

# **COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**The Board of  
Education of  
School District No. 43  
(Coquitlam)**

**AND**

**Canadian Union of Public Employees  
Local 561**

**July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025**

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**ARTICLE 1: COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement ratified the 10th day of December in the year, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two (2022).

**BETWEEN:**

**THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)  
(Hereinafter called the "Board")**

**OF THE FIRST PART**

**AND:**

**THE CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, LOCAL 561  
(Hereinafter called the "Union")**

**OF THE SECOND PART**

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of both parties to this Agreement to maintain the existing harmonious relationship between the Board and the Employees to recognize the mutual value of joint discussion and negotiations on all matters pertaining to the well-being, morale and security of those employees included in the bargaining unit.

**AND WHEREAS**, it is the desire of both parties to this Agreement that the schools be operated in a manner so as to give the maximum in public service and the best educational opportunity to the people resident in the School District.

**AND WHEREAS**, the Board recognizes the Canadian Union of Public Employees and its Local 561 as the sole and exclusive collective bargaining agency for all its employees save and except:

Superintendent  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Assistant Superintendent  
Director of Human Resources  
Director of Instruction  
Assistant Secretary Treasurer  
Assistant Director  
Senior Manager of Custodial Services  
Senior Manager of Human Resources  
Manager of Business Affairs  
Manager, Capital Accounting  
Manager of Communications and Corporate Relations  
Manager of Custodial Services  
Manager of Data LINC  
Manager Facility Improvements  
Manager of Financial Services  
Manager of Health and Safety  
Manager of Human Resources  
Manager of Information Services  
Manager of Marketing



Manager of Projects  
Manager of Purchasing and Transportation  
Manager, Security and Operations  
Manager, Systems  
Food Service Coordinator  
Executive Assistant

Employees of the School Board specifically excluded by the School Act and employed as teachers.  
Any employees who by a ruling of the Labour Relations Board are not employees within the meaning of the Labour Code of the British Columbia Labour Act or through and by mutual consent of both parties.

**AND WHEREAS**, it is now thought desirable that methods of bargaining and all matters pertaining to the working conditions of the employees be drawn up in an Agreement.

**NOW THEREFORE, THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH**, that the Parties hereto in consideration of the mutual covenants hereinafter contained, agree each with the other as follows:

### **1.1 Duration of Agreement**

This Agreement shall come into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and remain in effect until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and from year to year thereafter subject to the right of either party to the Agreement, and any time within four (4) months immediately preceding the date of the expiry of this Agreement by written notice to require the other party to commence collective bargaining. If notice is not given by either party ninety (90) days or more before the expiry of the agreement then parties are deemed to have given notice (Section 46 (4) of the Labour Code).

If notice to commence collective bargaining has been given on the term of a collective agreement that was in force between the parties has expired, the employer or the union must not, except with consent of the other, alter any term or condition of employment until:

- a. A strike or lockout has commenced;
- b. A new collective agreement has been negotiated; or
- c. The right of the union to represent the employees in the bargaining unit has been terminated.

### **1.2 Committees**

- A. The Board shall appoint five (5) representatives to be known as the "Board Committee".
- B. The Union shall name a "Union Committee" composed of five employees plus the National Representative.
- C. It is agreed that each party shall notify the other, in writing, of the persons who are members of their respective Committees.
- D. The Board Committee and the "Union Committee" shall from time to time negotiate with a view to reaching speedy settlement on all matters arising in the future relating to rates of pay, hours of work, or other working conditions, including any grievances or complaints concerning the promotion, discharge or hiring of the said employees.
- E. The first meeting held to negotiate a new collective agreement or revision to this Agreement shall be held between the Union Committee and the Board Committee. At this meeting the Board

Committee will provide the Union with a copy of proposed changes to the Agreement and the Union will explain their proposed changes to the Board.

- F. In the event either party wishes to call a joint meeting of the Committees herein to be referred, the Director of Human Resources or their designate of the School Board shall call the same for a suitable time not more than ten (10) days after receipt of a request by them from the party requesting such meeting.
- G. Any member of the Union Committee in the employ of the Board shall have the privilege of attending such meetings without loss of remuneration.

### **1.3 District Joint Consultation Committee**

- A. A District Joint Consultation Committee shall be established for the purpose of consulting regularly about issues relating to the workplace that affect the parties or of any employee bound by the agreement, for promoting cooperative resolution of workplace issues, fostering the development of work-related skills and for promoting workplace productivity.
- B. The committee shall not have authority to adjust the terms of the collective agreement nor offer interpretations regarding sections of this agreement which may be in dispute.
- C. The committee shall consist of five (5) representatives from each side. The committee shall develop a regular meeting schedule with the Chair of the committee alternating between the Board and the Union from meeting to meeting.

### **1.4 No Other Agreements**

No employee shall be required or permitted to make a verbal or written agreement with the employer or their representative which may conflict with the terms of this collective agreement.

## **ARTICLE 2: UNION RECOGNITION**

### **2.1 Union Membership**

All employees covered by this Agreement shall become and remain members in good standing in the Union, according to the Constitution and By-laws of the Union, not later than three (3) months after commencing employment with the Board.

### **2.2 Union Dues and Assessments**

Union dues and assessments shall be paid by all employees except student lab assistants.

Deductions will be forwarded in one (1) cheque to the Treasurer of the Union, not later than the tenth day of the following month for which the dues, initiation fees and/or assessments were levied. The Board will pay the Union interest at the rate of 2% per month or a fraction of a month, for any delay in remitting the cheque.

The Board agrees to provide with the cheque, a report consisting of the names of employees from whose wages the deductions were made, whether full-time or part-time and the number of hours worked, and

the gross earnings for the month.

The Board further agrees to provide by January 31, each year, a report consisting of the names of employees, their gender, classification, and current addresses as at December 31, the preceding year.

The Board will consider and where practicable provide the Union with additional information, if so requested.

### **2.3 Posting Procedure**

- A.** Except as provided in Article 7.9 B.2., in situations where the hours of a position increase or, because of a formula the employee's position is changed and the value of the job increases, the positions shall be posted.
- B.** It is agreed that before filling any position on the permanent staff of the Board, notice thereof will be posted electronically which will be accessible to all employees, for a period of five (5) working days before the position is filled.
- C.** Such notices shall contain information relating to the nature of the position, a description of the main duties, the qualifications, whether day, evening or night shift, location and salary rate or salary range.
- D.** In making application for a posted position which requires certification/documentation, employees must ensure the certification/documentation is currently in their personnel file and if not, provide the certification/documentation to the employer. In the event the employee does not have possession of the certification/documentation they must produce the certification/documentation to the employer within forty-eight (48) hours of the close of the posting. In exceptional circumstances, the employer may choose to extend this deadline.
- E.** Upon being offered a posted position an employee shall have twenty-four (24) hours in which to accept or reject the offer. It is understood that if an offer is made on a Friday the employee has until the following Monday to reply.
- F.** The Union shall be advised in writing of the name(s) of the successful applicant(s) within three (3) days of their official appointment to the position.
- G.** The Board shall notify all employees of the name of the successful applicant by way of a posting notice within ten (10) working days.
- H.** The successful applicant shall assume the duties of the position within a reasonable length of time, normally within fourteen (14) working days of the effective date listed in the posting. Should the employer delay this transfer further than the fourteen (14) days after award of the position, the employee shall receive additional corresponding pay and benefits.
- I.** First preference for posted positions shall go to current regular employees with seniority. Second preference shall go to qualified casual employees with bidding rights (as per Article 7.3 C).
- J.** Qualified regular employees and casual employees with bidding rights shall not have to compete with outside applicants. Casual employees who have not attained bidding rights may apply for posted positions and will be considered as outside applicants.

- K. No outside applicants will be interviewed until applications from current employees with bidding rights have been processed.

## **2.4 Temporary Positions and Vacancies**

### **A. Temporary Positions**

1. A temporary position is defined as one (1) created to fill a specific work requirement that is anticipated to be of limited duration not to exceed twelve (12) consecutive months. Temporary positions known to be in excess of thirty (30) working days will be posted.
2. If the work requirements of this position exceed twelve (12) consecutive months, the Board may extend this position for a period not to exceed six (6) calendar months with the written agreement of the union, provided that the Board declares this position to be a permanent position at the end of the six (6) months when it shall post the position as such.
3. No temporary position will be refilled within two (2) months unless mutually agreed to by the parties or in the case of an emergency such as fire or severe weather.

### **B. Temporary Vacancies**

Temporary vacancies arising from a leave of absence, illness or pregnancy known to be in excess of thirty (30) working days will be posted. Temporary postings arising under this Article 2.4 B shall not have a defined end date but will end on the return of the absent employee. Employees who accept a temporary posting must remain in that posting for the duration of the vacancy unless posting into a permanent position.

1. Permanent employees may bid on temporary positions provided that the employee and the Board arrive at a mutually acceptable period in which the employee may take their vacation entitlement. On expiration of the term of the position or vacancy the employee will revert to their former position which will have been filled by either a casual or permanent employee as determined by the employer.
2. In the backfilling of temporary vacancies, the following procedure shall be used for all classifications except caretaking:
  - i. Human Resources shall provide a list of the three (3) most senior, capable, casual employees who have attained bidding rights (90 shifts completed) to the appropriate supervisor.
  - ii. The supervisor shall backfill from amongst the three (3) referred candidates.
  - iii. Should no casual accept, the supervisor shall backfill from amongst the next three (3) most senior casuals.
  - iv. Should none of these six (6) casuals accept, then the selection rests with the employer.
3. Caretaking backfill opportunities will be offered to the most senior available casual.
4. The provisions of Article 7.5 on transfer and promotion shall apply save and except the trial period.
5. The provisions of Article 2.3 shall apply as to the procedure to be followed in temporary postings.

6. In the case of Grounds Work which may require a student's service for up to four (4) months, the above provisions are waived.

## **2.5 Shop Stewards/Local Union Officers**

- A. The Board recognizes the Union's right to select stewards/local union officers to represent employees. The Union agrees to provide the Board with a list of the employees designated as stewards/local union officers.
- B. The Board agrees that such representatives shall not be hindered, coerced, restrained or interfered with in any way in the performance of their duties, while investigating disputes and presenting adjustments as provided in this article. Permission to leave work during working hours for such purposes shall first be obtained from the Human Resources Department and, second the steward/local union officer shall advise their immediate supervisor.
- C. Where a supervisor intends to interview an employee for disciplinary purposes or to discuss an adverse report, the supervisor shall so notify the employee in advance of the purpose of the interview in order that the employee may contact their Steward to be present at the interview.
- D. A Steward or local union officer shall have the right to consult with a CUPE Staff Representative and to have them present at any discussion with supervisory personnel which might be the basis of disciplinary action.

## **ARTICLE 3: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

- A. In order to provide an orderly and speedy procedure for the settlement of grievances, the Board acknowledges the rights and duties of the Union Grievance Committee and the Unionstewards.
- B. In the event that any difference arises out of the interpretation, application, operation or any alleged violation of this Agreement, including any difference arising from the suspension or dismissal of any employee, and including any question or difference as to whether any matter is arbitrable; such question or difference shall be finally and conclusively settled without stoppage of work, in the following manner:
  1. The grievance shall be signed by the President of the Union, as well as the employee and be submitted in writing to the Department Head immediately concerned within ten (10) working days of the date of the occurrence of the alleged grievance. At the same time a copy of the grievance shall be sent to the Secretary of the Union and to the Superintendent of Schools or their designate.
  2. The School/Site Administrator/Exempt staff member and/or other appropriate district representative(s) immediately concerned shall meet within five (5) working days with the aggrieved employee and a representative(s) of the Union. If the matter is not settled within five (5) working days, then the Union may submit the grievance to the next stage of the procedure.

The Board Committee, the aggrieved employee and the Union Committee shall meet within five (5) working days after the reply to the grievance from the Union.

3. Where the grievance is instituted as a result of suspension or dismissal, the grievance procedure will commence at the stage of the Board Committee, and the grievance shall be submitted to the Department Head immediately concerned within five (5) working days of the date of the suspension or dismissal.

Should the Board Committee and the Union Committee fail to attain a settlement, then the grievance may be referred to a Board of Arbitration by the Union or the Board, provided that the request to refer to a Board of Arbitration is made in writing within ten (10) working days after the meeting between the Board Committee and the Union Committee. This Board of Arbitration shall comprise one (1) member appointed by the Board, and one (1) member appointed by the Union. The Board and the Union shall make their respective appointments within a period of ten (10) working days after either party has advised the other of the reference to a Board of Arbitration. The two members thus appointed shall select a third member, who shall be Chair. In the event that the two appointees are unable to agree on a Chair within five (5) working days of their appointment, they shall request the Minister of Labour for the Province of British Columbia to name a Chair. The Board of Arbitration shall have the power to waive formal procedural irregularities in the processing of a grievance in order to determine the real matter in dispute and to render a decision which this Board deems just and equitable. The decision of this Board shall be final and binding on both parties.

Each party shall bear the expenses of its own arbitrator and the expense of the Chair shall be borne equally by both parties.

4. **Department Heads referred to in this clause shall be:**

The Superintendent of Schools' designate for clerical employees, cafeteria employees, noon hour assistants, crossing guards, teacher assistants, education assistants and shop assistants. Manager of Custodial Services for caretakers. Manager of Maintenance for maintenance employees. In the absence of a Department Head, the Superintendent of Schools may name a substitute person.

## **ARTICLE 4: CLASSIFICATION**

### **4.1 Definition of Employee**

Employee shall mean a person who is an employee as defined by the Labour Relations Code.

Gender: Whenever the singular or masculine is used in this Agreement, it shall be considered as if the plural or feminine has been used where the context of the party or parties hereto so require.

#### **A. Probationary Employee**

1. Each employee shall be on a probationary appointment for sixty (60) working days from the effective date of appointment by the Board to a regular position.
2. In the event an employee does not complete the probationary period due to layoff, transfer, promotion or due to reverting back (as per Article 7.5) the following shall apply:
  - i. If the employee has not completed thirty (30) working days of the probationary

period, the employee shall be required to serve the full sixty (60) working days probation in the second position; or

- ii. If the employee has completed thirty (30) working days of the probationary period, the employee shall be required to serve the balance of the sixty (60) working days probation in the second position providing the second position is in the same classification as the first position; or
  - iii. If the employee moves to a second position during the probation period and it is not the same classification as the original position the employee shall serve sixty (60) working days of probation.
  - iv. If the employee moves to a temporary position during the probation period, the probation period will be completed in the temporary position as follows:
    - If to a different classification, a new 60 working day probation period;
    - If in the same classification, and less than 30 working days already served, a new 60 working days probation period;
    - If in the same classification, and more than 30 working days probation already served, a 30 working day probation to be served at the new location.
3. Noon Hour Assistants and Cashiers shall serve a probation period of sixty (60) shifts. Upon completion of the probation period they shall be considered regular employees and shall obtain bidding rights as per Article 7.3 C.
  4. The probationary period may be extended a further period not exceeding sixty (60) working days for cause and in such event the employee and the Union shall be notified in writing of such extension. Should a transfer be granted by the Board the probationary employee does not have the right to return to their former position.
  5. It is agreed and understood that during an employee's probationary period, their transfer, layoff or dismissal shall be entirely at the discretion of the Board and shall be subject to appeal through the grievance procedure.

**B. Regular Full Time Employee**

Regular Full Time Employee shall mean an employee who has successfully completed the prescribed period of probation and who is employed each working day during the calendar year on a full time basis. Grounds, Trades, Caretakers and Information Technologists shall remain twelve (12) month classifications unless mutually agreed.

**C. Full Time School Term Employee**

Full time school term employee shall mean an employee who has successfully completed the prescribed period of probation and who is employed each working day during the school year, September to June, on a full time basis. A cafeteria employee working seven (7) hours or more per day is considered a full time school term employee.

**D. Part Time Employee**

Part Time Employee shall mean an employee who has successfully completed the prescribed

period of probation and who is employed on less than a full time basis.

**E. Casual Employee**

Casual employee shall mean all other employees of the Board.

**F. Regular Full Time & Full Time School Term Employees**

Regular full time and full time school term employees shall be entitled to all benefits contained in this Agreement.

Part time employees working 20 hours or more per week shall be entitled to benefits as contained in this Agreement.

**G. Recall Employee**

A recall employee shall be defined as any employee who has been laid off/bumped from a regular position and has not bumped into a different regular position, has not been recalled to a regular position or has not attained a regular position through some other provision of this agreement.

1. Recall employees shall have priority over casual employees for available casual work in their classification and shall be entitled to benefits as outlined in Article 6.17.
2. It is understood that recall employees who accept casual assignment remain as permanent employees, but are paid a percentage in lieu of benefits as if they were casual employees.
3. Article 7.5 H. and Article 7.5.I do not apply to employees who have been recalled.

**4.2 Joint Job Evaluation Program**

**A.** As reflected in the Letter of Understanding and terms of reference dated February 24, 1992, the parties agree to implement the Joint Job Evaluation Program effective July 1, 1993.

**B. Joint Job Evaluation Committee (JJEC)**

1. A Standing Joint Job Evaluation Committee shall have equal representation and participation from the parties, consisting of two representatives from the employer and two representatives from the Local Union. Each party may appoint alternate representatives to serve as replacements for absent representatives or to assist the committee in its work, from time to time.
2. Committee members and alternates appointed by CUPE shall be granted leave of absence with pay and without loss of seniority for periods of time spent working on the committee. These members shall continue to have all rights and privileges of the Collective Agreement including access to the grievance procedure and promotional opportunities to which the employee would normally be entitled, including any increase that may occur as a result of evaluation of their present position.
3. Routine business decisions of the Committee shall be made by a simple majority. Job



rating decisions shall require a unanimous decision of the full committee and shall be final and binding on the parties, subject only to the appeal procedure contained in this article. Alternate members shall have the right to vote only when replacing a regular committee member who is absent.

4. The committee shall establish a meeting schedule.
5. Either party may engage advisors to assist its representatives on the JJEC. Any such advisor shall be entitled to voice opinions but not to vote and shall not be considered a member of the committee.

**C. Mandate of the Standing JJEC**

The Standing JJEC shall:

1. Maintain the integrity of the job evaluation program.
2. Recommend changes to point banding, pay grades, the job evaluation plan, its procedures or methods, as may be deemed necessary from time to time, to the parties. However, any change must be negotiated by the parties.
3. The Board will establish the levels of knowledge and experience that it requires for, and are reasonably related to the duties and responsibilities that it requires for class specifications. Any disputes will be dealt with by the grievance procedure. The committee shall evaluate jobs as outlined in Section E below.

**D. Job Analysis Procedures and Ratings for New and/or Changed Jobs**

The following general procedure shall be used to rate jobs:

**1. Step 1**

A Job Analysis Questionnaire shall be completed by the incumbent(s) and the supervisor. The completed questionnaire shall be submitted to the JJEC along with the copy of the current class specification. The questionnaire should detail any changes to the job resulting from new or changed circumstances in the job. After the questionnaire is completed, the Committee may also use information obtained from interviews with the incumbent(s) and/or supervisor and if required visit the job site.

**Step 2**

The Committee shall make any necessary revisions to class specifications based on the information gathered. Interviews may be held with incumbent(s) and/or their supervisor. The Committee shall then submit the revised class specification to the incumbent(s) and the supervisor for their mutual agreement. Amendments may be made to the class specification, as deemed necessary by the Committee, from the response of the incumbent(s) and the supervisor. When agreed upon, the class specification shall be signed by the incumbent(s) and the supervisor to signify their mutual agreement.

**Step 3**

The job shall now be rated, based on the agreed-upon class specification, in accordance with the Job Evaluation Plan. The Committee shall also use information obtained from the

completed questionnaire, interviews with the incumbent(s) and/or supervisor and, if required, visits to the job site. The plan evaluates the skill, effort, responsibility, and working conditions involved in the job. To minimize errors of personal judgment, each of these factors is subdivided into subfactors which provide a standard against which each job is rated to determine its relative worth.

#### **Step 4**

When the Committee has completed the rating of all jobs, it will provide the Executive Director of Human Resources/designate and the Union President/designate with a copy of the class specification and Advice of Rating for review and signature.

2. Job Ratings serve to:
  - i. Group jobs having relatively equivalent point values (this is commonly referred to as banding);
  - ii. Provide the basis upon which wage rate relationships between jobs are established;
  - iii. Measure changes in job content;
  - iv. Assign classifications into their proper pay grade in the salary schedule.
  
3. In the application of the Job Evaluation Plan, the following general rules shall apply:
  - i. It is the content of the job, and not the performance of the incumbent(s), that is being rated;
  - ii. Jobs are evaluated without regard to existing wage rates;
  - iii. Jobs are placed at the appropriate degree level in each subfactor by comparing the specific requirements of the job to the subfactor definition, and the description of each degree level;
  - iv. The job analysis and rating of each job shall be relative to and consistent with the class specifications and ratings of all other jobs rated under the plan;
  - v. No interpolation of subfactor degrees (i.e. mid-points) is permitted.

#### **E. Maintaining the Job Evaluation Program**

1. Either the incumbent(s) or the Director of Human Resources may request reconsideration of the class specification and/or the job rating by completing and submitting a Job Evaluation Reconsideration Form stating the reason(s) for disagreeing with the class specification and/or the rating of the job. Any such request shall be submitted within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of the Advice of Rating. Both the incumbent(s) and the Director of Human Resources using the Review Decision Form shall be permitted to make a presentation to the committee. The JJEC shall consider the request and make a decision which shall be considered final and binding upon the parties and all employees affected. The Committee shall inform both the incumbent(s) and the Director of Human Resources of its decision.

2. The committee is responsible for maintaining accurate job descriptions and job ratings on an ongoing basis. All jobs should be periodically reviewed to ensure the integrity of the program.
3.
  - i. Whenever the Director of Human Resources authorizes changes to the duties and responsibilities of a job, the Director of Human Resources may request a job evaluation review by completing and submitting a Job Evaluation Reconsideration form.
  - ii. Whenever the incumbent(s)/union feel the duties and responsibilities of a job have been changed or that the class specification does not reflect the duties and responsibilities of the job, the incumbent(s)/union may request a job evaluation review by completing and submitting a Job Evaluation Reconsideration Form.
  - iii. After a job evaluation review has been completed, no further review will be conducted for a period of 12 months unless there is a change in the duties and responsibilities.
4. Upon receipt of a completed Job Evaluation Reconsideration Form, the committee shall proceed to gather accurate, up-to-date information on the job. The gathering of information may involve requesting the incumbent(s) and supervisor to complete an up-to-date job analysis questionnaire, interviewing of incumbents, supervisors, the Director of Human Resources and/or visits to the job site. Based on this information, the committee shall update the class specification, as necessary;
5. Where the class specification has been changed, the Committee shall meet to rate each subfactor of the job, and to establish a new rating for the job and advise the incumbent(s) and Director of Human Resources of its decision. The rating of the job shall determine the pay grade for the job;
6. If the job is rated at a pay grade higher than the existing pay grade, the incumbent's rate of pay shall be adjusted retroactive to the date the Job Evaluation Reconsideration form was submitted.
7. Whenever the incumbent(s)/union request a job evaluation review or whenever the periodic job review determines the job is rated at a paygrade lower than the existing paygrade, the incumbent's rate shall be red circled and shall continue at the old rate until surpassed by the new rate for the classification. However, if the Employer downgrades the duties and responsibilities of a classification as per 4.2 E.3.i. above, resulting in the classification being rated at a paygrade lower than the existing paygrade, the incumbent shall receive 50% of all further negotiated wage increases until the current rate paid the incumbent and the rate established as a result of the job review, meet. Any new incumbent to the job shall receive the rate as established by the evaluation process.

