

Collective Bargaining Agreement

between

***South St. Paul Public Schools
Special School District No. 6***

and

***South St. Paul Teachers' Association
Local #861***

Effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027

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ARTICLE I

PURPOSE

Section 1. Parties: THIS AGREEMENT is entered into between the Special School District No. 6, South St. Paul, Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the School District, and the South St. Paul Teachers' Association, Local #861, hereinafter referred to as the Exclusive Representative, pursuant to and in compliance with the Public Employment Labor Relations Act of 1971, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the PELRA, to provide the terms and conditions of employment for teachers during the duration of this Agreement.

ARTICLE II

EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE

Section 1. Recognition: In accordance with the PELRA, the School District recognizes the South St. Paul Teachers' Association, Local #861, as the Exclusive Representative of teachers employed by Special School District No. 6, which Exclusive Representative shall have those rights and responsibilities as prescribed by the PELRA and as described in the provisions of this Agreement.

In no event shall the School District enter into individual agreements, either written or verbal, with individual members or groups of members of the bargaining unit relative to compensation, duties or working conditions without the express knowledge and written consent of the Exclusive Representative. Such written agreement shall be signed by the same positioned officers, for the Exclusive Representative, that ratified this contract.

Section 2. Appropriate Unit: The Exclusive Representative shall represent all the teachers of the School District, as defined in this Agreement and in the PELRA.

Section 3. Release Time for Negotiations: When negotiating sessions are scheduled by mutual consent between the Exclusive Representative and the School District or state mediator during school hours, up to seven members of the teachers negotiating team, plus a recorder, will be released from their regular teaching responsibilities for this purpose without any loss of salary. The cost of substitute teachers shall be paid by the Exclusive Representative.

Section 4. Staff Development/Continuing Education Committees: Teacher members of the District and Building Staff Development Committees, and the Continuing Education Committee, shall be appointed by the Exclusive Representative. The District shall work with the Exclusive Representative, through these committees, to provide teachers with opportunities for training relative to the re-licensure requirements established by the Legislature/State Department of Education. Ultimate responsibility for re-licensure remains with the teacher.

Section 5. Exclusive Representative Business Days:

Subd. 1. Number of days: The Exclusive Representative shall be credited with twenty-five (25) days per year to be used by teachers to perform the duties and responsibilities of the Exclusive Representative. Requests shall be initiated by the President of the Exclusive Representative and approved by the superintendent or designee. The cost of substitute teachers shall be paid by the Exclusive Representative.

Subd. 2. Request procedure: A written request specifying the dates and times off shall be filed with the superintendent at least five (5) working days in advance of the date upon which the time off will commence. This notice may be waived by the superintendent or designee.

Section 6: President Release: The Teacher's Union President shall be provided with .4 FTE release time. The President will be entitled to the release time without loss of pay, benefits, retirement pay, or seniority, in order to conduct duties as the SSPTA President.

ARTICLE III

DEFINITIONS

Section 1. Terms and Conditions of Employment: "Terms and conditions of employment" means the hours of employment, the compensation therefore, including fringe benefits, except TRA (Teachers Retirement Association) contributions or benefits, and the employer's personnel policies affecting the working conditions of the employees. In the case of professional employees the term does not mean educational policies of the School District. The terms in both cases are subject to the provisions of PELRA.

Section 2. Teacher: The term "teacher" shall mean all teachers in the appropriate unit in a position for which the person must be licensed or certified by the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB), in a position providing instruction to children in a pre-kindergarten or early learning program pursuant to MN Statute 179A.03, or are otherwise defined as teacher in MN Statute 179A.03, but excluding the following: superintendent, assistant superintendent, confidential employees, supervisory employees, essential employees, and such other employees excluded by law as determined by the Bureau of Mediation Services, as well as principals, assistant principals and administrative assistants to principals who devote more than 50% of their time to administrative or supervisory duties.

Section 3. District or School District: For purposes of administering this Agreement, the word/term, "District/School District" shall mean the School Board or its designated representative(s).

Section 4. Paid Administrative Leave: "Paid Administrative Leave" refers to a temporary, non-disciplinary leave of absence from duty, initiated by the district, during which a licensed teacher remains in full paid status. The purpose of such leave is to allow the district time to review or investigate matters concerning the teacher's performance, conduct, or other administrative circumstances where the district determines it is in the best interest of the school, students, or staff that the teacher be temporarily removed from duty.

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

ARTICLE IV

SCHOOL DISTRICT RIGHTS

Section 1. Inherent Management Rights: The parties recognize that the School District is not required to meet and negotiate on matters of inherent management policy, which include, but are not limited to, such areas of discretion or policy as the functions and programs of the employer, its overall budget, utilization of technology, the organizational structure and selection and direction and number of personnel, and that all management rights and management functions not expressly delegated in this Agreement are reserved to the School District subject to the right of the Exclusive Representative to meet and confer as provided in the PELRA.

Section 2. Management Responsibilities: The Exclusive Representative recognizes the right and obligation of the School District to efficiently manage and conduct the operation of the School District within its legal limitations and with its primary obligation to provide educational opportunities for the students of the School District.

Section 3. Effect of Laws, Rules and Regulations: The parties recognize that all employees covered by this Agreement shall perform the teaching and reasonable teaching-related services prescribed by the School District. The parties also recognize the right, obligation and duty of the School District and its duly designated officials to establish reasonable rules, regulations, directives and orders as deemed necessary insofar as such reasonable rules, regulations, directives and orders are not inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE V

TEACHER RIGHTS

Section 1. Right to Views: Pursuant to PELRA, nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to limit, impair or affect the right of any teacher or representative to the expression or communication of a view, grievance, complaint or opinion on any matter related to the conditions or compensation of public employment or their betterment, so long as the same is not designed to and does not interfere with the full, faithful and proper performance of the duties of employment or circumvent the rights of the Exclusive Representative.

Section 2. Right to Join: Pursuant to PELRA, teachers shall have the right to form and join labor or employee organizations, and shall have the right not to form and join such organizations.

Section 3. Right to Exclusive Representation: Pursuant to PELRA, teachers in an appropriate unit shall have the right, by secret ballot, to designate an Exclusive Representative for the purpose of negotiating the terms and conditions of employment and a grievance procedure for such teachers.

Section 4. Request for Dues Check Off: Teachers shall have the right to request and be allowed dues check off for the Exclusive Representative, provided that dues check off and the proceeds thereof shall not be allowed any teacher organization that has lost its right to dues check off pursuant to PELRA. Upon receipt of the properly executed authorization card of the teacher involved, the School District shall deduct in seventeen (17) equal installments, beginning with the second pay period in September, the organizational dues of each teacher and shall immediately forward to the appropriate organization an itemized disbursement for the accumulated deductions authorized for that local organization. Upon written request of a teacher, contributions to Committee on Political Education (COPE) shall be made by payroll deduction on the same deduction schedule as for dues check off. This deduction shall remain in effect continuously unless terminated by the teacher in writing to the appropriate officer.

Section 5. Personnel Files: Pursuant to PELRA, teachers shall have the following rights relating to their personnel files: All evaluations and files generated within a School District relating to each individual teacher shall be available to each individual teacher upon written request. The teacher shall have the right to reproduce any of the contents of the file at the teacher's expense and to submit for inclusion in the file written information in response to any material contained therein.

Subd. 1. Destruction of personnel files: The School District may destroy the files as provided by law and shall expunge from the teacher's file any material found to be false or substantially inaccurate through the grievance procedure. Expungement proceedings shall be commenced within the time period provided in the collective bargaining agreement for the commencement of a grievance.

ARTICLE VI

LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Section 1. Teacher Duty Days: The School District shall establish the calendar and teacher duty days for the coming school year, and the teacher shall perform services on those days as determined by the School District, including those legal holidays on which the School District is authorized to conduct school, and pursuant to such authority has determined to conduct school.

Subd. 1. Length of school year: The length of the school year shall consist of 185 duty days for veteran teachers and second-year teachers who have completed their probationary periods; 188 duty days for a probationary teacher, first year of service; 187 duty days for a probationary teacher, second year of service; and 186 duty days for a probationary teacher, third year of service, and for teachers returning from an unrequested leave of absence of one year or more. Not more than 180 days shall be student days.

Subd. 2. First-year teachers: One duty day for first-year teachers may be divided over the course of the school year provided there is advance notice by September 30 and this partial duty day is only scheduled on existing duty days (an exception to this requirement may be made if the School District and the Exclusive Representative agree otherwise).

Subd. 3. Orientation: Orientation for first year teachers will include up to two (2) hours of contract orientation to be provided by the Exclusive Representative.

Subd. 4. Travel Time: If a teacher is required to travel between buildings as part of their regular teaching assignment, a schedule will be developed by the building administrator(s) with input from the teacher.

Section 2. Modifications in Calendar, Length of School Day:

Subd. 1. Make-up day(s): In the event of a student day or teacher day lost for any emergency, the teacher shall perform duties on that day or other such day in lieu thereof as the School District shall determine, if any, but in any event not to exceed the number of duty days as provided in Section 1 hereof.

Subd. 2. Change of hours: In the event of an order by authorized federal or state authority, the School District may modify the duty day or duty week to place the School District in compliance with such federal or state order, but with the understanding that the total number of hours shall not be increased, i.e. a four (4) day week with increased hours per day but the total weekly hours not more than the regular five (5) day week.

Subd. 3. Notice to Exclusive Representative: Prior to modifying the scheduled length of the school day pursuant to Subd. 2 hereof, or scheduling make-up days pursuant to Subd. 1 hereof, the School District shall afford to the Exclusive Representative the opportunity to meet and confer on such matters.

Subd. 4. Flexible work year: By mutual consent of a teacher and the School District, work days may be scheduled throughout the contract year (July 1 through June 30). Consent must be provided in writing by the superintendent or designee.

Section 3. School Calendar: The School District shall provide the Exclusive Representative the opportunity to meet and confer to recommend the calendar of teacher duty days for the following year. Each party shall have a maximum of seven (7) representatives at such meetings.

ARTICLE VII

HOURS OF SERVICE

Section 1. Professional Day: The hours of instruction for students at each building shall be established by the School District. The language of Plan A shall be in effect for all buildings unless: 1) The Exclusive Representative, on behalf of the teachers of a particular building, elects to revert to Plan B, or 2) the School District elects to revert to Plan B on a building or District-wide basis, or 3) a Building Principal, in consultation with the Superintendent, elects to place an individual teacher on Plan B according to the process defined in Attachment B, item K.b.

Plan A. The Professional Day on which salaries shall be based is a period of time that the school is regularly in session for students plus time to plan the day's work, confer with students and parents, attend building meetings, including but not limited to special education IEP meetings, and perform such other duties as are appropriate for teachers. A duty-free lunch period of thirty (30) minutes in accordance with current contract language shall be scheduled for each teacher. Teachers shall, upon notice to the office of

the Building Principal, be allowed to leave the building during the duty-free lunch period, except as emergency conditions might otherwise require (See Attachment B Professional Day Clarification).

Plan B. Teacher Contract Day

Subd. 1. Work Day: The basic teacher's day, inclusive of lunch, shall be eight (8) consecutive hours.

Subd. 2. Building Hours: The specific hours at any individual building may vary according to the needs of the educational programs of the School District. The specific hours for each building will be designated by the School District.

Subd. 3. Additional Activities: In addition to the basic school day, teachers shall participate in school activities as required by the School District. These duties shall be assigned as equitably as possible, but shall not exceed three (3) activities of three (3) hours each per contract year or be assigned on non-duty days nor the duty day prior to an extended weekend or break.

Subd. 4. Teacher's Professional Day: In accordance with the sections above, it is recognized that every teacher's professional duty day extends beyond student contact time, but not beyond the duty day. This shall include such responsibilities as additional planning and evaluation, consultation with students, faculty and committee meetings, parent conferences, in-service activities, hallway passing and other professional responsibilities of the teacher. It is further recognized that these additional activities are not necessarily accomplished in the building to which the teacher is regularly assigned, and if the teacher leaves the building, it is to be for professional reason.

Section 2. Duty Free Lunch: Teachers shall have a duty free lunch period of at least thirty (30) consecutive minutes per day.

Section 3. Preparation Time: Within the student day, for every 25 minutes of instructional time, a minimum of five (5) minutes of preparation time shall be provided to each licensed teacher. Preparation time shall be provided in one or two uninterrupted blocks during the student day. Teachers shall receive and be paid for preparation time for summer school, homebound and targeted services outside of the duty day or contract year instruction as stated above, and this preparation time may precede and/or follow the student instructional time. Teachers shall receive one half day of preparation time at the end of each grading period.

Section 4. Student Contact: A teacher shall not be assigned more than 310 minutes per day of regular student contact time except in those situations when a teacher has a single semester full period obligation assignment but not to average more than 310 minutes over both semesters. Student contact time shall be defined as any time a teacher is designated or assigned by an administrative representative to be in contact with students in an instructional or supervisory capacity.

Section 5. Obligation Period: All full-time secondary teachers shall be responsible for an obligation period in addition to their normal class load. For the teachers on the seven-period day schedule, the obligation period will be one-half class period for the entire year or one full class period for one semester. For the teachers on the five-period or six-period day schedule, or the elementary schedule, the obligation period shall consist of one or two staff meeting(s) per week not to exceed 45 minutes total. This/these meeting(s) can take place before, after, or during the duty day as determined by the administration and union leadership. A teacher who teaches one (1) or more A/B courses or zero hour shall receive scheduling accommodations in the form of reduced supervision, meetings, and/or obligations for each quarter or trimester the course is taught.

ARTICLE VIII

BASIC COMPENSATION

Section 1. Rates of Pay: The wages and salaries reflected in Schedule A, attached hereto, shall be a part of the Agreement for the 2025-26 school year and the wages and salaries reflected in Schedule B, attached hereto, shall be a part of the Agreement for the 2026-27 school year, subject to the right of the School District to withhold increments for just cause. Teachers shall advance on the salary schedule one (1) step for the 2025-26 school year and teachers shall advance on the salary schedule one (1) step for the 2026-27 school year, subject to the right of the School District as defined in this section to withhold increments for just cause. A salary increment shall not be withheld unless the teacher is notified of the deficiency in writing and given reasonable opportunity to correct such deficiency. An action withholding an increment shall be subject to the grievance procedure.

