

# THE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE NORTH CENTRAL AREA SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

AND THE

NORTH CENTRAL AREA SCHOOLS

EDUCATION SUPPORT PERSONNEL

July 17, 2024 – June 30, 2026

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## **AGREEMENT**

This agreement is entered into this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024 between the Board of Education of the North Central School District, hereinafter referred to as the "Employer" or the "Board" and the North Central Local of the Michigan Education Support Personnel Association (MESPA), hereinafter referred to as the "Union".

(Note: the headings used in this agreement and exhibits neither add to nor subtract from the meaning, but are for reference only.)

## **PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The general purpose of this agreement is to set forth terms and conditions of employment, and to promote orderly and peaceful labor relations with the mutual interest of the Employer the Employees and the Union.

The parties recognize that the interest of the community and the job security of the employees depend upon the Employer's success in establishing a proper service to the community.

To these ends the Employer and the Union encourage to the fullest degree friendly and cooperative relations between the respective representatives at all levels and among all employees.

## **ARTICLE I - RECOGNITION**

- A. Pursuant to and in accordance with all applicable provisions of the Public Employment Relations Act (Act 379, Public Acts of 1965) as amended, the Board does hereby recognize the Union as the sole and exclusive representative, for the purpose of collective bargaining in respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment and other conditions of employment for the term of this agreement of those employees of North Central Area Schools; excluding: teachers, administrators, superintendent's secretary, bookkeeper, supervisors as defined by the Michigan Employment Relations Commission and the Public Employment Relations Act, and temporary or substitute employees which are not already members of the bargaining unit.
- B. If at any future date a potential member of this bargaining unit has a position created, the Board will place said position in the proper classification after it has discussed such placement with the Union. The Union will at all times be informed of said decision. In the event the Union disagrees with said classification, it shall be a proper subject for the grievance procedure.
- C. The term "employee" when used herein shall refer to employees included in the unit for bargaining as set forth in the paragraph above and references to male employees shall include female employees. The term "Board" of "employer" when used herein shall refer

to the Board of Education, Superintendent, and other central office administrators, principals, assistant principals, and all other supervisory personnel within the meaning of Act 379.

- D. Membership in the Union is not compulsory. All employees covered under this agreement shall have the right to join, maintain, or drop their membership in any employee organization and/or the Union as they see fit, but membership in the Union or any other employee organization shall not be required as a condition of employment. Neither party shall exert pressure, either active or overt, on or discriminate against an employee in regard to such matters.

## **ARTICLE II - UNION RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. For the handling of grievances in behalf of the Union, the employees will elect one steward and one alternate steward for each building complex who shall be a regular seniority employee. The alternate steward shall serve in the absence of the steward. The Union shall notify the Board in writing of the names of such persons and such changes as may occur from time to time in such personnel so that the Board may at all times be advised as to the authority of the individual representatives of the Union with whom it may be dealing. Until the Board has received written notice from the Union, it shall not be required to deal with such employees purporting to be representatives.
- B. It is understood that grievance problems shall be handled at times other than when the employee is at work. In the event, however, in the handling of a grievance it becomes necessary for the steward to leave his work, he shall first obtain permission from his supervisor or principal and such permission shall be granted, provided that his work schedule can be maintained without additional help. The privilege of the steward leaving his work during working hours without loss of time or pay is subject to the understanding that such time shall be devoted to the proper handling of the grievance; this will be done as expediently and with as little interruption of work as possible. Any alleged abuse will be grounds for disciplinary action and/or the discontinuation of the above-mentioned privilege by said individual.
- C. Neither the Union nor any of the officers nor any steward nor any other representative or employee shall advise or direct employees to disregard the instructions of supervisors or administrators unless such instruction would endanger the health or safety of employees or other persons.
- D. Special conferences for important matters will be arranged between the Local President and Employer or its designated representative upon the request of either

party. Such meetings shall be between at least two representatives of the Union and two representatives of management. Arrangements for such special conferences shall be made in advance and an agenda of the matters to be taken up at the meetings shall be presented at the time the conference is requested. Matters taken up in special conference shall be confined to those included in the agenda. Conferences shall be held at a mutually agreeable time. The members of the Union shall not lose time or Day for the time spent in such special conferences. This meeting may be attended by a representative of **MESPA**.

- E. The Union representative may meet at a place designated by the employee on the Employer's property for at least one-half hour immediately preceding the conference with the representative of the Employer for which a written request has been made.
- F. The Employer will provide bulletin boards, or sections thereof, in a conspicuous place, for the purpose of posting Union materials. The Union shall also have the right to use school mails to distribute Union materials of the following types:
  - 1. Notice of Union recreational and Union social events.
  - 2. Notices of elections.
  - 3. Notices of results of elections.
  - 4. Notices of Union meetings.
- G. The Union shall have the right to the reasonable use of school facilities for Union meetings. The Union shall pay the reasonable costs of materials and supplies incident to the use of the same and shall be responsible for the proper operation and maintenance of such equipment and facilities.
- H. Nothing in this agreement shall limit in any way the rights of supervisors or the administration to perform bargaining unit work, with the following exceptions:
  - 1. Supervisors may drive extra bus trips only if bargaining unit employees are not available.
  - 2. No supervisor shall perform bargaining unit work if such performance shall cause the lay-off of any member of the bargaining unit regularly performing such work; and except further that in the event of a general reduction in force, the terms and provisions of Article VIII herein shall apply.
  - 3. The administration shall not perform bargaining work except in an emergency situation.

### **ARTICLE III - GRIEVANCE & ARBITRATION**

- A. A grievance is defined as an alleged violation, misinterpretation, or inequitable application of a specific Article and/or Section of this agreement. If any such grievance arises, there shall be no stoppage or suspensions of work because of such grievance, but such grievance shall be submitted to the following grievance procedure.
- B. All time limits herein shall consist of working days. Time limits may be extended upon good cause shown or upon mutual consent of the parties. It is understood that the time limits shall set forth herein or agreed upon shall be considered as substantive, and failure to conform to them shall be in default by the party failing to conform. In any event, all grievances must be filed in writing within fifteen (15) days of the alleged violation.

- C. Step One. When a cause for grievance occurs, the affected bargaining unit member(s) and/or the Association shall file a grievance with his immediate supervisor in an attempt to resolve the problem. The immediate Supervisor shall answer the grievance within five (5) days.

Step Two. If the written grievance has not been settled at Step One, it shall be presented by the steward/union representative to the superintendent within seven (7) days after the supervisor's response is due. The superintendent shall respond in writing to the steward within seven (7) days. If a grievance affects more than one member or is filed by the Association in defense of the contract rather than a specific individual(s), the grievance may be expedited and begin in writing at the Superintendent's level rather than with the immediate supervisor's level without there being any claim of technical failure to follow the grievance procedure by either party.