**F. When the Employer wishes to establish a new job, the following procedures shall apply**

1. The Employer shall prepare a draft class specification for the job;
2. The Standing JJEC shall meet and establish a temporary pay rate for the job, based on the draft class specification;
3. The job shall be posted and any person appointed to the job shall be paid the temporary pay rate;
4. After six (6) months from the appointment of an incumbent to the job, the incumbent(s) and the supervisor shall complete a Job Analysis Questionnaire which shall be submitted, along with updated job information to the JJEC. The Committee shall revise the class specification and rate the job according to the procedure set out in this Article 4.2.
5. If the job is rated at a paygrade higher than the temporary pay rate, the incumbent's rate of pay shall be adjusted retroactive to the date of their appointment to the job.
6. If the job is rated at a paygrade lower than a temporary pay rate, the incumbent's rate of pay will be adjusted to the lower rate at the beginning of the next pay period following notification by the committee.

**G. Existing classifications shall not be eliminated or changed without prior agreement with the Union.**

**H. Settlement of Disagreements**

1. In the event the JJEC is unable to reach agreement on any matter relating to the interpretation, application or administration of the Job Evaluation Program, the Committee shall request, within ten (10) working days, that each party designate an advisor to meet with the Committee. The two (2) advisors shall meet with the Committee and attempt to assist in reaching a decision.
2. If, after meeting with the two (2) advisors appointed pursuant to Article 4.2 H.1. the Committee remains unable to agree upon the matter in dispute, the Committee shall advise, in writing, the Union and the Employer of this fact, within fifteen (15) working days.
3. Either party may, by written notice to the other party, refer the dispute to a mutually agreed Arbitrator, who will hear the matter within thirty (30) days of referral.
4. The Arbitration Hearing will be an informal process where the Director of Human Resources or their designate and the Local 561 President or their designate have the right to present evidence and argument concerning the matter in dispute. The Arbitrator shall have the authority to require the parties to present additional information and to require other person(s) to present evidence as deemed necessary.

5. The Arbitrator shall decide the matter upon which the JJEC has been unable to agree and their decision shall be final and binding on the JJEC, the Employer, the Union and all affected employees. The Arbitrator shall be bound by these Terms of Reference and the Job Evaluation Plan and shall not have the power to modify or amend any of their provisions. The jurisdiction of the Arbitrator shall be limited to the matter in dispute, as submitted by the parties.
6. The Arbitrator's fees and expenses shall be borne equally between the parties.
7. The time limits contained in this Article 4.2 H may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties.

## **ARTICLE 5: HOURS OF WORK & SHIFTS**

### **5.1 Hours of Work**

Unless otherwise stated "Days in Session" shall include:

- A. Days in session for teachers or pupils
- B. Days in session for teachers only - (non-instructional days)
- C. All employees shall work a minimum of four (4) hours per shift except Teachers Assistants, Noon Hour Assistants, and Cashiers. School Meals Coordinators and Cooks shall work a minimum four (4) hours per shift except as otherwise agreed to by the employer and union. Shift minimums do not apply to employee orientations.
- D. The hours of work shall not exceed:
  1. 40 hours per week/8 hours per day for Alarm System Technician, Facilities/Caretaking employees, Cafeteria employees, Capital Projects Coordinator, Culinary Assistants, Shop Assistants, Information Technologist, ICT Supervisors, ICT Team Leaders, Communications and Social Media Assistant, Purchasing Supervisor, Senior Buyer, District Secretary IV, District Secretary V (Maintenance Shop), School Secretary V (Secondary School), Clerical Supervisor, Clerical Data Lead, Human Resources Supervisor and Community Development Facilitators.
  2. 37.5 hours per week/7.5 hours per day for Youth Workers & SWIS Workers.
  3. 35 hours per week/7 hours per day for all other classifications.
  4. Community Development Facilitators and District Secretary IV rental clerks in the purchasing department may be required to work various shifts including weekends and statutory holidays for which the incumbent and supervisor will adjust their work schedule as required. A minimum of forty-eight (48) hours' notice will be given when adjusting an

employee's work schedule per this article, unless otherwise agreed to between the employer and employee.

Otherwise, overtime rates as per Article 5.6 shall be applicable.

- E.** Full time employees shall work five consecutive days per week, Monday to Saturday, except Security Runners who shall work as per Article 5.7. Those employees assigned to positions less than full time may be employed for up to the maximum hours as shown in D. above during a six day period, Monday to Saturday. Overtime rates shall apply for time worked in excess of the maximum daily or weekly hours.
- F.** Employees not presently scheduled to work on Saturdays shall not be required to work on that day unless they accept a posted position in which Saturday is designated as a day in their work week.
- G.** Except as provided in Article 5.6, casual employees shall be paid at straight time rates for the hours assigned.
- H.**
  - 1.** Teacher Assistants, Media Resource Person I's, and Library Assistant I's will work on days school is in session for pupils and may also be required to work on non-instructional days at locations as set out by the Superintendent of Schools or their designate. Education Assistants and Post Secondary and Career Advisors will work on days school is in session for pupils and will work on all non-instructional days at locations as set out by the Superintendent of Schools or their designate.
  - 2.** School term clerical employees, Youth Workers, Culinary Assistants, SWIS and Library Assistant II's will work on non-instructional days and may be required to work the first week prior to school commencing and/or the first week of the summer break.
  - 3.** Winslow Centre employees may be required to work the first week prior to school commencing and/or the first week of the summer break.
  - 4.** Crossing Guards hours of work will necessitate a split shift.
- I.** Cafeteria employees will work on days school is in session for pupils unless otherwise agreed to by the Department Head. The total time worked, however, shall not exceed the number of days school is in session each school year. Cafeteria operations will be considered closed for a maximum of five (5) working days at semester turnaround. Cafeteria employees will be paid for one (1) mandatory in-service day but will not be paid for the balance of this period, and will not be considered laid off but may request and be granted vacation during this period.

Should a cafeteria require any cooks or culinary assistants during semester turnaround, available work will be offered in order of seniority.

However, cafeteria employees, including culinary workers, shall be given preference over casuals for cafeteria work assignments in other locations.

- J. Crossing Guards will work on days school is in session for pupils.
- K. Noon Hour Assistants will work on all days school is in session for pupils where the students are present during the noon hour. Where the students are not present the Noon Hour Assistants may seek casual assignments for which they are qualified.
- L. Each school location shall have a minimum of one (1) thirty-five (35) hour clerical position. A school is defined as a location under the auspices of one (1) principal.

## 5.2 Shifts

### A. Day Shift

Day shift shall be between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Afternoon shift is not applicable when the shift is completed by 6:00 p.m.

### B. Afternoon Shift

Afternoon shift shall be between 12:00 noon and 12:00 midnight. Night shift is not applicable when the shift is completed by 12:00 midnight.

### C. Night Shift

Night shift shall be between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. The night shift shall be for a period of 8 hours with employees working 7 1/2 hours for five consecutive days between 11:00 p.m. on Sunday evening and 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.

## 5.3 Shift Differential

The hours of work arrived at by the Board shall be posted at the schools. Shift differential of 3% and 5% per hour shall be paid to employees on afternoon shift and night shift respectively.

### A. Statutory Holidays

Employees paid shift differential on the day before the statutory holiday shall be paid the shift differential on the statutory holiday.

### B. Compassionate Leave

Employees paid shift differential on the day before commencing compassionate leave shall be paid the shift differential for the compassionate leave.

### C. Annual Vacation

No shift differentials are to be paid.

### D. Overtime

The shift differential shall be paid for the number of hours worked, not for one and a-half (1½) or double times the number of hours worked.

### E. Termination

No shift differential paid.

**F. Sick Leave**

Shift differential will be paid if employee is paid a differential on the day before being sick, except during any period in which a differential would not be applicable.

**G. Retirement**

Shift differential shall be paid.

**H. Service Recognition & Sick Leave Gratuity**

Shift differential shall be paid.

**I. Jury Pay**

Shift differential shall be paid unless during July and August (except for those employees working shifts during July and August).

**J. Workers' Compensation**

Shift differential shall be paid if employee is paid a shift differential on the day before going onto Workers' Compensation.

**5.4 Shift Changes**

If an employee reports for work at the regularly scheduled starting time and is informed of a change in shift for that day, they shall be paid the regular rate of pay for the entire period spent at the place of work with a minimum in any one (1) day of two (2) hours pay at regular rate, except where the employee's condition is such that they are not competent to perform duties or has failed to comply with accident prevention regulations of the Workers' Compensation Board; and if the employee commences work, four (4) hours pay at the employee's regular rate.

**5.5 Meal Period & Rest Period**

**A. Meal Period**

Employees who work more than five (5) hours per day shall be entitled to a meal period of not less than thirty (30) minutes and not more than one (1) hour.

Employees who work five (5) hours or less per day and who currently have a meal period as part of their regular shift shall continue to be entitled to the meal period.

**B. Rest Periods**

Employees who work more than two (2) hours and up to six (6) hours shall be permitted a fifteen (15) minute rest period. Employees who work six (6) or more hours per day shall be permitted a fifteen (15) minute rest period in each half of their shift. It is further understood that such periods shall be taken at times that will cause the least possible interference with the work in which the employee is engaged; however, the rest periods will not be scheduled so they are directly attached to the beginning or the end of the employee's scheduled work day. With Administrator/exempt staff supervisor approval, an employee may combine their meal period and one (1) rest period.



While rest and meal periods will be scheduled in accordance with the above, if an emergent or unforeseen situation arises for a day which necessitates a change to the break schedule, the employer will schedule the meal/rest break at any time during that working day.

- C. Where an employee is required by the Board to work at more than one (1) location during the working day, traveling time between the various locations shall be considered part of the hours of work and as time worked. This Article 5.5 C. does not apply to employees who bid on more than one (1) position.

## 5.6 **Overtime**

All overtime shall be on a voluntary basis and shall be distributed equally at each work location between such employees. Overtime shall be kept to a minimum.

### A. **Overtime Rates – Normal Work Week**

All time worked beyond the normal work day shall be deemed to be overtime. Where conditions necessitate overtime, and where the work is authorized, such overtime will be paid for at the rate of time and one-half (1.5x) for the first two (2) hours, and double time (2x) after two (2) hours in any one (1) day or shift, Monday to Saturday.

### B. **Overtime Rates – Rest Days**

The employee working on either of their normally scheduled rest days immediately following their normal work week shall be paid at the rate of double time for all work performed by them on those days. All employees who have worked the hours for the week for their classification as per Article 5.1 D. shall be paid double time for continuation of work beyond those hours on the last day of the week.

### C. **Overtime Rates – Statutory Holidays**

An employee who is required to work on a statutory holiday shall be paid at the rate of double the regular rate of pay for every hour worked in addition to their regular holiday pay.

When a statutory holiday falls on any day, Monday to Friday inclusive, employees on night shift shall work not later than 8:00 a.m. on the statutory holiday at regular salary rates and shall not return to work until 11:00 p.m. on the next regular work day following the statutory holiday, unless overtime rates as set out above are paid.

### D. **Minimum Call Back Time**

When an employee is contacted by the employer outside of their working hours on a work related issue and is required to give the employer direction or is required to perform work duties, they shall be paid the overtime rate. If the employee is required to report for duty, the employee shall be paid from the time they leave their home to report for duty until they arrive back upon proceeding directly from work. It is understood and agreed that the employee is guaranteed a minimum of two (2) hours pay at double time rates.

### E. **Notification of Overtime Work**

The Board agrees that employees will be notified (where possible) forty-eight (48) hours in advance (except in case of emergency) of any night activity in schools, where it is necessary to have a caretaker in attendance.

**F. Time in Lieu**

Authorized overtime will be paid at the appropriate rate; however, where an employee and the supervisor concerned agree prior to overtime being worked, overtime may be banked and taken as equivalent time off, subject to the following regulations:

1. "Banked" overtime is to be entered into the electronic system by the employee.
  2. Accumulation of "Banked" overtime is not to exceed 80 hours or two (2) normal work weeks at straight time per pay year. Any overtime in excess of this maximum will be paid to the employee in the pay period in which it was worked. The overtime bank may be carried forward to the following year but the total accumulation shall not exceed the above amount.
  3. Banked overtime off must be at a mutually acceptable time with the employee filing such a request to the supervisor no less than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time being taken.
- G.** A meal allowance of \$10.00 shall be paid to an employee who is required to work two (2) or more hours overtime. This allowance only applies to employees who work past their maximum daily hours of work for their classification.

**5.7 Security Runners**

- A.** Security Runners work a special work week which includes weekends and statutory holidays. Employees who are regularly scheduled to work statutory holidays will be paid at time and one-half plus a day off in lieu to be taken Monday through Friday.
- B.** Security Runners who regularly work Saturday or Sunday will be paid at straight time rates. Employees who normally work Monday to Friday but are required to work security coverage shall be paid overtime as per the Collective Agreement.
- C.** There will be three shifts as follows:
  1. Day shift
  2. Afternoon shift
  3. Night shift
- D.** Unless otherwise stated here, all benefits accorded to those on a Monday to Friday basis will apply to employees working the agreed upon exception to the work week. The hours of work for these employees will be eight (8) hours per day, forty (40) hours per week with two (2) consecutive days off.
- E.** No more than fifty (50) per cent of the security staff may take vacation on the same day.
- F.** These positions are created for weekend and holiday coverage so leave of absence or banked overtime will not normally be granted on these days except under extenuating

circumstances.

## **ARTICLE 6: BENEFITS**

### **6.1 Annual Vacations & Vacation Pay**

#### **A.**

1. The date for calculation of annual vacation shall be based on the final seniority as at the last pay period of the previous year.
2. All regular employees appointed to positions of twenty (20) or more hours shall receive vacation based on their seniority.
3. Employees whose hours are reduced below twenty (20) but not less than fifteen (15) should refer to Article 6.16.
4. Other part time and casual employees and Student Grounds shall receive four (4) percent in lieu of vacation days which shall be paid each pay day.
5. For the purpose of this section, seniority shall include time worked, time while on paid vacation and on paid accumulated sick leave and on unpaid sick leave to a maximum of sixty (60) working days. (Reference 6.3 D.3).
6. **Current Language:**
  - i. Employees who have not completed one (1) year of seniority as at the final pay period of the previous year shall receive one (1) day at regular rates of pay for each month worked in an appointed position to a maximum of ten (10) working days or 4% of gross earnings to the final pay period of the previous year, whichever is greater. (Note re Transition to a position with benefits: the “greater of” value of the vacation days to be paid under this clause includes 4% vacation pay already received in the previous year under Article 6.17 A.)
6. **Effective January 1, 2023, delete Article 6.1.A.6.i and replace with:**
  - i. An employee appointed to their first permanent position will be advanced one (1) day paid vacation at appointed hours for each remaining month that will be worked in the current calendar year, to a maximum of ten (10) days. If as at the final pay period of that calendar year an employee has not completed one (1) year of seniority, that employee shall be advanced ten (10) days paid vacation at appointed hours or 4% of gross earnings to the final pay period of the previous year, whichever is greater. (Note re Transition to a position with benefits: the “greater of” value of the vacation days to be paid under this clause includes 4% vacation pay already received in the previous year under Article 6.17 A.)
  - ii. An employee who leaves the district or position, is laid off or bumped, or receives any undue vacation advance/pay, shall have their advance adjusted and any overpayment

deducted from their pay.

iii. An employee receiving vacation per 6.1 above, who is laid off or bumped and re-engaged in a permanent position in the same calendar year, will be advanced the remaining days paid vacation, per 6.i above, at appointed hours for each remaining month that will be worked in the current calendar year, to a maximum of ten (10) days. An employee who is not re-engaged until a subsequent calendar year will be advanced paid vacation per 6.i above.

iv. Article 7.8.C.8 does not apply, for the purpose of determining vacation only, to an employee governed by Article 6.1.A.6.

7. Employees who have completed one (1) or more years of seniority as at the final pay period of the previous year shall receive annual vacation entitlement as shown below:

1 Complete Year	10 days
2 to 6 Complete Years	15 days
*During 7th Year to 14th Complete Year	20 days
*During 15th Year to 18th Complete Year	25 days
*During 19th Year to 20th Complete Year	30 days
*During the 21st Year	1 additional day

and for each additional year thereafter to a maximum of 5 days

\*An employee who is granted an increase in vacation during the 7th, 15th or 19th year who terminates employment with the Board before completing the 7th, 15th or 19th full year of seniority, shall repay the Board for the increased vacation granted.

**B. Vacation Pay**

**Current Language:**

Vacation pay shall be based on the number of days of vacation entitlement as shown in A.7 above paid at regular rates of pay or the percentage of gross earnings during the year preceding the first pay of the year, whichever is greater. Any difference will be paid on the final pay of the current calendar year as shown in the following table subject to employees scheduling and taking their vacation entitlement (except for vacation which cannot be rescheduled due to an employee's illness) as provided for in Article 6.1 K.

10 days	4 per cent
15 days	6 per cent
20 days	8 per cent
25 days	10 per cent
30 days	12 per cent
31 - 35 days	appropriate percentage

**B. Vacation Pay**

**Effective January 1, 2023, delete Article 6.1.B and replace with:**

Vacation pay shall be based on the number of days of vacation entitlement as shown in A.6 and A.7 above paid at regular rates of pay or the percentage of gross earnings during the year preceding the first pay of the year, whichever is greater. Any difference will be paid on the final pay of the current calendar year as shown in the following table subject to employees scheduling and taking their vacation entitlement (except for vacation which cannot be rescheduled due to an employee's illness) as provided for in Article 6.1 K.

10 days	4 per cent
15 days	6 per cent
20 days	8 per cent
25 days	10 per cent
30 days	12 per cent
31 - 35 days	appropriate percentage

**C.** Annual vacations for caretakers shall normally be taken during spring break, summer vacation closure, and the Winter/New Year break. Caretakers, ten month clerical employees (District Secretary, School Secretary, Receptionist Secondary, Library Processing Clerk, Library Technologist, Library Assistant II's, Purchasing Clerk, Continuing Education Secretary and Accounting Clerk) Media Resource I & II, Resource Loans Clerk, Post-Secondary and Career Advisor and Work Experience/Employment Facilitator who have completed five (5) years of employment with the Board may take one (1) week of vacation during the school year. This school year vacation shall be taken no more often than once every two (2) years.

**D.** Cafeteria employees may take vacation days during a semester turnaround.

**E.** Employees will be entitled to take their vacation in an unbroken period except as in 6.1 C. above. All vacations shall be taken at a time mutually agreed between the employee and the Board.

- 1.** In the event an employee is unable to take vacation at the scheduled time the employee shall be entitled to reschedule the vacation at a mutually agreeable alternate time.
- 2.** In the event that a twelve (12) month employee who has approved vacation, changes status to a ten (10) month employee, the employee shall remain entitled to take that vacation period with pay providing the employee notifies the employer at the time of the status change.

**F. Sick/Bereavement Leave on Vacation**

- 1.** Sick/Bereavement leave may be substituted for vacation where it can be established (as provided in Article 6.10 D. for sick leave), by the employee that an illness, accident or bereavement occurred while they were on vacation, provided notice is given to the employer as soon as the need arises.

2. The unused portion of the vacation entitlement shall be taken at another time mutually agreeable to the employer and the employee.
3. This clause applies to all regular full time, full time school term and part time employees with benefits.

**G. Winter/Spring Break/Non-Instructional Days Vacation**

1. Full time and 12-month part time employees with benefits may apply to take paid vacation during the Winter and Spring breaks. It is recognized that it may not be possible for the Board to grant all requests. Requests will be granted on a first come first served basis.
2. Regular full time school term and regular part time school term employees with benefits may apply to take part of their vacation at Spring break. Such employees may also defer part of their vacation to be used at the next Winter break. Employees must apply for Spring break and/or Winter break vacation by March 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Employees will receive the balance of the vacation pay at the end of the school year as follows:
  - i. The employees may request payment in either a lump sum payment or continue to receive vacation pay bi-weekly on regular pay days. This request must be indicated on the vacation sheet.
  - ii. The lump sum payment if elected will be paid no later than two (2) days prior to the employee's last working day.
  - iii. If no request is received vacation pay shall be paid in a lump sum.
  - iv. In addition where Winter break is still in effect at the beginning of a calendar year, employees may apply to take these days as part of their next year's vacation.
  - v. These employees may also apply to take vacation on days when school is not in session for students.

**H.** Employees who are absent without pay for a period in excess of eighty (80) working days shall be paid the percentage of earnings set out under Article 6.1 B. This would not prevent an employee from taking the full number of days off, but they may return to work if they so wish. It is not the intent of this clause to apply to those employees absent on Maternity Leave. Employees receiving the percentage of earnings will not be allowed to carry these days over to the following year.

**I.**

1. Employees may carry forward one (1) week's paid vacation time (non-cumulative) over to the following year provided, however, that no employee shall be allowed to take less than two weeks' vacation per year.
2. This clause applies to full time and part-time employees.

3. All other conditions respecting annual vacations apply.

J.

1. Employees who do not qualify for three weeks' vacation shall on request be granted such additional time as will permit a three week vacation on the understanding that the leave:

- Is granted without pay, and
- Is taken at a time when such employees are normally permitted to schedule their holidays, and
- Is taken at a mutually agreed time, and
- This clause applies to full time employees only.

K. **Current Language:**

If two or more people in any work location have requested by March 1 vacation for the same period, vacation schedule approval will be based on the preference of the most senior employee.

All regular twelve (12) month employees with benefits must submit to Human Resources a preliminary vacation schedule by March 1 and their final annual vacation schedule no later than June 1 of each year or the supervisor will establish their vacation schedule. Employees who fail to schedule and/or take their vacation (unless unable to reschedule due to continuing illness) within the time frames established in this article shall be paid for vacation days taken only and shall not be entitled to the percentage of earnings specified above.

K. **Effective July 1, 2023, delete article 6.1.K and replace with:**

If two or more people in any work location have requested by March 1 vacation for the same period, vacation schedule approval will be based on the preference of the most senior employee.

All regular twelve (12) month employees with benefits must submit to Human Resources a preliminary vacation schedule by March 1 and their final annual vacation schedule no later than June 1 of each year or the supervisor will establish their vacation schedule. Employees who fail to schedule and/or take their vacation (unless unable to reschedule due to continuing illness) within the time frames established in this article shall be paid for vacation days taken and will be paid out the remainder of their vacation days on the last pay period of December.