Section 2. Status of Salary Schedule: If negotiations for a successor contract are not completed at the commencement of the school year following the expiration date of this contract, adjustments shall be made in step position on the salary schedule as currently qualified for pursuant to this agreement. Horizontal lane changes shall also be granted as currently qualified for pursuant to this agreement.

Section 3. Transcript of Credits: A complete and official transcript of credits shall be kept on file in the human resources office throughout the duration of the teacher's service in South St. Paul.

Section 4. Initial Placement on the Salary Schedule: The following rules shall be applicable in determining initial placement of a teacher on the salary schedule.

Subd. 1. Prior experience: Effective May 1, 2022, new teachers will be placed on the salary schedule as agreed upon between the School District and teacher.

Subd. 2. Continuing teachers: All continuing contract teachers shall be compensated at the same lane and step for which they qualify under this Article. Placement of any teacher elsewhere on the salary schedule shall be done by mutual agreement of the affected teacher, the Exclusive Representative and the School District.

Section 5. Step & Lane Advancement on the Salary Schedule:

Subd. 1. Germane: Credits to be considered for application on any lane of the salary schedule must be germane to the field(s) in which the teacher holds a license as determined by the superintendent or designee, and must be part of a curriculum from an accredited college or university. Credits towards an administrative or counseling degree, earned after completion of a master's within their field of study, may also be considered as determined by the superintendent or designee.

Subd. 2. Grade and credits: To apply on the salary schedule, all credits beyond the bachelor's degree must be graduate credits and carry a grade equivalent of B or higher, or pass on a pass/fail system. Undergraduate credits may be approved as exceptions by the superintendent or designee. Credits to apply to lanes beyond a particular degree lane must be earned subsequent to the earning of the degree.

Subd. 3. Earned credits: In order for consideration for advancement on the salary schedule, course work must be taken by the teacher from an accredited college or university, as approved by the State Department of Education. Such course work may be taken in a classroom setting, or other methods as offered by the accredited college. All earned credits will be on a quarter credit basis. The conversion from semester credit to quarter credit is based on the following calculation: semester credits x 1.5 = quarter credits.

Subd. 4. Advanced degree program: A teacher shall be paid on the master's degree lane or higher degree lane only if the degree program is germane to the field(s) in which the teacher holds a license as approved by the superintendent or designee, and the degree program is part of an accredited college/university. The program must be approved in writing by the superintendent or designee in advance. Credits towards an administrative or related services degree, earned after completion of a master's, may also be considered as determined by the superintendent or designee. Related services degree programs at colleges/universities which require additional courses or credit hours beyond those typically required by other colleges/universities, may be considered for additional lane advancement beyond the next level degree, when those courses or credit hours are required, as determined by the superintendent or designee.

Subd. 5. Course approval: All credits, in order to be considered for application on the salary schedule, must be approved by the superintendent or designee in writing, prior to the beginning of the course.

Subd. 6. Special circumstances: Credits earned to acquire a new teaching license shall be applicable to lane changes only when prior written approval is given by the superintendent or designee for special circumstances.

Subd. 7. Effective date: Individual contracts shall only be modified to reflect qualified lane changes twice each year. A contract modification shall be effective at the beginning of the school year provided a request and official transcript of qualified credits is submitted to the human resources office not later than September 1 of any year. A contract modification shall be effective February 1 provided a request and an official transcript of qualified credits are submitted to the human resources office not later than January 15 of any year.

Subd. 8. Payment of present salary: Changes in rules contained herein relating to the application of credits on the salary schedule shall not be retroactive in application, but shall govern all placement effective with the execution of this Agreement.

Subd. 9. Less than full-time contract: Teachers who are employed on a .5 FTE contract or greater will advance one full step on the salary schedule. Teachers on a contract that is less than .5 FTE will advance on a prorated basis.

Subd. 10. Annual notice of step and lane placement: The School District will provide notice to teachers of step and lane placement, and creditable years of experience for salary schedule placement, no later than the date of the second paycheck for the school year. Any teacher who disagrees with the step of lane placement or creditable years of experience shall have ten (10) work days from the notice date to provide documentation to the human resources office supporting an alternative placement. The director of human resources will review the documentation and make any changes warranted within ten (10) work days of receipt of documentation. Any necessary salary adjustments will be made on the following paycheck and will be retroactive to the start of the school year.

Section 6. Payroll Deduction: Whenever a payroll deduction is necessary for absence without paid leave, 1/190 of the annual salary shall be deducted for each day's absence in accordance with Article XV, Section 2.

Section 7. Long-Term Substitute Teachers: Long-term substitute teachers will be paid on the basis of BA, Step 1, on the salary schedule, at a daily rate of 1/185 of the annual salary. Exceptions to placement may occur for hard to fill teaching positions as defined and approved by the superintendent or designee. A long-term substitute teacher is defined as a teacher who is replacing the same teacher for at least thirty (30) consecutive contract days. Long-term substitute teachers qualify for hospital/medical insurance in accordance with Article XIII, Section 2; sick leave in accordance with Article XIV, Section 1.

Section 8. Limited-Contract Substitute Teachers:

Subd. 1. Definition: Defined as a substitute teacher who is replacing the same teacher for the full school year. For purposes of this section, a full school year shall be a minimum of 160 consecutive contract days within the fiscal year.

Subd. 2. Salary: Effective July 1, 2005, a limited-contract substitute teacher shall be paid in accordance with Article VIII, Section 4.

Subd. 3. Benefits: A limited-contract substitute teacher may qualify for the following benefits in accordance with the Agreement.

Group Insurance – Article XIII, Sections 1-6, 7, 9

Sick Leave – Article XIV, Section 1, Subd. 1-8

Bereavement Leave – Article XIV, Section 2

Personal Leave – Article XIV, Section 4

Subd. 4. Seniority: A limited-contract substitute teacher who is hired by the District as a regularly-contracted teacher, without a break in service, shall retain the seniority date from the initial limited contract.

ARTICLE IX

EXTRA COMPENSATION

Section 1. Additional Assignments: Extra assignments associated with additional compensation shall not be construed to be part of the continuing contract.

Section 2. Extracurricular/Co-curricular Positions:

Subd. 1. ECA Committee:

- a) The standing committee consists of six (6) representatives of the District, and six (6) members chosen by the Exclusive Representative. The District and the Exclusive Representative will each identify a chair to co-facilitate the ECA Committee.
- b) Requests for new ECA positions shall be forwarded to the ECA Committee. The Committee will review and make a recommendation to the Superintendent or designee for consideration. Upon approval, new positions will be placed on the appropriate Schedule C.
- c) The ECA Committee shall review existing ECA positions and make recommendations to the Teacher Negotiations Committee as to the need for the continuation of the position, or the appropriate placement of the position on Schedule C as necessary.

Subd. 2. Reappointment to positions: An extracurricular/co-curricular coach/advisor who does not wish to continue in that capacity for the following contract year must notify the School District of such intent, in writing, by June 30 of the current contract year. If such notification is not made, the School District may require the coach/advisor to continue in that position the following contract year. If the School District does not intend to reappoint a coach/advisor to a particular position for the following contract year, the School District must notify said coach/advisor of this intent, in writing, by June 30 of the current contract year. In absence of above notification by either party, the coach/advisor shall automatically be reappointed to the same extracurricular/co-curricular position for the next contract year.

Subd. 3. Regular compensation: The wages and salaries reflected in Schedule C, attached hereto, shall be a part of this Agreement for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years only. The rates provided in Schedule C constitute the agreement of the parties in the event the School District fills the position. It is understood and agreed, however, that the School District has no obligation to fill any particular activity position listed in Schedule C in any particular contract year. The specified compensation for extracurricular/co-curricular positions may be shared by individuals through mutual consent and requires School District approval. Notification of shared positions shall be sent to the Executive Representative.

Subd. 4. Tournament compensation: Coaches/advisors of varsity team activities which advance beyond the first week of Region or Section tournaments shall be eligible to be compensated at a daily rate of 1% of their regular season compensation as specified in Schedule C. Coaches/advisors of varsity individual activities shall receive this compensation for the week of the State Tournament only. Coaches/advisors of varsity activities that do not have Region or Section tournaments shall not be eligible for this compensation. Only coaches whose position title in Schedule C includes a designation of “varsity” shall be eligible for this compensation.

Section 3. Assignment of Extracurricular/Co-curricular Duties: The School District may assign the teacher to extracurricular, co-curricular or other assignments subject to established compensation of such services. An assignment shall not be made without written agreement of the teacher except where no qualified teacher is willing to assume the assignment. In such case, the assignment shall be on a one school year basis only. The School District shall attempt to assign activities as equitably as practicable among the staff. No teacher shall be involuntarily assigned to a position for more than one year.

Section 4. Instructional Pay: Instructional pay applies to those situations when a teacher agrees to teach a class during their preparation period, homebound teachers, summer school, targeted services, online academy or flex program. Teachers shall be compensated at \$33.50 (2025-2026) & \$35.00 (2026-2027 and beyond) per hour.

Section 5. Overload Class Pay: Overload pay applies to those situations when a teacher agrees to teach a class during their preparation period for the semester/trimester. Teachers shall be compensated based on placement on Salary Schedule A or B.

Section 6. Extra Duty Pay: Extra duty applies to teachers who are assigned to curriculum writing duties, assigned works or attend district identified required professional development/training. Teachers shall be compensated at \$32.00 per hour.

Section 7. National Board Certification Stipend: A 1.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) teacher who acquires and maintains national certification from the organizations listed below shall receive a stipend of \$500 per year by providing documentation of the certification to the Human Resources office by September 15 of each year. Teachers who are less than 1.0 FTE will receive a pro-rata amount of this stipend based upon their FTE.

- 1) National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (National Board Certified Teacher)
- 2) American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (National Certification Speech-Language Pathology)
- 3) National Association of School Psychologists (National Certification School Psychologists)
- 4) National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) (National Certification Occupational Therapists)
- 5) National Board for Certification of School Nurses (NBCSN) (National Certification Licensed School Nurses)
- 6) Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)

Section 8. Longevity: Active full-time (1.0 FTE) teachers who are compensated under Schedule A or Schedule B shall be eligible for annual longevity pay based on their years of continuous service with the School District, according to the following schedule:

Years of Service with the District	Annual Longevity Pay
16 – 20 years	\$500
21 – 25 years	\$1,000
26 – 30 years	\$2,000
31 years and above	\$3,000

Longevity pay shall begin in the year following the completion of the sixteenth (16th) year of service and shall be paid annually thereafter in accordance with District payroll procedures. Eligible teachers who are employed less than full-time shall receive prorated longevity pay based on their FTE for that year. Years of service shall include only those years worked within the South St. Paul School District.

Section 9. Alternative Teacher Pay Performance Schedule Plan: School District and the Exclusive Representative shall participate in Alternative Teacher Pay Performance Schedule (hereinafter ATPPS) pursuant to the negotiated plan between the School District and the Exclusive Representative. The ATPPS plan shall be reviewed annually by May 15 of each school year. Participation in ATPPS for the following school year and changes to the negotiated plan are subject to ratification by both the School District and the Exclusive Representative. Step and lane placement for individual employees shall be determined pursuant to the guidelines in Article VIII and the negotiated ATPPS plan.

Section 10. Collapsed Elementary Classroom Compensation: At the building principal’s discretion, a collapsed classroom could occur if a substitute teacher cannot be secured for a classroom teacher and students are dispersed to other classrooms for the day. Classroom teachers who receive the additional students for the day as a result of a collapsed classroom will be compensated at 50% of the current Certified Teacher Substitute daily rate of pay. Classroom teachers who receive additional students for a portion of the day will be compensated at the current Certified Teacher Substitute hourly rate of pay up to 50% of the current Certified Teacher Substitute daily rate of pay.

Subd.1. Collapsing to One (1) Classroom: If a collapsed class is placed into a single classroom, the classroom teacher will be compensated at the current Certified Teacher substitute hourly rate of pay.

ARTICLE X

403(b) MATCHING DEFERRED COMPENSATION / RETIREMENT PLAN (All Teachers)

Preamble:

This Article consolidates and supersedes the provisions previously contained in Articles X, XI, and XII of prior agreements regarding the 403(b) Matching Deferred Compensation/Retirement Plan. The intent of this consolidation is to simplify and clarify existing language without altering the level of benefits or eligibility for any teacher. This unified Article reflects current practice and shall govern all teachers employed by the School District effective **July 1, 2025**.

Section 1. Description:

The South St. Paul 403(b) Matching Deferred Compensation/Retirement Plan is designed to provide teachers with an annual tax-deferred monetary benefit. The School District provides a matching contribution to the teachers’ 403(b) Deferred Compensation Plan according to eligibility as specified herein, effective January 1, 1997.

Section 2. Eligibility:

All teachers employed by the School District are eligible to participate in the 403(b) Matching Deferred Compensation/Retirement Plan. The School District shall match the employee’s 403(b) deferred compensation at two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the employee’s individual annual base salary in accordance with Schedules A or B. If an employee defers an annual amount that is less than the amount the School District would otherwise match, the School District will match the lower amount. If an employee fails to defer any money during a given year, the School District will not contribute any compensation to the employee’s 403(b) fund for that year. Employees may defer additional amounts of their compensation to the 403(b) Deferred Compensation Plan or to any other tax-sheltered annuities of their choosing as permitted by law. The School District’s contribution shall be prorated for teachers who work less than full time.

Section 3. Enrollment/Change:

The School District will provide enrollment and change forms for teachers to authorize employee contributions. The employee’s annual contribution shall be divided and withheld equally over pay periods, and the School District match shall be paid on the same basis.

Section 4. 403(b) Deferred Compensation Plan Criteria:

The School District contribution becomes the property of the teacher once transferred into the teacher’s 403(b) account. Upon retirement or severance from the School District, teachers may manage their 403(b) funds within the limits of the law.

Section 5. Retirement Benefits:

Teachers who choose to retire have the opportunity to sell back any unused sick days at a rate of one hundred dollars (\$100) per day, up to a maximum of one hundred (100) days. To be eligible for this benefit, a teacher must be at least fifty-five (55) years old and have completed twenty-five (25) years of service within the School District. This amount shall be deposited, in the month of December of the year of retirement, as follows: one hundred percent (100%) into the Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP). To allow for proper planning, teachers must share their intent to retire by February 1 of the school year in which they plan to retire.

Section 6. Claims Against the School District:

The parties agree that any description of benefits contained in this Article is intended to be informational only. The management of contributed funds is the responsibility of the company selected by the employee. The School District’s sole obligation is to make contributions as specified herein, and no additional claim shall be made against the School District under this Article.

