

CONTRACT BETWEEN

THE BLOOMSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

AND

BLOOMSBURG AREA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2030

Table of Contents

PREAMBLE.....	1
ARTICLE I – RECOGNITION.....	1
ARTICLE II – GENERAL PROVISIONS	1
ARTICLE III – NO DISCRIMINATION.....	2
ARTICLE IV – GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE	2
ARTICLE V – ASSOCIATION RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES	5
ARTICLE VI – NO LOCKOUT – NO STRIKE	6
ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES	6
ARTICLE VIII – PERSONNEL FILE.....	8
ARTICLE IX – TEMPORARY LEAVES OF ABSENCES.....	8
ARTICLE X - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT.....	10
ARTICLE XI – HOSPITALIZATION AND MEDICAL INSURANCE	11
ARTICLE XII – VISION INSURANCE	13
ARTICLE XIII – DENTAL INSURANCE	14
ARTICLE XIV – LIFE INSURANCE	15
ARTICLE XV – PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION.....	15
ARTICLE XVI – RETIREMENT SEVERANCE	17
ARTICLE XVII – MISCELLANEOUS	18
ARTICLE XVIII – SCOPE OF AGREEMENT.....	18
ARTICLE XIX – DURATION OF AGREEMENT	18
Step Progression Chart.....	20
SALARY SCHEDULES	21

PREAMBLE

AGREEMENT MADE this ____ day of _____ by and between the BLOOMSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT, hereinafter referred to as the "District" or the "Board" and the BLOOMSBURG AREA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, hereinafter referred to as the Association".

ARTICLE I – RECOGNITION

SECTION 1.01

The Board hereby recognizes the Association as the exclusive and sole representative for collective bargaining in accordance with Act 195 (Public Employee Relations Act) for all employees included in the bargaining unit. The bargaining unit shall be defined as all full-time and regular part-time teachers, school counselors, and school nurses exclusive of supervisors and confidential employees as defined in the Act.

ARTICLE II – GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 2.01

The term "teacher", unless otherwise indicated, shall refer to all employees represented by the Association in the bargaining unit.

SECTION 2.02

Reference made to the pronoun "he/his" shall include all gendered teachers.

SECTION 2.03 - Modification

This agreement shall not be modified in whole or in part by the parties except by an instrument, in writing, duly executed by both parties.

SECTION 2.04 – Policy Handbook

Members of the bargaining unit shall have access to the District's policy manual online through BoardDocs.

SECTION 2.05 – Printing of Agreement

Copies of this Agreement shall be prepared at the Board's expense within thirty (30) days, if feasible, after the Agreement is signed and shall be presented to all teachers now employed and to those new teachers upon employment..

SECTION 2.06

Whenever any notice is required to be given by either of the parties to this Agreement to the other party, pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, either party shall do so by certified letter at the following address:

(1) Association to Board: If by Association to Board, the address to be used is 728 East Fifth Street, Bloomsburg, PA 17815.

(2) Board to Association: If by Board to Association, the address to be used is the address of the President of the Bloomsburg Area Education Association.

ARTICLE III – NO DISCRIMINATION

SECTION 3.01

The Bloomsburg Area School District and the Bloomsburg Area Education Association agree not to discriminate in any way against employees covered by this Agreement on account of race, religion, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, political and organizational affiliations, and mental or physical handicap.

ARTICLE IV – GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

SECTION 4.01-Definitions

Grievance - A "grievance" shall mean a claim by a member of the bargaining unit or a group of the same that there has been a misinterpretation of the provisions of this bargaining agreement.

Days - The term "days" when used in this article shall, except where otherwise indicated, mean working school days. Weekend or vacation days shall be included only in the event that a grievance is filed at such a time that it cannot be processed through all the steps of the grievance procedure by the end of the school year.

SECTION 4.02-Time Limits

Since it is important that grievances be processed as rapidly as possible, the number of days indicated at each level should be considered as a maximum and every effort should be made to expedite the process. All time limits may be extended by mutual agreement in writing.

SECTION 4.03-Waiver of Appeal

The failure of a teacher to proceed to the next step of the grievance procedure within the time limits set forth, unless delay is justified by undue hardship, shall be deemed to be acceptance of the decision previously rendered and shall constitute a waiver of any further appeal concerning that particular grievance. The failure of an administrator, at any step to communicate his decision to the teacher within the specified time limits shall permit the teacher to proceed to the next step.

SECTION 4.04-Representation

The aggrieved professional employee(s) shall be personally present at all steps in the grievance procedure. All members of a group grievance need not attend all steps in the grievance procedure. If the aggrieved employee(s) is/are to be represented at any step of the procedure, full and complete notice of such representation must appear on the grievance form.

The aggrieved professional employee or a group of employees shall have the right, at any time, to present grievances to their Employer and to have them adjusted without intervention of the bargaining representative as long as the adjustment is not inconsistent with the terms of the Agreement: AND, provided further THAT the bargaining representative has been given an opportunity to be present at such adjustment.

SECTION 4.05-Grievance Forms

All necessary forms for filing grievances shall be provided by the Association.

SECTION 4.06-Grievance Contents

Written grievances must contain the following:

- (1) Nature of the grievance.
- (2) Specific provision or provisions of the contract on which the grievance is based.
- (3) Relief or remedy requested.
- (4) Signature of the grievant or members of the grievance.

SECTION 4.07-Procedures

Grievances shall be processed in the following manner:

STEP 1

(a) Presentation

A teacher or group of teachers with a grievance shall first discuss it, within ten (10) days that the teacher(s) knew or should have known of said grievance, with his/their principal or direct supervisor with the objective of resolving the matter informally. If the aggrieved is not satisfied, he/they shall file the grievance in writing within five (5) days of the discussion.