L. **Vacation Pay**

Provided three weeks' notice is given, employees leaving on a minimum of one (1) weeks' vacation will be paid at least two (2) working days prior to the last working day before the beginning of the annual holiday.

- M. All requests for vacation or changes to scheduled vacation must be received and approved by the employee's Administrator/Exempt Staff Supervisor twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled vacation. This requirement may be waived in emergent circumstances as determined by the employer.

**6.2 Statutory Holidays**

- A. All regular full time, full time school term, and part time employees receiving benefits per Article 6.16 who have been employed thirty (30) calendar days or more shall be paid for the following statutory holidays:

New Year's Day	Family Day	Christmas Day
Easter Monday	Victoria Day	Good Friday
B.C. Day	Labour Day	Canada Day
Remembrance Day	Truth and Reconciliation Day	Thanksgiving Day
		Boxing Day

and any other day proclaimed by the Federal and/or Provincial Government. If there is a difference between the federal and provincial and statutory holiday date chosen for Truth and Reconciliation Day, the provincial day will be observed.

- B. Any employee who has an unpaid leave of absence of sixty-one (61) working days or more will not be eligible for a statutory holiday which occurs during that leave.
- C. Any employee listed above who is at work on the last working day before Christmas and/or New Year's Day will be granted paid leave for the last half of that shift, unless it is a day that school is in session.
- D. When statutory holidays fall on a Saturday or a Sunday and no day is proclaimed in their stead, then such holidays shall be added to the next annual vacation of each employee.  
(Note: See Article 6.17 A. regarding statutory holiday pay for Student Grounds.)

**6.3 Leave of Absence**

Written request for leave of absence shall be made to the Superintendent of Schools or their designate. Forms must be received by the employee's Administrator/Exempt Staff Supervisor twenty-four (24) hours prior to the requested absence. The 24 hour requirement may be waived in emergent circumstances as determined by the employer.

**A. Bereavement Leave**

1. A full time and full time school term employee and employees covered in Article 6.16 shall be granted up to five (5) days leave, without loss of salary or wages, to be off work due to the death of a direct relative in the family. Direct relative shall be defined as common-law spouse, sibling, parent, surrogate parent, grandparent, (not including grandparent-in-law), child, grandchild, parent of common law spouse.
2. Part time employees without benefits and casual employees shall be granted up to five (5)



days unpaid leave, to be off work due to the death of a direct relative in the family. Direct relative shall be defined as common-law spouse, sibling parent, surrogate parent, grandparent, (not including grandparent-in-law), child, grandchild, parent of common law spouse.

3. An employee shall be granted up to one-half (1/2) day with pay to attend a funeral as a pallbearer.
4. At the discretion of the Board, an employee may be granted leave of absence without pay to attend a funeral as a mourner.
5. Up to one (1) day of paid leave shall be granted to attend the funeral of a brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece.

**B. Leave of Absence for Public Office**

1. The Board recognizes the right of an employee to participate in public affairs. Therefore, upon written request, the Board shall grant leave of absence without pay to such employees. In the event that the leave does not exceed five (5) working days, the employee's benefits shall be maintained and the Board will pay its annual share of such benefits. Benefits for employees granted leave for a longer period than five (5) working days shall be continued in effect but be paid for by the employee.
2. An employee who is elected to public office shall be granted leave of absence without pay and benefits. Upon return from the leave of absence the employee shall return to the first vacant position for which they are qualified. On return from leave of absence an employee shall be granted the same number of days of seniority as on the date of leaving.

**C. Leave of Absence for Union Office**

1. An employee who is elected by the Local or selected by the Local to a full or part time position with Local 561 shall be granted leave of absence provided:
  - i. The leave is requested by the Local in writing.
  - ii. The Local shall request in writing each year a renewal of such leave.
  - iii. Adequate notice of the leave requested is given to permit the Board to arrange a suitable replacement.
  - iv. It is understood the employee may return to their former position at any time following completion of their term of office.
  - v. The employee who replaced the full-time officer shall be advised of (iv) above when offered the position and upon the return of the full-time officer the employee being replaced shall be issued layoff notice.

- vi. Upon receipt of a request for leave under this Article 6.3 C., the employee shall receive pay and benefits as provided for in this Agreement. The benefits shall include, pension, vacation, sick leave, etc. The Union shall reimburse the Board monthly for all costs.
2. It is agreed that any employee who is elected or selected to a full time position with any body with which the Union is affiliated, shall be granted leave of absence without pay and without loss of seniority calculated to the date of leaving for a period up to one (1) year and may be renewed each year on request during their term of office. The employee may return to the first vacant position for which they are qualified.
3. **Conventions, Conferences, Workshops and Seminars**  
It is agreed that official representatives named by the Union be granted leave of absence without pay to attend Union workshops, seminars, conferences or conventions of the Union and its affiliates; provided not more than eight (8) Union representatives shall be away at any one (1) time. Such leave of absence shall not affect the employee's seniority and/or benefits contained in this Agreement.

**D. Leave of Absence (General)**

1. An employee, with benefits, shall be entitled to leave of absence with pay for up to one (1) day per year for the following:
- i. To attend an employee's own graduation or a graduation ceremony of an employee's child at high school or a recognized post-secondary educational institute. This leave shall be provided when the ceremony is held during the employee's regular hours of work.
  - ii. To attend their formal hearing to become a Canadian citizen (also applicable to employees without benefits if previously scheduled to work).
  - iii. To attend the birth or adoption of an employee's grandchild within two (2) week(s) of the birth or adoption.
  - iv. To attend court about an employee's dependent child where the court requires the attendance of the parent (also applicable to employees without benefits if previously scheduled to work).
  - v. To allow an employee a maximum of two (2) days per year to attend to an ill spouse and/or ill parent.
2. The Board may grant leave of absence without pay for other reasons. Such leave shall be available as shown below. The Board shall not unreasonably deny these leaves:
- i. **Educational Leave**
    - a. of up to one (1) year to attend a recognized post-secondary or trade institution provided that the employee has been employed with the Board for five (5) consecutive years or provided five (5) years have elapsed since the employee's return to work from a previously approved educational leave.

- b. Such leave shall be requested in writing no later than two months prior to the requested start date of the leave.

**ii. General Leaves Without Pay**

- a. Up to fifteen (15) days per employee per year on the employee's written request.
  - b. Upon completion of 10 years of service and upon written request, an employee may be granted up to an additional five (5) days. These additional days are available to employees upon completion of their tenth year of service and every second year thereafter. Such additional leave must be taken within the year.
  - c. Up to sixty (60) consecutive working days after three (3) consecutive years of employment with the Board or after three (3) years have elapsed since the employee's return from a similar previous leave. Such leave shall be requested no later than one (1) month prior to the requested start date of the leave.
3. Approved unpaid leaves of absence of up to and including seventy-five (75) working days per year shall not affect seniority, vacation, or any other benefit or condition contained in this Collective Agreement. Where an employee is granted additional days as per Article 6.3 D.2.ii.b. & c., the employee's seniority, vacation or any other benefit contained in this collective agreement shall not be affected.
4. Employees returning to work after an absence for any reason shall notify the electronic system of their intent to return as early as possible. If an employee returns to work without notifying the electronic system at least three (3) hours before they are about to return, the employee shall be deducted salary for one (1) day. It is agreed that this paragraph does not apply if an employee returns to work having received clearance from their physician to do so within three (3) hours prior to returning.

If an employee has physician clearance but is unable to perform full duties, they must contact the Human Resources Department before returning to work in order to arrange graduated/modified duties where feasible.

5. When an employee is unable to obtain suitable care for their child (under age 21 and living at home) or foster child who is ill or severely injured, the employee shall be granted up to two (2) days of paid leave per year (based on assigned hours) for the period of time the employee is required to be off work to provide said care.

**E. Educational Leave**

The Board and the Union encourage employees to attend training and upgrading courses, seminars and workshops.

The Board and the Union shall each contribute \$10.00 per employee with benefits each year for Educational Leave.

An Educational Leave Committee of four (4) members shall be established. The Union shall

appoint two (2) employees to the committee. The Board shall appoint two (2) non-union employees to the committee.

The Committee shall administer the Education Leave program under the approved terms of reference agreed to by the Board and the Union setting out the regulations governing the operation and administration of the fund.

The Committee may refer applications for job-related courses to the employer for consideration for funding under Article 6.18.

**F. Parenthood Leave**

Employees are entitled to the greater of Parental Leave as per the current Employment Standards Act or the following:

**1. Length of Leave**

**i. Birth Mother**

A pregnant employee shall be entitled to up to seventeen (17) consecutive weeks of maternity leave and up to thirty-five (35) consecutive weeks of parental leave, without pay beginning immediately after the end of the pregnancy leave unless the employer and employee agree otherwise.

A birth mother who does not take pregnancy leave shall be entitled to up to thirty-seven (37) consecutive week's parental leave without pay beginning after the child's birth and within fifty-two (52) weeks of the child's birth.

In the event the birth mother dies or is totally disabled, the father of the child shall be entitled to both pregnancy and parental leave without pay.

**ii. Non-Birthing and Adoptive Parents**

An employee who is the non-birthing or adoptive parent shall be entitled to up to thirty-seven (37) consecutive weeks of parental leave without pay. The employee shall take the leave within fifty-two (52) weeks of the child's birth or the date the child comes within the care and custody of the employee.

**iii. Extensions - Special Circumstances**

An employee shall be entitled to extend the pregnancy leave by up to an additional six (6) consecutive weeks leave where a physician certifies the employee as unable to return to work for medical reasons related to the birth.

Provided however, that in no case shall the combined pregnancy and parental leave exceed fifty-two (52) consecutive weeks (plus any allowable extension permitted by the Employment Standards Act) following the commencement of such leave.

An employee shall be entitled to extend the parental leave by up to an additional five (5) weeks leave without pay where the child has a physical, psychological or emotional condition requiring an additional period of parental care.

**iv. If both parents are employees of the Board and one (1) parent uses parental leave**

the other parent is not eligible for such leave.

## **2. Notice Requirements and Commencement of Leave**

- i. An employee who requests parental leave for the adoption or caring of a child shall be required to provide proof of adoption or birth of the child.
- ii. An employee shall provide written notice, at least four (4) weeks in advance, of the intended commencement date of the maternity and/or parental leave. (In the case of the adoption of a child, the employee shall provide as much notice as possible.)
- iii. The Board may require a pregnant employee to commence pregnancy leave where the duties of the employee cannot reasonably be performed because of the pregnancy nor can the employee be reasonably accommodated in another comparable position. In such cases the employee's previously scheduled leave period will not be affected.
- iv. The Board shall contact in writing the employee who has been granted pregnancy or parental leave no later than eight (8) weeks prior to the anticipated date of the return from such leave, to determine the date of return to work. The employee must provide four (4) weeks' notice in writing of the date they intend to return to work.
- v. An employee on pregnancy leave shall provide at least one (1) week's written notice if they wish to return to work within six (6) weeks following the commencement of pregnancy leave. The employee may be required to provide a certificate from a medical practitioner stating the employee is able to return to work.
- vi. Where a pregnant employee gives birth before requesting pregnancy leave or before commencing pregnancy leave, their pregnancy will be deemed to have started on the date they gave birth.

## **3. Return to Work**

- i. On resuming employment an employee returning from pregnancy leave or parental leave shall be reinstated in all respects in their position previously occupied by the employee.
- ii. On resuming employment an employee shall have the leave time counted as service for all benefit entitlements and vacation purposes.

## **4. Benefits**

- i. MSP, Dental, EHB, and Life Insurance benefits shall continue uninterrupted during the period of time the employee is on pregnancy or parental leave provided that the employee makes arrangements prior to commencing the leave to pay their share of the benefit premiums for that period where the premiums are cost shared. Where an employee makes arrangements to continue benefits coverage all benefits named in this paragraph shall continue.
- ii. The employer share of pension contributions will be paid either during the period of

the leave if the employee makes arrangements prior to commencing the leave to pay the employee share of contributions under the pension plan while on leave, or once the employee initiates a leave buyback and receives MPP approval of such.

**5. Paternity/Adoption Leave**

At the birth/adoption of a child, up to two (2) days leave of absence (with pay) may be taken either:

- i. At the time of birth to transport spouse to and from hospital or during the term when the spouse is confined to hospital; and
- ii. At the time of adoption.

**G. Leave of Absence Jury Duty and/or Crown Witness**

It is understood and agreed that where an employee is required to serve on a jury or as a crown witness, and is absent from duty, said employee should continue to receive their regular wage rate or salary. It is further agreed and understood that said employee shall turn over or cause to be turned over to the Board, any monies received as jury pay, other than meals and mileage.

**H. Religious Leave**

Religious leave may or may not be granted with or without pay. Employees applying for leave under this clause must provide three (3) weeks' notice and must be prepared to satisfy all of the employer requests for information regarding the religious observance and leave request. The Employer will not unreasonably deny requests.

**I. Effective July 1, 2023:  
Cultural Leave for Indigenous Employees**

Indigenous employees may request up to two (2) days leave with pay per calendar year to participate in ceremonial, cultural, or spiritual events. The Employer will not unreasonably deny requests.

A minimum of two weeks' notice is required for leave under this provision. Where two weeks' notice is not possible due to the unpredictable nature of the event, then as much notice as possible shall be provided.

#### **6.4 Insurance Contracts**

Prior to the Board placing any medical, dental or insurance policy provided for in this agreement with a carrier, the Labour Management Committee shall review the wording of the policy. The intent of this review will be to establish the effective date of the policy and determine that the proposed policy includes the benefits set out in this agreement. When the Board places the policy with a carrier, the terms of the insurance contract shall govern all benefits to be paid.

It is the responsibility of each employee to complete and return to the Board the appropriate documentation in order to receive coverage and to update the documentation from time to time.

#### **6.5 Medical Services Plan & Extended Health Benefits**

The Board shall make the basic Medical Services Plan, the Extended Health and Vision Care plans available to all full time, full time school term employees and employees covered by Article 6.16 of this agreement.

The coverage shall include:

- A.** The basic coverage provided under the Medical Services Plan of B.C., and
- B.** Pacific Blue Cross Extended Health Benefits,
  - 1.** With a maximum lifetime limitation for any one (1) member or dependent of \$500,000.00, and
  - 2.** 100% of the excess over the accumulation of the first \$100.00 deductible, and
- C.** The Pacific Blue Cross Vision Care Benefits, the maximum amount claimable per two (2) calendar year period shall be \$650.00.
- D.** Pacific Blue Cross Plan to include coverage for hearing aids, with \$3000 claimable every four (4) years.

The Board shall pay 80% of the Medical Services Plan Premium and 100% of the Pacific Blue Cross Extended Health Benefit premium except as provided in Articles, 6.10 E., 6.11 C., and 6.16 of this agreement.

#### **6.6 Dental Plan**

The Board shall keep in force, a contract with a carrier to provide a dental plan for employees. The plan shall cover all full time, full time school term employees and part time employees covered by Article 6.16 of this agreement.

The coverage shall include:

- A.** Basic dental services including diagnostic, preventative, surgical, restorative, prosthetic, endodontics and periodontics services.
- B.** Prosthetic appliances, crown and bridge procedures.
- C.** Orthodontics.

Costs paid by the plan shall be the following percentage calculated in accordance with the current fee schedule, or the dentists' usual and customary fee, whichever is the lesser.

1. Basic dental services - 80%.
2. Prosthetics, crown and bridge procedures - 60%.
3. Orthodontics - 60% with a maximum lifetime benefit of \$5,000 for each insured with coverage to cease upon termination of employment.

Premiums will be paid 100% by the Board except as provided for in Articles 6.10 E, 6.11 C, and 6.16.

### **6.7 Group Life Insurance**

A Group Life Insurance program shall be implemented by the Board offering the following life insurance coverage to full time, full time school term employees and employees covered under Article 6.16.

A \$50,000.00 non-reducing term life insurance will be provided, terminating on retirement or age 70, whichever is earlier.

Premiums shall be shared 50% by the Board and 50% by participating employees except as provided in A., B. and D. below.

- A. After the fifth anniversary of joining the plan, the employee shall pay 25% of the premium and the Board 75%.
- B. After the tenth anniversary of joining the plan, the Board shall pay 100% of the premium. The anniversary date for calculation of 1 and 2 above shall be April 1st of each year.
- C. It is understood and agreed that dividend payments received on the policy will be shared between the Board and the employees on the same basis as contributions for the year on which the dividend is paid.
- D. Premiums for part time employees with reduced hours as a result of enrollment decrease shall be governed by Article 6.17 C.

Full time employees reverting to part time employment as a result of declining enrollment please refer to Article 6.17 C.

### **6.8 Insurance - Tools**

The Board shall provide fire and theft insurance covering the tools owned by employees and used in performance of their duties with the Board. The limit of such coverage shall be \$600.00 per employee with a \$30.00 deductible on theft. The insurance coverage will apply while the tools are on Board premises and while in transit.

### **6.9 ICBC Regulations**

The Board will reimburse an employee for an increase in the basic premium in the employee's



auto insurance premium that results from an accident for which the employee is not at fault while the employee is using their vehicle on school business while the employee is employed by the Board. Where such an accident results in the loss of RoadStar or similar coverage, the Board shall not be liable for an increase in the employee's auto insurance that results from a subsequent accident which occurs other than while the employee is using their vehicle on school business while the employee is employed by the Board.

## **6.10 Sick Leave**

### **A. Sick Leave Program**

1. All permanent employees with benefits shall be entitled to sick leave on the basis of one and one-half (1 ½) days for each calendar month worked, pro-rated for the assigned hours fraction in the case of part-time positions.
2. Employees shall not be granted paid sick leave until they have completed three (3) months' service. After three (3) months' service, employees shall be entitled to sick leave credit on the basis of one and one-half (1 ½) days for each month worked, retroactive to the first complete calendar month of employment.
3. Twelve (12) month employees shall be credited with eighteen (18) days sick leave January 01, of each calendar year.
4. Ten (10) month employees shall be credited with fifteen (15) days sick leave January 01, of each calendar year. It is understood that ten (10) month employees who work one (1) day in July and/or August shall be credited with one and one half days (1 ½) days sick leave for each month. Statutory Holiday pay and/or vacation pay paid in July or August to ten (10) month employees does not qualify the employee for the additional sick leave credits.
5. Employees absent due to illness who return from paid sick leave will have their sick leave entitlement calculated proportionately based upon the date the employee returns to work.
6. If an employee terminates before the end of the calendar year the employer shall recover any overpayment of sick leave. Such overpayment shall be recovered from vacation credits, severance pay, vacation deferral and/or from the employee's final pay.
7. An employee who has exhausted accumulated sick leave credits shall be placed on sick leave without pay.
8. An employee on sick leave without pay shall continue to accumulate sick leave credits for a maximum of six (6) months from the date of being placed on sick leave without pay. This does not apply to employees receiving sick leave top-up under Article 6.11A.

### **B. Sick Leave Accumulation**

Employees will be permitted to accumulate sick leave without restriction from year to year.

**C. Sick Leave Usage**

1. A deduction shall be made from accumulated sick leave credits of all working days absent with pay due to illness, except those resulting from an accident on the job, for which the employee is covered by Workers' Compensation.

**2. Subrogation:**

i. Where an employee is involved in an accident and as a result is paid sick leave during absence from work, any sick leave pay compensation recovered from an insurer or court award shall be repaid by the employee to the Board.

ii. The Board shall thereupon reinstate the number of days of sick leave credit represented by the repayment of wages and employer's cost of benefits.

D. An employee requesting sick leave with pay, may be required to produce a certificate from a registered practicing physician certifying that such employee is unable to carry out their duties due to illness and the cost of such certificate shall be borne by the employer.

**E. Benefits While on Sick Leave Without Pay**

1. In the event that an employee is absent on sick leave without pay, the employee shall be covered by the dental and medical plans as in Article 6.5 and 6.6 for a period not exceeding six (6) months. Premiums on behalf of such employees shall be paid during the period of absence, 45% by the Union and 55% by the Board.

2. An employee on sick leave without pay shall be credited with any statutory holiday pay for a maximum period of six (6) months after being placed on sick leave without pay.

F. Ill employees will not be requested to pick up or deliver keys.

**6.11 WorkSafeBC Payments  
Workers' Compensation**

A. Sick leave benefit shall apply to employees absent from work as the result of a disability which has been assessed as compensable and for which WorkSafeBC is paying wage loss benefits. WorkSafeBC shall pay the wage loss benefit direct to the Board and the Board shall make up the difference between the compensation payment and full pay. The employee's accumulated sick credit shall be reduced for each day's absence by a fraction of one (1) day. The fraction shall be equal to that portion of full pay being made up by the Board. Employees receiving sick leave top up under this clause shall continue to receive sick leave credit per Article 6.10 A.

B. Employees returning to work from a WorkSafeBC injury that arose out of and in the course of employment with the Board, and who were receiving wage loss benefits direct from WorkSafeBC as a result of the depletion of their accumulated sick leave credit, shall be entitled to vacation on returning to work as follows:

1. If returning to work in the same year as the injury occurred, the remaining vacation days for that year are to be taken or carried forward in accordance with Article 6.1, and in the following year, the employee shall receive the full allotment of vacation days in accordance with Article 6.1 (If unable to return to work in the same year as the injury occurred, the employee will be paid the remainder of the vacation entitlement at the end of that year.);
  2. If absent and receiving wage loss benefits direct from WorkSafeBC for one (1) or more complete calendar years, no vacation is applicable for those years;
  3. In the year the employee returns to work, the number of days of vacation entitlement for that year shall be prorated according to the number of complete calendar months remaining in the year and in the following year, the employee shall receive the full allotment of vacation days in accordance with Article 6.1.
- C MSP, Dental, EHB, and Life Insurance benefits shall continue uninterrupted for a period of up to six (6) months following expiry of sick leave top-up provided that the employee makes arrangements to pay their share of the benefit premiums for that period where the premiums are cost shared. Where an employee makes arrangements to continue benefits coverage all benefits named in this paragraph shall continue.

#### **6.12 Transportation Allowance**

- A.
1. Employees designated by the Superintendent of Schools or their designate, who are required to use their own vehicles to carry out their normal assignment, shall receive a basic travel allowance of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars per month in addition to the mileage indicated below.
  2. The job posting shall indicate “business use of personal vehicle required”.
  3. To receive the aforementioned allowance, employees may be required annually to file proof of purchase of business insurance as determined by the employer based on insurance regulations.
- B. It is agreed and understood that no employee shall be required to transport or haul in or upon their vehicle any materials or goods on behalf of the Board. Employees who, on a voluntary basis, carry equipment/supplies in a private vehicle shall receive, upon application and approval by the Superintendent or designate, an allowance of twenty \$20.00 dollars per month when such cartage is required two (2) or more days per week.
- C. Employees designated in A above, or any other employee requested and agreeable to use their vehicle on behalf of the Board shall receive payment for mileage at the rate of fifty- two (52) cents per kilometer.
- D. Employees not designated to receive \$25.00 travel allowance will not be requested to use their vehicle in violation of ICBC Regulations requiring business insurance.

