave.
- G. A member returning from a leave resulting from the member's own health condition shall be required to submit to a medical examination before returning from leave. The member will be permitted to return to work if the examination indicates that the member is able to perform all aspects of his/her job.
- H. The Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources must be in receipt of this written notice of intent to return to work ten (10) working days prior to the member returning to

work. The member hired to replace the person on leave will be laid off. Members will maintain their seniority during an approved leave. However, seniority will not accrue during such leave. Seniority will continue to accrue during a medical leave. Other leaves will cause an adjustment in the seniority date.

- I. All insurance shall remain in effect for the duration of the leave, with a two (2) year maximum. The Board will pay its portion of the insurance premium for the first twelve (12) weeks a member is absent pursuant to this provision if eligible for Family Medical Leave and the member will be able to remain on the Board insurance plan for the remainder of the leave provided the member pays the full premium of the insurance he/she wishes to maintain to the Treasurer in advance of the premium due date.

#### **ARTICLE 15 MEDICAL DISQUALIFICATION**

Anyone who is disqualified from working, by the Board physician, for a physical or mental condition may appeal the decision in writing within ten (10) days of written notice being given by the Board physician. The written notice shall be served by certified mail.

The appeal shall also be served by certified mail. Within ten (10) days of the receipt of an appeal, the Board shall appoint another physician at no cost to the member to make a determination of the issue. The physician shall be an expert in the field concerning the area of disqualification. The determination of that physician shall be final.

#### **ARTICLE 16 JURY DUTY AND COURT SERVICES**

- A. When a member is to serve as a witness in a court action, other than an action against the Board in which the Union is a party, he/she shall be given a leave of absence with pay for the time required for the court appearance. The member shall pay any witness fees to the Board of Education.
- B. When a member is subpoenaed to serve as a witness in a court action, he/she shall be given a leave of absence with pay for the time required for such court appearance.
- C. Any member who is seated for jury duty on a given day will not be required to report to work after being released from jury duty on that day. Any member who has not been seated on a given day shall be required to report to work on that day.

#### **ARTICLE 17 WORKING CONDITIONS**

- A. A member shall not be held liable for loss by fire, theft, vandalism, burglary, or water unless due to his/her own negligence. (Does not include findings by the Auditor's Office or the Court.)
- B. Any complaint directed toward any member in the Members' Association, which adversely affects his/her performance, shall be discussed with the member as soon as possible. If the matter is of a serious nature, and a written record is placed in the personnel file in the Human Resources Office, the member must be informed of the content of the written

record placed in the file. Unsubstantiated complaints will not be placed in the members personnel file.

- C. When a complaint is received and substantiated against any member and a written record of such complaint is to be placed in the member's personnel file, the member shall have the right to respond in writing to such complaint. The response shall be attached to the original complaint and placed in the member's personnel file.
- D. Members may inspect their personnel files during normal business hours in the office of the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources. The Assistant Superintendent or his designee must be present during this inspection.
- E. Drivers may refuse to drive their assigned vehicles if, and only if, the mechanical condition of the vehicle make it unsafe to drive and they have completed a Maintenance Report Form and discussed the problem(s) with the Transportation Supervisor. These conditions will include items listed for inspection to the School Bus Standards. No loss of pay will be incurred if a safe bus is not available.
- F. Buses normally assigned to a route will not be serviced during the morning route time on days when streets are hazardous due to inclement weather.
- G. In the event the streets become hazardous while drivers are driving their routes, it is the responsibility of the driver to contact the Transportation Supervisor to advise him/her of street conditions and to discuss possible solutions.
- H. Up-to-date information concerning school closings, street closings, early dismissals or any other information that would affect the driving of routes will be posted by the Transportation Supervisor.
- I. At the beginning of each school year, after the bidding of the regular A.M. and P.M. routes is completed, the Transportation Supervisor shall assign each driver to a bus, which shall be the same bus driven by the driver in the previous school year, except when the bus or route is a mini-bus or an orthopedic bus, or if, in the discretion of the Transportation Supervisor, a change in bus assignment is necessary.
- J. Emergency numbers for police, fire, emergency and the office number shall be placed in each bus in a designated location.
- K. Derogatory information pertaining to job performance shall be removed from the member's personnel file, upon the request of the member, and deemed invalid after three (3) years of the occurrence of the cause of such information being placed in the member's file, provided that disciplinary information is not related to misconduct involving a student and/or staff member. If an additional record of cause of discipline occurs during this three (3) year period, all information shall be retained and remain valid until three (3) full years of satisfactory performance has passed.
- L. A driver who has not received a new bus in any of the past seven (7) school years (current school year included) will be given the opportunity to be assigned a new bus, by seniority, provided the driver has not had a poor record of properly maintaining his/her bus in the past. All new special education busses that possess air conditioning shall be offered by

seniority to drivers who drive special education routes, and not subject to the time frame listed above.

- M. Buses determined by the Transportation Supervisor as a "hand-me-down" will be offered, by seniority, to a driver who has not received a new bus in the past seven (7) years. In cases of conflicting claims, an OAPSE Committee will determine the proper order. This provision is not subject to the Grievance Procedure.
- N. Video cameras have been installed in the buses. When the video is pulled from the bus, the member should be present if at all possible. If in an emergency, the video is pulled and the member cannot be there, a designated Union Representative will be notified and the member will be notified as soon as possible that parents or Administration have reviewed the video. Only those individuals necessary shall be permitted to view the tape.

## **ARTICLE 18 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

- A. Each regular member will be evaluated at least one (1) time per year. The Transportation Supervisor will be responsible for conducting this evaluation. The evaluation report will be reviewed and signed by each respective member and will become part of their personnel record in the Hamilton City School District.
- B. Members shall be given copies of all evaluations and the efficiency score of the evaluation (0% - 100%).
- C. All time off should be considered for evaluation purposes.