Section 7. Benefit in Case of Death:

In the event an employee dies before retirement and has completed twenty (20) years of continuous service with the School District immediately preceding the date of death, or dies before full benefits are paid, the deferred compensation matching benefit as determined in this Article shall be paid to the estate of the deceased.

ARTICLE XI

GROUP INSURANCE

Section 1. Selection of Carrier: The selection of the insurance carrier and policy shall be made by the School District. The parties agree that the level of benefits shall not be reduced during the terms of this Agreement.

Section 2. Eligibility: The full benefits of this Article shall apply to those teachers regularly contracted full time at least nine (9) months per year. The full benefits of this article shall apply to teachers who are employed on a .8 FTE contract or greater. Benefits of this Article for all part-time teachers with contracts .5 to .79 FTE in length shall be prorated in the same ratio as the teacher's contract bears to a full-time contract to the nearest tenth.

Section 3. Hospital/Medical Benefits: The School District shall contribute dollars the following amounts toward hospital-medical premiums based on the following schedule:

- a. Single coverage – Single coverage shall be 100% covered by the District.
Maximum District contribution – The District contributes dollars toward each eligible teacher’s hospital-medical premiums for two-party or family coverage up to a maximum of \$26,174 for the 2025-26 contract year. Thereafter, if the cost of the most expensive family plan increases by 5% or more, the amount paid by the District shall increase up to 5% of the current cost of the insurance, including both employer and employee contributions.

For married teachers who are each eligible for full single coverage and qualify for family coverage, the District will contribute an additional amount equal to the annual increase in the premium cost for family coverage, up to the cost of the single premium. For teachers whose spouses are employed by the District, eligible for full single coverage, and qualify for full family coverage, the District will contribute an additional amount equal to the annual increase in the premium cost for family coverage, up to the cost of the single premium. Teachers and their spouses who are eligible for this contribution will not be allowed to select any of the following coverage combinations: two-party/two-party; two-party/single; family/two-party; family/single; exceptions to this restriction will only occur if the teacher is legally required to carry such coverage.

Long-term substitute teachers, as defined in Article VIII, Section 7, are eligible for hospital/medical benefits if they are contracted for at least 30 consecutive workdays.

Section 4. Dental Insurance: The School District shall offer a group dental plan. Employees may participate in the plan and pay the corresponding premium.

Section 5. Flexible Compensation Benefits: The School District shall provide a "Flexible Compensation Plan" as authorized by Internal Revenue Code, Section 125. All full-time teachers may elect to contribute up to the amount allowed by law, to be used for excess medical/dental/vision expense reimbursement, and up to the amount allowed by law, to be used for dependent care reimbursement.

Section 6. Group Long Term Income Protection: The School District shall pay the premium for long term disability insurance for all eligible contracted teachers. The insurance plan shall provide a minimum income continuation benefit of 2/3 of annual wages.

Section 7. Claims Against the School District: The parties agree that any description of insurance benefits contained in this Article are intended to be informational only and the eligibility of any teacher for benefits shall be governed by the terms of the insurance policy purchased by the School District pursuant to this Article. It is further understood that the School District's only obligation is to purchase an insurance policy and pay such amounts as agreed to herein, and no claim shall be made against the School District as a result of a denial of insurance benefits by an insurance carrier.

Section 8. Duration of Insurance Contribution: A teacher who is employed by the School District for a full contract year shall receive the School District’s contributions as provided in this Article for one full year from September 1 at the start of the contract year until August 31 of the following contract year. Teachers who are employed less than a full contract year shall have their School District contributions adjusted proportionately. Pursuant to COBRA, a teacher leaving the employ of the School District may be eligible to continue insurance coverage.

Section 9. Insurance Benefits for Retirees: For teachers who retire after having completed twenty (20) years of continuous service with the School District and qualify for TRA retirement benefits, the School District will provide \$150 per month into a Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) with the Minnesota State Retirement until the retiree is eligible for Medicare, after which time the School District will contribute \$100 per month for the

subsequent five (5) years for the purpose of supplementing the cost of the retiree's health insurance. Teachers who retire on or after their Medicare eligibility age will receive these benefits until their age exceeds five years beyond Medicare eligibility. For the purpose of this section, the insurance benefit shall be calculated as the greater of twenty (20) cumulative years of service, or by dividing the employee's total FTE's by the employee's years of service within the District. This amount shall be deposited two times per year into the HCSP; the month of September and the month of January. Teachers eligible for these benefits shall be allowed to continue coverage on the district's health insurance plan until they reach Medicare eligibility. Teachers are responsible for paying the cost of all premiums, co-pays, and other expenses.

ARTICLE XII

PAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Section 1. Eligibility: The full benefits of this Article shall apply to those teachers regularly contracted full time at least nine (9) months per year. Benefits of this Article for all part-time teachers, at least .2 contract, shall be prorated in the same ratio as the teacher's contract bears to a full-time contract.

Section 2. Sick Leave:

Subd. 1. Number of days: All full-time teachers shall be credited twelve (12) days (90 hours) of sick leave at the beginning of each school year. Part-time teachers shall earn sick leave on a basis proportionate to the extent of their employment if such teachers are regularly employed at least two-tenths (.2) time. Part-time teachers regularly employed less than two-tenths (.2) time shall not be entitled to sick leave. Teachers who are employed less than a full contract year shall have their sick leave adjusted proportionately.

Subd. 2. Unused days accumulation: Unused sick leave days or half days may accumulate to a maximum credit of 210 days (1,575 hours) of sick leave per teacher. The yearly leave allowance, however, shall be in addition to the total accumulation.

Subd. 3. Subd. 3. Employee/Child/Family Illness: Sick leave with pay shall be allowed by the School District whenever an employee's absence is found to have been due to the illness or injury of the employee, which has prevented the employee's attendance at school and performance of duties on that day or days. In addition, sick leave with pay shall be allowed for reasonable periods whenever the absence of an employee (as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 181.940, subdivision 2, as amended) is found to have been due to the illness or injury of an individual listed in Minnesota Statutes section 181.9413(a), as amended. Absences related to the illness or injury of the employee or the employee's child (as defined in Minnesota Statutes sections 181.940, subdivision 4, and 181.9413(e), as amended) will be paid to the limit of the employee's accumulated sick leave. Absences related to any of the other individuals listed in Minnesota Statutes section 181.9413(a), as amended, will be paid to a limit of 160 hours in any 12-month period.

Subd. 4. Medical certificate: The School District may require a teacher to furnish a medical certificate from a qualified physician as evidence of illness, indicating such absence was due to illness, in order to qualify for sick leave pay. In the event that a medical certificate will be required, the teacher will be so advised, prior to healthy return.

Subd. 5. Deduction of days: Sick leave allowed shall be deducted from the accrued sick leave days/hours earned by the teacher.

Subd. 6. Cancellation: Upon termination of a teacher's employment for any reason, all sick leave, current or cumulative, shall be immediately and automatically canceled, except as otherwise provided in Article X.

Subd. 7. Additional sick leave: A teacher who has exhausted annual and accumulated sick leave will be granted additional sick leave for personal illness only, based on length of service in the School District, subject to a deduction in pay equal to 1/3 of the employee's regular base rate. Such leave shall be available on an annual basis, but a maximum of forty (40) such days may be used over the teacher's career in the District.

Years of Service
6 or more

Additional Allowance
1 day for each year of service

Subd. 8. Contracted substitute teachers: Contracted long-term substitute teachers shall earn and accrue sick leave based on one day (7.5 hours) for each consecutive full month worked during each school year. This sick leave will be non-accumulative.

Section 3. Bereavement Leave:

Subd. 1. Number of days: All regularly employed personnel may be granted up to five (5) days (37.5 hours) for absence because of death in the immediate family or household, the specific amount of time to be subject to the discretion of the superintendent. Bereavement leave shall not be deducted from sick leave.

Subd. 2. Additional leave: Under special circumstances, the School District may, in its discretion, grant additional leave under this section.

Subd. 3. Immediate family: For purposes of this subdivision, the immediate family shall be interpreted to include spouse, child, parent, spouse's parent, sister, brother, grandparent, spouse's grandparent, grandchild, daughter/son-in-law, and sister/brother-in-law. The family household shall be interpreted to include any member of the household currently making their home with the family.

Section 4. Family Leave: Upon the request of a teacher, the School District may grant family leave with pay for up to five (5) contract days per school year. These days may be consecutive or nonconsecutive at the discretion of the teacher. Such leave shall be in accordance with the following provisions:

Subd. 1. Qualifying situations: Such leave shall be granted to a teacher for the birth, adoption or foster placement of a child, or for the care of a spouse, child or parent who has a serious health condition. The decision on whether a "serious health condition" exists will be based on the Department of Labor definition contained in federal regulations implementing the Family and Medical Leave Act (29 CFR 825.114) and all related legal interpretations.

Subd. 2. Time limitations: For birth, adoption or foster placement of a child, such leave must be used within ninety (90) contract days of the birth, adoption or foster placement.

Subd. 3. Medical verification: If such leave is being requested to care for a seriously ill family member, the teacher may be required to provide the School District with medical verification of that serious illness.

Subd. 4. Accumulation: Such leave shall be non-accumulative and independent of sick leave accumulation and usage.

Subd. 5. Additional days: In the event of a "serious health condition" of a spouse, child or parent, the School District may grant two (2) additional family leave days to be deducted from the teacher's sick leave. The birth and care of the employee's newborn child, or the placement of an employee's child through adoption or foster care, does not qualify for the two additional family leave days.

Section 5. Personal Leave: With a minimum of three (3) days advance notice (or less in exceptional situations) and arrangement with the building principal, personal leave will be available to each teacher on the following basis, and must be used in either half-day or full-day increments:

Subd. 1. Number of days: All full-time teachers, contracted for the regular school calendar year shall accrue three (3) days (22.5 hours) of personal leave. These hours are earned by working the full school year; however, they will be frontloaded at the beginning of the school year into the teacher's personal leave bank. Teachers who have less than a 1.0 full-time allocation will have their accrual prorated as a proportion of their FTE. Teachers who take a leave of absence during the school year will have their accrual prorated based on the number of paid days for the school year.

Subd. 2. Accrual: Unused personal leave will accumulate to a maximum of ten (10) days (75 hours) per teacher. Personal leave days may be used throughout the regular school year with a maximum of five (5) consecutive work days permitted.

Subd. 3. Deduction of days: Personal leave will not be deducted from sick leave.

Subd. 4. Restrictions: No more than five percent (5%), to the nearest whole number, of a school's classroom staff, shall be permitted to be on leave at any one time. The administration shall give priority to such requests in the order submitted.

(a) Personal leave may not be taken on a parent-teacher conference day.

(b) Personal leave may not be used during the first six (6) or the last six (6) contract days of the school year.

(c) Personal leave may not be requested until it is earned.

(d) Personal leave may not be used on district professional development days.

Exceptions to these restrictions may be made by written approval of the superintendent or designee.

Subd. 5. A teacher may elect, in writing, to be paid for up to three unused personal leave days as of the last duty day of each school year at the rate of \$150 per day. Each day for which a teacher is so compensated shall be removed from the teacher's accumulation of personal leave and may not thereafter be used as a personal leave day.

Section 6. Worker's Compensation:

Subd. 1. Rate of pay: Upon the request of a teacher who is absent from work as a result of a compensable injury under the provisions of the Worker's Compensation Act, the School District will pay the difference between the compensation received pursuant to the Worker's Compensation Act by the teacher and the teacher's regular rate of pay to the extent of the teacher's earned accrual of sick leave. The difference shall be paid by the School District to the teacher only for the period of disability or until the teachers' accumulated sick leave is exhausted. The deduction from the teacher's accumulated sick leave shall be an amount necessary to equal the difference between Workers' Compensation benefits and the teacher's regular daily rate of pay.

ARTICLE XIII

UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCES

Section 1. Eligibility: The full benefits of this Article shall apply only to those regularly contracted teachers who are full time at least nine (9) months per year. Benefits of this Article for all part-time teachers, at least .2 contract, shall be prorated in the same ratio as the teacher's contract bears to a full-time contract.

Section 2. Reinstatement: A teacher returning from an unpaid leave of absence shall be entitled to return to a teaching position for which the teacher is licensed under the terms of this contract.

Section 3. Medical Leave:

Subd. 1. Eligibility: A continuing contract teacher, who is unable to teach because of illness and who has exhausted all sick leave credit available or has become eligible for long-term disability compensation shall, upon application, be granted a medical leave of absence. Such leave may be extended annually for up to one (1) year upon annual medical qualification, which shall be submitted to the School District in writing by March 1, using certified mail–return receipt requested. Thereafter, such leave may be extended on a yearly basis at the discretion of the School District.

Subd. 2. Physician's statement: A request for leave of absence or renewal thereof under this section shall be accompanied by a written doctor's statement outlining the condition of health and estimated time at which the teacher is expected to be able to resume contractual responsibilities.

Subd. 3. Group insurance coverage: Premiums for group insurance programs for a teacher on medical leave shall continue to be paid by the School District at the same rates being paid by the School District immediately prior to the teacher's placement on medical leave, in accordance with the Family Medical Leave Act.

Subd. 4. Extension of leave: A one-year (1) leave may be extended for an additional year. Application for extension must be submitted in writing to the superintendent or designee by February 1, and will be granted or denied no later than March 1. If an extension is denied, the teacher has the right to reinstatement pursuant to Section 2 of the Article if the teacher requests reinstatement by April 1.

Subd. 5. Return from leave: A teacher on leave of absence under this section must notify the superintendent or designee in writing by March 1 of their intention to return. Failure to provide notice by March 1 may be grounds for termination of employment.

Section 4. Family Leave: The School District may grant leave to a teacher for birth, adoption or foster care of a child, or for care of a spouse, child or parent who has a serious health condition.

Subd. 1. Short-term leave: Upon the request of a teacher, the School District shall for any reason provided in this section, grant up to twelve (12) weeks of leave per contract year. Maternity leave shall count toward the twelve weeks available under this Section.

Subd. 2. Long-term leave: Upon the request of a teacher, with the minimum of one year of experience in the School District, a leave of up to twelve (12) months may be approved by the School District. Requests for a full school year leave must be submitted to the Human Resources Department by March 1 for the following school year. The commencement and return dates of such leave shall be determined by mutual agreement between the teacher and the superintendent or designee, taking into account the continuity of the instructional program and the desires of the teacher.