### **6.13 Pension**

Employees hired after December 31, 2017, shall, subject to Municipal Pension Plan Eligibility requirements, participate and be enrolled in the Municipal Pension Plan.

### **6.14 Benefits Upon Leaving Service of the Board**

#### **A. Service Recognition and Sick Leave Gratuity Pay**

1. On severance or retirement, an employee whose age and ten (10) years of seniority equals sixty (60) or more, having accrued sick leave to their credit shall receive an amount in lieu thereof equal to such credit to a maximum of eighty (80) days at the rate of pay effective immediately prior to severance or retirement.
2. In the event of the death of an employee, the value of all accrued sick leave shall be paid as calculated in A.1. above to the employee's designated beneficiary or the employee's estate, where a beneficiary has not been designated.

#### **B. Leaving Service or Retirement**

An employee leaving the service of the Board after accumulating ten (10) years' seniority shall receive one (1) additional month's pay at the current salary rate at the time the employee leaves the service of the Board.

### **6.15 Benefits on Death**

- A. All benefits payable on the death of the employee shall be paid to the estate of the employee except where the employee has named a beneficiary as in the case of a life insurance policy.
- B. The Board agrees that upon the death of an employee the Board will continue the benefits and pay all premiums for MSP, EHB, and Dental for the month in which the death occurred and for two calendar months thereafter.

### **6.16 Part-Time Employees' Benefits**

Part time employees working 20 or more hours per week, will be granted full benefits on a cost sharing basis whereby the Board will pay seventy-five percent toward the premium which the Board would pay toward the benefits of a full time employee. Statutory holiday pay will be paid provided the employee qualifies as set out in Article 6.2, Statutory Holidays. The hours paid for a day on sick leave, vacation or a statutory holiday shall be the number of hours normally assigned by the Board for that day.

If the hours of work of the above employees or full time employees are reduced below twenty (20) hours but not less than fifteen (15) hours per week, the employees will continue on full benefits provided that:

1. The employee elects to receive the benefits instead of the allowance paid in lieu of benefits to casual and part time employees as per Article 6.17; and
2. The election in (1.) is irrevocable. The irrevocable election may be changed with approval of the Superintendent of Schools or their designate under extenuating circumstances,

such as death of a spouse or a divorce; and

3. The Board will pay 50% towards the premium which the Board would pay toward the benefits of full time employees.

#### **6.17 Part-Time and Casual Employees' Benefits**

##### **A. Allowance**

Except as provided for in Article 6.16 of this Agreement, an allowance of 16% of gross salary shall be paid to casual employees and to part-time employees as payment for all benefits set out in this Agreement.

This allowance does not apply to Student Grounds who will receive four (4) percent vacation pay (each pay day) as set out in Article 6.1 A.4. and Statutory Holiday pay as set out in Article 6.2.

##### **B. Sick Leave**

When an employee who receives sick benefits is assigned to work less than 20 hours per week, they shall have the option to elect an allowance of 12% of gross salary and carry forward sick credit. If an employee uses all the sick leave to their credit, they will revert to the 16% allowance basis.

##### **C. Group Life - (decrease in enrollment)**

When part time employment falls below 20 hours as a result of a decrease in the enrollment of a school, the Board will pay and subsequently bill the employee each month for the full cost of Group Life Insurance premiums if the employee wishes to continue coverage.

#### **6.18 Job Related Courses**

The employer and Union encourage employees to attend training and upgrading courses, seminars, and workshops related to their work. When the employer requires an employee to take certain training, the employer will pay the cost of tuition and textbooks.

The Board, with prior written approval from the Superintendent of Schools or designate, will reimburse employees for fees or texts for job-related courses. Reimbursement will be contingent upon receipt of proof of participation and/or satisfactory completion of the course work. It is understood that any leave of absence approval and the total funds available will be at the discretion of the employer.

This will not preclude any training procedures with regard to technological change as outlined in the Letter of Intent of April 9, 1987 as agreed and attached to and forming part of this Agreement.

#### **6.19 Employee Assistance Program**

The Board and the Union agree to maintain an employee assistance program as mutually agreed between the parties, funded fully by the Board.

## **ARTICLE 7: EMPLOYMENT**

### **7.1 Medical Examinations**

It is agreed and understood that when an employee is required by the Board to undergo a medical examination, the cost of such examination shall be borne by the Board in the sum agreed to between the Board and its Industrial Medical Officer.

It is further agreed that this clause shall be applicable to persons about to enter the service of the Board.

### **7.2 Pay Days**

Pay days shall be on a bi-weekly basis. Pay day will be every second Friday for the pay period ending on the previous Saturday.

All employees must utilize the automatic deposit payroll system.

The employer shall provide an employee with a cheque for wages if the bank deposit system fails.

### **7.3 Seniority List and Appeals Definition of Seniority**

#### **A. Current Language:**

Seniority is defined as the length of service in the bargaining unit and shall be applied on a bargaining unit-wide basis. Seniority shall be applied in determining vacation entitlement and priority for such matters as promotion, transfer, layoffs, or recall, as set out in other provisions of this Agreement.

#### **Effective January 1, 2023 delete Article 7.3.A and replace with:**

Seniority is defined as the length of service in the bargaining unit and shall be applied on a bargaining unit-wide basis. Seniority shall be applied in determining vacation entitlement, with the exception of employees outlined in 6.1.A.6, and priority for such matters as promotion, transfer, layoffs, or recall, as set out in other provisions of this Agreement.

**B.** Leaves of absence may affect seniority as per Article 6.3 (Leave of Absence) except that in the case of pregnancy, paternity, or adoption leave without pay, seniority credit shall be granted for a period of up to twenty-four (24) weeks.

**C.** Casual employees will accumulate seniority within the casual employee ranks. This seniority will only be used when comparing one (1) casual employee to another casual employee applying for a position with the Board. The seniority will not be used in assigning work to casual employees. Casual employees shall have the right to apply for regular full time and regular part time positions as shown below. A casual employee who is successful in getting a permanent position shall have their accumulated seniority credited retroactively once the employee has passed a probationary period in a permanent position.

**1.** Casual employees shall gain bidding rights upon completion of ninety (90) shifts.

2. Noon Hour Assistants and Cashiers shall be required to work ninety (90) shifts as a Noon Hour Assistant or Cashier to gain bidding rights for other Noon Hour Assistant and Cashier positions and three hundred and sixty (360) shifts to gain bidding rights for other positions.
  3. A Noon Hour Assistant or Cashier who works casual hours in other classifications must work ninety (90) shifts as a casual employee in those other classifications or three hundred and sixty (360) shifts as a Noon Hour Assistant or Cashier to gain bidding rights.
  4. Upon attaining bidding rights, casual employees, Noon Hour Assistants and Cashiers shall be able to use their seniority in applying for posted positions.
  5. Casual employees who have not attained bidding rights may apply for posted positions and will be considered as outside applicants.
- D. The Board will maintain a record showing the date upon which each employee's service commenced and terminated.
- E. Any employee may request information from the Board relative to their own seniority. On request, the National Representative or President of the Union will be supplied with a copy of such record and/or with the necessary information relative to the seniority and rates of pay of any employee or group of employees covered by this Agreement.
- F.
1. A Seniority list indicating seniority as at the final pay period of the previous year will be issued to each work location and to the Union by March 01 of each year. This shall be deemed to be correct for that year unless a written objection is filed in the Human Resources Department from an employee or the Union by April 01 of that year.
  2. A Seniority appeals committee comprised of two members from CUPE and two members from management shall review each appeal and issue a unanimous decision. If a unanimous decision is not achieved, the employee may file a grievance.
  3. Seniority appeals are limited to the calculation of seniority for the year of the seniority list only and no changes will be made for previous years.
  4. The seniority appeals committee may consider changes to previous years' seniority upon the specific request of the Union.
- G. Seniority shall be calculated and reported as total accumulated hours (a tie will be decided by date of hire) as outlined below except that for purpose of:
1. Article 6.1 Vacation – hours shall be converted to years of seniority annually as at the final pay period of the year. For purpose of this section, a year of seniority is 1820 or more hours as calculated below.

2. Article 6.14 Benefits Upon Leaving Service of the Board – years of seniority shall be calculated using the previous year’s vacation seniority plus the hours up to the employee’s last day of employment as calculated below.

i. All regular hours worked: specifically –

- a. Regular hours
- b. Casual hours (seniority credited as a casual employee will be accumulative and credited retroactively once the employee has passed a probationary period in a permanent position)
- c. Part time hours
- d. "Special funding hours"
- e. Continuing appointment school term employees working additional hours, e.g. during July or August on a casual time or draw time basis.
- f. Vacation hours

ii. While on WorkSafeBC leave.

iii. While on Deferred Salary Leave for the ratio worked, e.g. a ten-month employee would not receive credit for weeks or months not normally worked.

iv. While on E.I. Sick Leave, EI Compassionate Care Leave, Sick Leave Trust/Sick Leave Benefit Plan and LTD.

v. While on leave of absence with pay.

vi. While on approved Leave of Absence without pay.

vii. While on maternity leave per (6.3) Employment Standards Act.

viii. The above shall apply to casual employees for the duration of posted temporary positions and assigned backfills.

**H. Return to Bargaining Unit from Secondment**

An employee who is seconded to an exempt staff position outside of the bargaining unit will not gain seniority while in the secondment. The seniority they have accrued prior to the secondment will be frozen and will be reactivated when the employee returns to the bargaining unit.

**7.4 Orientation and Familiarization**

There shall be up to a three-day orientation and familiarization period for a new employee and for employees who transfer or post to a new school, location, or job function. Adequate time shall be allowed to the employee who supervises the orientation and familiarization period in order that they will not be required to take time from their own or new position to complete the process.



## **7.5 Promotions, Demotions and Transfers**

- A.** In making promotions, demotions, or transfers, the required knowledge, ability and skills for the positions shall be the primary consideration. Where an employee applies for promotion, demotion or transfer and has the knowledge to fill the vacancy, the employee shall be given the opportunity to prove ability and skills in the position, provided that:
1. The employee has not been employed in a position with the Board where they have demonstrated this ability and skills for such a position, and
  2. The employee has seniority over all other applicants.
  3. Where two or more applicants are capable of fulfilling the duties of the position, seniority shall be the determining factor provided always that current service employees shall be given preference over any other type of applicants.
  4. For class specifications with the title Supervisor or Leadhand, the employer will interview and test the four (4) most senior applicants possessing qualifications for the posted position. Selection for the position will then be based on knowledge, ability and skills.

In the event that two (2) or more of the candidates interviewed are relatively equal in terms of knowledge, ability and skills, the employer will select the most senior applicants.

The Union will be present for the interview process. In the event none of the four (4) most senior internal candidates possess the required knowledge, ability and skills, then the next four (4) most senior applicants possessing qualifications will be considered. This process will continue in increments of four (4) or less until a candidate has been selected or all internal applicants have been deemed to not have the knowledge, ability or skill.

Only once the internal process has been exhausted, can the Board consider or advertise for outside applicants.

The successful applicant will be given a sixty (60) working day trial period.

- B.** In the event of layoffs, the employee with the least seniority shall be the first laid off.
- C.** It is further understood and agreed that the employees concerned retain the right to appeal under the grievance procedure contained in this Agreement.
- D.** If a regular employee is promoted or transferred or demoted to a classification for which the Union is the certified bargaining authority, then the promoted employee shall be considered an employee "on trial" for a period of thirty (30) working days exclusive of holidays, leaves of absence and illness.
- E.** In the event an employee who is promoted, demoted or transferred (to a different classification) proves unsatisfactory or is dissatisfied during the aforementioned period, they shall be returned to their former position or to a position of equal status if the former position no longer exists, without loss of seniority or salary and any other employee promoted or transferred because of the rearrangement of positions shall, if necessary, be returned to their

former position without loss of seniority or salary. Application for transfer, as outlined in paragraph H, shall not apply to employees returned to a position of "equal status".

- F. Any employee promoted or transferred or demoted into a different classification may be required to stay in the position for a period of fifteen (15) working days, notwithstanding that they may have expressed dissatisfaction with the position. If the employee returns to their original position or leaves the employ of the Board within the above-mentioned "on trial" period, the posting file will be reopened once. If this reopening does not produce a successful candidate, the position will be reposted.
- G. If a regular employee transfers within the same classification and if the employee is dissatisfied with the new position(s) they may revert to their former position within five (5) working days. If the employee chooses to revert back, the posting file will be reopened once. If this reopening does not produce a successful candidate, the position will be reposted.

**H. Current Language:**

Where an employee requests and receives a permanent transfer from one place of work to another, such employee shall not be eligible to apply for another permanent transfer for a period of twelve (12) months following the effective date of transfer. Employees who wish to revert back as outlined in E and G above shall not be entitled to do so if they have exercised this option during the previous twenty-four (24) months. However, it is understood and agreed that the Board may at its discretion initiate transfers during the aforementioned periods. This provision shall not prohibit an employee making an application for promotion.

**H. Effective June 30, 2023, delete article 7.5.H and replace with:**

Where an employee had previously accepted or accepts a permanent position, such employee shall only be eligible to apply for permanent transfer after a period of twelve (12) months following the effective date of the position or during the spring staffing process for positions for the following school year. Employees who wish to revert back as outlined in E and G above shall not be entitled to do so if they have exercised this option during the previous twenty-four (24) months. However, it is understood and agreed that the Board may at its discretion initiate transfers during the aforementioned periods. This provision shall not prohibit an employee making an application for promotion.

- I. Education Assistants shall only be eligible to apply for a transfer, into another Education Assistant position during the spring staffing process for positions for the following school year, unless the position is a promotion.

An E.A. may choose to apply for a permanent transfer to a position outside of the E.A. classification. If this occurs, the employee may subsequently apply for an E.A. position only during the spring staffing process for positions for the following school year. However, it is understood and agreed that the Board may, at its discretion, initiate E.A. transfers at any time or when requested by the Union in exceptional circumstances.

## **7.6 Termination of Service**

### **A. Termination of Service**

The Board will give employees who have completed their probation period with less than one (1) year of service, two (2) calendar weeks' notice, or two (2) calendar weeks' pay in lieu of notice when an employee's services are no longer required.

The Board will give employees, with more than one (1) year of service, one (1) month's notice or one (1) month's pay in lieu of notice, when an employee's services are no longer required.

Wherever possible, an employee will give the Board two (2) calendar weeks' notice of termination of employment.

### **B. Dismissal**

Employees, for proper cause, may be dismissed without notice and at the time of such dismissal shall be entitled to all earned, accumulated and statutory benefits. Any employee dismissed with or without notice and/or benefits shall retain the right to the established grievance procedure outlined in this Agreement.

Where an employee has been dismissed with or without notice, and has submitted an appeal in accordance with the provisions of the grievance procedure contained in this Agreement and as a direct result is subsequently reinstated, they shall be reimbursed with full pay for the period between dismissal and reinstatement.

Where an employee is dismissed for proper cause, the Board shall advise the employee, at the time of dismissal in writing, of the reason for dismissal.

Where an employee is dismissed for proper cause they shall not be eligible for payment of service recognition.

- C.** The parties agree that casual employees who are terminated have access to the grievance procedure.
- D.** It is recognized that the district faces a proportionately stiffer test in proving "proper cause" for termination based on an increasing amount of seniority. The Board faces a lesser test for employees with no bidding rights than for probationary employees. Likewise, the Board faces a lesser test for probationary employees than for regular employees who have completed the probationary period.

## **7.7 Personnel Files**

### **A. Personnel Files**

Employees may review the contents of their personnel file. The following arrangements shall apply:

1. Data entered into the file subsequent to the date of employment may be viewed.
2. Viewing will be by prior appointment.

3. The employee must make an appointment at a time other than their regular working hours.
4. The file may be viewed not more often than twice per year.
5. The viewing will be done in the presence of the Director of Human Resources or designate.
6. The employee must produce adequate identification to the Director of Human Resources or designate.
7. No items may be removed from the file but the employee may request copies of items in the file.

**B. Adverse Report**

1. The Board shall notify the employee and the Union in writing of any major expression of dissatisfaction concerning their work within ten (10) working days of the event of the complaint. The employee's reply to such a complaint, or accusation shall become part of their record. Any adverse report or complaint shall be signed by the complainant before it is discussed with the employee or entered into their personnel file and if not signed shall be deemed invalid and inadmissible for any purpose.

A complaint from a student shall be deemed to be a signed complaint, as per this article, provided it is signed by the school Principal, or when the Principal is away for more than ten (10) working days, the Vice Principal.

2. Verbal or written adverse reports will be removed from an employee's file after eighteen (18) months of being actively at work.

The calculation of 18 months will not include periods of absence from work.

3. Discipline involving a suspension will be removed from an employee's file after twenty-four (24) months of being actively at work.

The calculation of 24 months will not include periods of absence from work.

**7.8 Layoff and Recall**

**A. Definition**

1. A layoff shall be defined as a reduction in the work force, or any reduction of hours for any employee except as outlined in Article 7.9, Declining Enrolment - Work Reduction. Any twelve (12) month position reduced to a ten (10) month position is considered to be a layoff. No other form of layoff shall be made until there is consultation with the Union.
2. It is not the intent of these layoff and recall procedures that full and/or part time school term employees be allowed to bump other employees during the normal school closure

periods.

3. Role of Seniority - Both parties recognize that job security shall increase in proportion to length of service.

**B. Layoff Procedure**

1. The employer shall notify incumbents when positions are subject to layoff.
2. An employee with the least seniority shall be the first laid off.
3. Thereafter employees may exercise their rights to bump on a seniority basis.
4. An employee about to be laid off may bump any employee with less seniority, providing the employee exercising the right is capable, pursuant to Article 7.5, to perform the work of the less senior employee. The right to bump shall include the right to bump up.
5. Employees who receive notification that they are subject to layoff are deemed to have applied on all unawarded postings (for which they are qualified) when the District offers them layoff and bumping options. This applies to Education Assistants as long as the start date of the position is in the following school year.
6. When an employee intends to bump into a lead hand position, and they have not previously held a lead hand position, they will be required to compete with the incumbent by completing any required test(s) and interview(s).
7. Incumbents at risk of being 'bumped out' of a lead hand position will be required to compete for the position as noted in 7.8 B.6. Incumbents will only be required to test and interview once in any given six month period, however may exercise their right to compete again within that period in order to respond to any subsequent challengers.
8. If a position is eliminated by the Board, and subsequently reinstated within a period of sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the notice of layoff, the employee who previously held that position shall be given the opportunity to return to that position. Any resulting vacancy shall be subject to the posting provisions.

**C. Recall Procedure**

1. Employees shall be recalled in the order of their seniority.
2. It is the responsibility of each employee to maintain a current telephone number and mailing address with the employer at all times. The employer will contact, personally, the employee to be recalled by telephone, registered letter or courier to the mailing address last provided by the employee.
3. Failure to report to work upon recall within 72 hours on receipt of notice shall mean that such employee has no further right.
4. Exceptions can be made where an employee is unable to report to work due to circumstances beyond their control.

5. Employees who are laid off shall remain on the recall list for a period of one (1) year from the date of layoff. The recall period shall be extended for periods of employment by the number of shifts a laid off employee works in casual assignments.
6. Employees who are laid off and subsequently attain a temporary posting shall at the end of the term of the temporary position be deemed to be on a new lay off and the one (1) year period of recall shall begin again.
7. In the event of layoffs not exceeding the period of one (1) year, the Board agrees that it will offer employment to employees affected by such layoffs prior to engaging any new employees for similar work.
8. When a former employee is subsequently re-employed on permanent staff within one (1) year, they shall be credited with previous service for the purpose of determining length of service in connection with vacations and other benefits based on length of service.
9. Posting procedures as outlined in Article 2.3 of this agreement will continue to apply, however, bumping procedures under this clause will prevail in the event of a layoff.
10. Employees who are on the recall list shall be deemed to have applied for all posted positions within their sphere of work and shall be deemed to be recalled when they are the senior applicant for a position which has the same or greater hours than their former position, is the same shift (afternoon or days) and is in the same classification.
11. At the time of lay off, any remaining vacation time will be offered to be paid out to the employee. If not paid out at the time of lay off, any remaining vacation time may only be accessed at such time as the employee is recalled into a continuing position that is eligible for vacation.

**D. Advance Notice of Layoff**

1. Unless legislation is more favourable to the employees, the employer shall notify employees who are to be laid off, as per Article 7.6 A. of this agreement, prior to the effective date of layoff.

**Note:** Employment Standards Act provides for an additional week's notice for each subsequent completed year of employment (after 4 years' service) up to a maximum of 8 weeks' notice.

2. If the employee has not had the opportunity to work the days as provided in this article, they shall be paid for the days for which work was not made available.
3. Normal school closures (summer break, spring break, winter break) shall not be counted for the purpose of layoff notice for ten-month employees only. The aforementioned periods are considered as part of the notification period for twelve-month employees.
4. When the Board designates that schools are closed for pupils due to inclement weather in accordance with Ministry guidelines, layoff notice for those employees covered by Article 5.1 H.1., 5.1 I., 5.1 J. is not applicable.

**E. Benefits on Layoff**

An employee who retains rights of recall shall be entitled, if otherwise eligible, to maintain participation in the medical services plan, extended health plan and dental plan. Payment of the full cost of such benefits will be made by the Board for the first two (2) months and thereafter by the employee for as long as the employee retains recall rights.

**F. Grievance on Layoffs and Recalls**

Grievances concerning layoffs and recalls shall be initiated at the stage of the Board Committee.

**7.9 Declining/Increasing Enrolment**

**A. Declining Enrolment – Work Reduction**

If it is necessary to reduce the hours of work as a result of declining enrollment, employees whose hours are reduced by ten (10) hours or more per pay period, during any given fiscal year (July 1 to June 30), shall be considered to have suffered a layoff as per the terms of this agreement.

**Note:** (For benefit provisions, full time employees reverting to part time employment as a result of declining enrollment please refer to Article 6.16)

**B. Increased Enrolment**

1. It is recognized by the parties that from time to time it is necessary to increase the hours of work of some employees due to increased enrollment.
2. The Board agrees to post all positions which have an increase of more than ten (10) hours per pay period. The Board shall also post all positions which have an increase of hours where the increased hours would create a full time position or would make that position eligible for benefits.

**7.10 Severance**

**A. Severance Pay**

1. An employee who is laid off with less than one (1) year of seniority shall receive no severance pay.
2. An employee with 1 to 2 years seniority shall receive .8% of annual salary.
3. An employee with 2 years to 5 years seniority shall receive 1.6% of annual salary for each year of seniority.
4. An employee with an excess of 5 years seniority shall receive 3.2% of annual salary for each year of seniority up to a maximum of 6 months' salary.

**B. Calculation of Severance**

1. Salary on which severance pay is calculated shall be based on the employee's rate of pay on the last day worked multiplied by the number of hours the employee would normally work.
2. An employee who is laid off as a result of declining enrollment shall receive severance pay as outlined.
3. The employee may elect to receive severance at any time during the first twenty (20) working days after being notified that a bump has been approved or the employee has notified the employer that the employee will go on the recall list, whichever is the earlier.