## **ARTICLE 19 WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

- A. Ohio Law provides: That every person in the service of a school district who receives any injury in the course of or arising out of his/her employment is protected by the provisions of the Worker's Compensation Law (Revised Code Section 4123.01).
- B. The Board's responsibility for policy in this matter is largely to make certain that all members receive annual information on the availability of compensation benefits and the procedure to be followed for application for compensation. The member shall have an option of submitting a claim under Worker's Compensation or using unused sick leave when an injury occurs as a result of his/her employment with the school district.
- C. Members shall suffer no loss in pay to attend Worker's Compensation hearings scheduled during working hours if out of personal leave.
- D. If allowed by the Industrial Commission, this provision shall be in effect:
  - 1. Any member absent from work because of any work connected occupational illness or injury, as determined by the Industrial Commission, shall be entitled to reinstatement at the same rate of pay received immediately prior to the date of such illness or injury, upon approval of the member's application to return to work. The member is required to file such application immediately upon the determination by the Industrial Commission physician that he/she is able to return



to work. Failure to make such application at that time will be grounds for termination of employment.

- E. An "Employee Accident Report" shall be completed and submitted to the member's supervisor within two (2) workdays after an employee sustains an on-the-job injury. If the injury occurs just before a holiday or vacation period, the Transportation Supervisor will be notified within seventy-two (72) hours, and paperwork submitted within two (2) workdays after returning.

F. Continuation of pay

An employee who suffers a compensable Workers' Compensation injury, including being assaulted by a student, and who is temporarily and totally disabled as a result of the injury may be eligible to receive compensation from the Bureau of Workers' compensation (BWC). This continuation of pay policy is designed to cover injury employees who would otherwise receive BWC temporary total payments where it is fiscally responsible for the District by causing the BWC to set a lower claim reserve and hence a lower premium regarding each case.

This policy also includes assault injuries which would be covered by the BWC and consolidates prior policies and provisions on the subject. The policy does not affect or replace the employee's need to file claims with the BWC for medical treatment.

The goal of this policy is to return the employee to employment with the District safely and at the earliest possible time following a work injury while positively impacting the BWC premium for workers' compensation coverage.

Continuation of Pay (COP). COP is recommended to expedite payment, eliminate hardship to injured employees, and effectively manage lost time claim costs.

Definition. COP is the continuation of fully hourly wages and benefits.

Continuation of Pay is not payable unless the employee makes a Workers' Compensation claim, it is certified by the District, and the employee has provided all necessary documentation to include any and all district injury report forms. The BWC First Report of Injury (FROI), medical releases, MCO forms, third-party administrator forms and any other related records required by the risk manager or supervisor. The risk manager shall be the approval authority for all COP. COP shall only be approved if it is fiscally responsible for the District by positively impacting the District's BWC premiums.

Continuation of Pay payments are computed on the basis of the employee's base rate of pay and normally scheduled hours, not to exceed forty (40) hours per week. Part-time employees will have payment prorated. Time authorized under Continuation of Pay is considered time worked for employees still in their probationary period, if any.

An employee continues to accrue sick and vacation leave while on Continuation of Pay if they would have otherwise accrued such leaves. An employee would not otherwise accrue such leaves shall not accrue leaves under this policy.

Increments of COP must be approved by the risk manager, in his discretion and when it is fiscally responsible for the District by having a positive impact on BWC reserves and

premiums, and no one increment may exceed four (4) weeks. COP cannot exceed twelve (12) calendar weeks for any one claim over the lifetime of that claim. If the employee has not returned to work within the twelve (12) week period and has not reached maximum medical improvement, he may then receive benefits from the BWC or use any available sick leave.

Payments are made only for periods the employee would have been eligible for temporary total Workers' Compensation benefits for injuries and will be terminated upon return to work; when the Bureau of Worker's Compensation or the Industrial Commission has determined the employee has reached maximum medical improvement.

A return to work does not eliminate eligibility for the balance of Continuation of Pay in the future if a medically documented flair-up occurs as determined by the Bureau of Workers' Compensation or the Industrial Commission for this claim.

An injured employee receiving Continuation of Pay cannot concurrently receive, for the same period of time, any other District compensation (e.g. sick leave, injury leave, vacation, supplemental contract pay etc.) or temporary total compensation payments from the State of Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation.

Continuation of Pay may be paid for medical appointments documented under an approved transitional duty program and approved by the risk manager.

Time authorized under Continuation of Pay is an FMLA qualifying event. The leave form should be marked accordingly giving appropriate notice to the employee.

To be eligible for COP:

- The date of injury must occur in a year in which the District's merit rating or retrospective premiums will be impacted. Currently, the date of injury must occur during the most recent four, full calendar years or during the current calendar year.
- The employee must be totally disabled from all employment and must miss more than seven (7) calendar days; or, qualify for continuation of pay under the transitional duty policy with reimbursement for documented medical appointments or gradual return to work program.
- An employee is not paid continuation of pay for the first seven (7) days until after fourteen (14) consecutive days of total disability as determined by the bureau of workers' compensation, except as the transitional duty policy may apply.
- The claim must be certified by the District, if a claim is rejected by the District, but allowed by the BWC or the Industrial Commission, Continuation of Pay is paid retroactively, provided it is advantageous to the District's BWC premium and provided the provisions of this policy are fulfilled. An employee may use sick, vacation, or personal time pending a decision on allowance. This time is reimbursed to the employee hour for hour upon allowance by the BWC or the Industrial Commission.

- Appropriate medical documentation, the District injury report form, medical releases, the FROI, any Managed Care Organization (MCO) forms, and any Third-Party Administrator (TPA) form are provided as determined by the risk manager.
- The employee must cooperate at all times in meeting with and in responding to information requests of the MCO, BWC, the risk manager, and health providers.

G. Transitional duty

Transitional duty is designed to allow an employee to safely return to work with temporary physical limitations and resections which may prevent the employee from performing all of his or her assigned duties.

Transitional duty applies only to work-related Workers' Compensation injuries or illnesses and is not to be considered as an official position or job. Transitional duty is not a job classification, permanent or otherwise. An employee performing transitional duties retains his/her existing job classification and seniority.

Transitional duty is applicable only when it is deemed medically reasonable that full recovery is expected to occur within twelve (12) weeks. Transitional duty, therefore, shall last no more than twelve (12) weeks with a full return to work by the end of twelve (12) weeks. Transitional duty is not available if the employee has reached maximum medical improvement as determined by the Bureau of Workers' Compensation.