(b) Superior's Decision

Within five (5) days of the receipt of the grievance, the principal or direct supervisor shall inform the teacher and the Association President of his decision with rationale and shall render same in writing to said teacher and the Association President.

- (c) The decision at Step 1 shall not be used as a precedent for any subsequent case.

STEP 2

(a) Adverse Decision Appeal

The aggrieved teacher or group of teachers may, within five (5) days of the receipt of an adverse decision from the principal or direct supervisor, appeal same in writing to the Superintendent. If no decision is rendered at Step 1, the aggrieved teacher or group of teachers may, within ten (10) days of submission of said grievance to the principal, file an appeal to the Superintendent concerning that lack of decision.

(b) Hearing

Within five (5) days of receipt of said appeal, the Superintendent or his designated representative shall conduct a hearing.

(c) Hearing Participants

The principal who rendered, or failed to render, a decision in Step 1 shall be notified of the hearing. He shall be permitted to attend and participate in the hearing.

(d) Decision

Within five (5) days of the hearing, the Superintendent shall inform the teacher and the Association President of his decision with rationale and shall render same in writing to the said teacher and the Association President.

(e) School Board

The Superintendent will inform the School Board of the grievance and his/her decision at the time of the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting following the issuance of said decision. In the event that the grievance is not settled as provided in Step (d), the Association may, within ten (10) working days, submit the grievance to the Board. The Board shall consider the matter no later than its next regularly scheduled meeting and shall give its response, in writing, within five (5) working days of its consideration.

(f) Within five (5) days of receiving the written decision of the Superintendent, the Association may request that the grievance be considered by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Mediation.

STEP 3 – MEDIATION

Prior to requesting for an arbitrator to hear the grievance, the parties, upon mutual agreement, may submit the issue for review by a mediator supplied by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Mediation. Each party shall have the opportunity to present their position for consideration by the mediator. The mediator shall offer a non-binding resolution to the matter. The resolution shall only be binding if both parties agree. If either party disagrees with the mediator's resolution, the grievance shall move onto the next step for Arbitration under the contract.

STEP 4 – ARBITRATION

If the grievance is not resolved in Steps 2 and 3, the Association may refer the grievance to binding arbitration in accordance with Section 903 of Act 195 within thirty (30) days after the decision of the Board.

SECTION 4.08

The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties. Each case shall be considered on its merits and the collective bargaining agreement shall constitute the basis upon which the decision shall be rendered in accordance with Act 195, Section 901.

SECTION 4.09

The arbitrator shall neither add to, subtract from nor modify the provisions of this Agreement. The arbitrator shall confine himself to the precise issues submitted for arbitration and shall have no authority to determine any other issues not so submitted to him.

SECTION 4.10

All of the time limits contained in the grievance and arbitration procedures may be extended by mutual agreement. The granting of any extension of any step shall not be deemed to establish a precedent.

SECTION 4.11

All fees and expenses of the arbitrator shall be divided equally between the parties. Each party shall bear the cost of preparing and presenting its own case. Either party desiring a record of the proceedings shall pay for the record and make a copy available without charge to the arbitrator.

SECTION 4.12

The aggrieved employee(s), Association representatives and witnesses shall be paid for a maximum of two (2) days for time lost during regular working hours when served by a subpoena or required to attend arbitration meetings.

SECTION 4.13

Grievances involving more than one grievant but arising from the same circumstances and involving the interpretation or application of the same provision or provisions of the contract may be consolidated.

ARTICLE V – ASSOCIATION RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

SECTION 5.01 – Released Time for Meetings

Formal Association meetings shall not be held during school hours. Emergency situations requiring a meeting during school hours will be subject to the building administrator's approval.

SECTION 5.02 – Use of School Buildings

The Association may use the school building upon prior approval of the principal of the requested building or Operations Director.

SECTION 5.03 – Bulletin Boards

The Association shall have one bulletin board in each faculty lounge (or its designated alternate where there is no faculty lounge) for its exclusive use with mutual agreement by PSEA representative and Board.

SECTION 5.04 – Mail Facilities and Mailboxes

The Association shall have the right to the teachers' mailbox for communications, including the inter-school mailbox facilities.

SECTION 5.05 – Leave for Association Representatives

The Board agrees that two (2) delegates of the Association will be granted a leave without loss of pay to attend the Association's semi-annual House of Delegates meeting and/or President's and Chief Negotiator's Conference for a period not to exceed five (5) days per delegate. The Board shall obtain substitutes who shall be paid by the Association. The Association will notify the Superintendent seven (7) days prior to the meeting of the designated representatives and the days they will be absent.

SECTION 5.06 – Association Business

(a) The Association shall conduct all business outside of working hours. However, officers of the Association and building representatives in each building may conduct Association business during the school day provided it is not done during any person's instructional time. "Instructional time" shall include all class time, study halls, homeroom periods, club time and any other time during which a teacher either instructs or supervises students. Preparation periods, lunch periods and other non-assignment time shall not be construed to be "instructional time."

(b) Employees shall not discuss Association-District business with students.

(c) The Association shall have the right to reasonable use of school equipment when same is not otherwise being used. Such equipment shall include, but not be limited to computers, duplicating equipment, and video equipment and audio equipment. The Association agrees not to use such equipment for propaganda purposes in connection with any contractual disputes with the Board..

SECTION 5.07 – Representation during Investigatory/Disciplinary Meetings

All employees shall have the right to have Association representation present during investigatory and/or disciplinary meetings with Administration. Disciplinary action shall be done in private, away from students, staff, or any outside parties. The building principal will be responsible for obtaining coverage for the Association representative.