**C. Severance/Recall**

1. An employee is not eligible for severance in the event of an increase in hours (for the employee) or, where because of a formula, the employee's position is changed and the value of the job increases and the employee fails to apply for the position as posted or refuses to accept the new increased hours.
2. An employee whose employment is terminated or who is laid off may, instead of receiving severance pay, elect to have their name placed on a recall list for a period of up to (one) 1 year.
3. An employee who has received severance pay and who is subsequently rehired by the Board, shall retain any payment made but the calculation for future years of service shall commence with the date of rehiring.
4. An employee who accepts severance pay shall have no further right to re-employment or recall to employment.
5. The employee retains the right of refusing a job outside their normal sphere of work without losing the right to severance pay.
6. The employee shall be placed on the recall list and if, after one (1) year on the recall list, work within the sphere is not available, the employee shall be paid severance.
7. The employee must accept a job within their normal sphere of work by either exercising their bumping right or returning from the recall list. If an employee does not accept an available job within their normal sphere of work then they will not be considered eligible for either severance pay or the recall list.
8. Normal sphere of work shall be considered as clerical, trades, caretakers, cafeteria employees, etc.



9. Should an employee accept a position either from the recall list or by exercising their right to bump and not prove satisfactory, the employee must either accept severance or place their name on the recall list. If the employee proves unsatisfactory on the second position selected from the recall list, the employee must either accept severance or return to the recall list on the understanding that the employee must accept the next position for which the employee is qualified, regardless of classification or hours. If the employee proves unsatisfactory in that third opportunity the employee will be terminated without severance.
10. It is not the intent of the above clauses that regular 10-month employees will be entitled to receive severance pay as a result of normal school closures.
11. Severance pay will not apply to casual employees employed for a temporary period.

**7.11 Employer Shall Not Discriminate**

The Employer agrees that there shall be no discrimination exercised or practiced with respect to any employee in the matter of hiring, wages, training, up-grading, promotion, transfer, lay-off, recall, discipline, classification, or discharge by reason of indigenous identity, age, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, political affiliation or activity, sexual orientation, sex, marital or parental status, family relationship, place of residence, physical or mental disability, gender expression, gender identity nor by reason of their membership or activity in the Union. It is agreed that none of the foregoing shall hinder the employer's right to discipline, suspend or discharge an employee for just cause.

**7.12 Communicable Disease Protection**

To protect against the contraction or to effect a cure of communicable diseases, the Board will pay, upon recommendation of the Public Health or its Medical Officer, any costs not met by an employee's own medical insurance coverage for injections, or medication in lieu of injection, for an employee working in an environment where communicable diseases have been shown to exist.

It was agreed that protocols and procedures will be referred to the Superintendent's committee to develop a district statement for all employees.

**7.13 Duty to Accommodate and Modified Work**

- A. In circumstances where an employee may be unable to perform the regular duties of their position due to mental or physical disability, the employer, the union and the affected employee shall meet to discuss, gather and consider available evidence regarding the existence and nature of a disability. Such meetings are not required in the following circumstances:
  - i. The accommodation request is pertaining to a temporary reduction in hours or a temporary modification in duties.
  - ii. The accommodation request is pertaining only to modified or supplementary

equipment.

Once the above mentioned meetings have taken place a full summary will be submitted to the Union within two (2) working days.

The employer and the union acknowledge that accommodation is a three (3) party process and agree to work together in considering all relevant factors such as issues of undue hardship. Affected employees shall be required to participate fully in this process.

- B. In circumstances where a meeting is required per 7.13.A, the District shall contact the Union president or designate to arrange a meeting. While such a meeting shall occur prior to an accommodation/modified work plan being finalized (if required), nothing in this article shall prohibit the District from offering, and an employee accepting, modified duties/hours, on a temporary basis, prior to said meeting occurring. If temporary modified duties/hours are accepted, a meeting with the union will occur within three (3) working days of the employee accepting modified duties/hours.
- C. The parties agree to establish a joint Duty to Accommodate/modified work committee with up to three employer representatives and up to three union representatives. This committee will meet monthly with the purpose of reviewing entrance to, participation in and exit from the Duty to Accommodate/Modified work program.

## **ARTICLE 8: TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE**

### **8.1 Technological Change**

#### **A. Definition**

"Technological Change" means:

- 1. The introduction by an employer of a change in their work, undertaking, or business, OR a change in their equipment or material from that equipment or material previously used by the employer in their work, undertaking or business; OR,
- 2. A change in the manner in which an employer carries on their work, undertaking or business related to the introduction of that equipment or material.

#### **B. Special Joint Committee**

- 1. Both parties recognize that the introduction of computer-based systems can be to the mutual advantage by improving systems, efficiency, and developing better working conditions.
- 2. This committee shall consist of three (3) representatives from the Union (Local) and three (3) representatives from the employer.
- 3. The committee shall meet on a regular basis or at the request of the Union or employer to consider, monitor, and analyze:
  - Developments;
  - Changes in working methods and the effects on jobs; and,
  - Any proposed introduction or extension of computer-based systems.

This information shall include the employer's long-term plans for the introduction of new technology.

- C.** During the term of this Agreement any dispute arising in relation to adjustment to technological change shall be discussed between the bargaining representatives of the two parties to this Agreement.

Where the Board introduces, or intends to introduce, a technological change that:

- 1.** Affects the terms and conditions, or security of employment of a significant number of employees to whom this Agreement applies; and
- 2.** Will affect the manner in which an employer carries on their work, undertaking or business related to the introduction of that equipment or material, then either party may, if the dispute cannot be settled in direct negotiations, refer the matter directly to an arbitration board constituted under the grievance procedure of this Agreement, by-passing all other steps in the grievance procedure.

- D.** The arbitration board shall decide whether or not the employer has introduced, or intends to introduce, a technological change, and upon deciding that the employer has or intends to introduce a technological change, the arbitration board:

- 1.** Shall inform the Minister of Labour of its finding; and
- 2.** May then or later make any one (1) or more of the following orders:
  - i.** That the change be made in accordance with the terms of this Agreement unless the change alters significantly the basis upon which this Agreement was negotiated;
  - ii.** That the Board will not proceed with the technological change for such period, not exceeding ninety (90) days, as the arbitration board considers appropriate;
  - iii.** That the Board reinstate any employee displaced by reason of the technological change;
  - iv.** That the Board pay to that employee such compensation in respect of their displacement as the arbitration board considers reasonable;
  - v.** That the matter be referred to the Labour Relations Board and upon such reference being made, the provisions of Section 77 of the Labour Code of British Columbia shall apply.

## **ARTICLE 9: APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

- A. This clause shall apply to apprentices who enter into a contract with the Board under the provisions of the Apprenticeship and Trades' Qualification Act.
- B. Every apprentice shall be bound by all the provisions of the Collective Agreement between the Board and the Union prevailing from time to time.
- C. This clause and the contracts of apprenticeship entered into pursuant to this Agreement shall be governed by the provisions of the Apprenticeship and Trades' Qualification Act except for the wage rate which shall be as follows:
  - ◆ Year 1 – 80%,
  - ◆ Year 2 – 85%
  - ◆ Year 3 – 90%
  - ◆ Year 4 and subsequent years – 95% of the applicable trade rate.
- D. An apprentice shall be paid the difference between the regular rate of pay and the sum of any board, lodging, transportation or other allowances granted by the Ministry of Labour and/or Canada Manpower while attending full time courses requiring five or more hours of instruction per day set by a training authority established under the Apprenticeship and Trades' Qualification Act during each year of apprenticeship. This payment shall be made for only one (1) course of apprenticeship completion and certification. No payment shall be made to an apprentice for repetition of a course occasioned by their failure to pass an examination.
- E. Where an apprentice is absent from work by reason of sickness or injury, the Board shall extend the term of such apprentice's contract but such extension shall not exceed six (6) months in duration without the approval of the Superintendent of Schools or their designate. Should there be no extension(s) the apprentice's contract shall be terminated and the employee placed on recall.
- F. Any apprentice failing an examination conducted under the direction of the Director of Apprenticeship and Industrial Training shall be permitted to repeat the examination once only at the next available examination period. Should the second examination be failed, the apprentice's contract shall be terminated and the employee placed on recall.
- G. Apprentices who have achieved eighty-five percent (85%) of the required hours for completion of their apprenticeship may apply for and hold a regular position to transfer to on completion of their apprenticeship. If required, the regular position shall be backfilled in accordance with Article 2.4.

The Employer and the employee will meet 3 months before the completion of their apprenticeship and if there are no vacant positions in the trade in which they applied, the employer will within 15 days provide the required information so the employee is able to apply for other positions.

- H.** Every apprentice who has obtained a certificate of proficiency or a certificate of apprenticeship in their designated trade under the Act for whom no trades' position is immediately open in the School District shall, if the Board deems work is available, be retained on staff for a maximum of six (6) months at the final step of the appropriate apprentice pay scale as provided in their contract of apprenticeship; and after the expiration of the said six (6) months period, the Board shall have no obligation to continue their employment. If no positions are available the apprentice shall have the opportunity of bidding on another position with the Board at the rate of pay for that position. If no position is available through the job posting, the apprentice shall be placed on the recall list for the apprentice's trade and for their former sphere of work. If the apprentice obtains another position and a trades position is subsequently posted, the employee shall be eligible to apply.
- I.** All vacancies for apprentice positions shall be posted in accordance with the provisions of the Collective Agreement and all employees shall have the opportunity to bid on the apprenticeship position with the Board.
- J.** The Board will ensure that the apprentices will be given the necessary on-the-job practical training.
- K.** Entrance to any apprenticeship will be subject to the applicant meeting the standards required for acceptance by the Apprenticeship and Industrial Training Branch.
- L.** Where an apprentice incurs delay in taking one (1) of the tests due to unavailability of an examination or rescheduling of an examination, the delay shall not prejudice their right to wage increments provided for in this Agreement.
- M.** The first sixty (60) working days of the term of apprenticeship shall be a probationary period. Should the employee prove unsatisfactory during the probation period, they shall be returned to their former position and any other employee promoted or transferred because of the rearrangement of positions shall be returned to their former position. The apprentice may request to be returned to the former position within the first twenty (20) working days of the probationary period.
- N.** The Apprenticeship Agreement shall be prepared before the end of the probationary period and shall be signed by the apprentice (and, if a minor, their parent or guardian).
- O.** Each applicant for an apprenticeship (and, if a minor, their parent or guardian), shall be given an opportunity to read these standards before signing the Apprenticeship Agreement.
- P.** Every Apprenticeship Agreement entered into under these standards of apprenticeship shall contain a clause making these standards a part of the agreement with the same effect as if expressly written therein.
- Q.** Copies of each Apprenticeship Agreement, completely filled out, shall be given to the apprentice and the Union.

- R. Apprentices shall be required to attend classes pertaining to their trade as laid down by the Apprenticeship Branch of the Ministry of Labour, British Columbia.
- S. In cases of failure on the part of any apprentice to fulfill their obligations in respect to school attendance, the Board, subject always to the Grievance Procedure contained in this Agreement, shall have the authority to recommend to the Apprenticeship Branch of the Ministry of Labour, British Columbia, that they suspend or revoke their agreement, or to notify the Union of the violation for disciplinary action. Any appeal through the Grievance Procedure shall be settled prior to a recommendation being made to the Apprenticeship Branch of the Ministry of Labour. If the apprenticeship agreement is revoked, the employee shall be placed on recall.
- T. Should the apprentice wish to terminate the apprenticeship agreement they may obtain another position through the job posting procedure; however, they shall not be eligible to apply for another apprenticeship in that trade.
- U. An apprentice who is placed on a recall list as identified in E., F., H., or S., above shall be subject to the terms of Article 7.10 except that severance pay would be available only after a full year on the recall list.
- V. The apprentice's hours of work shall be the same as those of the journeyman, but in no case shall overtime be worked by the apprentice on days the apprentice is scheduled to attend school.
- W. Apprentices shall be paid overtime rates in accordance with the overtime provisions contained in the current Collective Agreement and based on the apprentice's regular rate of pay.
- X. It is recognized that some unforeseen problems may arise in respect to this Apprenticeship program, therefore, it is agreed that such problems shall be discussed between the Union and the Board with a view to the settlement of the problems to the mutual satisfaction of both parties.
- Y. The ratio of apprentices to journeymen shall not exceed one (1) apprentice to four (4) journeymen.
- Z. In the event that an apprentice is required to attend classes during their normal working hours, the employee shall be paid their full rate of pay at the regular hourly rate. This clause shall not apply to night school programs. No payment shall be made for repeating a course.

## **ARTICLE 10: GENERAL**

### **10.1 Amalgamation or Merger**

In the event that the school district is amalgamated, regionalized, or merges with any other body, the Board will undertake to encourage the new district and/or region to implement the working conditions and benefits of the current Collective Agreement, unless the terms of any agreement which the merging district and/or region has are superior to the working conditions and benefits in the current Collective Agreement. In such case the Board will endeavor to have the conditions of the merging Agreement apply.

The Board will also make every effort to have the seniority rights of employees protected at the time that the merger occurs.

### **10.2 Crossing Picket Lines**

An employee shall have the right to refuse to cross a legal picket line. Failure to cross such shall not be considered a violation of the Agreement. Employees losing work time as a result of not crossing a legal picket line will not be paid.

### **10.3 Delivery of Bank Deposits**

No employee shall be required to deliver deposits to a bank.

### **10.4 Health & Safety**

#### **A. Composition of the Committee**

An Occupational Health & Safety Committee shall be established.

1. The committee will be composed of an equal number of CUPE and Employer representatives, but with a minimum of two CUPE Local 561 and two Employer members.
2. The Committee shall elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair. If the Chair is a member of the CTA, the Vice-Chair will be a member of CUPE Local 561. If the Chair is a member of CUPE Local 561, the Vice-Chair will be a member of the CTA

#### **B. Function of the Committee**

The Industrial Health & Safety Committee shall assist in creating a safe place of work, shall recommend actions which will improve the effectiveness of the Industrial Health & Safety Program and shall promote compliance with the regulations of the Workers' Compensation Board.

#### **C. Meetings**

The committee shall hold regular meetings at least once each month to review:

1. Reports of current accidents or industrial diseases, their causes and means of prevention;
2. Remedial action taken or required by the reports of investigations and inspections; and
3. Any other matters pertinent to industrial health and safety.

**D. Duties of the Committee**

1. Minutes of the meetings shall be recorded by the secretary to the committee and copies of these minutes shall be forwarded immediately to the Superintendent of Schools of the Board, the Secretary of the Union and WorksafeBC. The minutes will be posted at each location by the Employer.
2. Determine that regular inspections of the place of employment have been carried out, as required by WorksafeBC regulations.
3. Determine that accident investigations are made, as required by the WorksafeBC regulations.
4. Recommend measures required to attain compliance with WorksafeBC regulations and the correction of hazardous working conditions.
5. Determine that structures, equipment, machinery, tools, methods of operation and work practices are in accordance with the WorksafeBC regulations.
6. Consider recommendations from the work force with respect to Industrial Health and Safety matters and recommend implementation where warranted.
7. In the event of an accident, an incident or an occupational health problem, a Union member of the Health and Safety Committee shall be allowed to complete an investigation of the occurrence.

**E. Other Regulations**

All other regulations contained in the Workers' Compensation Act and regulations, although not specifically expressed herein, shall be recognized and adhered to.

**F. Right to Refuse**

The parties recognize the WorksafeBC Industrial Health and Safety regulations that state: No person shall carry out or cause to be carried out any work, process or operate or cause to be operated any tool, appliance, or equipment when that person has reasonable cause to believe that to do so would create an undue hazard to the health and safety of any person.

**G. Disclosure of Information**

The employer shall provide the Occupational Health and Safety Committee upon written request, written information which identifies all the biological agents, compounds, substances, by-products, and physical hazards associated with the work environment. Where applicable, this information shall include, but not be restricted to, the chemical breakdown of trade name descriptions, information on known and suspected potential hazards, the maximum concentration exposure levels, precautions to be taken, symptoms, medical treatment and antidotes.



## **10.5 Job Security**

The Board has the right to contract out any work, but will consider having such work performed by employees within the bargaining unit provided they have the required skills. Such contracting out shall not affect the continued employment (no reduction of hours, days, etc.) or recall of those persons covered by this Agreement.

A joint committee consisting of six individuals, will meet monthly (or when required if a pressing issue arises) to review capital projects, I.T. work, and maintenance work which may be contracted by the Facilities or I.T. Department, and management will consider any alternatives and suggestions provided by the Union.

## **10.6 Sexual and Personal Harassment**

The Union and the Board recognize the right of all employees to work in an environment free from sexual and personal harassment.

No employee shall be subject to reprisal or threat of reprisal as a result of filing a grievance under this clause. It is recognized, however, that false or malicious complaints may damage the reputation or be unjust to other employees and therefore disciplinary action may apply in cases where false or malicious complaints are lodged. Complaints of sexual or personal harassment shall be treated in strict confidence by the Board and the Union.

An employee experiencing harassment shall not be forced to transfer unless they specifically consent to the transfer. Such a transfer, nor the time it takes to effect an adequate transfer, shall not result in a lesser hourly rate of pay, wages, hours of work, loss of pay or wages or reduction or loss of any benefit.

In the first instance the alleged complaint shall be dealt with by the Superintendent of Schools or their designate and the President of the Union.

If they are unable to resolve the issue, then the grievance shall be dealt with at the Committee stage (Step 2) of the grievance procedure. An alleged harasser shall not sit on any committee dealing with the grievance.

## **10.7 Special Clothing**

### **A. Rain Gear**

The Board agrees to keeping a stock of heavy rain gear for all outside workers and to up-date that stock as necessary.

### **B. Other**

The Board shall supply suitable leather gloves or mitts and earmuffs or other protective equipment and clothing. Carpenters will be provided aprons by the employer.

The Board shall supply and maintain suitable protective clothing for all employees who may be required to perform the following work: cleaning or re-bricking of boilers, cleaning of manholes, septic tanks, welding or cleaning of heavy equipment.

### **C. Lab coats or smocks shall be in each stationery supply area for the use of employees using**

duplicating equipment and shall be supplied to Teacher Assistants, kitchen staff and Resource Centre employees. A committee of cafeteria workers will provide input on choice of cafeteria uniforms.

**D. Current Language:**

The Board shall provide one (1) set of rain gear per school.

**Effective July 1, 2024, replace Article 10.7.D with:**

The Board shall provide ~~one (1)~~ **three (3)** sets of rain gear per school.

- E. The Board will supply and clean three pairs of protective coveralls or smocks as requested by Trades - Painters and apprentices.

**F. Current Language:**

Safety Footwear to a maximum of \$125 may be provided as required by WorksafeBC for permanent shop employees.

**Effective July 1, 2024, replace Article 10.7.F with:**

Safety Footwear to a maximum of **\$250.00/year** may be provided as required by WorksafeBC for permanent shop employees.

**10.8 Tools**

**A. Trades' Allowance**

Trades and apprentices required to supply their own hand tools shall receive an annual tool allowance of \$150.00 by the first pay period in March of each year.

**B. Tool Kits**

The Board will supply each uncertified tradesperson with a kit of tools. Contents of the kit shall be determined by the Board after discussion with the uncertified tradesperson employed.

**10.9 Use of Buildings**

**A. Community Use of Buildings**

If the community uses a school facility at a time when caretakers are not assigned to work, the Manager of Custodial Service may assign a Local 561 caretaker/other bargaining unit member to cover the community use of the facility. Employees designated for this service shall be on a volunteer basis and no employee shall be required to accept the duty should they not wish to. Members of the Union will do all of the cleaning required for such use of schools.

**B. Saturday and Sunday Use of Building**

In those schools which are opened on Saturday and Sunday for public recreation or educational purposes, relief caretaker and relief cafeteria staff only may be employed at the straight rate of pay applicable to Caretaker I and Grounds I rates, except as provided for in

Article 5. It is understood and agreed that no regular full time employee should normally be required to perform relief caretaker duties in accordance with the provisions of this section; and that no relief caretaker shall be required to work more than eight (8) consecutive hours per day exclusive of meal times.

No relief caretaker shall be paid for less than four (4) hours after being called out. Should it become necessary for a regular full time employee to work on a normal rest day for any reason whatsoever, the normal overtime provisions shall prevail as provided in Article 5.

**10.10 Work of the Bargaining Unit**

The Union shall not have its certificate of bargaining authority reduced as a result of volunteers.

The Board further agrees that volunteers will be supernumerary to established positions in the bargaining unit and that the use of volunteers will not result in the layoff of employees. Duties of the laid off employee(s) will not be performed by volunteers at that location.

For the purposes of this Article 10.11 layoff shall mean a reduction in the work force or any reduction of hours for any employee.

**10.11 Work Load**

In the event that an employee is required to perform duties which are usually carried out by another employee who is absent from work, their own work load may be prioritized to accommodate the work to be performed.

**10.12 Injury Pay**

An employee who is injured during working hours, and is required to leave for treatment or is sent home as a result of such injury, shall receive payment for the remainder of the shift at their regular rate of pay, without deduction from sick leave, unless a doctor or nurse states that the employee is fit for further work on that shift.

**10.13 Self-funded Leave Plan (Optional)**

The Board will maintain a self-funded leave plan in which an employee may choose to participate. Applications for participation in the plan will be received any time during the year with the contribution date commencing in the January following receipt of the application.

**10.14 Level 2 Occupational First Aid Certificate**

- A. Payment of an additional one (1) dollar per hour will be made to designated employees who hold a Level 2 Occupational First Aid Certificate
- B. Training will be undertaken on a voluntary basis. Upon receipt of certification an employee may be designated by the Board.
- C. First Aid training shall be done on the Board's time, normally during January and February. The Board shall provide up to one-half (1/2) day, with pay, to enable the employee to prepare for the examination. The number to receive training shall be as determined by the employer.
- D. Designated Level 2 Occupational First Aid attendants shall rotate each February 1st and August 1st at each work site in order to maintain the skills and practice of attendants.

**10.15 Level 1 Occupational First Aid Certificate**

Payment of an additional ten (10) cents per hours will be made to designated employees who hold a Level 1 Occupational First Aid Certificate.

**10.16 Indemnification**

A. The Employer shall indemnify and save harmless all employees from any damages or costs awarded against them and from any expenses incurred by them as a result of any action or proceeding, whether civil or criminal, arising from any acts or omissions which arose out of the normal performance of their duties, including any duty imposed by any statute.

B. This indemnification shall include the paying of any sum required and any expenses incurred in the settlement of such action or proceeding.

**10.17 Testimony on Behalf of the Board**

An employee required to testify on behalf of the Board in any proceedings will be compensated at their regular rates of pay for time spent at the proceedings, and for travel time.

**10.18 Work at Home**

The Board agrees that none of its employees will be required to do work of the employer at their place of residence.

**10.19 Reimbursement for Required Certifications**

Employees will be reimbursed annual gas, plumbing, fire alarm certification when required by the employer.