To be eligible for transitional duty, an employee must complete all related injury investigation forms, First Report of Injury (FROI) forms, medical releases, and any other documents required by the physician, the Managed Care Organization (MCO), the employer, and the third-party administrator.

Transitional duty is implemented upon the availability of transitional duty by the employer. The risk manager shall be the approval authority for all transitional duty full, regular wages are paid during transitional duty.

Transitional duty can be less than full time with continuation of pay paid, if eligible, for hours not worked to supplement a full, regular wage. Hours not worked must be documented and supported by appropriate medical documentation.

Continuation of Pay is not payable for medical appointments once the employee is released to full duty, has exhausted all available Continuation of Pay, or their limitations and restrictions do not prevent the employee from performing the essential duties of their position.

An employee on transitional duty who has exhausted all available Continuation of Pay may elect to use available paid leave or leave without pay, or file for Worker's Compensation benefits.

An employee cannot work a second job within or outside of the District and work transitional duty unless approved by the risk manager.

The goal of transitional duty is to return the employee to his regular job and department, but other work within the department would be appropriate if the employee is unable to do

any part of his regular job. Work outside of his immediate department can be considered if work is not available within his department/classification.

If an employee is offered transitional duty and refuses a transitional duty offer within his or her medical limitations, the employee cannot elect Continuation of Pay. The employee will not be eligible for temporary total benefits from the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation when a valid transitional duty offer has been made and declined. The District will notify the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation of any refusal to accept a transitional duty offer that is within the medical limitations.

An employee may elect to use sick leave, vacation leave, or personal leave time if the employee refuses transitional duty. All leave taken for a work-related injury should be reviewed for FMLA qualification.

A transitional duty offer made to an employee refusing to return to work must be reduced to writing and sent by certified mail or hand delivered to the employee. If hand delivering the offer, be sure to obtain the injured worker's signature and date received on the employer's copy.

Time spent in transitional duty is considered time worked for employees still in their probationary period.

To remain eligible for this program, the employee must cooperate with, meet when reasonably requested, and respond to information requests from the Managed Care Organization (MCO), Third-Party Administrator (TPA), risk manager, health providers, and his/her supervisor.

## **ARTICLE 20 MEETINGS WITH TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISOR**

- A. All members will be required to attend a monthly meeting with the Transportation Supervisor unless excused by the Supervisor. These meetings will be scheduled prior to the beginning of the school year and will occur on a regular basis. The meetings shall be held at such a time and place to allow members to attend on time and receive the full benefit of such meetings. The duration of these meetings will normally not exceed one (1) hour. Members will be compensated at their regular rate for attendance at these meetings. A member who does not attend the monthly meeting and has not been excused by the Supervisor will have a written reprimand placed in his/her personnel file.
- B. All members will be required to attend a four (4) hour in-service day prior to the beginning of the school year. Meeting will be held no sooner than five (5) work days before school begins according to the Hamilton City School calendar. The Transportation Supervisor will designate the day before the previous school year ends. Members will be compensated for only those hours they attend the in-service training. Route scheduling and bidding of mid-days will take place after the four (4) hour in-service meeting. Members will be paid for these hours at their regular rate of pay.

**ARTICLE 21**  
**INCREMENTS ON SALARY SCHEDULE**

- A. Each Step on the salary schedule represents one (1) year of service of at least 120 days. A member will only be granted an increment if he/she has worked 120 days during the preceding year and has worked a corresponding number of years at the appropriate Step.
- B. In the year of any work related illness or injury, any days not worked because of a Worker's Compensation claim/work related illness or injury will be counted as time worked towards the 120 days requirement stated above.
- C. No member shall be permitted to advance more than one (1) increment per year because of the change in this Article.
- D. Any member reverting to substitute status will not maintain seniority rights. However, they will remain at the hourly rate established as a regular member if they are on a lay-off and working as a substitute.
- E. At the option of the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, a member who previously worked for the district may be paid up to the hourly rate on the salary schedule, based on their experience for driving as a substitute.

**ARTICLE 22**  
**SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED BY MEMBERS**

- A. Duties of bus driver:
  - 1. Responsible for the safe transportation of students and cleanliness of the bus. Bus must be cleaned at the end of the day.
  - 2. Drivers must report any necessary maintenance problem to the Transportation Supervisor or the proper authority on the prescribed form.
  - 3. Must know and practice the laws, rules and regulations.
  - 4. Drivers must maintain pupil control and report violations of the Pupil Transportation Regulations to the proper authority on the prescribed form.
  - 5. Must give time for self-improvement by attending training sessions and workshops when offered. With prior approval of the Transportation Supervisor, the Board of Education will pay one-half (½) of all expenses incurred while attending any training sessions or workshop.
  - 6. Must keep accurate records and submit all reports at the specified time (gasoline, student count, accident reports, student conduct reports).
  - 7. Must maintain routes, stops and schedules as planned by the Transportation Supervisor with the cooperation of the driver. Any changes to the routes will be coordinated with the Supervisor.

8. Must report any hazardous conditions along the existing route to the Transportation Supervisor.
9. Drivers must perform pre-trip and post-trip safety checks as required by the Ohio Pupil Transportation and Safety Rules and shall document daily on the prescribed form.
10. Emergency equipment must be stored as instructed by the Transportation Supervisor.
11. Buses are to be parked in an orderly manner according to the parking plan.
12. Drivers are responsible for renewing their school bus driver's license and submitting it to the Transportation Supervisor at least five (5) days prior to the date of expiration of the current license. Any driver that has an expired license will not be permitted to drive until such time the license has been renewed. Time off will be at loss of pay. It is understood that Ohio Law permits an individual to renew their license up to ninety (90) days prior to its expiration if the individual will be out of the state during this time period.
13. Drivers are responsible for renewing their Ohio Pre-Service Certificate prior to their current Certificate expiring. Any driver that has an expired Certificate shall not be permitted to drive and shall have a loss of pay. As a courtesy, the District will forward to the driver any Ohio Department of Education notices received regarding Certificate expiration.
14. Operate the lift while loading and unloading. Secure doors or latches before operating lift. Students are not to operate the lift.