ARTICLE VI – NO LOCKOUT – NO STRIKE

SECTION 6.01

Both parties agree to faithfully abide by the provisions of the Pennsylvania Public Employee Relations Act. The Association agrees that members of the bargaining unit will not engage in a strike (as that term is defined in Act 195 and amended by Act 88) during the term of this contract and the Employer pledges that it will not conduct, or cause to be conducted, a lockout during the same period.

SECTION 6.02

Should a strike occur, the Association, within twenty-four (24) hours following the request of the Board, shall:

- (a) Publicly disavow such action by the employees.
- (b) Advise the Board in writing that such employees' actions have not been authorized or sanctioned by the Association.
- (c) Advise employees that it disapproves of such action and instruct them to return to work immediately.
- (d) Take such other positive action as may be necessary to ensure bargaining unit compliance with this no strike pledge.

SECTION 6.03

The Board shall have the right to discipline, suspend, demote or discharge any employee or employees who violate the provisions of Section 6.02 of this article without recourse to the grievance/arbitration procedures of this Agreement except to the extent of determining whether or not the employee did commit any of the above violations. If an arbitrator finds that an employee has committed any of the above violations, he (the arbitrator), shall have no jurisdiction to change or modify the Board's discipline.

ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

SECTION 7.01 – Length of Year

The basic employee work year shall consist of a maximum of 186 days beginning no earlier than the dates referenced directly below, and ending no later than June 30, unless make-up days must be scheduled, and shall include 180 days of student instruction, and six in-service days or Act 80 Days. One of the six in-service days shall be used for parent- teacher conferences. No personal days may be used for the conference day. If a sick day is used, the teacher is responsible to make arrangements for a conference with the parent or guardian at a mutually agreed upon time. The teacher will notify the building administrator of these arrangements.

The work year shall commence no earlier than:

2025-2026: August 13

2026-2027: August 13

2027-2028: August 18

2028-2029: August 16

2029-2030: August 15

The school days prior to Thanksgiving, Winter Break, and Spring Break shall be designated as early dismissal days for students and teachers, which are half days. Teachers will be dismissed no later than one (1) hour after student dismissal.

SECTION 7.02 - Day

The professional employee's day shall consist of 7 ½ hours, inclusive of a thirty (30) minute duty-free lunch period. Two (2) days each week (up to a maximum of seventy-two (72) days) the professional employee's day shall consist of eight (8) hours inclusive of a thirty (30) minute duty-free lunch period. The use of one (1) extra thirty (30) minutes would be up to the discretion of the building administrator with one (1) week notice given to the professional employee. The use of the second extra thirty (30) minutes would be up to the discretion of the professional employee.

Teachers or professional employees shall, upon thirty (30) days' notice, attend and participate in two (2) uncompensated evening events in a school term up to a maximum of two and one-half (2 1/2) hours in any one evening. The notice and event shall be approved by the principal of the school.

In the event of an emergency early dismissal, employees shall be required to remain until dismissed. The principal may dismiss employees when he/she has determined that the student dismissal procedure has been met.

SECTION 7.03 – Extra Pay for Extra Services

If services are required over and above the accumulated time indicated in Sections 7.01 and 7.02, above, it shall be compensated at an hourly rate:

- 2025-2026: Thirty-Five (35) dollars
 - 2026-2027: Thirty-Seven (37) dollars
 - 2027-2028: Forty (40) dollars
 - 2028-2029: Forty-Three (43) dollars
 - 2029-2030: Forty-Five (45) dollars
- o In addition, reimbursement for travel for homebound Instruction will be at the IRS mileage rate with total mileage being determined upon mutual agreement.

SECTION 7.04 – Planning Period

The District shall provide a planning period during the scheduled student day. The length of the planning period may vary based on the length of the day (Ex: early dismissal, delayed starts due to inclement weather, etc.). On regular scheduled days the length of planning time will be equivalent to that of one class period at the secondary level and the length of an expressive arts period at the elementary level. Therefore, the parties recognize that the scheduling of planning periods is not uniform District-wide. A planning period is defined as:

- A planning period is that period of time during the student day when a member of the bargaining unit shall be released from instruction and/or student contact for the purpose of planning and preparing for instructional activities, performing any duties related to the educational process, or attending to any school-related matter within the employee's area of responsibility.

It is understood that a teacher may be directed to cover a class during their respective guaranteed planning period during the student day. Should this occur, the District will either:

1. Reassign affected teachers planning period to a different time during the student instructional day when the teacher is not assigned to an instructional period (this would take place

within the same day as requested coverage and the length of time would be the same as the planning period scheduled for that individual day), or;

2. Compensate the teacher in the amount of Forty (40) dollars per occurrence.

Section 7.05 Class Absorption

Should a teacher accept students from a separate class due to the unavailability of their assigned teacher, the accepting teacher shall be compensated in the amount of \$125. Should the students of the separate class be divided into smaller groups, the accepting teachers shall be compensated equally by dividing the \$125 between them (i.e., two teachers accept students from one class, each teacher is compensated \$62.50).