Subd. 3. Medical verification: If such leave is being requested to care for a seriously ill family member, the teacher shall be required to provide the School District with medical verification of that serious illness.

Subd. 4. Extension of leave: A one-year leave may be extended for an additional year. Application for extension must be submitted in writing, to the superintendent or designee by February 1, and will be

granted or denied no later than March 1. If extension is denied, the teacher then has the right to reinstatement pursuant to Section 2 of this Article if the teacher requests reinstatement by April 1.

Subd. 5. Return from leave: A teacher on leave of absence under this Section must notify the superintendent or designee in writing, by March 1 of their intention to return. Failure to provide notice by March 1 may be grounds for termination of employment.

Section 5. Long-Term Professional Leave: The School District may grant leave to a teacher for the pursuit of an advanced degree or other educational purpose as agreed to between the teacher and the School District.

Subd. 1. Experience requirement: To qualify for such leave, a teacher must be tenured in the School District.

Subd. 2. Extent: Such leave shall normally commence at the start of a school year and end at the start of the following year. Requests for a full year leave must be submitted to the Human Resources Department by March 1 for the following school year.

Subd. 3. Entitlement: A teacher shall be entitled to a total of two years of leave under this section during their tenure in the School District.

Subd. 4. Extension of leave: A one-year leave may be extended for an additional year. Application for extension must be submitted in writing, to the superintendent or designee by February 1, and will be granted or denied no later than March 1. If an extension is denied, the teacher has the right to reinstatement pursuant to Section 2 of this Article if the teacher requests reinstatement by April 1.

Subd. 5. Return from leave: A teacher on leave of absence under this section must notify the superintendent or designee in writing, by March 1 of their intention to return. Failure to provide notice by March 1 may be grounds for termination of employment.

Section 6. Long-Term Personal Leave: A one-year leave of absence which does not meet the requirements of Sections 4, 5, 6 or 7 of this Article may be approved by the School District.

Subd. 1. Experience requirement: To qualify for such leave, a teacher must be tenured in the School District.

Subd. 2. Extent: Such leave shall normally commence at the start of a school year and end at the start of the following school year. Requests for a full year leave must be submitted to the Human Resources Department by March 1 for the following school year.

Subd. 3. Extension of leave: A one-year leave may be extended for an additional year. Application for extension must be submitted in writing, to the superintendent or designee by February 1 (the year of the leave), and will be granted or denied no later than March 1. If extension is denied, the teacher then has the right to reinstatement pursuant to Section 2 or this Article if the teacher requests reinstatement by April 1.

Subd. 4. Return from leave: A teacher on leave of absence under this Section must notify the superintendent or designee in writing, by March 1 (the year of the leave) of their intention to return. Failure to provide notice by March 1 may be grounds for termination of employment.

Section 7. Short-Term Leave: With a minimum of three (3) days advance notice and arrangement with the building principal, leave without pay will be available to non-probationary teachers in the annual, non-accruing

amount of two (2) days. The following restrictions apply: no more than five percent (5%), to the nearest whole number, of a school's classroom staff shall be permitted to be on either personal leave or short-term leave at any one time, and preference will be given to personal leave requests; short-term leave may not be taken on a parent-teacher conference day or staff development day or during the first fifteen (15) or last (15) contract days of the school year; exceptions to these restrictions may be made by written approval of the superintendent or designee. Pay deductions shall be on the basis of 1/190 of annual salary. Short-term leaves of a duration greater than two (2) days require written approval of the superintendent or designee, with the interests of the teacher being balanced against student educational needs.

Section 8. Military Leave: Military leave shall be granted pursuant to federal and state law.

Section 9. Insurance Application: A teacher on unpaid leave under this Article is eligible to continue to participate in group insurance programs if permitted under the insurance policy provisions, but shall pay the entire premium for such programs as the teacher wishes to retain commencing with the beginning of the leave, with the exception of employees on medical and LTD leave where premiums for group insurance programs shall continue to be paid by the district at the same rate being paid by the district immediately prior to the employee's placement on medical/LTD leave only while the employee is on paid leave or in accordance with the time periods defined in federal/state law.. It is the responsibility of the teacher to make arrangements with the school Human Resources Department to pay to the School District the monthly premium amounts in advance and on such date as determined by the School District. The right to continue participation in such group insurance programs upon termination of employment shall be pursuant to Article XIII, Section 7, of this Agreement.

Section 10. Experience Credit: A teacher on unpaid leave under this Article shall retain such amounts of experience credit for pay purposes and other accrued benefits, if any, which the teacher has accrued at the time the teacher went on leave for use upon return from leave. No additional experience credit for pay purposes or other benefits shall accrue for the period of time that a teacher is on leave under this section if such leave exceeds ninety (90) contract days.

Section 11. Seniority: For purposes of seniority standing, a teacher on medical, family or military leaves only, pursuant to this Article, shall continue to accrue seniority during such leaves of absence.

Section 12. Probationary Teachers: The applicable periods of probation for teachers set forth in Minnesota Statutes are intended to be periods of actual service enabling the School District to have opportunity to evaluate a teacher's performance. Accordingly, any contract year in which a probationary teacher is on unpaid leave of absence for more than ninety (90) contract days shall not be credited toward earning tenure. However, such leave shall not constitute a break in service and any prior year(s) of service earned toward tenure shall remain intact.

Section 13. Guidelines for Long-Term Leaves of Absence: These are the basic criteria that the administration and school board will use in evaluating leave of absence requests:

Subd. 1. Maternity/Family Leave: Shall normally be limited to the balance of the school year in which the baby is born plus the following full school year (unless the Family and Medical Leave Act requires otherwise) and is inclusive of other leaves. The Human Resources office will provide documentation of paid and unpaid leave amounts along with any resulting pay deduction calculations.

Subd. 2. Professional/Personal Leave: Shall normally be limited to one school year and shall normally not be taken to obtain employment elsewhere.

Subd. 3. Exceptions: Exceptions to these limits may be made if the school board, in consultation with the administration, determines that it is in the best interest of students and the district.

ARTICLE XIV

UNREQUESTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND SENIORITY

Section 1. Purpose: The purpose of this Article is to implement the provisions of Minnesota Law which shall constitute a plan for unrequested leave because of discontinuance of position, lack of pupils, financial limitations or merger of classes caused by consolidation of districts.

Section 2. Definitions:

Subd. 1. Explanation of terms: For purposes of this Article, the terms defined shall have the meaning respectively ascribed to them.

Subd. 2. Teacher: "Teacher" means a continuing contract teacher who is regularly employed at least an average of fourteen (14) hours per week and 100 days per year. To acquire seniority a teacher must be employed an average of fourteen (14) hours or more per week and at least 100 days a year. Substitute teachers shall not acquire seniority. Upon becoming a continuing contract teacher, a teacher's seniority date shall be determined pursuant to Subd. 4 of this section.

Subd. 3. Qualified: "Qualified" shall mean a teacher who is licensed in the subject matter category.

Subd. 4. Seniority determination: A teacher's seniority standing shall first be determined by the number of years and months that the teacher has been a member of the appropriate unit as defined in Article III, Section 2, while continuously employed in the District. If two or more teachers have the same number of years and months in the appropriate unit, then their respective seniority standing shall be determined by the earliest date on which each teacher executed their initial individual contract involving continuous service in the School District. If two or more teachers executed such individual contract on the same date, the earliest in time shall be considered the senior employee.

Subd. 5. Retention of seniority date: In determining the length of seniority, a teacher whose employment has been legally terminated by resignation, or termination pursuant to Minnesota Law, but whose employment was subsequently reinstated by action of the School District and the teacher without interruption of regular service, shall retain the original seniority date. A break in service is defined as a time when a teacher either leaves the teacher contract or is released, resigns or retires at the end of the school year and does not return to a teacher bargaining unit position prior to the first day of school.

Section 3. Unrequested Leave of Absence:

Subd. 1. Reasons for action: The School District may place on unrequested leave of absence for a period not exceeding five (5) calendar years from the time such leave is commenced, without pay or fringe benefits in conformance with Article XIII, Section 7, such teachers as may be necessary because of discontinuance of position, lack of pupils, financial limitations, or merger of classes. Such leave shall be effective no later than the close of the school year or at such earlier time as mutually agreed between the teacher and the School District.

Subd. 2. Notice by district: Teachers placed on such leave shall receive notice pursuant to Minnesota Law.

Subd. 3. Selection process: Teachers placed on unrequested leave shall be done in inverse order of seniority in the subject matter categories covered by this Agreement. No teacher shall be placed on unrequested leave if there is any other qualified teacher with less seniority in the same subject matter category.

Subd. 4. Employment while on leave: Any teacher placed on such leave may engage in teaching or any other occupation during such period and may be eligible for unemployment compensation if otherwise eligible under that law for such compensation and such leave will not result in a loss of credit for years of service in the School District earned prior to the commencement of such leave.

Subd. 5. License filing date: In any year in which a reduction of teaching staff is occurring, and the School District is placing teachers on unrequested leave of absence, only those certificates or licenses actually received by the superintendent's office for filing as of January 15 of such year shall be considered for purposes of determining lay off within areas of licensure for the following school year. A certificate or license filed after January 15 shall be considered for purposes of recall, but not to the current reduction.

Section 4. Reinstatement:

Subd. 1. Annual notice: A teacher's right to reinstatement shall terminate if the teacher fails to file with the Board of Education by March 1 of each year, a written statement requesting reinstatement.

Subd. 2. Position availability: No new teacher shall be employed by the School District while any qualified teacher is on unrequested leave of absence in the subject matter category in positions covered by this Agreement. Teachers placed on unrequested leave of absence shall be reinstated to the position from which they have been given leave, or any other available position in the School District covered by this Agreement in the subject matter categories in which they are licensed. The order of reinstatement shall be in inverse order in which teachers were placed on unrequested leave.

Subd. 3. Certified mailing of reinstatement notice: When placed on unrequested leave, a teacher shall file their name and address with the human resources office to which any notice of reinstatement or availability of position shall be mailed by certified mail. Proof of service by the person in the School District depositing such notice, by certified mail, to the teacher at the last known address shall be sufficient and it shall be the responsibility of any teacher on unrequested leave to provide for forwarding of mail or for address changes. Failure of a notice to reach a teacher shall not be the responsibility of the School District if any notice has been mailed as provided herein.

Subd. 4. Written response by teacher: If a position becomes available for a qualified teacher on unrequested leave, the School District shall mail the notice to such teacher who shall have fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of such notice to accept the reemployment. Failure to submit written acceptance within such fourteen (14) day period shall constitute waiver on the part of any teacher to any further rights of employment or reinstatement and shall forfeit any future reinstatement or employment rights, except a teacher may refuse reemployment without forfeiture of recall rights if the position offered is of lesser time than that position the teacher held at the time of placement on unrequested leave.

Subd. 5. Expiration of reinstatement rights: Reinstatement rights shall automatically cease on June 30 of the fifth fiscal year following the school year in which the unrequested leave occurred, and no further rights to reinstatement shall exist unless extended by written mutual consent with each qualified teacher.

Subd. 6. Retention of experience credit: A teacher on unrequested leave pursuant to this Article shall retain such amounts of experience credit for pay purposes and other accrued benefits, if any, which the teacher had accrued at the time they went on leave for use upon their return. No additional experience credit for pay purposes or other benefits shall accrue for the period of time that a teacher is on leave under this Article.

Subd. 7. Substitute position: A substitute position as defined by Minnesota Law shall not be considered a vacancy within the meaning of this Article. The School District may, but is not required to, offer a substitute position to teachers on unrequested leave of absence. However, if a teacher on unrequested leave of absence is offered and accepts or declines a substitute position, the teacher's seniority date and time shall not be affected.

Subd. 8. Less than full-year position: In the event that a vacancy in a teaching position occurs after the start of the school year, the employee has the option to either accept or reject the position and remain on the recall list.

Subd. 9. Equal position recall: A teacher whose assignment is involuntarily reduced in time through the unrequested leave process will be entitled to obtain a position equal to the one the teacher held at the time said teacher was first placed on unrequested leave until the expiration of five (5) years after the teacher was involuntarily assigned to a lesser time position.

Section 5. Establishment of Seniority List:

Subd. 1. Origin and posting: The School District shall cause separate seniority lists for K-12 and for ABE/ECFE (by name, date of individual contract execution, license in subject matter category) to be prepared from its records. It shall thereupon post such list in an official place in each school building of the School District by January 15. The District shall also provide the Exclusive Representative with an electronic PDF file of said seniority lists by January 15.

Subd. 2. Objection to placement: Any person whose name appears on such list and who may disagree with the findings of the School District and the order of seniority in said list shall have through January 31 to supply written documentation, proof and request for seniority change to the School District.

Subd. 3. Annual update: Within ten (10) days thereafter, the School District shall evaluate any and all such written communications regarding the order of seniority contained in said list and may make such changes the School District deems warranted.

Subd. 4. Final update: A final seniority list shall thereupon be prepared by the School District, which list as revised shall be binding on the School District and any teacher. Each year thereafter the School District shall cause such seniority list to be updated to reflect any addition or deletion of personnel caused by retirement, death, resignation, other cessation of services, or new employees. Such yearly revised list shall govern the application of the unrequested leave of absence policy until thereafter revised.

Subd. 5. Initiation: A new employee of the School District who is not a member of the appropriate unit as defined in Article III, Section 2, shall be placed on the appropriate seniority list only as such placement is required by law.

Subd. 6. Continuance: A teacher whose employment has been legally terminated by resignation, pursuant to Minnesota Law, or pursuant to this Article, will have their name removed from the seniority list and lose all rights otherwise available to teachers having seniority under this contract. Teachers who accept another position within the School District, not in the appropriate unit, shall retain but not continue to accrue seniority under this contract.

Section 6. Effect: This Article shall be effective at the beginning date of this Agreement and shall be governed by its duration clause. This Article shall govern all teachers as defined therein and shall not be construed to limit the rights of any other licensed employee not covered by this Agreement or other Agreement affecting such licensed employee.