**B. Duties of a bus aide:**

1. Arrive at the Transportation lot at least five (5) minutes before departure time in a.m. and p.m.
2. Be aware of the individual problems of each student and be prepared to help the driver at all times while on the route.
3. Assist the student to and from the sidewalk. Do not enter the house to receive the student.
4. Operate the lift while loading and unloading. Secure doors or latches before operating lift. Students are not to operate the lift.
5. Put the wheelchairs into position and secure them with the fastener. Make sure students keep seat belts fastened.
6. Help seat students, fasten seat belts and shoulder harness around students.
7. Maintain control of student behavior while in route to and from school.
8. Perform any other duties assigned by the Transportation Supervisor.

**C. Duties of the Transportation Utility Worker:**

1. Reports to Transportation lot at designated time to unlock gates and office and perform necessary preparation for getting buses out.
2. Insures that a spare bus is started each day. Keeps spare bus clean and ready to go out on route if needed.
3. Reads gas pumps and records levels in appropriate logs.
4. Washes school buses.
5. Assists in starting buses, particularly in cold weather.
6. Makes minor repairs to buses such as replacing seat covers, changing light bulbs, replacing lenses, etc.
7. Keeps work area around pumps and in driver's room clean. May perform snow removal around pumps or to insure access to driver's room or to gate.
8. Drives spare bus to stranded vehicle when breakdown occurs. May assist in making minor field repairs (such as jump starting a bus) when those are practical.
9. May act as a substitute bus driver on regular route or on field trip.
10. During the summer, is responsible for thorough cleaning, washing and waxing, checkout and minor repair in order to ready buses for annual state inspection. Drives and moves buses during inspection procedure.
11. Performs thorough summer cleaning on the white auxiliary vans (mobile classroom) that go to non-public schools.
12. May drive vehicle (bus or van) to repair shop as needed.
13. Keep updated reports by vendors and insures that vendor's maintenance repair reports are complete.
14. Keeps an accurate record of members using sub buses such as name, bus number, and the date the bus was turned in or taken out.
15. Performs other related duties as assigned by the Transportation Supervisor or Manager.

**D. Duties of Non-CDL Van Driver:**

1. Ensure the safety of students
2. Transport students safely and efficiently to and from school and school-related events

3. Follow assigned routes and schedules
4. Maintain required records and information
5. Report any mechanical problems to the utility worker or supervisor
6. Keep assigned vehicle neat and clean
7. Maintain up-to-date knowledge and awareness of changes in driving laws as they apply to transport school children
8. Obey all traffic laws
9. Observe all mandatory safety regulations for school vans
10. Maintain pupil control and report any violations to the proper authorities
11. Discharge students only at authorized stops
12. Transport only authorized students
13. Report all accidents and complete required reports
14. Enforce applicable federal and state laws, and Board of Education policies
15. Complete established pre-trip inspection of the vehicle
16. Report any hazardous conditions along the existing route to the transportation supervisor
17. Attend transportation meetings and be available in the event of an early dismissal
18. Notify the transportation supervisor in case of illness in order to permit time to secure a substitute driver
19. Conduct emergency evacuation drills
20. Prepare reports, route maps, schedules, pupil lists, and accident reports as required by the State of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Education, and the Board of Education
21. Make contact with the public with tact and diplomacy
22. Maintain respect at all times for confidential information, e.g., student identification information, student medication
23. Interact in a positive manner with staff, students and parents
24. Promote good public relations by personal appearance, attitude, conversation, and the safe and professional operation of a school van



25. Attend meetings and in-services as required
26. Fill out Incident Reports and "Code of Student Behavior" violations
27. Operate the lift while loading and unloading. Secure doors or latches before operating lift. Students are not to operate the lift.
28. Performs all other tasks and responsibilities as assigned by the Transportation Director or Superintendent.

## ARTICLE 23 FRINGE BENEFITS

### A. Holidays:

1. Paid only to members assigned to a regular route. All members shall be granted the following holidays with pay:
 

Labor Day	Thanksgiving Day
Day after Thanksgiving	Christmas Eve Day
Christmas Day	New Year's Eve Day
New Year's Day	Martin Luther King Day
President's Day	Good Friday
Memorial Day	Juneteenth Day <sup>a</sup>
	July 4th <sup>b</sup>
2. President's Day will only be observed if it is approved as part of the school calendar.
3. Any of the enumerated holidays that fall on Saturday shall be observed on Friday, and those falling on Sunday shall be observed on Monday.
4. Members will not be compensated for holidays if they do not accrue earnings for the last regularly scheduled workday immediately preceding or the first scheduled work day immediately following the holiday. In the event the Hamilton City School District must operate on one or more of these days, the members will receive their holiday pay and their regular rate of pay.
5. Employees who are not scheduled to work after Memorial Day shall be required to actually work, or be on a Board-approved paid leave, the last scheduled work day prior to the day Memorial Day is observed. If an employee is scheduled to work after Memorial Day, then Section 4 shall apply and the employee shall be required to work the day immediately preceding and the first work day scheduled after the holiday.

<sup>a</sup> Only for eleven and twelve month employees and for summer workers who actually work the day before and day after Juneteenth.

<sup>b</sup> For twelve month employees only and for summer workers who actually work the day before or day after July 4<sup>th</sup>.

B. Insurance:

Medical, dental, vision and life insurance shall be provided to each member who is assigned to work twenty (20) hours or more per week [See B(1)(2)]. This includes existing members and current substitute names. New members hired after 1/1/03 will be required to work twenty-seven and one-half (27 ½) hours or more per week to qualify for the insurance benefits.

Any new member must complete the necessary insurance forms in the Treasurer's Office by the fifteenth (15th) of the month if the medical insurance and life insurance is to become effective by the first (1st) of the following month. All insurance forms must be submitted within thirty (30) days of the date of employment or the only opportunity to enroll will be during the annual open enrollment period.

1. Medical insurance:

- a. The Board shall contribute 85% of the monthly premium toward monthly single and family plan coverage provided through Butler Health Plan. The Board will contribute 70% of the monthly premium for new members hired after 1/1/03 who work between twenty (20) and twenty-seven and one-half (27½) hours per week.
- b. In the event that a member and his/her spouse are both employed by the Hamilton City School District, and further, that both members are eligible to receive insurance benefits, those members are limited to two (2) single plans or one (1) family plan, unless specifically stated otherwise.