ARTICLE VIII – PERSONNEL FILE

SECTION 8.01

An employee shall have the right, upon a reasonable written request, to review the contents of his personnel file with the exception of pre-employment recommendations. Such review shall be in the presence of the Superintendent or his designee

ARTICLE IX – TEMPORARY LEAVES OF ABSENCE

SECTION 9.01

Each teacher shall be entitled to the following temporary leaves of absence with full pay each school year:

(1) Personal (24 hour notice) – Annually, three (3) unrestricted personal leave days for those employees upon hire to ten (10) years of service to the District, and Four (4) unrestricted personal leave days for those employees beginning with their eleventh (11th) year of service to the District, when approved by the building principal, upon 24 hour notice. A limit of ten percent (with any fraction over 10% being rounded up to include the additional teacher) of the teachers, or a minimum of two (2) teachers, assigned to a building may be granted this personal leave on any one (1) day. Leave will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis. Unused leave shall accumulate to a maximum of five (5) days. Unused leave over and above the limit will be redesignated as additional sick leave. It is understood that one personal day annually shall not require any notice or approval from administration.

(2) Sick Leave – Twelve (12) accumulative days per school year to be used in accordance with existing regulations.

(3) Sick Leave Bank

The Association shall establish a sick leave bank to which employees may contribute days of credited sick leave. The Association shall administer the sick leave bank. The Association shall establish rules and regulations, which govern the same; these rules and regulations require approval of the district prior to becoming effective. A list of contributors and a copy of the established rules and regulations shall be given to the district. Any changes or revisions to the rules and regulations shall be subject to approval by the district. The district agrees to honor withdrawals from the bank upon proper certification by the Association.

SECTION 9.02 – Parental/Family Leave

1. Childbearing leave shall be supported by a physician's certificate and any portion of that leave taken by a female employee may be charged to her accumulated sick leave. Employees may retain sick days to be used once they return full-time to service. Retained sick days can be used once an employee returns to full-time status. Childbearing leave shall run concurrent with FMLA.
2. Family leave shall be granted to teachers who are parents of newborn infants, or who become parents of an adopted child of preschool age, immediately following the infant's birth or adoption.

(a) The following guidelines shall be observed:

- 1) The employee shall submit a written request for parental leave to the Board no later than sixty (60) days prior to the commencement of such leave. In case of adoption, the written request shall be as soon as possible.
- 2) If both parents are employees of the district, only one (1) shall be entitled to parental leave.
- 3) Parental leave shall not exceed a maximum of one (1) year.
- 4) The Board shall pay the premium for hospital and medical insurance benefits for an employee on leave for the time period prior to the termination of pregnancy and for three (3) months thereafter less applicable co-pays. The employee may continue to pay said premiums until expiration of the parental leave.
- 5) If the employee decides to pay insurance premiums, the pre-payment of those premiums must be made to the COBRA 3rd party administrator. Failure to remit payment will result in cancellation of insurance policies.
- 6) If the employee fails to return to his teaching position, he shall reimburse the Board for the actual costs of the premium for hospital and medical benefits paid by the district during the leave of absence.
- 7) Notification by the employee of intent to return to employment must be given no later than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the return to service or sixty (60) days if not returning to service.
- 8) Upon return to service from parental leave, employees shall be reinstated to their former position or a substantially equivalent position.
- 9) These employees shall retain all the rights and benefits to which they are entitled prior to said leave. However, if the employees are credited with at least ninety-two (92) instructional days of the academic year during which leave was granted, they shall be entitled to the same salary adjustment as if they had worked the full year.

SECTION 9.03 – Absence Resulting from Injury

Absence resulting from injury and/or assault incurred during the performance of teacher duties shall not result in forfeiture of any sick, personal or emergency days. Teachers shall be fully compensated during any such period of absence.

When Workers' Compensation payments are made, the Board shall pay the difference between Workers' Compensation and the teacher's regular salary.

SECTION 9.04 – Bereavement Leave

- (a) When an employee is absent because of a death of a spouse or child, there shall be no deduction in salary for a period not to exceed five (5) school days. The Board may extend the period of absence with pay at its discretion.
- (b) When an employee is absent because of a death of other members in the immediate family, there shall be no deduction in salary for a period not to exceed three (3) days. The Board may extend the period of absence with pay at its discretion.

Other immediate family shall be defined as father, mother, brother, sister, parent-in-law, or near relative who resides in the same household or any person with whom the employee has made his home

- (c) When an employee is absent because of the death of a near relative, there shall be no deduction in salary for a period not to exceed one (1) day. The Board may extend the period of absence with pay at its discretion.

Near relative shall be defined as first cousin, grandfather, grandmother, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or grandchild.

SECTION 9.05 – Court Leave

Employees who serve as jurors or are subpoenaed as witnesses in court shall not suffer a deduction from their salaries. However, any amounts received from the court for services shall be turned over to the district.

ARTICLE X - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

SECTION 10.01

The Board and the Association encourage the continued professional educational growth, which is in the teacher's field or in the field of education.

SECTION 10.02

The Board will reimburse employees for credits taken in accordance with the following:

- (a) All credits shall be pre-approved by the Superintendent.
- (b) All approved credits and courses will be reimbursed pursuant to this section.
- (c) For an employee to qualify for columnar movement on the salary schedule the employee shall be required to complete graduate level courses.
- (d) If the Superintendent denies approval for any credits pursuant to this Section, the teacher may request the Continuing Professional Education Committee to review the request. Should the Committee find that the requested course or program is consistent with the Continuing Professional Education Plan, the Committee will recommend approval for reimbursement by the Board. The Board has final approval during this appeal process.
- (e) If the District requests an employee to enroll in a class, that employee will be reimbursed pursuant to this Section.

(f) The teacher has submitted a request for payment, receipt(s), and transcript of completion with a grade of "B" or higher.

(g) Reimbursement will be at the prevailing graduate tuition rate for credit plus related fees at the Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania. If the request is outside the Commonwealth University and approved, the difference of the tuition will be reimbursed at one and one-half (1.5) times the prevailing graduate tuition rate at the Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania, plus related fees.

