

LABOR AGREEMENT

between the

STATE OF MINNESOTA

and the

**STATE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027

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ARTICLE 1 – PREAMBLE

This Agreement is made and entered into this 14th day of January 2026, by and between the State Residential Schools Education Association, hereinafter referred to as the ASSOCIATION or SRSEA, and the State of Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the EMPLOYER.

Minnesota Management and Budget may correct any misspelled words, mathematical errors, and other clerical errors or omissions in this Agreement at any time. All corrections must be mutually agreed upon before taking effect.

ARTICLE 2 – ASSOCIATION RECOGNITION

Section 1. Description of the Bargaining Unit.

The Employer recognizes the Association as exclusive representative for all employees in the classifications included in the Professional State Residential Instructional Unit No. 15 by the Legislative Commission on Employee Relations or by Bureau determination who are public employees within the meaning of Minn. Stat. 179A.03, Subd. 14, including the Arts Education Teacher classification, excluding supervisory employees, confidential employees, and other employees excluded by the Public Employment Labor Relations Act, Minn. Stat. 179A.01, et. seq. (Employees working fourteen (14) hours/week or less or sixty-seven (67) days/calendar year or less are excluded.)

The Employer will not meet and negotiate or meet and confer with any organization other than the Association as long as the Association is the duly authorized exclusive bargaining representative of Unit No. 15, Professional State Residential Instructional Unit.

ARTICLE 3 – ASSOCIATION RIGHTS

Section 1. New Teacher Orientation.

The Appointing Authority shall provide an orientation for each new teacher within fifteen (15) working days of hire. Such orientation shall be during the work day and cover institution policies and procedures.

Section 2. Communications.

The Employer and/or the Appointing Authority or designees agrees to supply the Association (or a particular Local Association as appropriate) a copy of any written communication which generally affects the terms and conditions of employment for this bargaining unit. The Association shall designate its addresses for this purpose.

Section 3. Use of Facilities.

The Association shall be the only labor organization representing teachers in the bargaining unit to have the right to use available institution facilities and/or equipment. The use of such equipment and/or facilities shall be at reasonable times outside the normal workday and when such facilities and/or equipment is not otherwise in use. Any use of facilities and/or equipment must have prior approval from the Appointing Authority or their designee. Such approval will not be unreasonably denied. The Association agrees to reimburse the Appointing Authority for reasonable expenses the Appointing Authority may incur in this regard.

Section 4. Bulletin Boards.

The Association shall have the exclusive right to post notices of activities and matters of Association concern on teacher bulletin boards which shall be located in the teachers' lounge or other suitable area. At least one (1) bulletin board shall be provided in each facility. The Association may use the facilities' internal distribution service including email consistent with the state's policies on use of email, and teacher mailboxes for communication to teachers.

Section 5. Association Business.

With advance notice, approval shall be given to authorized representatives of the Association to transact official Association business on institution premises at reasonable times, provided that this shall not unduly interfere with nor interrupt the operations of the institution.

Section 6. Presidential Release Time.

In order to better serve members, the SRSEA President shall receive forty (40) hours of release time per fiscal year to complete Association business. SRSEA shall reimburse the Appointing Authority for the release time at the teacher's hourly rate of pay. This leave shall not be unreasonably denied with at least three (3) days' notice to the Appointing Authority and shall not be taken in blocks of more than eight (8) hours unless approved by the Appointing Authority.

Section 7. Association Release Time.

By mutual agreement between the Appointing Authority and the SRSEA Executive Board, a member may receive Association release time to complete Association business. The Association will reimburse the Appointing Authority for the release time at the teacher's hourly rate of pay.

Section 8. Negotiations of Successor Agreements.

The Association may select up to four (4) teacher representatives, one each from the Perpich Center for Arts Education, Corrections, Minnesota State Academy for the Blind and Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, and Human Services, when possible, who shall be released from duty without loss of pay for such time as is necessary during regular working hours to participate in negotiation sessions with the Employer in the negotiation of a successor contract. The Association may select a reasonable number of teachers who shall be released without pay to assist in negotiating a successor contract.

ARTICLE 4 – DUES DEDUCTIONS

Section 1. Deductions.

The Employer agrees to facilitate through Minnesota Management and Budget the pro rata deduction of the annual Association membership dues as established by the Association and certified to the Employer. An equal portion of total annual dues shall be deducted from each paycheck, commencing with the first paycheck following certification.

Section 2. Dues Deduction Authorization.

Dues shall be deducted for any individual teacher who has authorized such deductions.

Section 3. Dues Remittance.

The Employer shall remit to Education Minnesota the aggregate deductions of all teachers together with an alphabetical list of the teachers for whom deductions have been made and a statement itemizing the amount of remittance within fifteen (15) days following the end of each payroll period.

Section 4. Indemnity.

The Association agrees to indemnify and hold the Employer harmless against any and all claims, suits, orders, or judgments brought or issued against the Employer, including individual Appointing Authorities, or Minnesota Management and Budget as a result of any action taken or not taken in accordance with the provisions of this Article, including fair share deductions and remittances.

Section 5. Employee Lists.

The Appointing Authority shall notify the designated Association representative of the names, employee identification numbers, classification, and work locations of all teachers added to or removed from the bargaining unit on a bi-weekly payroll basis. The notification shall be transmitted no later than one (1) week following the end of each payroll period.

ARTICLE 5 – NON-DISCRIMINATION

Section 1. Employer Responsibility.

The Employer accepts its responsibility to ensure equal opportunity in all aspects of employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, status with regard to public assistance, sex, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation or any other class or group distinction, as set forth by state and federal anti-discrimination laws.

Section 2. Association Responsibility.

The Association accepts its responsibility as exclusive bargaining representative and agrees to represent all teachers in the bargaining unit without discrimination as to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, status with regard to public assistance, sex, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation or any other class or group distinction, as set forth by federal and state anti-discrimination laws.

Section 3. Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction for the enforcement of anti-discrimination laws referred to in Section 1 and 2 hereof, is vested solely in various state and federal agencies and the courts. Discrimination complaints regarding the application of the terms of this agreement shall be subject to the Affirmative Action complaint procedure adopted by the teacher's Appointing Authority.

Section 4. Association Membership.

The Employer will not interfere with the rights of teachers to become or not become members of the Association and there shall be no discrimination and interference, restraint, or coercion by the Employer or any Employer representative or by the Association or any of its officials against any teacher because of Association membership or non-membership, or because of any teacher activity in an official capacity on behalf of the Association which is in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

Section 5. Sexual Harassment.

It is agreed by the Employer and the Association that all teachers have a right to a workplace free of verbal and/or physical sexual harassment.

Claims of sexual harassment shall be processed pursuant to the Appointing Authority's affirmative action complaint procedure and Federal and State laws.

The provisions of this Section are not subject to the provisions of Article 17, Grievance Procedure, of this Agreement. Unresolved complaints, if pursued, must be filed with the Minnesota Department of Human Rights within the time frame specified by law.

Section 6. Reasonable Accommodation.

The parties recognize their mutual obligation to provide reasonable accommodation to those teachers qualified under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

If an Appointing Authority determines that a waiver or modification of any provision of the collective bargaining agreement is necessary in order to effect a reasonable accommodation, it shall first contact the local Association to request a contract waiver. Such request for waiver shall include: the article(s) of the collective bargaining agreement the Appointing Authority requests to waive or modify, the specific manner in which the collective bargaining agreement would be waived or modified, and the nature of the teacher's restrictions which necessitate accommodation, subject to each parties' obligation for confidentiality.

The Association retains the right to grieve any waiver of any provision of the collective bargaining agreement that is made without mutual agreement of the parties.

ARTICLE 6 – ACADEMIC FREEDOM

To prepare students for responsible and informed citizenship, teachers have the right and responsibility to promote an atmosphere of free inquiry and approach subject matter from a broad range of viewpoints. Teachers shall have the freedom to present information using their professional judgment and knowledge of the content area. There shall be no unreasonable restraints which would impair teachers’ abilities to present and publish their subject matter in this context, where such publication is done on a not-for-profit basis.

ARTICLE 7 – MEET AND CONFER

Section 1. Local.

The Local Association may establish a committee of up to two (2) representatives to meet and confer with the institution Chief Executive Officer or their designee(s) at least four (4) times per year for the purpose of discussing policies and matters, other than terms and conditions of employment, of mutual concern or interest. However, in institutions or facilities with more than fifteen (15) teachers, the Local Association may have up to four (4) representatives on the committee. Meetings shall be held during normal working hours. The number of Employer representatives shall not exceed the maximum number of Association representatives.

Section 2. State.

At the request of either party, the Association and the affected Agency Head, or their designee(s) collectively or individually shall meet to discuss issues of mutual concern or interest. Each Agency Head shall notify the Association of their designee at the beginning of each fiscal year. The Association committee may not exceed four (4) representatives. Each party may submit items to be included on the agenda, which the Employer shall distribute to the affected parties at least one week prior to the meeting.

Section 3. Labor-Management Committees.

The Association and the Employer recognize the importance of cooperation among everyone employed at a facility in maintaining an effective program, and encourage facilities to establish Labor-Management Committees consisting of Employer representatives, teachers chosen by the Association, and interested members of other bargaining units. The purpose of the committees shall be to share ideas and concerns as to the operation of the facility within the confines of contract language and available resources.

Section 4. Attendance.

Meetings shall be held during normal working hours. Teachers shall neither lose pay nor accrue additional pay for attending such meetings, however, teachers shall not be eligible for expense

reimbursement.

Section 5. Record of Meeting.

The Association will take responsibility for the minutes of the meet and confer session. The Appointing Authority shall provide the necessary assistance to formulate, type, and distribute minutes of the discussions to the appropriate parties. The Appointing Authority shall review the minutes for corrections before distribution.

ARTICLE 8 – HOURS OF WORK

Section 1. Work Day.

Because of the nature of the duties performed by teachers, it is impracticable to apply provisions which prescribe normal work day hours. However, it is expected that the normal work day shall consist of:

- Eight (8) consecutive hours of work excluding a duty-free lunch period of no less than thirty (30) minutes; or
- Nine (9) consecutive hours of work excluding a duty-free lunch period of no less than thirty (30) minutes, plus one (1) day of four (4) consecutive hours; or
- Ten (10) consecutive hours of work excluding a duty-free lunch of no less than thirty (30) minutes.

* By mutual agreement between the supervisor and the employee, a teacher may work a straight schedule without a duty-free lunch.

Section 2. Student Contact Time.

The maximum assignment of pupil contact for any teacher shall be three (3) hours in a four (4) hour day, six (6) hours in an eight (8) hour day, six and three quarters (6 $\frac{3}{4}$) hours in a nine (9) hour day, or seven and one half (7 $\frac{1}{2}$) hours in a ten (10) hour day. The remainder of the work day shall be spent in performance of assigned responsibilities, including but not limited to, such activities as conferences, class preparations, and curriculum development.

Section 3. Prep Time.

Each teacher shall be provided daily with a minimum of an uninterrupted sixty (60) minute preparation period, except that an emergency, as determined by the Appointing Authority, within an institution may temporarily necessitate other assignments. During prep time, teachers must be allowed full access to their class room or designated workspace without disruption. Part-time teachers shall receive a pro-rated preparation period based on ten (10) minutes for each class period taught, with a minimum of thirty (30) minutes per day.

Section 4. Work Week.

Because of the nature of the duties performed by teachers, it is impracticable to apply provisions which prescribe normal work week hours. However, it is expected that the normal work week shall consist of either four (4) or five (5) consecutive normal work days, Monday through Friday. Upon mutual agreement between the Association and the Appointing Authority, schedules may be established to include Saturday and Sunday. Teachers shall be scheduled for a minimum of two (2) consecutive days off between established work weeks.

Section 5. Work Schedule and Calendar.

The Appointing Authority shall post a written work schedule reflecting the normal hours of work and days of work in each institution after consultation with Association representatives and consideration of their desires. Proposed changes in the established schedule of work hours or days shall first be discussed with Association representatives. Any changes in work schedules or calendar shall be preceded by a fourteen (14) calendar day written notice to the affected teachers. In emergency situations, as determined by the Appointing Authority, the Appointing Authority shall comply with the provisions of this Section insofar as reasonably possible.

Upon mutual agreement between the Association and the Appointing Authority, the provisions of this Section may be waived to accommodate the placement of teachers returning to work from a workers' compensation disability leave.

Section 6. Balancing.

It is recognized that teachers are responsible for managing and accounting for their own hours of work and that they may work hours in excess of the normal work day and/or payroll period. In these instances and with supervisory approval, teachers may balance hours of work in subsequent work days and/or payroll periods, provided such time management system does not result in overtime payment or guarantee hour-for-hour time off for extra hours worked.

Please refer to the Glossary for examples of situations appropriate for balancing.

Section 7. Payment of Overtime.

Teachers who are assigned to a special project that is in addition to their normal duties or workloads and upon having received advanced written approval shall be compensated at the rate of straight time for the hours worked on the special project. Please refer to the Glossary for examples of situations appropriate for the payment of overtime.

Overtime may be paid in cash or compensatory time, provided the Appointing Authority has established a compensatory bank for the payment of overtime. The rules governing the use and liquidation of such bank, if established, shall be developed by the Appointing Authority. The Appointing Authority may establish the maximum amount of hours that may be in the compensatory bank at any given time provided that the amount is not less than forty (40) hours. The teacher shall be allowed to choose cash or compensatory time each payroll period. Should a teacher fail to indicate cash or compensatory time, the decision shall be at the option of the

Appointing Authority. Accrued compensatory time need not be used in the payroll period during which it is earned.

Section 8. Planning Days.

Upon mutual agreement of the Appointing Authority and the teacher, each teacher shall be provided with not less than three (3) planning days without scheduled activity, and with full access to their work site and materials, during each fiscal year. By mutual agreement between the Appointing Authority and the Association, up to three (3) days could be split to half-days.

Section 9. Flex-Time.

Upon agreement with the teacher's immediate supervisor, an individual flex-time schedule may be established.

Section 10. Work Environment.

The Employer shall provide each teacher with a stable work environment. Each teacher will have a designated classroom or classrooms with access to adequate educational materials. If the employer changes any teacher's classroom assignment, the Employer must give sufficient notice where practicable, specifying the new location and granting the teacher time without student contact to make the move.

Section 11. Increase and Reduction of Hours.

Employee Initiated. Full-time employees desiring to work less than full-time and part-time employees desiring to work full-time, may do so on a temporary basis not to exceed six (6) months, pursuant to a mutual agreement with the Appointing Authority, the Union, and the employee.

ARTICLE 9 – TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS

Section 1. Academic Licensure.

New academic teachers hired by the Appointing Authority for a regular teaching assignment must have a Bachelor's degree from a college or university and be eligible to receive a teaching license from the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB).

Section 2. Career Technical Credentialing.

New career technical teachers hired by the Appointing Authority for a regular career technical teaching assignment must be eligible to receive a credential from the hiring agency.

ARTICLE 10 – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Section 1. Philosophy.

The professional development process is the primary vehicle through which educational changes are implemented. Organizational growth and individual growth are its two major components, both of which must be pursued aggressively and simultaneously. Each member of the educational community has a responsibility for individual and organizational growth, as does the organization. It is the responsibility of each member, the responsibility of the organization and the interaction between the two that is the focus of the Appointing Authority's professional development process.

Section 2. Employer Initiated In-Service and Training.

It is recognized that in-service education may be necessary to meet the ever-changing goals and clientele of the institutions. Consequently, teachers who may be required by the Appointing Authority to participate in in-service programs and who are released from their work assignments to attend special training courses shall lose no basic straight-time pay for such normal work hours and shall be allowed compensatory time-off for such time accrued beyond the eight (8) hour day spent in actual participation in such programs. Actual participation includes reasonable and necessary travel time, if any, between the location of the teacher's work assignment and the location of the in-service program. Expenses incurred by the teacher shall be reimbursed in accordance with Article 26, Expense Allowances.

Section 3. Teacher Initiated Training.

At the discretion of the Appointing Authority, each teacher may be allowed up to one hundred (100) hours each fiscal year without loss of pay for such activities as, but not limited to, workshops, professional conferences, college courses, in-service programs and visitations, all of which are related to the teacher's current or projected responsibilities and are pre-approved. Application for such release time shall be made at least thirty (30) calendar days in advance and the Appointing Authority shall respond in writing to the application within ten (10) days of its receipt; however, these timelines may be waived by mutual agreement between the teacher and the Appointing Authority. The denial of the application by the Appointing Authority may be appealed by the teacher to a committee comprised of an equal number of management and teacher representatives. The final decision by such committee shall be advisory only.

Expense reimbursement shall be at the discretion of the Appointing Authority, in accordance with Article 26, Expense Allowances.

Section 4. Teachers' Convention Leave.

Upon request, a teacher shall be granted up to two (2) days of paid leave to attend the annual teachers' convention.

Section 5. Awards for Excellence in Education.

Refer to Article 25, Salaries and Appendix H, Education Grant Form.

ARTICLE 11 – PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Section 1. Purpose.

The primary objectives of the Performance Review shall be assessment and improvement of job performance.

Section 2. Evaluator.

Teachers shall be evaluated by the Appointing Authority or designee, so long as such designee is not a member of the bargaining unit; however, if a member of the bargaining unit is working out-of-class in a position that is not assigned to the bargaining unit, the member may be the designee. An evaluator must be knowledgeable, qualified and appropriate.

Section 3. Format.

- A. The Performance Review shall be based on the teacher's Position Description. A teacher's position description shall be reviewed and signed off once annually by each teacher. This, however, does not preclude the Employer from conducting other known types of job-related evaluations. Additional comments discussed at the Performance Review meeting, if negative, shall be reduced to writing and attached to the Performance Review.
- B. The Performance Review shall be signed by the evaluator and the teacher. The teacher's signature indicates that the teacher has seen and received a copy of the report and does not indicate acceptance or rejection of the report.
- C. The Performance Review shall be placed into the Teacher's Personnel File. The teacher may attach a written response to the performance review.
- D. Any performance review that identifies areas of weakness or deficiency must be accompanied by specific suggestions and strategies for improvement.

Section 4. Appeal Process.

The substantive judgment of the supervisor regarding the teacher's performance is not grievable/arbitrable under Article 17. Pursuant to the Minnesota Management and Budget Administrative Procedure 20, a teacher may appeal their performance rating to the Appointing Authority within thirty (30) days of the official date of rating. The decision of the Appointing Authority is final. At the teacher's request, an Association Representative may be present during the appeal meeting(s).

ARTICLE 12 – PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Section 1. Duration.

The length of the probationary period shall be ten (10) months of continuous observed service in the bargaining unit in a particular facility. Up to six (6) months service in temporary, provisional, emergency or unclassified appointments shall count towards completion of the probationary period provided that there is no interruption of more than ten (10) days between such prior service and the probationary appointment, and provided further, that the prior service is with the same facility. The ten (10) months service requirement shall be broken by resignation, termination, or retirement. Additionally, leaves of absence without pay in excess of ten (10) work days and suspensions shall not be credited toward completion of the probationary period.

When transferring from one seniority unit to another within the same agency, the probationary period will be six (6) months or the remainder of the initial probationary period, whichever is longer. Probationary period for any transferring teacher may be waived in writing by the Appointing Authority at any time for any transferring teacher.

The Appointing Authority and the Association may mutually agree to extend the probationary period up to the maximum amount of time allowed by Minn. Stat. 43A.16 (2 years).

Section 2. Permanent Status.

Upon written notice submitted by the Appointing Authority to the Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget that the probationary teacher has satisfactorily completed the probationary period, or if the Appointing Authority fails to take action, either to grant permanent status or to terminate a probationary teacher, the teacher will be given permanent status.

Section 3. Grievance Procedure.

Probationary teachers may be terminated during the probationary period at the discretion of the Appointing Authority. Such termination shall not be construed as a discharge pursuant to Article 16. Accordingly, probationary teachers who are terminated shall not have access to the arbitration step of the Grievance Procedure set forth in Article 17.

ARTICLE 13 – VACANCIES

Section 1. Posting.

Announcements of vacant or new positions which the Appointing Authority determines to fill shall be posted electronically or on each Local Association bulletin board for a minimum of seven (7) calendar days. When the seven (7) calendar day posting requirement would be met on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the expiration date of the posting shall be the day following the weekend or holiday. The announcement shall indicate the date posted and a deadline date for receipt of written or electronic applications. Such announcement shall not be removed by the Appointing Authority until the deadline date.

Section 2. Application.

A teacher may apply for a posted vacancy by submitting a written or electronic application to the appropriate Appointing Authority.

Section 3. Filling Positions.

- A. After satisfying provisions of Article 15, Layoff, Section 4, Recall, the Appointing Authority shall give consideration to all timely applications for voluntary transfer prior to considering external applicants and before permanently filling any new or vacant positions.

Each Appointing Authority which determines to fill a teacher vacancy shall mail a copy of its vacancy to the SRSEA Field Representative, the SRSEA President, and to the local Association Representative. Electronic mail is acceptable.

Any interested current teacher of another Appointing Authority or department who applies in a timely fashion shall be given consideration.

- B. The Appointing Authority shall have the right to fill vacant or new positions on a temporary basis pending completion of the application process.
- C. When the Appointing Authority determines to fill a part-time position, any current part-time teacher in that seniority unit who is determined to be qualified by the Appointing Authority, shall, at their request, be granted an interview. At its sole discretion, the Appointing Authority may grant the additional hours to the part-time teacher so long as the teacher's total hours do not exceed a full-time position.
- D. **Contracting of Services.** Minnesota Statutes Sections 16C.08, 43A.047, and 179A.23 contain provisions regarding contracting for services. These statutes are not grievable or arbitrable under this Agreement.
- E. Upon making an offer of employment, the Appointing Authority will provide the potential new hire with a copy of or link to this contract.

Section 4. Transfer.

Teachers shall not be involuntarily transferred from one seniority unit to another.

Section 5. Reassignment.

Notwithstanding the above, the Appointing Authority reserves the right to assign and reassign teachers to positions within the same seniority unit and bargaining unit, provided however that the Appointing Authority may not assign a teacher to a vacancy for which a Seniority Unit layofflist exists containing the name(s) of a teacher(s) who is properly licensed or qualified where no licensure exists and has greater seniority than the teacher to be reassigned. Whenever possible, the Appointing Authority will give reasonable notice prior to the reassignment.

Prior to reassigning a teacher, the Appointing Authority shall seek qualified volunteers. In

instances where the Appointing Authority has determined that more than one (1) volunteer qualifies for the reassignment, the most senior qualified volunteer shall be reassigned. If the Appointing Authority determines that there are no qualified volunteers, the Appointing Authority shall reassign the least senior qualified teacher.

Section 6. Waiver.

Upon mutual agreement between the Association and the Appointing Authority, the provisions of this Article may be waived to accommodate the placement of teachers returning to work from a workers' compensation disability leave.

ARTICLE 14 – SENIORITY

Section 1. In General.

- A. Seniority shall be defined as the length of continuous service within the bargaining unit and Agency with the State of Minnesota since the last date of hire. Seniority shall be forfeited when a teacher separates from State employment. Time on the layoff list or an approved leave of absence is not a separation.
- B. Seniority shall apply to all subject areas in which the teacher is licensed as required by the State of Minnesota, and to all subject areas for which the teacher is qualified/credentialed where no specific licensure exists. Criteria for qualification in areas where no specific licensure exists shall be determined by the Appointing Authority following a state meet and confer meeting, and shall not be subject to the grievance procedure. A copy of the established criteria shall be given to the Association. The same date for seniority shall apply to all areas in which the teacher is or becomes licensed, or qualified/credentialed where no specific licensure exists.
- C. Teachers working less than full-time shall accrue seniority on a pro-rata basis. This shall be determined by multiplying the teacher's length of service at their current seniority unit and the teacher's full-time equivalence (FTE). The resulting number shall be the teacher's length of service for seniority purposes and shall be reflected on the Seniority Roster form found in Appendix N.

Section 2. Seniority List.

- A. By October 1 of each year, a teacher may submit to the Appointing Authority evidence of any licensure(s) or credential(s) obtained by that teacher.
- B. No later than November 30 of each year, the Appointing Authority shall post either electronically or on the teacher bulletin board(s) at each seniority unit, and furnish a copy to the Association, a seniority list for each subject or area of assignment for that seniority unit. A teacher's name shall appear in order of seniority under each subject area for which they are assigned, licensed, or, where there is no licensure, credentialed/qualified. The seniority list shall be completed in a format as found in Appendix N.

- C. If two (2) teachers have the same amount of seniority, the tie shall be broken in order of the following criteria:
 - 1. Total number of years of teaching experience with the State of Minnesota.
 - 2. Total number of years of formal teaching experience as documented by the teacher's retirement plan credit.
 - 3. Highest advanced education related degree.

If a tie still exists, seniority positions shall be determined by the lowest teaching license file folder number.

- D. A teacher disagreeing with their placement on the seniority list shall have thirty (30) calendar days from the posting date to supply evidence in support of a seniority change. If there is not satisfactory resolution within twenty (20) calendar days of the requested seniority change, a teacher may seek resolution through the grievance procedure. The Appointing Authority shall within thirty (30) calendar days of the resolution post any revisions to the seniority list which resulted from a resolution of a dispute over placement on the list. Errors of fact on the seniority roster may be raised by either party at any time.

ARTICLE 15 – LAYOFF

Section 1. Exclusions.

The provisions of this Article do not apply to unclassified, temporary, or emergency teachers.

Section 2. Layoff.

An Appointing Authority may layoff a teacher by reason of abolition of the position, shortage of work or funds, or other reasons outside the teacher's control which do not reflect discredit on the service of the teacher.

- A. For a full-time, unlimited teacher, a layoff occurs when their hours of work are reduced for a period longer than ten (10) consecutive working days. In addition any reduction in hours of a part-time, unlimited teacher, except for intermittents, which would place the teacher outside the bargaining unit shall constitute a layoff.
- B. If the Appointing Authority determines that a layoff is to occur, the Appointing Authority will make every effort to execute the layoff date in a timely manner that would allow the teacher to seek employment in another educational system.
- C. In the event of layoff, the Appointing Authority at the seniority unit shall determine the subject area(s) and employment condition(s) (i.e., full-time unlimited, part-time unlimited, intermittent, seasonal full-time, seasonal part-time) in which reduction is to be made.
- D. The least senior teacher assigned to the affected subject matter area, seniority unit and

employment condition shall be given notice of layoff. The Appointing Authority shall provide written notice to the teacher and the designated Association representative at least thirty (30) working days, whenever practicable, but at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the effective date of the layoff. The notice shall state the reason for layoff, the effective date of layoff, and the estimated length of the layoff period.

- E. A teacher notified of layoff may bump another, less senior teacher in the same seniority unit in the following order:
 - 1. If the teacher has seniority in other subject area(s), they may bump (displace) the least senior teacher with the same employment condition who is assigned to a subject area in which the bumping teacher has seniority. If this option is not available, then the teacher may proceed to #2.
 - 2. If the teacher has seniority in the same or other subject area(s), they may bump (displace) the least senior teacher with a different employment condition who is assigned to a subject area in which the bumping teacher has seniority.
- F. A more senior teacher may be laid off out of seniority order upon their request and with the approval of the Appointing Authority.
- G. At the discretion of the Appointing Authority, a teacher under notice of permanent layoff may be granted transition leave under Article 18, Leaves of Absence, Section 4K.
- H. A teacher who has been permanently laid off may be entitled to insurance under Article 22, Insurance, Section 3.D.1., Special Eligibility - Teachers on Layoff, and/or severance pay under Article 28, Severance Pay.

Section 3. Layoff List.

- A. **Seniority Unit Layoff List.** The name(s) of teacher(s) who have been laid off shall be placed on a Seniority Unit Layoff List for the seniority unit, geographic location, and employment condition from which the teacher was laid off. Teachers may also indicate in writing, on a document provided by the Appointing Authority, other employment conditions for which they are available. The teacher's name shall remain on the layoff list for a minimum of one (1) year, or for a period equal to the teacher's seniority up to a maximum of four (4) years.
- B. **Bargaining Unit Layoff List.** The name(s) of teacher(s) on layoff shall also be placed on a Bargaining Unit Layoff List for the bargaining unit, geographic location and employment condition from which they were laid off. Names shall be retained on the Bargaining Unit Layoff List for a minimum of one (1) year, or for a period of time equal to the teacher's seniority up to a maximum of four (4) years.

When a teacher's name is placed on the Bargaining Unit Layoff List, the teacher shall indicate in writing the geographic location(s) for which they would accept recall. The teacher may change their availability by notifying Minnesota Management and Budget in writing.

- C. **Copies to Association.** Upon request to Minnesota Management and Budget a copy of these layoff lists shall be furnished to the Association and/or Local Association.

Section 4. Recall.