ARTICLE XV

VACANCIES AND ASSIGNMENT

Section 1. Publishing of Notice of Vacancy of Position:

Subd. 1. Posting of openings: The School District shall declare and publish written notice of all position vacancies covered by this contract that occur in the School District. Copies of each notice shall be posted in each school building and the District Office. Vacancies shall not be filled until notice of such vacancy has been posted for at least seventy-two (72) hours; provided, however, that vacancies posted on or after July 1 shall not be filled until notice of such vacancy has been posted for at least twenty-four (24) hours. A description of the vacant position as well as other pertinent information shall be accessible to all applicants. The School District may fill vacancies temporarily with substitute personnel pending the posting and processing of applications. The District shall notify teachers by district email that a certified position has been posted.

Subd. 2. Teacher applicant consideration: Any teacher possessing the necessary qualifications may apply for any vacancy and all applications shall be considered. All applications shall be in conformance with prescribed application procedures for the particular vacancy.

Subd. 3. Selection: The School District reserves the right to select the most qualified candidates at its sole discretion to fill any vacancy.

Subd. 4. Vacancy filled notification: All internal candidates shall be notified in writing within one (1) week of the filling of the vacancy.

Subd. 5. Schedule C vacancies: Written notice of any vacant positions listed under Schedule C of this Agreement shall be posted electronically for at least seventy-two (72) hours. However, vacancies occurring after the start date for an activity may be filled after notice of such vacancy has been posted electronically for at least twenty-four (24) hours. A description of the vacant position as well as other pertinent information shall be accessible to all applicants. The School District may fill vacancies temporarily with substitute personnel pending the posting and processing of applications.

Section 2. Assignments - Voluntary:

Subd. 1. Written request by teacher: Any teacher desiring an assignment shall submit an email request to the superintendent or designee by March 1 of any school year, or at the time of any specific posting stating the specific assignment or nature of the assignment and the school or schools preferred. Such request shall be acknowledged by email.

Subd. 2. Notification of status of application: Each assignment applicant shall be notified of the status of their application by May 15 of the school year in which the request is made.

Section 3. Mutual Exchange of Teaching Assignments: Teachers may mutually agree to exchange teaching assignments in accordance with the following provisions:

Subd. 1. Timing of exchange: The exchange shall be considered to take place only (1) at the outset of the school year and (2) at the beginning of the term.

Subd. 2. Request for exchange: A proposal for exchange may be initiated by any of the related parties—teachers, principals, or superintendent or designee.

Subd. 3. Mutual agreement: The exchange will be accomplished only if mutually agreeable to all parties—teachers, principals, and the superintendent or designee.

Subd. 4. Signed agreement: The mutual understanding will be formalized by all parties completing the Mutual Agreement to Exchange Teaching Assignments form.

Subd. 5. Board notification: The Board of Education will be advised of all assignment exchanges resulting from this option, no differently than as with all other assignments.

Subd. 6. Independent action: This process will involve no vacancy, would necessitate no advance declaration by the school board, no posting, and no applications. It is not subject to any existing policies and is permitted under terms of the job description of the superintendent.

Section 4. Assignments - Involuntary: Under certain circumstances, the needs of the operation will require the involuntary assignment of a teacher to a different teaching position.

Subd. 1. Notice of involuntary assignment: Notice of involuntary assignment shall be given to the teacher involved as soon as practicable. Notice of all vacancies in the School District shall have been made available to all teachers being involuntarily assigned. Such teachers may request the assignments, in order of preference, to which they desire to be assigned.

Subd. 2. Meeting prior to assignment: An involuntary assignment shall be made only after a meeting between the teacher involved and the superintendent or designee, at which time the teacher shall be notified of the reasons for the assignment.

ARTICLE XVI

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1. Grievance Definition: A "grievance" shall mean an allegation by a teacher resulting in a dispute or disagreement as to the interpretation or application of any term or terms of this Agreement.

Section 2. Representative: A teacher, administrator, or the School District may be represented during any step of the procedure by any person or agent designated by such party to act on their behalf.

Section 3. Definitions and Interpretations:

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

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

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

Subd. 4. Filing and postmark: The filing or service or any notice or document herein shall be timely if it is personally served, or if it bears a certified postmark of the United State Postal Service within the time period.

Subd. 5. Levels and waivers: Through mutual agreement of the grievant or representative and the superintendent, any level of this procedure may be waived.

Section 4. Time Limitation and Waiver: Grievances shall not be valid for consideration unless the grievance is submitted in writing to the School District's designee, setting forth the facts and the specific provision of the Agreement allegedly violated and the particular relief sought within twenty (20) days after the date the event

giving rise to the grievance occurred, or within twenty (20) days after the teacher through the use of reasonable diligence, should have had knowledge of the occurrence that gave rise to the grievance. Failure to file any grievance within such period shall be deemed a waiver thereof. Failure to appeal a grievance from one level to another within the time periods hereafter provided shall constitute a waiver of the grievance. An effort shall first be made to resolve an alleged grievance informally between the teacher and the School District's designee.

Section 5. Resolution of Grievance: The parties shall attempt to resolve all grievances which may arise during the course of employment of any teacher within the School District in the following manner:

Subd. 1. Level I: If the grievance is not resolved through informal discussions, the School District designee shall give a written decision on the grievance to the parties involved within ten (10) days after receipt of the written grievance.

Subd. 2. Level II: In the event the grievance is not resolved in Level I, the decision rendered may be appealed to the superintendent of schools, provided such appeal is made in writing within five (5) days after receipt of the decision in Level I. If a grievance is properly appealed to the superintendent, the superintendent or designee shall set a time to meet regarding the grievance within ten (10) days after receipt of the appeal. Within ten (10) days after the meeting, the superintendent or designee shall issue a decision in writing to the parties involved.

Subd. 3. Level III: In the event the grievance is not resolved in Level II, the decision rendered may be appealed to the School Board, provided such appeal is made in writing within five (5) days after receipt of the decision in Level II. If a grievance is properly appealed to the School Board, the School Board shall set a time to hear the grievance within twenty (20) days after receipt of the appeal. Within twenty (20) days after the meeting, the School Board shall issue its decision in writing to the parties involved. At the option of the School Board, a committee or representative(s) of the School Board may be designated by the School Board to hear the appeal at this level and report the findings and recommendations to the School Board. The School Board shall then render its decision.

Section 6. School Board Review: The School Board reserves the right to review any decision issued under Level I or Level II of this procedure, provided the School Board or its representative notify the parties of its intention to review within ten (10) days after a decision in Level I or Level II has been rendered. In the event the School Board reviews a grievance under this Section, the School Board reserves the right to affirm, reverse or modify such decision and at the option of the School Board, a committee or representative(s) of the School Board may be designated by the School Board to hear the appeal at this level, and report its findings and recommendations to the School Board. The hearing shall take place within ten (10) days after the notice to review, and the School Board shall render its decision within ten (10) days after such hearing.

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

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

Subd. 1. Request: A request to submit a grievance to arbitration must be in writing signed by the aggrieved party, and such request must be filed in the office of the superintendent within ten (10) days following the decision in Level II or Level III, or within ten (10) days after the decision of the School Board if the School Board reviews a decision pursuant to Section 6 of the grievance procedure.

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

Subd. 3. Selection of arbitrator: Upon the prior submission of a grievance under the terms of this procedure, the parties shall, within ten (10) days after the request to arbitrate, attempt to agree upon the selection of an arbitrator. If no agreement on an arbitrator is reached, either party may request the Bureau

of Mediation Services to provide a list of seven arbitrators, pursuant to PELRA, providing such request is made within twenty (20) days after request for arbitration. The request shall ask that the appointment be made promptly after the receipt of said request. Failure to agree upon an arbitrator or the failure to request an arbitrator from the Bureau of Mediation Services within the time periods provided herein shall constitute a waiver of the grievance.

Subd. 4. Submission of grievance information:

a) Upon appointment of the arbitrator, the appealing party shall within twenty (20) days after notice of appointment forward to the arbitrator, with a copy to the School District, the submission of the grievance which shall include the following:

1. The issues involved.
2. Statement of the facts.
3. Position of the grievant.
4. The written documents relating to Section 5 of the grievance procedure.

b) The School District may make a submission of the same elements relating to the grievance either before or at the time of the hearing, with a copy to the grievant.

Subd. 5. Hearing: The grievance shall be heard by a single arbitrator and both parties may be represented by such person or persons as they may choose and designate, and the parties shall have the right to a hearing at which time both parties will have the opportunity to submit evidence, offer testimony, and make oral or written arguments relating to the issues before the arbitrator. The proceeding before the arbitrator shall be a hearing de novo.

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

Subd. 7. Expenses: Each party shall bear its own expenses in connection with arbitration, including expenses relating to the party's representatives, witnesses, and any other expenses which the party incurs in connection with presenting its case in arbitration. A transcript or recording shall be made of the hearing at the request of either party. The parties shall share equally fees and expenses of the arbitrator, the cost of the transcript or recording if requested by either or both parties, and any other expenses which the parties mutually agree are necessary for the conduct of the arbitration. However, the party ordering the copy of the transcript shall pay for such copy.

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

Section 9. Grievance Form: A form which must be used for filing of grievances, provided herein as Attachment A, shall be provided by the School District. Such form shall be readily accessible in all school buildings.

Section 10. Election of Remedies and Waiver: A party instituting any action, proceeding or complaint in a federal or state court of law, or before an administrative tribunal, federal agency, state agency, or seeking relief through any statutory process for which relief may be granted, the subject matter of which may constitute a grievance under this Agreement, shall immediately thereupon waive any and all rights to pursue a grievance under this Article. Upon instituting a proceeding in another forum as outlined herein, the employee shall waive their right to initiate a grievance pursuant to this Article or, if the grievance is pending in the grievance procedure, the right to pursue it further shall be immediately waived. This section shall not apply to actions to compel arbitration as provided in this Agreement or to enforce the award of an arbitrator. In addition, this section shall not apply to any situation in which its application constitutes unlawful retaliation or reprisal.

ARTICLE XVII

ABE, ECFE & PRESCHOOL CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Section 1. Applicable Provisions: All the provisions of the Teachers Master Agreement shall apply to eligible certified teachers in this article covered by PELRA, except the following:

Article VI	Length of School Year
Article VII	Hours of Service
Article VIII	Basic Compensation
Article XVI	Unrequested Leave of Absence

Section 2. Hours of Work: Employees under this Article are hourly employees with daily, weekly, monthly and/or annual hours as established and assigned by the District. Once established, work hours may be modified by the District with prior written notice.

Section 3. Prep Time: Certified teachers in this article will be allocated preparation time for every 25 minutes of instructional time, a minimum of five (5) minutes of preparation time shall be provided.

Section 4. Short-Term Leave: ABE teachers shall be eligible for up to one week's assignment of hours for leave without pay. Such leave must be taken in continuous days in one calendar week. Unused leave does not accrue. No more than one ABE teacher shall be permitted to be on this leave at any one time. Leave must be requested to the supervisor at least two weeks in advance, and if there is a conflict, preference will be given to the request submitted first.

Section 5. Calendar Year: The calendar year for certified teachers in this article may be conducted over the period of the fiscal year on a calendar different from that of the K-12 staff.

Section 6. Group Insurance: Certified teachers in this article will be eligible for the Group Insurance benefits as indicated under Article XIII. For the purposes of calculating FTE, 1387.5 hours equal 1.0 FTE

Section 7. 403(b) Matching Deferred Compensation/Retirement Plan: Certified teachers in this article will be eligible for the 403(b) Matching Plan as indicated under Article X.

Section 8. Seniority: For purposes of this section, seniority shall be defined as the date of last continuous date of hire as a teacher in the district.

Subd. 1. Accrual: Certified teachers in this article shall accumulate no seniority on the K-12 teacher seniority list but shall accrue separate seniority within the ABE, ECFE, or Preschool programs.

Subd. 2. Bumping: K-12 teaching staff cannot exercise their seniority to bump into ABE, ECFE and/or Preschool teaching positions.

Subd. 3. Seniority lists: Separate seniority lists shall be established for ABE, ECFE and Preschool employees.

Subd. 4. Lay off: Article XIV, Sections 1, 2 and 3 shall not apply except as modified in this section. The School District may lay off or reduce the hours of teachers within the ABE, ECFE and Preschool programs with thirty (30) calendar days' notice. When it is necessary to reduce hours or to eliminate positions due to lack of enrollment, discontinuance of programs or due to financial reasons, the School District shall layoff teacher in inverse order of seniority within the ABE, ECFE and Preschool programs. However, ABE, ECFE and Preschool teachers working under a specific grant shall be held harmless until the grant expires. Lay off and recall shall be subject to the grievance procedure (excluding probationary teachers).

Subd. 5. Grant Programs: ABE and ECFE teachers who transfer to grant-funded programs within Community Education (e.g., Even Start) accrue and maintain all seniority rights for their respective programs as stated in this section. Employees specifically hired for grant-funded programs accrue seniority within those programs. They do not accrue seniority within the ABE or ECFE programs. If grant funding is changed, reduced or eliminated and layoffs are necessary, the provisions of Subdivision 4 shall apply.

Section 9. Probation: The probationary period for certified teachers in this article will be in accordance with Minnesota Statute 122A.40. Beginning with the 2023-24 school year, all certified Preschool teachers will serve at least one (1) year or probation depending on their individual date of hire. Teachers hired before September 1, 2021, will serve one (1) full school year of probation. Teachers hired after September 1, 2021, will serve at least one (1) year or probation, but no more than three (3) consecutive years of probation. The number of years of probation served will be determined by the School District based on the teacher's years of service in the School District and/or years of service teaching in another school district. During the probationary period, a certified teacher under this article may be disciplined or terminated in accordance with the teacher discipline section under Article XX Teacher Discipline in the CBA.

Section 10. Compensation:

ABE and ECFE hired October 1, 2021, or later, shall be paid on the basis of BA, step 3 on salary Schedule A or B, at an hourly rate of annual salary divided by 1387.5. Preschool Teachers hired July 1, 2023, or after shall be paid on the basis of BA, step 3 on salary Schedule A or B, at an hourly rate of annual salary divided by 1387.5.

ABE and ECFE Teachers hired prior to October 1, 2021, compensation shall be based on Subd. 1-5 below.

Preschool Teachers hired prior to July 1, 2023, compensation shall be based on the individual teacher's independent contract.

Subd. 1. Rates of pay: ABE and ECFE teachers shall use the wages and salaries as reflected in Schedule A for the 2025-26 school year and Schedule B for the 2026-27 school year.

Subd. 2. Conversion of salary schedule to hourly wage: Each cell on the salary schedule shall be divided by 1387.5 to determine the hourly wage.