2. Dental insurance:

- a. The Board of Education shall contribute 85% of the monthly premium for dental insurance toward monthly single and family plan coverage provided through Butler Health Plan.
- b. In the event that a member and his/her spouse are both employed by the Hamilton City School District and, further, that both members are eligible to receive insurance benefits, those members may opt to receive two (2) single plans or one (1) family plan.

3. Vision insurance:

- a. The Board shall contribute 85% of the monthly premium for vision insurance toward monthly single and family plan coverage.
- b. In the event that a member and his/her spouse are both employed by the Hamilton City School District and, further, that both members are eligible to receive insurance benefits, those members may opt to receive two (2) single plans.

4. Insurance Bonus:

- a. Each year members not wishing to participate in the Medical, Dental, and/or Vision insurance will receive a \$500.00 lump-sum payment. Once a member has determined his/her insurance status, no change can be made for the balance of the plan year except due to change in family status or employment status of the member or the member's spouse.
  - 1) Those members that elect the \$500.00 bonus will not be eligible to sign up for a Medical, Dental, and/or Vision Plan until the sign-up period, which shall occur once each year (November 1-30), with the lump-sum payment of \$500.00 to be paid by the second payroll in January.
  - 2) A member and his/her spouse who are both employed by the Hamilton City School District and are eligible for insurance benefits shall be eligible for the bonus if one (1) member elects family coverage and the second member elects no insurance as stated above.

5. Life Insurance:

The Board of Education shall provide group life insurance and accidental death, dismemberment coverage in the amount of \$30,000.00 or two (2) times salary; whichever is greater to each participating member.

- 6. The parties agree to the changes in medical benefits as determined by the Insurance Committee.

C. Vacation:

- 1. Members must be in continuous service 180 school days to be eligible for vacation. All vacation will be credited as of the member's anniversary date.
- 2. All applicable members shall take their earned vacation during the fall break, teacher work days, winter and spring vacations. Any remaining earned vacation granted to members will be paid in lieu of time off. This compensation will be paid with the second pay in June.
- 3. The utility worker will take earned vacation at any time during the year with prior approval of the Transportation Supervisor.
- 4. In the event of termination or discharge, the member will be paid for earned but unused vacation days. In the event of death, the member's beneficiary will be paid the remaining balance of earned vacation.

5. Vacation days shall be granted as follows:

	Before 7/1/97 (work days)	On or after 7/1/97 (work days)
a. After one (1) contract year & up to nine years continuous service	11	5 ½
b. Nine (9) yrs. continuous service	12	6
c. Ten (10) yrs. continuous service	13	6 ½
d. Eleven (11) yrs. continuous service	14	7
e. Twelve (12) yrs. continuous service	15	7 ½
f. Thirteen (13) yrs. or more continuous service	16	8
g. Twelve (12) month utility worker after seventeen (17) years	24	24

6. Any member hired by the Board after December 31, 1999 shall not be eligible to receive or accrue vacation days pursuant to this Article.

**ARTICLE 24  
FIELD TRIP ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. The definition of a "Field Trip" shall be, a trip that the School District offers students to enhance or supplement the educational experience. Field Trips include events or activities where students leave the school building grounds for the purpose of study as part of the classroom experience, or outdoor education related to the curriculum, and athletic events. All field trip assignments will be made by the Transportation Supervisor. All field trips will be posted on the board at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance and bargaining members shall be given the first opportunity to bid and drive these trips in accordance with the following procedures. Once a posted field trip has been awarded, any time change regarding the trip must be communicated to that driver by office personnel. In the event the Supervisor has less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice of a field trip, the Supervisor shall attempt to assign the trip to a regular driver unless there is an emergency. In that event, announcements of the trip shall be made over the radio when possible.

- B. The following guidelines will normally be used to determine field trip assignments:
1. Members with regular routes with the fewest number of cumulative hours for field trips for the current school year will be given first priority.
  2. Substitute employees will only be assigned if regular members do not sign up.
  3. When an individual is appointed to a regular route, he/she will assume the average number of hours accumulated for field trips by the top three (3) drivers and the lowest three (3) drivers average number of hours as of the date of the assignment.
  4. The use of an ortho/lift bus for field trips will require the assignment of a bus aide.
  5. Non-CDL van drivers may be offered a field trip provided bus drivers have not signed up and the field trip requires a van.
  6. The annual Kings Island trips on the weekend will be posted as "drivers/aides will stay with the trip." Kings Island trips during the week will be posted as "drop and pick" and paid at a minimum of 5.5 hours, plus 20 minute safety check.
  7. A member must work at least one-half (1/2) (or two-thirds (2/3) if a mid-day is assigned) of the member's regularly-assigned routes that day in order to take a field trip. If a member fails to satisfy this requirement, the field trip shall be reassigned to the member who signed up to drive a field trip that day and who has the lowest field trip hours.
- C. When field trips pay no more than two (2) hours, that fact will be indicated when posted.
- D. If a member is not notified that a field trip is cancelled more than one (1) hour in advance (excluding a.m. elementary), or too many buses have been ordered and the bus is not required, the member will receive two (2) hours pay. If a member's field trip is canceled, at least two (2) hours in advance of the trip, that member may bump a non-bargaining unit employee from a field trip so long as the driver can still work their regular route. The supervisor will contact the member should this occur.
- E. A member who refuses a field trip after an assignment has been made, without an approved reason, will have twice the field trip hours added to his/her accumulated field trip time hours. However, if a previously-accepted field trip changes in time by more than two (2) hours from the posted trip time when originally accepted, the member may turn the trip down, without penalty, if the member provides at least forty-eight (48) hours notice to the Transportation Supervisor. If a member is excused from an assigned field trip, the Transportation Supervisor will make the assignment in the most practical manner. If a driver/aide has accepted a field trip assignment and the field trip is changed to a "drop and pick," the driver/aide may turn the trip back in without penalty to their trip hours.
- F. Relinquishing routes:
1. In order for a member to take his/her route off, he/she must work with the Supervisor to make sure their route is covered either by doubling up, combining routes or a substitute is available.