- A. If a Seniority Unit has a vacancy and there are teachers on the Seniority Unit Layoff List for that Seniority Unit, the teacher on that list with the most seniority who is licensed or, in areas where no licensure exists, qualified/credentialed in the subject matter(s) in which the vacancy occurred shall be recalled.
- B. If no teacher on the Seniority Unit Layoff List set forth in Section 5A is licensed or, in areas where no licensure exists, qualified or credentialed in the subject matter(s) in which the vacancy occurred, the teacher with the most seniority on the Bargaining Unit Layoff List who is licensed or, in areas where no licensure exists, qualified or credentialed in the subject matter(s) in which the vacancy occurred shall be recalled. Teachers shall be recalled only to the locations for which they indicated availability.
- C. No appointment of a new teacher shall be made while there is available on layoff a teacher who is properly licensed or, in areas where no licensure exists, qualified/credentialed to fill such a vacancy.
- D. A recalled teacher may be required to serve a new probationary period if they were on layoff from one Seniority Unit and is recalled by another.
- E. Upon recall, accrual rates applied to salary and fringe benefits shall be the same as existed at the time of the layoff.
- F. A teacher shall be notified of recall by personal notice, certified mail (return receipt required), or email (teacher's email response required) sent to the teacher's last known address (or email address) at least fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the reporting date. An Appointing Authority shall notify a teacher by email only if the teacher has approved of this method of notice in writing. The teacher shall notify the Appointing Authority by certified mail (return receipt required) or email within five (5) calendar days of receipt of notification of intent to return to work and shall report for work on the reporting date unless other arrangements are made. It shall be the teacher's responsibility to keep the Appointing Authority informed of their current address (and email address, if applicable).

Section 5. Removal from Layoff List.

- A. If a teacher is recalled, the teacher's name shall be removed from both layoff lists. In the event that a teacher is recalled to a Seniority Unit other than the one from which they were laid off, and the teacher does not successfully complete the probationary period, such teacher's name shall be restored to the original Seniority Unit Layoff List for the remainder of the time period originally provided in Section 3, Layoff List, subdivision A.
- B. Failure to accept recall to a position which meets the availabilities specified by the teacher will result in removal from both layoff lists.

- C. Failure to respond to the recall after fourteen (14) calendar days will result in removal from both layoff lists.
- D. A teacher shall be removed from both layoff lists upon the teacher's resignation, retirement or termination from State service.
- E. It shall be the teacher's responsibility to keep Minnesota Management and Budget informed of their current address, any changes in licensure or credentials, and any changes in acceptable geographic locations and employment conditions.

Section 6. Labor Management Cooperation.

When an Appointing Authority initiates a planning process or management study which is anticipated to result in layoff, the Appointing Authority will meet and confer with the Association during the decision planning phase and again during the implementation planning phase. The Appointing Authority and the Association shall enter into negotiations regarding a Memorandum of Understanding upon the request of either party to modify this Agreement regarding the implementation plans which shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. length of the layoff notice;
- 2. job and retraining opportunities;
- 3. alternative placement methods;
- 4. early retirement options pursuant to Minn. Stat. 43A.24, subd. 2(i);
- 5. other methods of mitigating layoffs or their effect on teachers.

ARTICLE 16 – DISCIPLINE

Section 1. Non-Disciplinary Action.

Initial minor infractions, irregularities, or deficiencies shall first be privately brought to the attention of the teacher and, if corrected, shall not be entered into the teacher's personnel file.

Section 2. Disciplinary Action.

Disciplinary action shall be imposed on teachers only for just cause.

- A. Discipline shall include only the following, but not necessarily in this order:
 - 1. Oral reprimand (not arbitrable), or
 - 2. Written reprimand, or
 - 3. Suspension, or
 - 4. Suspension – equivalent reduction of vacation balance*, or

5. Discharge.

* The Appointing Authority may subtract vacation hours from the employee's accumulated vacation balance. In order to implement this type of suspension, the employee who is being disciplined must have at least sixty four (64) hours of vacation in their vacation bank before the discipline is issued. The maximum amount of vacation that may be reduced in lieu of an unpaid suspension is limited to the equivalent of three (3) working days. In the case of those employees working twenty-four (24) hour shifts, the amount of vacation reduction for each suspension is limited to twenty-four (24) hours. An unpaid suspension and a suspension – equivalent reduction of vacation balance may be combined into one discipline at the Appointing Authority's discretion.

- B. **Association Representation.** The Appointing Authority shall not meet with a teacher for the purpose of questioning the teacher during an investigation that may lead to discipline without first offering the teacher an opportunity for Association representation. An Association representative who provides representation during the Association representative's work hours at such an investigatory interview or any meeting related to a suspension, discharge or vacation deduction at which an employee is entitled to Association representation (in other words, a *Loudermill* meeting) shall have no loss of pay. Any teacher waiving the right to such representation must do so in writing prior to the questioning. A copy of such waiver shall be furnished to the local Association president or designated representative upon request. The teacher shall be advised of the nature of the allegation(s) prior to questioning.
- C. **Reprimand.** If the Appointing Authority has reason to reprimand a teacher, it shall be done in such a manner that will not embarrass the teacher before other teachers, students, or the public.
- D. **Identifying Reprimands.** Oral reprimands shall be clearly identified as such at the time disciplinary action is administered.
- E. **Notification.** A copy of a written reprimand shall be given to the teacher prior to having such reprimand placed in the personnel file. When either a suspension or a discharge is intended, the Appointing Authority shall, before or at the time the action is taken, notify the teacher in writing of the specific reason(s) for such action.

Section 3. Investigative Meetings.

In order that no unwarranted disciplinary action will be taken against a teacher, the Appointing Authority will make a full and comprehensive investigation of any alleged violation of the Agreement, rules and regulations, laws or other restrictive edicts affecting a teacher(s) that could be sufficient cause for disciplinary action. Upon request of a teacher who is the subject of an investigation, the Appointing Authority shall inform the teacher whether the status of the investigation is active or is no longer active.

Section 4. Investigatory Leave.

The Appointing Authority/designee may place a teacher who is the subject of a disciplinary investigation on an investigatory leave with pay, provided a reasonable basis exists to warrant such leave.

Section 5. Procedure for Discharge of Permanent Teachers.

The Appointing Authority shall not discharge a permanent, classified teacher without just cause. If the Appointing Authority believes there is just cause for discharge, the teacher and the Association shall be notified in writing that the teacher is to be discharged and shall be furnished with the reason(s) therefore, and the effective date of the discharge. The teacher shall be given an opportunity to hear an explanation of the evidence, if requested, against them, to present their side of the story and is entitled to Association representation at such meeting, upon request. An Association representative who provides representation during the Association representative's work hours at such a meeting (the *Loudermill* meeting) shall have no loss of pay. The right to such meeting shall expire at the end of the next scheduled work day of the teacher after the notice of discharge is delivered to the teacher, unless the teacher and the Appointing Authority agree otherwise. The discharge shall not become effective during the period when the meeting may occur. The teacher shall remain in pay status during the time between the notice of discharge and the expiration of the meeting. If the teacher was not in pay status at the time of the notice of discharge, the Appointing Authority shall pay the teacher for the time between the notice of discharge and the expiration of the meeting.

The Association, with the consent of the affected teacher, shall have the right to take up the discharge at the second (2nd) step of the grievance procedure and the matter shall be handled in accordance with this procedure if requested by the Association. A teacher found to be unjustly discharged shall be reinstated in accordance with the conditions agreed to between the parties or the decision of the Arbitrator.

Section 6. Personnel File.

A teacher's personnel file shall contain only materials that are related to their employment.

An oral reprimand shall not become a part of a teacher's personnel file. Investigations which do not result in disciplinary actions shall not be entered into a teacher's personnel file.

Each teacher shall be promptly furnished with a copy of all evaluative and disciplinary entries into the permanent personnel file. A teacher shall have the right to place in their personnel file, a written response which shall be attached to the relevant document.

Upon the written request of a teacher, a written reprimand shall be removed after eighteen (18) months and a written record of a suspension of ten (10) or fewer days after three (3) years from the teacher's permanent personnel file provided that no further disciplinary action has been taken.

Materials placed in the teacher's personnel file, upon the teacher's request and by a showing of

the teacher that such material is incomplete, inaccurate, or false, are to be immediately expunged from the file.

The contents of a teacher's permanent personnel file shall be disclosed to the teacher upon request and to the teacher's Association representative upon the written request of the teacher. Upon written request, copies of such materials shall be provided at the expense of the teacher or Association.

Only the permanent personnel file may be used as evidence in any disciplinary action or hearing. This does not limit, restrict or prohibit the Appointing Authority from submitting supportive documentation or testimony, either oral or written, in any disciplinary hearing, nor does it so limit the Association.

ARTICLE 17 – GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1. Definitions.

Grievance. "Grievance" means a dispute or disagreement as to the interpretation or application of any term or terms of this Agreement.

Days. "Days" means working days. Working days means Monday - Friday throughout the entire calendar year. This definition applies to teachers working both academic and non-academic calendars.

Service. "Service" means personal service, by email, or by U.S. mail.

Reduced to Writing. "Reduced to Writing" means a concise statement outlining the nature of the grievance, the provision(s) of the Agreement in dispute, and the relief requested.

Answer. "Answer" means a concise response outlining the Appointing Authority's position on the grievance.

Section 2. Grievance Steps.

- A. **Step 1. Informal.** Whenever any teacher, group of teachers, or the Association, has a grievance, the grievant(s) and/or the Association representative shall meet on an informal basis with the immediate supervisor or designee in an attempt to resolve the grievance within twenty (20) days after the grievance occurred or twenty (20) days after the grievant(s), through the use of reasonable diligence, should have had knowledge of the occurrence that gave rise to the grievance.
- B. **Step 2.** If the grievance is not resolved within ten (10) days of the meeting at the informal step, the grievance may be reduced to writing by the teacher and/or Association within ten (10) days of the immediate supervisor's or designee's response and served upon the Appointing Authority's designee, of the facility. Within ten (10) days of receipt of the written grievance, the Appointing Authority's designee shall arrange a meeting with the grievant(s) and/or Association representative and endeavor to mutually resolve the

grievance. Within ten (10) days of the meeting of the parties, the Appointing Authority's designee shall serve a written answer to the grievance upon the grievant(s) and Association.

- C. **Step 3. Agency Head.** If the grievance remains unresolved, the Association, within ten (10) days after the response of the Appointing Authority's designee, may appeal the grievance to the Agency Head of the affected Department, or designee. Within ten (10) days of receipt of the written grievance, the Agency Head, or designee, shall arrange a meeting with the grievant(s) and/or the Association representative and endeavor to mutually resolve the grievance. Within ten (10) days of the meeting of the parties, the Agency Head, or designee, shall respond to the grievance in writing. If the Appointing Authority and the Agency Head are the same, this step shall be eliminated and the Association shall immediately proceed to Step 4 of the Grievance Procedure.
- D. **Step 4. Mediation.** If the grievance remains unresolved after receiving the response at the last step, within ten (10) days either party may request, in writing, mediation. The written request shall be directed to the State and Local Association representative (in case of a request by the Appointing Authority) or Appointing Authority's designee (in case of a request by the Association). Within ten (10) days of the request, the party receiving the request shall respond in writing. If neither party requests mediation within ten (10) days after receiving the previous step response, the Association may immediately proceed to Step 5 of the Grievance Procedure.
- E. **Step 5. Arbitration.**
1. If the grievance remains unresolved after mediation, the Association shall have ten (10) days after the date of mediation at Step 4 to appeal the grievance, in writing, to arbitration.
 2. If the parties do not agree to mediate the grievance, the Association shall have ten (10) days after the denial of mediation at Step 4 to appeal the grievance, in writing, to arbitration.
 3. If neither party requests mediation within ten (10) days after receiving the previous step response, the Association shall have ten (10) days from the last date available to request mediation to appeal the grievance, in writing, to arbitration.

In any of the above listed situations, the grievance may be appealed to arbitration by serving written notice upon the Assistant Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget (State Labor Negotiator), or designee. The parties shall endeavor to select a mutually acceptable arbitrator to hear and decide the grievance. If the parties are unable to agree on an arbitrator, either party may request from the Commissioner of the Bureau of Mediation Services, State of Minnesota, a list of at least five (5) potential arbitrators. The parties shall alternately strike names from the list of arbitrators until one (1) name remains. The remaining arbitrator shall hear and decide the grievance. If the parties are unable to agree on who shall strike the first name, the question shall be decided by the flip of a coin.

Section 3. Fees and Expenses.

The losing party, or the party who cancels or postpones a hearing that results in the arbitrator assessing a fee, shall be responsible for compensating the Arbitrator for their fee and necessary expenses. In the event the arbitrator issues a split decision, each party shall be responsible for equally compensating the arbitrator for their fee and necessary expenses.

If either party desires a verbatim record of the proceedings, it may cause such a record to be made, provided it pays for the record, and the other party may then obtain a copy at the cost prescribed by the transcriber or their service agreement, whichever is less.

Section 4. Arbitrator's Authority.

The Arbitrator shall have no right to amend, modify, nullify, ignore, add to, or subtract from the provisions of this Agreement. They shall consider and decide only the specific issue or issues submitted to them. The arbitrator's decision shall be binding on all parties to the dispute unless the decision is contrary to, inconsistent with, or modifying or varying in any way the application of laws, rules, or regulations having the force and effect of law. The decision shall be based solely upon the arbitrator's interpretation and application of the expressed terms of this Agreement and to the facts of the grievance presented. The decision shall be issued to the parties by the arbitrator, and a copy shall be filed with the Bureau of Mediation Services, State of Minnesota. The arbitrator shall submit his/her decision in writing within thirty (30) calendar days following the close of the hearing or the submission of briefs by the parties, whichever is later, unless the parties agree to an extension.

Section 5. Processing of Grievances.

Processing of all grievances shall be during the normal work day whenever possible, and the grievant shall not lose wages due to their necessary participation. For purposes of this paragraph, teachers entitled to wages during their necessary participation in a grievance proceeding are the grievant and another teacher if selected by the grievant, however, paid time to process first and second step grievances shall not include travel time.

Section 6. Time Limits.

The parties, by mutual written agreement, may waive any step and extend any time limit in this Grievance Procedure. However, failure by the Association or the teacher to adhere to the time limits specified herein will result in a forfeit of the grievance. If the Employer does not answer a grievance or an appeal thereof within the specified time limit, the Association may elect to treat the grievance as denied at that step and appeal the grievance to the next step.

Grievances involving teachers in more than one facility may, at the option of the Association, be reduced to writing by the Association and submitted to the Employer at Step 2.

Section 7. Identifying Designees.

The parties will supply the names of designees of each facility for each step of the grievance

procedure. No member of the bargaining unit shall be an Employer designee for any step of the grievance procedure.

Section 8. Veterans' Preference.

If a teacher/former teacher pursues an appeal procedure under Minn. Stat. 197.46 (or other applicable Veterans' Preference law), the teacher/former teacher shall be precluded from making an appeal under the grievance procedure.

ARTICLE 18 – LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Section 1. Application for Leave.

All requests for a leave of absence shall be submitted in writing by the teacher to the teacher's immediate supervisor. All requests for leave shall be submitted as soon as the need for such leave is known. The request shall state the reason for and the anticipated duration of the leave of absence.

Section 2. Authorization for Leave.

Prompt authorization for or denial of a leave of absence shall be furnished to the teacher in writing by the Appointing Authority or designee.

Section 3. Statutory Leaves.

Leaves provided by Minnesota Statutes are contained in Appendix M.

Section 4. Leaves of Absence with Pay.

- A. **Military Leave.** In accordance with Minn. Stat. 192.26, up to fifteen (15) working days leave per calendar year shall be granted to members of the National Guard or military or naval reserves of the United States or of the State of Minnesota and who are ordered or authorized by the appropriate authorities to engage in training or active service.
- B. **Court Appearance Leave.** Leave shall be granted for appearances before a court, legislative committee, or other judicial or quasi-judicial body as a witness in an action involving the Federal Government, the State of Minnesota, or a political subdivision thereof, in response to a subpoena or other direction of proper authority when such leave request is for job-related purposes. Leave shall also be granted for attendance in court in connection with a teacher's official duty, which shall include any necessary travel time. However, a teacher shall not be granted leave with pay for a teacher or Association initiated lawsuit against the State.
- C. **Jury Duty Leave.** Leave shall be granted for service upon a jury. Compensation shall be at the teacher's regular base rate of pay. Teachers whose scheduled shift is other than a day shift shall be reassigned to a day shift during the period of service upon a jury. "Service

upon a jury” includes times when the teacher is impaneled for actual service or is required by the court to be present for potential service. During any other time, the teacher shall report to work.

- D. **Voting Time Leave.** Any teacher who is eligible to vote in any statewide primary, Presidential primary, general election, tribal election, or at any election to fill a vacancy in the office of a representative in Congress, or in the office of state senator or state representative may absent themselves from work for the purpose of voting during the election day provided the teacher has made prior arrangements for such absence with their immediate supervisor.
- E. **Sabbatical Leave.** The purpose of sabbatical leaves is to give teachers the opportunity to secure additional education, training, or experience which will make them better prepared for carrying out their teaching assignments within the bargaining unit. Such leaves may be granted if the following criteria are met:
1. The teacher has served on a full-time basis for six (6) or more consecutive academic years.
 2. The teacher has submitted a plan for the sabbatical leave which is designed to serve the purpose described above.
 3. The Appointing Authority has determined that funds are available for this purpose and that staffing needs of the facility/institution can be met.
 4. The number of sabbaticals approved for an institution does not exceed five percent (5%) of the number of full-time equivalent teacher positions allocated to the institution for that year, or one (1), whichever is greater.

Applications for sabbaticals shall be submitted at least ninety (90) days prior to the commencement of the planned sabbatical, and notice of approval or rejection shall be given to the teacher within thirty (30) days of the leave request.

If the number of applications in a given institution exceeds five percent (5%) of the number of full-time teacher positions allocated to the institution for that year, approval will be granted to those who have the greatest number of consecutive years of full-time service without having been granted a sabbatical leave. Applicants who meet all criteria except those exceeding the five percent (5%) limit, shall be placed at the head of the list, for the next year or for full-time vacancies created by cancellation, in order of descending number of years without having been granted a sabbatical leave.

Sabbatical leave shall be for a minimum of one quarter, one semester, or one summer session, but may not exceed the equivalent of one calendar year.

Teachers on sabbatical leave shall receive one-half of their salary. Teachers on sabbatical leave may accept scholarships, fellowships, grants or other employment which serves the purpose of the sabbatical leave. However, earnings from such employment plus the sabbatical leave payment which are in excess of the teacher’s salary schedule income shall

be reimbursed to the Appointing Authority.

Time spent on sabbatical leave shall be treated as continuous state service. The teacher shall be entitled to the insurance coverage provided by the Employer during their sabbatical leave. Sick leave and vacation leave shall be accrued on a pro rata basis.

- F. **Bereavement Leave.** The use of a reasonable amount of sick leave shall be granted in cases of death of the spouse or domestic partner, or parents and grandparents of the spouse or parents/step parents, grandparents, guardian, children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, stepbrothers, stepsisters, wards, or stepchildren of the employee, or an individual who had a personal relationship with the employee that created an expectation and reliance that the employee care for the individual as family, whether or not the employee and the individual resided together, or an individual covered under applicable law for sick leave use. In addition, sick leave, limited to eight (8) hours, shall be granted in the case of the death of a parent of the employee's minor child. The supervisor shall make a reasonable effort to adjust the hours of an employee in order to permit their attendance at the funeral of a co-worker. Teachers who do not have sufficient accruals to take bereavement leave for the covered family members identified above, shall be credited with a reasonable amount of sick leave, not to exceed forty (40) hours per fiscal year for this purpose. Such credit shall be reduced proportionally as sick leave is accumulated.

Employees who experience a stillbirth or the death of a child within the time period they would otherwise be eligible to use Paid Parental Leave (PPL) under the conditions of Section 4, subsection O, of this Article may use PPL in lieu of sick leave for bereavement.

- G. **Natural Disaster or Catastrophe Leave.** In the event of a local disaster, leave shall be granted to bona fide members of emergency operations organizations, such as Red Cross Disaster Teams, Volunteer Fire Departments, Police Reserves, and Civil Defense agencies during the critical phases of the disaster. However, an Appointing Authority may deny such leave if an emergency situation exists at the facility and the teacher's services are needed. Additionally, it is agreed that the Employer is not liable for workers' compensation claims arising out of the activities of teachers using leave under this provision. Teachers shall receive their regular rate of pay but shall remit to their Appointing Authority fees/amounts received for services rendered for any particular emergency call out.
- H. **Teachers' Convention Leave.** NOTE: Reference to this leave has been moved to Article 10, Professional Development.
- I. **Blood Donation Leave.** Leave shall be granted to teachers to donate blood at any Appointing Authority locally endorsed program.
- J. **Personal Leave.** During the first six (6) months of employment with the State of Minnesota, a teacher shall have sixteen (16) hours of personal leave. The use of such leave must have prior approval of the Appointing Authority or designee before it can be used.
- K. **Transition Leave.** At the Appointing Authority's discretion, a teacher under notice of permanent layoff may continue in payroll status for up to eighty (80) hours of paid leave, ending at the date of layoff.

- L. **Investigatory Leave.** See Article 16, Discipline, Section 4.
- M. **Emergency Leave.** The Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget, after consultation with the Commissioner of Public Safety, may excuse State teachers from duty with full pay in the event of a natural or human-made emergency, if continued operation would involve a threat to the health or safety of individuals. Absence with pay shall not exceed sixteen (16) working hours at any one time unless the Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget authorizes a longer duration.
- N. **Paid Administrative Leave.** At the Appointing Authority's discretion, a teacher may be placed on paid administrative leave for up to thirty (30) calendar days when the teacher has been involved in a critical incident or when their continued presence in the workplace poses a risk to the teacher or the organization. The Local Association will be provided with notification at the time the teacher is placed on the leave. Any extension(s) must be mutually agreed to between the Appointing Authority and the Local Association. At the request of the Local Association, the Appointing Authority will provide information to the Local Association regarding the status of the teacher on the leave. It is the Appointing Authority's policy to return a teacher to active duty status as soon as it is practical and prudent.
- O. **Paid Parental Leave.**
1. **Length of Leave.** Paid parental leaves of absence of up to six (6) consecutive weeks shall be granted to eligible state employees who request such leave following the birth or adoption of a child.
 2. **Eligibility.** Employees are eligible if they meet eligibility criteria for Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") leave, which generally means the employee has been employed by the Employer for twelve (12) months and has worked at least 1,250 hours during the year immediately preceding the leave. Paid parental leave ("PPL") is available to employees who experience the following qualifying events:
 - An employee or their spouse/partner gives birth to the employee's child;
 - A child is placed in the employee's home for adoption; or
 - A child is placed in the employee's home to adjudicate parentage in cases of surrogacy when the employee is the intended parent.
 3. **Use.** Eligible employees must complete PPL within six (6) months of the qualifying event. At the Appointing Authority's discretion, employees may be allowed intermittent or reduced schedule use of leave, which must be completed within twelve (12) months of the qualifying event. PPL not used within the required timeframe shall not be carried over or cashed out.
 4. **Interaction with Other Leaves.** Paid parental leave will run concurrently with any unpaid leave(s) that parents may be entitled to under other provisions of this Agreement or provided by law. Employees shall not receive other types of paid leave provided by this Agreement (e.g., sick, vacation, compensatory time) for hours for which they are receiving

PPL.

Section 5. Leaves of Absence Without Pay.

- A. **Military Leave.** In accordance with Minn. Stat. 192.261 and federal law, leave shall be granted to a teacher who voluntarily or involuntarily enters into active military service, active duty for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty for training, or full-time National Guard duty in the armed forces of the United States for the period of military service, not to exceed five (5) years plus such additional time as the teacher may be required to serve pursuant to law. Leave time for service in the military shall be considered as paid leave for purposes of vacation leave and sick leave accrual.

At a teacher's request, a teacher on unpaid military leave shall be allowed to supplement such leave with vacation leave in accordance with law. Any vacation leave used must have been accumulated prior to the start of the military leave.

- B. **Unclassified Service Leave.** Leave may be granted to any teacher to accept a position in the unclassified service of the State of Minnesota.

C. **Medical Leave.**

1. **Teacher Requested.** Leave of absence for the duration of the disability for a period up to six (6) consecutive months shall be granted to any permanent teacher who, as a result of an extended illness or injury including pregnancy or childbirth related disabilities, has exhausted their accumulation of sick leave. Upon the request of such teachers, such leave may be extended up to a total maximum of one (1) year. In all cases a physician's statement indicating diagnosis, prognosis and estimated length of disability is required before such leave is granted. A teacher returning from teacher-requested medical leave shall be reinstated to their original job or to a position of like status, pay and seniority.

D. **Appointing Authority Initiated.**

- a. If the Appointing Authority has reasonable cause to believe that a permanent teacher is unfit or unable to perform the duties of their position as a result of disability, injury or illness, after consultation with the Association, the teacher may be placed on a leave of absence for a period not to exceed six (6) months in duration.
- b. Such leave may not be initiated unless the Appointing Authority has offered the teacher the opportunity to participate in the Employee Assistance Program or another rehabilitation program and only after an evaluation by a private medical practitioner.
- c. The selection of a private medical practitioner shall be mutually agreed upon between the Appointing Authority and the Association. If the parties are unable to mutually agree, the Appointing Authority shall be free to send the teacher to a

private medical practitioner of the Appointing Authority's choosing. This evaluation shall be at no cost to the teacher.

- d. A teacher on this leave may use their accumulated sick or vacation leave and may continue participation in the group insurance program in accordance with the terms in Article 22, Insurance.
- e. The Appointing Authority agrees that it will limit documentation related to the evaluation in a teacher's personnel file to the practitioner's medical conclusion as to whether that teacher is fit for duty. The Appointing Authority agrees to maintain the information noted above in strict confidentiality unless it becomes the subject of a grievance.
- f. In the event of a grievance arising from an Appointing Authority's determination of a teacher's fitness to perform their job, where a medical examination has been conducted, the Association agrees that the teacher shall waive patient/doctor confidentiality to allow access to their relevant medical records by the Appointing Authority or the grievance shall be deemed waived.
- g. Teachers returning from an Appointing Authority Initiated leave shall be reinstated to their original job or to a position of comparable duties, if qualified, within the same Appointing Authority. Teachers granted such leave shall not be permitted to bump an existing teacher. If a teacher has been on this leave for six (6) months, at the request of the teacher or the Association, the Appointing Authority shall reorient the teacher to their job.

All teachers returning from medical leaves shall accrue sick and vacation leave at the same rate and with the same accredited length of service that existed at the time of their leave and shall receive all fringe benefits in accordance with the terms of the current Agreement between the Employer and the Association. A returning teacher shall retain their original anniversary date and shall be reinstated in the insurance program in accordance with the terms of the master insurance contract.

- D. **Parenting Leave.** Requests for parenting leaves of absence shall be submitted not later than the end of the sixth month of pregnancy of the teacher or spouse and shall be accompanied by a physician's statement indicating the estimated date of delivery of the child. Parenting leave shall be granted to all teachers who request it. Parenting leave shall not be considered the same as medical leave, and it shall continue up to six (6) consecutive months, and shall be reduced by any paid or unpaid leave of absence or by any summer break in service. Parenting leaves may be extended up to a total maximum of one (1) year by mutual consent between the teacher and the Appointing Authority.

Teachers returning from parenting leave shall be reinstated to their original job or to a position of like status, pay and leave at the same rate and with the same accredited length of service that existed at the time of their leave and shall receive all fringe benefits in accordance with the terms of the current Agreement between the Employer and the

Association. A returning teacher shall retain their original anniversary date and shall be reinstated in the insurance program in accordance with the terms of the master insurance contract.

- E. **Adoption Leave.** Requests for adoption leaves of absence shall be submitted six (6) months in advance, if possible, but in no event less than three (3) days prior to such leave and shall be granted to all teachers who request same. The leave shall commence on the date requested by the teacher and shall continue up to six (6) months provided, however, that adoption leave may be extended up to a total maximum of one (1) year by mutual consent between the teacher and the Appointing Authority. Teachers returning from an adoption leave shall be reinstated to their original job or to a position of like status, pay, and seniority. Returning teachers shall accrue sick and vacation leave at the same rate and with the same accredited length of service that existed at the time of their leave and shall receive all fringe benefits in accordance with the terms of the current Agreement between the Employer and the Association. A returning teacher shall retain their original anniversary date and shall be reinstated in the insurance program in accordance with the terms of the master insurance contract.
- F. **Association Leave.** Upon at least 30 (thirty) calendar days written notice by the Association to the Enterprise Director of Labor Relations, leave shall be granted to teachers who are officially appointed full time representatives of the Association. The Appointing Authority may request the Association to confirm the teacher's continuation on Association Leave.
- G. **Professional Development Leave.** In recognition of the philosophy of professional development as described in Article 10, Section 1, upon request, leave may be granted to any teacher for the purpose of professional development. Such requests shall not be unreasonably denied.
- H. **Long Term Personal Leave.** Upon request, leave may be granted for a specific period of time, up to two (2) years in duration, to any teacher, for the purpose of travel or personal reasons and shall not be unreasonably denied. No such leave shall be granted for the purpose of securing other employment, except as provided in this Article.
- I. **Extended Leave.** At the discretion of the Appointing Authority, an extended leave of absence of at least two (2) but no more than five (5) years may be granted to a teacher with at least ten (10) years of State service in the bargaining unit since their last date of appointment. Such leave may be extended to no more than five (5) years with agreement of the Appointing Authority.

At the discretion of the Appointing Authority, a teacher may return to employment before the expiration date of an extended leave provided that the teacher notifies the Appointing Authority, in writing, of such intent six (6) months prior to the date of return or before the first of February for the next academic year.

At least sixty (60) days prior to the expected end of an extended leave, the Appointing Authority shall send a reminder to the teacher requesting confirmation that the teacher plans to return from leave as scheduled. If the teacher does not provide such confirmation

at least thirty (30) days prior to their expected return date, they may be considered to have resigned at the completion of the leave.

