

**Collective Bargaining Agreement
between
Carman-Ainsworth Board of Education
and
Transportation Association**



2024 - 2028

ARTICLE I RECOGNITION

- A. The Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools Board of Education hereinafter referred to as the Board and/or Employer hereby recognizes the Michigan Education Association through its local affiliate, the Carman-Ainsworth Transportation Association, hereinafter referred to as the Association, as the exclusive representative for school bus drivers for the purpose of collective bargaining with respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment and other conditions of employment relative to transporting children by school bus.
- B. For the purpose of this Agreement, the term “employees” shall include all regular full and part time drivers and probationary drivers excluding substitutes and all other employees.
- C. For the purpose of this agreement, the categories of employees will be defined as follows:
 - 1. Regular full-time driver: A driver who has satisfactorily completed his/her probationary period, and who selects or is permanently assigned six or more runs per day or thirty runs per week, and who continues to drive these runs until the next selection period unless this run schedule is otherwise modified by the terms of this agreement. Drivers employed prior to July 1, 1991, driving four or more runs per day or twenty runs per week shall be considered regular full-time drivers.
 - 2. Regular part-time driver: A driver who has satisfactorily completed his/her probationary period, and who selects or is permanently assigned less than thirty runs per week, and who continues to drive these runs on a regular basis until the next selection period unless this run schedule is otherwise modified by the terms of this agreement.
 - 3. Probationary driver: A driver who is permanently assigned at least three runs per week and who must satisfactorily drive these runs for forty (40) consecutive working days.
 - 4. Substitute driver: A driver who replaces a regular full-time, a regular part-time, or a probationary driver on a per diem basis, and who accrues no seniority or other benefits of this agreement.
- D. Supervisory employees, teachers and coaches shall not be permitted to perform work within the bargaining unit, except in the following types of situations:
 - 1. When an emergency arising out of an unforeseen circumstance calls for immediate action.
 - 2. When instructing or training employees, including demonstrating the proper method(s) to accomplish the assigned tasks.

3. When no regular, probationary or substitute drivers are available, other employees shall be permitted to drive buses, providing that the person is properly certified to drive.

ARTICLE II ASSOCIATION RIGHTS

- A. The Board agrees to furnish the Association in response to reasonable requests, available and compiled information concerning the financial resources of the district, and such other information not restricted by law as will assist the Association.
- B. All employees who are covered by this Agreement shall be represented for the purposes of the grievance procedure and negotiations by a grievance committee and a bargaining committee to be chosen by the Association.
- C. Representatives of the Association may absent themselves from their assigned work whenever they are scheduled, by mutual agreement, during working hours, to participate in joint meetings, grievance hearings, or negotiations. They shall suffer no loss in pay and substitutes shall be provided if necessary. The Board and the Association agree to meet on a regular basis to hold problem solving conferences.
- D. The names of Association officers shall be given to the employer each year in writing.
- E. Duly authorized representatives of the Association, if not employed by the employer, will be permitted to participate in joint meetings, grievance hearings, and negotiations as they relate to wages, hours and conditions of employment.
- F. Bulletin boards will be provided for the use of the employees. Bulletin boards will be used for the posting of notices of bonafide employee activities only. In no case shall advertising or inappropriate printed/written matter be placed on any bulletin board.
- G. The Association may in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations, use school buildings at reasonable hours to conduct Association business, provided that this shall not interfere with or interrupt normal school operations.
- H. No employee shall be discriminated against as to race, gender, creed, color, national origin, age, or marital status. However, such allegation shall not be subject to the grievance procedure beyond Level III.
- I. No driver shall be prevented from wearing insignia pins or identification of membership in the association either on or off school premises, provided that such neither interferes with the educational process nor represents stands that are not in accordance with district policies.

ARTICLE III
RIGHTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education reserves and retains, solely and exclusively, all rights to manage and direct its work forces, except as expressly abridged by specific provisions of this Agreement including by way of illustration, but not limitation, the determination of policies, operations, assignments, schedules, discipline, layoff, reasonable rules and regulations, etc., for the orderly and efficient operation of the school district.

ARTICLE IV
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- A. The primary purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest level possible, equitable solutions to the problems of the parties.
- B. A grievance is a claim by the Association or one or more members of the unit of improper application or interpretation of this Agreement, or work rules that have been adopted by the Board of Education at a public meeting, specifying the part of the Agreement, or work rule, which is the subject of the grievance.
- C. Any employee believing a grievance has occurred, will along with an association representative discuss the matter with his/her immediate supervisor within ten (10) working days of the incident. If this informal attempt to resolve a grievance is used, the supervisor shall attempt to resolve the matter in a manner that is consistent with the terms of this Agreement. The employee may elect to file a grievance without exercising their right to resolve the grievance informally.

Level 1:

Grievances that are not settled informally shall be reduced to writing on the appropriate forms, signed by the grievant and delivered to the supervisor of transportation or his designee. The grievance shall be filed within ten (10) working days of the mandatory conference. The written grievance must contain the claimed violation of the agreement, or work rule and include the appropriate contract and/or work rule provision. Within ten (10) days of the filing of a grievance, the supervisor shall meet with the grievant and an Association representative to discuss the grievance. The supervisor will answer the grievance with his/her disposition on the grievance form within ten (10) working days of the meeting, giving a copy of the answer to the grievant and to the Association.

Level 2:

If the grievance is not resolved level 1, within ten (10) working days, the Association may file an appeal with the Office of Human Resources. A hearing shall be held within ten (10) working days in the attempt to resolve the grievance. Both the Association and the employer shall have the right to present and cross-examine witnesses. The Office of

Human Resources or his/her designated representative shall render his/her written disposition of the grievance within ten (10) working days of the hearing.