G. Summer field trips/summer school:

1. Summer field trips shall be assigned by seniority rotation to members requesting such trips. If a member cannot be reached or a member refuses a trip, the next driver in terms of seniority shall be assigned the field trip. This procedure shall be followed until the seniority list has been exhausted.
2. Once the seniority list has been exhausted, assignments shall be made by starting at the top of the seniority list. Any dispute arising as a result of this procedure may be grieved within ten (10) days of the first day of the Hamilton City School year.
3. A list will be posted late in the school year for members to sign up to do summer school routes. The routes will be available close to the end of the regular school year and those signed up will be able to choose their route by seniority. The remaining members who signed up who did not receive a summer school route will be substitutes for those routes. If the assigned summer school member is off for any reason, either one (1) or more than one (1) day, the most senior substitute member will remain on that route until the assigned member returns or the summer school program ends. A driver must be available for the whole duration of the summer school route in order to bid. However, a driver may miss up to seven (7) days for any reason and still be able to bid on the route.

H. Three o'clock field trips:

Any regular members are eligible to sign up for these trips. In order for a member to take a 3:00 trip, he/she must work with the Supervisor and ensure that his/her regular route is covered. If the regular route is not covered satisfactorily, the member may not take this field trip.

I. Use of school vans:

The Board shall have the authority to utilize up to three (3) school vans to transport teams and groups out of the District and within the District without following procedures contained in this agreement for the assignment of field trips. However, vans may only be utilized when the need to transport involves nine (9) students or less per trip/event. The Board shall not be required to use bus drivers to drive vans to transport students in accordance with this provision. However, if the Board does use bus drivers to transport students in accordance with this provision, they shall be compensated in accordance with this Article and this collective bargaining agreement. All Saturday or Sunday trips utilizing a school van must be driven by a bargaining unit member. If a trip is nine (9) passengers or less, management can use a non-CDL van driver to run the trip during peak hours (defined as 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The member who was assigned the trip may still be expected by management to cover a portion of that route and will suffer no loss in pay for that trip.

- J. The employer shall schedule field trips using member drivers. However, the employer shall be authorized to charter to outside contractors up to twelve (12) charter buses each academic year and utilize outside contractors for operating those charter buses. Any charter bus used beyond twelve (12) in any given academic year (8/1 through 5/31), will require the next driver in rotation to be compensated for the number of hours the charter

bus was utilized. The Union President will be notified in writing when the Board chooses to utilize a charter bus.

## **ARTICLE 25 COMPENSATION**

- A. Members will be paid at the following rates for any work performed. Work is defined as daily driving time, field trip time, and any extra time not related to the transportation of students. Field trip time is defined as the time a bus leaves the lot to the time it arrives back to the lot (if applicable, a maximum of thirty (30) minutes - high school; twenty (20) minutes - junior high school; and fifteen (15) minutes - elementary school). Any additional time for a field trip is to be listed under delay time with an explanation.
- B. A member who is qualified for an OBI position shall receive an additional \$2.00 per hour while training.
- C. The salary schedules are attached as Exhibit A.
- D. In order to be credited with a year's experience credit on the Salary Schedule, a member must be compensated for 120 days or more in one (1) school year. There will be no carry over of days from year to year.
- E. Members on field trips **MUST** stay with their bus or be on the grounds during the entire field trip, except for meal breaks if facilities for a meal are not provided.
- F. When trips require an overnight stay, members shall be provided with free lodging separate from students and teachers subject to approval and site selection by the Transportation Supervisor.
- G. Members will be paid thirty (30) minutes each day to conduct a safety check. There shall be a safety check of twenty (20) minutes for each field trip. There shall be a regular safety check of thirty (30) minutes whenever a bus is being used for the first time on any day. In no circumstances will a driver be paid twice for the same safety check time. Drivers who do not have a properly cleaned bus and/or sub buses at the end of the day will be reduced fifteen (15) minutes in pay.
- H. Members will be compensated for route time plus safety check time when the Hamilton City Schools are scheduled to be in session according to the school calendar adopted by the Hamilton Board of Education. Members who are required to work on days that the Hamilton City Schools are not scheduled to be in session will be compensated at their regular rate for actual hours worked and safety check time or for a minimum of two (2) hours and safety check time, whichever is greater. If a Hamilton City School(s) is not in session due to a calamity, members will be compensated according to Article 12. Drivers and aides with routes during a Hamilton City School break may choose to take off that time without penalty only if another driver or aide takes the work. In such instance, the route will be posted and bid by seniority to drivers/aides who want to take the extra work. If no driver/aide bids on the extra work, then the work will be offered to substitutes or non-bargaining unit employees. If no such employees take the extra work, then the driver or aide shall be responsible for performing this work.

- I. Members will be paid for any delayed time that is ten (10) or more minutes per day. Delayed time must be approved by the Transportation Supervisor before it is listed on the time sheet.
- J. When a member is required to "double-up" on a route, he/she shall be paid an additional thirty (30) minutes or the actual time driven, whichever is greater subject to approval by the Transportation Supervisor.
- K. Drivers will be paid for fifteen (15) hours for completing required paperwork during the year. These additional hours are to be paid at straight time and are not subject to overtime. Seven (7) hours will be paid on the first paycheck in December and eight (8) hours will be paid on the first paycheck in April.
- L. Scheduled and Unscheduled Early Release Call-in Bonus:  
  