A teacher may be granted only one leave pursuant to this section in their career with the State of Minnesota.

The time spent by a teacher on an extended leave pursuant to this section shall not be included in step progression upon return from the leave. Any credits earned by a teacher on an extended leave pursuant to this section shall not be applied toward the teacher's lane placement for a length of time equal to the length of the leave.

For insurance purposes, a teacher on an extended leave pursuant to this section, may continue participation in the group insurance plan found in Article 22, provided that the teacher bears the full premium costs during the leave.

- J. **C700 Leave.** At the discretion of the Appointing Authority, a teacher may be granted up to 700 hours of unpaid leave under the C700 Program.

Section 6. Cancellation of Leaves of Absence.

All discretionary leaves of absence designated in Section 5 shall be subject to the condition that the Appointing Authority may cancel the leave at any time and shall give written notice to the teacher and the Association, specifying a reasonable date of termination of the leave.

Section 7. Reinstatement from Leave of Absence.

A teacher granted a leave of absence shall be returned to employment at the expiration of the leave unless the position occupied prior to such leave has been abolished and no person of less seniority is employed at the facility in the same classification at the date of expiration of the leave.

Subject to paragraph 1 above, with the exception of an extended leave, a teacher may return to employment at any time prior to the expiration of the leave with the agreement of the Appointing Authority.

Subject to paragraph 1 above, the return of a teacher to employment prior to the expiration date of an extended leave shall be governed by the conditions set forth in Section 5I of this Article.

The name of a teacher who is laid off prior to expiration of a leave of absence because of abolition of the position as provided above shall be placed on the appropriate layoff list.

Failure to contact the Appointing Authority about an extension prior to the end of the approved leave, or failure to return at the conclusion of the leave, shall be deemed to be a voluntary resignation, and the employee shall be severed from State service.

ARTICLE 19 – VACATION LEAVE

Section 1. General Conditions.

- A. **Accruals.** Teachers on an unlimited appointment, except intermittents working less than sixty-seven (67) working days in any twelve (12) month period, shall accrue vacation pay according to the below rates. Additionally, teachers appointed to a temporary unclassified position for more than six (6) months shall be eligible teachers for the purposes of this section. Connect 700 Program employees shall be considered eligible during their on-the-job demonstration process for purposes of this Article. Hours of vacation leave used by the Connect 700 Program employee during their on-the-job demonstration process shall not be counted toward the seven hundred (700) hours.

Length of Service	Rate Per Full Payroll Period
0 through 5 years	4 working hours
After 5 through 8 years	5 working hours
After 8 through 12 years	7 working hours
After 12 through 18 years	7 1/2 working hours
After 18 through 25 years	8 working hours
After 25 through 30 years	8 1/2 working hours
After 30 years	9 working hours

For purposes of determining changes in a teacher's accrual rate, Length of Service shall not include periods of suspension, or unpaid non-medical leaves of absence, that are more than one (1) full payroll period in duration. However, accrual rates shall not be adjusted for teachers on military leave or if the leave is FMLA qualifying. Additionally, the Length of Service requirement shall only include a teacher's service in a vacation eligible status or equivalent as determined by the Appointing Authority. This method shall not be used to change any Length of Service determined prior to the effective date of this Agreement.

Length of service may also include time spent in other formal teaching positions as stated below:

At the discretion of the Appointing Authority, a teacher who is appointed to or occupies a position covered by this agreement may be granted length of service credit in an amount as determined by the Appointing Authority. At the Appointing Authority's discretion and in an amount determined by the Appointing Authority, current bargaining unit employees may request consideration for length of service credit in an amount up to the total years of previous work related to the employee's current State position. The Appointing Authority agrees to respond to a teacher's request for length of service credit based on the teacher's prior teaching, academic or related professional work experience within thirty (30) calendar

days from the date such request was properly documented. Determinations made under this provision are not arbitrable under this agreement.

A teacher who is reinstated or reappointed to state service within one (1) year of the date of resignation or retirement shall accrue vacation leave at the same rate with the same credit for length of service that existed at the time of such separation.

In the case of teachers who work a scheduled academic year that is less than a full calendar year, such academic year shall be considered a calendar year for the purpose of this Article.

Changes in accrual rates shall be made effective at the beginning of the next payroll period following completion of the specified Length of Service.

- B. **Crediting and Use of Vacation Upon Entry.** Upon entry to State service, an eligible teacher shall be credited with up to forty (40) hours of vacation leave. Such credit shall be reduced proportionately as vacation leave is accumulated. Vacation hours credited upon entry to State service but not offset by accumulated vacation prior to separation from State service shall not be eligible for liquidation. If a current teacher in State service is appointed to a SRSEA position and that teacher has their accumulated vacation leave hours transferred, the teacher shall not be credited with additional vacation leave hours.

Teachers being paid for less than a full eighty (80) hour pay period shall have their vacation accruals pro-rated as specified in Appendix A.

A teacher receiving sick leave or vacation leave, or Workers' Compensation supplemented by either sick leave or vacation leave, shall accrue vacation leave pursuant to this section.

Teachers may accumulate unused vacation leave to any amount, provided that once during each fiscal year each teacher's accumulation must be reduced to a maximum of two hundred seventy-five (275) hours.

Teachers on a military leave under Article 18 shall earn and accrue vacation leave as though actually employed, without regard to the maximum accumulation set forth above. Vacation earned in excess of two hundred seventy-five (275) hours shall be taken within two (2) years of the date the teacher returns from military leave.

Section 2. Vacation Period.

Reasonable effort shall be made by the Appointing Authority to schedule teacher vacations at a time agreeable to the teacher insofar as adequate scheduling of the unit permits. Whenever possible, vacation requests shall be submitted to the teacher's supervisor at least four (4) weeks in advance. Teachers who fail to request their vacation leave at least four (4) weeks in advance shall not be granted their vacation by seniority consideration over less senior teachers who had submitted their requests prior to the four (4) week deadline. The supervisor shall respond to the teacher in writing to all written requests within one (1) week.

If it becomes necessary to limit the number of teachers off on vacation at the same time, the vacation schedule shall be established on the basis of seniority within subject matter specialty in

the event of any conflict over vacation periods. Any teacher who has not been offered reasonable opportunity, or who has not been permitted to reduce their vacation accumulation and who is about to lose vacation because they have or will reach the maximum accumulation of vacation leave, shall be entitled to take sufficient vacation to prevent such loss upon two (2) weeks advance notice to their supervisor. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to preclude teachers from requesting and being granted vacation periods of one (1) day or less.

Section 3. Vacation Usage.

- A. In the case of teachers who work a scheduled academic year that is less than a full calendar year, vacation accruals shall be used by the teacher during official school breaks. With the approval of the Appointing Authority, vacation days may be scheduled for the aforementioned teachers during the normal academic year where teacher/pupil contact time is required. Unused vacation accrual shall normally be paid in cash at the end of the academic school year unless a carry-over is mutually agreed to by the Appointing Authority and the teacher.
- B. If a teacher becomes ill or disabled while on vacation leave, such leave shall be changed to sick leave effective the date of the illness or disability, upon notice to the teacher's Appointing Authority and provided the vacation leave is applicable to scheduled hours of work.
- C. Except for teachers who separate from State service prior to the completion of six (6) months of continuous service, a teacher who is separated from State service by layoff, resignation, death, or otherwise, shall be paid for the number of hours of unused vacation leave accumulated to the teacher's credit up to a maximum of two hundred sixty (260) hours. At their option, the teacher may choose to have their accumulated vacation accruals, up to a maximum of two hundred sixty (260) hours, contributed to their deferred compensation account upon separation from state service.
- D. A teacher who is transferred or accepts employment under the jurisdiction of a new Appointing Authority, or in the unclassified service of the state, or an unclassified teacher who transfers to the classified service, without interruption of service to the state shall be permitted to transfer accumulated unused vacation leave.

ARTICLE 20 – SICK LEAVE

Section 1. Sick Leave Accrual.

All teachers shall be eligible teachers for the purposes of this section. All eligible teachers shall accrue sick leave at the rate of four (4) hours per period of continuous employment beginning with their date of eligibility. Teachers being paid for less than a full eighty (80) hour pay period shall have sick leave accruals pro-rated as specified in Appendix B.

Teachers on a military leave under Article 18 shall earn and accrue sick leave as though actually employed, pursuant to Minn. Stat. 192.26.

Connect 700 Program employees shall be considered eligible during their on-the-job demonstration process for purposes of this Article. Hours of sick leave used by the Connect 700 Program employee during their on-the-job demonstration process shall not be counted toward the seven hundred (700) hours.

Section 2. Reinstatement of Sick Leave.

An eligible teacher who is reinstated or reappointed to State service within four (4) years of the date of resignation in good standing, or retirement shall have their accumulated but unused sick leave balance restored and posted to their credit in the records of the Appointing Authority.

Upon request, employees of the Legislative Branch who transfer or who are appointed to the Executive Branch within four (4) years of the date of resignation in good standing or retirement shall have accumulated unused sick leave posted to the teacher's credit.

Section 3. Sick Leave Use.

All eligible teachers shall be granted sick leave with pay, not to exceed the teacher's current sick leave accumulation, for absences under applicable law (see also Letter 13 dated September 17, 2025, regarding teacher usage of accrued sick leave for the illness and injury of certain family members) or necessitated by the following reasons:

A. **Teacher.**

1. Illness or medical disabilities including the period of time that a doctor certifies a female teacher is unable to work because of pregnancy;
2. Medical or dental care;
3. Exposure to a contagious disease so that their attendance on duty may endanger the health of other teachers or the public.

B. **Others.** Sick leave granted under paragraphs 1-4 below shall be for such reasonable periods as the teacher's presence may be necessary due to the illness or injury of the following family members:

1. Spouse;
2. Dependent child;
3. Adult child;
4. Ward,
5. Parent;
6. Brother or sister;
7. Step-parent;
8. Grandparent;

9. Grandchild;
10. Father-in-law, or
11. Mother-in-law.

With prior notice, a teacher may use sick leave to accompany a parent to a medical and/or dental appointment. The parent does not need to live in the teacher's household. Teacher's may use sick leave for the purposes of obtaining assistance or providing assistance to a relative as named above because of sexual assault, domestic abuse, or stalking.

The Appointing Authority may limit the use of personal sick leave for the reasons listed above to a cap of one hundred and sixty (160) hours in any twelve (12) month period in accordance with Minnesota law.

- C. **Birth or Adoption.** Up to five (5) days of sick leave shall be granted for birth or adoption of a child. In the case of adoption, and at the sole discretion of the Appointing Authority, additional sick leave may be granted to acquire the child, but in no case may the total leave granted exceed seven (7) days.

Section 4. Sick Leave Request.

Whenever possible, teachers must submit their request for sick leave to their immediate supervisor in advance of the absence. When a teacher cannot obtain advance approval of their absence, it shall be their responsibility to notify their supervisor by telephone or other means as soon as possible, after their normal reporting time. Supervisors shall be required to answer all requests for sick leave promptly.

Teachers using leave under this Section shall furnish a statement from a medical practitioner upon the request of the Appointing Authority for absences in excess of three (3) work days, or when the Appointing Authority has a reasonable basis to believe that a teacher has abused or is abusing sick leave.

The Appointing Authority may also request a statement from a medical practitioner if the Appointing Authority has reason to believe the teacher is not physically fit to return to work or has been exposed to a contagious disease which endangers the health of other employees, clients or the public.

ARTICLE 21 – HOLIDAYS

Section 1. Eligibility.

Teachers on an unlimited appointment shall receive the following paid holidays. Additionally, teachers appointed to a temporary unclassified position for more than six (6) months are eligible teachers for purposes of this section. To be eligible, a teacher must be in payroll status on the normal workday immediately preceding and the normal workday immediately following the holiday(s). However, unlimited intermittent teachers must work the normal workday immediately before and immediately after the holiday. Teachers who normally work less than full-time shall

have their holiday pay prorated in accord with the schedule set forth in AppendixB-1. Connect 700 Program employees shall be considered eligible during their on-the-job demonstration process for purposes of this Article. The Connect 700 Program employee's holiday hours earned during their on-the-job demonstration process shall not count toward the seven hundred (700) hours.

Section 2. Designated Holidays.

Teachers shall observe the actual holiday if it falls on a normally scheduled work day or on the scheduled work day closest to the actual holiday if it does not fall on a normally scheduled work day.

New Year's Day

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

President's Day

Memorial Day

Juneteenth Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Veteran's Day

Thanksgiving Day

Day After Thanksgiving

Christmas Day

One Floating Holiday

Teachers shall receive one (1) floating holiday each fiscal year of this Agreement. The teacher must request the floating holiday at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance. The Appointing Authority may limit the number of teachers that may be absent on any given day subject to the operational needs of the Appointing Authority. The Appointing Authority shall make a reasonable effort to approve the requested holiday. Floating holidays may not be accumulated or paid off.

Section 3. Religious Holidays.

Any teacher who observes a religious holiday on a day which does not fall on a Sunday or a legal holiday shall be entitled to such time off. Time to observe religious holidays shall be taken without pay except where the teacher has sufficient accumulated vacation leave or, by mutual consent, is able to make the time up. Teachers shall notify the Appointing Authority at least ten (10) working days prior to the leave.

ARTICLE 22 – INSURANCE

Section 1. State Employee Group Insurance Program (SEGIP).

During the life of this Agreement, the Employer agrees to offer a Group Insurance Program that includes health, dental, life, vision, and disability coverages equivalent to existing coverages, subject to the insurance eligibility and employer contribution provisions of this Article and to the insurance benefit provisions of the Insurance Addendum.

All insurance eligible teachers will be provided access to an electronic summary of benefits (SOB) or certificate of coverage (COC) for each insurance product. These documents shall be provided no less than biennially and prior to the beginning of the insurance year.

Section 2. Eligibility for Group Participation.

This section describes eligibility to participate in the Group Insurance Program.

- A. **Teachers - Basic Eligibility.** Teachers may participate in the Group Insurance Program if they are scheduled to work at least 1044 hours in any twelve consecutive months, except for: (1) emergency, or temporary classified, or intermittent teachers; (2) student workers; and (3) interns.

A teacher who is employed on the basis of an academic year and whose employment contemplates absences from the State payroll during the summer months and during break periods occurring at Christmas, New Year's and Easter, shall continue to be eligible for benefits provided they appear on the regular payroll for at least one working day for the payroll period immediately preceding such break periods.

- B. **Teachers - Special Eligibility.** The following teachers are also eligible to participate in the Group Insurance Program:

1. **Teachers with a Work-related Injury/Disability.** A teacher who was off the State payroll due to a work-related injury or a work-related disability may continue to participate in the Group Insurance Program as long as such a teacher receives workers' compensation payments or while the workers' compensation claim is pending.
2. **Totally Disabled Teachers.** Consistent with M.S. 62A.148, certain totally disabled teachers may continue to participate in the Group Insurance Program.
3. **Separated Teachers Under M.S. 43A.27.** Pursuant to M.S. 43A.27, Subdivision 3a(1), A teacher who separates or retires from State service and who, at the time of separation has five (5) or more years of allowable pension service and is entitled to immediately receive an annuity under a State retirement program and, who is not eligible for regular (non-disability) Medicare coverage, may continue to participate in the health and dental coverages offered through the Group Insurance Program.

Consistent with M.S. 43A.27, Subdivision 3, a retired teacher of the State who receives an

annuity under a State retirement program may continue to participate in the health and dental coverages offered through the Group Insurance Program. Retiree coverage must be coordinated with Medicare.

C. **Dependents.** Eligible dependents for the purposes of this Article are as follows:

1. **Spouse.** The spouse of an eligible teacher (if legally married under Minnesota law). For the purposes of health insurance coverage, if that spouse works full-time for an organization employing more than one hundred (100) people and (1) elects to receive either credits or cash in place of health insurance or health coverage or towards some other benefit in place of health insurance, then they are not eligible for the comparable coverage or insurance under this Article; or (2) is enrolled in a high deductible medical insurance plan (as defined by the IRS) that includes a contribution to a health savings account (HSA) through their employing organization, then they are not eligible for medical coverage under this Article.

When both spouses work for the State or another organization participating in the State Employee Group Insurance Program, a spouse may be covered as a dependent by the other but when covered as a dependent they may not carry their own coverage (members may only be covered once).

2. **Children.**

- a. **Health and Dental Coverage:** A dependent child is an eligible teacher's child to age twenty-six (26).
- b. **Dependent Child:** A "dependent child" includes a teacher's (1) biological child, (2) child legally adopted by or placed for adoption with the teacher, (3) step-child, (4) foster child, (5) child by legal guardianship, and (6) child by placement to employee, who is a relative of the child, as established by court judgment, order or decree. For a step-child to be considered a dependent child, the teacher must be legally married to the child's legal parent or legal guardian. For a foster child to be considered a dependent child under this plan, the foster child must be placed with the teacher or the teacher's spouse by an authorized placement agency or by judgement, decree or other court order. For a child by legal guardianship or placement to be considered a dependent child under this plan, the child's legal relationship with the teacher must be established by a court judgement, decree, or other court order. A dependent child is generally eligible to age 26, unless the child's status as a dependent child ceases at an earlier date, such as the expiration of a court order or decree.
- c. **Coverage Under Only One Plan:** For purposes of (a) and (b) above, if the teacher's adult child (age 18 to 26) works for the State or another organization participating in the State's Group Insurance Program, the child may not be covered as a dependent

by the teacher unless the child is not eligible for a full Employer Contribution as defined in Section 3A.

Effective January 1, 2015 for purposes of (a) and (b) above, if the teacher's adult child (age 18 to 26) works for the State or another organization participating in the State's Group Insurance Program, the child may be covered as a dependent by the teacher.

3. **Grandchildren.** A grandchild of a teacher, up to age twenty-five (25), is an eligible dependent grandchild who is financially dependent upon the teacher for principal support and maintenance and has resided with the teacher continuously from birth. A grandchild of a teacher is also an eligible dependent if the grandchild is claimed as a tax dependent on the teacher's tax return.

If a grandchild is legally adopted or placed in the legal custody of the grandparent, they are covered as a dependent child under Section 2C (2) or (4).

4. **Child with a Disability.** A dependent child with a disability is an eligible teacher's child or grandchild regardless of marital status, who was covered and then disabled prior to the limiting age or any other limiting term required for dependent coverage and who continues to be incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of developmental disability, mental illness or disorder, or physical disability, and is chiefly dependent upon the teacher for support and maintenance, provided proof of such incapacity and dependency must be furnished to the health carrier by the teacher or enrollee within thirty one (31) days of the child's attainment of the limiting age or any other limiting term required for dependent coverage. The dependent with a disability is eligible to continue coverage as long as they continue to be disabled and dependent, unless coverage terminates under the contract.
5. **Qualified Medical Child Support Order.** A child who would otherwise meet the eligibility requirements and is required to be covered by a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) is considered an eligible dependent.
6. **Child Coverage Limited to Coverage Under One Teacher.** If both spouses work for the State or another organization participating in the State's Group Insurance Program, either spouse, but not both, may cover the eligible dependent children or grandchildren. This restriction also applies to two divorced, legally separated, or unmarried teachers who share legal responsibility for their eligible dependent children or grandchildren. A teacher in the State's Group Insurance benefits may only be covered once, by one parent or guardian.

- D. **Continuation Coverage.** Consistent with state and federal laws, certain teachers, former teachers, dependents, and former dependents may continue group health, dental, and/or life coverage at their own expense for a fixed length of time. As of the date of this Agreement, state and federal laws allow certain group coverages to be continued if they would otherwise terminate due to:

- a. termination of employment (except for gross misconduct);
- b. layoff;

- c. reduction of hours to an ineligible status;
- d. dependent child becoming ineligible due to change in age, student status, marital status, or financial support (in the case of a foster child or stepchild);
- e. death of teacher;
- f. divorce or legal separation; or
- g. a covered teacher's enrollment in Medicare.

Section 3. Eligibility for Employer Contribution.

This section describes eligibility for an Employer Contribution toward the cost of coverage.

- A. **Full Employer Contribution - Basic Eligibility.** Teachers covered by this Agreement who are scheduled to work at least seventy-five (75) percent of the time are eligible for the full Employer Contribution. This means:
 - 1. Teachers who are scheduled to work at least eighty (80) hours per pay period for a period of nine (9) months or more in any twelve (12) consecutive months.
 - 2. Teachers who are scheduled to work at least sixty (60) hours per pay period for twelve (12) consecutive months, but excluding part-time or seasonal teachers serving on less than a seventy-five (75) percent basis.
 - 3. Teachers of the Perpich Center for Arts Education, the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf and the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind who work at least three-quarter (3/4) time for the nine-month academic year.
- B. **Partial Employer Contribution - Basic Eligibility.** The partial Employer Contribution for health and dental coverages is seventy-five percent (75%) of the full Employer Contribution.
 - 1. **Part-time Teachers.** Effective July 13, 1994, teachers who hold part-time, unlimited appointments and who work at least fifty percent (50%) of the time but less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the time are eligible for partial Employer Contribution. This means:
 - a. Teachers who hold part-time appointments or seasonal employees and who are scheduled to work at least forty (40) hours but less than sixty (60) hours per pay period for twelve (12) consecutive months.
 - b. Teachers who hold part-time appointments and who are scheduled to work at least one thousand forty-four (1044) hours over a period of any twelve (12) consecutive months.
 - 2. **Part-time Teachers - Academic Year.** Effective July 13, 1994, teachers who hold part-time unlimited appointments during an academic year schedule and who work at least fifty percent (50%) of the time but less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the time are eligible for the Employer Contribution. This means:

- a. Teachers who hold part-time appointments and who are scheduled to work at least forty (40) hours but less than sixty (60) hours per pay period for twelve (12) consecutive months.
 - b. Teachers who hold part-time appointments and who are scheduled to work at least one thousand forty-four (1044) hours over a period of any twelve (12) consecutive months.
- C. **Participation Eligibility - No Employer Contribution.** Part-time teachers who work less than fifty percent (50%) in an academic or calendar year schedule and were participating in the plan at their own expense on June 30, 1999, are allowed to continue participating in the plan. All other part-time teachers working less than fifty percent (50%) in an academic or calendar year schedule are not eligible for participation in the plan.
- D. **Special Eligibility.** The following teachers also receive an Employer Contribution:
- 1. **Teachers on Layoff.** A classified teacher who receives an Employer Contribution, who has three (3) or more years of continuous service, and who has been permanently laid off, remains eligible for an Employer Contribution and all other benefits provided under this Article for an extended benefit eligibility period of six (6) months from the date of layoff.
 - 2. **Permanent Layoff.** The calculation in determining the six (6) month duration of eligibility for an employer contribution begins on the date the teacher is permanently laid off or accepts an appointment in lieu of layoff without a break in service with a lesser employer-paid insurance contribution than the teacher was receiving in the appointment from which the layoff occurred and is no longer actively employed in the appointment from which the layoff occurred.

In the event the teacher, while on permanent layoff, is rehired to any state job classification with a lesser employer-paid insurance contribution than the teacher is receiving under the six (6) months of insurance continuation, the teacher shall continue to receive the employer contribution toward the employer-paid insurance for the duration of the six (6) months.

However, notwithstanding the paragraph above, in the event the teacher successfully claims another state job in any agency and classification which is insurance eligible without a break in service, and is subsequently non-certified or involuntarily separated, the six (6) month duration for the employer contribution toward insurance benefits will begin at the time the teacher is non-certified or otherwise involuntarily separated and is no longer actively employed by the Employer.

In no event shall an extended benefit eligibility period be longer than a total of six (6) months. Further, a teacher must be receiving an Employer Contribution under Section 3 (A) or (B) at the time of layoff in order to be eligible for the six (6) months continuation of insurance.

3. **Work-related Injury/Disability.** A teacher who receives an Employer Contribution and who is off the State payroll due to a work-related injury or a work-related disability remains eligible for an Employer Contribution as long as such a teacher receives workers' compensation payments. If such teacher ceases to receive workers' compensation payments for the injury or disability and is granted a medical leave under Article 18, they shall be eligible for an Employer contribution during that leave.
4. **Corrections Early Retirement Incentive.** Please refer to Article 23, Corrections Early Retirement Incentive.

E. Maintaining Eligibility for Employer Contribution.

1. **General.** A teacher who receives a full or partial Employer Contribution maintains that eligibility as long as the teacher meets the Employer Contribution eligibility requirements, and appears on a State payroll for at least one (1) full working day during each payroll period. This requirement does not apply to teachers who receive an Employer Contribution while on layoff as described in Section 3D1, or while eligible for workers' compensation payments as described in Section 3D2.
2. **Unpaid Leave of Absence.** If a teacher is on an unpaid leave of absence, then vacation leave, compensatory time, or sick leave cannot be used for the purpose of maintaining eligibility for an Employer Contribution by keeping the teacher on a State payroll for one (1) working day per pay period.
3. **School Year Employment.** If a teacher is employed on the basis of a school year and such employment contemplates absences from the State payroll during the summer months or vacation periods scheduled by the Appointing Authority which occur during the regular school year, the teacher shall nonetheless remain eligible for an Employer Contribution, provided that the teacher appears on the regular payroll for at least one (1) working day in the payroll period immediately preceding such absences.
4. **Special Leaves.** A teacher who is on an approved FMLA leave or on a Voluntary Reduction in Hours as provided elsewhere in this Agreement maintains eligibility for an Employer Contribution.

ARTICLE 23 – CORRECTIONS EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE

Section 1. Eligibility for Employer Contribution.

- A. **Correctional Pre-Fifty-Five Early Retirement Incentive.** Any teacher who attains the age of fifty (50) and who is covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911) may opt to take advantage of the Pre-Fifty-Five Early Retirement Incentive at or after their fiftieth (50th) birthday and before their fifty-fifth (55th) birthday occurs.

Teachers shall be provided with health and dental insurance to which the teacher was entitled at the time of retirement, subject to any changes in coverage in accordance with

this or any subsequent Agreement. Teachers shall continue to receive an Employer contribution as set forth below until the teacher attains the age of sixty-five (65).

Notwithstanding any changes in coverage in accordance with this or any subsequent Agreement, the Employer contribution shall be equal to one hundred twenty (120) times the amount of the monthly Employer contribution for health and dental insurance applicable to that teacher at the time of their retirement, divided by the number of months until the teacher attains the age of sixty-five (65) times the percentage calculated as follows:

1. Teachers will accrue ten percent (10%) credit for each twelve (12) months the teacher is in active payroll status in a position that is covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911) and in which the teacher and Employer made the statutorily required contributions to the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911). If a teacher has six (6) or more months of active payroll status during a twelve (12) month period, then the teacher shall be credited with the full ten percent (10%) for that period. If the teacher has less than six (6) months of active payroll status during a twelve (12) month period, then the teacher shall receive zero (0) credit for that period.
2. Total credit for all years of service will not exceed one hundred percent (100%).
3. The eligible teacher shall pay the remaining monthly portion.

B. **Correctional Post-Fifty-Five Early Retirement Incentive.** A teacher who is covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911) who retires during the pay period in which their fifty-fifth (55th) birthday occurs or any time thereafter until the teacher attains the age of sixty-five (65) shall be entitled to receive the Employer Contribution to insurance in accordance with the following provisions:

1. Teachers will accrue ten percent (10%) credit for each twelve (12) months the teacher is in active payroll status in a position that is covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911) and in which the teacher and Employer made the statutorily required contributions to the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911). If a teacher has six (6) or more months of active payroll status during a twelve (12) month period, then the teacher shall be credited with the full ten percent (10%) for that period. If the teacher has less than six (6) months of active payroll status during a twelve (12) month period, then the teacher shall receive zero (0) credit for that period.
2. Total credit for all years of service will not exceed one hundred percent (100%).
3. The monthly Employer contribution shall be calculated as follows:
 - a. If the teacher has received less than one-hundred percent (100%) credit for time spent in active payroll status in a position covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911), the appropriate percentage times the monthly Employer contribution for health and dental insurance applicable to that

teacher at the time of their retirement is the monthly amount paid by the Employer until the teacher reaches age sixty-five (65). The eligible teacher shall pay the remaining monthly portion; or

- b. If the teacher has received one-hundred percent (100%) credit for time spent in active payroll status in a position covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911), the Employer shall pay the full Employer contribution for health and dental insurance, as specified in Article 22 – Insurance, until the teacher reaches age sixty-five (65).
- C. **Continued dependent coverage.** In the event that a retired teacher who had elected health and/or dental coverage with eligible dependents dies before attaining the age of sixty-five (65), the enrolled dependent spouse and/or enrolled dependent child(ren) shall maintain the existing employer contribution for health and/or dental coverages until such time that the teacher would have turned age 65.

Section 2. Conditions for the Pre-Fifty-Five Early Retirement Incentive and Post-Fifty-Five Early Retirement Incentive.