Level 3:

1. If the disposition of the grievance from the Office of Human Resources is not satisfactory, the Association may, within ten (10) working days, submit the grievance to arbitration. The arbitrator shall be selected according to the rules of the American Arbitration Association unless the parties otherwise agree to mutually select an arbitrator.
2. Any arbitrator shall have power only to rule on matters clearly specified in this agreement. S/he shall have no power to add to, subtract from or to modify any language contained in this agreement.
3. This decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon both parties, provided that the decision is consistent with the terms of this agreement.
4. Should the arbitrator decide that s/he has no power to decide the dispute above s/he shall, as soon as practical, so notify the employer and the Association.
5. The fees and expenses only of the arbitrator shall be shared equally by both parties. Either party incurring incidental expenses shall be solely responsible for such expenses.

D. Representatives:

1. The employee may request Association representation.
2. With the proper notification to the Association, nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent any individual member from presenting a grievance and having the grievance adjusted without the intervention of the Association if the adjustment is not inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement and the Association has been given an opportunity to be present at such adjustment. Such grievances shall not be processed beyond Level II without support of the grievance committee.

E. Time Limits:

Time limits may be extended by written mutual agreement. If the disposition of a grievance is not received with the time limits above, the grievance may be appealed to the next level.

F. Miscellaneous:

A grievance may be withdrawn at any time.

ARTICLE V
ASSOCIATION SECURITY

Public Acts 53 and 349 of 2012 prohibit the district from complying with Association Security and Payroll Deductions. Therefore, the language has been moved to Appendix A and will be enforceable should there be legal circumstances that allow the district to comply with the language in Appendix A.

ARTICLE VI
EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The employer will issue paychecks to drivers as scheduled. An error in a paycheck in excess of twenty dollars (\$20) which results from an error on the part of the employer will be corrected within three (3) working days of the scheduled pay date. An error in a paycheck which results from an error in reporting of time or runs on the part of the employee will be corrected during the next pay period.
- B. Experienced drivers will be assigned driver trainees only on a voluntary basis.
- C. A safety check shall be performed daily by the driver assigned to each bus. A required safety check list shall be provided to all drivers at the beginning of each school year or at the time of any updates.
- D. Drivers are responsible for proper housekeeping of their regularly assigned bus and of any bus to which they are temporarily assigned. The Supervisor of Transportation will develop a task list to be reviewed with the Association to gather input and recommendations. The task list shall be presented to the drivers prior to the beginning of the school year.
- E. Drivers involved in an accident shall immediately report the accident to the Supervisor of Transportation. The responsible party, be it the school district or driver, is responsible for traffic violation fines.
- F. It shall be the responsibility of each driver to audit the condition of his/her assigned bus daily, and to complete the monthly inspection report which shall be returned to the Supervisor of Transportation on the last day of the week.
- G. Upon request a driver will relinquish his/her assigned bus to another driver when the Supervisor of Transportation determines that a given run or trip requires specific equipment. In making such determination the Supervisor of Transportation will consider the following:
 - 1. The passenger capacity of the bus
 - 2. The fuel capacity of the bus
 - 3. Special and/or safety equipment available

4. Evaluation of the head mechanic concerning probable road reliability
 5. Duration and total mileage of the trip or run.
- H. Any case of assault upon a driver shall be promptly reported to the building principal and supervisor. The Board will provide legal counsel to advise the driver of his/her rights and obligations with respect to such assault and shall render all reasonable assistance to the driver in connection with handling of the incident by law enforcement and judicial authorities. The employer will provide defense counsel in appropriate cases but will not provide legal counsel to initiate litigation.

ARTICLE VII

EVALUATION AND DISCIPLINE

- A. The work performance of all bargaining unit members will be evaluated in writing on the form provided. A copy of the written evaluation shall be submitted to the employee and discussed with him/her within ten (10) workdays of its completion
- B. Evaluations shall be conducted by the supervisor of Transportation and/or another Carman-Ainsworth supervisor or administrator. The person conducting the evaluation shall not be a member of the bargaining unit.
- C. Probationary employees shall be observed at least one time during the probationary period. A written evaluation shall be provided at the end of the probationary period and discussed with the employee within ten (10) workdays of completion.
- D. No employee may be dismissed, suspended, or otherwise disciplined without just cause, except as in Article VIII, G. The Board agrees to follow a policy of progressive discipline, which includes verbal warning, written warning, reprimand, suspension without/with pay, and termination. Discipline can begin at any level, provided that it is appropriate to the action that precipitated the discipline. The employer, in any meeting held with a bargaining unit member from which discipline could arise or where discipline is given, shall ensure that the member is represented by the Association President, Grievance Chair, Executive Board Member and/or the designated MEA UniServ representative.
- E. The employee shall have written notification of all discipline above verbal warning. A copy of disciplinary action shall be sent to the MEA representative.
- F. The employer shall not discipline any driver because of a parent/guardian complaint unless an investigation has taken place. The investigation may include meetings with the driver, supervisor, building principal, parent, student, Association representative, MEA representative, and/or others as deemed necessary. Investigations of any serious charge will include meeting with the MEA representative.

- G. Drivers shall exercise reasonable care with respect to the safety of students and property but shall not be held individually liable for any damage or loss to person or property, except in cases of proven negligence.
- H. An employee shall have the right to review the contents of his/her personnel file except for material exempt from disclosure by law, providing such request is made during normal working hours.