Step Three. If the written grievance remains unsettled at Step Two, either party may request non-binding mediation through the Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC). It is understood that grievance timelines will be placed in abeyance from the time a grievance is referred for mediation until the conclusion of mediation. In the event that mediation is unsuccessful in resolving the issue or in the event that both parties mutually agree to forego mediation, it shall be presented in writing by the Local Union President and/or Union representative to the Board of

Education at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Board shall respond in writing within ten (10) days of such hearing.

Step Four. If the answer at Step Three is not satisfactory, and the Union wishes to carry the grievance to arbitration, they shall notify the Board of Education of their decision within two (2) weeks or ten (10) working days whichever is longer. An arbitrator shall be selected by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with their rules and procedures.

Grievance form can be found *on pages 32-33.*

### **POWERS OF THE ARBITRATOR**

- A. It shall be the function of the arbitrator, and he shall be empowered, except as his powers are limited below, to make, a decision in cases of alleged violation of the specific Articles and Sections of this agreement.
1. There shall be no appeal from any arbitrator's decision. Each such decision shall be final and binding on the Union and its members, the employee or employees involved, the Employer. The arbitrator shall make his judgment based on the express terms of this agreement, and shall have no authority to add to or subtract from, disregard, alter, or modify any of the terms of the agreement. Expenses for the arbitrator shall be shared equally between the Employer and the Union. All other expenses shall be borne by the party incurring them, and neither party shall be responsible for the expenses of witnesses called by the other.
  2. If there is a question of the possibility of arbitration for of any grievance under the terms of this agreement, the arbitrator shall have to decide if the grievance is arbitral. In the event that a case is appealed to an arbitrator on which he has no power to rule, it shall be referred back to the parties.
  3. Claims for Back Pay: All grievances must be filed in writing within fifteen (15) days from the time the alleged violation was to have occurred. The Board shall not be required to pay back wages more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date a written grievance is filed.
    - a) No claim for back wages shall exceed the amount of wages the employee would otherwise have earned at this regular rate. Any 'settlement of

back pay claim shall be limited to the amount of wages the employee would otherwise have earned from his employment with the district.

- b) No decision in any one case shall require a retroactive wage adjustment in any other case unless other cases were filed and pending on the representation case.
- B. The filing of a grievance shall in no way interfere with the right of the Board to proceed in carrying out its management responsibility, subject to the final decision of the grievance.
- C. Any written agreement reached between the Board and the Union is binding on all employees affected and cannot be changed by any individual.
- D. By mutual written agreement one representative grievance may be filed involving several listed employees grieving the same issue, and the ultimate disposition of the selected grievance shall then be applicable to the remaining listed employees.
- E. Withdrawal of Cases - After a case has been referred to the American Arbitration Association, the case may not be withdrawn by either party except by mutual consent.

#### **ARTICLE IV - DISCHARGE & DISCIPLINE**

- A. The Employer agrees to promptly notify any employee and the Union representative in writing of the discharge or the formal discipline of an employee in the district. The employee involved will be allowed to discuss his discharge or discipline with the steward of the district and the employer will make available an area where he may do so before he is required to leave the property of the Employer. Upon request, the Employer or his designated representative will discuss the discharge or discipline with the employee and the steward.
- B. Should the discharged or disciplined employee or the steward consider the discharge to be improper, a complaint shall be presented in writing through the steward to the employer beginning at Step Three of the grievance procedure within two (2) regularly scheduled work days of the discharge or discipline. Step Three of the grievance procedure will then be followed and if the decision is not satisfactory to the Union, the matter shall be referred to the rest of the grievance procedure. In opposing any discipline on a current charge, the Employer will not take into account any prior infractions which occurred more than two (2) years previously, "unless the employee's past written record demonstrates a pattern of serious misconduct which is the basis of the present discipline, then, the limit shall be extended to four years, but shall not precede June 30, 1981."



The District may use the progressive system of discipline below in disciplining bargaining unit members for incidents that the District believes can be resolved by following the below system. However, the District retains the right to start at step (d) for any offense that the District determines to present a danger to students or staff, gross misconduct with the students and staff, gross insubordination, blatant disregard for work rules and policies, gross unprofessional or irresponsible conduct on the job, being served on a felony charge on or off the job. The definition of gross pertaining to this article is flagrant or outrageous.

- a) Verbal warning by appropriate administrator.
- b) Written warning by appropriate administrator.
- c) Written reprimand by appropriate administrator.
- d) Suspension with pay pending a "Just Cause" hearing.
- e) Suspension without pay.
- f) Dismissal for just cause only.

C. Formal reprimands shall be in writing with specific recommendations for improvement. A signed copy of the formal reprimand shall be given to the employee, prior to inclusion in the personnel file.

D. No employee shall be suspended or discharged without just cause.

#### **ARTICLE V - SENIORITY**

A. New nine (9) month employees hired in the unit shall be considered as probationary employees for the first three (3) months of employment. New twelve (12) month employees hired in the unit shall be considered as probationary employees for the first six (6) months of employment. When an employee finishes the probationary period, he/she shall be entered on the seniority list of the unit and shall rank for seniority from the date of hire. There shall be no seniority among probationary employees.

The probationary period will apply unless, at the discretion of the superintendent, mentor, and mentee, an additional probationary period, not to exceed the original length of probation is assigned to an employee. The superintendent will provide the employee and the Union with the written reason for the additional probationary period as well as an individualized development plan. A substitute employee who is placed on a regular basis will be given credit toward the probationary period, up to 50% of the probationary period.

Each new employee will be placed on probation and will be assigned a mentor from within the new employee's division. The mentor assigned to work with the probationary employee will be provided a \$250.00 stipend. The mentor and mentee will be provided one hour of paid time to meet monthly. The mentor and mentee will be required to meet monthly and complete the mentor/mentee checklist as provided by the administration. Shall the probationary period be extended, the stipend for the mentor shall be pro-rated accordingly and the release time will continue during the extended probationary period.

The Union shall represent probationary employees for the purposes of collective bargaining in respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment and other conditions of employment as set forth in Article I of this agreement, except that the Board will have the right to discharge and take disciplinary action for other than Union activity, involving a probationary employee without being subject to the grievance procedure.

Seniority shall be on an Employer-wide basis, in accordance with the employees last date of hire.

- B. Seniority shall not be affected by the race, sex, marital status, or the dependents of the employee.

The seniority list on the date of this agreement will show the names and job title of all employees of the unit entitled to seniority.

The Employer will keep the seniority list up to date at all times and will provide the local Union membership with up-to-date copies.

- C. An employee shall lose his seniority for the following reasons and only for the following reasons:

1. If he quits.
2. Is discharged,
3. Is absent for five (5) working days without notifying the employer,
4. If he/she fails to return to work following recall from lay-off,
5. Is voluntarily laid-off for two (2) years or the length of his/her seniority, is involuntarily laid-off for four (4) years. Seniority shall not accrue during the layoff but shall be reinstated to the employee at the former level of seniority held by the employee when the layoff began upon his or her return to work. (It is the understanding that seniority will not accrue while the individual is laid off and that the other terms of this subsection will also apply.)
6. If he/she gives a false reason for a leave of absence, or
7. If a settlement has been made with the employee for total feasibility.