- A. The teacher must be in a position covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911) at the time of retirement, except as provided in B below.
- B. Teachers remain eligible for the Pre-Fifty-Five Early Retirement Incentive and the Post-Fifty-Five Early Retirement Incentive if, as the result of a workers' compensation injury, they must move from a position covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911) to a state position covered by any other State Retirement Plan. Such teachers must retire from state service and are subject to all other requirements and conditions of Section 1 (A) and (B). The agency in which the workers' compensation injury occurred shall be responsible for paying any Employer contribution under this provision.
- C. Years of credit in Section 1 (A) and (B) shall include only the time during which the teacher was employed by the State in a position covered by the Correctional Employees Retirement Plan (M.S. §§352.91 and 352.911).
- D. The teacher must be receiving an Employer contribution for health and dental coverage at the time of retirement.
- E. A teacher who retires with no Employer contribution for dependent coverage or who terminates dependent coverage following retirement may add a dependent in accordance with Article 22, Insurance, Section 5B1, Changes Due to a Life Event; however, that teacher shall not subsequently be eligible for an Employer contribution for dependent coverage except when the dependent is the teacher's spouse and the spouse, immediately at the time of their retirement, is enrolled in SEGIP and is receiving an Employer contribution for health and dental insurance.
- F. Receipt of retirement insurance benefits is dependent on the teacher completing all required forms and continuing to pay any required premium.

ARTICLE 24 – INJURED ON DUTY

Section 1. Hazardous Occupation Injuries.

- A. The parties recognize that teachers working with residents of the State's institutions or facilities face a high potential for injury due to the nature of their employment. Therefore, a teacher who in the ordinary course of employment while acting in a reasonable and prudent manner and in compliance with the established rules and procedures of the Appointing Authority, incurs a disabling injury stemming from the aggressive, and/or intentional and overt act or direct consequences of such act of a person in the custodial control of the institution or which is incurred while attempting to apprehend or take into custody such inmate or resident, shall receive compensation in an amount equal to the difference between the teacher's regular rate of pay and benefits paid under the workers' compensation, without deduction from the teacher's accrued sick leave. Such compensation shall not exceed an amount equal to two-hundred and forty (240) times the teacher's regular hourly rate of pay per disabling injury.
- B. If the disabling injury referenced in Section A. requires the employee to seek medical attention during or immediately following their shift, they shall be compensated a lump sum payment for the time until admission and/or discharge not to exceed four (4) hours. If transport to a secondary medical facility is required, up to an additional four (4) hours shall be granted. This provision becomes effective upon the successful ratification of the 2019-2021 contract by the legislature and will sunset upon its expiration.

Section 2. Other Job-Related Injuries.

A teacher may elect to use accumulated vacation or sick leave or both during a period of absence due to compensable illness or injury. Such leave may be used on the following basis.

- A. Transfer of the Workers' Compensation benefits to the State to be credited to the teacher's sick leave or vacation accrual in proportion to the amount of compensation received and accept sick leave or vacation time for the compensable sickness or injury; or
- B. Keep the Workers' Compensation benefits and supplement same from accumulated sick leave or vacation leave; in no event may the total rate of compensation exceed the regular compensation of the teacher.

Section 3. Return to Employment.

A teacher so absent shall be entitled to immediate return to actual employment upon appropriate release from Workers' Compensation status.

A teacher incurring an on-the-job injury shall be paid their regular rate of pay for the remainder of the work day. Any necessary deductions from accrued sick leave for teachers so injured shall not

commence until the first scheduled work day following the injury.

ARTICLE 25 – SALARIES

Section 1. Salary Schedule.

The salary schedule set forth in Appendix C-1 is effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026
The salary schedule set forth in Appendix C-2 is effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Section 2. Conversion.

Effective July 1, 2025, all teachers shall be assigned to the same relative step within the salary range for their respective lanes as specified in Appendix C-1, except as set forth below.

Teachers who are paid at a rate which exceeds the maximum rate established for their lane prior to implementation of this Agreement, but whose rate falls within the new range for their lane, shall be assigned to the maximum of the new range.

In the event the maximum rate set forth in Appendix C-1 is equal to or less than the teacher's salary as of July 1, 2025, no adjustment shall be made, but teachers assigned to these lanes shall suffer no reduction in pay.

Section 3. First Year Wage Adjustment.

Effective July 1, 2025, all salary ranges and rates shall be increased by one and one-half percent (1.5%) rounded to the nearest cent. Teachers shall convert to the new salary schedule as provided in Section 2.

Section 4. Second Year Wage Adjustment.

Effective July 1, 2026, all salary ranges and rates shall be increased by one and three-quarters percent (1.75%) rounded to the nearest cent.

Effective July 1, 2026, all teachers shall receive this increase including those teachers whose rates of pay exceed the maximum rate for their lane.

Section 5. Shift Differential.

The shift differential for teachers working on assigned shifts which begin before 6:00 a.m. or which end at or after 7:00 p.m. shall be sixty-five cents (\$.65) per hour for such hours worked on that shift. Such shift differential shall be in addition to the teacher's regular rate of pay and shall be included in all payroll calculations, but shall not apply during periods of paid leave.

Section 6. Step Progression.

Annual step increases shall be awarded on the teacher's anniversary date contingent upon satisfactory service as determined by the Performance Review, Article 11. A teacher who serves

an emergency appointment and receives a probationary appointment to that position shall have their anniversary date credited to the beginning of the emergency appointment provided there was no break in service between the appointments.

Section 7. Lane Changes.

Lane changes shall be effective the beginning of the first payroll period following the submission of documentary evidence of advanced training by the teacher.

When requesting a lane change, the teacher agrees to note on the lane change request form the criterion or criteria listed in Section 8, Subdivision A (1) and/or (2) of this Article under which such request is being made. The Appointing Authority agrees to respond in a timely manner to a teacher's request for a lane change and, when such request is denied, to inform the teacher, on the lane change request form, the reason(s) for such denial. The form for lanechange requests is found in Appendix E.

Section 8. Lane Placement.

Subd. A. **Credits.** "Credits" as they apply to placement on the salary schedule include the following:

- 1) College credits that are recognized by a college or university that lead to a MA or MS degree, doctoral degree, or Fifth Year Program, satisfy relicensure or credentialing requirements in areas germane to the institution's educational program, lead to licensure in an area of special education, or are otherwise approved by the Appointing Authority or other Employer designee(s) as being of value to the institution's educational program. Credits are measured as semester credits. One semester credit is equal to 1.5 quarter credits.
- 2) "Local Credit" received from courses offered by the institution or workshops in special areas that are approved by the Appointing Authority or other Employer designee(s). No more than one third (1/3) of the credits applied to any lane placement may be "local credits." Fifteen (15) clock hours of courses/workshops shall equal one (1) "local credit."

Subd. B. **Credit Approval.** Credit approval, when required, must be obtained by using the form provided in Appendix F of this Agreement. When requesting credit approval, the teacher must note on the above mentioned form the criterion or criteria listed in Section 7, Subdivision A (1) and/or (2) above under which such request is being made. The Appointing Authority agrees to respond within two (2) weeks to a teacher's request for credit approval and, when such request is denied, to inform the teacher, on the credit approval form, the reason(s) for such denial.

Subd. C. **Fifth Year Program.** A Fifth Year Program is construed to mean completion (degree or certificate) of a recognized program from an accredited college or

university.

- Subd. D. **Credit Documentation.** Satisfactory completion of a college class must be documented with a college grade report, college transcript, or the form provided in Appendix G of this Agreement.

Section 9. Placement on Salary Schedule.

The requirements for placement on each salary lane of the salary schedules are as follows:

- A. Lane 1A: Less than a Bachelor's degree, or without a valid Minnesota Teacher's License.
- B. Lane 1V: Without a valid Minnesota Career Technical Instructor's credential.
- C. Lane 2A: A BA or BS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License.
- D. Lane 2V: A valid Minnesota Career Technical Instructor's credential.
- E. Lane 3A: A BA or BS and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License plus 10 additional credits.
- F. Lane 3V: A five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential.
- G. Lane 4A: A BA or BS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License plus 20 additional credits.
- H. Lane 4V: A five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 10 additional credits.
- I. Lane 5A: A BA or BS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License plus 30 additional credits.
- J. Lane 5V: A five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 20 additional credits.
- K. Lane 6A: A MA or MS degree or completion of a Fifth Year Program and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18, or a BA or BS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License plus 40 additional credits.
- L. Lane 6V: A five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 30 additional credits.
- M. Lane 7A: A MA or MS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18 plus 10 additional graduate credits.
- N. Lane 7V: A five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 40 additional credits.
- O. Lane 8: A MA or MS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18 plus 20 additional graduate credits.
- P. Lane 8V: A five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 50 additional credits.
- Q. Lane 9: A MA or MS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18 plus 30 additional graduate credits.
- R. Lane 10: Doctoral degree plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license or a license in

applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18

Lane placement on initial hire shall be based on the teaching subject area for which the teacher is hired to teach. Advanced degree credits outside the teacher's teaching area shall be evaluated on a course-by-course basis for lane placement. If the teacher is later assigned to teach subject matter where previously held credits were not counted, they shall be re-evaluated for lane placement purposes.

Section 10. Valid License.

Teachers are responsible for maintaining a valid Minnesota Teacher's License, a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18, or, in the case of Career Technical Instructors, a valid career technical instructor's credential, on file with the Appointing Authority. If this provision is not met, the teacher's salary will be reduced to the comparable step in salary lane 1A or 1V, whichever is applicable, and such salary will be paid until such time as verification of licensure or credentialing is received.

Section 11. Step Placement.

A teacher shall be granted a step placement credit for each year of prior teaching or related experience up to the sixth step. Additionally, a career technical teacher shall be granted a step placement credit for every two (2) years of related work experience up to the sixth step.

Additional step placement credit may be granted at the discretion of the Appointing Authority.

Notwithstanding the above, the Appointing Authority may initially hire teachers into the classification Arts Education Teacher on any step within any lane in the salary grid. Thereafter, step movement shall be governed by the provisions of Article 25. Initial hiring rates assigned are not arbitrable.

Section 12. Health and Dental Premium Accounts.

The Employer agrees to provide insurance eligible teachers with the option to pay for the teacher portion of health and dental premiums on a pre-tax basis as permitted by law or regulation.

Section 13. Medical/Dental Expense Account.

The Employer agrees to allow insurance eligible teachers to participate in a medical and dental expense reimbursement program to cover co-payments, deductibles and other medical and dental expenses or expenses for services not covered by health or dental insurance on a pre-tax basis as permitted by law or regulation, up to the maximum amount of salary reduction contributions allowed per calendar year under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue code or other applicable federal law.

Section 14. Dependent Care Expense Account.

The Employer agrees to provide insurance eligible teachers with the option to participate in a dependent care reimbursement program for work related dependent care expenses on a pre-tax basis as permitted by law or regulation.

Section 15. Health Care Savings Plan.

The Employer agrees to provide all teachers covered by this Agreement with a State-paid contribution to the MSRS administered Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP). The State-paid contribution shall be in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) to the HCSP account for each teacher covered by this Agreement in January of each fiscal year of the Agreement.

The Plan allows teachers to use money to pay medical expenses and/or health insurance premiums after separation or retirement from State service.

Section 16. Awards for Excellence in Education.

- Subd. A. A teacher who achieves National Teacher Certification shall receive a lump sum award of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00).
- Subd. B. A teacher who is named the National Education Association Teacher of the Year or Minnesota Teacher of the Year shall receive a lump sum award of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
- Subd. C. A teacher who is named to the Minnesota Teacher of the Year Honor Roll or is awarded the National Ashland Outstanding Teacher Award shall receive a lump sum award of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
- Subd. D. Teachers who successfully secure education grants that benefit students at their facility/institution shall be awarded a lump sum of ten percent (10%) of the value of the grant, up to a maximum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), subject to the following conditions:
 - Grants may be written on work time with supervisory approval, as long as the work is done during non-student contact time and does not interfere with teacher's normal job duties; and
 - If more than one teacher is involved in writing the grant, the lump sum award shall be shared equally between the teachers
- Subd. E. A correctional teacher who is named CEA Teacher of the Year shall be awarded a lump sum of five-hundred dollars (\$500.00).

Section 17. Deferred Compensation.

The Employer agrees to provide teachers covered by this Agreement with a State-paid contribution to the deferred compensation program under M.S. 352.965. The State-paid

contribution shall be in an amount matching the teacher's contribution on a dollar-for-dollar basis not to exceed six hundred dollars (\$600.00) per teacher in each fiscal year of the Agreement.

Section 18. Work Out of Class.

When a teacher is expressly assigned to perform substantially all of the duties of a position allocated to a different classification that is temporarily unoccupied, and the work out of class assignment exceeds ten (10) consecutive work days in duration, the teacher shall be paid for all such hours at the employee's current salary when assigned to work in a class which is a transfer or demotion. For a class which is a promotion, a teacher shall receive an increase to the minimum rate of the new class or at least one (1) step higher than the teacher's current salary, whichever is greater. When a teacher is on a layoff list, the teacher shall be paid as provided above or the maximum step previously achieved by the teacher, whichever is greater. No work out of class assignment shall extend beyond twelve (12) months, unless mutually agreed upon between the Appointing Authority and the Association.

Section 19. Achievement Awards.

At the Appointing Authority's discretion, an employee who has demonstrated outstanding performance may receive one (1) achievement award per fiscal year in a lump sum amount not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or a one (1) step in range adjustment. The receipt of an achievement award as a step increase shall not affect the timing of future progression increases. In no instance during a fiscal year shall achievement awards be granted to more than thirty-five percent (35%) of the number of employees authorized at the beginning of the fiscal year.

The Appointing Authority may modify the distribution of achievement awards provided that the modifications do not increase the aggregate amount of money spent on achievement awards in a fiscal year. Achievement awards granted under this paragraph shall be in the form of lump sum payments only. Modifications may include but are not limited to the following:

- dollar amount of awards,
- percentage of employees eligible for awards and
- "team awards".

Employees may receive both an individual and a team achievement award in one (1) fiscal year. Appointing Authorities may establish Achievement Award Committees consisting of both Employer and employee representatives to recommend procedures and criteria consistent with the agency's mission and objectives for the distribution of achievement awards.

ARTICLE 26 – EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

Section 1. General.

The Appointing Authority may authorize travel at State expense for the effective conduct of the

State's business. Such authorization must be granted prior to the incurrence of the actual expenses. Teachers affected under this Article shall be reimbursed for such expenses that had been authorized by the Appointing Authority in accord with the terms of this Article.

Section 2. Automobile Expense.

When a State-owned vehicle is not available and a teacher is required to use their personal automobile to conduct authorized State business, the Appointing Authority shall reimburse the teacher at the then current Federal IRS mileage reimbursement rate on the most direct route. When a State-owned vehicle is offered and declined by the teacher, mileage may be paid at the rate of seven (7) cents less than the current Federal IRS mileage reimbursement rate on the most direct route. However, if a State-owned vehicle is available, the Appointing Authority may require a teacher to use the State car to conduct authorized State business. Deviations from the most direct route, such as vicinity driving or departure from the teacher's residence, shall be shown separately on the teacher's daily expense record and reimbursed under the foregoing rates. Actual payment of toll charges and parking fees shall be reimbursed. A teacher shall not be required by the Appointing Authority to carry automobile insurance coverage beyond that required by law.

When a teacher is assigned to conduct state business away from their permanent work station, the teacher shall be paid full round-trip mileage allowance between the remote location and the teacher's home, minus the round trip distance between home and permanent work station (their normal commute miles).

Teachers accepting mobility assignments, as defined in Administrative Procedure 1.1, are not eligible for mileage reimbursement for the trip between their home and the mobility assignment (see also Article 33).

Teachers who use a specially equipped personal van or van-type vehicle on official State business shall be reimbursed for mileage at a rate of forty (40) cents per mile on the most direct route. In order to qualify for this reimbursement rate, the vehicle must be equipped with a ramp, lift, or other level exchanging device designed to provide access for a wheelchair.

Reimbursement for use of a motorcycle on official State business shall be at a rate of thirteen (13) cents per mile on the most direct route.

The Appointing Authority may authorize travel in personal aircraft when it is deemed in the best interest of the State. Mileage reimbursement in such cases shall be at a rate of forty-three (43) cents and shall be based on the shortest route based on direct air mileage between the point of departure and the destination.

Section 3. Commercial Transportation.

When a teacher is required to use commercial transportation (air, taxi, rental car, ride-share, etc.) in connection with authorized business of an Appointing Authority, the teacher shall be reimbursed for the actual expenses of the mode and class of transportation so authorized. Reasonable gratuities may be included in commercial travel costs.

Section 4. Overnight Travel.

Teachers in travel status who incur expenses for lodging shall be allowed actual reasonable costs of lodging, in addition to the actual cost of meals while away from their temporary or permanent work station, up to the maximums stated in Section 5 of this Article. Teachers in travel status in excess of one (1) week without returning home shall be allowed actual cost notto exceed thirteen dollars (\$13) per week for laundry and dry cleaning for each week after the first week.

Section 5. Meal Allowances.

Teachers assigned to be in travel status between the teacher’s temporary or permanent work station and a field assignment shall be reimbursed for the actual cost of meals including a reasonable gratuity under the following conditions:

A. Breakfast.

Breakfast reimbursements may be claimed only if the teacher is on assignment away from their temporary or permanent work station in a travel status overnight.

B. Noon Meal.

Lunch reimbursement may be claimed only if the teacher is performing required work morethan thirty-five (35) miles from their temporary or permanent work station and the work assignment extends over the normal noon meal period.

C. Dinner.

Dinner reimbursement may be claimed only if the teacher is away from their temporary orpermanent work station in a travel status overnight or is required to remain in a travel status until after 7:00 p.m.

D. Reimbursement Amount.

Except for high cost localities identified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the maximum reimbursement for meals including tax and gratuity shall be:

Breakfast	\$11.00
Lunch	\$13.00
Dinner	\$19.00

For high cost localities identified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) (Specifically excluding any cities within Minnesota), the maximum reimbursement for meals shall be:

Breakfast	\$12.00
Lunch	\$15.00
Dinner	\$23.00

E. Meals shall not be reimbursable if a meal is included in the conference, workshop or function the teacher is attending. However, if the teacher has special dietary needs that cannot be met by the conference, workshop or function, the teacher may submit a reimbursement request up to the amount listed in this section. Airplane meals do not constitute a meal.

Section 6. Special Expenses.

When prior approval has been granted by an Appointing Authority, special expenses, such as registration or conference fees and banquet tickets, incurred as a result of State business, shall be paid by the Employer whenever possible, or the teacher shall be reimbursed.

Section 7. Payment of Expenses.

The Appointing Authority shall advance the estimated cost of travel expenses where the anticipated expenses total at least fifty dollars (\$50), provided the teacher makes such a request a reasonable period of time in advance of the travel date. Teachers may request a State issued credit card. If the teachers receive the card, the Appointing Authority and the teacher may mutually agree to use the card in place of the advance. Reimbursements shall be made within two (2) weeks from the time expense reports are submitted to the Appointing Authority.

Section 8. Membership in Professional Organizations.

In each fiscal year, the Appointing Authority will directly pay for or reimburse each teacher in the bargaining unit for the membership dues paid to one (1) professional organization related to the teacher's job, up to a maximum of seventy-five dollars (\$75) each fiscal year, provided the Appointing Authority determines that such funds are available. However, the Appointing Authority will not reimburse membership dues to a teacher for payment to an organization, one of whose purposes is to negotiate terms and conditions of employment of teachers with the Employer.

Section 9. Teacher Initiated Training Reimbursement.

At the discretion of the Appointing Authority, a teacher who participates in teacher-initiated training pursuant to Article 10, Professional Development, Section 2, may be reimbursed for all or a portion of tuition, fees, books, or other required training materials.

ARTICLE 27 – RELOCATION ALLOWANCES

Section 1. Authorization.

When it has been determined by the Appointing Authority that a teacher is required to be transferred or reassigned to a different facility, the cost of moving the teacher shall be paid by the Appointing Authority.

When a teacher must change residence as a condition of employment, the move shall be

considered to be at the initiative and in the best interests of the Employer and the Appointing Authority shall approve the reimbursement of relocation expenses in accordance with the provisions of the Article.

Teachers who are reassigned or transferred to vacant positions in the bargaining unit due to the abolishment of a position, removal to a new location, or removal to another State agency of all or a major portion of the operations of their Appointing Authority, shall receive relocation expenses in accord with the provisions of this Article.

A teacher who is transferred or reassigned at such teacher's request when the transfer or reassignment is for the teacher's sole benefit shall not be entitled to reimbursement for relocation expenses.

Eligibility for reimbursement of relocation expenses shall be limited to those moves where the new work location is at least thirty-five (35) miles or more from the teacher's current work location or changes in residence required by an Appointing Authority as a condition of employment. The provisions of this Article shall not apply to teachers who currently commute thirty-five (35) miles or more to their work location unless the teacher is transferred or reassigned to a new work location which is thirty-five (35) miles or more from the teacher's current work station.

No reimbursement for relocation expense shall be allowed unless the change of residence is completed within six (6) months, or unless other time extension arrangements have been approved by the Appointing Authority.

Section 2. Covered Expenses.

Teachers must have received prior authorization from their Appointing Authority before incurring any expenses authorized by this Article.

- A. **Travel Status.** A teacher eligible for relocation expenses pursuant to Section 1 shall be considered to be in travel status up to a maximum of ninety (90) calendar days or until the date of the move to the new permanent residence, whichever comes first, and shall be allowed standard travel expenses to return to their permanent residence once a week while being lodged at their new station, or, by mutual agreement between the teacher and the Appointing Authority, to travel between their permanent residence and their new work station on a daily basis. If the first option is used, standard travel expenses for the teacher's spouse shall be borne by the Appointing Authority for a maximum of two (2) trips not to exceed a total of seven (7) calendar days during the ninety (90) calendar day period. Teachers shall not receive mileage reimbursement for daily commuting to work from the temporary residence.
- B. **Temporary Living Expenses.** A teacher may be reimbursed for the short-term rental of an apartment, house, or other residence instead of being reimbursed for hotel or motel room rental, with the written approval of the Appointing Authority, provided that the rental rate for the alternative housing is less than or comparable to hotel or motel rates and provided that the rental residence is available to all potential renters. When reviewing requests for

rental of alternative short-term housing, Appointing Authorities may take into account the lower cost of groceries for the teacher compared to reimbursement for restaurant meals.

- C. **Realtor's Fees.** Realtor's fees for the sale of the teacher's domicile, not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), shall be paid by the Appointing Authority.
- D. **Moving Expenses.** The Appointing Authority shall pay the cost of moving and packing the teacher's household goods. The teacher shall obtain no less than two (2) bids for packing and/or moving household goods and approval must be obtained from the Appointing Authority prior to any commitment to a mover to either pack or ship the teacher's household goods. The Appointing Authority shall pay for the moving of house trailers if the trailer is the teacher's domicile, and such reimbursement shall include the cost of transporting support blocks, skirts, and/or other attached fixtures. This provision does not apply to employees whose residence is their permanent work location and their decision to move is not a condition of employment.
- E. **Documented Miscellaneous Expenses.** The teacher shall be reimbursed up to a maximum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the necessary miscellaneous expenses directly related to the move. These expenses may include such items as: disconnecting and connecting appliances and/or utilities, the cost of insurance for property damage during the move, the cost of moving up to two (2) cars, the reasonable transportation costs of the teacher's family to the new work location at the time the move is made, including meals and lodging (expenses for which shall be consistent with the provisions of Article 26, Expense Allowances), or other direct costs associated with rental, purchase, or sale of a residence, including, but not limited to, attorney fees, loan origination fees, abstract fees, title insurance premiums, appraisal fees, credit report fees, government recording and transfer fees, and fees for inspections or other services required by law or local ordinances.

Reimbursable miscellaneous expenses do not include, among others, rental of the teacher's permanent residence, costs for improvements to either the old or new home, reimbursable deposits required in connection with the purchase or rental of the residence, real estate taxes, mortgage interest differentials, points, assessments, homeowner association fees, homeowners or renters insurance, mortgage insurance, hazard insurance, automobile or drivers-license reissue fees, utility or other refundable deposits, boarding of pets, and the purchase of new furnishings or personal effects.

Neither the State of Minnesota nor any of its agencies shall be responsible for any loss or damage to any of the teacher's household goods or personal effects as a result of such a transfer

Section 3. Repayment of Reimbursement.

The Employer may require from the teacher a full repayment of any and all relocation expenses paid to the teacher if the teacher resigns from State service within one (1) year of relocating.

ARTICLE 28 – SEVERANCE PAY

Section 1. Severance Pay.

- A. **Eligibility.** All teachers who have accrued twenty (20) years or more continuous State service shall receive severance pay upon any separation from State service except for discharge for cause based on culpable acts. Teachers with less than twenty (20) years continuous State service shall receive severance pay upon retirement at or after age sixty-five (65); death; or layoff, except for seasonal layoffs. Teachers who separate from State service for reasons other than discharge after ten (10) years of continuous State service and who are immediately entitled, at the time of separation, to receive an annuity under a State Retirement Program shall, notwithstanding an election to defer payment of the annuity, also receive severance pay.

In the case of teachers who work a full scheduled academic year that is less than a full calendar year, such academic year shall be considered a calendar year for the purpose of this Article.

- B. **Severance Pay Amount.** Severance pay shall be based on the teacher's regular rate of pay at the time of separation and shall be forty percent (40%) of the teacher's accumulated but unused sick leave.

Effective the date this contract is approved by the Legislature, teachers who are eligible to receive severance pay will have one hundred percent (100%) of their severance pay placed into the teacher's Post-Retirement Health Care Savings Plan account established by Article 25, Section 15.

Section 2. Resignation.

To qualify for severance pay, a teacher must submit their resignation to the Appointing Authority at least thirty (30) calendar days in advance of the effective date.

Section 3. Reappointment.

Teachers who have been laid off and received severance pay and are reappointed to State service are eligible for additional severance only if they meet the continuous State service requirement.

Teachers who have received severance as a result of continuous State service and are reappointed to State service are eligible for additional severance upon separation.

Severance for eligible teachers returning to state service shall be computed upon the difference between the amount of accumulated but unused sick leave restored to the teacher's credit at the time the teacher was reappointed and the amount of accumulated but unused sick leave at the time of the teacher's separation.

Section 4. Payment.

For budget reasons, an Appointing Authority may elect to distribute the severance payment over a period of up to two (2) years from the date of separation. If the teacher dies before all of the severance pay has been disbursed, the balance due shall be paid to a named beneficiary, if any, or to the teacher's estate.

ARTICLE 29 – WORK RULES

The Appointing Authority agrees to meet and confer with the Association on changes in work rules as far in advance as practicable.

ARTICLE 30 – MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

It is recognized that, except as expressly stated herein, the Employer shall retain whatever rights and authority are necessary for it to operate and direct the affairs of the Employer in all of its various aspects, including but not limited to, the educational policies of the Employer; the right to direct the teachers; to plan, direct, and control all the operations and services of the Employer; to determine the methods, means, organization, and number of personnel by which such operations and services are to be conducted; to assign teachers; to transfer teachers; to schedule working hours; to evaluate teachers; to determine whether goods or services should be made or purchased; to hire, promote, demote, suspend, discipline, discharge, or relieve teachers due to lack of work or other legitimate reasons; to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations that are uniformly applied and uniformly enforced; and to change or eliminate existing methods, equipment, or facilities. Any term or condition of employment not specifically established by this Agreement shall remain solely within the discretion of the Employer to modify, establish, or eliminate.

ARTICLE 31 – JOB SAFETY

Section 1. General.

It shall be the policy of the Appointing Authority to provide for the safety of its teachers by providing safe working conditions, safe work areas and safe work methods. In the application of this policy, the Appointing Authority shall provide the teacher with adequate training in necessary safety practices. The Appointing Authority shall also provide and maintain clean, sanitary restrooms and eating facilities. It shall be the responsibility of the teacher to use all provided safety equipment and procedures and to cooperate in all safety and accident prevention programs.

Section 2. Safety Committee.

Each Appointing Authority shall establish at least one safety committee which shall be comprised of at least one Association appointed representative and representatives from other bargaining units. The Appointing Authority may appoint a number of representatives equal to the number of bargaining unit representatives. The Safety Committee shall meet at least semi-annually.

Additional meetings may be called by the Safety Officer, Association, or the Appointing Authority. All Safety Committee meetings shall be held during normal working hours without loss of pay to the members.

The function of the Safety Committee shall be to review reports of property damage, personal injury accidents, and alleged hazardous working conditions; provide support for a strong safety program; and review and recommend safety policies to the Appointing Authority. Teachers shall bring all unsafe working conditions or equipment to the attention of the immediate supervisor and/or the Safety Committee.

Section 3. Safety Equipment.

The Appointing Authority agrees to provide and maintain, without cost to the teacher, such safety equipment and protective equipment as is required as a condition of employment by the Appointing Authority or OSHA.

Section 4. Accident Reports.

All teachers who are injured or are involved in an accident during the course of their employment shall file an accident report on forms furnished by the Appointing Authority, no matter how slight the incident. A copy of the accident report form shall be furnished to the Safety Committee, with identifying private data deleted. All such injuries shall be reported to the teacher's immediate supervisor and any necessary medical attention shall be arranged immediately. The Appointing Authority shall provide assistance to teachers in filling out any necessary Workers' Compensation forms, when requested.

ARTICLE 32 – STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS

Section 1. Lock-Outs.

No lock-out of a teacher or group of teachers shall be engaged in, sanctioned or supported by the Employer or its representatives during the term of this Agreement.

Section 2. Strikes.

The Association agrees that it will not promote or support any strike as defined in Minnesota Statutes 179A.03, Subdivision 16, except as provided in Minnesota Statutes 179A.18. Any teacher who knowingly violates the provisions of this Section may be discharged or otherwise disciplined.