ARTICLE VIII SENIORITY

- A. All new regular full and regular part time employees shall first serve a probationary period during which s/he is permanently assigned at least three runs per week and drives those runs as scheduled during the forty (40) working days from the date of assignment. The probationary period will be extended for any excused absence during this period. Unexcused absences will result in either beginning the probationary period again or termination. The Supervisor of Transportation will determine which drivers will be hired as probationary drivers.
- B. A driver who satisfactorily completes his/her probationary period becomes either a regular full or a regular part time driver dependent on the number of runs permanently assigned and consistent with the definitions of Article I. Seniority will be retroactive to forty (40) working days prior to completion of the probationary period and shall not include time served as a substitute driver.
- C. If two or more probationary drivers are hired on the same day, a lottery will be held to determine their order of seniority. Runs will then be assigned to these drivers in order of seniority as determined by the lottery. If a driver loses seniority because s/he fails to drive for an approved reason during the next forty (40) workdays, and if s/he has more runs than a driver who has greater seniority upon completion of that driver's probationary period, the first driver will relinquish the additional runs to the senior driver(s).
- D. If as the result of either failing to drive forty (40) consecutive work days because of an approved absence or being hired as a probationary driver at a later date, two or more drivers complete their probationary period on the same date and have not previously had their seniority tie broken by a lottery, a lottery will be held to determine seniority order for only these drivers. Run assignments will be modified, if necessary, to give the senior driver the greatest number of runs.
- E. Activity trip list seniority will be the same as that for regular drivers and will be effective on the Friday following the completion of the driver's probationary period. During the probationary period, a driver's seniority will be determined by his/her date of assignment as a probationary driver, and, if s/he has the same date of assignment as another probationary driver, the seniority order will be determined by the lottery conducted at the time drivers were assigned as probationary drivers.

- F. A seniority list shall be posted annually ten (10) days prior to the initial selection of runs and supplemented as needed. A copy of this list and supplement shall be provided to the Association. Changes in the seniority list shall be reflected in the daily worksheets.
- G. A probationary employee's service may be terminated for cause at any time by the Board in its sole discretion, provided that the termination is neither arbitrary nor capricious. Termination for cause of a probationary employee that is neither arbitrary nor capricious is not grievable by the employee or the Association.
- H. An employee's seniority will be continuous and the employee shall hold all seniority rights except when s/he:
 - 1. Voluntarily resigns or retires
 - 2. Is discharged for just cause.
- I. Seniority shall accrue to any employee on an approved unpaid leave of absence (refer to Article XI D) as follows:
 - 1. Military leave as provided by law
 - 2. First thirty (30) days of approved unpaid leave of absence
 - 3. First twelve (12) months of any approved unpaid sick leave
 - 4. During the period of up to two (2) years of leave for Association business
 - 5. For up to two (2) years while on layoff
 - 6. For the first three (3) months while on childcare or FMLA leave.
- J. Seniority shall accrue during all paid leaves (Refer to Article XI) and for two (2) years while on Workers' Compensation.
- K. An employee who transfers to a non-bargaining unit position within the district maintains bargaining unit seniority for all years of employment in the bargaining unit. To the extent that an employee has seniority remaining in the bargaining unit, they may exercise that seniority to return to a bargaining unit position, with the understanding that for purposes of selection of runs as provided for in this agreement, an employee returning under this provision will have last choice in the selection process for a run package which their seniority qualifies them in their year of return. After two (2) years accrued seniority shall be reduced day for day while in a non-bargaining unit position. Bargaining unit seniority shall not accrue in a non-bargaining unit position.

ARTICLE IX

ASSIGNMENTS, SUBSTITUTION, VACANCIES, AND TRANSFERS

- A. Assignment and Selection of Runs
 - 1. Definition:

- (a) Regular run: An elementary, junior high, or high school take in or take home that begins at a district or district approved facility and is scheduled to run whenever the school or program is in session.
- (b) Special Needs run: A run that begins at a district or district approved facility, stops at each passenger's home, carries students whose handicap or schedule does not allow transportation on a regular run, ends at a district or district approved facility, and may drop or pick up students at one or more other district approved facilities in the course of travel.
- (c) Shuttle run: A run that transports students between two or more district approved facilities and makes no more than four (4) stops including the starting and ending points.
- (d) Activity
- (e) trip: A trip that is not regularly scheduled and is not available for selection or assignment on a permanent basis.
- (f) Night trip: Any activity trip whose time of return to the bus corral falls after 5:00 p.m.

2. Selection of Runs:

- (a) At least five (5) business days prior to the date set for selection, all known packages and updated maps will be available for inspection.
- (b) There shall be a designated selection week. The week and time of day will be mutually agreed to by the parties. At this time, each driver will select a daily run schedule in order of seniority with the highest seniority driver selecting first. The Association may have a representative present during the selection process.
 - 1. Each driver shall be given up to fifteen (15) minutes of schedule time to make selections. Each driver shall be given prior notice of his/her selection appointment. Accommodations will be made for drivers working during selection time.
 - 2. A regular full-time driver having sufficient seniority to select ten (10) runs must do so in order of his/her seniority or be charged for ten (10) runs, providing the runs are available and the total time involved does not exceed eight (8) hours. Drivers selecting less than ten runs must choose a daily run schedule established for the number of runs that they wish to drive or drop runs from an existing run schedule provided they can be placed in a run schedule that has not been selected. A driver selecting a package of runs less than his/her seniority entitles shall be restricted from selecting a package

greater than the current package for the duration of that year. A driver who drops runs from his/her initial package shall not be allowed to select a package with more runs than s/he is currently being charged. Any runs dropped will be charged. The total number of runs charged will not exceed ten. Any modification of a run schedule must have the approval of the Supervisor of Transportation.

3. All regular full-time drivers must select runs before the eleventh (11th) runs are posted. Regular full time drivers who request an eleventh (11th) run will be assigned the eleventh run after consultation with the Supervisor of Transportation and before regular part time drivers select runs.
 4. In order of seniority regular part time drivers will select a daily schedule of runs from those remaining.
 5. Upon completion of the selection process above the Supervisor may choose to assign any previously unselected runs to the least senior available regular drivers, next to laid-off drivers by seniority, and last to new regular drivers providing no other provision of this agreement is violated.
 6. Drivers selecting runs with special needs students must take training in the use of equipment and needs of the students.
 7. Drivers may not select more than ten (10) runs per day or be assigned a run schedule in excess of fifty-five (55) runs per week. The Supervisor may choose between assigning the least senior available driver to take a run or hiring a new regular part time driver.
- (c) Each driver will retain his/her package of runs until the next selection period unless otherwise modified by the terms of this agreement.