Subd. 3. Initial placement on the salary schedule: The following rules shall be applicable in determining initial placement of a teacher on the salary schedule:

- a) Prior experience: A teacher who has had prior experience in South St Paul, other school systems and/or in other fields of endeavor will be placed on the salary schedule as agreed between the School District and the teacher.
- b) Continuing teachers: All continuing contract teachers shall be compensated at the lane and step for which they qualify under this Article. Placement of any teacher elsewhere on the salary schedule shall be done by mutual agreement of the affected teacher, the Exclusive Representative and the School District.

Subd. 4. Step & lane advancement on the salary schedule:

- a) Germane: Credits to be considered for application on any lane of the salary schedule must be germane to the field(s) in which the teacher holds a license as determined by the superintendent or designee. Credits towards an administrative or counseling degree, earned after completion of a master's within their field of study, may also be considered as determined by the superintendent or designee.
- b) Grade and credits: To apply on the salary schedule, all credits beyond the bachelor's degree must be graduate credits and carry a grade equivalent of B or higher, or pass on a pass/fail system. Credits to apply to lanes beyond a particular degree lane must be earned subsequent to the earning of the degree.
- c) Earned credits: In order for consideration for advancement on the salary schedule, course work must be taken by the teacher from an accredited college or university, as approved by the State Department of Education. Such course work may be taken in a classroom setting, or other methods as offered by the accredited college. All earned credits will be on a quarter credit basis. The conversion from semester credit to quarter credit is based on the following calculation: semester credits x 1.5 = quarter credits.
- d) Advanced degree program: A teacher shall be paid on the master's degree lane or higher degree lane only if the degree program is germane to the field(s) in which the teacher holds a license as approved by the superintendent or designee and the degree program is approved in writing by the superintendent or designee in advance. Credits towards an administrative or counseling degree, earned after completion of a master's, may also be considered as determined by the superintendent or designee.
- e) Course approval: All credits, in order to be considered for application on the salary schedule, must be approved by the superintendent or designee in writing, prior to beginning the course.
- f) Special circumstances: Credits earned to acquire a new teaching license shall be applicable to lane changes only when prior written approval is given by the superintendent or designee.
- g) Payment of present salary: Changes in rules contained herein relating to the application of credits on the salary schedule shall not be retroactive in application but shall govern all placements effective with the execution of this agreement.

Subd. 5. Salary schedule advancement: Teachers who are employed on a .5 FTE contract or greater will advance one full step on the salary schedule. Teachers on a contract that is less than .5 FTE will advance on a prorated basis.

ARTICLE XVIII

TEACHER DISCIPLINE

Section 1. Purpose: This Article covers all teachers in the bargaining unit. All discipline shall be corrective where possible and not punitive. Any disciplinary action involving a discharge shall be pursuant to M.S. 122A.40, and such action shall not be subject to the provisions of this article.

Section 2. Progressive Discipline: Disciplinary action shall include the following steps, normally utilized in order.

Subd. 1. Oral reprimand/letter of direction: An oral reprimand/letter of direction shall be done in such a way that the teacher will not be embarrassed before colleagues, other employees, students or the public. An oral reprimand/letter of direction shall be identified as such at the time it is given. An oral reprimand/letter of direction, when entered into the teacher's permanent personnel file, shall be grounds for grievance procedures.

Subd. 2. Written reprimand: A written reprimand shall be presented to a teacher, in person, at a meeting called for that purpose. A teacher shall be made aware of the right to have the Exclusive Representative attend the meeting unless the teacher, in writing, waives the right. A teacher may not refuse to meet and/or may not intentionally delay a request to meet. A copy of the waiver shall be furnished to the Exclusive Representative. A copy of the reprimand shall be given to the teacher prior to having said reprimand placed in the permanent personnel file. A written reprimand shall be grounds for grievance procedures.

Subd. 3. Suspension: When suspension without pay is intended, the School District shall notify the teacher of the specific reason(s) for such action at a meeting called for this purpose. The meeting may be in person, by phone or virtual, as determined by the School District. The teacher shall invite the Exclusive Representative to attend the meeting unless the teacher, in writing, waives the rights. Suspension may be without pay, and shall take effect upon receipt by the teacher of notice of this action or shall take effect as otherwise indicated in the notice. The maximum suspension without pay shall not exceed the length of one school year. Upon mutual agreement between the School District and the teacher, the suspension without pay may be substituted by a fine for the equivalent number of days. This means that the teacher will work on those days, which would have been unpaid days of suspension, and the teacher's pay will be docked for the full gross salary. The Exclusive Representative, with consent from the teacher, has the right to take up the grievance procedure. The suspension without pay shall continue in effect for the time period provided in the suspension notice. The maximum suspension without pay shall not exceed the length of one full school year.

Subd. 4. Termination: The termination of a teacher's contract will be pursuant to M.S. 122A.40. Subd. 9 or immediate discharge pursuant to M.S. 122A.40. Subd. 13.

Section 3. Personnel File: Each teacher shall be promptly furnished with a copy of all evaluative and disciplinary materials entered into their permanent personnel file. All materials shall be dated and signed. A teacher has the right to attach a written response to any relevant document. Any investigation which does not result in disciplinary action shall not become part of the personnel file. Materials placed in the personnel file, upon the teacher's written request and after showing them to be false, inaccurate or incomplete, are to be removed. Written evidence used by the School District in any arbitration hearing related to disciplinary action is limited to the documents contained in the teacher's permanent personnel file and any documents presented to the exclusive representative prior to the commencement of the hearing, with the exception that private educational data and private personnel data on other employees will not be disclosed. Upon written request of a teacher, an oral or written reprimand shall be removed after seven (7) years and a written record of administrative leave shall be removed after seven (7) years, from the teacher's permanent personnel file, provided no further disciplinary action has been taken. Any oral or written reprimand in the personnel file as of October 1, 2015 shall be eligible for removal after five (5) years.

TEACHERS ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT (TOSA)

Section 1. Definition:

Teachers on Special Assignment (hereafter “TOSA”) shall be defined as those employees who work in a position that requires a teaching license, and also requires additional certification and/or specialized skills. The purpose of TOSA positions shall be to utilize the experience, education and specific skills of individual teachers to perform unique tasks in order to augment the essential services necessary for the School District to accomplish its purpose and mission.

Employees in a TOSA position are not subject to the bumping process as described in Article XVI of the Master Agreement, nor the Strand doctrine as enunciated by the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Therefore, the District shall not be required to displace a TOSA with another teacher in order to accommodate the seniority claim of a more senior teacher, regardless of specific areas of licensure or probationary/non-probationary status during the process of layoff or recall.

Section 2. Number of TOSA Positions:

The number of TOSA positions shall not exceed 7% of the total FTE’s of the licensed teacher positions in the District.

Section 3. Posting of positions:

TOSA positions shall be posted and filled in accordance with Article XVII of the current Agreement between the School District and the Exclusive Representative.

Section 4. Continuance:

The School District reserves the total discretion to grant or to deny the continuance of a teacher in a TOSA position beyond one year.

Section 5. Seniority:

An employee in a TOSA position shall continue to accrue seniority during the time of service as a TOSA. **Section**

6. Rights:

A TOSA shall mean a teacher who has acquired continuing contract status pursuant to Minn. Stat. 122A.40 in the District. The rights of a TOSA shall be as follows:

- a. Shall remain a member of the teacher collective bargaining unit.
- b. Shall have a right of return to their previous teaching position if their time of service as a TOSA is twelve (12) months or less, so long as that previous position has not been discontinued.
- c. Shall have a right of return to a teaching position in their appropriate licensure area if their time of service as a TOSA is greater than twelve (12) months.

ARTICLE XX

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Pay Date:

Subd. 1. Pay dates: Salary payments will be made in accordance with the School District’s payroll policy. However, if the policy should propose a significant change in the salary payment schedule, the parties agree to discuss modification of this provision through the meet and confer process.

Subd. 2. Pay dates falling on a holiday: When a pay date falls on a holiday, pay shall be available and dated no later than the last work day preceding that holiday.

Section 2. Copies of Agreement: The School District shall provide each teacher with electronic access to this Agreement and provide copies to the Exclusive Representative. The School District shall also make available to each teacher upon request copies of personnel policies and related forms.

Section 3: Mileage Allowance: A mileage allowance shall be paid for authorized use of personal cars in connection with School District business. The mileage allowance shall be paid pursuant to School District policy.

Section 4. Peer Review: As required by Minnesota Statute 122A.40, a Professional Development Plan (PDP) Committee shall be established. The committee shall consist of six (6) teachers appointed by the Exclusive Representative, and four (4) District representatives appointed by the School District.

Subd. 1: The purpose of the PDP Committee is to establish and monitor the peer review process for teachers. The Committee shall make an annual report to the School District and shall make budget recommendations through the District's established budget process.

Subd. 2: Each teacher shall establish a goal(s) and meet with a team of peers as part of their professional growth plan.

Subd. 3: The PDP process shall not be a consideration in any process regarding tenure, discipline, discharge, termination or related matters which shall remain within the authority and discretion of the School District, subject to applicable laws, regulations, School District policies and collective bargaining agreements.

Section 5. Notification date for non-renewal of probationary employment contract: The School District will notify probationary teachers whose employment contracts will not be renewed by June 1 of the year in which their contracts are not renewed.

Section 6. Activity Passes: All employees under this Agreement shall be admitted free of charge with their District-issued identification badge, along with a guest, to South St. Paul student activities (at home), excluding theatre performances.

Section 7. Resignation: Teachers are encouraged to submit resignations for the following school year by March 1 of the year in which they intend to resign. A teacher who resigns after July 1, may be required to pay the District \$1,000 to cover the costs associated with advertising, staffing and filling the position. Such amount will be deducted from the employee's final pay, or be billed that amount. If payment is not made to the District prior to the 30th day in the month in which the teacher resigns, all benefits will terminate as of the 30th day of the month of resignation.

Section 8. Retirement: Teachers who submit their notice to retire from the district February 1 for an end of school year retirement will be eligible for post-employment benefits in accordance with Article X to be paid that September. Teachers who submit their notice to retire after February 1, will have retirement benefits delayed by one (1) year. These benefits accrue during the year. Only the payment of the benefits is delayed. Teachers who submit notice and intend to retire during the school year, will be held to their contract until a qualified replacement is hired and their retirement benefits may be delayed until the following year as well. Teachers who submit their retirement from the District, and rescind their retirement prior to their previously held position being filled, will be considered for continued employment in the District. The Executive Director of Human Resources or designee and the union will meet and confer to review each request.

ARTICLE XXI

DURATION

Section 1. Term and Reopening Negotiations: This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for a period commencing July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, and thereafter, pursuant to the PELRA. If either party desires to modify or amend this Agreement commencing on July 1, 2025, it shall give written notice of such intent no later than May 1, 2025.

Section 2. Effect: This Agreement constitutes the full and complete Agreement between the School District and the Exclusive Representative representing the teachers of the School District. The provisions herein relating to terms and conditions of employment supersede any and all prior Agreements, resolutions, practices, School District policies, rules or regulations concerning terms and conditions of employment inconsistent with these provisions. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to obligate the School District to continue or discontinue existing or past practices, or prohibit the School District from exercising all management rights and prerogatives, except insofar as this exercise would be in express violation of any term or terms of this Agreement.

Section 3. Finality: Any matters relating to the current contract term, whether or not referred to in this Agreement, shall not be open for negotiations during the term of this Agreement except by mutual agreement unless otherwise prohibited by PELRA.

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as follows:

For _____
South St. Paul Teachers' Association
Local #861

For _____
South St. Paul Public Schools
Special School District No. 6

President

School Board Chair

Vice President

School Board Vice Chair

Negotiations Representative

Executive Director of Human Resources

Dated: _____

Dated: _____

SCHEDULE A

2025-26 Salary Schedule

STEP	BA	BA+15	BA+30	BA+45	BA+60	MA	MA+15	MA+30	MA+45	MA+60	PHD/ SPECIALIST
1	45,828	46,647	47,470	48,288	49,396	50,217	51,038	51,862	52,678	53,500	54,319
2	47,890	48,765	49,641	50,517	51,883	52,757	53,635	54,511	55,389	56,266	57,141
3	50,027	50,968	51,907	52,845	54,458	55,396	56,335	57,275	58,209	59,149	60,092
4	52,251	53,256	54,263	55,270	57,139	58,140	59,147	60,152	61,152	62,156	63,159
5	54,569	55,648	56,721	57,794	59,929	60,996	62,079	63,152	64,221	65,301	66,373
6	56,987	58,136	59,286	60,437	62,838	63,983	65,133	66,285	67,435	68,584	69,732
7	59,510	60,738	61,969	63,200	65,874	67,081	68,332	69,559	70,791	72,019	73,249
8	62,147	63,459	64,780	66,093	69,044	70,358	71,671	72,991	74,306	75,624	76,938
9	64,898	66,306	67,715	69,123	72,357	73,762	75,169	76,580	77,988	79,402	80,810
10	64,898	66,306	67,715	69,123	72,357	73,762	75,169	76,580	77,988	79,402	80,810
11		69,931	71,327	72,722	75,922	77,313	78,709	80,104	81,499	82,898	84,295
12		69,931	71,327	72,722	75,922	77,313	78,709	80,104	81,499	82,898	84,295
13		69,931	71,327	72,722	75,922	77,313	78,709	80,104	81,499	82,898	84,295
14			76,483	77,876	81,081	82,472	83,866	85,260	86,655	88,053	89,448
15			76,483	77,876	81,081	82,472	83,866	85,260	86,655	88,053	89,448
16			76,483	77,876	81,081	82,472	83,866	85,260	86,655	88,053	89,448
17				83,034	89,113	90,506	91,898	93,294	94,693	96,086	97,483
18				83,034	89,113	90,506	91,898	93,294	94,693	96,086	97,483
19				83,034	89,113	90,506	91,898	93,294	94,693	96,086	97,483
20					96,608	97,998	99,393	100,789	102,183	103,580	104,976

11* Experience step to be granted after 10 years of career step experience

14* Experience step to be granted after 13 years of career step experience

17* Experience step to be granted after 16 years of career step experience

20* Experience step to be granted after 19 years of career step experience

21* Eligible for longevity stipend pay per Article IX, Section 8

NOTE: All earned credits will be on a quarter credit basis (semester credits x 1.5 = quarter credits).