(h) Reimbursement shall be made no later than forty (40) days following submission of the request and documentation.

SECTION 10.03

Upon request, the Board shall prepay tuition upon enrollment for credits, provided the employee has received the necessary pre-approval and submits a completed enrollment form which can be sent with the payment to the college or university. The request for prepayment must be received 30 days prior to the due date of the tuition payment. Employees who fail to complete the course or who receive a grade lower than "B" shall reimburse the district within forty (40) days.

SECTION 10.04

Employees employed full time during the semester shall be permitted to take and be reimbursed a maximum of six (6) credits per semester up to fifteen credits per school year. Full-time employees shall be permitted to take and be reimbursed a maximum of 15 credits per school year (July 1 to June 30), based on each class's end date. Teachers are permitted to take not more than 6 credits during the spring and fall semesters, unless that individual is on an educational sabbatical leave. Teachers may take any number of credits during the summer sessions, as long as they do not exceed the maximum of 15 credits per school year.

SECTION 10.05

A teacher receiving benefits under this provision shall remain with the school district at least twelve (12) months after completion of course. A teacher who voluntarily terminates employment prior to these twelve (12) months shall reimburse the district for any tuition monies received within forty (40) days of termination date.

Effective July 1, 2025, any teacher who is newly hired for the 2025 - 2026 school year or thereafter, and who receives tuition reimbursement in connection with attaining Level II requirements, shall be subject to a twenty-four (24) month tuition remission payback to the District. Upon receiving one's Level II, the tuition remission payback shall return to the twelve (12) month period.

ARTICLE XI – HOSPITALIZATION AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

SECTION 11.01

- (a) The Board agrees to pay the premium, subject to the employee contribution provided in Section (b) below, for each eligible full-time employee and eligible dependents on the active payroll of a group hospital and medical service plan having benefits comparable to those contained in the GHQ 250 I PPO 250 plan in the "Central Susquehanna Region School Employee Health and Welfare Trust Plan Document" (Hereinafter, "the Trust") The insurance program shall be based on the principle of coordination of benefits. The insurance carrier for these benefits will be determined by the Board, however, should the selected insurance carrier fail to offer the specified

group hospital and medical service plan, or should they alter or remove any benefits from the plan, the district will obtain comparable coverage from another insurance carrier.

- (b) All eligible employees shall contribute to the cost of that coverage in accordance with the following schedule:

Effective Date Amount Contributed Per Year

July 1, 2025 \$2,500 Single/\$3,000 Two-party or more

July 1, 2026 \$2,500 Single/\$3,000 Two-party or more

July 1, 2027 \$2,750 Single/\$3,250 Two-party or more

July 1, 2028 \$3,000 Single/\$3,500 Two-party or more

July 1, 2029 \$3,000 Single/\$3,500 Two-party or more *Employee's contribution to health care shall be deducted in equal installments through payroll deduction through 26 pays.

In the event that a husband and wife are employees of the School District, only one spouse shall be eligible to receive family hospital and medical insurance, and premium deductions will be withheld from only one spouse.

SECTION 11.02

It is agreed and understood that the Board will not in any way be responsible for changes made unilaterally by the carrier(s) to the benefits provided by these alternate plans. The Employer agrees to establish a Flexible Spending Account Plan in accordance with Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Service regulations. The plan will provide legally permissible benefit options, including premium-only plan and flexible spending accounts, to employees in the bargaining unit.

Section 11.03

The District will explicitly notify all employees of impending changes that will be imposed by insurance carriers prior to the open enrollment period.

Section 11.04

If there is coverage from multiple carriers, the responsibility of assessing the best plan for each employee ultimately rests with the employee.

Section 11.05

The District will agree to an ongoing advisory committee to examine health insurance issues in the district comprised of equal representation of members from both the association and the District Administration. The Board retains ultimate decision making authority that may go against the recommendation of the Committee.

Section 11.06

The insurance coverage shall terminate at the end of the policy month in which the employee's active employment with the employer ends, except this insurance coverage shall terminate on August 31 for employees who retire following completion of a full school term.

Section 11.07

The hospitalization and medical service plan is a contract between the Employer and the insurance carrier. No dispute over a claim for any benefits extended by the hospitalization and medical service plan shall be subject to the grievance procedure established in this collective bargaining agreement.

Section 11.08

It is agreed and understood that the Employer does not accept nor is the Employer to be charged with hereby, any responsibility in any manner connected with the determination of liability to any employee claiming under any of the benefits extended by the hospitalization and medical service plan. It is agreed that the Employer's liability shall be limited to the payment of premiums.

Section 11.09 – Payment in Lieu of Hospitalization Coverage

Any full-time employee currently eligible for hospitalization/medical insurance may elect the "medical insurance alternative" compensation plan in effect at the time of this agreement (\$4,000.00 per year) as determined by the board. In order to execute his/her right under this option, the employee must fully execute the "Waiver of Health Insurance Benefit Form" distributed annually by the Business Office. Any employee who has elected this medical insurance alternative, shall be entitled to reinstate his/her insurance coverage at open enrollment or with a written request at any time during the year following a qualifying lifestyle change as provided for in Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code. Once the insurance coverage is reinstated, the extra payment will be pro-rated for the amount of time the employee did not have insurance. Employees must provide verification of coverage under a qualified plan as per the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordability Act and the Health Care in Education Reconciliation Act.