ARTICLE 33 – EMPLOYEE MOBILITY

Teachers may participate in an Inter-Agency Employee Mobility assignment pursuant to Administrative Procedure 1.1 and may participate in an Interchange of Government Employees pursuant to Minn. Stats. 15.51-15.59.

ARTICLE 34 – VOLUNTARY REDUCTION IN HOURS

Section 1. Voluntary Reduction in Hours.

The Appointing Authority may allow a teacher to take an unpaid leave of absence or reduce their hours if the Appointing Authority determines that the following conditions are met:

1. An existing or projected budget problem exists;
2. Granting an unpaid leave of absence would help alleviate the projected budget problem;
3. Staffing needs can continue to be met; and
4. Other unpaid leaves of absence, other than personal leave, are not applicable to the situation.

If it is necessary to limit the number of teachers in a work unit on unpaid leave at the same time, leave shall be granted on the basis of state seniority.

Section 2. Benefits.

Teachers taking leaves of absence under this Article shall continue to accrue vacation and sick leave and be eligible for paid holidays and insurance benefits equivalent to what the teacher would earn if they had not voluntarily reduced their hours or taken an unpaid leave. If a leave of absence is for one (1) full pay period or longer, any holiday pay shall be included in the first payroll period warrant after return from the leave of absence.

ARTICLE 35 – SAVINGS CLAUSE

This Agreement is intended to be in conformity with all applicable and valid federal and state laws and rules and regulations thereof. In the event that any provision of this Agreement is found to be inconsistent with existing statutes or rules or regulations promulgated thereunder, the provisions of such statutes or ordinances shall prevail and if any provision herein is found to be invalid or unenforceable by court or other authority having jurisdiction, then such provision shall be inoperative but all other valid provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 36 – COMPLETE AGREEMENT AND WAIVER

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining, and that the understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement. Therefore, the Employer and the Association, 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 subject or matter may not have been within the knowledge of contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time that they negotiated or signed this Agreement. It is further acknowledged that by mutual agreement of the parties to this Agreement modifications may be made to this Agreement provided such modifications are reduced to writing, signed by the parties to this Agreement, and contain a statement that the changes are mutually agreed to and that the parties intend the modifications to be a part of this Agreement. This clause shall not prevent the Employer or its Appointing Authorities from initiating changes during the life of the contract, nor shall it bar the Association from bargaining over such changes if they constitute mandatory terms and conditions of employment.

ARTICLE 37 – DURATION

The provisions of this Agreement cancel and take place of all previous Agreements and shall become effective the 14th day of January 2026 and shall remain in full force and effect through the 30th day of June 2027.

This Agreement shall be automatically renewed from biennium to biennium thereafter unless either party shall notify the other, in writing, no later than January 1st of oddnumbered years, that it desires to modify this Agreement. Negotiations concerning modifications of this Agreement shall commence after such notice has been given.

The terms of this Agreement shall continue in effect and shall be enforceable upon both parties during the period after the Agreement expires and prior to the date when the right to strike matures and for such additional time as may be agreed to in writing by the parties.

In witness thereof, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be signed by their respective representatives this 13th day of January 2026.

FOR THE ASSOCIATION

Brandon Hennager
SRSEA

[Erin Azer](#) 1-13-26

Erin Azer
Education Minnesota Representative

FOR THE EMPLOYER

Erin Campbell
Commissioner of Minnesota Management
and Budget

Blake Chaffee
Deputy Commissioner of Enterprise
Employee Resources
Minnesota Management and Budget

Jennifer Ziegler
Director of Enterprise Labor Relations
Minnesota Management and Budget

Dori Leland
Enterprise Director of Workforce
Development
Minnesota Management and Budget

Galen Benshoof
Enterprise Director for Employee Insurance
Minnesota Management and Budget

Brian Pilon
Labor Relations Consultant 4
Minnesota Management and Budget

Cassie Tischer
Labor Relations Consultant 3
Minnesota Management and Budget

APPENDIX A – VACATION

Eligible teachers being paid for less than a full eighty (80) hour pay period shall have their vacation accruals prorated according to the rate table listed below:

HOURS OF VACATION ACCRUED DURING EACH PAYROLL PERIOD OF LENGTH OF SERVICE

No. Hours Worked During Pay Period	0 thru 5 years	After 5 thru 8 years	After 8 thru 12 years	After 12 thru 18 years	After 18 thru 25 years	After 25 thru 30 years	After 30 years
Less than 9½	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At least 9½, but less than 19½	¾	1	1¼	1½	1½	1¾	1¾
At least 19½, but less than 29½	1	1¼	1¾	2	2	2¼	2¼
At least 29½, but less than 39½	1½	2	2¾	3	3	3¼	3½
At least 39½, but less than 49½	2	2½	3½	3¾	4	4¼	4½
At least 49½, but less than 59½	2½	3¼	4½	4¾	5	5½	5¾
At least 59½, but less than 69½	3	3¾	5¼	5¾	6	6½	6¾
At least 69½, but less than 79½	3½	4½	6¼	6¾	7	7½	8
At least 79½	4	5	7	7½	8	8½	9

APPENDIX B – SICK LEAVE

Eligible teachers being paid for less than a full eighty (80) hour pay period shall have sick leave accruals prorated according to the rate schedule indicated below:

HOURS OF SICK LEAVE ACCRUED DURING EACH PAYROLL PERIOD OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE

Number of Hours Worked During Pay Period	Number of Hours Accrued
At least ¼ but less than 9 ½	.25
Less than ¼	0
At least 9½, but less than 19½	.75
At least 19½, but less than 29½	1
At least 29½, but less than 39½	1.5
At least 39½, but less than 49½	2
At least 49½, but less than 59½	2.5
At least 59½, but less than 69½	3
At least 69½, but less than 79½	3.5
At least 79½	4

APPENDIX B-1 – HOLIDAYS

Eligible teachers who normally work less than seventy-two (72) hours per pay period and eligible intermittent teachers shall have their holiday pay prorated on the following basis:

Hours that would have been worked during the pay period had there been no holiday.	Holiday hours earned for each holiday in the pay period.
Less than 9½	0
At least 9½, but less than 19½	1
At least 19½, but less than 29½	2
At least 29½, but less than 39½	3
At least 39½, but less than 49½	4
At least 49½, but less than 59½	5
At least 59½, but less than 69½	6
At least 69½, but less than 72	7
At least 72	8

APPENDIX C-1

SRSEA Salary Schedule 15A, Effective 7/1/25 – 6/30/26

SRSEA SALARY SCHEDULE													
Effective 7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026													
Lane	Comp		Step A 01	Step B 02	Step C 03	Step D 04	Step E 05	Step F 06	Step G 07	Step H 08	Step I 09	Step J 10	Step K 11
1A	1J	Less than BA/BS or without a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	20.99	21.62	22.22	22.84	23.48	24.15	24.78	25.40	25.92	26.54	
1V	1J	Without a valid Minnesota Career Technical Instructor's credential.	20.99	21.62	22.22	22.84	23.48	24.15	24.78	25.40	25.92	26.54	
2A	2J	BA/BS plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	28.53	29.96	31.31	32.61	34.00	35.34	36.71	38.04	39.42	40.70	
2V	2J	Valid Minnesota Career Technical Instructor's credential.	28.53	29.96	31.31	32.61	34.00	35.34	36.71	38.04	39.42	40.70	
3A	3J	BA/BS and 10 additional credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	30.65	31.97	33.30	34.69	36.03	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	
3V	3J	Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential.	30.65	31.97	33.30	34.69	36.03	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	
4A	4J	BA/BS and 20 additional credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	32.62	34.00	35.35	36.69	38.02	39.42	40.70	42.11	43.44	44.76	
4V	4J	Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 10 additional credits.	32.62	34.00	35.35	36.69	38.02	39.42	40.70	42.11	43.44	44.76	
5A	5J	BA/BS and 30 additional credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	34.69	36.03	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	
5V	5J	Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 20 additional credits.	34.69	36.03	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	

SRSEA SALARY SCHEDULE
Effective 7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026

Lane	Comp	Step A 01	Step B 02	Step C 03	Step D 04	Step E 05	Step F 06	Step G 07	Step H 08	Step I 09	Step J 10	Step K 11
6A	6K	36.03	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	50.74
		MA or MS degree or completion of a Fifth Year Program and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18, or a BA or BS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License plus 40 additional credits.										
6V	6K	36.03	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	50.74
		Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 30 additional credits.										
7A	7K	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	49.49	51.47
		MA/MS and 10 additional graduate credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										
7V	7K	37.31	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	49.49	51.47
		Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 40 additional credits.										
8A	8K	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	49.49	50.87	52.76
		MA/MS and 20 additional graduate credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										
8V	8K	38.68	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	49.49	50.87	52.76
		Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 50 additional credits.										

SRSEA SALARY SCHEDULE
Effective 7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026

Lane	Comp	Step A 01	Step B 02	Step C 03	Step D 04	Step E 05	Step F 06	Step G 07	Step H 08	Step I 09	Step J 10	Step K 11
		additional credits										
9A	9K	40.05	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	49.49	50.87	52.19	54.19
		MA/MS and 30 additional graduate credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher’s license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										
10A	10K	41.39	42.77	44.11	45.45	46.81	48.12	49.49	50.87	52.19	54.19	55.42
		Doctoral Degree plus a valid Minnesota Teacher’s license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										

APPENDIX C-2

SRSEA Salary Schedule 15A, Effective 7/1/26 – 6/30/27

SRSEA SALARY SCHEDULE													
Effective 7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027													
Lane	Comp		Step A 01	Step B 02	Step C 03	Step D 04	Step E 05	Step F 06	Step G 07	Step H 08	Step I 09	Step J 10	Step K 11
1A	1J	Less than BA/BS or without a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	21.36	22.00	22.61	23.24	23.89	24.57	25.21	25.84	26.37	27.00	
1V	1J	Without a valid Minnesota Career Technical Instructor's credential.	21.36	22.00	22.61	23.24	23.89	24.57	25.21	25.84	26.37	27.00	
2A	2J	BA/BS plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	29.03	30.48	31.86	33.18	34.60	35.96	37.35	38.71	40.11	41.41	
2V	2J	Valid Minnesota Career Technical Instructor's credential.	29.03	30.48	31.86	33.18	34.60	35.96	37.35	38.71	40.11	41.41	
3A	3J	BA/BS and 10 additional credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	31.19	32.53	33.88	35.30	36.66	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	
3V	3J	Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential.	31.19	32.53	33.88	35.30	36.66	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	
4A	4J	BA/BS and 20 additional credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	33.19	34.60	35.97	37.33	38.69	40.11	41.41	42.85	44.20	45.54	
4V	4J	Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 10 additional credits.	33.19	34.60	35.97	37.33	38.69	40.11	41.41	42.85	44.20	45.54	
5A	5J	BA/BS and 30 additional credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license.	35.30	36.66	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	
5V	5J	Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 20 additional credits.	35.30	36.66	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	

SRSEA SALARY SCHEDULE
Effective 7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027

Lane	Comp	Step A 01	Step B 02	Step C 03	Step D 04	Step E 05	Step F 06	Step G 07	Step H 08	Step I 09	Step J 10	Step K 11
6A	6K	36.66	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	51.63
		MA or MS degree or completion of a Fifth Year Program and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18, or a BA or BS degree and a valid Minnesota Teacher's License plus 40 additional credits.										
6V	6K	36.66	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	51.63
		Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 30 additional credits.										
7A	7K	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	50.36	52.37
		MA/MS and 10 additional graduate credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										
7V	7K	37.96	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	50.36	52.37
		Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 40 additional credits.										
8A	8K	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	50.36	51.76	53.68
		MA/MS and 20 additional graduate credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher's license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										
8V	8K	39.36	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	50.36	51.76	53.68
		Five-year Career Technical Instructor's credential plus 50 additional credits.										

SRSEA SALARY SCHEDULE
Effective 7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027

Lane	Comp	Step A 01	Step B 02	Step C 03	Step D 04	Step E 05	Step F 06	Step G 07	Step H 08	Step I 09	Step J 10	Step K 11
		additional credits										
9A	9K	40.75	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	50.36	51.76	53.10	55.14
		MA/MS and 30 additional graduate credits plus a valid Minnesota Teacher’s license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										
10A	10K	42.11	43.52	44.88	46.25	47.63	48.96	50.36	51.76	53.10	55.14	56.39
		Doctoral Degree plus a valid Minnesota Teacher’s license or a license in applicable fields for employees identified under Minn. Stat. 179A.03, subd. 18.										

APPENDIX D-1

Unit 215 Special Teachers Job Titles and Salaries as of July 1, 2025

SRSEA Unit 15 Job Titles and Salaries as of July 1, 2025

JOB CODE	JOB TITLE	GRID	BARG	COMP	MINIMUM HOURLY	MAXIMUM HOURLY
008670	Arts Education Teacher 1	15A	215	01J	20.99	26.54
008075	Arts Education Teacher 10	15A	215	10K	41.39	55.42
008671	Arts Education Teacher 2	15A	215	02J	28.53	40.70
008675	Arts Education Teacher 3	15A	215	03J	30.65	42.77
008676	Arts Education Teacher 4	15A	215	04J	32.62	44.76
008677	Arts Education Teacher 5	15A	215	05J	34.69	46.81
008678	Arts Education Teacher 6	15A	215	06K	36.03	50.74
008679	Arts Education Teacher 7	15A	215	07K	37.31	51.47
008680	Arts Education Teacher 8	15A	215	08K	38.68	52.76
008796	Arts Education Teacher 9	15A	215	09K	40.05	54.19
003952	Lic Ther Teach Prof Ma/Ms+10gr	15A	215	07K	37.31	51.47
003953	Lic Ther Teach Prof Ma/Ms+20gr	15A	215	08K	38.68	52.76
003954	Lic Ther Teach Prof Ma/Ms+30gr	15A	215	09K	40.05	54.19
003955	Lic Ther Teach Prof: Doctoral	15A	215	10K	41.39	55.42
003951	Lic Ther Teach Prof: Ma/Ms/5yr	15A	215	06K	36.03	50.74
003901	Music Therapist School Distric	15A	215	06K	36.03	50.74
003942	Special Teacher: Doctoral	15A	215	10K	41.39	55.42
000685	Special Teacher: Ma/Ms/5yr+Lic	15A	215	06K	36.03	50.74
002385	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr	15A	215	03J	30.65	42.77
000690	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+10	15A	215	04J	32.62	44.76
002386	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+20	15A	215	05J	34.69	46.81
002708	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+30	15A	215	06K	36.03	50.74
003932	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+40	15A	215	07K	37.31	51.47

JOB CODE	JOB TITLE	GRID	BARG	COMP	MINIMUM HOURLY	MAXIMUM HOURLY
003982	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+50	15A	215	08K	38.68	52.76
000683	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic	15A	215	02J	28.53	40.70
002382	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+10	15A	215	03J	30.65	42.77
000684	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+20	15A	215	04J	32.62	44.76
002383	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+30	15A	215	05J	34.69	46.81
002707	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+40	15A	215	06K	36.03	50.74
000689	Special Teacher:CarTecCr	15A	215	02J	28.53	40.70
002384	Special Teacher:Ma/Ms+Lic+10gr	15A	215	07K	37.31	51.47
000686	Special Teacher:Ma/Ms+Lic+20gr	15A	215	08K	38.68	52.76
003701	Special Teacher:MA/MS+Lic+30gr	15A	215	09K	40.05	54.19
000687	Special Teacher:No Degree/Lic	15A	215	01J	20.99	26.54

APPENDIX D-2

Unit 215 Special Teachers Job Titles and Salaries as of July 1, 2026

SRSEA Unit 15 Job Titles and Salaries as of July 1, 2026

JOB CODE	JOB TITLE	GRID	BARG	COMP	MINIMUM HOURLY	MAXIMUM HOURLY
008670	Arts Education Teacher 1	15A	215	01J	21.36	27.00
008075	Arts Education Teacher 10	15A	215	10K	42.11	56.39
008671	Arts Education Teacher 2	15A	215	02J	29.03	41.41
008675	Arts Education Teacher 3	15A	215	03J	31.19	43.52
008676	Arts Education Teacher 4	15A	215	04J	33.19	45.54
008677	Arts Education Teacher 5	15A	215	05J	35.30	47.63
008678	Arts Education Teacher 6	15A	215	06K	36.66	51.63
008679	Arts Education Teacher 7	15A	215	07K	37.96	52.37
008680	Arts Education Teacher 8	15A	215	08K	39.36	53.68
008796	Arts Education Teacher 9	15A	215	09K	40.75	55.14
003952	Lic Ther Teach Prof Ma/Ms+10gr	15A	215	07K	37.96	52.37
003953	Lic Ther Teach Prof Ma/Ms+20gr	15A	215	08K	39.36	53.68
003954	Lic Ther Teach Prof Ma/Ms+30gr	15A	215	09K	40.75	55.14
003955	Lic Ther Teach Prof: Doctoral	15A	215	10K	42.11	56.39
003951	Lic Ther Teach Prof: Ma/Ms/5yr	15A	215	06K	36.66	51.63
003901	Music Therapist School Distric	15A	215	06K	36.66	51.63
003942	Special Teacher: Doctoral	15A	215	10K	42.11	56.39
000685	Special Teacher: Ma/Ms/5yr+Lic	15A	215	06K	36.66	51.63
002385	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr	15A	215	03J	31.19	43.52
000690	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+10	15A	215	04J	33.19	45.54
002386	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+20	15A	215	05J	35.30	47.63
002708	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+30	15A	215	06K	36.66	51.63
003932	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+40	15A	215	07K	37.96	52.37
003982	Special Teacher:5yrCarTecCr+50	15A	215	08K	39.36	53.68

JOB CODE	JOB TITLE	GRID	BARG	COMP	MINIMUM HOURLY	MAXIMUM HOURLY
000683	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic	15A	215	02J	29.03	41.41
002382	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+10	15A	215	03J	31.19	43.52
000684	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+20	15A	215	04J	33.19	45.54
002383	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+30	15A	215	05J	35.30	47.63
002707	Special Teacher:Ba/Bs+Lic+40	15A	215	06K	36.66	51.63
000689	Special Teacher:CarTecCr	15A	215	02J	29.03	41.41
002384	Special Teacher:Ma/Ms+Lic+10gr	15A	215	07K	37.96	52.37
000686	Special Teacher:Ma/Ms+Lic+20gr	15A	215	08K	39.36	53.68
003701	Special Teacher:MA/MS+Lic+30gr	15A	215	09K	40.75	55.14
000687	Special Teacher:No Degree/Lic	15A	215	01J	21.36	27.00

APPENDIX E – REQUEST FOR LANE CHANGE

Teacher Name:

Lane being applied for: _____

Courses to be applied for lane change and criterion or criteria under which request being made (refer to Article 25, Section 8, Subd. A(1) and/or (2)):(Attach documentation)

I request that the above courses be applied for a lane change in accordance with the labor agreement between the State of Minnesota and the S.R.S.E.A.

Signature

Date Submitted

FOR APPOINTING AUTHORITY USE

Approved _____

Date Received _____

Not Approved _____

Reason If Not Approved:

Appointing Authority or Designee

Date Approved

APPENDIX F – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF CREDIT

Teacher Name: _____

College, University, or Sponsor: _____

Department: _____

Course or program and criterion or criteria under which request being made (refer to Article 25, Section 8, Subd. A(1) and/or (2)):

Title: _____

Date(s): _____

Number of Credits: semester _____ quarter _____ or Number of Local Credit clock hours: _____

Course or Program Description: _____

Explain the value of this course or program to the Institution's Education Program, if applicable:

I affirm that the above information is correct and hereby request that this credit be approved for utilization in accordance with the labor agreement between the State of Minnesota and the State Residential Schools Education Association.

Signature

Date Submitted

Approved Not Approved

Reasons, If Not Approved: _____

Appointing Authority or Designee

Date Approved

APPENDIX G – CREDIT DOCUMENTATION FORM

CERTIFICATION OF SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF COLLEGE CLASS

NAME OF STUDENT _____ DATE _____

EMPLOYING FACILITY _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT

COURSE NUMBER

COURSE TITLE

_____ GRADUATE

_____ UNDERGRADUATE

CREDIT HOURS:

Semester _____

Quarter _____

This is to certify that the above-named student has satisfactorily completed this course.

INSTRUCTOR _____ DATE _____

APPENDIX H – EDUCATION GRANT FORM

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

STATE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

The following criteria must be met for a lump sum award to teachers who successfully secure education grants:

- 1. The grant must benefit students at the teacher's facility/institution/agency.*
- 2. The grant must have been written on the teacher's own time, outside their normal job duties.*
- 3. If more than one teacher is involved in writing the grant, the lump sum award is to be shared equally between the teachers.*

Name: _____ Teacher EID: _____

Institution/Facility: _____

Grant Name: _____

Describe purposes of grant and how it will benefit students at the teacher's institution/facility/agency:

Amount of Grant: \$ _____

Grant Dates: _____

Grantor: _____

Amount of Lump Sum Award Authorized: \$ _____

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Supervisor

Date

For Fiscal Services Use Only

Employee ID	Expense Group ID	Fund
-------------	------------------	------

Expense Type	Amount	Date Paid
Agency	ORG	Appr.

APPENDIX I – THE PERPICH CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION

This supplemental agreement shall apply to Unit 15 teachers at the Perpich Center for Arts Education (“PCAE”).

ARTICLE 1: Meet and Confer.

The provisions of Article 7, Meet and Confer, are supplemented by the following provision.

Section 1. Agency Policies. Policies related to faculty responsibilities shall be discussed by a Meet and Confer Committee. Each faculty member shall be given a copy of agency policies. New or amended policies shall be distributed to faculty members upon adoption.

ARTICLE 2: Calendar and Hours of Work

The provisions of Article 8, Hours of Work, are supplemented by the following provision.

Section 1. Prior to the establishment of the academic calendar and daily schedule for the Perpich Center for Arts Education, the Appointing Authority shall meet and confer with the Local Association to discuss its content. Once the Appointing Authority has established the academic calendar, any changes shall be preceded by a meet and confer with the Local Association.

Section 2. Arts Education Teachers who are involved in the actual performance of a Perpich Center for Arts Education production are not eligible for overtime compensation.

Section 3. Teachers shall have three (3) planning days at the beginning of the school year, before classes begin, and one (1) planning day between semesters. These planning days shall not include any scheduled meetings or committee work.

ARTICLE 3: Teacher Assignments

The provisions of Article 9, Teacher Assignments, are supplemented by the following.

Arts Education Teachers hired by the Perpich Center for Arts Education may be hired as either licensed or unlicensed teachers.

ARTICLE 4: Seniority List

The provisions of Article 14, Section 2.B., is supplemented by the following.

The seniority list shall be completed in a format as found in Appendix M and shall include the FTE equivalent to which the teacher has been assigned at the time of distribution.

ARTICLE 5: Layoff

The provisions of Article 15, Layoff, are supplemented by the following provisions.

1. All teachers shall be laid off only for reasons of fiscal necessity and not for disciplinary reasons. Further, they shall be laid off consistent with the principles of seniority.

2. All teachers shall have all discharge rights provided in Article 16 of the Labor Agreement between the parties.
3. The above rights will be granted to any and all teachers, including incumbents, who are members of the Professional State Residential Instructional Unit 15 at Perpich Center for Arts Education Schools, either full-time or part-time, and who have completed a probationary period of one (1) academic year if already tenured in a K-12 public school, or two (2) academic years for all others.
4. Arts Education Teachers who are on mobility leave from an independent school district under Minnesota Statutes 15.52 shall be given an indication of their continued employment status by January 10th preceding the start of the next regular school year.
5. **Ability to Bump.** Upon the PCAE's decision to reduce or eliminate a SRSEA staff position, the laid off teacher's ability to bump other SRSEA staff members within their seniority unit will be determined by:
 - a. Seniority in the SRSEA local unit
 - b. Licensure to teach in the program area
6. **Seniority.** Seniority is documented by the local SRSEA seniority list maintained by PCAE. Part-time teaching time is prorated according to the formula set forth in the SRSEA master contract.

ARTICLE 6: Vacation Leave

The provisions of Article 19, Vacation Leave, are supplemented by the following provisions.

Length of service may also include time spent in other formal teaching positions as stated below:

A teacher who is appointed to or occupies a position covered by this agreement within three (3) academic years of separation from formal teaching or professional artistic positions may, at the discretion of the Appointing Authority, transfer length of service credit from such positions for purposes of vacation accrual. Any increase in the vacation accrual rate which is the result of the Appointing Authority decision, shall commence the pay period after the date of the Appointing Authority decision. Determinations made under this provision are not arbitrable under this agreement.

Mandatory vacation leave that teachers are required to take during official school breaks shall not exceed four (4) days per academic year. The Appointing Authority shall notify the Local Association no later than March 1 of each fiscal year if it will be requiring the use of vacation during official school breaks.

Mandatory vacation leave may also be used on noncontact days during the academic year, excluding required staff or department meeting days.

ARTICLE 7: Balancing

The provisions of Article 8 are supplemented by the following provisions.

Each year, Perpich Center for Arts Education teachers shall be permitted to carry up to thirty-two (32) hours of balance time into the following fiscal year. These hours must be used no later than December 31 of the new academic year, excluding required staff or department meeting days.

ARTICLE 8: Holidays

The provisions of Article 21, Holidays, are supplemented by the following provisions.

Section 1. Teachers will not normally be scheduled to work on the listed holidays in Article 21 except that the Appointing Authority may designate an alternate day for the observance of Veterans’ Day.

ARTICLE 9: Salaries

The provisions of Article 25, Salaries, are supplemented by the following provisions.

Arts Education Teachers shall qualify for lane changes on the basis of a combination of education and work experience that is approved in advance by the Appointing Authority. Denials shall not be arbitrable.

ARTICLE 10: Extra Curricular Assignments

Section 1. Assignments to extracurricular activities that are in addition to normal teaching assignments shall first be made from volunteers within the institution. The appointing authority retains the right to discontinue any of the activities and the right to fill or not fill vacancies.

Perpich Arts High School:

Admissions Review	\$42/hour
Event Chaperones	\$32/hour (2 hour minimum)
Student Government	\$2,200
Gala	\$1,560
Yearbook	\$3,800
Advisory Program	\$2,100*

*(PILOT PROGRAM) Sunsets upon implementation of the 2027-2029 contract.

Section 2. At the Appointing Authority’s discretion, teachers assigned to supervise students on an overnight trip shall receive a travel stipend of \$100 per day, Monday through Friday, in addition to their regular pay of up to eight (8) hours per day. When the overnight trip extends to include Saturday and/or Sunday, the teacher shall receive a travel stipend of \$200 each weekend day. This provision will sunset upon implementation of the 2027-2029 agreement.

ARTICLE 11: Sabbatical Leave

The provisions of Article 18, Section 4.E are supplemented by the following:

All requests for a sabbatical leave shall be submitted to the Perpich Center for Arts Education Director. An application for such a leave may not be unreasonably denied. A teacher may appeal in writing a rejection of a leave to the Executive Director or their designee. The appeal must be submitted within thirty (30) days of the rejection.

ARTICLE 12: Summer School Assignments (Pilot)

In the event that summer school programs and classes are offered during periods outside the designated calendar work year, Perpich teachers shall be given the first opportunity to propose and teach such classes, on a voluntary basis. If there are insufficient internal proposals, or the proposals do not adequately address the agency's mission and goals for these programs, the agency may then contract with outside artists and teachers. This provision will sunset upon implementation of the 2027-2029 Agreement.

APPENDIX J – MINNESOTA STATE ACADEMIES

MINNESOTA STATE ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND AND MINNESOTA STATE ACADEMY FOR THE DEAF

This Supplemental Agreement shall apply to Unit 15 teachers at the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind and the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf.

ARTICLE 1: Hours of Work.

The provisions of Article 8, Hours of Work, are supplemented by the following provision:

Section 1. Prior to the establishment of the academic calendar for the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind and the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf, the Appointing Authority shall meet and confer with the Local Association to discuss its content. In addition, a representative from each campus will be invited to participate in the committee responsible for setting the academic calendar. Once the Appointing Authority has established the academic calendar, any changes shall be preceded by a meet and confer with the Local Association. The parties shall meet and confer, after the MSA Board approves the academic calendar, to discuss the schedule for those positions requiring additional workdays, as determined by the Appointing Authority, which shall be established by May 1.

The provisions of Article 8, Section 3 is supplemented by the following provision:

Section 2. Preparation Time Pilot. The Appointing Authority may adjust the teachers' daily preparation period to less than sixty (60) minutes of uninterrupted preparation if the Appointing Authority provides a preparation period of at least one (1) full class period during the day with additional time provided during the teacher's scheduled workday. Early childhood, elementary and elective teachers will receive the equivalent of one (1) full class period as scheduled for middle and high school teachers. This provision will sunset upon implementation of the 2027-2029 agreement.

The provisions of Article 8, Section 10 is supplemented by the following provision:

Section 3. Prior to the end of each year, the employer shall provide each teacher with the opportunity to indicate their preference for courses that they desire to teach during the next school year. The Employer will utilize those preferences as well as teacher licensure areas, qualifications, strengths, training, and compatibility with students in developing the class schedule and communicate new schedules with teachers with as much notice as possible. If there are two (2) teachers or more with similar qualifications and strengths who have expressed interest in the same course, seniority will also be considered in determining teacher schedules.