- D. Shift preference in the event of a vacancy will be granted on the basis of seniority within the classification.

**ARTICLE VI-LAY-OFF & RECALL**

- A. Nothing in this contract shall prevent the School District from reducing its work force when conditions of workload, school attendance, and physical condition of premises or economics of the School District shall so dictate.
- B. The work "lay-off" means a reduction in the working force.
- C. No employee shall be laid-off unless said employee shall first have been notified thirty (30) Days prior to effective date of the lay-off. The Board shall not be required to give such notice in the event of an emergency.
- D. A laid-off employee shall, upon application, and at his/her option, be granted priority status on the substitution list according to his/her seniority, if qualified. Laid-off employees may continue their health, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits by paying the regular monthly premium rate for such benefits to the Board and in accordance with the insurance carrier's regulations. NOTE: This item is not subject to grievance.

Employees, whose positions have been eliminated due to a reduction in the work force, shall have the right to assume a position for which they are qualified and which is held by a less senior employee.

In the event of a reduction in work hours of an employee, an employee may claim seniority over another employee in the same department for the purpose of maintaining his or her normal work hours, provided he/she has greater seniority and is qualified to perform the work he/she seeks to replace. If there is no employee in the same department with less seniority, the employee shall have the right to claim seniority in another department for the purpose of maintaining his/her normal work hours provided he/she is qualified to perform the work he/she seeks to replace.

Laid-off employees shall be recalled on a seniority basis to positions that they are qualified to perform. The most seniority employee on layoff basis will be the first employee recalled, for positions for which they are qualified. Notices of recall shall be sent by certified or registered mail to the last known address as shown on the Employer's record. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to keep an up-to-date address filed with the District. A recalled employee shall be given five (5) days from the date of receipt of the notice of recall to report to work. The Employer may temporarily fill the position until the recalled person is able to report for work. Employees recalled to work for which they are qualified are obligated to take such work. An employee who fails to respond to recall to perform work for which he/she is qualified shall lose rights

to seniority as described in Article VII and VIII. Employees shall be entitled to recall for up to four (4) years. Department is defined by job titles as listed in Article XX, Economic & Fringe.

- E. If a bus driver fails to qualify for the driving and operation of a bus by failing to pass a written or driving test, he/she shall be deemed to be on involuntary lay-off. Such driver shall remain on lay-off until such time as he/she succeeds in qualifying and a position as a bus driver opens in the district. In addition, such employee shall be given preference over other non- instructional positions, which are open in the district and for which he/she is qualified.

In the event of lay-off, for any reason, the Employer agrees to provide the Union, through its Local unit, a list of all employees involved on the same day notification is given to the individual employees. Any bargaining unit member on lay-off shall be given preference in hiring for any position in the district for which he/she is qualified.

**ARTICLE VII - VACANCIES, PROMOTIONS, TRANSFERS, TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS:**

- A. Transfer of Employees. Seniority shall be frozen if any employee is permanently transferred to a position outside of the bargaining unit. Employees transferred under the above circumstances shall retain all rights accrued for the purpose of any benefits provided for in this agreement.
1. A transfer is lateral change where there is no addition or increase in pay.
  2. Nothing in this Article shall be deemed to prevent an employer from transferring any employee covered by this contract from one location or one school within the district, or from transferring any such employee from one duty to another duty, provided that such transfer does not result in a demotion or reduction in pay. Consideration will be given to seniority, desire, classification, and physical condition.
  3. The Employer agrees that is any movement of work not covered above in this section; he will discuss the movement with the Union, if requested, in order to provide for the protection of the seniority of the employees involved.
  4. In the event of a vacancy or a newly created position, employees shall be given the opportunity to transfer on the basis of seniority. A newly created position shall include the situation where a position is increased from a nine month per year job to a twelve month per year job. In such cases all vacancies and newly created positions shall be posted in a conspicuous place in each building the district at least seven (7) calendar days prior to filling such vacancy or newly created position. No application of the seniority rule shall in any manner compel the Employer to transfer any person to any position for which he is not qualified or physically capable of performing.
  5. "Bargaining members who normally work a 180-day school year and are qualified to do the work will be given preference to do work in the

district beyond that of the regular summer work force, providing work shall be paid for directly by the local districts fund and Unit wage rates, during the summer months. Assignment to such work shall be based on seniority and willingness of the employee to do such work.”

B. Any promotions of persons within the unit covered by this agreement shall be subject to the following provisions:

1. A promotion is an upward change in an open job classification, which results in additional rate compensation.
2. Promotions within the bargaining unit shall be made on the basis of seniority, qualifications, and physical condition. Job vacancies will be posted for a period of seven (7) calendar days, setting forth the minimum requirement for the position of a conspicuous place in each building. Employees interested shall apply within the seven (7) calendar day positing period. The senior employee applying for the promotion and who meet the minimum requirements shall be granted up to a twenty (20) working day trial period to determine:
  - a. His desire to remain on the job.
  - b. His ability to perform the job.

In the event the senior applicant is denied the promotion, reasons for the denial shall be given in writing to such employee's steward; in the event the senior applicant disagrees with the reasons for denial it shall be a proper subject for the grievance procedure.

3. During the twenty (20) working day trial period, the employee shall have the opportunity to revert back to his former classification. If the employee is unsatisfactory in the new position, notice and reason shall be submitted to the Union in writing by the Employer with a copy to the employee. The matter may then become a proper subject for the grievance procedure.
4. During the trial period, employees shall receive the rate of pay for the job they are performing.

C. Temporary assignments for the purpose of filling vacancies of employees who are on vacation, absent because of illness, etc., for a period of 10 or more consecutive working days, will be granted to the senior employee who meets the requirements for such job. Such employees will receive the rate of pay of the higher classification for all hours worked while filling such vacancy. However, no application of the seniority rule shall in any manner compel the Employer to transfer any person to any position for which he/she is not qualified. Employees who accept an extra assignment shall receive only the rate of pay of the higher classification for all hours worked. After the employee has successfully completed ninety (90) consecutive work days in the same extra assignment, said employee shall receive all benefits normally attributed to said position, not retroactive, starting at the ninety-first (91) day forward.

- D. Should an employee be temporarily transferred in lieu of a lay-off, from a higher paid job to a lower paid job, he shall be paid the rate of the lower paid job. Where an employee is temporarily transferred in lieu of lay-off from a lower paid job to a higher paid job, he will receive the higher rate of pay. Should the employee be temporarily transferred for the convenience of the Employer to a higher paid job, he shall receive the higher rate

**ARTICLE VIII - LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

- A. General Leaves: Leaves of absence without pay for up to one (1) year will be granted, in writing, without loss of seniority for both personal illness or illness in the immediate family, whether the illness is mental or physical. Immediate family shall include parent, spouse, parent-in-law, brother, sister, child, grandchild, grandparent, brother or sister-in-law, or dependent living in the household.