ARTICLE XII – VISION INSURANCE

SECTION 12.01

The district agrees to pay the premium for a group vision insurance plan (insurance carrier to be selected by the Employer) for each eligible full-time professional employee on the active payroll. Coverage shall be Family Plan, listed below as provided by the Central Susquehanna Region Employees' Health and Welfare Trust:

Examination:	UCR	
Frames:	\$36.00	
Lenses:	Single vision	
	Bifocal	-- \$ 30.00
	Trifocal	-- \$ 40.00
	Aphakic	-- \$ 50.00
		-- \$150.00

SECTION 12.02

The insurance shall terminate at the end of the month in which the employee's active employment with the Employer ends.

SECTION 12.03

The group vision insurance is a contract between the Employer and the insurance carrier. No dispute over a claim for vision insurance shall be subject to the grievance procedure established in this collective bargaining agreement.

SECTION 12.04

It is agreed and understood that the Employer does not accept nor is the Employer to be charged with hereby, any responsibility in any manner connected with the determination of liability for payment of vision insurance. It is agreed that the Employer's liability shall be limited to the payment of premiums.

SECTION 12.05

The vision care plan agreement will prevail in all respects as to benefits provided.

ARTICLE XIII – DENTAL INSURANCE

SECTION 13.01

The District agrees to pay the premium for the Central Susquehanna Region School Employees' Health and Welfare Trust Dental Plan 11, which includes the family, or its equivalent (insurance carrier to be selected by the employer) for each eligible full-time professional employee on the active payroll. Maximum yearly benefits equal \$1,000.00.

Section 13.02

The insurance shall terminate at the end of the month in which the employee's active employment with the Employer ends.

Section 13.03

The group dental insurance is a contract between the Employer and the insurance carrier. No dispute over a claim for dental insurance shall be subject to the grievance procedure established in this collective bargaining agreement.

Section 13.04

It is agreed and understood that the Employer does not accept nor is the Employer to be charged with hereby, any responsibility in any manner connected with the determination of liability for payment of dental insurance. It is agreed that the Employer's liability shall be limited to payment of premiums.

Section 13.05

The dental plan agreement will prevail in all respects as to benefits provided.

ARTICLE XIV – LIFE INSURANCE

SECTION 14.01

The District agrees to pay the premium for a group term life insurance (insurance carrier to be selected by the employer) in the amount of \$50,000.00 for each eligible full-time professional employee on the active payroll.

SECTION 14.02

The insurance shall terminate at the end of the month in which the employee's active employment with the Employer ends.

SECTION 14.03

The group term life insurance is a contract between the Employer and the insurance carrier. No dispute over a claim for life insurance shall be subject to the grievance procedure established in this collective bargaining agreement.

SECTION 14.04

It is agreed and understood that the Employer does not accept nor is the Employer to be charged with hereby, any responsibility in any manner connected with the determination of liability for payment of life insurance. It is agreed that the Employer's liability shall be limited to the payment of premiums.

ARTICLE XV – PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION

SECTION 15.01

The salaries to be paid to professional employees are set forth in Exhibits "A" through "E" made a part of this Agreement.

SECTION 15.02

Newly hired full-time employees will be placed on the salary schedule at the step agreed to between the employee and the District. For the 2025-2026 work year, employees shall be placed on the salary schedule as indicated in the attached salary schedules. Thereafter, employees shall move one step annually. Employees may be eligible for columnar movement based on credits earned in any year of this contract.

SECTION 15.03

Part-time employees shall be moved up one step on the salary schedule for each year of part-time service (or 92 days), worked during the term of this contract. Regular part-time employees shall be paid on a pro-rata basis. Employees may be eligible for columnar movement based on credits earned.

SECTION 15.04

Additional graduate credits or approved in-service courses taken after the Masters degree shall be counted for salary purposes only when earned after the date of granting of the Masters degree or the awarding of the Masters Equivalent from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

SECTION 15.05

Movement from one column to another on the salary schedule shall take place at the beginning of the school year only. Credit changes earned during the school year will be effective for the following school year.

SECTION 15.06

Professional compensation shall be based on the number of days in the employee work year and eight (8) hours per workday as specified in Sections 7.01 and 7.02, respectively. In the event it is necessary to make a salary deduction, the per diem deduction shall be computed by dividing the total salary by the total number of workdays as specified in Section 7.01.

SECTION 15.07

Each employee shall be paid in 26 equal installments. An employee who desires to receive his or her summer pay in one installment at the end of the school term is entitled to do so upon written request prior to the first day of school. Deductions for hospital and medical insurance shall be made in equal installments over 26 pays

SECTION 15.08 – Payroll Dues Deduction

The Board shall deduct annual association dues and PACE contributions authorized by the employee, as verified by the Association, and remit said dues to the Bloomsburg Area Education Association.

It shall be the responsibility of the Association to present to the Business Administrator, no later than two weeks prior to the date of the first deduction, an alphabetical listing of those Association members who have submitted properly signed payroll deduction authorization cards. The alphabetical listing submitted by the Association shall be considered final.

Deductions shall be made in equal installments from twenty (20) pay periods. The Board shall transmit a monthly check to the Association in the amount of all dues collected during the month.

Payroll deduction authorization card shall contain the following:

This is to authorize payroll deduction for dues from my pay in the amount determined by the Association and as contractually provided. This authorization will remain in effect unless cancelled in writing fifteen (15) days prior to the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement in effect on this date.

Should any employee resign from the District in mid-year, the Board shall deduct the remaining annual dues from the employee's last paycheck.

Employee Signature

Date

The Association shall indemnify, defend, and save the Board harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability that might arise out of or by reason of action by the Board in making dues deduction in reliance on the alphabetical list submitted by the Association.

SECTION 15.09 – Fair Share

Should this provision be considered lawful, each non-member in the bargaining unit represented by the Association shall be required to pay a fair share fee as provided for by Act 84 of 1988.