SCHEDULE B

2026-27 Salary Schedule

STEP	BA	BA+15	BA+30	BA+45	BA+60	MA	MA+15	MA+30	MA+45	MA+60	PHD/ SPECIALIST
1	46,744	47,581	48,419	49,254	50,383	51,221	52,058	52,899	53,731	54,570	55,405
2	48,848	49,740	50,634	51,527	52,921	53,813	54,707	55,601	56,497	57,392	58,284
3	51,027	51,988	52,945	53,902	55,547	56,504	57,461	58,421	59,374	60,332	61,294
4	53,296	54,321	55,348	56,375	58,282	59,303	60,330	61,356	62,375	63,399	64,423
5	55,660	56,761	57,856	58,950	61,128	62,216	63,321	64,415	65,506	66,607	67,701
6	58,127	59,300	60,472	61,646	64,095	65,262	66,436	67,610	68,784	69,955	71,127
7	60,700	61,954	63,208	64,464	67,191	68,423	69,698	70,950	72,207	73,460	74,714
8	63,389	64,728	66,076	67,415	70,425	71,765	73,105	74,451	75,792	77,136	78,476
9	66,195	67,632	69,069	70,506	73,804	75,238	76,672	78,111	79,548	80,990	82,426
10	66,195	67,632	69,069	70,506	73,804	75,238	76,672	78,111	79,548	80,990	82,426
11		71,330	72,753	74,176	77,440	78,859	80,284	81,706	83,129	84,556	85,981
12		71,330	72,753	74,176	77,440	78,859	80,284	81,706	83,129	84,556	85,981
13		71,330	72,753	74,176	77,440	78,859	80,284	81,706	83,129	84,556	85,981
14			78,012	79,433	82,702	84,122	85,544	86,965	88,388	89,814	91,237
15			78,012	79,433	82,702	84,122	85,544	86,965	88,388	89,814	91,237
16			78,012	79,433	82,702	84,122	85,544	86,965	88,388	89,814	91,237
17				84,695	90,896	92,316	93,736	95,160	96,587	98,008	99,433
18				84,695	90,896	92,316	93,736	95,160	96,587	98,008	99,433
19				84,695	90,896	92,316	93,736	95,160	96,587	98,008	99,433
20					98,540	99,957	101,381	102,805	104,226	105,652	107,076

11* Experience step to be granted after 10 years of career step experience

14* Experience step to be granted after 13 years of career step experience

17* Experience step to be granted after 16 years of career step experience

20* Experience step to be granted after 19 years of career step experience

21* Eligible for longevity stipend pay per Article IX, Section 8

NOTE: All earned credits will be on a quarter credit basis (semester credits x 1.5 = quarter credits).

SCHEDULE C

ECA Salary Schedule for 2025-26 and 2026-27

ECA ACTIVITY	Salary 2025-26	Salary 2026-27
Flex Positions	21024	21234
 BASEBALL		
Baseball Head Coach	5255	5307
Baseball Varsity Asst/JV Coach	3723	3760
Baseball Sophomore Coach	3723	3760
Baseball Freshman Coach	2864	2893
Baseball MS Coach	2271	2293
Baseball MS Coach	2271	2293
 BASKETBALL - BOYS		
Basketball Boys Head Coach	6727	6795
Basketball Boys Varsity Asst/JV Coach	4600	4646
Basketball Boys Varsity & Sophomore Coach	4600	4646
Basketball Boys Freshman Coach	3832	3870
Basketball Boys MS Coach	2271	2293
Basketball Boys MS Coach	2271	2293
Basketball Boys MS Coach	2271	2293
 BASKETBALL - GIRLS		
Basketball Girls Head Coach	6727	6795
Basketball Girls Varsity Asst/JV Coach	4600	4646
Basketball Girls Varsity & Sophomore Coach	4600	4646
Basketball Girls Freshman Coach	3832	3870
Basketball Girls MS Coach	2271	2293
Basketball Girls MS Coach	2271	2293
Basketball Girls MS Coach	2271	2293
 CROSS COUNTRY		
Cross Country Boys & Girls Head Coach	4489	4534
Cross Country Boys & Girls Varsity Asst	2863	2892
 DANCE TEAM		
Dance Team Head Coach	5085	5136
Dance Team Asst Coach	2271	2293
Dance Team Asst Coach	2271	2293
	Salary	Salary

ECA ACTIVITY	2025-26	2026-27
EQUIPMENT MANAGER		
Equipment Manager Grades 7-12	7007	7077
FOOTBALL		
Football Head Coach	6595	6661
Football Varsity Asst Coach	4294	4337
Football Varsity Asst Coach	4294	4337
Football Varsity Asst Coach	4294	4337
Football Varsity & Sophomore Head Coach	4294	4337
Football Varsity & Sophomore Assistant Coach	4294	4337
Football Varsity & Freshman Assistant Coach	4294	4337
Football Varsity & Freshman Head Coach	4294	4337
Football MS Coach	2271	2293
Football MS Coach	2271	2293
Football MS Coach	2271	2293
Football MS Coach	2271	2293
GAME EVENTS COORDINATOR		
Game Events Coordinator - Fall	2780	2808
Game Events Coordinator - Winter	2780	2808
GOLF		
Golf Boys Head Coach	3795	3833
Golf Boys Varsity Asst. Coach	2271	2293
Golf Girls Head Coach	3795	3833
Golf Girls Varsity Asst. Coach	2271	2293
GYMNASTICS		
Gymnastics Head Coach	5558	5614
Gymnastics Varsity Assistant Coach	4027	4067
HOCKEY - BOYS		
Hockey Boys Head Coach	6727	6795
Hockey Boys Varsity Asst Coach	4600	4646
Hockey Boys Varsity Asst/JV	4600	4646
HOCKEY - GIRLS		
Hockey Girls Head Coach	6727	6795
Hockey Girls Varsity Asst Coach	4600	4646
Hockey Girls Varsity Asst/JV	4600	4646
	Salary	Salary
ECA ACTIVITY	2025-26	2026-27

SOCCER - BOYS

Soccer Boys Head Coach	5255	5307
Soccer Boys Varsity Asst & JV Coach	3723	3760
Soccer Boys Varsity & Sophomore Coach	3723	3760
Soccer Boys Freshman Coach	2863	2892
Soccer Boys MS Coach	2271	2293

SOCCER - GIRLS

Soccer Girls Head Coach	5255	5307
Soccer Girls Varsity Asst/JV Coach	3723	3760
Soccer Girls Varsity & Sophomore Coach	3723	3760
Soccer Girls Freshman Coach	2863	2892
Soccer Girls MS Coach	2271	2293
Soccer Girls MS Coach	2271	2293

SOFTBALL

Softball Head Coach	5255	5307
Softball Varsity Asst/JV Coach	3723	3760
Softball Sophomore Coach	3723	3760
Softball Freshman Coach	2863	2892
Softball MS Coach	2271	2293

SWIMMING - BOYS

Swimming Boys Head Coach	5255	5307
Swimming Boys Asst/JV Coach	3723	3760
Swimming Boys Assist - Diving Coach	1862	1880

SWIMMING - GIRLS

Swimming Girls Head Coach	5255	5307
Swimming Girls Varsity Asst Coach	3723	3760
Swimming Girls Assist - Diving Coach	1862	1880

TENNIS - BOYS

Tennis Boys Head Coach	4212	4254
Tennis Boys Asst. Coach	2576	2602
Tennis Boys MS Coach	2271	2293

TENNIS - GIRLS

Tennis Girls Head Coach	4212	4254
Tennis Girls Asst. Coach	2576	2602
Tennis Girls MS Coach	2271	2293

ECA ACTIVITY

Salary	Salary
2025-26	2026-27

TRACK - BOYS

Track Boys Head Coach	6421	6485
Track Boys Varsity Asst Coach	4294	4337
Track Boys Varsity Asst Coach	4294	4337

TRACK - GIRLS

Track Girls Head Coach	6421	6485
Track Girls Varsity Asst Coach	4294	4337
Track Girls Varsity Asst Coach	4294	4337

TRACK - MS

Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	2271	2293
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	2271	2293
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	2271	2293
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	2271	2293
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	2271	2293
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	2271	2293

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball Head Coach	5255	5307
Volleyball Varsity Asst/JV Coach	3723	3760
Volleyball Varsity & Sophomore Coach	3723	3760
Volleyball Freshman Coach	2863	2892
Volleyball MS Coach	2271	2293
Volleyball MS Coach	2271	2293

WRESTLING

Wrestling Head Coach	6727	6795
Wrestling Varsity Asst/JV Coach	4600	4646
Wrestling MS Coach	3099	3130
Wrestling MS Coach	3099	3130

BAND

Marching Band Director	2465	2490
Pep Band Director - Winter	1695	1712
Jazz Ensemble Director	2004	2024
Combo Band - Show Choir	1169	1181

DEBATE/SPEECH

Debate Head Coach	5255	5307
Speech Head Coach	4315	4358

Salary

Salary

ECA ACTIVITY	2025-26	2026-27
MUSIC		
-Elementary Vocal – Kaposia	1 210	1222
E7lementary Vocal – Lincoln	1210	1222
Vocal Music - Middle School	852	860
Vocal Music - High School	1169	1181
Varsity Singers Show Choir	4007	4047
Varsity Singers Asst Show Choir	1169	1181
Choreographer	905	914
THEATRE		
Fall Technical Director	1224	1236
Fall Vocal Director	1836	1854
Fall Choreographer	1224	1236
Fall Costumer	1224	1236
Winter Technical Director	1224	1236
Spring Technical Director	1224	1236
Spring Costumer	1224	1236
Summer Technical Director	1224	1236
Summer Costumer	1224	1236
Summer Junior Director	1836	1854
Summer Vocal Director	1836	1854
Summer Choreographer	1224	1236
SAFETY PATROL		
Safety Patrol - Lincoln	1606	1622
Safety Patrol - Kaposia	1606	1622
YEARBOOK/NEWSPAPER		
Yearbook HS Advisor	4315	4358
Memory Book MS Advisor	1137	1148
STUDENT COUNCIL		
Student Council Advisor – Lincoln	1242	1255
Student Council Advisor – Kaposia	1242	1255
Student Council Advisor – MS	2714	2741
Student Council Advisor – HS	4087	4128
	Salary	Salary
ECA ACTIVITY	2025-26	2026-27

ACADEMICS/OTHER

Math League - MS	2271	2293
Math League - HS	2336	2359
Math Masters, Lincoln 5	1210	1222
Math Masters, Kaposia 5	1210	1222
Knowledge Bowl	2350	2373
Knowledge Bowl - MS	1173	1185
Key Club Advisor	1430	1444
Robotics	5255	5307
Lego League Junior - Lincoln	1242	1255
Lego League Junior - Kaposia	1242	1255
Lego League - Lincoln	1242	1255
Lego League - Kaposia	1242	1255
Lego League - MS	1242	1255
Lego League - MS	1242	1255
Geography Club - Lincoln	1210	1222
Geography Club - Kaposia	1210	1222
Art Club - Lincoln	1210	1222
Art Club - Kaposia	1210	1222
Art Club - MS	1210	1222
Art Club - HS	1210	1222
SADD Advisor	2040	2061
SADD Advisor	2040	2061
WEB Advisor	1796	1813
WEB Advisor	1796	1813
WEB Advisor	1796	1813
WEB Advisor	1796	1813
WEB Advisor	1796	1813
Prom Advisor	1298	1311
School Store Advisor	4008	4048
Affinity Group - BPO	4087	4128
Affinity Group - CDLU	4087	4128
Affinity Group - SAGA	4087	4128
Affinity Group - Women in Society	4087	4128
Total	530801	536109

Teacher Leadership

Site Solutions Team - High School (max of 12)	631	631
Site Solutions Team - Middle School (max of 12)	631	631
Site Solutions Team - Elementary Schools (max of 12)	631	631
Teacher Mentors	754	754
Teacher Licensure Coordinator	754	754

GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM

South St. Paul Public Schools

Name: South St. Paul Teachers' Association, Local #861 (the Exclusive Representative)

Building:

Date Grievance Occurred:

Statement of Facts:

Specific Provisions of Agreement Allegedly Violated:

Particular Relief Sought:

Dated: _____

Grievance Chair

President

Copies to: Superintendent

PROFESSIONAL DAY

(Refer to Article VII, Hours of Service, Section 1)

The parties agree to the following as reasonable expectations for the Professional Day:

- A. Administrators will review this Attachment B with the Exclusive Representative at the start of the school year.
- B. Teachers are expected to be at school when school is regularly in session for students.
- C. Teachers are expected to be at school at whatever time is necessary for their own usual planning and preparation.
- D. Teachers are expected to meet with parents and students, and attend Special Education IEP meetings as part of their Professional Day.
- E. Teachers are expected to attend building, faculty/committee, team, department or grade level meetings as scheduled during the established building hours unless there are unavoidable circumstances requiring the teacher's absence from work.
- F. Consistent with the above expectations is a shared judgment that teachers should not, as a general practice, enter the building shortly before students arrive and leave shortly after students depart.
- G. Teachers are expected to cover their share of unpaid duties (i.e. PTA and KTPC meetings, open houses, etc.)
- H. Administrators will be reasonable about the number of volunteers for extra duties.
- I. Activities for which teachers are paid additional compensation do not technically fall under the Professional Day language. However, it is assumed teachers will be willing to do their share of paid extra duties, keeping in mind that if not enough people volunteer, teachers may be assigned.
- J. Whenever a teacher leaves the building during the student day (except during their lunch break), the teacher shall have pre-approval from the Office of the Building Principal.
- K. The following interventions may be implemented for individual teachers who have demonstrated a pattern of failing to adhere to these general guidelines and expectations.
 - a. Administrators will review the Professional Day Attachment B individually with any staff member who they believe needs additional clarification of these expectations. The staff member may request the Exclusive Representative to attend this meeting.
 - b. Should this pattern of behavior continue, an administrator will meet with the individual and provide written notice that Professional Day expectations are not being met and may place an individual teacher on Plan B of Article VII, Section 1.

**Memorandum of Agreement
Opening Week Schedule**

It is hereby agreed between South St. Paul Public School District No. 6, (hereafter “District) and South St. Paul Teachers Association Local #861 (hereafter “Union”) agree to the following:

The parties agree to:

If opening week, prior to the start of the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school year, is scheduled for five days, teachers will be provided ten (10) hours of unscheduled time. If opening week is four days, teachers will be provided eight (8) hours of unscheduled time.