ARTICLE 2: Layoff.

The provisions of Article 15, Layoff, are supplemented by the following provision:

Section 1. Seniority. Notwithstanding the fact that the Minnesota Department of Education and the State Board of Teaching recognize a deaf or hard of hearing and blind or visually impaired license as proper qualifications to teach all subjects at the Minnesota Academy for the Deaf and the Minnesota Academy for the Blind respectively, seniority, bumping rights, and recall from layoff shall be

determined on the basis of subject matter licensure held at the time of layoff.

ARTICLE 3: Vacation Leave.

The provisions of Article 19, Vacation Leave, are supplemented by the following provision:

Section 1. Vacation Usage. Teachers at the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind and the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf shall be permitted to use accumulated vacation leave beyond the specified date ending the academic year. Teachers prior to May 1 of each year shall designate the amount of vacation hours to be used. Use of such accumulated vacation shall not entitle teachers for holiday pay eligibility or conversion of vacation leave to sick leave.

ARTICLE 4: Holidays.

The provisions of Article 21, Holidays, are supplemented by the following provision:

Section 1. Teachers will not normally be scheduled to work on the listed holidays in Article 21 except that the Appointing Authority may designate an alternate day for the observance of Veteran's Day during the development of the academic calendar.

Notwithstanding the above, teachers at Minnesota Academy for the Deaf and Minnesota Academy for the Blind shall be eligible for the Christmas and New Year's holidays provided they are in payroll status on the last scheduled work day prior to the Christmas Break and on the first scheduled work day following the break; however, to be eligible for the Independence Day holiday the teacher(s) must be employed for the summer school session, and Independence Day must fall during the summer session.

Section 2. It is expected that teachers shall normally use their floating holidays during one of the school breaks (summer, winter, spring).

ARTICLE 5: Teacher Assignments.

Section 1. Assignments. All teachers shall participate in curriculum development as assigned by the Appointing Authority. Assignments as determined by the Appointing Authority to participate in curriculum development shall first be made from volunteers. If there are no volunteers, the Appointing Authority shall assign teachers to participate in curriculum development.

If the Appointing Authority determines that curriculum training is mandatory, for all or a specified group of teachers, the training will be paid at the teacher's hourly wage rate for hours spent in the training. The Appointing Authority will make a reasonable effort to schedule mandatory curriculum development training on mutually agreeable dates with teachers.

Section 2. All teachers that are assigned and participate in curriculum development during the summer break shall be compensated at a rate of thirty dollars (\$30.00) an hour.

ARTICLE 6: Extracurricular Activities (ECA) Assignments

Section 1. Assignments. Assignments to extracurricular activities that are in addition to the normal teaching schedule shall first be made from qualified volunteers within the school who are associated

with the activity. The Appointing Authority retains the right to discontinue any of the programs below and to fill or not fill any vacancies. Teachers must re-apply for assignments each year with the exception of the Athletic Director positions.

Section 2. Extracurricular Stipend Schedule.

*Boys’ and Girls’ team coaches of the same sport will be paid the same stipend.

Stipend amounts may be pro-rated based on the number of games or the length of the season, or when the employee is on a leave of absence for more than 15 working days.

ECA stipends for assignments that are not listed in this schedule will be calculated temporarily based on pay scales in similar coaching or sponsor positions, following a meet and confer with the Union and with mutual agreement between the Appointing Authority and the Union.

ECA Positions: Athletic Activities	2025-2027 Minimum	2025 -2027 Maximum
Football (MSAD)- Varsity Head Coach	\$4,692	\$5,607
Football (MSAD)- Varsity Assistant Coach	\$3,284	\$3,925
Football (MSAD) - JV Head Coach	\$2,815	\$3,364
Football (MSAD) - JV Assistant Coach	\$1,971	\$2,355
If Varsity Assistant Coach also serves as JV Head Coach		\$300 Extra
Volleyball (MSAD) - Varsity Head Coach	\$4,692	\$5,607
Volleyball (MSAD) - Varsity Assistant Coach	\$3,284	\$3,925
Volleyball (MSAD) - JV Head Coach	\$2,815	\$3,364
Volleyball (MSAD) - JV Assistant Coach	\$1,971	\$2,355
If Varsity Assistant Coach also serves as JV Head Coach		\$300 Extra
Basketball (MSAD) - Varsity Head Coach	\$3,927	\$4,693
Basketball (MSAD) - Varsity Assistant Coach	\$2,749	\$3,285
Basketball (MSAD) - JV Head Coach	\$2,356	\$2,816
Basketball (MSAD) - JV Assistant Coach	\$1,649	\$1,971
If Varsity Assistant Coach also serves as JV Head Coach		\$300 Extra
Track (MSAD) - Varsity Head Coach	\$3,060	\$3,657
Track (MSAD) - Varsity Assistant Coach	\$2,142	\$2,560

ECA Positions: Athletic Activities	2025-2027	2025 -2027
	Minimum	Maximum
Track (MSAB) - Varsity Head Coach	\$2,000	\$2,390
Track (MSAB) - Varsity Assistant Coach	\$1,400	\$1,673
GoalBall (MSAB) - Varsity Head Coach	\$3,060	\$3,657
GoalBall (MSAB) - Varsity Assistant Coach	\$2,142	\$2,560
Wrestling (MSAB/MSAD) - Varsity Head Coach	\$2,000	\$2,390
Wrestling (MSAB/MSAD) - Varsity Assistant Coach	\$1,400	\$1,673
Cheerleading (MSAD) - Varsity Head Coach (full year – 2 seasons)	\$3,927	\$4,693
Cheerleading (MSAD) – Varsity Assistant Coach (full year – 2 seasons)	\$2,749	\$3,285
Cheerleading (MSAB) - Varsity Head Coach	\$2,000	\$2,390
Cheerleading (MSAB) – Varsity Assistant Coach	\$1,400	\$1,673
Swimming (MSAB) - Varsity Head Coach	\$2,000	\$2,390
Swimming (MSAB) - Varsity Assistant Coach	\$1,400	\$1,673
Bowling (MSAB) – Varsity Head Coach	\$2,000	\$2,390
Bowling (MSAB) – Varsity Assistant Coach	\$1,400	\$1,673
Strength and Conditioning Coach (MSAB/MSAD) (per semester)	\$2,346	\$2,804
E-Sports Head Coach (Flat Stipend)	\$1,020	
E-Sports Assistant Coach (Flat Stipend)	\$714	
Special Olympics Head Coach (Flat Stipend)	\$1,020	
Special Olympics Assistant Coach (Flat Stipend)	\$714	
"C" Team Head Coaches (Flat Stipend)	\$2,000	
"C" Team Assistant Coaches (Flat Stipend)	\$1,400	
Grades K-5 Elementary Head Coaches (Flat Stipend)	\$1,020	
Grades K-5 Elementary Assistant Coaches (Flat Stipend)	\$714	
Athletic Director - (MSAD) (Flat Stipend)	\$6,825	

ECA Positions: Athletic Activities	2025-2027	2025 -2027
	Minimum	Maximum
Assistant Athletic Director - (MSAD) (Flat Stipend)	\$4,778	
Athletic Director - (MSAB) (Flat Stipend)	\$4,095	

ECA Positions: Non-Athletic Activities	2025-2027	2025-2027
	Minimum	Maximum
Academic Bowl Head Coach(MSAD)	\$2,346	\$2,804
Academic Bowl AssistantCoach (MSAD)	\$1,642	\$1,963
ASL/Oratorical Contests Sponsor (MSAD) (Flat Stipend)	\$765	
Class Sponsor – Senior (Flat Stipend)	\$1,326	
Class Sponsor – Junior (Flat Stipend)	\$765	
*Sponsors of other organizations/clubs (Flat Stipend)	\$765	
Choir Sponsor (MSAB) (Flat Stipend)	\$1,765	
Drum Group Sponsor (MSAB) (Flat Stipend)	\$765	
Rock Band Sponsor (MSAB) (Flat Stipend)	\$765	
Close-Up Advisor (MSAD) (Flat Stipend)	\$1,525	
International Studies Club Sponsor (MSAD) (Flat Stipend per semester) (3 semesters)	\$1,000	
MS/HS Drama Director (Flat Stipend)	\$1,887	
MS/HS Drama Assistant Director (Flat Stipend)	\$1,321	
Drama - Voice Interpreters / Audio Describer (if MSA staff interpreters are notavailable)	\$30 per hour	
Elementary Drama Director (Flat Stipend)	\$945	
Elementary Drama Assistant Director (Flat Stipend)	\$662	
Competitions Sponsor (Flat Stipend)	\$1,020	
Competitions Assistant Sponsor (Flat Stipend)	\$714	
Technology Coach (Flat Stipend)	\$1,020	
Speech/Forensics (MSAB) Head Sponsor	\$2,000	\$2,390

Speech/Forensics (MSAB) Assistant Sponsor	\$1,400	\$1,918
Event Coordinator (Day) (Flat Stipend)	\$510	
Event Coordinator (Evening) (Flat Stipend)	\$714	
High School Student Body Government Advisor (Flat Stipend)	\$800	
Middle School Student Body Government Advisor (Flat Stipend)	\$800	
Team Leader (Flat Stipend)	\$2,652	
MSAD Companion/MSAB Chronicles Editor (Flat Stipend)	\$1,326	
Yearbook Sponsor (if outside of classroom) (Flat Stipend)	\$1,326	
Yearbook Sponsor (with assigned class) (Flat Stipend)	\$663	
Summer Transition Program Coordinator (Flat Stipend)	\$2,765	
Camp Coordinator (Preparation) (Flat Stipend)	\$765	
Camp Coordinator (Camp Supervision)	\$1,100 a week	
Camp Staff	\$850 a week	

ECA Positions: Other:	Hourly or Daily Rate
*Drivers Education Instructor (If outside of daily schedule)	\$37.50 per hour
Literacy Night Reader	\$35.00 per hour
*Braille/Blind Awareness Instructor (if licensed teacher)	\$37.50 per hour
Daycare for Events (Parent ASL Classes, etc.)	\$20.00 per hour
*ASL Instructor (If not licensed teacher)	\$27.50 per hour
*ASL Instructor (If licensed teacher and if outside of daily schedule)	\$37.50 per hour
SLPI Team Member	\$35.00 per interview or rating
SLPI Coordinator (Flat Stipend)	\$1,500
Educational Center Tutor (if not licensed teacher)	\$27.50 per hour
Educational Center Tutor (if licensed teacher)	\$37.50 per hour
Special Event Photographer/Media Support	\$22.50 per hour
Videographer/Video Editor	\$37.50 per hour

Chaperone for Home Events (Hours outside of daily schedule)	\$22.50 per hour
Chaperone for Away Events (Saturdays and Sundays)	\$200.00 per day
Chaperone for Away Events (Weekdays)	\$100 per evening/night
Other workers during games (Scorekeeping, Timer, Chain Gang, etc.)	\$15.00 per game
Intermittent Interpreters for Practices or Events / Audio Describer (if MSASTaff interpreters are not available)	\$30.00 per hour

*Clubs must be explicitly approved by the Appointing Authority.

*Hours beyond the normal workday.

ARTICLE 7: Nondiscrimination.

The provisions of Article 5, Section 1, Nondiscrimination, are supplemented by the following provisions:

The Appointing Authority recognizes the importance of modeling best practices for deaf/hard-of-hearing and blind/visually-impaired individuals by making every effort to provide them with equal access to information at the same time as sighted, hearing individuals.

ARTICLE 8: Vacancies.

The provisions of Article 13, Section 5, Reassignment are supplemented by the following provisions:

In the event of an unexpected vacancy or the need arises to make adjustments in a teacher’s assignment after the start of the school year, the Appointing Authority reserves the right to reassign another teacher to positions within the same seniority unit and bargaining unit. Prior to reassigning a teacher, the Appointing Authority shall seek volunteers who have requisite subject matter experience and/or qualifications as determined by the Appointing Authority. In instances where the Appointing Authority has determined that more than one (1) volunteer has the requisite subject matter experience and/or qualifications, the most senior qualified volunteer shall be reassigned. In the event that no teacher volunteers with the requisite subject matter experience and/or qualifications, the Appointing Authority shall reassign the least senior teacher with the requisite subject matter experience and/or qualifications.

By mutual agreement, the Appointing Authority may reassign the most appropriate teacher given the assignment and circumstances so that student needs are best served.

APPENDIX K – DIRECT CARE AND TREATMENT

Article 16, Wages shall be supplemented as follows:

Incentives. The Appointing Authority may create and use incentive program(s). In order to offer incentives, the Appointing Authority must first develop a procedure that governs the eligibility and parameters of the program and must obtain approval from Minnesota Management and Budget.

APPENDIX L – DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The provisions of Article 19, Vacation Leave are modified by the following:

ARTICLE 1 – Vacation

Protected Vacation Approval Process (PILOT). A teacher request for vacation leave that is four (4) or more consecutive workdays, including holidays, may be submitted at least six (6) months, but no more than twelve (12) months, prior to the start date of the leave. The vacation request will then be anonymously posted for ten (10) working days. If more requests are received during the posting period. The approval will be based on seniority.

After the ten (10) day posting period, the Appointing Authority may approve the leave that shall not be denied later for reasons of seniority. If the request is subsequently cancelled, it must be cancelled in whole. This provision will sunset upon the legislature’s ratification of the 2025- 2027 contract.

The provisions of Article 25, Section 8, Lane Placement are modified by the following:

ARTICLE 2 – Salaries

Military Transcript. Upon hire and at the discretion of the Appointing Authority, all credits earned while in the military that are directly related to current employment may count towards step/lane placement for career technical instructors.

The provisions of Article 13, Vacancies Section 5, Reassignment are modified by the following:

ARTICLE 3 – Temporary Reassignment Across Seniority Units

Intermittent Teachers.

In order to minimize disruption to program operations, the Appointing Authority, with the mutual agreement of the intermittent teacher, may temporarily reassign the teacher to a different seniority unit, provided the reassignment is to a facility located within sixty-five (65) miles of the teacher’s permanent work location. The temporary reassignment is not subject to Article 26 – Expense Allowances, for assignments at facilities that are thirty-five (35) miles or less from the teacher’s permanent work location, or Article 27 – Relocation Allowances.



December 1, 2025

Brandon Hennager
State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
MCF - Moose Lake
1000 Lakeshore Drive
Moose Lake, MN 55767

Dear Mr. Hennager,

During the 2025-2027 round of supplemental negotiations between the Department of Corrections (DOC) and SRSEA, the parties discussed several issues. One topic raised was the participation of teachers in the Cottage Committee Meetings at MCF–Red Wing as part of the interdisciplinary team.

The DOC recognizes the important role that teachers play as part of the interdisciplinary teams at MCF-Red Wing. It is DOC’s intention to continue to invite teachers to the Cottage Committee Meetings for continued interdisciplinary participation.

Sincerely,

Matthew Begansky
DOC Labor Relations Manager

CC: Shauna Bock, Director of Secondary Education
Kris Titus , Principal MCF-Red Wing

Equal Opportunity Employer



December 3, 2021

Chad Schmidt

State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
7600 525th Street
Rush City, Minnesota 55069

Dear Mr. Schmidt,

During the 2021-2023 round of supplemental negotiations between the Department of Corrections and SRSEA, the parties discussed several issues, including Joint Labor Management Committees previously agreed to, SRSEA's proposal regarding a lead teacher, and Appendix O.

The parties agree to continue two separate Joint Labor Management Committees, one for adult basic education teachers and the second for career technical educational teachers. Other bargaining units may participate in the joint labor management meetings if both sides agree to the relevance of their participation. The Joint Labor Management Committees will be to serve as a forum to discuss best practices by discussing new and innovative ideas and meaningful solutions in a constructive and respectful manner. Both parties agree that discussions would not address bargaining agreement issues. The parties agree that the committee shall only meet during the period of the 2021-2023 Labor Agreement.

The parties agreed to meet and confer during the period of the 2021-2023 Labor Agreement to discuss the potential concept of a lead teacher.

The parties agreed to meet and confer during the period of the 2021-2023 Labor Agreement to discuss Appendix O Seniority Roster for teachers with more than one work location.

Sincerely,

Jennifer E. Claseman

Enterprise Director of Labor Relations
Minnesota Management and Budget

CC: Jackie Sovick Lonne, DOC Labor Relations, MMB Classification and Compensation

APPENDIX M – STATUTORY LEAVES

Following are the citations for leaves designated by the Legislature. These leaves are subject to change or repeal. These leaves are not grievable or arbitrable under Article 17 of this contract.

3.088	Leave of Absence to Serve as a Legislator or For Election to a full-time City or County Office.
15.62	Athletic Leave of Absence.
43A.32	Leaves of Absence for Classified Employees Who Become Elected Public Officials or Candidates.
43A.185	Disaster Volunteer Leave.
179A.07, Subd. 6	Elected or Appointed Officials of the Exclusive Representatives.
181.940 - 181.9413	Parenting Leave, School Conference and Activities Leave, and Sick Leave Benefits; Care of Relatives.
181.9445 – 181.9448	Earned Sick and Safe Time
181.945	Bone Marrow Donation Leave.
181.946	Leave for Civil Air Patrol Service.
181.947	Leave for Immediate Family Members of Military Personnel Injured or Killed in Active Service.
181.948	Leave to Attend Military Ceremonies.
192.26, 192.261	Military Service Leave.
181.9456	Organ Donation Leave.
202A.135	Leave Time from Employment; Party Officers; Delegates to Party Conventions.
202A.19	Precinct Caucus Leave.
204B.195	Time Off from Work to Serve as Election Judge.
204C.04	Time Off to Vote in a State Primary Election, a Presidential Primary Election, or an Election to Fill a Vacancy in the Office of United States Senator or United States Representative.

Note: These leaves may be paid or unpaid, depending on the provisions of the applicable statute.

Note: Please see Appendix Q for information on the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

APPENDIX N – SENIORITY ROSTER

Each seniority list shall include the criteria for seniority in that subject area, and a list of all areas of licensure or credentialing held by each teacher on the list. *

(Date of Posting)

(Name of Facility)

Subject: _____
 Criteria: _____

Name	Area of License(s)/ Credential(s)	Date of Hire	Meets Criteria	Currently Assigned	Years of Service in Seniority Unit

Subject: _____
 Criteria: _____

Name	Area of License(s)/ Credential(s)	Date of Hire	Meets Criteria	Currently Assigned	Years of Service in Seniority Unit

Subject: _____
 Criteria: _____

Name	Area of License(s)/ Credential(s)	Date of Hire	Meets Criteria	Currently Assigned	Years of Service in Seniority Unit

*For additional information regarding this form, please refer to Article 14, Seniority.

APPENDIX N-1 – CORRECTIONS SENIORITY ROSTER

State Residential Schools Education Association Seniority Roster

Location: _____

Date: _____

Academic

Name	Current Area(s) of Licensure or Certification if applicable	Most Recent Date of Entry Into SRSEA at DOC	Seniority (years/mos .)	Comments (PT, lay-off, etc.)

Career Technical

Name	Current Area(s) of Credentials	Most Recent Date of Entry Into SRSEA at DOC	Seniority (years/mos .)	Comments (PT, lay-off, etc.)



www.doc.state.mn.us

1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 200 St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
PH 651.361.7300 FAX 651.643.2536 TTY 651.643.3589

equal opportunity employer

APPENDIX O – GLOSSARY

The descriptions found in this glossary are provided for informational purposes only and are not binding upon the parties. In the event of a conflict between any description set forth herein and a definition set forth in the contract/agreement, law, rule, or Administrative Procedure, the terms of that document shall prevail.

Actively at Work - Teachers are “actively at work” if they are on active payroll status and not using paid or unpaid leave.

Administrative Procedures - The procedures of Minnesota Management and Budget developed in accord with M.S. 43A.04, Subd. 4.

Agency - Department, commission, board, institution, or other employing entity of the civil service, in which all positions are under the same appointing authority.

Appointing Authority - A person or a group of persons empowered by the Constitution, statute, or executive order to employ persons in, or to make appointments to positions in the civil service.

Appointment Status - Could be unlimited or limited. See appropriate definitions.

Balancing - A time-management system for professional teachers that provides for the flexibility to schedule, with supervisory approval, work days/weeks other than those defined as normal so as to equitably address the variability in the hours of work often required of a professional teaching position. In contrast to flextime schedules, balancing does not occur on a regular and recurring basis and does not guarantee hour-for-hour time off for extra hours worked. Examples of situations where balancing might be approved include:

- teacher needs to work into the evening on a regular job duty, but could “balance” hours by coming in later the next day, if work schedule permits.
- teacher needs to work on a Saturday on a regular job duty, but could “balance” hours by not working the following Monday, if work schedule permits.
- teacher needs to work several evening hours for conferences early in September, but could “balance” hours by working fewer hours in a different week, if work schedule permits.

Career Technical Credentialing – The process for evaluating an individual’s education and experience in accordance with system-established minimum qualifications for individuals who provide instruction in vocational/technical programs.

Classified Service - All positions now existing or hereafter created in the civil service and not specifically designated unclassified pursuant to M.S. 43A.08 or other enabling legislation.

College Credit - For purposes of this contract, college credits are measured in semester credits. One semester credit is equal to 1.5 quarter credits.

Compensatory Time (“comp time”) - A form of payment for overtime that the teacher may, with supervisory approval, use as a form of paid leave. [See also “overtime.”]

Delegated Authority - The responsibility and accountability given to an agency by Minnesota Management and Budget to perform certain classification and selection functions. This authority may vary from agency to agency.

E.A.P. (Employee Assistance Program) - A service available to all state employees, which provides assistance and referral for a variety of situations including emotional, financial, family, and alcohol or chemical dependency problems.

Emergency Employee - A teacher who is appointed for no more than 45 aggregate work days in any 12 month period for any single Appointing Authority.

Employer - Minnesota Management and Budget, which is considered the Employer of all Executive Branch State employees and employees of the three (3) retirement systems.

Employment Condition - May be full-time, part-time, intermittent or seasonal. See appropriate definitions.

First Report of Injury - Related to Workers' Compensation, a form used for reporting injuries that happen to teachers during the course of performing their job duties.

Full-time Employee - An employee who is normally scheduled to work 80 hours in a biweekly pay period.

Time Schedule - An alternative work schedule available to teachers upon request and with supervisory approval. A flextime schedule consists of recurring and predictable schedules, includes a specific period of time in which all teachers must be at work ("core time") and another larger period of time ("band width") in which teachers may choose to complete their specific work day/week requirements of their position.

F.M.L.A. (Family Medical Leave Act) - Federal law mandating up to 12 weeks of job protected leave to eligible teachers for certain family and/or medical reasons consistent with the Act, relevant State law and collective bargaining agreements/plan.

Incumbent - Teacher currently serving in a job.

Intermittent - An employment condition in which a teacher is called to work as needed, without a schedule.

Job Audit - Process by which a position is reviewed by Minnesota Management and Budget or Appointing Authority to determine the correct classification.

Just Cause - A standard upon which discipline is based.

Limited Appointment - May be emergency, temporary, temporary unclassified or provisional. See appropriate definitions.

MMB (Minnesota Management and Budget) - The Employer of all Executive Branch State employees and employees of the three (3) retirement systems.

Mobility Assignment - Per Administrative Procedure 1.1, voluntary, limited assignments of classified permanent teachers to alternative duties within another state agency/Appointing

Authority, governmental jurisdiction, or private employer. Duration cannot normally exceed two years.

M.S. - Minnesota Statutes.

O.S.H.A. (Occupational Safety and Health Act) - Federal law which governs safety and health issues in the workplace.

Overtime - Payment, in the form of cash or compensatory time, for work performed that has been determined to be a special project. Examples of situations where overtime payment might be approved include:

- a teacher is asked to design a new program, in addition to their regular job duties. This additional assignment might be a special project eligible for overtime.
- a teacher needs to work an extra shift due to special circumstances.

Part-time Employee – An employee who is normally scheduled to work fewer than 80 hours in a biweekly pay period.

P.E.L.R.A. (Public Employee Labor Relations Act) - Minnesota Statute 179A which governs the relationships between public employers and their employees. Provisions include granting public employees the right to organize, requiring public employers to meet and negotiate with public employees and establishing the responsibilities, procedures and limitations of public employment relationships.

Position Description - A document which defines an individual job's duties and responsibilities and the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to perform them.

Provisional Appointment - An appointment authorized when there is no fully qualified person suitable or available for appointment. Appointment may not normally exceed 12 months, but may be extended for persons provisionally appointed to positions requiring licensure or certification where there is a lack of qualified applicants. Person must be qualified in all respects except for completion of a licensure or certification requirement.

Ride-Share - Ride sharing is the practice of sharing rides or transportation, especially by commuters, typically in the form of carpooling and vanpooling. Shared ride programs generally include all forms of carpooling and vanpooling. These can be informal arrangements or formal arrangements made through ride-matching services. Ride-matching services take several forms, such as committed vanpool groups or dynamic ride sharing programs that support real-time ride sharing through short-term instant arrangements enabled by GPS and wireless service.

Reinstatement - The appointment of a former permanent or probationary teacher to a class within four years of the teacher's separation from the class.

Seasonal Appointment - A limited appointment for no more than ten (10) months during any twelve (12) consecutive months with the expectation that the teacher will return to work year after year.

Special Project - Work performed that the supervisor has determined is in addition to an teacher's

normal work duties or workload and is, therefore, eligible for overtime payment.

Shift Differential - A fixed amount of money that is added to a teacher's normal hourly wage when an assigned shift begins before or ends after a specified time of day.

Temporary Appointment - A limited appointment not to exceed 12 months in any 24 month period within any one Appointing Authority.

Temporary Unclassified - A limited unclassified appointment pursuant to M.S. 43A.08, Subd. 2A.

Unclassified Service - All positions specifically designated as not being classified pursuant to M.S. 43A.08 and other enabling legislation.

Unlimited Appointment - An appointment for which there is no specified maximum duration.

Work-Out-Of-Class – Assignment of a teacher to duties in another class, usually for no more than two (2) years. The teacher remains assigned to their original bargaining unit.

APPENDIX P – STIPULATION ON RELEASE OF INFORMATION

STIPULATION

**between
State of Minnesota**

and

State Residential Schools Education Association

In The Matter of a Request to
Release Certain Information from

State Residential Schools Education Association
and

State of Minnesota, Minnesota Management and Budget

The undersigned Parties agree that they shall abide by the following Stipulation:

1. Subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraphs 2 and 3 below, the State will produce, as requested by the State Residential Schools Education Association, the following information the State has determined includes information which is classified as private personnel data on individuals under Minn. Stat. §13.43.
 - a. Bi-weekly report; and
 - b. Quarterly report of active teachers in the bargaining unit.
2. The information identified in paragraph 1 above will be subject to the following restrictions:
 - a. This data shall be used by the State Residential Schools Education Association to conduct elections, notify teachers of fair share fee assessments, implement the

provisions of Minn. Stat. §179A and shall not be disclosed for any other purpose.

- b. The State Residential Schools Education Association agrees to maintain the data and shall not produce or disclose the data to any other person or parties.
 - c. The State Residential Schools Education Association agrees to return the data to the State when it is determined by the State Residential Schools Education Association that the data is dated or replaced and no longer needed. Or, the State Residential Schools Education Association may elect to destroy the data in a manner which assures that the data cannot be retrieved and used in any manner. If the data is destroyed, the State Residential Schools Education Association agrees to inform the State at the time the data is destroyed.
3. The State Residential Schools Education Association shall keep all confidential and private data disclosed to them in accordance with the terms of this Stipulation. The State Residential Schools Education Association and the Employer understand and agree that each will be responsible for its own acts and the results thereof to the extent authorized by law and shall not be responsible for the acts of the other party and the results thereof. The State's liability shall be governed by the provisions of the Minnesota Tort Claims Act, Minn. Stat. §3.736, et. seq., and other applicable law.

The provisions of this Stipulation shall remain in effect until _____.

FOR THE ASSOCIATION

FOR THE EMPLOYER

_____	_____	_____	_____
Chad Schmidt	Date	Myron Frans	Date
President		Commissioner	

APPENDIX Q – STATEWIDE POLICY ON FMLA

HR/LR Policy #1409, Family and Medical Leave Act: https://mn.gov/mmb/assets/1409-fmlapolconsolidatedpdf_tcm1059-321994.pdf

APPENDIX R – SENIORITY UNITS

Below is a list of Seniority Units for Unit 15, the Professional State Residential Instructional Unit, as of the effective date of this Agreement.

- Corrections, Department of (each facility is a Seniority Unit):
 - MCF - Faribault
 - MCF - Lino Lakes

- MCF - Oak Park Heights
- MCF - Red Wing
- MCF - Rush City
- MCF - Shakopee
- MCF - St. Cloud
- MCF - Stillwater
- MCF - Togo
- MCF - Willow River/Moose Lake
- Direct Care and Treatment (each listing below is a separate seniority unit):
 - Minnesota Sex Offender Program – Moose Lake
 - Minnesota Sex Offender Program – St. Peter and Minnesota Security Hospital – St. Peter
- Minnesota State Academies
 - Academy for the Blind
 - Academy for the Deaf
- Perpich Center for Arts Education

The Employer and the Association agree that the above-listed Seniority Units may be added to, subtracted from, merged, or eliminated by agreement between the parties.