The school district and the Association agree to comply with all provisions of said law.

The Association agrees to extend to all non-members the opportunity to join the Association,

ARTICLE XVI – RETIREMENT SEVERANCE

SECTION 16.01

Professional employees at least fifty (50) years of age, or eligible for disability retirement, upon retirement from the field of public education, will be granted retirement severance in the amount of \$100 for each unused sick day.

The school district shall make a non-elective employer contribution to the employee's 403(b) retirement program. The employee shall receive no cash option.

SECTION 16.02

An employee, to be eligible for severance pay shall:

- (a) Submit a valid written irrevocable letter of retirement to the Superintendent on or before March 1, in the last full year of planned employment.
- (b) Submit the official application for retirement benefits to the Pennsylvania Public School Employees Retirement System.

SECTION 16.03

The date of separation from public education is defined as that date which the employee enters on his official application for retirement as the "date on which last service was rendered."

SECTION 16.04

This benefit applies only to employees who qualify for benefits upon retirement under the Pennsylvania Public School Employees Retirement System. The employees who do not qualify for retirement under the Pennsylvania Public School Employees Retirement System for any reason do not qualify for retirement severance under this agreement.

SECTION 16.05

Payment under the provision of this policy is limited to payment upon retirement. This is not a death benefit, no payment will be made upon death. An employee shall be eligible to receive a retirement severance benefit as provided in this article only one (1) time.

SECTION 16.06

This policy applies only to the official provisions for retirement under the Pennsylvania Public School Employees Retirement System and is restricted to superannuation retirement, disability retirement or early retirement. Vesting in excess of one (1) year prior to retirement will preclude payment.

SECTION 16.07

Payment under this policy cannot be assigned or transferred.

ARTICLE XVII – MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 17.01

The Administrative Team of the Bloomsburg Area School District and the Bloomsburg Area Education Association Advisory Council agree to meet upon written request of each party. The meeting shall be held at a mutually agreeable time and place. The initiating party shall submit, in writing, the agenda specifying all of the items to be discussed at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE XVIII – SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

SECTION 18.01

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining, and that the understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement.

SECTION 18.02

Therefore, for the life of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives the right to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter referred to or covered in this Agreement, or with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement, even though such subject or matter may not have been within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both parties at the time they negotiated or signed this Agreement.

ARTICLE XIX – DURATION OF AGREEMENT

SECTION 19.01

This Agreement shall become effective the 1st day of July, 2025 and shall continue in effect until the 30th day of June, 2030. It shall automatically be renewed from year to year thereafter unless either party shall notify the other in writing by such time as would permit the parties to comply with the collective bargaining schedule established under the Public Employee Relations Act. This Agreement shall not be extended orally and it is expressly understood that it shall expire on the date indicated.

SECTION 19.02

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Association has caused this Agreement to be signed by its President and Secretary and the Board has caused this Agreement to be signed by its President, attested by its Secretary on the 29th day of April 2025

BLOOMSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: 
Board President

By: 
Board Secretary

BLOOMSBURG AREA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

By: 
Association President

By: 
Association Secretary

STEP PROGRESSION CHART

2024-2025		2025-2026		2026-2027		2027-2028		2028-2029		2029-2030
1	→	1	→	2	→	3	→	4	→	5
2	→	1	→	2	→	3	→	4	→	5
3	→	1	→	2	→	3	→	4	→	5
4	→	1	→	2	→	3	→	4	→	5
5	→	2	→	3	→	4	→	5	→	6
6	→	3	→	4	→	5	→	6	→	7
7	→	4	→	5	→	6	→	7	→	8
8	→	5	→	6	→	7	→	8	→	9
9	→	6	→	7	→	8	→	9	→	10
10	→	7	→	8	→	9	→	10	→	11
11	→	8	→	9	→	10	→	11	→	12
12	→	9	→	10	→	11	→	12	→	13
13	→	10	→	11	→	12	→	13	→	14
14	→	11	→	12	→	13	→	14	→	15
15	→	12	→	13	→	14	→	15	→	16
16	→	13	→	14	→	15	→	16	→	17
17	→	14	→	15	→	16	→	17	→	17
18	→	15	→	16	→	17	→	17	→	17
19	→	16	→	17	→	17	→	17	→	17
20	→	17	→	17	→	17	→	17	→	17
21	→	17	→	17	→	17	→	17	→	17

SALARY SCHEDULES

BLOOMSBURG EA Salary Schedule 2024-2025							
TO TOP	STEP	B	B+24	M	M+15	M+30	D
20	1	40076	41024	41853	42684	43514	44345
19	2	41628	42793	43654	44512	45357	46199
18	3	43180	44561	45456	46341	47200	48054
17	4	44732	46330	47257	48169	49043	49908
16	5	46284	48099	49059	49998	50886	51763
15	6	47836	49867	50860	51826	52729	53617
14	7	47836	51636	52662	53654	54572	55471
13	8	47836	53405	54463	55483	56415	57326
12	9	47836	55174	56265	57311	58258	59180
11	10	47836	56942	58066	59139	60100	61034
10	11	47836	58711	59867	60968	61943	62889
9	12	47836	60480	61669	62796	63786	64743
8	13	47836	62248	63470	64625	65629	66598
7	14	47836	64017	65272	66453	67472	68452
6	15	47836	65786	67073	68281	69315	70306
5	16	47836	67554	68875	70110	71158	72161
4	17	47836	69323	70676	71938	73001	74015
3	18	47836	71092	72477	73766	74844	75869
2	19	47836	72861	74278	75594	76687	77723
1	20	47836	74630	76079	77422	78530	79577
Top	21	47836	76399	77880	79250	80373	81431
		\$ 1,481		\$ 1,370		\$ 1,123	
				\$ 1,058			