In no event shall members suffer loss of pay on their regular routes due to the early dismissal. Members who have an early dismissal on their routes and cannot be at the school dismissing early no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the designated dismissal time will not be assigned the early dismissal. The early dismissal will be assigned to another employee who can be at the school at the designated dismissal time.
- M. Any member leaving the lot for a regularly scheduled assignment or field trip will be paid a minimum of two (2) hours plus applicable safety check time. This will include a.m., mid-day, and p.m. assignments.
- N. Mid-days/Early dismissals:
  - 1. Mid-day and early dismissal routes will be offered to members by seniority rotation before these routes are assigned to substitute employees. A member who refuses two (2) times in any given month to drive/aide on these routes when offered shall be removed from the rotation list for the succeeding month, but shall be placed on the list thereafter. Any work related duties will not count toward the two (2) times refused. When a member is scheduled to be off work for more than one (1) consecutive workday, that member's mid-day route will be assigned to the next senior member on the seniority list who is not assigned a mid-day or special route. Upon return to work, the member off work will be returned to his/her regular route.
  - 2. Members assigned to mid-day/late p.m. routes are eligible to sign up on the sub list. The mid-day "sign up" sub list will be posted in August and January. Each mid-day will be paid a minimum of two (2) hours. Mid-days may not run concurrently - meaning the verified end time of the first mid-day may not overlap with the scheduled start time of the second mid-day by more than 15 minutes. Any member relinquishing a mid-day assignment is ineligible to bid on or sub on a mid-day for the remainder of the year.
  - 3. A driver or aide who takes a mid-day aide assignment will be paid at their hourly rate of pay based on their current pay step on the drivers or aide scale. Aides shall bid on routes/mid-days prior drivers bidding on open mid-day aide routes. However, any driver, as of August 1, 2022, who serves as an aide on a mid-day route shall continue to have rights to bid on aide routes in future years. If such



drivers elect to not bid on an aide route, then, in such event, they shall lose their priority status in the rotation.

- O. Members will be paid an additional amount at the end of the school year on the following basis for not being absent from work.
1. Zero to one day: \$700
  2. More than one day but up to three days: \$550
  3. More than three days but no more than five days: \$400
    - a. All absences will count towards the attendance bonus except as follows:
      - 1) Death in the Immediate Family up to a maximum of 3 per contract year.
      - 2) Professional leave/union business.
      - 3) Unrequested leave, except for discipline or failure of drug or alcohol test.
      - 4) Jury duty or required court appearance on behalf of Hamilton City School District.
      - 5) Personal leave.
    - b. Members must be employed by October 15 to be eligible for bonus.
    - c. All time off without pay, except field trips, will count as an absence for purposes of the attendance bonus.
- P. Alterations on the time sheets will only be made by the Transportation Supervisor. These changes will be discussed with the member before the time sheets go to the payroll office.
- Q. The Board shall pay the cost of the required Driving Abstract for regular drivers.
- R. Notwithstanding the exceptions noted, below, twenty-four (24) pay periods will be the standard procedure, and a list of pay dates and procedures will be submitted to each employee on or before the first payday in September.
1. All employees hired on or after August 1, 2024 shall be paid via twenty (20) pay periods based on a nine-month pay schedule.
  2. Nine-month employees hired prior to August 1, 2024 shall be given the opportunity to be paid via twenty (20) pay periods based on a nine-month pay schedule, or to be paid via twenty-four (24) pay periods based on pay stretched over twelve (12) months. In the first year of this Agreement, the employee must notify the Treasurer by August 1, 2024 of their intent to be paid on a nine-month pay schedule; and in subsequent years by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Employees electing to be paid on a nine-month pay schedule shall be locked-in to that pay schedule for the remaining term of this Master Agreement.

3. Paydays shall fall on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. If the regular payday falls on a scheduled holiday, the deposit will be made on the workday preceding the holiday, but not before the Tuesday prior to payday.

S. License and tests:

1. The Board shall pay up to a maximum of one hundred dollars (\$100) for the test and license costs, which members may incur in order to meet new State and/or Federal licensing requirements and maintain their driving status. The Board shall provide any required physical examination for members and the drivers will be paid a one (1) hour minimum for attendance.
2. Further, the Board agrees to place any member who fails the test on a leave of absence, without pay or benefits, for a period of six (6) months or three (3) tests, whichever first occurs. Upon the successful completion of three (3) tests or six (6) months, the leave shall expire and all obligations toward the member shall cease.
  - a. During such unpaid leave, the member may continue in the district's medical insurance plans. Such participation shall be at the member's expense. Arrangements for such continuation of insurance must be made with the Office of the Treasurer in advance.

T. Direct Deposit:

Member's paychecks shall be direct deposited to member's account.

U. Bus Inspection Compensation:

Utilization of employees for work related to bus inspections/cleaning does not require a selection of bargaining unit members based on a rotating seniority list. Individuals will be selected based on qualifications and availability. Any bargaining unit member wishing or desiring to be available for this work may sign up for this work at the beginning of each academic year.

- V. Extra work assignments will be made by seniority rotation to members who have signed up in August and again in January for the remainder of the school year. New hires will be permitted to sign the list when hired.

## **ARTICLE 26 LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

A Labor Management Committee ("LMC") shall be created, which shall consist of no more than three (3) members selected by the Association President (with not more than two (2) employees from a particular classification), and no more than three (3) members selected by the Superintendent (one (1) of whom shall be the Transportation Supervisor). The purpose of the LMC shall be to assist with personnel and other mutual problems, interests or concerns; to foster improved communication between management and employees; and to improve working conditions and employee satisfaction. The function of the LMC shall be limited to an advisory rather than a decision-making capacity. The LMC will recommend solutions to identified problems. The LMC shall meet not less than once per month during the school year, or as often as mutually agreed. The LMC shall operate under guidance of co-chairs, one to be selected by

management and one by the Association. The co-chairs shall prepare a common, written agenda for each meeting to be distributed to all LMC members at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 27 MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

- A. The Board of Education will provide, at no cost to the member, a comprehensive full-service Member Assistance Program.
- B. This program will provide confidential, professional consultation and assessment/referral services to members whose job performance are or may be adversely affected by alcoholism, emotional problems, family discord, drug dependence, stress, financial or legal trouble, or other personal problems.
- C. The existence of and/or participation of a member in the Member Assistance Program will not prevent discipline and/or termination of the member for acts of misconduct whether or not related to the existence of a problem for which the member is utilizing the Member Assistance Program.
- D. If a member is referred to EAP, he/she shall attend at least one (1) session at the referred agency.

#### **ARTICLE 28 OUTSOURCING**

During the term of this collective bargaining agreement, August 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, the Board agrees that it will not outsource bargaining unit work. The Board's continued use of third-party service providers for non-CDL positions to transport students shall not result in the layoff or displacement of any member of the bargaining unit.