**SALARY SCHEDULE (page 1)**

Classification	\$0.25 Per Hour + General Increase	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment
	July 1, 2022		July 1, 2023		July 1, 2024	
	\$0.25		COLA T.B.A up to 1.25%		COLA T.B.A up to 1.00%	
	3.24%	Add To Base Rate	5.50%	Add To Base Rate	2.00%	Add To Base Rate
Aboriginal Community Development Facilitator	32.47		34.25		34.94	
Accounting Clerk	28.54		30.10		30.70	0.35
Accounting Services Clerk	31.18		32.89		33.55	0.35
After School Program Leader	29.82		31.46		32.09	
Alarm System Technician	36.84	1.00	38.86	1.00	39.64	1.00
Apprentice 1st Year - 80%*HVAC I	31.24	0.80	32.95	0.80	33.61	0.80
Apprentice 2nd Year - 85%*HVAC I	19.52	0.85	20.60	0.85	21.01	0.85
Apprentice 3rd Year - 90%*HVAC I	35.14	0.90	37.07	0.90	37.81	0.90
Apprentice 4th Year - 95%*HVAC I	37.09	0.95	39.13	0.95	39.91	0.95
Audiology Assistant	27.86		29.40		29.99	
Backhoe Operator	30.48		32.15		32.79	
Business, Careers & Job Skills Asst. Coord- Cont.	30.48		32.15		32.79	
Buyer I	31.18		32.89		33.55	0.35
Capital Projects Coordinator	35.11		37.04		37.78	
Caretaker I	25.90		27.33		27.88	
Caretaker II	27.19		28.69		29.26	
Caretaker III	27.86		29.40		29.99	
Caretaker IV	28.54		30.10		30.70	
Caretaker Supervisor	33.13		34.95		35.65	1.00
Caretaker/Carpet Cleaner Perm. Relief	26.54		28.00		28.56	
Carpenter	36.84	1.00	38.86	1.00	39.64	1.00
Carpenter / Roof Maintenance Worker	36.84	1.00	38.86	1.00	39.64	1.00
Cashier	23.92		25.24		25.74	
Casual Clerical I	27.19		28.69		29.26	
Casual Clerical II	28.54		30.10		30.70	
Clerical Data Lead - LINC	31.83		33.58		34.25	
Clerical Supervisor	33.77		35.63		36.34	1.00
Communications & Social Media Assistant	31.18		32.89		33.55	0.35
Community Development Facilitator	32.47		34.25		34.94	
Community School Programmer	27.86		29.40		29.99	
Cont.Ed/Alt Ed Sec	27.19		28.69		29.26	
Cook II	25.90		27.33		27.88	
Cook III	27.86		29.40		29.99	
Cook IV	28.54		30.10		30.70	
Cook I	24.56		25.91		26.43	
Culinary Assistant	33.26		35.09		35.79	
Delivery Person	27.19		28.69		29.26	0.50
District Secretary II	26.54		28.00		28.56	
District Secretary III	28.54		30.10		30.70	0.35
District Secretary IV	29.19		30.79		31.41	0.35

**SALARY SCHEDULE (page 2)**

Classification	\$0.25 Per Hour + General Increase	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment
	July 1, 2022		July 1, 2023		July 1, 2024	
	\$0.25		COLA T.B.A up to 1.25%		COLA T.B.A up to 1.00%	
	3.24%	Add To Base Rate	5.50%	Add To Base Rate	2.00%	Add To Base Rate
District Secretary I	25.90		27.33		27.88	
District Secretary V	29.19		30.79		31.41	0.50
District Secretary VI	29.82		31.46		32.09	0.50
EA - Intensive Behaviour Support	31.18		32.89		33.55	
EA Facilitator	31.83		33.58		34.25	
EA Intervenor	31.18		32.89		33.55	
EA with Braille	31.18		32.89		33.55	
Education Assistant	30.48		32.15		32.79	
Education Assistant Lead hand	34.44		36.34		37.07	1.00
Electrician	36.84	1.00	38.86	1.00	39.64	1.00
Equipment Operator	28.54		30.10		30.70	0.50
Filter Service/Mechanical Main.	26.54		28.00		28.56	1.00
Finance & Pension Clerk	33.48		35.32		36.03	0.35
Gardener	36.84		38.86		39.64	1.00
Grounds I	26.54		28.00		28.56	0.50
Grounds II	28.54		30.10		30.70	0.50
Grounds Lead Hand	32.47		34.25		34.94	1.00
Grounds Lead Hand - Projects	33.13		34.95		35.65	1.00
Human Resources I	28.54		30.10		30.70	0.35
Human Resources II	29.82		31.46		32.09	0.35
Human Resources Supervisor	33.77		35.63		36.34	
HVAC Mechanic I	39.05	1.00	41.19	1.00	42.01	1.00
HVAC Mechanic II	39.71		41.89	1.00	42.73	1.00
Immigrant Youth Worker	31.18		32.89		33.55	
Indigenous Cultural Facilitator	31.18		32.89		33.55	
Information Technologist	34.44		36.34		37.07	
Information Technologist II	36.09	1.20	38.07	1.20	38.83	1.20
IS Team Supervisor	40.03		42.23	1.15	43.07	1.15
Learning Inclusion Support Worker	26.54		28.00		28.56	
Library Assistant I	27.19		28.69		29.26	
Library Assistant II	27.86		29.40		29.99	
Library Processing Clerk	25.90		27.33		27.88	
Library Technician I	29.19		30.79		31.41	
Library Technician II	30.48		32.15		32.79	
Maintenance Coordinator	30.48		32.15		32.79	1.00
Mechanical Technologist	34.10		35.98		36.70	1.00
Media Resource II	27.19		28.69		29.26	
Media Resource II	31.18		32.89		33.55	
Millwright/Welder	36.84	1.00	38.86	1.00	39.64	1.00
Noon Hour	23.28		24.56		25.05	
Painter	36.84		38.86		39.64	0.75
Painter II	31.18		32.89		33.55	

**SALARY SCHEDULE (page 3)**

Classification	\$0.25 Per Hour + General Increase	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment
	July 1, 2022		July 1, 2023		July 1, 2024	
	\$0.25		COLA T.B.A up to 1.25%		COLA T.B.A up to 1.00%	
	3.24%	Add To Base Rate	5.50%	Add To Base Rate	2.00%	Add To Base Rate
Painter Supervisor	38.27	2.00	40.38	2.00	41.19	2.00
Payroll Clerk I	27.19		28.69		29.26	
Payroll Clerk II	31.65		33.39		34.06	0.50
Payroll Clerk III	33.68		35.53		36.24	0.95
Payroll Supervisor	33.77		35.63		36.34	
Plumber	36.84		38.86		39.64	
Plumber-HVAC I	39.05	1.00	41.19	1.00	42.01	1.00
Post-Secondary and Career Advisor	29.19		30.79		31.41	
Purchasing Clerk	27.86		29.40		29.99	0.35
Receptionist Board Office	27.19		28.69		29.26	0.35
Receptionist Secondary School	26.54		28.00		28.56	0.35
School Meals Coordinator	24.56		25.91		26.43	
School Meals Coordinator Centralized Delivery	23.92		25.24		25.74	
School Secretary II	27.19		28.69		29.26	0.35
School Secretary III	28.54		30.10		30.70	0.25
School Secretary IV	29.19		30.79		31.41	0.25
School Secretary I	25.90		27.33		27.88	
School Secretary V	29.82		31.46		32.09	0.35
Science Assistant	27.86		29.40		29.99	
Security Runner	25.90		27.33		27.88	0.50
Senior Accounting Clerk	33.77		35.63		36.34	0.35
Senior Buyer	35.11		37.04		37.78	0.35
Settlement Worker	31.18		32.89		33.55	
SIS Secretary - District Office	29.19		30.79		31.41	0.35
SIS Secretary - Middle School	27.86		29.40		29.99	0.35
SIS Secretary-Secondary/Continuing Education	29.19		30.79		31.41	0.35
Stores	29.19		30.79		31.41	0.50
Strong Start Facilitator	30.48		32.15		32.79	
SWIS Program Assistant	28.54		30.10		30.70	
Teacher Assistant 1	25.23		26.62		27.15	
Teacher Assistant II	26.54		28.00		28.56	
Trades Supervisor - Day Shift	39.71	2.00	41.89	2.00	42.73	2.00
Trades Supervisor - Electrical	39.71	2.00	41.89	2.00	42.73	2.00
Trades Supervisor - Mechanical	41.89	2.00	44.20	2.00	45.08	2.00
Trades Supervisor - P.M. Shift	38.98	2.00	41.13	2.00	41.95	2.00
Transcriber	28.54		30.10		30.70	
Uncertified Trades	28.54		30.10		30.70	
Utility Grounds	29.19		30.79		31.41	0.50
Visual Language Interpreter	35.54		37.49		38.24	

**SALARY SCHEDULE (page 4)**

Classification	\$0.25 Per Hour + General Increase	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment	General Increase + C.O.L.A	Labour Market Adjustment
	July 1, 2022		July 1, 2023		July 1, 2024	
	\$0.25		COLA T.B.A up to 1.25%		COLA T.B.A up to 1.00%	
	3.24%	Add To Base Rate	5.50%	Add To Base Rate	2.00%	Add To Base Rate
Work Experience / Transition Facilitator	30.48		32.15		32.79	
Youth Worker	31.18		32.89		33.55	
Youth Worker - International Ed.	31.18		32.89		33.55	
Youth Worker / Community Link Supervisor	35.11		37.04		37.78	1.00

**Note:** The following addition SSEAC labour market adjustments - adjustment added to base rate and previous labour market adjustments.

Finance & Pension Clerk	\$3.00 / hour
HVAC Mechanic I	\$1.81 / hour
HVAC Mechanic II	\$1.81 / hour
Payroll Clerk II	\$2.04 / hour
Payroll Clerk III	\$1.54 / hour
Plumber-HVAC I	\$1.81 / hour
Trades Supervisor - Mechanical	\$1.81 / hour
Visual Language Interpreter	\$4.15 / hour



## **NOTES**

1. Grounds persons working on acid traps will receive a premium of fifty (50) cents per hour during the time it takes to perform these services.
2. An additional twenty (20) cents per hour will be paid for painting in the spray booth.

## **GENERAL NOTES**

1. No employee shall receive a reduction in salary as the result of the implementation of this schedule. For payroll purposes, the implementation of any pay schedule increases shall be arranged for the beginning of the first complete pay period.
2. Employees who are designated by their supervisor to substitute in a position requiring a higher rate of pay are to receive the rate assigned in the Agreement effective the first day. This does not apply to Casual Clericals performing clerical work.
3. When the Board replaces a site supervisor for caretaking, cooks/culinary assistants, or grounds for less than sixty (60) days, the employee in that classification, and at that worksite with the highest seniority, who is willing to perform the duties shall be appointed with the exception of caretakers, grounds, or cooks, it is the decision of the employer whether an employee is rated up, on the absence of a higher-rated position.
4. All trades shall supply their own hand tools. The painter tradesperson shall be supplied with paint brushes, rollers and trays as needed.
5. **Lead Hand Maintenance Trades**  
A Maintenance Trades assigned by the Board to supervise in two or more trades.
6. **Shop Assistant**  
A journey tradesperson assigned to the staff of a secondary school, employed on a ten-month basis to assist in the Industrial and Vocational Education program.
7. **Lead Hand Painter**  
A Maintenance Trades, certified as a painter, who supervises three or more journeyman painters working with them.
8. **Uncertified Trades**  
The Board shall not employ more than one (1) Uncertified Trades for each five Tradespeople employed. Uncertified Tradespersons may upgrade themselves by passing Government exams (T.Q.) providing there is a journeyman vacancy. Should the number of Certified Tradespeople employed fall below 20, the ratio of non-certified to Certified Tradespeople will be reduced to 1 uncertified to 7 certified.

**9. Equipment Operator**

This classification to apply to an employee operating a tractor of thirty horsepower or over. Employees working the majority of their time as equipment operators shall receive statutory holiday and sick leave payments at the equipment operator rate.

**10. Caretaker IV**

Head caretaker in charge of a school which has assigned 80 or more caretaker hours per day.

**11. Caretaker II**


Head caretaker in charge of the school. This category applicable when a school has assigned to it a total of 20 or more caretaker hours per day.

**12. Grounds II**

This category will apply when the employee has assigned, for at least 50% of the time in a calendar year, 20 or more Grounds hours per day, when the Grounds II is in charge. The rate will be paid through the year, not only while they are working directly with the crew.


AGREED on December 5, 2022

CUPE Local 561

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Negotiator – Jane Gibbons  
CUPE Local 561

Date: Dec. 5/22

Board of Education of School District No. 43  
Coquitlam

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Negotiator – Randy Manhas  
School District 43 Coquitlam

Time: 3:50pm

## **LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING ON POSTING AND BUMPING PROCEDURES**

**BETWEEN:  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)  
AND:  
CUPE LOCAL #561**

The parties will enter into a Letter of Understanding that reads as follows:

- A.** The parties agree that the introduction of location into the posting provisions of the collective agreement results in anomalies with respect to posting and bumping which affect the positions of Education Assistants (EA) and Youth Workers. The parties agree to apply the posting and bumping provisions in recognition of the following factors:
- 1.** There may be a necessity with respect to certain Education Assistant or Youth Workers positions to require, in either the posting or selection process, that applicants be selected on the basis of gender to reflect needs unique to the position. Examples include positions where the students in the program include a preponderance of abused females who require a female role model to make the program effective. A further example is where the student or students involved in the program require physical assistance with respect to personal needs that can best be accommodated by an employee of the same sex as the student or students.
  - 2.** A reality of the Education Assistance and Youth Worker programs is that circumstances may arise requiring the granting of additional hours to employees in part-time positions during the school year where posting the position would disrupt the program by reason of disrupting established relationships that are expected to endure to the end of the school term. In that context the Union agrees that additional hours may be granted to part-time employees in those classifications during the school year on a temporary basis without posting. If the requirement continues beyond the school year, the position involving the increased hours will be posted.
  - 3.** The parties acknowledge that the same potential for disruption exists where the hours in a particular position in the Education Assistant or Youth Worker classifications are reduced or eliminated, thus triggering a right in the employee to bump into other positions and perhaps disrupt relationships. The Union agrees in those circumstances that the Employer can make up the hours at another location on a temporary basis for the duration of the school year. In the event the employee is not able to obtain a satisfactory position at the end of the school year, bumping rights will be implemented.
  - 4.** The parties recognize that circumstances may arise where a student receiving one-on-one assistance transfers to another location, or circumstances may require the movement of a special needs program to a new location. The employee assigned to that student or program may move with the student or program to the new location. However, if this movement would result in a vacancy, the employee may opt to remain at the original

location. Should there be a circumstance that makes it inappropriate for the employee to move to the new location, and the hours are not required at the original location, the employee may be assigned as a relief Education Assistant at the same number of appointed hours on a temporary basis for the duration of the school year. It is expected that the employee would then post to another position of equal or greater hours as quickly as possible, but if this has not occurred by end of the school year, then the employee would exercise bumping rights. The employee may also be granted immediate bumping rights where bumping would not disrupt the learning relationship between the student(s) and the employee to be bumped.

5. The parties acknowledge that where gender is an issue with respect to a position, employees seeking to bump into that position will meet the gender requirement.

**B.** In addition to the anomalies arising specifically with respect to Education Assistants and Youth Workers, the parties acknowledge that other anomalies may arise with respect to classifications generally which may require adaptation of the posting and bumping provisions. In particular:

1. Where an employee's hours are assigned to more than one (1) location, the parties agree that with the consent of the employee the hours can be adjusted within the total appointed hours of the employee or consolidated at those locations; however, full time day shift caretaker positions will be posted.
2. Where hours assigned to an employee are reduced or eliminated at a location, those hours, with the consent of the employee, may be made up at another location for the duration of the school year. In the event the employee concerned does not obtain another position through posting, or if the original hours are not restored, the employee's right to bump will be implemented.

**C.** The employer will notify the Union prior to making any adjustments as described in A and B above.

**D.** The parties recognize that the introduction of the concept of location may result in further anomalies of application which require addressing during the currency of the collective agreement. There is also the possibility of disputes with respect to the application of this Letter of Understanding. In that event, the parties agree:

1. If a dispute arises, the parties agree to meet and seek to resolve particular anomalies. Where no agreement can be reached, the parties agree to use an Arbitrator which is mutually agreed upon by both parties.
2. Any decision given in that process will be binding, but only until the expiration of the current collective agreement, at which time the parties will be free to address the issue in collective bargaining.
3. In resolving disputes, the parties agree to address and resolve them within the context of the principles implicit in this Letter of Understanding. In particular, disputes will be

addressed on the basis of ensuring that the seniority rights of employees are recognized and protected, but, recognizing also that the potential for disruption during the currency of a school year may justify a postponement, but not a prohibition, of the exercise of seniority rights.

- D. This Letter of Understanding will be appended to and form part of the collective agreement, and, subject to collective bargaining, will run with the agreement.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of December, 1992.

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Ginter  
CUPE Local #561

\_\_\_\_\_  
G. Caldow  
School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING RE STAFFING AND WORKLOAD LEVELS**

**BETWEEN:  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)  
AND:  
CUPE LOCAL #561**

1. The following full time equivalent totals for Teacher Assistants, Clerical employees (Board Office, Maintenance, Winslow and School-based) as well as Custodians shall be the minimum staffing levels subject to paragraph (3) herein.

FTE Totals:

	Full Time Equivalent
Clerical/Teacher Assistants*	237.0
Caretakers	182.0

\* Subject to reduction to 230.0 FTE based on attrition during the term of this Letter of Understanding.

2. The School District and the Union agree that it is the Employer's duty and right to assign work, to set schedules and to set cleaning levels. In assigning work, and in setting schedules and cleaning levels, the Employer shall do so in an equitable manner amongst those employees in the categories set out in paragraph (1) above. Upon receiving a complaint of an inappropriate or excessive workload assignment, the Union undertakes to fully investigate the matter and eliminate frivolous/unsubstantiated complaints. In the event that the Union files a complaint which questions the workload of specific employees, the parties will meet and attempt to resolve the dispute. If the parties cannot agree on a resolution, either party may then refer the matter to Robert Diebolt (or an alternate) for a binding decision. The parties confirm that Mr. Diebolt (or alternate) has the sole jurisdiction to decide if the specific workload is inappropriate or excessive.
3. It is understood and appreciated that paragraphs (1) and (2) are subject to a decline in student population and/or reductions in the School District's budget. Therefore, this Letter of Understanding may be reopened at any time after December 31, 1997 upon either party giving the other side thirty (30) days' written notice that it believes the full time equivalent levels are no longer valid and/or the workload arrangements must be reviewed. The parties will then have a further thirty (30) days to reach agreement on the means to address the change in circumstances. If they are unable to do so, Robert Diebolt (or alternate) will render a binding decision on the matter.
4. This Letter of Understanding will be appended to and form part of the collective agreement, and subject to collective bargaining, will run with the agreement.

Signed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. Ginter, President  
CUPE - LOCAL #561

\_\_\_\_\_  
R. Carson, Director of Human Resources

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING RE FOOD SERVICES**

**BETWEEN:**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)**

**AND:**

**CUPE LOCAL #561**

The parties agree that a process is required that ensures the Union is informed about the anticipated requirements of classifications and hours for the continuation of a viable Food Service Operation for the upcoming school year. For any changes during the school year the provisions of Articles 2.4, 5.1 C., 7.8 and 7.10, will be adhered to. Nothing in this letter of understanding precludes either party from exercising any other existing rights or responsibilities.

The School Meal Coordinator classification will be restricted to Elementary schools and the Cook classifications will be applicable to Middle and Secondary Schools.

Signed this 1st day of June, 1999.

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D. Ginter  
CUPE Local #561

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G. Caldow  
School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING RE LATE SIGN UP FOR BENEFITS**

**BETWEEN:  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)  
AND:  
CUPE LOCAL #561**

Employees choosing not to sign up for benefits must be actively at work (includes paid leave and vacation but not sick leave, WSBC or unpaid leave) if they wish to sign on to these benefits plans at a later date. Employees absent without pay for more than one calendar month must be actively at work for two consecutive calendar months prior to signing on to these benefits plans unless the employee can demonstrate loss of coverage on a parent's/spouse's MSP, Extended Health and/or Dental plan. There will also be a no claims waiting period of six months for dental insurance during which time the employee will be required to pay the full premium cost. The insurer will require proof of satisfactory medical health for late life insurance sign-up.

Signed this 1st day of June, 1999.

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D. Ginter  
CUPE Local #561

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G. Caldow  
School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)



**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING RE: REQUALIFYING FOR BENEFITS**

**WHILE ON SICK LEAVE WITHOUT PAY**

**BETWEEN:  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)  
AND:  
CUPE LOCAL #561**

Pursuant to Article 6.10 E, employees who have previously benefited from this provision must requalify by having returned to work from unpaid sick leave for a period of thirty-six (36) calendar months. Employees who have not collected the maximum six months of benefits under this provision prior to returning to work and who subsequently go on unpaid sick leave again within thirty-six (36) calendar months shall be entitled to receive the balance up to the maximum six months of benefits.

Signed this 1st day of June, 1999.

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D. Ginter  
CUPE Local #561

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G. Caldow  
School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

## **LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING RE: CLARIFICATION ART 2.3 & 7.5 POSTINGS**

**Bargaining 2012 – 2014**

**The parties agree to add the following Letter of Understanding to the collective agreement:**

**Letter of Understanding Between  
C.U.P.E. Local 561  
and  
School District 43 Coquitlam**

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**RE: CLARIFICATION re ARTICLE 2.3 and 7.5 POSTING PROCEDURE**

This Letter of Understanding is in accordance with the agreement reached between the parties on November 13, 2012. The parties agree that it is in the interests of our school community to fill vacancies with fully qualified candidates.

However, the parties acknowledge that there are times when fully qualified candidates are not available. This clarification is intended to provide guidance to employees, the employer and the union with regard to how vacancies will be filled when fully qualified applicants are not available.

### **STEP A INTERNAL POSTING**

1. The Employer will post vacancies according to Article 2.3 of the Collective Agreement
2. All employees interested in a posting are encouraged to apply whether or not they meet all the requirements contained in the Knowledge and Skills in the class specification. This is the only time employees need to apply to express interest in the vacancy. Any employee applying for a posting different from their current class specification must provide information in their application as to how the employee meets each factor in the required knowledge and skills for the posting.
3. If there are applicants who meet the requirements in the class specification, preference goes to candidates in the following order:
  - a. Current permanent employees in seniority order;
  - b. Casual employees with bidding rights in seniority order; and then
  - c. Casual employees without bidding rights (considered to be external applicants).
4. If there are no applicants who meet the requirements in the class specification, the employer may either
  - a. post the vacancy externally as provided for in Step B, or
  - b. select the internal applicant who most closely meets the requirements in the class specification. Only employees who have applied under Step A.2 will be considered. Where two applicants are relatively equal, seniority will be the deciding factor.
5. Where the Employer has selected an internal candidate under Step A.4.b., the Employer will provide the Union President (or designate) with the rationale for the selection.