- B. Sick leave benefits will be provided hereunder for pregnancy and pregnancy related disability. Any leave resulting from pregnancy or pregnancy related disability after expiration of the accumulated sick leave shall be without pay.

An employee may request a pregnancy related leave of absence subsequent to the use of her sick leave. The employee shall notify the district in writing of her intent of take such leave at least thirty (30) days prior to the expected date for such leave. The pregnant employee will notify the personnel office as soon as is practical concerning her pregnancy and will be allowed to work up until her physician requests her to terminate working. The employee will provide the district with a physician's report as to her fitness for continuation of her job.

Said leave will be extended until the employee's physician certifies her fitness to resume the performance of her duties. The employee shall notify the district in writing of her intent to return to work thirty (30) days prior to her return. The employee shall not return to work after termination of the pregnancy unless and until she has provided the Board of Education with a written statement from her physician and mentally capable of performing her employment. All seniority shall continue to accrue and any and all benefits held at the beginning of the leave or sick leave held at the end of the leave shall be reinstated upon return to work.

- C. Employees shall accrue seniority while on any leave of absence granted by the provisions of this agreement, and shall be returned to the position they held at the time the leave of absence was granted, or to a position to which his seniority entitles him.
- D. Members of the Union elected to attend a function of the Union, such as conventions or educational conferences, shall be allowed time off without loss of time or pay to attend such conferences and/or conventions up to a maximum of five days per year for the total unit covered by this agreement. Any additional time will be without pay.

- E. Funeral Leave: An employee shall be allowed four (4) working days as funeral leave days not to be deducted from sick leave for a death in the immediate family. Two additional days will be allowed, but must be taken from sick leave. Immediate family is to be defined as follows: Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Wife or Husband, Son or Daughter, Mother-in-law, Father-in-law, Brother-in-law, Sister-in-law, Grandparents, Grandchildren, or a member of the employees' household. Any employee selected to be a pall bearer for a deceased employee will be allowed one (1) funeral leave day with pay, not to be deducted from sick leave. The President of the Association shall be allowed one (1) funeral leave day in the event of a death of a member of the Union who is a member of the district for the exclusive purpose of attending the funeral.
- F. Military leaves of absence without pay or fringe benefits shall be granted to employees who are inducted or enlist for one (1) period of enlistment for military duty in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States. Employees on military leave shall be reinstated in accordance with applicable laws and upon re-employment by the Board, they shall be credited with any unused sick leave held at the start of the leave, and reinstated to their former seniority prior to taking such leave.
- G. Sick Leave: Each employee shall be allowed one (1) sick leave day per month of scheduled work, accumulative to seventy (70) days. In the event of critical illness or other emergency in the employees' household, sick leave will be allowed. Said employee may be allowed to take such days with loss of pay at the discretion of the superintendent, not to be deducted from sick leave. Any sick leave days accumulated over seventy (70) days shall be paid to the employee at the end of said year at a rate of \$65.00 per day on the last pay period the school year.

Employees hired after April 1, 2021 must have a minimum of ten (10) years of service to the North Central Area Schools to be eligible for this provision. For employees hired after April 1, 2021 this payment will be as follows:

1. Accrued Sick Days: Support staff, upon retirement only, shall be paid for all sick days accrued up to 35 sick days at the rate of \$40.00 per day for the retiring employee. Any days accrued from 36 days up to 70 days, upon retirement will be paid at rate of \$20.00 per day, for the retiring employee and will only be deposited into a 403(b) or 457 using one of the twelve existing vendors.

For employees hired before April 1, 2021 the contract language will remain as follows:

1. Accrued Sick Days: Support staff, upon retirement only, shall be paid for all sick days accrued up to 35 sick days at the daily rate of pay for the retiring employee. Any days accrued from 36 days up to 70 days, upon retirement will be paid at 1/2 (one half) of the retiring employees daily rate of pay.

Sick Leave Bank - for extended illness only.

Up to 20 days may be borrowed from the sick leave bank per employee if the employee has a specific need for more days than they have accumulated. The following conditions must be followed:

1. Must have a minimum of five years of service to the district to qualify.
  2. Said employee shall pay back all days borrowed at the rate of five days per year, minimum.
  3. The employee must request said days through the MESPA on the proper form, signed by the employee.
  4. If the employee leaves the district, said employee must pay back the days (2) owed at their normal daily rate of pay.
  5. It is the responsibility of the MESPA to reimburse the Board in the event that the Board cannot collect the unreimbursed days when an employee leaves or terminates from the district. Such reimbursement shall be either the normal daily rate of pay for each day borrowed or the MESPA can elect to donate the appropriate number of days owed from each member's total accumulation.
  6. The district shall have the right to deduct the value of said leave days from the final paycheck of the employee if said employee is not returned to the district.
  7. Employees covered under this agreement shall be allowed to freeze any sick days earned, including days from the sick leave bank. Employees electing this option shall receive no remuneration from the District during the actual time of illness or disability. An employee can revoke this option at any time.
  8. All unused personal business days and vacation days must be exhausted before an individual can draw from the bank.
  9. All days withdrawn from the bank must be paid back before said individual can again borrow days. In the event of absence of an employee for illness in excess of five (5) consecutive working days, the Board may, at its expense, require an examination by an independent physician.
- H. Other Leaves: Leaves of absence without pay may be granted by the Board of Education for other reasons. Such a leave shall not exceed one (1) year. The granting of such a leave will be contingent upon the School District's ability to hire a suitable replacement.
- I. Personal Business Leave Days: An employee shall be granted four personal (4) days with pay per year to conduct personal business. Such days shall accumulate to a total of five (5) days per year. Any unused personal days beyond five (5) at the end of a school year will be rolled over into employees' sick leave. Any new employee hired after July 1, 2017 and works less than 30 hours per week will not be eligible for personal business days.
- J. Any leave pursuant to this Article shall automatically suspend, for the duration of the leave, the Board's obligation to pay salary or wages and fringe benefits, except where otherwise specifically provided in this agreement.



- K. Jury Duty: A leave of absence without loss of pay or fringe benefits shall be granted to any employee called for jury service or who is subpoenaed to testify during school hours in any judicial or administrative matter. The employee shall be required to endorse his witness fee or jury fee to the district in exchange for a full day's pay.
- L. Vacations: All full-time, twelve-month employees will earn credits toward vacation with pay in accordance with the following schedule:
  - a) ***Upon completion of the first year - one week.***
  - b) ***Upon completion of the third year - two weeks.***
  - c) ***Upon completion of the fifth year - three weeks.***
  - d) ***Upon completion of the 15th year - one additional day.***
  - e) ***Upon completion of the 20th year - one additional day.***
  - f) ***Upon completion of the 25th year - three additional days.***

***(This would result in one (1) additional week with 25 years of service.)***

1. Vacations will be granted according to seniority at such times during the year as are suitable, considering both the wishes of the employee and efficient operation of the department concerned.
2. Vacations will be taken in a period of consecutive days. Vacations may be split into one or more days, providing such scheduling does not interfere with the operation.
3. When a holiday is observed by the Employer during a scheduled vacation, the vacation will be extended one day continuous with the vacation. If a regular payday falls during an employee's vacation, he may request and receive that check in advance before going on vacation.
4. If an employee is laid-off or retired, or severs his employment, he will receive any unused vacation credit including that accrued in the current calendar year. A recalled employee who received credit at the time of lay-off for the current calendar year will have such credit deducted from his vacation the following year.
5. Employees will be paid their current rate based on their regular scheduled day while on vacation and will receive credit for any benefits provided for in this agreement.