APPENDIX S – REQUEST FOR DISCRETIONARY ADJUSTMENT OF VACATION ACCRUAL

I. I am requesting my length of service be adjusted for vacation accrual purposes.

- Prior service with another **public sector** employer, including the United States Armed Forces. *(Note: service in the Armed Forces must have been full time and continuous for at least one (1) year and the supervisor must have been appointed to state service within four (4) years of separation from the Armed Forces)* Please identify each employer and total number of vacation days/weeks:

Number of weeks requested: _____

- Prior **private sector** experience directly related to my current position. Please identify each organization, type of work performed, how the work was related to your current position, and total number of vacation days/weeks.

Number of weeks requested: _____

Total number of months requested: _____

II. Documentation

- I have attached supporting documentation (e.g., letter from previous employer or human resources office or DD214 is required for military service) that confirms my employment history and eligibility for leave.

I am unable to provide documentation regarding my private sector experience because:

III. By signing below, I certify that the information I have provided is true and correct.

Print Name

Signature

Date

For Official Use only

Approved for _____ months

Length of Service Date: _____

Denied

Transaction entered:

Director Signature

Date

APPENDIX T – LETTERS

Letter 1 – Definition of “Academic Year,” December 7, 1995

Letter 2 – Guiding Principles Concerning Climate at the Worksite, September 16, 1999

Letter 3 – MSAD Written Education/Budget, December 1, 2003

Letter 4 – MSAD Workload Concern, December 1, 2003

Letter 5 – Workload Concerns, Adult Correctional Facilities, November 21, 2002

Letter 6 – Equitable Workload and Teaching Assignments at Perpich Center for Arts Education,
September 23, 2015

Letter 7 – Joint Labor Management Committee regarding Teacher Licensing Changes, December
15, 2017

Letter 8 – Joint Labor Management Committee regarding Best Practices – Department of
Corrections, December 6, 2019

Letter 9 – Career Technical Instructor Pay Structure Study – Department of Corrections,
December 15, 2017

Letter 10 – Lead Teacher Concept Meet and Confer, December 6, 2019

Letter 11 – DOC Programming Changes, December 13, 2021

Letter 12 – Pilot Programs, October 22, 2025

Letter 13 – Earned Sick and Safe Time Law, September 17, 2025

Letter 14 – Designating Permanent Work Location (DOC), October 22, 2025

Letter 15 – Teacher’s Vacation Accrual Rate, October 22, 2025

Letter 16 – Artificial Intelligence, October 22, 2025



200 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
651.259.3637
TTY 651.282.2699
www.doer.state.mn.us

December 7, 1995

Ms. Nancy Kjeldahl, Chief Negotiator
1995-97 SRSEA Contract Negotiations
Sauk Centre Correctional Facility

Hwy 302, P.O. Box C

Sauk Centre, MN 56378

Dear Nancy:

This letter is to confirm our understanding regarding the definition of "Academic Year" as it specifically pertains to crediting time spent in other formal teaching positions towards length of service for purposes of vacation accrual. The language in Article 18, Section 1 of this agreement presently reads:

An employee who is appointed to or occupies a position covered by this agreement within three (3) academic years of separation from....

In the above context, and only in the above context, "academic year" shall be defined as September 1 through August 31.

The parties agree that the above definition shall not be extended to other places in the collective bargaining agreement where the term "academic year" is used.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey O. Wade, Chief Negotiator /s/
1995-1997 SRSEA Contract

Letter 1

Equal Opportunity Employer

Minnesota Department of Employee Relations



200 Centennial Office
Building 658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN
55155
651.259.3637

TTY 651.282.2699

www.doer.state.mn.us

September 16, 1999

RE: Guiding Principles Concerning Climate at the Worksite

During the negotiations of the 1999-2001 Labor Agreement, the parties agreed to the following principles concerning climate at the worksite:

- The development of the mission/vision of each site should include input from all relevant parties, including teachers;
- The responsibility to carry out this mission/vision should be shared by both management and teachers;
- The development of expectations for student outcomes should be a joint process between teachers and management;
- The responsibility to meet these student outcomes shall be shared by both management and teachers. These shared expectations should be reflected in routinely refined position descriptions for teachers;
- When there is a need to share duties across bargaining units, a cross-unit team should be established to identify issues and resolve potential conflicts;
- We encourage the establishment of regularly scheduled labor-management committees to address issues, recognize successes, and proactively plan for future needs/challenges;
- When conflicts occur, we encourage the use of a joint, interest-based, facilitated process to resolve the conflict at the lowest possible level. This might include the use of outside assistance, including workplace mediation, mediation by a neutral party, conflict resolution training, or whatever other means appropriately fit the situation. The parties agree that funding of these processes will be through mutual agreement.

Sincerely,

Jeanette June /s/

Chief Negotiator, SRSEA

Katherine L. Megarry /s/

Principal Labor Relations Representative, State of Minnesota

Letter 2

Equal Opportunity Employer

Minnesota Department of Employee Relations



200 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street

St. Paul, MN 55155
651.259.3637

TTY 651.282.2699

www.doer.state.mn.us

December 1, 2003

Donna Reuvers

State Residential Schools Education Association
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

615 Olof Hanson Drive, P.O. Box 308
Faribault, MN 55021

Dear Ms. Reuvers:

During the bargaining process conducted for the 2003-2005 collective bargaining agreement between the parties, the parties agreed that at the request of the Association, each Appointing Authority will agree to meet with Association representatives at least once each year to discuss its written education/staff development budget. The purpose will be to make recommendations regarding the distribution of the available staff development funds.

Sincerely,

Amy J. McKee
Chief Negotiator

2003-2005 SRSEA Contract

Letter 3

Equal Opportunity Employer

Minnesota Department of Employee Relations



200 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
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December 1, 2003

Donna Reuvers

State Residential Schools Education Association
Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf

615 Olof Hanson Drive, P.O. Box 308
Faribault, MN 55021

Dear Ms. Reuvers:

During the bargaining process conducted for the 2003-2005 collective bargaining agreement between the parties, the Association expressed various concerns regarding the increased workload at several locations. We recognize the importance of these concerns to your members. We also acknowledge and respect the value of teachers' work, both inside and outside the classroom.

In addition, we agree that upon the request of the Local Association, an Appointing Authority shall meet within thirty (30) days of the request to discuss concerns and options for potential solutions to address workload issues.

Sincerely,

Amy J. McKee
Chief Negotiator

2003-2005 SRSEA Contract

Letter 4

Equal Opportunity Employer

Minnesota Department of Employee Relations

November 21, 2002

RE: Workload Concerns - Adult Correctional Facilities

As a result of a Statewide Labor/Management Committee with the Department of Corrections (DOC), the parties have agreed to the following principles regarding the workload of teachers at the Adult Correctional Facilities:

1. The DOC will make reasonable efforts to comply with the Department of Children, Families, and Learning guidelines regarding appropriate class size based on ABE functional levels;
2. With advance notice to the local SRSEA president, the DOC agrees to have the State DOC Safety Director, or their designee, visit and evaluate the education work site/facility to address safety and security issues, specifically with respect to class size and physical space;
3. The DOC agrees to review and make recommendations regarding the delivery of Information Technology services to the education department and the IT department at all facilities;
4. The DOC agrees to meet with SRSEA members at the local level to discuss the budgeting process and the allocation of funds to the education program;
5. The DOC will explore the possibility of using the Minnesota Literacy Council to provide training to inmate tutors at each of the facilities; and report findings to local SRSEA teachers;
6. In light of concerns raised regarding the administrative duties of SRSEA teachers, the facility Education Directors will review the type and allocation of administrative duties amongst the education staff. Consideration of revised/modified allocation of those duties will occur at the facility level, in consultation with SRSEA members, and on a case by case basis. The facility Education Directors will report back to the DOC Statewide Education Director with respect to this issue; and
7. The parties encourage the establishment of regularly scheduled joint labor/management committees to resolve any issues or concerns at the lowest possible level. When specific conflicts occur, the parties encourage the teacher(s) to address the conflict at the lowest level, starting with the facility Education Director.

Amy J. McKee
Sr. LR Rep., DOER

Jeanette June
President,
SRSEA

Chuck Kehrberg
Field Rep., Ed.
MN

Letter 5

September 23, 2015

Chad Schmidt

State Residential Schools Education Association
7600 – 525th Street

Rush City, MN 55069

Dear Chad:

As recently discussed at the 2015-2017 round of supplemental negotiations between the Perpich Center for Arts Education and SRSEA, the parties agree to meet and confer to discuss issues related to equitable workload and teaching assignments at Perpich Center for Arts Education as well as Crosswinds Arts and Science School. The parties agree convene a working group made up of teachers, counseling staff, and administration during the 2015-2016 year to discuss and address the issues of equitable workload and teaching assignments. The group shall meet throughout the remainder of the 2015 - 2016 school year with the goal of improving communication and gaining clarification regarding workload and teaching assignments and to recommend solutions to specific problems that are identified to be addressed during the 2016-2017 school year.

Sincerely,

Valerie Darling

Labor Relations Consultant 4 Minnesota
Management and Budget

Letter 6



December 15, 2017

RE: Joint Labor Management Committee (JLMC) regarding Teacher Licensing Changes
Chad Schmidt

State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
7600 – 525th Street

Rush City, MN 55069

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

As recently discussed during the 2017-2019 round of negotiations between the State of Minnesota and the SRSEA, the parties agreed to form a Joint Labor Management Committee to study the impact of the professional/tiered licensing requirements for Minnesota teachers currently under consideration by the State of Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) and, if necessary, to suggest modifications to the Labor Agreement.

This Joint Labor Management Committee will meet as necessary during the 2018-19 fiscal year, with possible extension by mutual agreement.

Sincerely,

Paula Graff

Labor Relations Consultant 4
Minnesota Management and Budget

Letter 7



December 6, 2019

Chad Schmidt

State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
7600 – 525th Street
Rush City, MN 55069

RE: Joint Labor Management Committee regarding Best Practices – Department of Corrections
Dear Mr. Schmidt:

As recently discussed during the 2019-2021 round of supplemental negotiations between the Department of Corrections and the SRSEA, the parties agreed to two separate Joint Labor Management Committees, one for adult basic education teachers and a second for career technical education teachers. Each of these committees will meet once or twice per year. Other bargaining units may participate in joint labor management meetings if both sides agree to the relevance of their participation.

During negotiations it was discussed and understood that the purpose of such a Joint Labor Management Committee would be to serve as a forum to establish best practices by bringing forward new and innovative ideas and meaningful solutions in a constructive and respectful manner. It was agreed by both parties that the committee meetings would not include discussions or disagreements on bargaining agreement issues. It was further understood that the committee shall meet only during the period of the 2019-2021 Labor Agreement.

Sincerely,

Beth Belle Isle
Labor Relations Consultant 4
Minnesota Management and Budget

Letter 8



December 15, 2017

RE: Career Technical Instructor Pay Structure Study – Department of Corrections

Chad Schmidt

State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)

Department of Corrections

7600-525th Street

Rush City, MN 55069

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

As recently discussed during the 2017-2019 round of supplemental negotiations between the Department of Corrections and the SRSEA, the parties agreed to meet and confer to study the pay structure of Career Technical Instructors and to develop a recommendation that will be considered during the next round of bargaining in 2019-2021.

Sincerely,

Paula Graff

Labor Relations Consultant 4

Minnesota Management and Budget

Letter 9



December 6, 2019

Chad Schmidt

State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)

7600 – 525th Street

Rush City, MN 55069

RE: Lead Teacher Concept Meet and Confer

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

During supplemental negotiations for the Department of Corrections for the 2019-2021 Agreement, the parties agreed to meet and confer regarding the potential concept of a lead teacher.

Sincerely,

Beth Belle Isle

Labor Relations Consultant 4

Minnesota Management and Budget

Letter 10



December 13, 2021

Chad Schmidt
State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA) 7600 525th Street
Rush City, Minnesota 55069

RE: DOC Schedules

Dear Chad,

As discussed in our 2021-2023 contract negotiations, the parties agree to the following:

Both parties recognize SRSEA's concerns regarding schedules related to DOC programming. The parties agree to meet and confer regarding DOC's programming changes prior to implementing any programming schedule changes past 6pm.

Regards,

Francis Rojas
Labor Relations Consultant 4
Minnesota Management and Budget

Letter 11



October 22, 2025

Brandon Hennager, President
State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
1000 Lakeshore Drive
Moose Lake, MN 55767

RE: Pilot Programs

Dear Brandon,

As discussed in our 2025-2027 contract negotiations, the parties agree to the following pilots:

Bilingual/Multilingual/Sign Language Differential (Pilot).

At the Appointing Authority's discretion, position(s) that communicate with the public in a recognized and approved language other than English (including American Sign Language (ASL)), on a recurring or specific basis may be eligible for this differential. The use of an additional language must be used to perform an essential function of the position or to support specific events or projects. The required level of fluency is to be determined by the Appointing Authority, and the Appointing Authority may require certification in interpretation or translation, or in the use of ASL, as required by law or industry standards.

- 1. Recurring Basis.** Positions that utilize an additional language on a recurring basis to support an essential function of the position will receive a differential of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per bi-weekly pay period.
- 2. Specific events or projects.** The Appointing Authority will describe the employee's expectations for utilizing their additional language skill (translation, interpretation, or both), and whether the employee will be expected to perform additional language skills during specific events or for special projects. If the additional language will be utilized only for specific events or projects, like public meetings or specific translation projects, the position will be paid a differential of \$1 per hour for each hour performing those specific tasks, paid in .25 hour increments.

If the Appointing Authority determines that the additional language skills are no longer needed, the bilingual differential may be ended at any time. If the employee is transferred, demoted, or promoted, to another position in which the bilingual skill has not been designated, or identified as a business necessity, the differential will cease. The effective date for discontinuation of the bilingual differential will be the first day of the next pay period following the new assignment.

The determination by the Appointing Authority as to which positions are eligible for the bilingual differential, the frequency with which additional language skills are needed, or the discontinuation of the bilingual differential shall not be subject to the grievance or arbitration procedure. The Appointing Authority retains the right to contract out bilingual services as deemed necessary.

This provision becomes effective upon the implementation of the 2025-2027 contract and will sunset upon the implementation of the 2027 – 2029 contract.

Equity Adjustments (Pilot).

Upon request of the Appointing Authority, Minnesota Management and Budget may make equity adjustments and advance incumbents within a range, and/or provide a one-time lump sum of no more than \$2,500 to an individual at the top of their salary range, to maintain internal equity.

- Only those with documented “satisfactory” or better performance are eligible for an equity adjustment.
- Any request for an adjustment under this section must include an explanation of the inequity, and documentation to support an equity adjustment for an incumbent.
- This provision is not subject to the grievance or arbitration process.

This provision becomes effective upon the implementation of the 2025-2027 contract and will sunset upon the implementation of the 2027 – 2029 contract.

Student Loan Reimbursement (Pilot)

- A. Employee Request and Appointing Authority Discretionary Approval. An employee may request and an Agency may approve reimbursement for the employee’s student loan payments, made on their outstanding student loan balances.
- B. Exclusion. Student loan reimbursement payments cannot be applied to Continuing Education Units that are required to maintain an employee’s license or credentials.
- C. Payment Reimbursement Amounts. Student loan reimbursement payments shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per calendar year per employee, up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in total payments if this pilot is continued in future years.
- D. Employee Length of Service Requirements. Employees must have been employed by the Employer for at least eighteen (18) months in a part-time or full-time position and be anticipated to work at least one thousand forty-four (1,044) hours per year.
- E. Employee Retention Requirement. Employees who are approved to receive a student loan payment reimbursement must remain employed by the Agency for a period of one (1) year after receiving a reimbursement payment. Employees who separate from the Agency sooner than one (1) year after receiving a reimbursement payment shall be required to repay the student loan reimbursement received the previous year on a prorated monthly basis. Retention and repayment requirements do not apply in the case of death or layoff of the employee who received the student loan reimbursement.
- F. Reimbursement Schedule. Loan reimbursement payments may be disbursed with a disbursement schedule determined by the Agency.

G. Documentation of Student Loan Payments Made Required. The employee must provide documentation of actual student loan payments made within the twelve (12) months immediately prior to requesting student loan payment reimbursement.

H. This provision is not subject to the grievance procedure.

This provision becomes effective upon the implementation of the 2025-2027 contract and will sunset upon the implementation of the 2027 – 2029 contract. Any employee who received Student Loan Repayment under the terms of this section remains obligated to the payback language if they separate from the Agency, even if this pilot is discontinued in subsequent Agreements.

Regards,

Brian Pilon
Labor Relations Consultant
Minnesota Management and Budget

Letter 12



September 17, 2025

Brandon Hennager, President
State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
1000 Lakeshore Drive
Moose Lake, MN 55767

RE: Earned Sick and Safe Time Law

Dear Brandon,

As discussed during 2025 – 2027 contract negotiations, the parties have a shared interest in explaining to employees the allowable uses of accrued sick leave hours as authorized pursuant to Minnesota’s Earned Sick and Safe Time law, Minnesota Statutes, sections 181.9445—181.9448. The information below reflects what the law provides as of the date of this letter. Statute is subject to change and the Appointing Authority will comply with and implement applicable statutory language.

See Article 20 - Sick Leave, Section 3, for additional uses of sick leave employees may have under the terms of the collective bargaining agreement.

Covered Individuals

Employees may use their sick leave for their own qualifying reason and for the following family members:

1. their child, including foster child, adult child, legal ward, child for whom the employee is legal guardian or child to whom the employee stands or stood in loco parentis (in place of a parent);
2. their spouse or registered domestic partner;
3. their sibling, stepsibling or foster sibling;
4. their biological, adoptive or foster parent, stepparent or a person who stood in loco parentis (in place of a parent) when the employee was a minor child;
5. their grandchild, foster grandchild or step-grandchild;
6. their grandparent or step-grandparent;
7. a child of a sibling of the employee;
8. a sibling of the parents of the employee;
9. a child-in-law or sibling-in-law;
10. any of the family members (1 through 9 above) of an employee’s spouse or registered domestic partner;

11. any other individual related by blood or whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship; and
12. up to one individual annually designated by the employee.

Sick Leave Use

Employees can use their accrued sick leave hours for the following reasons:

Illness, Injury, Other Health-Related Reason

1. an employee's:
 - a. mental or physical illness, injury, or other health condition;
 - b. need for medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of a mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; or
 - c. need for preventive medical or health care; or
 - d. need to make arrangements for or attend funeral services or a memorial, or address financial or legal matters that arise after the death of a family member;
2. care of a family member:
 - a. with a mental or physical illness, injury, or other health condition;
 - b. who needs medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of a mental or physical illness, injury, or other health condition; or
 - c. who needs preventive medical or health care;

Domestic Abuse, Sexual Assault, Stalking

3. absence due to domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking of the employee or employee's family member;

Closure

4. closure of the employee's place of business due to weather or other public emergency or an employee's need to care for a family member whose school or place of care has been closed due to weather or other public emergency;

Exposure to Communicable Disease

5. the employee's inability to work or telework because the employee is:
 - a. prohibited from working by the employer due to health concerns related to the potential transmission of a communicable illness related to a public emergency; or
 - b. seeking or awaiting the results of a diagnostic test for, or a medical diagnosis of, a communicable disease related to a public emergency and such employee has been exposed to a communicable disease or the employee's employer has requested a test or diagnosis; and
6. when it has been determined by the health authorities having jurisdiction or by a health care professional that the presence of the employee or family member of the employee in the community would jeopardize the health of others because of the exposure of the employee or family member of the employee to a communicable disease, whether or not the employee or family member has actually contracted the communicable disease.

Use of Vacation Leave in Lieu of Sick Leave

Per HR/LR Policy #1337 Sick Leave, employees who have exhausted their sick leave accruals shall be permitted to use vacation leave in lieu of sick leave for reasons covered by “Sick Leave Use,” as identified above.

For more detailed information regarding accrued sick leave use, please review HR/LR Policy #1337 Sick Leave.

Sincerely,

Brian Pilon
Labor Relations Consultant

cc: Blake Chaffee
Jennifer Ziegler

Letter 13



October 22, 2025

Brandon Hennager, President
State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
1000 Lakeshore Drive
Moose Lake, MN 55767

Re: Designating Permanent Work Location

Dear Brandon,

As discussed during the 2025-2027 round of negotiations, the parties agree to the following:

At the time of hire, the Department of Corrections will determine a teacher's primary facility and seniority unit when the teacher's FTE is split between two (2) facilities. Should there be a prolonged change to the teacher's FTE split, the teacher's primary facility and seniority unit may be changed pursuant to Article 13 Reassignment or by mutual agreement between the Appointing Authority and the Association. The parties agree that this letter will be removed from the agreement upon implementation of the 2027-2029 agreement.

Regards,

Brian Pilon
Labor Relations Consultant



October 22, 2025

Brandon Hennager, President
State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
1000 Lakeshore Drive
Moose Lake, MN 55767

RE: Teacher's Vacation Accrual Rate

Dear Brandon,

During the 2025-2027 round of negotiations, SRSEA raised concerns about the timeliness of agency responses to Teacher requests for vacation accrual rate adjustments. The parties agree that these concerns would be best addressed with the individual agencies during a meet and confer.

Regards,

Brian Pilon
Labor Relations Consultant

Letter 15



October 22, 2025

Brandon Hennager, President
State Residential Schools Education Association (SRSEA)
1000 Lakeshore Drive
Moose Lake, MN 55767

RE: Artificial Intelligence

Dear Brandon,

During the 2025-2027 contract negotiations, SRSEA raised concerns regarding the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the workforce. We understand that emerging technology can bring both opportunities and challenges, and we appreciate the thoughtful discussions so far on this topic.

Management remains committed to open and transparent dialogue with SRSEA as we navigate the use of AI. Our goal is to ensure that AI integration aligns with policy and standards and respects the contributions of employees. We recognize that collaboration is key, and we will continue discussions on the topic of AI through agency and statewide meet & confers that address any concerns and explore solutions that benefit both employees and the state.

Sincerely,

Brian Pilon
Labor Relations Consultant

Insurance Addendum

Insurance benefit provisions in effect plan years 2026 and 2027 for all State of Minnesota labor agreements and compensation plans

Section 1. Amount of Employer Contribution. The Employer Contribution amounts and rules in effect on June 30, 2025 will continue through December 31, 2025.

A. Contribution Formula - Health Coverage.

1. **Employee Coverage.** For employee health coverage for the 2026 and 2027 plan years, the Employer contributes an amount equal to ninety-five percent (95%) of the employee-only premium of the Minnesota Advantage Health Plan (Advantage).
2. **Dependent Coverage.** For dependent health coverage for the 2026 and 2027 plan years, the Employer contributes an amount equal to eighty-five percent (85%) of the dependent premium of Advantage.

B. Contribution Formula - Dental Coverage.

1. **Employee Coverage.** For employee dental coverage, the Employer contributes seventy percent (70%) of the employee premium of the dental plan.
2. **Dependent Coverage.** For dependent dental coverage, the Employer contributes fifty percent (50%) of the dependent premium of the dental plan.

C. Contribution Formula - Basic Life Coverage. For employee basic life coverage and accidental death and dismemberment coverage, the Employer contributes one-hundred percent (100%) of the cost.

Section 2. Coverage Changes and Effective Dates.

A. When Coverage May Be Chosen.

1. **Newly Hired Employees.** All employees hired to an insurance eligible position must make their benefit elections by their initial effective date of coverage as defined in this Insurance Addendum, Section 2C. Insurance eligible employees will automatically be enrolled in basic life coverage. If employees eligible for a full Employer Contribution do not choose a health plan administrator and a primary care clinic by their initial effective date, and do not waive medical coverage, they will be enrolled in a Benefit Level Two clinic (or Level One, if available) that meets established access standards in the health plan with the largest number of Benefit Level One and Two clinics in the county of the employee's residence at the beginning of the insurance year. If an employee does not choose a health plan administrator and primary care clinic by their initial effective date, but was previously covered as a dependent immediately prior to their initial effective date, they will be defaulted to the plan administrator and primary care clinic in which they were previously enrolled.
2. **Eligibility Changes.** Employees who become eligible for a full Employer Contribution must make their benefit elections within thirty (30) calendar days of becoming eligible. If employees do not choose a health plan administrator and a primary care clinic and do not waive coverage within this thirty (30)

day timeframe, they will be enrolled in a Benefit Level Two clinic (or Level One, if available) that meets established access standards in the health plan with the largest number of Benefit Level One and Two clinics in the county of the employee's residence at the beginning of the insurance year.

If employees who become eligible for a partial Employer Contribution choose to enroll in insurance, they must do so within thirty (30) days of becoming eligible or during open enrollment.

An employee may change their health or dental plan if the employee changes to a new permanent work or residence location and the employee's current plan is no longer available. If the employee has family coverage and if the new residence location is outside of the current plan's service area, the employee shall be permitted to switch to a new plan administrator and new Benefit Level within thirty (30) days of the residence location change. The election change must be due to and correspond with the change in status. An employee who receives notification of a work location change between the end of an open enrollment period and the beginning of the next insurance year, may change their health or dental plan within thirty (30) days of the date of the relocation under the same provisions accorded during the last open enrollment period. An employee or retiree may also change health or dental plans in any other situation in which the Employer is required by the applicable federal or state law to allow a plan change.

3. **Waiving Medical Coverage.** Employees may choose to waive medical coverage. If an employee is eligible for the full employer contribution and desires to waive medical coverage, the employee must submit a Waiver of Medical Coverage form and provide proof of other coverage by the end of the employee's enrollment period. If an employee does not submit the form and proof by the end of the employee's enrollment period, the employee will be enrolled in medical coverage, with the next opportunity to waive coverage during Open Enrollment or upon a permitted Qualified Life Event. If an employee waives medical coverage, the employee can elect it again during the next Open Enrollment or midyear upon a permitted Qualified Life Event.

B. **When Coverage May be Changed or Cancelled.**

1. **Changes Due to a Life Event.** After the initial enrollment period and outside of any open enrollment period, an employee may elect to change health or dental coverage (including adding or canceling coverage) and any applicable employee contributions in the following situations (as long as allowed under the applicable provisions, regulations, and rules of the federal and state law in effect at the beginning of the plan year).

The request to change coverage must be consistent with a change in status that qualifies as a life event, and does not include changing health or dental plans, which may only be done under the terms of Section 2A above. Any election to add coverage must be made within thirty (30) days following the event, and any election to cancel coverage must be made within sixty (60) days following the event. (An employee and a retired employee may add dependent health or dental coverage following the birth of a child or dependent grandchild, or following the adoption of a child, without regard to the thirty (30) day limit.) These life events (for both employees and retirees) are:

- a. A change in legal marital status, including marriage, death of a spouse, divorce, legal separation and annulment.
 - b. A change in number of dependents, including birth, death, adoption, and placement for adoption.
 - c. A change in employment status of the employee, or the employee's or retiree's spouse or dependent, including termination or commencement of employment, a strike or lockout, a commencement of or return from an unpaid leave of absence, a change in worksite, and a change in working conditions (including changing between part-time and full-time or hourly and salary) of the employee, the employee's or retiree's spouse or dependent which results in a change in the benefits they receive under a cafeteria plan or a health or dental plan.
 - d. A dependent ceasing to satisfy eligibility requirements for coverage due to attainment of age or otherwise no longer meets the eligibility requirements under Section 2C of the Insurance Article (IFO and MSUAASF: Section B3; MSCF: Section 2, subd. 3).
 - e. A change in the place of residence of the employee, retiree or their spouse or dependent that is not in the health plan service administrator's service area.
 - f. Significant cost or coverage changes (including coverage curtailment and the addition of a benefit package).
 - g. Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave.
 - h. Judgments, decrees or orders.
 - i. A change in coverage of a spouse or dependent under another Employer's plan.
 - j. Open enrollment under the plan of another Employer.
 - k. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) special enrollment rights for new dependents and in the case of loss of other insurance coverage.
 - l. A COBRA-qualifying event.
 - m. Loss of coverage under the group health plan of a governmental or educational institution (a State's children's health insurance program, medical care program of an Indian tribal government, State health benefits risk pool, or foreign government group health plan).
 - n. Entitlement to Medicare or Medicaid.
 - o. Any other situations in which the group health or dental plan is required by the applicable federal or state law to allow a change in coverage.
2. **Canceling Dependent Coverage During Open Enrollment.** In addition to the above situations, dependent health or dependent dental coverage may also be cancelled for any reason during the open enrollment period that applies to each type of plan (as long as allowed under the applicable provisions, regulations and rules of the federal and state law in effect at the beginning of the plan year).
3. **Canceling Employee Coverage.** A part-time employee may also cancel employee coverage within sixty (60) days of when one of the life events set forth above occurs.

4. **Effective Date of Benefit Termination.** Medical, dental and life coverage termination will take effect on the first of the month following the loss of eligible employee or dependent status. Disability benefit coverage terminations will take effect on the day following loss of eligible employee status.

C. **Effective Date of Coverage.**

1. **Initial Effective Date.** The initial effective date of coverage under the Group Insurance Program is the thirtieth (30th) day following the employee's first day of employment, re-hire, or reinstatement with the State. The initial effective date of coverage for an employee whose eligibility has changed is the date of the change. An employee must be actively at work on the initial effective date of coverage, except that an employee who is on paid leave on the date State-paid life insurance benefits increase is also entitled to the increased life insurance coverage. In no event shall an employee's dependent's coverage become effective before the employee's coverage.