#### **ARTICLE 29 MISCELLANEOUS**

- A. Savings Clause:

Should any provision of this Agreement be found to be in violation of any Federal, State, or Municipal Law, or Order by a Court of competent jurisdiction, or Federal or State Administrative Ruling, all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of this policy. Any provisions in this Agreement found to be in violation will be discussed and resolved by a meeting of the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and OAPSE, Local 711.

- B. Complete Agreement:

This Agreement supersedes and cancels all previous Agreements, whether verbal or written or based on alleged past practices, between the school district and the Association and constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties.

C. Closure:

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations, which resulted in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals on any subject within the scope of negotiations. The understanding and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of the right, constitutes the entire contract between them and settles all demands and issues on the matters within the scope of negotiations.

**ARTICLE 30  
UNION RIGHTS**

A. Bulletin Board/In-House Mail:

OAPSE, Local 711 will be allowed to place a bulletin board for its exclusive use in a space provided by the Transportation Supervisor. This bulletin board shall be provided and installed by the Association at its own expense. This board shall not carry any data of a negative nature regarding the employer.

B. The Union President shall have the right to use the following: fax machine, telephone, copier, and school mail. The Union will reimburse the Board for any reasonable costs associated with this. Such use shall not unreasonably interrupt the normal operations of the District.

C. Conference:

The release of personnel to serve as official delegates to the Annual OAPSE Conference will be limited to one (1) delegate for each one hundred (100) members, or fraction thereof, of the Union and the Union President. The number of days without loss of pay shall be limited to no more than five (5) days annually. In addition, this privilege shall be extended to any State Office holder in the local OAPSE Union. Notification of delegate status and intent to attend said meetings shall be presented to the Superintendent or his/her designee at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting date.

D. The Board and its employees shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of the City of Hamilton or any other Civil Service Commission, or otherwise be governed by the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 124 or statutes in lieu thereof as allowable by law, except as specifically and expressly set forth in this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 31  
RETROACTIVE PAY**

In the event that a collective bargaining agreement is ratified at a time after the effective date of the collective bargaining agreement and the Board and OAPSE agree to retroactive pay, only those employees employed during this interim period of time who have actually worked and have retired for SERS retirement purposes and have processed their retirement through SERS, shall receive retroactive pay between the effective date of the contract and their last day worked. Such employee shall also have their final average salary recalculated and receive any additional severance pay as a result of the recalculation of their last year's current salary.

**ARTICLE 32  
TERM OF AGREEMENT**

This Agreement is the complete Agreement between the parties and shall be in full force and effect from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027. All items are complete for the entire term of the Agreement.

In witness thereof, the parties hereto have set their hand this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2024.

REPRESENTATIVES FOR BUS  
DRIVERS, AIDES, & UTILITY  
WORKERS, LOCAL #711 OF THE  
OHIO ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES


HAMILTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

  
President Local #711

  
Bargaining Team Member

  
Bargaining Team Member

  
Bargaining Team Member

  
Bargaining Team Member

 OAPSE Staff

  
Board President

  
Treasurer

# **EXHIBIT A** **Salary Schedules**

Salary Schedule - 2024-2025						Salary Schedule - 2025-2026						Salary Schedule - 2026-2027					
Step	Drivers	Step	Non-CDL	Step	Aides	Step	Drivers	Step	Non-CDL	Step	Aides	Step	Drivers	Step	Non-CDL	Step	Aides
1	\$20.68	1	\$18.50	1	\$16.33	1	\$21.30	1	\$19.06	1	\$16.82	1	\$21.93	1	\$19.63	1	\$17.32
2	\$21.10	2	\$19.14	2	\$17.19	2	\$21.73	2	\$19.72	2	\$17.71	2	\$22.38	2	\$20.31	2	\$18.24
3	\$21.52	3	\$19.75	3	\$17.98	3	\$22.17	3	\$20.34	3	\$18.52	3	\$22.83	3	\$20.95	3	\$19.07
4	\$21.94	4	\$20.41	4	\$18.87	4	\$22.60	4	\$21.02	4	\$19.44	4	\$23.28	4	\$21.65	4	\$20.02
5	\$22.61	5	\$21.12	5	\$19.64	5	\$23.29	5	\$21.76	5	\$20.23	5	\$23.98	5	\$22.41	5	\$20.83
6	\$23.28	6	\$21.87	6	\$20.45	6	\$23.98	6	\$22.52	6	\$21.06	6	\$24.70	6	\$23.20	6	\$21.69
7	\$23.98	7	\$22.60	7	\$21.21	7	\$24.70	7	\$23.28	7	\$21.85	7	\$25.44	7	\$23.97	7	\$22.51
8	\$24.94	8	\$23.48	8	\$22.02	8	\$25.69	8	\$24.19	8	\$22.68	8	\$26.46	8	\$24.91	8	\$23.36
9	\$25.93	9	\$24.34	9	\$22.74	9	\$26.71	9	\$25.07	9	\$23.42	9	\$27.51	9	\$25.82	9	\$24.12
10	\$26.98	10	\$25.28	10	\$23.58	10	\$27.79	10	\$26.04	10	\$24.29	10	\$28.62	10	\$26.82	10	\$25.01
12	\$27.65	12	\$25.73	12	\$23.81	12	\$28.48	12	\$26.51	12	\$24.53	12	\$29.34	12	\$27.30	12	\$25.26
14	\$28.35	14	\$26.20	14	\$24.05	14	\$29.20	14	\$26.98	14	\$24.77	14	\$30.07	14	\$27.79	14	\$25.52
16	\$29.05	16	\$26.67	16	\$24.29	16	\$29.93	16	\$27.47	16	\$25.02	16	\$30.82	16	\$28.30	16	\$25.77
18	\$29.78	18	\$27.16	18	\$24.54	18	\$30.67	18	\$27.97	18	\$25.27	18	\$31.59	18	\$28.81	18	\$26.03
20	\$30.52	20	\$27.65	20	\$24.78	20	\$31.44	20	\$28.48	20	\$25.52	20	\$32.38	20	\$29.34	20	\$26.29
22	\$31.29	22	\$28.21	22	\$25.03	22	\$32.23	22	\$29.05	22	\$25.78	22	\$33.19	22	\$29.92	22	\$26.55