#### **ARTICLE IX - WORK DAY, YEAR, WEEK, HOURS OF WORK**

- A. The Board shall retain the right to schedule the work hours of employees according to the needs of the system.
- B. The first shift is any shift that regularly starts on or after 4:00 a.m. but before 11:00 a.m. The second shift is any shift that regularly starts on or after 11:00 a.m. but before 7:00 p.m. The third shift is any shift that regularly starts on or after 7:00 p.m. but before 4:00 a.m. A shift shall be considered a regular shift if it is of a duration of at least seven calendar days.

- C. Nothing herein shall be contrived as a guarantee of hours per day, per week, or weeks to be worked per year. In the event the Board desired to change the nonannual work schedule of any group of employees, it will notify the Union president.
- D. All work performed by employees in excess of forty (40) hours in any one (1) work week will be paid at the rate of one and one-half (1 & 1/2) times their regular rate.
- E. Summer Hours: Employees working forty (40) hours in four (4) days will be allowed to continue such schedule provided such scheduling provides adequate coverage for the district.
- F. An employee reporting for duty shall be guaranteed at least two (2) hours pay at his regular rate if he or she is reporting for regular duty, and at the rate of time and one-half if he or she is reporting for overtime duty.
- G. The District will not provide a duty-free lunch period, nor a paid lunch period for employees. Employees may eat lunch during working hours where their work assignment and/or their work schedule allows them to do the same without loss of service to the district.
- H. Senior employees may substitute for another employee as long as hours do not exceed 40 hours and they are qualified.
- I. Support staff members shall work a maximum of three (3) professional development days per school year with one taking place prior to the start of the school year, one during the first semester, and one during the second semester. Staff members scheduled to attend professional development will be paid for hours worked. If an employee is called into work, and is not available to work, there will be no pay. An employee may use personal time, or sick time, for pay during professional development if communicated to administration 24 hours prior to the scheduled professional development day. The remaining professional development time will be scheduled at the administration's discretion and communicated to staff members at least two weeks in advance.

#### **ARTICLE X - JOB CLASSIFICATION**

- A. The following are the definitions of job categories:

Full-Time Employee: An employee who works at least 30 hours per week will be considered full time for the purpose of benefits offered.

Part-Time Employee: An employee who is scheduled to work less than a 30 hour week.

Substitute Employee: A person who temporarily performs the job for a regular full-time or part-time employee on a day-to-day basis until the regular employee returns to the job or is permanently replaced; but any such person who is so employed in any one job

in place of the regular employee for a period in excess of thirty (30) consecutive working days shall be deemed, as a thirty-first (31) consecutive working day, a regular, permanent employee.

Temporary Employee: A person who provides services when help is required in a job assignment or position which is not of a permanent nature, and who does not work for more than sixty (60) days in any one year, or who is a student or person whose employment is financed by state or federal funds without limitation on the number of days worked in any year. No temporary employee shall be used to fill any permanent vacancy occurring as a result of death, retirement, disability, or discharge or other reason.

#### **ARTICLE XI - WORKING CONDITIONS**

- A. The employer agrees that no employee shall be required to work under unsafe or hazardous conditions. Further, the employer agrees to provide without cost to the employee, necessary safety equipment, not to include ordinary equipment, for their performance of their regular duties.
- B. Each employee will be covered by the applicable Worker's Compensation laws and the Employer further agrees that an employee being eligible for Workmen's Compensation income, an amount to be paid by the Employer sufficient to make up the difference between Workmen's Compensation his regular weekly income based on forty (40) hours, providing that he has sick leave credit. For each day of compensation the employee shall have one-third (1/3) day subtracted from his sick leave credit.
- C. Coffee Breaks: Employees may take the fifteen minute coffee break in the a.m. and also a fifteen minute coffee break in the p.m. or the first half of their regular shift, whichever may apply. The Employer agrees to provide adequate rest areas, lounges, and restrooms for employee use.
- D. An employee will not be required to dispense medication to any other person including students. The policy of the school district will be followed with regards to this area. In the event that a child with an ongoing or chronic communicable disease is allowed, by policy or by law, to attend school, all employees having contact with 'the student will be notified in advance if permitted under law. The District shall provide training in hygienic practices and provide the necessary supplies and materials needed by the employee to perform their job responsibilities in working with said child, as determined by the Administration.
- E. No Employee of the bargaining unit shall be required to act as a supervisor of students or to act in a disciplinary role, unless, such supervisor or disciplinary activities are voluntarily contracted for by the employees as part of their normal job function, or is presented in an emergency situation. The Employer agrees to give all reasonable assistance to employees in relation to request for maintenance of control and discipline in the employee's work area, and the employee agrees to provide all reasonable aid and

assistance to the Employer for the maintenance and control of discipline in the school system, on school property, and in the protection of school property.

The parties have agreed to maintain the language within the contract, with the understanding that unit members may be required, through job classification, to assume supervisory duties over students. It is the understanding of both parties that unit members will continue to provide adult authority in the normal course and conduct of their activities pursuant to the above language.

- F. The Union and the board jointly recognize that alcoholism and drug abuse are illnesses and shall be treated as such. The Board agrees that any bargaining unit member with an alcohol or drug abuse problem who request diagnosis or treatment will not jeopardize his/her job rights or job security and that such problems will be handled in a confidential manner.

The employee must participate in an approved program. This provision may be used once by each employee.

- G. Recess: The recess aides shall be provided with a copy of Board Policy that refers to wind chill. It is the obligation of the building administrator to make the decision, in accordance with Board Policy, whether or not the recess aides shall have the students outside for recess. If the administrator is not available, then the recess aides will determine if recess is outdoors or indoors based on policy.

- H. a. Subbing: When a sub is needed for a union position, that position will be filled on a seniority basis, provided they are qualified. Any members interested in subbing during the school year should sign up with the Association President of the first day of school. The list will be by members' seniority date and gone through on a rotation basis. Bus drive sub lists will be kept as a separate list. If attempt to call by administration are unsuccessful or not returned, administration can fill these needed positions with any other person outside the union on the sub list.

b. Bus Drivers: When a sub is needed for a union position, that sub will be selected from regular employees and regular subs on a rotation basis, provided they are certified and qualified. Any members interested in subbing during the school year should sign up with the association president on the first day of school. The list will be by members seniority date and used on a rotation basis. If attempts to call sub drivers are unsuccessful or note returned, administration will go to the next person on the list.