BLOOMSBURG EA
Salary Schedule
2025-2026

To Top	STEP	B	B+24	M	M+15	M+30	D
16	1	51057	54057	56057	58057	60057	62057
15	2	52557	55557	57557	59557	61557	63557
14	3	54057	57057	59057	61057	63057	65057
13	4	55557	58557	60557	62557	64557	66557
12	5	57057	60057	62057	64057	66057	68057
11	6	58557	61557	63557	65557	67557	69557
10	7	60057	63057	65057	67057	69057	71057
9	8	61557	64557	66557	68557	70557	72557
8	9	63057	66057	68057	70057	72057	74057
7	10	64557	67557	69557	71557	73557	75557
6	11	66057	69057	71057	73057	75057	77057
5	12	67557	70557	72557	74557	76557	78557
4	13	69057	72057	74057	76057	78057	80057
3	14	70557	73557	75557	77557	79557	81557
2	15	72057	75057	77057	79057	81057	83057
1	16	73557	76557	78557	80557	82557	84557
Top	17	76057	78057	80057	82057	84057	86057
		\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000

BLOOMSBURG EA							
Salary Schedule							
2026-2027							
TO TOP	STEP	B	B+24	M	M+15	M+30	D
16	1	52357	55857	57857	59857	61857	63857
15	2	53857	57357	59357	61357	63357	65357
14	3	55357	58857	60857	62857	64857	66857
13	4	56857	60357	62357	64357	66357	68357
12	5	58357	61857	63857	65857	67857	69857
11	6	59857	63357	65357	67357	69357	71357
10	7	61357	64857	66857	68857	70857	72857
9	8	62857	66357	68357	70357	72357	74357
8	9	64357	67857	69857	71857	73857	75857
7	10	65857	69357	71357	73357	75357	77357
6	11	67357	70857	72857	74857	76857	78857
5	12	68857	72357	74357	76357	78357	80357
4	13	70357	73857	75857	77857	79857	81857
3	14	71857	75357	77357	79357	81357	83357
2	15	73357	76857	78857	80857	82857	84857
1	16	74857	78357	80357	82357	84357	86357
Top	17	76357	79857	81857	83857	85857	87857
		\$	3,500	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
				\$	2,000	\$	2,000

BLOOMSBURG EA							
Salary Schedule							
2027-2028							
TO TOP	STEP	B	B+24	M	M+15	M+30	D
16	1	55657	57657	59657	61657	63657	65657
15	2	57157	59157	61157	63157	65157	67157
14	3	58657	60657	62657	64657	66657	68657
13	4	60157	62157	64157	66157	68157	70157
12	5	61657	63657	65657	67657	69657	71657
11	6	63157	65157	67157	69157	71157	73157
10	7	64657	66657	68657	70657	72657	74657
9	8	66157	68157	70157	72157	74157	76157
8	9	67657	69657	71657	73657	75657	77657
7	10	69157	71157	73157	75157	77157	79157
6	11	70657	72657	74657	76657	78657	80657
5	12	72157	74157	76157	78157	80157	82157
4	13	73657	75657	77657	79657	81657	83657
3	14	75157	77157	79157	81157	83157	85157
2	15	76657	78657	80657	82657	84657	86657
1	16	78157	80157	82157	84157	86157	88157
Top	17	79657	81657	83657	85657	87657	89657
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000

BLOOMSBURG EA Salary Schedule 2028-2029							
TOTOP	STEP	B	B+24	M	M+15	M+30	D
16	1	57157	59157	61157	63157	65157	65657
15	2	58657	60657	62657	64657	66657	67157
14	3	60157	62157	64157	66157	68157	68657
13	4	61657	63657	65657	67657	69657	70157
12	5	63157	65157	67157	69157	71157	71657
11	6	64657	66657	68657	70657	72657	73157
10	7	66157	68157	70157	72157	74157	74657
9	8	67657	69657	71657	73657	75657	76157
8	9	69157	71157	73157	75157	77157	77657
7	10	70657	72657	74657	76657	78657	79157
6	11	72157	74157	76157	78157	80157	80657
5	12	73657	75657	77657	79657	81657	82157
4	13	75157	77157	79157	81157	83157	83657
3	14	76657	78657	80657	82657	84657	85157
2	15	78157	80157	82157	84157	86157	86657
1	16	79657	81657	83657	85657	87657	89657
Top	17	81157	83157	85157	87157	89157	91157
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000

BLOOMSBURG EA							
Salary Schedule							
2029-2030							
TOTOP	STEP	B	B+24	M	M+15	M+30	D
16	1	58657	60657	62657	64657	66657	68657
15	2	60157	62157	64157	66157	68157	70157
14	3	61657	63657	65657	67657	69657	71657
13	4	63157	65157	67157	69157	71157	73157
12	5	64657	66657	68657	70657	72657	74657
11	6	66157	68157	70157	72157	74157	76157
10	7	67657	69657	71657	73657	75657	77657
9	8	69157	71157	73157	75157	77157	79157
8	9	70657	72657	74657	76657	78657	80657
7	10	72157	74157	76157	78157	80157	82157
6	11	73657	75657	77657	79657	81657	83657
5	12	75157	77157	79157	81157	83157	85157
4	13	76657	78657	80657	82657	84657	86657
3	14	78157	80157	82157	84157	86157	88157
2	15	79657	81657	83657	85657	87657	89657
1	16	81157	83157	85157	87157	89157	91157
Top	17	82657	84657	86657	88657	90657	92657
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
		\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000