## **STEP B EXTERNAL POSTING(S)**

1. Under A.4.a., the employer may hire any external applicant who meets all of the requirements in the class specification for the vacant position.
2. If no external applicants meet the requirements in the class specification for the vacant position, the employer may:
  - a. repost the vacancy externally; or
  - b. after an initial or subsequent external reposting, select the internal or external applicant who most closely meets the requirement in the class specification. Only employees who have applied under Step A.2 and external applicants identified by the employer will be considered. Where two applicants are relatively equal seniority will be the deciding factor.
3. Once the Employer chooses an applicant under Step B.3.b., the Employer will provide the Union President (or designate) with the rationale for the selection.

## **CONDITIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WHO ARE NOT FULLY QUALIFIED**

1. Employee must obtain qualifications, other than experience requirements, as soon as possible but not later than one (1) year unless otherwise agreed to by the employer and the union.
2. If permanent status is obtained through this process, employee cannot use permanent status to apply for other positions until full qualifications are obtained.

Nothing in this Agreement will prevent the Union from filing a grievance relating to the Employer's selection process.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November, 2013:

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Jamie Ross,  
Signed on behalf of the Employer

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Dave Ginter,  
Signed on behalf of the Union

**Provincial Framework Agreement ("Framework")**

**between**

**BC Public School Employers' Association ("BCPSEA")**

**and**

**The K-12 Presidents' Council and Support Staff Unions ("the Unions")**

BCPSEA and the Unions ("the Parties") agree to recommend the following framework for inclusion in the collective agreements between local Support Staff Unions who are members of the K-12 Presidents' Council and Boards of Education.

**1. Term**

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025

**2. Wages Increases**

General wage increases as follows:

July 1, 2022: \$0.25 per hour wage increase plus an additional 3.24%

July 1, 2023: 5.5% and up to 1.25% COLA adjustment

July 1, 2024: 2.0% and up to 1.0% COLA adjustment

The COLA adjustments will be the annualized average of BC CPI over twelve months per paragraph 4 below

**3. Wage Increase Retroactivity**

- a. Employees employed on the date of ratification who were employed on July 1, 2022 shall receive retroactive payment of wage increases to July 1, 2022.
- b. Employees hired after July 1, 2022 who were employed on the date of ratification, shall have their retro-active pay increase pro-rated from their date of hire to the date of ratification.
- c. Employees who retired between July 1, 2022 and the date of ratification, shall have their retro-active pay increase pro-rated from July 1, 2022 to date of retirement.

#### 4. COLA Adjustment

The provincial parties agree that in determining the level of any Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) that will be paid out starting on the first pay period after July 1, 2023 and July 1, 2024, respectively, the "annualized average of BC CPI over twelve months" in paragraph 2 of the Provincial Framework Agreement means the *Latest 12-month Average (Index) % Change* reported by BC Stats in March for British Columbia for the twelve months starting at the beginning of March the preceding year and concluding at the end of the following February. The percentage change reported by BC Stats that will form the basis for determining any COLA increase is calculated to one decimal point. The *Latest 12-month Average Index*, as defined by BC Stats, is a 12-month moving average of the BC consumer price indexes of the most recent 12 months. This figure is calculated by averaging index levels over the applicable 12 months.

The *Latest 12-month Average % Change* is reported publicly by BC Stats in the monthly BC Stats *Consumer Price Index Highlights* report. The BC Stats *Consumer Price Index Highlights* report released in mid-March will contain the applicable figure for the 12-months concluding at the end of February.

For reference purposes only, the annualized average of BC CPI over twelve months from March 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022 was 3.4%.

#### 5. Public Sector Wage Increases

1. If a public sector employer, as defined in s. 1 of the *Public Sector Employers Act*, enters into a collective agreement with an effective date after December 31, 2021 and the first three years of the collective agreement under the Shared Recovery Mandate includes cumulative nominal (not compounded) general wage increases (GWIs) and Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) that, in accordance with how GWIs are defined and calculated in this LOA, are paid out and exceed the sum of the GWIs and COLAs that are paid out in the K-12 Provincial Framework Agreement, the total GWIs and COLAs paid out will be adjusted on the third anniversary of the collective agreement so that the cumulative nominal (not compounded) GWIs and COLAs are equivalent. This paragraph 5 is not triggered by any wage increase or lump sum awarded as a result of binding interest arbitration.
2. For the purposes of calculating the general wage increases in paragraph 1:
  - a) a \$0.25 per hour flat-rate wage increase for employees with their hourly wage rates set out in the collective agreement; or
  - b) any alternative flat-rate wage increase for employees whose hourly wage rates are not set out in the collective agreement that is determined by the Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat to be roughly equivalent to a \$0.25 per hour flat-rate wage increase;

shall be considered to be a 0.5% general wage increase, notwithstanding what it actually represents for the average bargaining unit member covered by the collective agreement. For clarity, under paragraph 2 a), the combined GWIs of \$0.25 per hour and 3.24% in Year 1 are considered to be a single increase of 3.74% for this LOA. For example purposes only, combining the 3.74% increase (as it is considered in this LOA) in Year 1 with the maximum potential combined GWI and COLA increases of 6.75% in Year 2 and 3% in Year 3 would result in a cumulative nominal increases of 13.49% over three years.

3. For certainty, a general wage increase is one that applies to all members of a bargaining unit (e.g. everyone receives an additional \$0.25 per hour, \$400 per year, or 1% increase) and does not include wage comparability adjustments, lower wage redress adjustments, labour market adjustments, flexibility allocations, classification system changes, or any compensation increases that are funded by equivalent collective agreement savings or grievance resolutions that are agreed to in bargaining.
4. A general wage increase and its magnitude in any agreement is as confirmed by the Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat.
5. This paragraph 5 will be effective during the term of the K-12 Provincial Framework Agreement.

## 6. Local Table Bargaining Money

Provide ongoing funding to the support staff local tables in the amount of:

Year	Amount	District Minimum
2022/2023	\$11,500,000	\$40,000
2023/2024	\$13,800,000	\$50,000
2024/2025	\$17,800,000	\$60,000

This money will be prorated according to student FTE providing that each district receives the district minimum amount.

The district and local must reach agreement on its use and implementation as part of their local discussions. The money may not be used for a general wage increase.

## 7. Provincial Labour Management Committee

The parties agree to maintain a Provincial Labour Management Committee (PLMC) to discuss and problem solve issues of mutual provincial interest, including issues referred from provincial committees established under this Framework Agreement. The purpose of the committee is to promote the cooperative resolution of workplace issues, to respond and adapt to changes in the economy, to foster the development of work-related skills and to promote workplace productivity.

The PLMC shall not discuss local grievances or have the power to bind local parties to any decision or conclusion. This committee will not replace the existing local grievance/arbitration processes.

The parties agree that the PLMC will consist of up to four (4) representatives appointed by BCPSEA and up to four (4) representatives appointed by the Support Staff Unions. Either provincial party may bring resource people as required, with advanced notice to the other party and at no added cost to the committee.

The PLMC will meet quarterly or as mutually agreed to for the life of the 2022 Framework Agreement and agree to include Workplace Health and Safety as a standing agenda item.

## **8. Support Staff Education Committee (SSEC)**

### **Structure:**

The committee shall comprise of not more than five (5) members appointed by CUPE and five (5) members appointed by BCPSEA. One of the CUPE appointees will be from the Non-CUPE Unions.

Either Party may bring resource people as required, with advanced notice to the other party. These resource people will be non-voting and at no added cost to the committee.

### **Mandate:**

The mandate of the committee is to manage the distribution of education funds for the following:

- a) Implementation of best practices to integrate skill development for support staff employees with district goals and student needs;
- b) Developing and delivering education opportunities to enhance service delivery to students;
- c) Identifying, developing and delivering education opportunities to enhance and support employee health and safety, including non-violent crisis intervention;
- d) Enable the provision of education opportunities to enhance and support the understanding, recognition and reconciliation process with Indigenous Peoples;
- e) Enable the provision of education opportunities to enhance and support equity, diversity, and inclusion as well as cultural safety;
- f) Skills enhancement for support staff;
- g) EA curriculum module development and delivery;
- h) These funds shall not be used to pay for education that Districts are required to provide under Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.

### **Terms of Reference:**

The SSEC shall update, not later than January 31, 2023, the terms of reference for the committee. If no such agreement can be reached the SSEC shall make recommendations to the Provincial Labour Management Committee (PLMC).

### **Funding:**

Commencing July 1, 2022, there will be \$50,000 of annual funding allocated for the purposes set out above. Commencing July 1, 2024, there will be an additional \$1,000,000 of annual funding allocated for the purposes set out above.

## **9. Safety in the Workplace**

The parties agree that prevention of violence in the workplace is of paramount importance. The parties commit to providing a healthy and safe working environment that includes procedures to minimize the risk of workplace violence, such as Individual Safe Work Instructions or equivalent and the obligation to report and investigate incidents of workplace violence.

## **10. Provincial Joint Health and Safety Taskforce**

The provincial parties will establish a Provincial Joint Health and Safety Taskforce of not more than four (4) members appointed by CUPE and four (4) members appointed by BCPSEA. Each provincial party will consider the appointment of subject matter experts in occupational health and safety. Either provincial party may bring resource people as required, with advance notice to the other party. These resource people will be non-voting and at no cost to the taskforce. Costs associated with this Taskforce will be provided from existing SSEAC funds.

The Provincial Joint Health and Safety Taskforce will:

- a) develop Terms of Reference to support training on the 2021 Workplace Violence Prevention Toolkit and the joint health and Safety Evaluation Tool;
- b) support the Support Staff Education Committee (SSEC) in the development of training related to the 2021 Workplace Violence Prevention Toolkit;
- c) provide a joint communication on the availability of training related to the 2021 Workplace Violence Prevention Toolkit for all Occupational Health and Safety Committees;
- d) review and update as required the Joint Health and Safety Evaluation Tool resulting from the 2019-2022 Provincial Framework Agreement;
- e) provide the reviewed Joint Health and Safety Evaluation Tool to each school district and local union;
- f) Identify and share best practices for the development of Individual Safe Work Instructions or equivalent.

## **11. Job Evaluation**

The work of the provincial job evaluation steering committee (the JE Committee) will continue during the term of this Framework Agreement. The objectives of the JE Committee are as follows:

- Review the results of the phase one and phase two pilots and outcomes of the committee work. Address any anomalies identified with the JE tool, process, or benchmarks.
- Rate the provincial benchmarks and create a job hierarchy for the provincial benchmarks.
- Gather data from all school districts and match existing job descriptions to the provincial benchmarks.
- Identify the job hierarchy for local job descriptions for all school districts.
- Compare the local job hierarchy to the benchmark-matched hierarchy.
- Develop a methodology to convert points to pay bands - The confirmed method must be supported by current compensation best practices.
- Identify training requirements to support implementation of the JE plan and develop training resources as required.

Once the objectives outlined above are completed, the JE Committee will mutually determine whether a local, regional or provincial approach to the steps outlined above is appropriate.

It is recognized that the work of the committee is technical, complicated, lengthy and onerous. To accomplish the objectives, the parties agree that existing JE funds can be accessed by the JE committee to engage consultant(s) to complete this work.

It is further recognized that this process does not impact the established management right of employers to determine local job requirements and job descriptions nor does this process alter any existing collective agreement rights or established practices.



When the JE plan is ready to be implemented, and if an amendment to an existing collective agreement is required, the JE Committee will work with the local School District and Local Union to make recommendations for implementation. Any recommendations will also be provided to the Provincial Labour Management Committee (PLMC).

As mutually agreed by the provincial parties and the JE Committee, the disbursement of available JE funds shall be retroactive to January 2, 2020-

The committee will utilize available funds to provide 50% of the wage differential for the position falling the furthest below the wage rate established by the provincial JE process and will continue this process until all JE fund monies at the time have been disbursed. The committee will follow compensation best practices to avoid problems such as inversion.

The committee will report out to the provincial parties regularly during the term of the Framework Agreement. Should any concerns arise during the work of the committee they will be referred to the PLMC.

Create a maintenance program to support ongoing implementation of the JE plan at a local, regional or provincial level. The maintenance program will include a process for addressing the wage rates of incumbents in positions which are impacted by implementation of the JE plan.

The provincial parties confirm that \$4,419,859 of ongoing annual funds will be used to implement the Job Evaluation Plan.

Effective July 1, 2022, there will be a one-time pause of the annual \$4,419,859 JE funding. This amount has been allocated to the local table bargaining money. The annual funding will recommence July 1, 2023.

## **12. Committee Funding**

There will be a total of \$150,000 of annual funding allocated for the purposes of the Support Staff Education Committee, the Provincial Labour Management Committee and the Provincial Joint Health and Safety Committee.

## **13. Public Education Benefits Trust**

- a. PEBT Annual Funding Date: The established ongoing annual funding payment of \$19,428,240 provided by the Ministry of Education will continue to be made each April 1. This payment shall be made each April 1 of the calendar year to provide LTD and JEIS benefits in accordance with the Settlers Statement on Accepted and Policy Practices of the PEBT.
- b. The Parties agree that decisions of the Public Education Benefits Trust medical appeal panel are final and binding. The Parties further agree that administrative review processes and the medical appeal panel will not be subject to the grievance procedure in each collective agreement.
- c. Sick leave and JEIS eligibility for sick leave or indemnity payments requires participation in the Joint Early Intervention Service (JEIS) according to the JEIS policies of the PEBT.

## **14. Benefits**

- a. Effective July 1, 2023, provide \$3 million dollars as ongoing annual funding to explore enhancements to the Standardized Extended Health Plan, including dental coverage, counselling and other improvements to benefits.

A one-time joint committee of up to four representatives appointed by BCPSEA and up to four representatives appointed by support staff unions will determine the enhancements to be implemented.

Any residual from the benefits standardization will be allocated to the Job Evaluation Fund.

- b. Effective July 1, 2023, provide \$1,000,000 one-time money to the PEBT to be utilized for addiction treatment support programs. The PEBT will determine appropriate terms of use for accessing the funds which will include, but not be limited to: priority access for support staff employees (vs. School Districts), treatment cost considerations, and relapse response.

## **15. Production of Local Collective Agreements**

BCPSEA commits to providing a draft 2022 local collective agreement which includes all negotiated updates, within 30 days of ratification by the local parties. The draft collective agreement will be provided in editable format with changes tracked for the local parties to review.

## **16. Demographic, Classification and Wage Information**

BCPSEA agrees to coordinate the accumulation and distribution of demographic, classification and wage data, as specified in the Letter of Understanding dated December 14, 2011, to CUPE on behalf of Boards of Education. The data currently housed in the Employment Data and Analysis Systems (EDAS) will be the source of the requested information.

## **17. Unpaid Work**

In accordance with the *Employment Standards Act*, no employee shall be required or permitted to perform unpaid hours of work.

## **18. Education Assistant Credential Standardization**

Should the Ministry of Education initiate discussions regarding standardized credentials for Education Assistants, the provincial parties will each send a letter to request participation in the process.

## **19. Provincial Framework Bargaining 2025**

The Parties agree to amend and renew the December 14, 2011 Letter of Understanding for dedicated funding to the K-12 Presidents Council to facilitate the next round of provincial bargaining. \$250,000 will be allocated as of July 1, 2023.

## **20. Provincial Dispute resolution**

The provincial parties may mutually agree to refer a dispute under Provincial Framework Agreement to final and binding arbitration.

## **21. Funding**

Funding for the Provincial Framework Agreement will be included in operating grants to Boards of Education.

## **22. Employee Support Grant**

The Parties agree to the principle that Support Staff union members who have lost wages as a result of not crossing lawful picket lines during full days of a BCTF strike/BCPSEA lockout will be compensated in accordance with the letter of agreement in Appendix A.

## **23. Adoption of the Provincial Framework Agreement**

The rights and obligations of the local parties under this Provincial Framework Agreement are of no force or effect unless the collective agreement has been ratified by both parties no later than January 25, 2023, or a later date as established by the provincial parties if the local parties are engaged in mediation.

Dated this 15th day of September, 2022.

The undersigned bargaining representatives agree to recommend this letter of understanding to their respective principals.

**K-12 Presidents' Council and  
Support Staff Unions**

**BC Public School Employers'  
Association**

**Provincial Framework Agreement ("Framework")**

**between**

**BC Public School Employers' Association ("BCPSEA")**

**and**

**The K-12 Presidents' Council and Support Staff Unions ("the Unions")**

BCPSEA and the Unions ("the Parties") agree to recommend the following framework for inclusion in the collective agreements between local Support Staff Unions who are members of the K-12 Presidents' Council and Boards of Education.

**1. Term**

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022

**2. Wages Increases**

General wage increases as follows:

Year one: 2.0% - July 1, 2019

Year two: 2.0% - July 1, 2020

Year three: 2.0% - July 1, 2021

**3. Local Bargaining**

Provide funding to the local support staff tables for service enhancements that are beneficial to students and as otherwise consistent with the 2019 Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate in the amount of:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>2019/2020</b>	\$0
<b>2020/2021</b>	\$7,000,000
<b>2021/2022</b>	\$7,000,000

The \$7 million is an ongoing annual amount.

This money will be prorated according to student FTE providing that each district receives a minimum of \$15,000 annually.

**4. Benefits**

Provide annual ongoing funding to explore and implement enhancements to the Standardized Extended Health Plan including consideration of an addiction treatment support program as below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>2019/2020</b>	\$1,000,000
<b>2020/2021</b>	\$3,000,000
<b>2021/2022</b>	\$3,000,000

A one-time joint committee of up to four (4) representatives appointed by BCPSEA and up to four (4) representatives appointed by the support staff unions.

Any residual from the 2019-2022 for benefits standardization will be allocated to training initiatives under the Support Staff Education Committee.

Further, the Parties agree that the existing funds held in the Support Staff Education and Adjustment Committee as set out below will be transferred to the PEBT and utilized for addiction treatment support programs. The PEBT will determine appropriate terms of use for accessing the funds which will include, but not be limited to: priority access for support staff employees (vs. School Districts), treatment cost consideration, and relapse response.

- a. 2010-2012 FLOU – remaining balance of \$477,379
- b. Work Force Adjustment – remaining balance of \$646,724

## **5. Safety in the Workplace**

The Parties agree that, in accordance with WorkSafe BC regulations, safety in the workplace is an employee right and is paramount. The Parties commit to providing a healthy and safe working environment which includes procedures to eliminate or minimize the risk of workplace violence. The Parties will work collaboratively to support local districts and unions to comply with all WorkSafe BC requirements.

Information relating to refusing unsafe work, and workers' rights and responsibilities, and employer responsibilities, as provided by WorkSafeBC is attached to this PFA for information purposes.

The Parties will establish a Joint Health and Safety Taskforce of not more than five (5) members appointed by CUPE and five (5) members appointed by BCPSEA. Each Party will consider the appointment of subject matter experts in occupational health and safety, and special education.

Either Party may bring resource people as required, with advanced notice to the other party. These resource people will be non-voting and at no added cost to the committee.

The work of this joint taskforce will be completed by January 1, 2020 and will include:

- Developing a joint communication to school districts and local unions on the obligation to report and investigate incidents including incidents of workplace violence.

- Reviewing and developing a Joint Health and Safety Evaluation Tool for the K-12 sector to ensure compliance with WorkSafe BC regulations.
- Identifying and developing appropriate training. This may include use of the evaluation tool, non-violent crisis intervention, ABA, incident reporting and investigations, and employee rights and responsibilities under WorkSafe BC regulations including the right to refuse unsafe work. Training implementation will fall under the mandate of the SSEC.

Utilizing the developed Health and Safety Evaluation Tool for K-12 sector, a joint evaluation shall be performed by a union member appointed by the local union and a representative appointed by the employer. This evaluation shall be on paid time (up to a maximum of three and a half (3.5) hours) and to be completed by March 31, 2021. The union agrees to cover any other costs incurred for the union member.

Copies of completed evaluations shall be provided to local presidents and employers as outlined on the evaluation tool.

The parties agree to commence the work of this taskforce upon approval of the Provincial Framework Agreement by both parties prior to the commencement of this PFA. Costs associated with this committee will be provided from existing SSEAC funds. These funds will be reimbursed with the funds provided under Section 9 Committee Funding.

## **6. Support Staff Education Committee (SSEC)**

### Structure:

The committee shall comprise of not more than five (5) members appointed by CUPE and five (5) members appointed by BCPSEA. One of the CUPE appointees will be from the Non-CUPE Unions.

Either Party may bring resource people as required, with advanced notice to the other party. These resource people will be non-voting and at no added cost to the committee.

### Mandate:

The mandate of the committee is to manage the distribution of education funds for the following:

- a. Implementation of best practices to integrate skill development for support staff employees with district goals and student needs;
- b. Developing and delivering education opportunities to enhance service delivery to students;
- c. Identifying, developing and delivering education opportunities to enhance and support employee health and safety, including non-violent crisis intervention;
- d. Skills enhancement for support staff

- e. EA curriculum module development and delivery
- f. These funds shall not be used to pay for education that Districts are required to provide under Occupational Health and Safety Regulations

Terms of Reference:

The SSEC shall develop, not later than December 31, 2019, terms of reference for the committee. If no such agreement can be reached the SSEC shall make recommendations to the Provincial Parties.

Funding:

There will be a total of \$1 million of annual funding allocated for the purposes set out above commencing July 1, 2019 for the term of this agreement.

## **7. Job Evaluation (JE) Committee**

The Parties will continue and conclude the work of the provincial job evaluation steering committee (the JE Committee) during the term of this Framework Agreement. The objectives of the JE Committee for phase two are as follows:

- Review the results of the phase one pilot and outcomes of the committee work. Address any anomalies identified with the JE tool, process, or benchmarks.
- Expand the pilot to an additional ten (10) districts including at least two (2) non-CUPE locals to confirm the validity of the tool and the benchmarks.
- Rate the provincial benchmarks and create a job hierarchy for the provincial benchmarks.
- Identify the job hierarchy for local job descriptions for all school districts.
- Compare the local job hierarchy to the benchmark-matched hierarchy.
- Identify training requirements to support implementation of the JE plan and develop training resources as required.

It is recognized that the work of the committee is potentially lengthy and onerous. To accomplish the objectives expeditiously the Parties agree that existing JE funds can be accessed by the JE committee to engage consultant(s) on a fulltime basis if necessary to complete this work.

It is further recognized that this process does not impact the established management right of employers to determine local job requirements and job descriptions nor does this process alter any existing collective agreement rights or established practices.

Once the objectives outlined above are completed, the JE Committee will mutually determine whether a local, regional or provincial approach to the steps outlined below is appropriate.

The committee, together with consultant(s) if required, will develop a method to convert points into pay bands. The confirmed method must be supported by current compensation best practices.

The disbursement of available JE funds shall commence by January 2, 2020 or as mutually agreed.

The committee will utilize available funds to provide 50% of the wage differential for the position falling the furthest below the wage rate established by the provincial JE process and will continue this process until all JE fund monies at the time has been disbursed. The committee will follow compensation best practices to avoid problems such as inversion.