- I. Sub Pay: Staff members will receive the entry level wage for the position they are subbing in.

- J. Duties outside of job description: When staff members are asked to perform duties that are not defined in their job description and those duties are defined in the job description of another district position outside of the staff member's department, staff will receive the higher of the two hourly rates if the duties required a minimum of one hour to complete.

## **ARTICLE XII - BOARD RIGHTS**

- A. It is expressly agreed that all rights which ordinarily vest in and have been exercised by the Board of Education, except those which are clearly and expressly relinquished herein by the Board, shall continue to be vested exclusively in and to be exercised exclusively by the Board. Such rights shall include, by way of illustration and not by way of limitation, the right to:
1. Manage and control the business of the school district, the equipment, and the operations and to direct the working forces and affairs of the Board of Education.
  2. Continue its rights and past practice of assignment and direction of work of all of its personnel; determine hours of work or days and starting times and scheduling of all the foregoing, but not in conflict with the specific provisions of this agreement.
  3. Determine the services, supplies and equipment necessary to continue its operations and to determine the methods, schedules and standards of operation, the means, methods, and processes of carrying on the work including automation thereof or changes therein, the institution of new and/or improved methods or changes therein.
  4. The right to hire, establish and change work schedules, set hours of work or days and starting times, establish classifications, promote, demote, transfer, release, and lay-off employees, and establish adopt, publish, change, amend, and enforce rules and regulations for employees to follow.
  5. The right to determine the qualifications of employees and to suspend, discipline, and discharge employees for cause, and otherwise to maintain an orderly and efficient operation.
  6. Determine the number and location or relocation of its facilities, including the establishment or relocation of new schools, buildings and departments.
  7. Determine the placement of operations, production techniques, distribution of work, the source of materials and supplies.
  8. Determine the financial policies, including all accounting procedures, and all matters pertaining to public relations as they relate to the school district.
- B. The exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities by the Board, and adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices in the furtherance thereof, and the use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith shall be limited only by the specific and express terms of this agreement and then only to the extent such specific and express terms hereof are in conformance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Michigan, and the Constitution and laws of the United States. Nothing contained in Article XIV shall deprive the Union of any rights afforded to it under Act 379 of the Public Acts of 1965.

## **ARTICLE XIII - EMPLOYEE RIGHTS**

- A. Pursuant to the Michigan Employment Relations Act the Employer hereby agrees that every employee shall have the right freely to organize, join, and support the Union for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining in negotiations. As a duly elected body, exercising governmental power under color of law and of the State of Michigan, the Employer undertakes and agrees it will not directly, or indirectly, discourage or deprive or coerce any employee in the enjoyment of any rights conferred by the Act or other laws in Michigan, or the Constitution of Michigan and the United States of America; that will not discriminate against any employee with respect to wages, hours or any terms and conditions of employment by his/her membership in the Union; his/her participation in any activities of the Union or collective negotiations with the Employer, or his/her institution of any grievance complaint, or proceeding under this contract.
- B. Nothing contained within this agreement shall be construed to deny or restrict to any employee rights he/she may have under the Michigan General School Laws or other laws of Michigan or the United States of America.

Employees shall have full rights of citizenship; no religious or political affiliations outside of the work environment will be grounds for any discipline or discrimination with respect to the employment of the employee.

#### **ARTICLE XIV - CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS**

- A. During the term of this agreement, the Union will not authorize, sanction, condone, or acquiesce in, nor will any member of the bargaining unit take part in, any strike or work stoppage of any kind or nature. Strike and work stoppages shall be deemed to include but not be limited to: slowdowns, stoppages of any kind, sit-ins, concerted mass sickness, or any other type of interference of any kind whatsoever with operations at any of the facilities, singularly or jointly, of the Board, and picketing or demonstrating of any kind during working hours. The Union further agrees that it will not engage in any sanction activities or other terms of boycotts of the Board.
- B. The Board agrees that it will not engage in any lockout of members of the bargaining unit for the duration of this agreement.
- C. The Board shall have the right to discipline, including discharge, any employee for taking part in any violation of this provision. Prior to the taking of disciplinary or other action enumerated herein, the Board shall notify the Union of its intentions and may also consult with the Union in connection therewith. It is expected that the Union will act to discipline its members pursuant to the disciplinary procedures within the Union's Constitution and/or By-laws.

#### **ARTICLE XV - NEGOTIATION PROCEDURES**

- A. This agreement shall begin on the 17th day of July, 2024 and shall continue in full force and effect until the 30th day of June 2026. This agreement may only be extended in writing or orally by the consent of both parties. Prior to said expiration, the parties shall meet to negotiate the terms, conditions, and provisions of a successor agreement.

- B. This agreement supersedes or cancels all previous agreements, verbal or written or based on alleged past practices, between the Board and the Union and constitutes the entire agreement between the parties. Any amendment or agreement supplemental hereto may be subject to negotiation during the period of this agreement upon the request and mutual consent to both parties, but shall not be binding upon either party unless executed in writing by the parties hereto.

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted in this agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not ruled by law from collective bargaining, and that the understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this agreement. Therefore, the Board and the Union, for the life of this agreement, each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives the right and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this agreement, even though such subjects or matters may not have been within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time that they negotiated or signed this agreement.

#### **ARTICLE XVI - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

- A. If any provision of this agreement or any application of the agreement to any employee or group of employees shall be found contrary to law, that such provision or application shall not be deemed valid and subsisting except to the extent permitted by law, but all other provisions and applications shall continue to be in full force and effect.
- B. When an employee desires to terminate his/her employment, there must be at least fourteen (14) days notice of resignation, in writing, given to the immediate supervisor.
- C. When school is canceled due to inclement weather, unavoidable conditions, or any other act of God, employees will be paid for all of the hours missed on scheduled workdays that have been canceled. All employees will be paid up to the equivalent of three (3) days of pay for the first three (3) canceled days and are eligible to use their choice of leave time in lieu of working on any canceled days after the initial three (3). Those employees who choose to come in and work for those days beyond the first three canceled days, will be required to report to their director supervisor for assignment.
- D. The Employer agrees that any consolidation or elimination of jobs shall not be effective without a special conference.