3. Assignment of Runs

- (a) A driver may drop run(s) after the selection process only with the approval of the Supervisor of Transportation.
- (b) If a new run is established after the initial selection, it will be offered first to the most senior driver who has less than fifty (50) runs per week, then to the most senior driver who can take it as an eleventh (11th) run, provided the total working time does not exceed eight (8) hours per day. A driver may refuse an eleventh run unless it would result in the employment of a new part time regular driver. In that case the eleventh run will be assigned to the least senior driver who can take the run. A driver who drops a run cannot pick-up another run in the time slot.
- (c) If a run is split after the initial selection, the original driver will have his/her choice of runs, if possible, and the remaining run will be assigned as in 'b' above.

- (d) If a run is eliminated and the driver has less than ten (10) runs per day, a driver may select a replacement run from a run schedule of any driver less senior or from any unassigned runs. The new/unassigned run shall be assigned to the most senior driver who can do the run. Should a driver lose a run from his/her package during this time frame s/he will become eligible for the new/unassigned run only in order or seniority.
- (e) Drivers shall not exchange or combine runs without the written approval of the Supervisor of Transportation.
- (f) If a schedule of runs becomes vacant or increases in size, the total schedule will be posted for three days and available for bidding on a seniority basis. There will be no more than two (2) successive bidding processes. At this point, the remainder of the drivers will meet to decide who takes the remaining schedule(s). The package that remains may be assigned to a substitute.
- (g) A driver will have three (3) days to see if a run fits into his/her current package. If the run does not fit, the driver will not be charged, and the run will go to the next available driver.

B. Substitution Procedures

1. A driver wishing to do fill-ins must sign up with the Supervisor of Transportation at the time of run selection, or by the end of the first week worked when returning from an approved leave of absence.
2. A regular driver will be assigned runs by the Supervisor of Transportation on a daily basis to complete his/her schedule.
3. Drivers will be paid for work lost due to school schedules being altered. Drivers will be provided with their schedules by the end of the first week of student contact.
4. No driver shall be filled in for runs in excess of ten (10) runs per day, except in cases of emergency.
5. Runs will be assigned to drivers in order of seniority.
6. As soon as it is known that an absence will be ten (10) or more days, that package shall be filled for the duration of that absence by the most senior driver preferring that package who has a number of runs less than the package being filled, including those runs being charged. A package of five or fewer runs may be split and dispersed among available drivers.

ARTICLE X
ACTIVITY TRIPS

A. Activity Trip Procedure

1. Activity trip meetings will be held on Friday's at 9:30 a.m. in the drivers' lounge unless school is not in session or drivers have been notified in advance that the meeting has been rescheduled. If school is not scheduled to be in session on Friday, the meeting will take place on Thursday. If a scheduled Friday session is cancelled, the meeting will be held on the following Monday.
2. At the start of the school year, weekly activity trips will be offered on a rotation basis beginning with the highest seniority driver who is in attendance at the trip meeting. Trip selection continues down the seniority list with each driver going to the bottom of the list after 1 – all selections are made, 2 – a driver passes on available trips, 3 – a driver is not in attendance. Drivers will not rotate to the bottom of the list for reasons noted in #3 below.
3. The driver at the top of the rotation list at the time the trip is offered selects first. Drivers will not go to the bottom of the rotation list and will be assigned a trip in accordance with their written preference if their absence from trip meetings is for one of the following reasons:
 - a. The driver is on a regular run.
 - b. The driver is on an assigned activity trip.
 - c. The driver has a mechanical breakdown and/or accident which prevents him/her from being at the meeting.
 - d. The driver is on bereavement leave.
 - e. The driver is on Jury Duty and/or a job-related court appearance.
 - f. The driver is at another district-approved meeting.
 - g. The driver has a job-related injury which prevents him/her from being at the meeting.
4. The driver will not go to the bottom of the rotation list if the driver had his/her assigned trip cancelled or rescheduled.
5. Rotation through the list of eligible drivers (per#2 and #3 above) continues until all trips are selected or no drivers choose the remaining trips.
6. Rotation process will be rotated in the following order: 1-in attendance but no trips were available, 2-took a trip or timed, 3-passed on available trips, 4-not in attendance/or on sick leave. The rotation list will be maintained by the Transportation office.
 - a. Trip rotation will go accordingly to the driver that takes the least amount of trips each week.

Example: Driver 1 took 2 trips, Driver 2 took 3 trips, Driver 3 took 1 trip, so for the following week's rotation driver 3 would be first then driver 1 then driver 2.

7. If a trip is selected and is later dropped, it will then be categorized as a pass.
8. If a person selects a trip during the first trip selection round and passes during any of the following rounds, a pass will be issued.
9. If an activity trip is rescheduled to another day within the trip week, and it can be driven by the driver originally assigned to the trip, it is to remain that driver's trip. If it causes a conflict with another trip for which the driver is scheduled, the driver may choose which of the two trips he/she prefers, and the remaining trip will be offered to the next eligible driver on the rotation list. The driver will not go to the bottom of the rotation list if he/she is unable to drive the trip on the newly scheduled day.
10. Trips called in after the trip meeting will be assigned first to drivers who were in attendance at the trip meeting, but who did not receive a trip because of reasons set forth in three (3) above. Trips called in with less than a twenty-four (24) hour notice may be assigned by the supervisor. Drivers will not be penalized if they turn down a trip called in after the trip meeting has taken place.
11. Drivers shall be paid at the amount that would have been earned for all activity trips which have not been cancelled at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled departure time.
12. Activity trip assignments will be made according to administrative procedure. The Association will be consulted with and mutually agree to any change from the procedure.
13. A separate rotation list will be kept for trips driven during vacation periods or other times when school is not in session, including holidays listed in this agreement. Such trips will be offered to those drivers on the original activity trip list.
14. Regularly scheduled summer runs will be bid by seniority.
15. Summer trips will be assigned according to the same procedure as activity trips during the school year. Such trips will be assigned to those drivers on the original activity trip list who indicate a willingness to drive during the summer recess.
16. Overnight trips will be treated as activity trips. There shall be no penalty assessed to a driver who refuses an overnight trip.
17. Drivers will be allowed to have coverage for regular runs two (2) days per week in order to do activity trips.