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into as part of the Agreement between the South St. Paul Public Schools, Special School District No. 6, and the South St. Paul Teachers’ Association, Local #861.

This Memorandum of Agreement will expire on June 30, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Memorandum of Agreement as follows:

For _____
South St. Paul Teachers’ Association
Local #861

For _____
South St. Paul Public Schools
Special School District No. 6

President

School Board Chair

Vice President

School Board Vice Chair

Negotiations Representative

Executive Director of Human Resources

Dated: _____

Dated: _____

**Memorandum of Agreement
External TOSA**

This Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) is entered into by and between South St. Paul Public Schools, Special School District No. 6, (hereafter “District”) and South St. Paul Teachers’ Association, Local #861 (hereafter “Union”).

WHEREAS, the Union and the District are parties to a collective bargaining agreement (“CBA”) governing the negotiated terms and conditions of employment for teachers who are employed by the District;

WHEREAS, the CBA does not currently address ~~over~~ External Teachers on Special Assignment (“TOSA”);

WHEREAS, the parties desire to define and outline the rights of an External TOSA;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Union and the District agree as follows:

1. **Definition:** An External TOSA shall mean a teacher who, upon hire, was not previously employed in the District, and has not acquired continuing contract status pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 122A.40 in the District. An External TOSA serves the same purpose as a TOSA as defined in Article XXI, Section 1.
2. **Rights:** The rights of an External TOSA shall be as follows:
 - a. Effective the 2019-20 school year, an External TOSA shall accrue seniority during the time of service as an External TOSA, and each year of applicable service in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 122A.40 will count toward earning.
 - b. Employees in an External TOSA position cannot bump other teachers as described in Article XVI of the CBA, and such employees cannot be bumped out of their external TOSA position. Employees in an External TOSA position are also not subject to the realignment doctrine. Therefore, the District shall not be required to displace an External TOSA with another teacher in order to accommodate the seniority claim of a more senior teacher, regardless of specific areas of licensure or probationary/non-probationary status during the process of layoff or recall.
 - c. An External TOSA shall remain an External TOSA in the District, unless the employee’s employment is terminated pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 122A.40, the District reassigns the employee to a teaching position, or the position is eliminated after the employee attains continuing contract rights and the employee is reassigned to a teaching position through the unrequested leave of absence (“ULA”) process as described in paragraph 2(e) herein.
 - d. An External TOSA who does not have continuing contract rights shall have no unrequested leave of absence rights pursuant to this MOA or the CBA. If an External TOSA position is eliminated and the teacher in the External TOSA position has attained continuing contract rights in the District, the teacher has no right to displace any teacher. The teacher, who has attained continuing contract rights in the District does have the right to be placed on ULA in accordance with the District’s ULA process.
 - e. An External TOSA shall be a member of the teacher collective bargaining unit and shall be subject to the terms and conditions of employment as outlined in the current CBA to the extent that they do not conflict with this MOA.
 - f. Compensation shall be in accordance with the current CBA between the District and the Union.

3. **Continuance:** The District reserves the total discretion to determine whether to assign the teacher to the External TOSA position beyond one year.

This MOA is entered into as part of the CBA between the South St. Paul Public Schools, Special School District No. 6, and the South St. Paul Teachers' Association, Local #861.

This MOA will expire on June 30, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Memorandum of Agreement as follows:

For _____
South St. Paul Teachers' Association
Local #861

For _____
South St. Paul Public Schools
Special School District No. 6

President

School Board Chair

Vice President

School Board Vice Chair

Negotiations Representative

Executive Director of Human Resources

Dated: _____

Dated: _____

ARTICLE XXI

DURATION

Section 1. Term and Reopening Negotiations: This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for a period commencing July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027, and thereafter, pursuant to the PELRA. If either party desires to modify or amend this Agreement commencing on July 1, 2027, it shall give written notice of such intent no later than May 1, 2027.

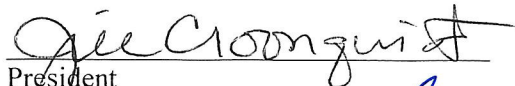
Section 2. Effect: This Agreement constitutes the full and complete Agreement between the School District and the Exclusive Representative representing the teachers of the School District. The provisions herein relating to terms and conditions of employment supersede any and all prior Agreements, resolutions, practices, School District policies, rules or regulations concerning terms and conditions of employment inconsistent with these provisions. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to obligate the School District to continue or discontinue existing or past practices, or prohibit the School District from exercising all management rights and prerogatives, except insofar as this exercise would be in express violation of any term or terms of this Agreement.

Section 3. Finality: Any matters relating to the current contract term, whether or not referred to in this Agreement, shall not be open for negotiations during the term of this Agreement except by mutual agreement unless otherwise prohibited by PELRA.

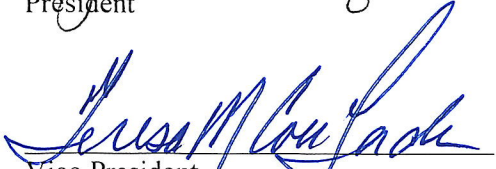
Section 4. Severability: The provisions of this Agreement shall be severable, and if any provision thereof or the application of any such provision under any circumstances is held invalid, it shall not affect any other provisions of this Agreement or the application of any provision thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as follows:

For _____
South St. Paul Teachers' Association
Local #861



President



Vice President



Negotiations Representative

Dated: 12/18/2025

For _____
South St. Paul Public Schools
Special School District No. 6



School Board Chair



School Board Vice Chair

Executive Director of Human Resources

Dated: 12/18/2025

SCHEDULE C

ECA Salary Schedule for 2025-26 and 2026-27

ECA ACTIVITY	Salary 2025-26	Salary 2026-27
BASEBALL		
Baseball Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308
Baseball Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Baseball Sophomore/"B"Squad Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Baseball Freshman/ "C" Coach	\$2,864	\$2,893
BASKETBALL - BOYS		
Basketball Boys Head Coach	\$6,727	\$6,794
Basketball Boys Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646
Basketball Boys Varsity/"B"Squad Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646
Basketball Boys Freshman Coach	\$3,832	\$3,870
Basketball Boys MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
Basketball Boys MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
BASKETBALL - GIRLS		
Basketball Girls Head Coach	\$6,727	\$6,794
Basketball Girls Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646
Basketball Girls Varsity/"B"Squad Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646
Basketball Girls Freshman Coach	\$3,832	\$3,870
Basketball Girls MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
CROSS COUNTRY		
Cross Country Boys & Girls Head Coach	\$4,489	\$4,534
Cross Country Boys & Girls Varsity Assistant	\$2,863	\$2,892
DANCE TEAM		
Dance Team Head Coach	\$5,085	\$5,136
Dance Team Assistant Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
Dance Team Assistant Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
EQUIPMENT MANAGER		
Equipment Manager Grades 7-12	\$7,007	\$7,077
FOOTBALL		
Football Head Coach	\$6,595	\$6,661
Football Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Football Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Football Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337

Football Varsity JV/"B" Squad Head Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Football Varsity JV/"B" Squad Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Football Varsity & Freshman Head Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Football Varsity & Freshman Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Football MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
Football MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
Football MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
Football MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294

GAME EVENTS COORDINATOR

Game Events Coordinator - Fall	\$2,780	\$2,808
Game Events Coordinator - Winter	\$2,780	\$2,808

GOLF

Golf Boys Head Coach	\$3,795	\$3,833
Golf Boys Varsity Assistant Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
Golf Girls Head Coach	\$3,795	\$3,833
Golf Girls Varsity Assistant Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294

GYMNASTICS

Gymnastics Head Coach	\$5,558	\$5,614
Gymnastics Assistant Coach	\$4,027	\$4,067

HOCKEY - BOYS

Hockey Boys Head Coach	\$6,727	\$6,794
Hockey Boys Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646
Hockey Boys Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646

HOCKEY - GIRLS

Hockey Girls Head Coach	\$6,727	\$6,794
Hockey Girls Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646
Hockey Girls Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$4,600	\$4,646

SOCCER - BOYS

Soccer Boys Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308
Soccer Boys Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Soccer Boys Varsity/"B" Squad Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Soccer Boys Freshman Coach	\$2,863	\$2,892
Soccer Boys MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294

SOCCER - GIRLS

Soccer Girls Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308
Soccer Girls Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Soccer Girls Varsity/"B" Squad Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Soccer Girls Freshman Coach	\$2,863	\$2,892

Soccer Girls MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
SOFTBALL		
Softball Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308
Softball Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Softball "B" Squad Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Softball Freshman Coach	\$2,863	\$2,892
SWIMMING - BOYS		
Swimming Boys Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308
Swimming Boys Assistant Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Swimming Boys Assist/Diving Coach	\$1,862	\$1,881
SWIMMING - GIRLS		
Swimming Girls Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308
Swimming Girls Varsity Assistant Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Swimming Girls Assist/Diving Coach	\$1,862	\$1,881
TENNIS - BOYS		
Tennis Boys Head Coach	\$4,212	\$4,254
Tennis Boys Assistant Coach	\$2,576	\$2,602
TENNIS - GIRLS		
Tennis Girls Head Coach	\$4,212	\$4,254
Tennis Girls Assistant Coach	\$2,576	\$2,602
Tennis Girls MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294
TRACK - BOYS		
Track Boys Head Coach	\$6,421	\$6,485
Track Boys Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Track Boys Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
TRACK - GIRLS		
Track Girls Head Coach	\$6,421	\$6,485
Track Girls Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
Track Girls Varsity Assistant Coach	\$4,294	\$4,337
TRACK - MS		
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	\$2,271	\$2,294
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	\$2,271	\$2,294
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	\$2,271	\$2,294
Track MS Coach, Boys & Girls	\$2,271	\$2,294
VOLLEYBALL		
Volleyball Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308

Volleyball Varsity Assistant/JV Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Volleyball Varsity/ "B" Squad Coach	\$3,723	\$3,760
Volleyball Freshman/ "C" Coach	\$2,863	\$2,892
Volleyball MS Coach	\$2,271	\$2,294

WRESTLING

Wrestling Head Coach	\$6,727	\$6,794
Wrestling Head Assistant - Boys	\$4,600	\$4,646
Wrestling Head Assistant - Girls	\$4,600	\$4,646
Wrestling Assistant Coach - Boys	\$3,364	\$3,398
Wrestling Assistant Coach - Girls	\$3,364	\$3,398
Wrestling MS Coach	\$3,099	\$3,130
Wrestling MS Coach	\$3,099	\$3,130

BAND

Marching Band Director	\$2,465	\$2,490
Pep Band Director - Winter	\$1,695	\$1,712
Jazz Ensemble Director	\$2,004	\$2,024
Combo Band - Show Choir	\$1,169	\$1,181

DEBATE/SPEECH

Debate Head Coach	\$5,255	\$5,308
Speech Head Coach	\$4,315	\$4,358

MUSIC

Elementary Vocal – Kaposia	\$1,210	\$1,222
Elementary Vocal – Lincoln	\$1,210	\$1,222
Vocal Music - Middle School	\$852	\$861
Vocal Music - High School	\$1,169	\$1,181
Varsity Singers Director	\$1,169	\$1,181
Show Choir Director	\$4,007	\$4,047
Show Choir Choreographer	\$905	\$914

THEATRE

Fall Technical Director	\$1,224	\$1,236
Fall Vocal Director	\$1,836	\$1,854
Fall Choreographer	\$1,224	\$1,236
Fall Costumer	\$1,224	\$1,236
Winter Technical Director	\$1,224	\$1,236
Spring Technical Director	\$1,224	\$1,236
Spring Costumer	\$1,224	\$1,236
Summer Technical Director	\$1,224	\$1,236
Summer Costumer	\$1,224	\$1,236
Summer Junior Director	\$1,836	\$1,854
Summer Vocal Director	\$1,836	\$1,854

Summer Choreographer	\$1,224	\$1,236
SAFETY PATROL		
Safety Patrol - Lincoln	\$1,606	\$1,622
Safety Patrol - Kaposia	\$1,606	\$1,622
STUDENT COUNCIL		
Student Council Advisor – Lincoln	\$1,242	\$1,254
Student Council Advisor – Kaposia	\$1,242	\$1,254
Student Council Advisor – MS	\$2,714	\$2,741
Student Council Advisor – HS	\$4,087	\$4,128
YEARBOOK		
Yearbook HS Advisor	\$4,315	\$4,358
Memory Book MS Advisor	\$1,137	\$1,148
ACADEMICS/OTHER		
Math League - MS	\$2,271	\$2,294
Math League - HS	\$2,336	\$2,359
Math Masters, Lincoln 5	\$1,210	\$1,222
Math Masters, Kaposia 5	\$1,210	\$1,222
Knowledge Bowl	\$2,350	\$2,374
Knowledge Bowl - MS	\$1,173	\$1,185
Key Club Advisor	\$1,430	\$1,444
Robotics	\$5,255	\$5,308
Lego League Junior - Lincoln	\$1,242	\$1,254
Lego League Junior - Kaposia	\$1,242	\$1,254
Lego League - Lincoln	\$1,242	\$1,254
Lego League - Kaposia	\$1,242	\$1,254
Lego League - MS	\$1,242	\$1,254
Lego League - MS	\$1,242	\$1,254
Geography Club - Lincoln	\$1,210	\$1,222
Geography Club - Kaposia	\$1,210	\$1,222
Art Club - Lincoln	\$1,210	\$1,222
Art Club - Kaposia	\$1,210	\$1,222
Art Club - MS	\$1,210	\$1,222
Art Club - HS	\$1,210	\$1,222
SADD Advisor	\$2,040	\$2,060
SADD Advisor	\$2,040	\$2,060
WEB Advisor	\$1,796	\$1,814
WEB Advisor	\$1,796	\$1,814
WEB Advisor	\$1,796	\$1,814
WEB Advisor	\$1,796	\$1,814
WEB Advisor	\$1,796	\$1,814
Prom Advisor	\$1,298	\$1,311

School Store Advisor	\$4,008	\$4,048
Affinity Group - BPO	\$4,087	\$4,128
Affinity Group - CDLU	\$4,087	\$4,128
Affinity Group - SAGA	\$4,087	\$4,128
Affinity Group - Women in Society	\$4,087	\$4,128
Total	\$493,860	\$498,802

Teacher Leadership

Site Solutions Team - High School (max of 12)	\$631
Site Solutions Team - Middle School (max of 12)	\$631
Site Solutions Team - Elementary Schools (max of 12)	\$631
Teacher Mentors	\$754
Teacher Licensure Coordinator	\$754