- E. Insofar as valid under state law, this agreement shall be binding upon the Employer's successors, assignees, purchaser, lease or transferees, whether such succession, assignment, or transfer be effected voluntarily or by the operation of law; and in the event of the Employer's merger or consolidation with another Employer, this agreement shall be binding upon the merged or consolidated Employer.
- F. The Employer agrees to make available to each employee in the bargaining unit a copy of this agreement and to provide a copy of the same agreement to all new employees that become members of the bargaining unit. The Employer agrees to make available a copy of this agreement at the earliest possible date following ratification of the agreement.
- G. Since, in the event of an emergency it is sometimes imperative that bus drivers be in contact with the district, the Employer hereby agrees that the district's radio center shall be manned during all normally scheduled bus runs. If, in an emergency situation, the radio center is not manned, then bus to bus radio communication would be appropriate as would be the use of Hands Free communication devices.
- H. The re-employment rights of employees and probationary employees will be in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Employees who are in some branch of the Armed Forces Reserve or the National Guard will be paid the difference between their reserve pay and their regular pay with the district when they are in full time active duty in the Reserve or National Guard, provided a proof of service and pay is submitted. A maximum of two weeks per year.
- I. Any employee who is required to work prior to the start of school will be paid their regular rate of pay for all hours worked.
- J. Newly hired employees will receive a copy of a job description for their classification. If a job description is changed by the Board, the affected employees will receive a copy of the amended job description. Job descriptions are available upon request at the Superintendent's Office. Job descriptions will include at a minimum:
  - a. Job title and description
  - b. Minimum requirements.
  - c. A statement of required tasks and responsibilities.
- K. All members will receive a season pass for sporting events
- L. An emergency manager appointed under the local government and school district fiscal accountability act may reject, modify or terminate the collective bargaining agreement as provided within the local government and school district fiscal accountability act.



**ARTICLE XVII**

**DURATION & EXECUTION OF INSTRUMENT**

This agreement shall be effective as of July 17, 2024 and shall continue in effect until June 30, 2026. This Agreement shall not be extended orally and it is expressly understood that it shall expire on the date indicated. Prior to its expiration, the contract will open on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 to discuss a wage increase for the 2025-2026 school year.

The terms of such collective bargaining agreement between the parties are incorporated herein and by accepting and signing this "**Master Agreement-Execution of Instrument- Signature Execution Clause**" in this contract below, the parties agree to be bound by all such terms for the duration of this Agreement.

This Agreement will become enacted and implemented in full effect on the first date after the expiration date of the former Agreement by the last signature of either of the parties officials listed below, who are empowered to enter into this contract, is entered on the "**Master Agreement-Execution of Instrument- Signature Execution Clause**" below.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this instrument to be executed by their signatures on the day and year below written.

**"Master Agreement-Execution of Instrument-Signature Execution Clause"**

For the Board: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For the Association: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE XVIII--ECONOMIC & FRINGE PROVISIONS**

Compensation: Wages for the following categories will be increased by the following amounts:

	<u>Current Wage</u>	<u>increase</u>	<u>2024-25 wage</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>2025-26 wage</u>
Bus Driver – Regular Runs	\$18.05	\$0.75	\$18.80		
Custodian	\$16.50	\$0.75	\$17.25		
Building Secretary	\$17.51	\$0.75	\$18.26		
1 <sup>st</sup> Cook	\$16.00	\$0.75	\$16.75		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Cook	\$15.00	\$0.75	\$15.75		
Educational Asst.	\$16.00	\$0.75	\$16.75		

Staff who qualify for medical insurance, but choose not to take medical insurance will get 25% of the hard cap for a single subscription.

A new employee shall receive 95% of their base rate for the duration of the probationary period. After the probationary period, the employee will receive the rate of pay in accordance with the master pay schedule. Each employee shall be evaluated by his/her supervisor on an annual basis.

- B. Pension Plan: The Employer is to continue the present pension plan for the duration of the agreement.
- C. Medical Examinations: The Employer to pay for all physical examinations required as a condition of employment.
- D. Driver's School and CDL License: The Employer will pay to the employee, the current sitting rate for classroom attendance. The fee for a CDL license will be reimbursed by the Employer when required as a condition of employment.
- E. Personal Mileage: Employees required to use their personal cars in their employment to be reimbursed at a rate to coincide with the mileage paid by the district, this to include traveling to bus, school or other schools required.
- F. Insurance: The employer will continue to make available health and life insurance programs that are equal or better than the existing plans. **If an employee is hired after 7/1/2017 and works less than 30 hours there are no medical benefits. The Board agrees to pay: The PA 152 of 2011, Section 3, Hard Capped Amounts per current Single, 2 Person, and Family at the rate of the Annual Hard Cap Dollar amount established by the State of Michigan's Department of Treasury. If the employee is enrolled in a medical plan with a Health Savings Account (HSA), Such as the currently available MESSA ABC I or ABC II, the**

employee may, at their discretion, elect to allocate a portion of the Hard Capped Amount into their HSA. The remaining Hard Cap dollars will be allocated towards their health insurance premium. It is understood that the difference between the remaining Hard Capped dollars and the premium will be the responsibility of the employee.

The Board agrees to pay the Michigan Department of Treasury Hard Cap amount for a single person health benefit package for any new employee hired after January 1, 2019 and is considered as a full-time employee at 30 or more hours per week. As of September 1, 2017, the Support Staff will have 5 Medical/Non-Medical Plans available to them:

**Medical Benefit Plans:**

The specific MESSA Medical Plans available to eligible employees are determined by the Coalition Team of the Upper Peninsula Area Purchasing Agreement (UP APA). Plans will be decided by the Coalition Team each September (after the initial year) for implementation on the following January 1. Should the district no longer participate in the UP APA, or if the UP APA no longer exists, the existing MESSA plans will be in place until other plans are negotiated. Dental, vision, life, and long term disability benefits are still subject to this collective bargaining and are listed below.

**Non-Medical Benefit Plans:**

**Dental:**

Class I:	100%
Class II:	90%
Class III:	90%
Annual Max:	\$3,000
Class IV:	90%
Lifetime Max:	\$3,000
Riders:	2 Cleanings

**Vision:** VSP 3 Plus P 250CL

**Life Insurance:** \$50,000

**A D & D Coverage:** \$50,000

**The following paragraphs pertain to all Medical and Non-Medical Benefit Plans**

Any portion of the actual applicable plans monthly premium costs not covered by the Board paid premiums for the Medical Benefit Plans shall be paid by the employee via payroll deduction. Employees must authorize the District the right to deduct the employee's portion of the applicable plans premium contribution via payroll deduction as a condition to be eligible for the Medical Benefit Plan.

The employee paid applicable plan premium payments made via payroll deduction to cover the employee contribution shall be evenly spread over the existing pay-periods the employee works during the school year.

In the event of employment of a husband and wife, only one MESSA Plan benefit will be provided, and there shall be no "doubling" of insurance coverage. The benefits provided herein are the basic benefits under MESSA Plan and do not include optional programs hereunder, except as specifically hereinafter provided.

Board paid maximum premium payments are based on full-time employment (30 hours or more), less than full-time {less than 30 hours per week} will be prorated accordingly. For employees who work less than the applicable positions work year due to being hired after the contracted year or who resign or retire before the end of the contract year or whose census category changes during the contract year will receive prorated Board premium payments accordingly. The Board will make monthly premium payments for active employees in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Medical Benefits plans provider.

Employees will also pay all deductibles, co-pays, payments into flexible spending accounts associated with the employee "Medical Benefit Plan".