B. Weekend Activity Trips

1. To be eligible for weekend trips, a driver must attend the two (2) previous trip meetings and have driven all of their morning runs the day of the trip meeting (The two (2) trip meetings before the trip, for example, if the trip is on the 28th, the driver must have been at the meetings held on the 13th and the 20th).

Weekend activity trips will then be offered beginning with the highest senior driver who attended the two (2) previous trip meetings. After a driver selects a trip, the driver goes to the bottom of the seniority list rotation. Trip selection continues down the seniority list rotation with each driver going to the bottom of the list after a selection is made or a trip is turned down except as noted in two (2) below. The seniority list rotation will begin at the top of the regular seniority list with the first weekend trip of the school year. The seniority list rotation will be maintained by the transportation office.

2. The driver at the top of the seniority list rotation at the time that the trip is offered selects first. Drivers will not go to the bottom of the seniority list rotation and will be assigned a trip in accordance with their written preference, if their absence from trip meetings is for one of the following reasons:
 - a. The driver is on a regular run.
 - b. The driver is on an assigned activity trip.
 - c. The driver has a mechanical breakdown and/or accident which prevents him/her from being at the meeting.
 - d. The driver is on bereavement leave.
 - e. The driver is on Jury Duty and/or job-related court appearance.
 - f. The driver is at another district approved meeting.
 - g. The driver has a job-related injury which prevents him/her from being at the meeting.

The driver will also not go to the bottom of the seniority list rotation if the driver has his/her assigned trip cancelled or rescheduled.

3. Rotation through the seniority list of eligible drivers (Per 1 and 2 above) continues until all trips are selected or no drivers choose the remaining trips.
4. Trips that remain after three (3) above will be offered, in regular seniority order, to drivers who were absent from trips meetings per one (1) above.

C. Extra-Duty Activity Trip Coordinator

1. In order to promote the efficient scheduling of activity trips, the parties have agreed that the transportation association secretary shall be designated to hold the position of activity trip coordinator. In his/her absence, a member of the executive board shall be

responsible for performing said duties. The activity trip sheet that is submitted to the transportation office shall be signed by this person each week for payroll purposes.

2. The duties of this position shall be limited to the following:
 - a. Conduct weekly trip meetings
 - b. Assign charges
 - c. Update trip points
3. The transportation department office shall remain responsible for all other duties connected to activity trips, including but not limited to:
 - a. Preparation of seniority list
 - b. Weekly trip sheets, point sheets and forms
 - c. Arranging for coverage of regular runs and activity trips needing coverage due to cancellations by drivers, or trips that are called in after trip meeting.
4. The compensation for the extra-duty Activity Trip Coordinator position for the 2024-2028 school years shall be \$15.00 per week, for up to thirty-seven (37) weeks per year.

ARTICLE XI LEAVES

A. Sick Leave (sick days)

1. All regular employees shall accrue one (1) paid sick leave day for each month in which the driver is scheduled to drive. The drivers' total accumulation for the school year shall be credited by the second pay of the school year. Sick leave credited in this paragraph shall be reduced by one (1) day for each month that a driver is on an unpaid leave of absence. An employee who is on an approved leave of absence at the start of his/her work year shall receive sick leave credit upon his/her return to work prorated to the following July 1. Sick days will be paid at 100% of wage rate.
2. Drivers with regularly scheduled runs during the summer months will earn one additional sick day for each three weeks worked, up to a total of two days for six weeks of work. Additional days earned during the summer can only be used during the regular school year. Days credited during the school year may not be used during the summer.
3. If the Board has reason to suspect misrepresentation or a pattern of abuse of leave days, the employee may be asked to provide verification of illness or disability. For a continuing illness or disability of more than five (5) days the employee will be asked to supply verification.

4. All employees will have the right to accumulate up to one hundred eighty (180) days of unused sick leave. An annual payment of fifty dollars (\$50) times the number of unused sick days in excess of one hundred eighty (180) will be paid to each employee at the end of each school year.

At the time of retirement, a payment of forty dollars (\$40) times the number of accumulated sick days to a maximum of seventy-five days will be paid to the employee. Employees who have more than 75 days at the time of retirement will be paid fifty dollars (\$50) times the number of accumulated sick days.

5. Sick leave chargeable against accrued sick days may be taken for the following reasons:

- A. Personal illness or disability:

The employee may use all or any portion of leave days accumulated to recover from illness or disability, which shall include childbirth and complications of pregnancy.

- B. Illness of an immediate family member:

Serious illness or medical care of the spouse, son or daughter (including step, adopted, and foster children), or other dependent which requires presence of the employee in order to provide the necessary care, or critical illness of the spouse, child as listed above, parents, or parents-in-law.

6. Application to have absences charged against sick days will be made in accordance with administrative directives.
7. A driver who goes on approved unpaid leave of forty-five (45) or more working days shall, upon return, replace the lowest seniority driver having the same number of runs. A driver taking a personal illness/injury leave or FMLA leave, will have 60 days before losing his/her run package. If she/he goes on such leave prior to the initial selection of runs, s/he will make arrangements for selection if s/he expects to return in less than the number of days listed above and notifies the supervisor of transportation in writing of that intent. Drivers on personal illness/injury leave of more than thirty days must notify the supervisor of intent to return and make arrangements for a medical evaluation.
8. FMLA leave will run concurrently with other personal leaves as provided by law.