If an employee is not actively at work due to employee or dependent health status or medical disability, medical and dental coverage will still take effect. (Life and disability coverage will be delayed until the employee returns to work.)

2. **Delays in Coverage Effective Date.**

- a. **Basic Life.** If an employee is not actively at work on the initial effective date of coverage, coverage will be effective on the first day of the employee's return to work. The effective date of a change in coverage is not delayed in the event that, on the date the coverage change would be effective, an employee is on an unpaid leave of absence or layoff.

- b. **Medical and Dental.** If an employee is not actively at work on the initial effective date of coverage due to a reason other than hospitalization or medical disability of the employee or dependent, medical and dental coverage will be effective on the first day of the employee's return to work.

The effective date of a change in coverage is not delayed in the event that, on the date the coverage change would be effective, an employee is on an unpaid leave of absence or layoff.

- c. **Optional Life and Disability Coverages.** In order for coverage to become effective, the employee must be in active payroll status and not using sick leave on the first day following approval by the insurance company. If it is an open enrollment period, coverage may be applied for but will not become effective until the first day of the employee's return to work.

D. **Open Enrollment.**

1. **Frequency and Duration.** There shall be an open enrollment period for health and dental coverage in 2025 and 2026. Open enrollment periods shall last a minimum of fourteen (14) calendar days. Open enrollment changes become effective on January 1 in 2026 and 2027. Subject to a timely contract settlement, the Employer shall make open enrollment materials available to employees at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the open enrollment period.

2. **Eligibility to Participate.** An employee eligible to participate in the State Employee Group Insurance Program, as described in Sections 2A and 2B of the Insurance Article (IFO and MSUAASF: Section B1 and B2; MSCF: Section 2, subd. 1 and Section 2, subd. 2), may participate in open enrollment. In

addition, a person in the following categories may, as allowed in section 2D1 of the Insurance Addendum above, make certain changes: (1) a former employee or dependent on continuation coverage, as described in Section 2D of the Insurance Article (IFO and MSUAASF: Section B4; MSCF: Section 2, subd. 4), may change plans or add coverage for health and/or dental plans on the same basis as active employees; and (2) an early retiree, prior to becoming eligible for Medicare, may change health and/or dental plans as agreed to for active employees, but may not add dependent coverage.

3. **Materials for Employee Choice.** Each year prior to open enrollment, the Appointing Authority will give eligible employees the information necessary to make open enrollment selections. Employees will be provided a statement of their current coverage each year of the contract.
- E. **Coverage Selection Prior to Retirement.** An employee who retires and is eligible to continue insurance coverage as a retiree may change their health or dental plan during the sixty (60) calendar day period immediately preceding the date of retirement. The employee may not add dependent coverage during this period. The change takes effect on the first day of the month following the date of retirement.

Section 3. Basic Coverages.

A. Employee and Family Health Coverage.

1. **Minnesota Advantage Health Plan (Advantage).** The health coverage portion of the State Employee Group Insurance Program is provided through the Minnesota Advantage Health Plan (Advantage), a self-insured health plan offering four (4) Benefit Level options. Provider networks and claim administration are provided by multiple plan administrators. Coverage offered through Advantage is determined by Section 3A2 of the Insurance Addendum.
2. **Coverage Under the Minnesota Advantage Health Plan.** From July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, health coverage under the SEGIP will continue at the level in effect on June 30, 2025. Effective January 1, 2026, Advantage will cover eligible services subject to the copayments, deductibles and coinsurance coverage limits stated. Services provided through Advantage are subject to the managed care procedures and principles, including standards of medical necessity and appropriate practice, of the plan administrators. Coverage details are provided in the Advantage Summary of Benefits.
 - a. **Benefit Options.** Employees must elect a plan administrator and primary care clinic. Those elections will determine the Benefit Level through Advantage. Enrolled dependents must elect a primary care clinic that is available through the plan administrator chosen by the employee.
 - 1) **Plan Administrator.** Employees must elect a plan administrator during their initial enrollment in Advantage and may change their plan administrator election only during the annual open enrollment and when permitted under Section 2 of the Insurance Addendum. Dependents must be enrolled through the same plan administrator as the employee.
 - 2) **Benefit Level.** The primary care clinics available through each plan administrator are assigned a Benefit Level. The Benefit Levels are outlined in the benefit chart below. Primary care clinics may be in different Benefit Levels for different plan administrators. Family members may be

enrolled in clinics that are in different Benefits Levels. Employees and their dependents may change to clinics in different Benefit Levels during the annual open enrollment. Employees and their dependents may also elect to move to a clinic in a different Benefit Level within the same plan administrator by calling their plan administrator, with changes typically effective the following day. Unless the individual has a referral from their primary care clinic, there are no benefits for services received from providers in Benefit Levels that are different from that of the primary care clinic in which the individual has enrolled.

- 3) **Primary Care Clinic.** Employees and each of their covered dependents must individually elect a primary care clinic within the network of providers offered by the plan administrator chosen by the employee. Employees and their dependents may elect to change clinics within their clinic’s Benefit Level as often as the plan administrator permits and as outlined above.

4) **Advantage Benefit Chart for Services Incurred During Plan Years 2026 and 2027.**

2026 and 2027 Benefit Provision	Benefit Level 1 Member pays:	Benefit Level 2 Member pays:	Benefit Level 3 Member pays:	Benefit Level 4 Member pays:
MEDICAL SERVICES				
Deductible <i>Single/Family</i>	\$250/\$500	\$400/\$800	\$750/\$1,500	\$1,500/\$3,000
Copays for office visit and urgent care <i>No cost-sharing for preventive services</i>	\$35	\$40	\$70	\$90
Copays for mental health office visits <i>Deductible does not apply for Levels 1 and 2</i>	\$0	\$0	\$40	\$60
Convenience clinics and online care <i>Deductible does not apply</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Copays for emergency room visit <i>Deductible does not apply</i>	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$350
Inpatient admission <i>Deductible applies first</i> <i>Costs waived for admission to Center of Excellence</i>	\$100 copay	\$200 copay	\$500 copay	25% coinsurance
Outpatient surgery <i>Deductible applies first</i>	\$60 copay	\$120 copay	\$250 copay	25% coinsurance
Coinsurance for MRI/CT scan services <i>Deductible applies first</i>	10%	15%	25%	30%
Coinsurance for services <u>NOT</u> subject to copays <i>Deductible applies first</i>	5%	5%	20%	25%
Coinsurance for lab, pathology and X-ray not included as part of preventive care and not subject to office visit or facility copayments <i>Deductible applies first</i>	10%	10%	20%	25%
Coinsurance for durable medical equipment <i>Deductible applies first</i>	20%	20%	20%	25%

2026 and 2027 Benefit Provision	Benefit Level 1 Member pays:	Benefit Level 2 Member pays:	Benefit Level 3 Member pays:	Benefit Level 4 Member pays:
Maximum non-Rx out-of-pocket limit <i>Single/Family</i>	\$1,700/\$3,400	\$1,700/\$3,400	\$2,400/\$4,800	\$3,600/\$7,200
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS (Rx)				
Copays for Rx <i>No deductible</i>	Tier 1: \$18 Tier 2: \$30 Tier 3: \$55	Tier 1: \$18 Tier 2: \$30 Tier 3: \$55	Tier 1: \$18 Tier 2: \$30 Tier 3: \$55	Tier 1: \$18 Tier 2: \$30 Tier 3: \$55
Maximum Rx out-of-pocket limit <i>Single/Family</i>	\$1,050/\$2,100	\$1,050/\$2,100	\$1,050/\$2,100	\$1,050/\$2,100

- b. **Service Area.** The Minnesota Advantage Health Plan service area shall be comprised of all Minnesota counties as well as border communities, with the specific boundaries initially established by MMB and any changes thereafter mutually agreed to by the JLM.
- c. **Services Received From, or Authorized By, a Primary Care Physician within the Primary Care Clinic.** Under Advantage, the health care services outlined in the benefits charts above shall be received from, or authorized by a primary care physician within the primary care clinic. Preventive care, as outlined in the Summary of Benefits, is covered at one hundred (100) percent for services received from or authorized by the primary care clinic. The primary care clinic shall be selected from approved clinics in accordance with the Advantage administrative procedures. Unless otherwise specified in 3A2 of the Insurance Addendum, services not received from, or authorized by, a primary care physician within the primary care clinic may not be covered. Unless the individual has a referral from their primary care clinic, there are no benefits for services received from providers in Benefit Levels that are different from that of the primary care clinic in which the individual has enrolled.
- d. **In-Area Services Not Requiring Referral from a Primary Care Physician Within the Primary Care Clinic.**
- 1) **Routine Eye Exams.** Limited to one (1) routine examination per year for which no copay applies. Eye injury or illness at an in-network provider will be covered as an office visit based on the benefit level in which the individual is enrolled.
 - 2) **Emergency Services and Urgent Care.** The emergency room copay applies to all outpatient emergency visits that do not result in hospital admission within twenty-four (24) hours.
 - 3) **Obstetrics and Gynecological Care.** The deductible and coinsurance for services not subject to copays applies.
 - 4) **Mental Health Care and Substance Use Disorder Treatment.**
 - 5) **Chiropractic Care.**

For all services listed above apart from urgent care and emergency care, a provider must be in-

network with the member's plan administrator for the service to be covered.

e. **Prescription Drugs.**

1) **Copayments and Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximums.**

For the first and second year of the contract:

Tier 1 Copayment: Eighteen dollar (\$18) copayment per prescription or refill for a Tier 1 drug dispensed in a thirty (30) day supply.

Tier 2 Copayment: Thirty dollar (\$30) copayment per prescription or refill for a Tier 2 drug dispensed in a thirty (30) day supply.

Tier 3 Copayment: Fifty-five dollar (\$55) copayment per prescription or refill for a Tier 3 drug dispensed in a thirty (30) day supply.

Out of Pocket Maximum: There is an annual maximum eligible out-of-pocket expense limit for prescription drugs of one thousand and fifty dollars (\$1,050) per person or two thousand one hundred dollars (\$2,100) per family.

2) **Insulin.** Insulin will be treated as a prescription drug subject to a separate copay for each type prescribed.

3) **Brand Name Drugs.** If the subscriber chooses a brand name drug when a bioequivalent generic drug is available, the subscriber is required to pay the standard copayment plus the difference between the cost of the brand name drug and the generic. Amounts above the copay that an individual elects to pay for a brand name instead of a generic drug will not be credited toward the out-of-pocket maximum.

f. **Special Service Networks.** The following services must be received from special service network providers in order to be covered. All terms and conditions outlined in the Summary of Benefits apply.

- 1) Mental health services – inpatient or outpatient.
- 2) Chemical dependency services – inpatient and outpatient.
- 3) Chiropractic services.
- 4) Transplant coverage.
- 5) Cardiac services.
- 6) Home infusion therapy.
- 7) Hospice.
- 8) Fertility services.

g. **Individuals whose permanent residence and principal work location are outside the State of Minnesota and outside of the Advantage Plan's service area.** If these individuals use a provider within the plan administrator's national network, services will be covered at Benefit Level Two. If a national network provider is not available in their area, services will be covered at Benefit Level

Two through any other provider available in their area. If a national network provider is available but not used, benefits will be covered at Benefit Level Three. All terms and conditions outlined in the Summary of Benefits will apply.

h. **Health Care Services Received Outside the Minnesota Advantage Health Plan's Service Area.**

For covered services received by employees, former employees, and dependents outside of the Advantage service area, all care that is received within the national network of the member's plan administrator will be covered at Benefit Level Three, with a separate out-of-area deductible. Urgent care and emergency care will be covered at Benefit Level Three whether or not the providers are within the member's plan administrator's national network. All other out-of-area care must be received within the given plan administrator's national network to be covered by the plan. Referrals are not required for care received outside of the Advantage Plan's service area.

i. **Lifetime maximums and non-prescription out-of-pocket maximums.** Coverage under Advantage is not subject to a per person lifetime maximum.

In the first and second years of the contract, coverage under Advantage is subject to a plan year, non-prescription drug, out-of-pocket maximum of one thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,700) per person or three thousand four hundred dollars (\$3,400) per family for members whose primary care clinic is in Cost Level 1 or Cost Level 2; two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400) per person or four thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,800) per family for members whose primary care clinic is in Cost Level 3; and three thousand six hundred dollars (\$3,600) per person or seven thousand two hundred dollars (\$7,200) per family for members whose primary care clinic is in Cost Level 4.

j. **In-Network Convenience Clinics and Online Care.** Services received at in-network convenience clinics and online care are not subject to a copayment in each year of the Agreement. First dollar deductibles are waived for convenience clinic and online care visits. (Note that prescriptions received as a result of a visit are subject to the drug copayment and out-of-pocket maximums described above at 3A2e of the Insurance Addendum.)

3. **Benefit Level Two Health Care Network Determination.** Issues regarding the health care networks for the 2026 insurance year shall be negotiated in accordance with the following procedures:

- a. At least twelve (12) weeks prior to the open enrollment period for the 2026 insurance year the Employer shall meet and confer with the Joint Labor/Management Committee on Health Plans in an attempt to reach agreement on the Benefit Level Two health care networks.
- b. If no agreement is reached within five (5) working days, the Employer and the Joint Labor/Management Committee on behalf of all of the exclusive representatives shall submit a list of providers/provider groups in dispute to a mutually agreed upon neutral expert in health care delivery systems for final and binding resolution. The only providers/provider groups that may be submitted for resolution by this process are those for which, since the list for the 2025 insurance year was established, Benefit Level Two access has changed, or those that are intended to address specific problems caused by a reduction in Benefit Level Two

access.

Absent agreement on a neutral expert, the parties shall select an arbitrator from a list of five (5) arbitrators supplied by the Bureau of Mediation Services. The parties shall flip a coin to determine who strikes first. One-half (1/2) of the fees and expenses of the neutral shall be paid by the Employer and one-half (1/2) by the Exclusive Representatives. The parties shall select a neutral within five (5) working days after no agreement is reached, and a hearing shall be held within fourteen (14) working days of the selection of the neutral.

c. The decision of the neutral shall be issued within two (2) working days after the hearing.

4. **Coordination with Workers' Compensation.** When an employee has incurred an on-the-job injury or an on-the-job disability and has filed a claim for workers' compensation, medical costs connected with the injury or disability shall be paid by the employee's health plan, pursuant to M.S. 176.191, Subdivision 3.

5. **Health Promotion and Health Education.** Both parties to this Agreement recognize the value and importance of health promotion and health education programs. Such programs can assist employees and their dependents to maintain and enhance their health, and to make appropriate use of the health care system. To work toward these goals:

a. **Develop Programs.**

1) **Policy.** The Employer will develop and implement health promotion, health education programs, and other programs mutually agreed upon with the Joint Labor Management Committee on Health Plans, subject to the availability of resources. Each Appointing Authority will develop a health promotion and health education program consistent with the Minnesota Management and Budget policy. Upon request of any exclusive representative in an agency, the Appointing Authority shall jointly meet and confer with the exclusive representative(s) and may include other interested exclusive representatives. Agenda items shall include but are not limited to smoking cessation, weight loss, stress management, health education/self-care, and education on related benefits provided through the health plan administrators serving state employees.

2) **Pilot Programs.** The Employer may develop voluntary pilot programs to test the acceptability of various risk management programs, programs that seek to control costs, programs that streamline the delivery of services, or that enhance services to members. Incentives for participation in such programs may include improvements to the benefits outlined in the Insurance Article and/or Insurance Addendum. Implementation of such pilot programs is subject to the review and approval of the Joint Labor-Management Committee on Health Plans.

b. **Health Plan Specification.** The Employer will require health plans participating in the Group Insurance Program to develop and implement health promotion and health education programs for State employees and their dependents.

c. **Employee Participation.** The Employer will assist employees' participation in health promotion and health education programs. Health promotion and health education programs that have been endorsed by the Employer (Minnesota Management and Budget) will be considered to be non-assigned job-related training pursuant to Administrative Procedure 21. Approval for this training is at the discretion of the Appointing Authority and is contingent upon meeting staffing needs in the employee's absence and the availability of funds. Employees are eligible for release time, tuition reimbursement, or a pro rata combination of both. Employees may be reimbursed for up to one hundred (100) percent of tuition or registration costs upon successful completion of the program. Employees may be granted release time, including the travel time, in lieu of reimbursement.

6. **Post Retirement Health Care Benefit.** Employees who separate from State service and who, at the time of separation are insurance eligible and entitled to immediately receive an annuity under a State retirement program, shall be entitled to a contribution of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) to the Minnesota State Retirement System's (MSRS) Health Care Savings Plan. Employees who have a HCSP waiver on file shall receive a two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) cash payment. If the employee separates due to death, the two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) is paid in cash, not to the HCSP. An employee who becomes totally and permanently disabled on or after January 1, 2008, who receives a State disability benefit, and is eligible for a deferred annuity under a State retirement program is also eligible for the two hundred fifty dollar (\$250) contribution to the MSRS Health Care Savings Plan. Employees are eligible for this benefit only once.

7. **Temporary plan changes due to a state or national emergency.**

SEGIP and the unions recognize that certain natural disasters and other major emergencies may disrupt or seriously threaten to disrupt the State of Minnesota at a time when employees are especially needed to provide services. If the State or a federal government agency declares a state of emergency or otherwise invokes emergency authority by declaration, rules, regulations or similar official statements, the terms of the programs administered by SEGIP may be changed for the period of the declared emergency and for up to a 30 day run-out period.

These changes may include changes to programs administered by SEGIP including but not limited to, benefit design, enrollment and eligibility, billing, and administration as well as waiver of out-of-network restrictions, changes to out of pocket costs, extension of time frames for enrollment and billing, and other protocols reasonably required to provide Members with access to benefits.

These changes must be agreed to by both SEGIP and the Joint Labor Management Committee. Nothing in this provision prohibits SEGIP from making changes authorized or required under another authority including but not limited to a state or federal law, regulation, order, or rule without union agreement.

B. **Employee Life Coverage.**

1. **Basic Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Coverage.** The Employer agrees to provide and pay for the following term life coverage and accidental death and dismemberment coverage for all

employees eligible for an Employer Contribution, as described in Section 3 of the Insurance Article (IFO, MSUAASF, and MSCF: Section C). Any premium paid by the State in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) coverage is subject to a tax liability in accord with Internal Revenue Service regulations. An employee may decline coverage in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) by filing a waiver in accord with Minnesota Management and Budget procedures. The basic life insurance policy will include an accelerated benefits agreement providing for payment of benefits prior to death if the insured has a terminal condition.

Employee's Annual Base Salary	Group Life Insurance Coverage	Accidental Death and Dismemberment Principal Sum
\$0 - \$20,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
\$20,001 - \$30,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
\$30,001 - \$40,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
\$40,001 - \$50,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
\$50,001 - \$60,000	\$70,000	\$70,000
\$60,001 - \$70,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
\$70,001 - \$80,000	\$90,000	\$90,000
\$80,001 - \$90,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
\$90,001 - \$100,000	\$110,000	\$110,000
\$100,001 - \$110,000	\$120,000	\$120,000
\$110,001 - \$120,000	\$130,000	\$130,000
\$120,001 - \$130,000	\$140,000	\$140,000
\$130,001 - \$140,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
\$140,001 - \$150,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
\$150,001 - \$160,000	\$170,000	\$170,000
\$160,001 - \$170,000	\$180,000	\$180,000
\$170,001 - \$180,000	\$190,000	\$190,000
Over \$180,000	\$200,000	\$200,000

2. **Extended Benefits.** An employee who becomes totally disabled before age 70 shall be eligible for the extended benefit provisions of the life insurance policy until age 70. Employees who were disabled prior to July 1, 1983 and who have continuously received benefits shall continue to receive such benefits under the terms of the policy in effect prior to July 1, 1983.

Section 4. Optional Coverages.

A. Employee and Family Dental Coverage.

1. **Coverage Under the State Dental Plan.** The State Dental Plan will provide the following coverage:

- a. **Copayments.** The State Dental Plan will cover allowable charges for the following services subject to the copayments and coverage limits stated. Higher out-of-pocket costs may apply to services obtained from dental care providers not in the State Dental Plan network. Services provided are subject to the dental plan administrators’ managed care procedures and principles, including standards of dental necessity and appropriate practice. The plan shall cover general cleaning two (2) times per plan year and special cleanings (root or deep cleaning) as prescribed by the dentist. National Network benefits apply for members who see a dental provider outside of Minnesota that is in their dental plan administrator’s national network but not the State Dental Plan network.

Service	State Dental Plan Network	National Network	Out-of-Network
Diagnostic/Preventive	100%	100%	50% after deductible
Fillings	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Endodontics	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Periodontics	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Oral Surgery	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Crowns	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Implants	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Prosthetics	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Prosthetic Repairs	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible
Orthodontics	80% after deductible	60% after deductible	50% after deductible

- b. **Deductible.** An annual deductible of fifty dollars (\$50) per person and one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) per family applies to State Dental Plan non-preventive services received from in-network providers. An annual deductible of one hundred dollars (\$100) per person and three hundred (\$300) per family applies to National Network non-preventive services received from national network providers outside the State Dental Plan network. An annual deductible of one hundred

twenty-five dollars (\$125) per person applies to State Dental Plan services received from out of network providers. The deductible must be satisfied before coverage begins.

- c. **Annual Maximums.** State Dental Plan coverage is subject to a two thousand and two hundred dollar (\$2200) annual maximum benefit payable (excluding orthodontia and preventive services) per person. "Annual" means per insurance year.
- d. **Orthodontia Lifetime Maximum.** Orthodontia benefits are subject to a three thousand two hundred dollar (\$3,200) lifetime maximum benefit. If an employee elects dental benefits on their own policy, dollars spent when the employee was a dependent of another policyholder shall not be applied toward the new policy's lifetime maximum.

B. **Life Coverage.**

1. **Employee.** An employee may purchase up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) additional life insurance, in increments established by the Employer, subject to satisfactory evidence of insurability. A new employee may purchase up to two (2) times annual salary in optional employee life coverage by their initial effective date of coverage as defined in this Insurance Addendum, Section 2C without evidence of insurability. An individual may only be covered on one state sponsored life coverage policy. A retired employee who returns to state service with optional employee life coverage in place or who has already received a paid-up benefit are not eligible for optional employee life coverage. An employee who becomes eligible for insurance may purchase up to two (2) times annual salary in optional employee life coverage without evidence of insurability within thirty (30) days of the initial effective date as defined in this Insurance Addendum.
2. **Spouse.** An employee may purchase up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) life insurance coverage for their spouse in increments established by the Employer, subject to satisfactory evidence of insurability. An individual may only be covered on one state sponsored life coverage policy. A retired employee who returns to state services with optional spouse life coverage in place or who has already received a paid-up benefit is not eligible for optional spouse life coverage. A new employee may purchase either five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in optional spouse life coverage by their initial effective date of coverage as defined in this Insurance Addendum, Section 2C without evidence of insurability. An employee who becomes eligible for insurance may purchase either five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in optional spouse coverage without evidence of insurability within thirty (30) days of the initial effective date as defined in this Insurance Addendum.
3. **Children/Grandchildren.** An employee may purchase life insurance in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) as a package for all eligible children/grandchildren (as defined in Section 2C2 and 2C3 of the Insurance Article (IFO and MSUAASF: Section B3b and B3c; MSCF: Section 2, subd. 3B and Section 2, subd. 3C)). An individual may only be covered on one policy, by one employee participating in the State Employee Group Insurance Program. For a new employee, child/grandchild coverage requires evidence of insurability if application is made after the initial effective date of coverage as defined in this Insurance Addendum, Section 2C. An

employee who becomes eligible for insurance may purchase child/grandchild coverage without evidence of insurability if application is made within thirty (30) days of the initial effective date as defined in this Insurance Addendum. Child/grandchild coverage commences immediately from the moment of live birth up to age twenty-six (26).

4. **Accelerated Life.** The additional employee, spouse and child life insurance policies will include an accelerated benefits agreement providing for payment of benefits prior to death if the insured has a terminal condition.
5. **Waiver of Premium.** In the event an employee becomes totally disabled before age seventy (70), there shall be a waiver of premium for all life insurance coverage that the employee had at the time of disability.
6. **Paid Up Life Policy.** At age sixty-five (65) or the date of retirement, an employee who has carried optional employee life insurance for the five (5) consecutive years immediately preceding the date of the employee's retirement or age sixty-five (65), whichever is later, shall receive a post-retirement paid-up life insurance policy in an amount equal to twenty (20) percent of the smallest amount of optional employee life insurance in force during that five (5) year period. The employee's post-retirement death benefit shall be effective as of the date of the employee's retirement or the employee age sixty-five (65), whichever is later. Employees who retire prior to age sixty-five (65) must be immediately eligible to receive a state retirement annuity and must continue their optional employee life insurance to age sixty-five (65) in order to remain eligible for the employee post-retirement death benefit.

An employee who has carried optional spouse life insurance for the five (5) consecutive years immediately preceding the date of the employee's retirement or spouse age sixty-five (65), whichever is later, shall receive a post-retirement paid-up life insurance policy in an amount equal to twenty (20) percent of the smallest amount of optional spouse life insurance in force during that five (5) year period. The spouse post-retirement death benefit shall be effective as of the date of the employee's retirement or spouse age sixty-five (65), whichever is later. The employee must continue the full amount of optional spouse life insurance to the date of the employee's retirement or spouse age sixty-five (65), whichever is later, in order to remain eligible for the spouse post-retirement death benefit.

Each policy remains separate and distinct, and amounts may not be combined for the purpose of increasing the amount of a single policy.

C. **Disability Coverage.**

1. **Short-Term Disability Coverage.** An employee may purchase short-term disability coverage that provides benefits of from three hundred dollars (\$300) to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per month, up to two-thirds (2/3) of an employee's salary, for up to one hundred eighty (180) days during total disability due to a non-occupational accident or a non-occupational sickness. Benefits are paid from the first day of a disabling injury or from the eighth day of a disabling sickness. For a new employee, coverage applied for by the initial effective date of coverage as defined in this Insurance Addendum,

Section 2C does not require evidence of insurability. For an employee who becomes eligible for insurance, coverage applied for within thirty (30) days of the initial effective date does not require evidence of insurability. An employee who is insurance eligible and moves from a temporary position to a permanent position will be allowed to enroll in short-term disability coverage within thirty (30) days of the event without providing evidence of insurability. A short-term disability open enrollment will be offered every five years.

2. **Long-Term Disability Coverage.** New employees may enroll in long-term disability insurance by their initial effective date of coverage. Employees who become eligible for insurance may enroll in long-term disability insurance within thirty (30) days of their initial effective date as defined in this Insurance Addendum, Section 2C. An employee who is insurance eligible and moves from a temporary position to a permanent position will be allowed to enroll in long-term disability coverage within thirty (30) days of the event without providing evidence of insurability. The terms are the same as for employees who wish to add/increase during the annual open enrollment. During open enrollment only, an employee may purchase long-term disability coverage that provides benefits of from three hundred dollars (\$300) to seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) per month, based on the employee's salary, commencing on the 181st calendar day of total disability, and not subject to evidence of insurability but with a limited term pre-existing condition exclusion. Employees should be aware that other wage replacement benefits, as described in the certificate of coverage (i.e., Social Security Disability, Minnesota State Retirement Disability, etc.), may result in a reduction of the monthly benefit levels purchased. In any event, the minimum is the greater of three hundred dollars (\$300) or fifteen (15) percent of the amount purchased. The minimum benefit will not be reduced by any other wage replacement benefit. In the event that the employee becomes totally disabled before age seventy (70), the premiums on this benefit shall be waived.
 3. **Disability Coverage Subcommittee.** A subcommittee of the Joint Labor Management Committee on Health Plans (JLM) will be created to review disability plan options to conform with and complement the Minnesota Paid Leave Law. The JLM must agree to changes that modify or change the disability coverage provisions.
- D. **Accidental Death and Dismemberment Coverage.** An employee may purchase accidental death and dismemberment coverage that provides principal sum benefits in amounts ranging from five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000). Payment is made only for accidental bodily injury or death and may vary, depending upon the extent of dismemberment. An employee may also purchase from five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in coverage for their spouse, but not in excess of the amount carried by the employee.
- E. **Vision Coverage.** Under the life of this agreement, an optional and fully employee-paid vision benefit will be available pursuant to contract parameters with the State's vision vendor.
- F. **Voluntary Legal Services Coverage.** Under the life of this agreement, an optional and fully employee-paid legal services benefit will be available pursuant to contract parameters with the State's vendor for disability insurance.

G. Continuation of Optional Coverages During Unpaid Leave or Layoff. An employee who takes an unpaid leave of absence or who is laid off may discontinue premium payments on optional policies during the period of leave or layoff. If the employee returns within one (1) year, the employee shall be permitted to pick up all optionals held prior to the leave or layoff. For purposes of reinstating such optional coverages, the following limitations shall be applicable.

For the first twenty-four (24) months of long-term disability coverage after such a period of leave or layoff during which long-term disability coverage was discontinued, any such disability coverage shall exclude coverage for pre-existing conditions. For disability purposes, a pre-existing condition is defined as any disability which is caused by, or results from, any injury, sickness or pregnancy which occurred, was diagnosed, or for which medical care was received during the period of leave or layoff. In addition, any pre-existing condition limitations that would have been in effect under the policy but for the discontinuance of coverage shall continue to apply as provided in the policy.

The limitations set forth above do not apply to leaves that qualify under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).