***It shall be the responsibility of each and every support staff employee to complete and submit necessary application forms for insurance programs to the Administrative Officer in charge. The completion of these forms shall be the responsibility of the employee for the MESSA Insurance Programs and any other benefit programs provided by the district***

- G. **Non Medical Insurance coverage (Dental, Vision, Life, and Accidental Death and Dismemberment):** For employees working less than 30 hours/week will have this insurance pro-rated If an employee is hired after 7/1/2017 and works less than 30 hours, there are no vision/dental benefits.
- H. **Holidays:** All full time 12-month employees shall have the days listed below off with pay. Pay shall be for the regularly scheduled hours of each employee.

Labor Day, the first day of Deer Season, Thanksgiving Day, the Friday following Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, the last four (4) hours of the employee's regular shift on Good Friday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and the employee's birth date.

If any employee is required to work on any of the above-specified holidays, the employee shall be compensated at a rate of one and one-half times his normal rate in addition to receiving his regular pay.

***All other support staff employees who work shall be paid their regular rate of pay for the following holidays: Thanksgiving Day, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Memorial Day.***

***Any employee hired after July 1, 2017 and working less than 30 hours weekly will not have any paid holidays available to them.***

- I. The Employer agrees to pay to each employee a sum of money as longevity pay in accordance with the schedule hereinafter set forth:

1. Longevity Pay Amounts:

<u>Years of Service</u>	
5-9 years	\$400
10-14 years	\$500
15-19 years	\$600
20-24 years	\$700
24-29 years	\$800
30+ years	\$900

Any new hire will start receiving longevity payments at the 5-9 year step. Any new employee hired after July 1, 2017 with less than 30 hours per week will not be eligible for Longevity.

Longevity shall be paid on the basis of the school fiscal year, starting July 1 and ending June 30, and shall be computed from the July 1 nearest date of hire. Date of hire shall be the first day of work actually performed by the employee for which he is paid by the district for regular employment.

2. An employee who retires or is laid-off or dies shall be paid longevity as specified in Paragraphs 1 and 2 above, except that for this final year, longevity will be pro-rated as a percentage of a complete working year. This percentage is a ratio of the time worked in his final year up to the date of retirement to the total time of his working year.
3. An employee who quits or is discharged during his working years shall not be eligible for longevity pay during that year.
4. Absence due to personal illness or lay-off shall not be deducted when computing an employee's total longevity.

5. Leaves of absence other than personal illness, of over half an employee's working year shall be deducted as one full year when computing an employee's total longevity.
6. An employee who quits or retires and who is later re-hired by the district shall not carry over accumulated longevity. His longevity shall be computed as outlined in Paragraph 1 and 2 above starting with his latest date of hire.
7. Absence due to personal illness will not affect the payment of longevity.
8. For leaves of absence other than personal illness of less than one-half of the employee's work year, longevity payment will be prorated on the percentage of employee's work year completed.

- J. Shift Differential: In the first year of this agreement, \$.15 per hour (if an employee shift starts on or after 11:00 a.m. and continues past 5:00 p.m.). In the second year of this agreement, \$.15 per hour under the same conditions as stated above.

Split Shift Pay: In the first year of this agreement, \$.15 per hour (if the employee is required to be away from the job during the work shift in addition to the normal lunch period time, or coffee breaks, and then returns to complete the shift). In the second year of this agreement, \$.15 per hour under the same conditions as noted above.

- K. Retirement Provisions. Upon retirement from the North Central School District each employee covered by this Master Agreement shall receive a retirement bonus based on thirty (\$30.00) for each year of service to the District. For example, if an employee has worked for the District for 25 years, they shall receive a retirement bonus of \$750.00.

Employees hired after April 1, 2021 must have a minimum of ten (10) years of service to the North Central Area Schools to be eligible for this provision. For employees hired after April 1, 2021 this payment will only be deposited into a 403(b) or 457 using one of the twelve existing vendors.

- L. Extra Trips: Bus Drivers. Extra trips are **non –mandatory**. Drivers shall receive their full hourly rate with the following provision:

- On extra trips, the maximum number of hours that can be charged under (b), above, shall be eight (8) hours per day for each extra trip.

All extra trips will be driven by regular District bus drivers up to a maximum of 300 miles round trip. Exceptions may be made for post-season play such as tournaments where transportation cost may be funded from outside groups, which would not require a district driver.

**NORTH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Sick Leave Bank Approval Form**

**NCESPA:**

I wish to borrow \_\_\_\_\_ from the sick leave bank as provided for in the Master (number of days) Agreement.

I understand that all days borrowed must be paid back at the rate of five (5) days per year from my normal accumulation.

I further agree that if I do not return to work the following would apply:

- (a) I agree to pay the District for all days borrowed at my daily rate.
- (b) The school district shall have the right to deduct said amount from my final paycheck.
- (c) I agree that my spouse/estate shall be obliged to pay said amount if I am deceased.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
MESPA President/Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM**

Grievance #: _____		School District _____	<b><u>Distribution of Form</u></b> 1. Superintendent 2. Principal/Supervisor 3. Association 4. Teacher/Member
Grievance Report			
<b>Submit to Principal in Duplicate</b>			
<b>Building</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Name of Grievant</b>	<b>Date Filed</b>

**STEP 1**

A. Date of Cause of Grievance Occurred \_\_\_\_\_

B. 1. Statement of Grievance \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Relief Sought \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Date

C. Disposition by Principal \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Date

D. Position of Grievant and/or Association \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Date

**STEP 2**

A. Date received by Superintendent or Designee \_\_\_\_\_

B. Disposition of Superintendent or Designee \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

C. Position of Grievant/Association \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

**STEP 3**

A. Date received by Board of Education or Designee \_\_\_\_\_

B. Disposition by Board \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

C. Position of Grievant/Association \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

**STEP 4**

A. Date Submitted to Arbitration \_\_\_\_\_

B. Disposition & Award of Arbitrator \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

Note: All provisions of Article \_\_\_\_\_ of the Agreement Dated \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ WILL  
BE STRICTLY OBSERVED IN THE SETTLEMENT OF GRIEVANCES.

# North Central Area Schools

District Office/Elementary School: PO Box 159 | W5465 East Third Street, Hermansville, MI 49847

Middle/High School: PO Box 601 | W3795 US HWY 2/41, Powers, MI 49874

Phone: 906-498-7737 | Fax: 906-497-0901

Travis Depuydt, Ed.S, Superintendent/K-5 Principal  
Donny Bianco, 6-12 Principal  
Amanda Norkoli, Dir. Online Learning/At-Risk Coord.

Wendy Granquist, Business Manager  
Lisa Harry, School Counselor

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09/10/2024

## Memorandum of Understanding Between NCA ESP and NCA Board of Education

New Language:

The NCA Board of Education and the NCA ESP agree to the following pay structure for substitute bus drivers effective immediately:

AM and PM Route = \$120

AM or PM Route = \$60

NCA ESP Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 9/10/24

NCA Board of Education Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 9-10-24