B. Bereavement Leave

1. A bereavement leave with pay of three (3) consecutive working days will be granted to all regular drivers in the case of death of the driver's father, mother, sisters, brothers, grandparents, father-in-law, mother-in-law, husband, wife, children, children-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, aunts, uncles, cousins, children of a brother or sister-in-law, step parent, step children of the driver's immediate household

or grandchildren that occurs during the employee's work year. This leave shall not be deducted from the employee's accumulated sick leave.

2. One day chargeable against accrued sick days may be granted to attend the funeral of a close friend.
3. These benefits will not be applicable while the employee is on another leave of absence.
4. A maximum of two additional workdays chargeable against accrued sick days may be granted with the approval of the Office of Human Resources for travel.

C. Workers' Compensation

Any employee who is absent because of an injury or illness which is compensated under Workers' Compensation law may choose to receive the difference between the allowance under Workers' Compensation and his/her regular salary. Such differences shall be prorated against his/her available leave time. The combination of workers' compensation and sick time will not exceed the employee's regular pay.

An employee accumulates all fringe benefits to which s/he would have been entitled by virtue of this contract while absent due to compensable cause but shall not continue to accumulate benefits after a two (2) year period of absence due to a compensable cause. The "compensable cause" must have occurred while in the employ of the Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools.

Drivers on Workers' Compensation will retain rights to their own package until the end of the school year. If a driver in that situation returns and claims his/her own package, then all other drivers who changed packages due to his/her leave will return to their previous package. If a driver returns the following school year, she/he shall bid a package in seniority order if returning before the process takes place, or shall replace the lowest seniority driver having the same amount of runs as the driver had when the injury occurred.

D. Unpaid Leave of Absence (Refer to Article VIII, H, I, and J for Seniority Provisions)

1. An unpaid leave of absence for illness or other proven justifiable reasons not to exceed one (1) year may be granted by the Board upon receipt of written application for such leave. Such leaves shall not be provided to enter other employment except as provided in other parts of this agreement.
2. Upon written application to the Office of Human Resources an unpaid leave of absence not to exceed one (1) year will be granted for the purpose of Association or Public Office.

3. Upon written application to the Office of Human Resources an unpaid leave of absence not to exceed one (1) year shall be granted for the purpose of childcare.
4. Except for personal leave as provided in Article XI D 2 the above leaves may be extended upon written application of the employee to the Board in advance of the expiration date. The Board will either approve or reject the extension.
5. An employee who does not report back to work by the expiration date as set forth on his/her leave of absence notice or does not receive an approved extension, except as herein provided, will be considered to have terminated his/her employment.
6. Applications for the extension of all leaves of absence and the disposition shall be in writing.

E. Personal Days

1. A maximum of three (3) days per year may be taken as personal days. Personal days cannot be used during the first or last week of the employee's work year, during the first or last week of the student calendar, or immediately preceding or following holidays or vacation without the approval of the immediate supervisor. At least twenty-four (24) hours notice must be given the immediate supervisor prior to the scheduling of the personal day.
2. A third personal day will be granted to any employee whose absence chargeable against accrued sick days does not exceed two (2) days for the previous contract year.
3. Unused personal days will accumulate to a total of five. Any personal days in excess of five will accrue as sick days at the end of each contract year.
4. Personal days shall not be used on two consecutive workdays (including Monday-Friday) without supervisor approval.
5. In granting personal days the first driver to request a personal day will get automatic approval. A second automatic approval will be granted for requested personal days on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The approval is subject to Article XI E 1-4.

F. Deduct days

Beginning January 1, 2009, employees will pay for their benefits when in a deduct situation. Payment will be 50% of benefit cost to the district on the first deduct day (when hours total one day), and 100% after first day. If the district approves a doctor slip which is for three (3) or more consecutive days or the deduct time is a result of Article XI, Section D, the employee will not be charged the cost of benefits. Example: a driver works 179 days with a benefit cost of \$10,000 divided by 179 workdays equal \$55.87 a day.

ARTICLE XII
LAYOFF AND RECALL

- A. Layoffs and recalls will be based upon seniority, provided the senior employee has the ability to do the work required. A regular employee whose work week is reduced below three (3) regular runs per week will be considered laid off and will be placed on the substitute list.
- B. The Board shall give written notice of recall and/or layoff by sending a registered or certified letter to said employee at his/her last known address, or hand delivering said letter to the employee. The employee shall sign acknowledging receipt of the notice. If any employee fails to report to work within ten (10) calendar days from the date of sending of the recall notice, unless an extension is granted in writing by the Board, said employee shall be considered as a voluntary quit.
- C. Employees on layoff shall retain their seniority for purpose of recall for a period of two (2) years. Any employee on layoff for more than two years shall lose his/her seniority and any further rights under this Agreement. A laid-off driver shall be granted priority status on the substitute list.

ARTICLE XIII
COMPENSATION

- A. Call In Time:
 - 1. Any employee called for a bus run in addition to his/her regular scheduled runs, shall receive pay for (1) regular run if such run is subsequently cancelled.
 - 2. If the school day is cancelled because of inclement weather, regular bus drivers shall receive pay for the regular bus runs scheduled for that day and for any runs to which the driver is currently assigned and has driven for five consecutive days prior to the day of inclement weather.
- B. Holidays:
 - 1. All regular drivers shall be eligible to receive holiday pay under the following regulations:
 - (a) To be eligible for a paid holiday, the employee must be present the last preceding workday before the holiday and the first succeeding workday after the holiday, be on an approved paid leave of absence, or be on an approved sick leave verified by a doctor's statement but not to exceed forty-five (45) working days.
 - (b) Paid holidays will include Labor Day and the preceding Friday (as long as the state requires that students are not in attendance), Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, the day before Christmas, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New

Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Good Friday and Memorial Day. Drivers having regular summer runs surrounding July 4th shall be paid holiday pay for July 4th.

- (c) If school is in session on a paid holiday and an employee is required to drive a regularly scheduled run, s/he will be paid double time plus holiday pay. A driver may release his/her regular runs to another driver with the approval of the Supervisor of Transportation.

C. Run Rates:

	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
Regular Runs	\$21.10	\$22.20	\$23.30	\$24.40
Activity Trip	\$20.10	\$21.20	\$22.30	\$23.40
Sit Time	\$17.60	\$18.70	\$19.80	\$20.90

The \$.10 added to the run rate is intended to compensate drivers for, but not limited to, fueling, pulling video, communicating with building staff, etc.

Beginning with the 2011 school year, all runs will be calculated as one run only with the exception of summer runs which will be 1 ½ times the regular run rate.

D. Activity Trips:

1. Compensation for activity trips will be paid at the regular negotiated rate per hour. Fraction of hours will be prorated per each 15-minute block of time. Layover time will be included for time that the driver remains on the delivery site. Arrangements for compensation for overnight or extended stay must be approved by the Supervisor of Transportation.
2. Time and one half shall be paid for all hours worked for trips that begin on Saturday and/or Sunday.
3. Pay for activity trips shall begin at the time a bus leaves the point of origin.
4. A meal allowance of \$10.00 for breakfast/lunch and/or \$15.00 for dinner will be paid to drivers who are on activity trips of four or more hours.
5. Fifteen minutes will be included in each activity trip for clean-up.
6. Tickets to activity events will be the responsibility of the activity sponsor.

- E. If a mechanical failure, which is not the fault of the driver, occurs on a regular run compensation will be paid at the regular run rate for all lost runs that the driver is scheduled to pull on that day. If the mechanical failure occurs on the last run of the day, compensation will be at the negotiated regular run rate per hour or any fraction thereof for time required beyond the normal ending time of the run. A driver who must remain

with a bus during the period which would normally be released time between runs will be compensated at the negotiated regular run rate or fraction thereof for the time in excess of that required to pull the runs scheduled during the period of mechanical failure.

- F. If a mechanical failure, which is not the fault of the driver, occurs on an activity trip compensation will be paid for all delayed time at the activity trip rate.
- G. Drivers attending bus drivers' school will be compensated at the activity rate per hour. Experienced drivers must attend bus drivers' school annually to update their certificates. Payment will be made for the number of hours required for the annual update.
- H. The cost of any state required TB test in whichever form is required for each employee shall be paid for by the Board.
- I. Longevity shall be paid to employees on the following basis:

Upon the Completion Of	
Five (5) years	\$500.00
Ten (10) years	\$600.00
Fifteen (15) years	\$700.00
Twenty (20) years	\$800.00

Credit toward years of service will be based on time actually worked during the contractual work year and will be calculated as of the last day worked in June. Longevity payments will be prorated for partial years worked.

Longevity compensation shall be paid on the first pay in January of each year following the school year it was earned. Employees, who retire after earning longevity (end of June or later) before the payment is made in January, shall be paid longevity in their last paycheck.

Unpaid leaves of absence for reasons of public office, association office, childcare, education or other personal reasons will not count toward years of service for the purpose of figuring longevity.

- J. Two (2) hours maximum trip rate for housekeeping pay at the end of the year. Supervisor must inspect and approve.
- K. Employees shall be granted a leave of absence with pay when they are required to report for jury duty. Employees shall be paid the difference between jury duty compensation they receive and their regular wages for the time necessarily spent in jury service.
- L. Seniority will continue to accrue to the employee while on jury duty. Employees will submit proof of jury services and will sign a promissory note for monies received prior to delivery of the jury check to the employer. Employees required, either by the Board or

any public agency having the power of subpoena, to appear before a court or such agency on any matters related to their work with the employer and in which they are personally involved as a defendant, shall be granted a leave of absence with pay (as set forth in the above paragraph) for a period during which they are so required to be absent from work.

- M. The Board will continue to pay the retirement contribution.
- N. All employees will attend no more than four (4) hours of meetings per year without additional compensation.
- O. The Board will pay the cost of the CDL license renewal.

ARTICLE XIV INSURANCE PROTECTION

A. General

1. The employer shall provide, without cost to the eligible employee, insurance as set forth in this article for a full twelve (12) month period.
2. The coverage will be subject to restrictions of the respective carriers and will be in effect for the full twelve-month period providing the employee completes his/her contracted work year.

B. Health Insurance

1. Full-time employees hired before July 1, 1994, shall be provided ABC Plan 1 Mail or Choices II SRX Mail Health Insurance fully paid for the employee and his/her eligible dependents. Full family coverage will be made available to the top 6 senior drivers who elect that coverage, regardless of hire date. Full-time employees with seven (7) or more runs hired after July 1, 1994, shall be provided with ABC Plan 1 Mail or Choices II SRX Mail single subscriber health insurance.
2. Employees electing health insurance will contribute twenty percent (20%) of the cost of insurance. Employees electing PAK B insurance will have no contribution sharing of the cost.
3. Double coverage shall not be permitted.
4. An employee who is eligible for health care insurance (XIV B 1) and chooses to take insurance from another source shall be reimbursed for any premium and/or medical cost incurred up to a maximum of \$3,000 per year with appropriate documentation. Request for reimbursement may be done monthly when qualification occurs, the employee shall receive a prorated portion of the \$3,000 based on the months left in the school year.
5. Health insurance will be continued for a period of six (6) months after all sick days have been used if an employee is disabled and unable to work, or until the employee becomes

eligible for long term disability (LTD) insurance benefits, which ever occurs first (excluding Workers' Compensation cases).

C. Dental Insurance

Full-time employees with at least 6 runs will receive dental coverage which will include internal and external coordination of benefits. The coverage shall be equivalent to Delta Dental Plans:

1. Non-coordinating benefits, Class I, II, III at 80% with a \$1,000 yearly max; Class IV (Ortho) 80% with a \$1,000 lifetime max
2. Coordinating benefits, Class I, II, III, at 50% with a \$500 yearly max, Class IV and (Ortho) with a \$500 lifetime max

D. Vision Insurance

Full-time employees with at least 6 runs will receive vision insurance equivalent to VSP II with both internal and external coordination of benefits.

E. Life Insurance

The Board shall provide ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) life insurance to regular full-time drivers.

The Board shall provide to each eligible regular full-time driver not electing health care coverage the sum of \$15.36 per month from which the driver will expend the necessary amount to purchase five thousand dollars (\$5,000) life insurance if required by the insurance option plan in which the district enrolls the employees. The remainder will be credited toward one or more of the options listed below. The Board shall provide to each regular full time driver receiving health coverage, the sum of \$13.00 per month to be credited toward one or more of the options listed below:

1. Additional life insurance
2. Short term disability insurance
3. Long term disability insurance
4. Other additional non-health insurances as may be available during open enrollment

The amount of coverage provided may be increased at the employee's option by requesting a payroll deduction for the difference between the employer's contribution and the cost of the coverage selected. Such payroll deductions must remain in force until the next enrollment period. Employees who have at least twenty-five (25) days of accumulated sick leave may retain three (3) of those accumulated days before receiving either short- or long-term disability. The twenty-five (25) days must be in the employee's individual accumulated sick leave at the time the disability or illness begins.

- F. An eligible regular full-time employee whose work week is reduced to less than thirty (30) regular runs per week or who is laid off will be allowed to continue medical

insurance coverage subject to the limitation of the carrier for a maximum of one (1) year providing s/he pays the regular monthly premium for such benefits to the employer.

- G. The Board shall provide without cost to the employee vision insurance equivalent to VSP II with both internal and external coordination of benefits.

ARTICLE XV GENERAL

- A. Adequate procedures have been provided for the equitable settlement of any grievance arising from this Agreement. The Association will not cause or authorize any strike as defined by law.
- B. The terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement represent the full and complete understandings and commitments between the parties. This agreement may be altered, added to, deleted from, or modified only through the written mutual consent of the parties.
- C. Cash advances are to be provided for fuel on all extended trips.
- D. Copies of this Agreement shall be printed at the expense of the Board.
- E. The school district shall be entitled to reschedule any days lost due to emergency closings, which are not allowed to be counted as days of student instruction. The rescheduling of such days shall not entitle employees to additional compensation.
- F. Members will not be compensated for the first two emergency closings each year, unless they occur within the same pay period. If so, the next emergency closing day will be unpaid. The intent is employees will not be paid for two (2) emergency days.
- G. Employees will adhere to all policies, rules, and regulations of the Board which are not in conflict with this agreement.
- H. Employees are responsible for notifying the office of Human Resources of any changes in name, phone numbers, and addresses.

ARTICLE XVI
DURATION

- A. This Agreement shall become effective upon ratification of both parties, January 4, 2022, and shall remain in full force and effect, without change, addition, or amendment, except as herein provided. This agreement covers the period July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028.

This contract may be reopened by mutual agreement for negotiations sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of the existing contract.

Carman-Ainsworth Transportation
Association

Tiffany N. Lewis-Alston
President

Negotiations Team

Negotiations Team

Negotiations Team

MEA Uniserv Director

January 4, 2022
Date

Carman-Ainsworth Board of Education

Gloria Neale
President

[Signature]
Vice President

Lisa Kuegel
Secretary

LaCasha Handy
Treasurer

Russell Parks
Chief Negotiator

January 4, 2022
Date

Appendix A

ASSOCIATION SECURITY

Public Acts 53 and 349 of 2012 prohibit the district from complying with Association Security and Payroll Deductions. Therefore, the language has been moved to Appendix A and will be enforceable should there be legal circumstances that allow the district to comply with the language in Appendix A.

- A. All employees shall be required to either pay a service fee set by the Association or join as a member of the Association.
- B. All employees shall either:
 - 1. Sign and deliver to the Association within thirty (30) days of commencement of employment a membership form authorizing payroll of the dues and assessment of the Association (including the Michigan Education Association). Such authorization shall continue in effect from year to year unless revoked in writing between August 1 and August 31 of a given year, or
 - 2. Cause to be paid by payroll deduction to the Association a service fee set by the Association (including the Michigan Education Association) within 30 calendar days of the commencement of employment.
 - 3. The Association shall inform the Board by the first pay date in September of each year of the exact dues to be deducted for each employee. For a new employee the Association shall inform the Board two (2) weeks prior to the first deduction of the exact amount to be deducted.
 - 4. If the service fee or membership dues and assessment are not authorized, the Board upon receiving a signed statement from the Association indicating the employee has failed to comply with this condition, shall notify said employee his/her service fee will be deducted equally from the remaining pays.
 - 5. The Association assumes the obligation of transmitting either membership form or service fee forms to the Board for purposes of payroll deduction.
- C. The Michigan Education Association agrees to assume the legal defense of any suit or action brought against the Board as a result of this Article. The Michigan Education Association further agrees to indemnify the Board for any costs or damages which may be assessed against it as the result of said suit or action.
 - 1. The Michigan Education Association, after consultation with the Board, has the right to decide whether to defend any said action or whether or not to appeal the decision of any court or other tribunal regarding the validity of this Article or the damages which may be assessed against the Board by any court or tribunal.

2. The Michigan Education Association has the right to choose the legal counsel to any said suit or action.
3. The Michigan Education Association shall have the right to compromise or settle any claim made against the Board under this Article.

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