The committee will report out to the Parties at key milestones during the term of the Framework Agreement. Should any concerns arise during the work of the committee they will be discussed and resolved by the Parties at that time.

The parties confirm that the \$900,000 of ongoing annual funds established under the 2014-2019 Provincial Framework Agreement will be used to implement the Job Evaluation Plan. An additional \$3 million of ongoing annual funds will commence on July 1, 2021.

## **8. Provincial Labour Management Committee (PLMC)**

The Parties agree to establish a PLMC to discuss and problem solve issues of mutual provincial interest. The purpose of the committee is to promote the cooperative resolution of workplace issues, to respond and adapt to changes in the economy, to foster the development of work related skills and to promote workplace productivity.

The PLMC shall not discuss specific grievances or have the power to bind either Party to any decision or conclusion. This committee will not replace the existing local grievance/arbitration processes.

The parties agree that the PLMC will consist of up to four (4) representatives appointed by BCPSEA and up to four (4) representatives appointed by the Support Staff Unions. Either Party may bring resource people as required, with advanced notice to the other party and at no added cost to the committee.

The PLMC will meet quarterly or as mutually agreed to for the life of the agreement and agree to include Workplace Health and Safety as a standing agenda item.

## **9. Committee Funding**

There will be a total of \$100,000 of annual funding allocated for the purposes of the Support Staff Education Committee and the Provincial Labour Management Committee. There will be a one-time \$50,000 allocation for the purposes of the Joint Health and Safety Taskforce.

## **10. Support Staff Initiative for Recruitment & Retention Enhancement (SSIRRE)**

The Parties commit to a Support Staff Initiative for Recruitment & Retention Enhancement (SSIRRE) with the following objectives:

- a. Gathering data of existing support staff recruitment and retention challenges and projected demand in the sector
- b. Gathering data of existing offerings for applicable post-secondary programs, vocational programs and identify potential gaps in program offerings to meet projected demands



- c. Partnering with post-secondary schools and vocational training providers to promote support staff positions in school districts
- d. Marketing the support staff opportunities within the sector (eg. Make a Future)
- e. Targeted support for hard to fill positions

The representatives of the PLMC will mutually select a consultant to perform the work of the initiative. The consultant will report to the PLMC on key milestones and as otherwise requested. During the term of the agreement \$300,000 will be allocated for the purposes set out above.

## **11. Early Care and Learning Plan**

In support of the Province's Early Care and Learning (ECL) Plan, the parties will pursue collaborative opportunities for the K-12 sector to support effective transitions for care and learning from the early years to kindergarten e.g. before and after school care.

## **12. Unpaid Work**

In accordance with the *Employment Standards Act*, no employee shall be required or permitted to perform unpaid hours of work.

## **13. Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP) services and the PEBT**

The Parties request that the PEBT Board undertake a review to assess the administering of all support staff Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP) plans.

## **14. Demographic, Classification and Wage Information**

BCPSEA agrees to coordinate the accumulation and distribution of demographic, classification and wage data, as specified in the Letter of Understanding dated December 14, 2011, to CUPE on behalf of Boards of Education. The data currently housed in the Employment Data and Analysis Systems (EDAS) will be the source of the requested information.

## **15. Public Education Benefits Trust**

- a. PEBT Annual Funding Date: The established ongoing annual funding payment of \$19,428,240 provided by the Ministry of Education will continue to be made each April 1. This payment shall be made each April 1 of the calendar year to provide LTD and JEIS benefits in accordance with the Settlers Statement On Accepted and Policy Practices of the PEBT.
- b. The Parties agree that decisions of the Public Education Benefits Trust medical appeal panel are final and binding. The Parties further agree that administrative review processes and the medical appeal panel will not be subject to the grievance procedure in each collective agreement.
- c. Sick leave and JEIS eligibility for sick leave or indemnity payments requires participation in the Joint Early Intervention Service (JEIS) according to the JEIS policies of the PEBT.

## 16. Employee Support Grant (ESG)

The Parties agree to the principle that Support Staff union members who have lost wages as a result of not crossing lawful picket lines during full days of a BCTF strike/BCPSEA lockout will be compensated in accordance with the letter of agreement in Appendix A.

## 17. Adoption of Provincial Framework Agreement (PFA)

The rights and obligation of the local parties under this Provincial Framework Agreement (PFA) are of no force or effect unless the collective agreement has been ratified by both parties no later than November 30, 2019.

## 18. Funding

Funding for the Provincial Framework Agreement will be included in operating grants to Boards of Education.

## 19. Provincial Bargaining

The parties agree to amend and renew the December 14, 2011 Letter of Understanding for dedicated funding to the K-12 Presidents' Council to facilitate the next round of provincial bargaining. \$200,000 will be allocated as of July 1, 2020.

Dated this \_\_12<sup>th</sup>\_\_ day of July, 2018.

The undersigned bargaining representatives agree to recommend this letter of understanding to their respective principals.

### **K-12 Presidents' Council and Support Staff Unions**

### **BC Public School Employers' Association & Boards of Education**

Warren Williams (Local 15 - Metro)

Leanne Bowes, BCPSEA

Tracey Mathieson

Renzo del Negro, BCPSEA

Rob Hewitt

Tammy Sowinski, OLRC

Leslie Franklin (Local 703 - Fraser Valley)

Kyle Uno, SD36 Surrey

Nicole Edmondson (Local 3500 - Okanagan)

Robert Weston, SD40 New Westminster

Paul Simpson (Local 379 - Metro)

Jason Reid, SD63 Saanich

Marcey Campbell ( Local 728 - Metro)

Sylvia Lindgren (Local 523 - Okanagan)

Rolanda Lavallee ( Local 2145 – North)

Len Hanson. (Local 2298 – North)

Joanne (Jody) Welch. ( Local 401- North Island)

Fred Schmidt (Local 382 - South Island)

Jane Massy (Local 947 - South Island)

Michelle Bennett ( Local 748 – Kootenays)

Brent Boyd. (Local 407 - Metro)

Patti Price (Local 1091 – Metro)

Rod Isaac (Local 411 - Fraser Valley)

Marcel Marsolais ( Local 409 – Metro)

Anne Purvis (Local 440 – Kootneys)

Rob Zver ( Local 606- North Island)

Bruce Scott ( WVMEA)

Tim DeVivo. ( IUOE Local 963)

Corey Thomas

Loree Wilcox

Corinne Iwata (minute taker)

Marcy VanKoughnett, SD20 Kootenay-Columbia

Alan Chell, BCPSEA Board of Directors

Ken Dawson, PSEC

Elisha Tran (Minute Taker)

**Provincial Framework Agreement ("Framework")**

**between  
BC Public School Employers' Association ("BCPSEA")  
and  
The K-12 Presidents' Council and Support Staff Unions ("the Unions")**

BCPSEA and the Unions ("the Parties") agree to recommend the following framework for inclusion in the collective agreements between local Support Staff Unions who are members of the K-12 Presidents' Council and Boards of Education.

The rights and obligations of the local parties under this framework are of no force or effect unless their collective agreement has been ratified by both parties no later than November 30, 2014.

**1. Term**

July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2019.

**2. Wage Increases**

Wages will increase by 5.5%. Increases will be effective on the following dates:

- July 1, 2015 1.0%
- May 1, 2016 Economic Stability Dividend
- July 1, 2016 0.5%
- May 1, 2017 1.0% plus Economic Stability Dividend
- July 1, 2017 0.5%
- May 1, 2018 1.0% plus Economic Stability Dividend
- July 1, 2018 0.5%
- May 1, 2019 1.0% plus Economic Stability Dividend

The terms of the Economic Stability Dividend are described in Appendix A.

**3. Employee Support Grant**

BCPSEA, the Unions and the Government agree to the principle that support staff union members who have lost wages as a result of not crossing lawful picket lines during full days of the BCTF strike/BCPSEA lockout shall be compensated in accordance with the agreement in Appendix B.

**4. Benefits Standardization**

The Parties agree to pursue a voluntary standardized extended health plan to be implemented during the term of the collective agreement in accordance with the terms laid out in Appendix C.

**5. The Support Staff Education and Adjustment Committee (SSEAC)**

The Parties agree to renew their commitment to the Support Staff Education and Adjustment Committee (SSEAC). The Parties remain committed to the exploration of the following:

- g** a focus on best practices to integrate skill development for support staff employees with district goals and student needs
- h** a study of the potential for regionalization of wages
- i** an exploration of the potential for a standardized extended health and dental benefit plan
- j** recommendations to address issues associated with hours of work and service delivery
- k** a review of practices in districts having modified school calendars and the resulting impact on support staff
- l** skills enhancement for support staff

There will be a total of \$100,000 of annual funding allocated for the purposes set out above commencing July 1, 2015. The parties agree that work plans to address the above and any resulting recommendations will require mutual agreement.

**6. Education Assistants Committee**

- a)** The Parties agree to continue the Education Assistants Committee charged with the responsibility of investigating and making recommendations regarding possibilities for the creation of whole Education Assistant jobs, and for the deployment of Education Assistant staff in accordance with recognized best practices.
- b)** The Parties agree the Committee will engage with the Ministry of Education around the development and implementation of a system of recognized credentials and qualifications to regulate the employment of Education Assistants.
- c)** The Parties agree the Committee shall consist of not more than 8 representatives appointed by Support Staff unions and not more than 8 representatives appointed by BCPSEA.
- d)** The Parties agree the Committee will be resourced with a budget fixed by SSEAC and drawn from SSEAC funds to accomplish its work.
- e)** The Parties agree the work of the Committee will recommence within one year of the ratification of the framework agreement.
- f)** The Parties agree that the Committee will complete its work and report its findings to the Parties.

**7. Learning Improvement Fund – Support Staff**

The funds stipulated in Item 1 of the LOA – Learning Improvement Fund: Support Staff Priorities (Appendix D) are the greater of \$10 million or 20% of the LIF commencing on July 1, 2015. These funds will be allocated to School Districts in accordance with the following principles as per established SSEAC procedures:

- a) Additional hours will be allocated to EA positions of more than 10 and less than 35 hours where required to provide support for the learning needs of students in alignment with district objectives and the Learning Improvement Fund Statute and Regulation. This does not preclude the creation of new full time or part time EA positions.
- b) In order to facilitate the creation of full time jobs, the Parties encourage the bundling of duties.
- c) In order to promote continuity of student coverage consideration will be given to creating positions of equivalent length. For clarity, shifts scheduled for a duration not ending in a whole hour or half hour, will be increased to the next half hour.
- d) Consideration may be given to the establishment of itinerant positions to enhance services to students with special needs and provide for the opportunity to effectively deploy EA's in circumstances of changing enrollment throughout the school year.
- e) Support staff local unions and Boards of Education will formulate a plan for the above funds. Plans for full time jobs for EA's are to be accompanied by job descriptions as per existing SSEAC procedures in accordance with the Collective Agreements.
- f) SSEAC will receive the jointly agreed plans from school districts and locals.
- g) If disputes arise regarding the implementation of this agreement the matter will be referred to the SSEAC.
- h) Should SSEAC fail to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of the referring parties the matter may be sent by either party to mediation using a mutually agreed upon mediator.
- i) If permitted by legislation and regulation, a one-time allocation of \$2.5 million from these funds, on or after July 1, 2015, will be provided to the SSEAC Skills Enhancement Fund to be distributed to school districts for job related EA training according to established procedures. The Parties agree to write a joint letter to the Ministry requesting that any enabling changes to legislation and regulation be made to allow this to occur.

## 8. PEBT

### a) Date adjustment for the annual funding of the PEBT LTD plan:

Change the date of the annual funding payment of \$19,428,240 provided by the Ministry of Education from January 1 to April 1 of each year, commencing April 1, 2015. Thereafter the Ministry of Education will provide the PEBT with \$19,428,240 each April 1.

The annual contribution period will continue to be based on the calendar year.

Recognizing the impact on interest earnings as a result of the three (3) month delay in 2015, the PEBT will be provided with a one-time interest payment by the Ministry of Education of \$300,000 on January 2, 2015.

### b) Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP) services and the PEBT

The Parties request that the PEBT Board undertake a review to assess the viability of administering all support staff EFAP plans.

**9. Shared Services**

The Parties will write a joint letter to the Ministry seeking agreement to include representatives from the support staff unions in a consultation process involving shared services undertakings that may have an impact on support staff positions.

**10. Demographic, Classification and Wage Information**

BCPSEA agrees to coordinate the accumulation and distribution of demographic, classification and wage data, as specified in the Letter of Understanding dated December 14, 2011, to CUPE on behalf of Boards of Education. The data currently housed in the Employment Data and Analysis Systems (EDAS) will be the source of the requested information.

**11. Standardized Job Evaluation Study**

The Parties will establish a provincial joint job evaluation steering committee (the JE committee) within thirty (30) days following the signing of this framework agreement. The committee is responsible to create a provincial job evaluation plan which may include a regional or local approach. The JE tool will be based upon the CUPE gender neutral job evaluation plan. The Parties agree the plan can be modified to fit the needs of the K-12 sector.

The committee will report out to the Parties at key milestones during the development of the plan. Should any concerns arise during the development they will be discussed and resolved by the Parties at that time.

Upon successful completion of the plan the Parties will identify one local in each of the seven established CUPE regions to pilot the plan prior to full implementation.

**12. Job Evaluation Fund**

To fund the development work of the JE committee during 2014 the Parties agree to a one-time allocation of \$50,000 from SSEAC.

To facilitate the implementation of the provincial job evaluation plan a fund will be established within SSEAC with an initial one-time allocation of \$250,000 on July 1, 2015 and annually each year thereafter during the term of the framework agreement, for a total of \$1,000,000 in one-time funding.

**13. Provincial Bargaining**

The parties agree to amend and renew the December 14, 2011 Letter of Understanding for dedicated funding of \$200,000 to the K-12 Presidents' Council to facilitate the next round of provincial bargaining. This funding will be allocated as of July 1, 2016.

**14. Unpaid Work**

In accordance with the *Employment Standards Act*, no employee shall be required or permitted to perform unpaid hours of work.

**15. Workload Concerns**

The Parties agree that employees should be provided with a reasonable workload. Employees with workload concerns are encouraged to bring these concerns to their supervisor or union in order that the concerns can be addressed.

**16. Modified Calendar**

The parties recognize calendar changes are an area of concern for local support staff unions. For future calendar amendments during the term of the collective agreement the Parties agree to review and compile best practices on existing modified calendars.

The Parties recommend that where boards of education are considering making calendar changes that may have an impact on the income of support staff employees, the support staff union will have the opportunity to provide input prior to the decision being made.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014.

The undersigned bargaining representatives agree to recommend this letter of understanding to their respective principals.

**K-12 Presidents' Council and  
Support Staff Unions**

**BC Public School Employers'  
Association & Boards of Education**

*[Original signed by Bargaining Committees]*

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**Provincial Framework Agreement ("Framework")**

**between**

**BC Public School Employers' Association ("BCPSEA")**

**and**

**The CUPE BC K-12 Presidents' Council and Support Staff Unions ("the Unions")**

BCPSEA and the Unions ("the Parties") agree to recommend the following framework for inclusion in the collective agreements between local Support Staff Unions and Boards of Education.

The rights and obligations of the local parties under this framework are of no force or effect unless their collective agreement has been ratified by both parties no later than Dec. 20, 2013.

**1. Term**

July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2014.

**2. Wage Increases**

Wages will increase by 3.5%. Increases will be effective on the following dates:

- July 1, 2013 – 1.0%
- February 1, 2014 – 2.0%
- May 1, 2014 – 0.5%

**3. The Support Staff Education and Adjustment Committee (SSEAC)**

The Parties agree to renew their commitment to the Support Staff Education and Adjustment Committee (SSEAC). The Parties remain committed to the exploration of the following:

- a. a focus on best practices to integrate skill development for support staff employees with district goals and student needs
- b. a study of the potential for regionalization of wages
- c. an exploration of the potential for a standardized extended health and dental benefit plan
- d. recommendations to address issues associated with hours of work and service delivery
- e. a review of practices in districts having modified school calendars and the resulting impact on support staff
- f. skills enhancement for support staff

#### **4. Recognition & Respect for Education Assistants**

- a.** The Parties agree to establish a Committee charged with the responsibility of investigating and making recommendations regarding possibilities for the creation of whole Education Assistant jobs, and for the deployment of Education Assistant staff in accordance with recognized best practices.
- b.** The Parties agree the Committee will engage with the Ministry of Education around the implementation of a system of recognized credentials and qualifications to regulate the employment of Education Assistants.
- c.** The Parties agree the Committee will convene its initial meeting within six weeks of the ratification of support staff collective agreements.
- d.** The Parties agree the Committee will be resourced with a fixed budget drawn from SSEAC funds to accomplish its work.
- e.** The Parties agree that the Committee will complete its work in time to report back to the Parties for the next round of support staff bargaining.

Items previously agreed to (see attached):

Agreed Understanding of the term Education Assistant

Letter to the Ministry of Education requesting term Education Assistant be made applicable to legislation and regulations.

#### **5. Illness and Injury Leave, Costs and Replacement Policies**

Eligibility for sick leave or indemnity payments requires participation in the Joint Early Intervention Service (JEIS) according to the JEIS policies of the PEBT.

The provincial and local parties agree to investigate the use and cost of sick leave and Board staff replacement policies with a view to recommending best practices to the parties and the PEBT.

#### **6. Drug Plan**

- (a)** The prescription drug provisions of the PEBT extended health plans will be amended, subject to paragraph (b), to provide coverage in accordance with the BlueRX Formulary and implementation of the BlueNet pay direct card.
- (b)** Bargaining units with existing drug card coverage and/or those using the Pharmacare formulary are not covered by (a). The provincial parties urge the local parties to seek ways, through local negotiations, to move towards this new provincial standard.

**7. Letter of Understanding**

The parties agree to amend and renew the December 14, 2011 Letter of Understanding, including:

**a. Dedicated Funding**

Dedicated funding in the amount \$100,000 to facilitate the next round of provincial bargaining.

**b. PEBT**

The Parties agree to include the Settlors Statement on Accepted Policy and Practices of the PEBT as contained in the 2011 Letter of Understanding as an attachment to their local collective agreements.

**c. Demographic, Classification and Wage Information**

The undertakings with respect to providing information contained in the 2011 Letter of Understanding are renewed.

**8. Enabling Shared Services**

The Parties and representatives of the Ministry of Education will examine and discuss any impediments arising from, and the options to facilitate, the introduction of shared services.

**Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013.**

**For BCPSEA**

**For the Unions**

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**Support Staff Provincial Discussion Agreed Upon Language**

Add the following letter of understanding to each collective agreement where the parties are signatory to this agreement:

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING RE: TERM EDUCATION ASSISTANT**

**BETWEEN:**

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
("The Board")**

**AND**

***[INSERT NAME AND LOCAL OF THE UNION]*  
("The Union")**

**Re: Agreed Understanding of the Term Education Assistant**

For the purposes of this collective agreement, where applicable, the term Education Assistant (EA) has the same meaning as \_\_\_\_\_ (*Position Titles agreed to by the parties to be filled in by the employer and union local*) as found in the 2010-2012 Collective Agreement and is not intended to alter or amend any terms or conditions of employment.

The parties will meet to review existing position titles and develop a schedule of position(s) that require the incorporation of the position title Education Assistant (EA).

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_

For The Board

\_\_\_\_\_

For The Union

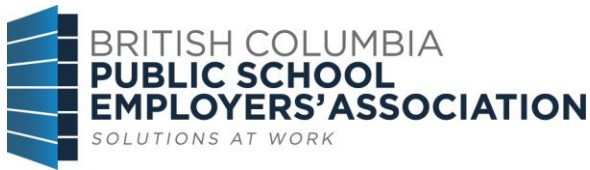
Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_

Peter Cameron  
BCPSEA

\_\_\_\_\_

Bill Pegler  
CUPE



September 18, 2013

Claire Avison  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Governance, Legislation and Regulation  
Ministry of Education

Dear Ms. Avison:

As part of the framework discussions between the K-12 Support Staff Unions and BCPSEA, the parties have agreed that it is desirable to facilitate a transition from the term "Teacher's Assistant" to "Education Assistant".

The parties agree that "Education Assistant" more accurately describes the nature of the work in the current context and into the future. We respectfully request that consideration be given to the possibility that a similar change could be made to applicable legislation and regulations.

Yours truly,

---

Peter Cameron  
BCPSEA

---

Bill Pegler  
CUPE



Bill Pegler  
K-13 Coordinator  
Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)

#### Letter of Commitment

BCPSEA agrees to coordinate the accumulation and distribution of demographic, classification and wage data, as specified in the Letter of Understanding dated December 14, 2011, to CUPE on behalf of Boards of Education. The data currently housed in the Employment Data and Analysis Systems (EDAS) will be the source of the requested information.

Original signed on December 14, 2011 by:

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Jacquie Griffiths  
Associate Executive Director  
BCPSEA

## **Memorandum: To All Member School Districts and Support Staff Unions**

### **Settlors Statement on Accepted Policy and Practices of the PEBT**

The Public Education Benefits Trust Fund (PEBT) was created in June 2002 and is sponsored by both the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE). The program is governed by a Board of Trustees representing both School Districts and Support Staff workers in the K -12 sector. Currently, there are 59 school districts, 67 union locals, and over 20,000 plan members participating in the trust.

The Settlers to the PEBT are BCPSEA and CUPE. The PEBT holds a Settlers meeting annually where the Settlers are provided with an annual report and update from the Board. The Settlers also have an opportunity to raise issues and give input to the Board.

The PEBT sponsors a confidential Joint Early Intervention Service (JEIS) as an integral part of the disability program to assist plan members in their return to work. The program is supported by Unions, School Districts and the PEBT and is provided through funding from the provincial government for the "Core" LTD.

The PEBT is now entering its eighth year and members are more familiar with the plan and its operations. However, the PEBT Board has asked the Settlers to remind their respective constituents of the importance of following the policies and practices applied by the PEBT in providing the various benefits. The Settlers recognize the value and importance of the PEBT in the K-12 Public Education Sector. The Settlers also recognize and support following the policies and procedures of the PEBT (outlined at [www.PEBT.ca](http://www.PEBT.ca)). The Settlers agree to work with and encourage their respective parties to adhere to the policies and procedures of the PEBT.

For further clarification please contact your BCPSEA or CUPE representative.



## **LETTER OF AGREEMENT RE: ECONOMIC STABILITY DIVIDEND**

**BETWEEN:  
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION  
AND  
K-12 PRESIDENTS COUNCIL**

### **Re ECONOMIC STABILITY DIVIDEND**

#### **Definitions**

1. In this Letter of Agreement:
  - “Collective agreement year” means each twelve (12) month period commencing on the first day of the renewed collective agreement. For example, the collective agreement year for a collective agreement that commences on April 1, 2014 is April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015 and each period from April 1 to March 31 for the term of the collective agreement.
  - “Economic Forecast Council” means the Economic Forecast Council appointed under s. 4 of the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*, [S.B.C. 2000] c. 23;
  - “Forecast GDP” means the average forecast for British Columbia’s real GDP growth made by the Economic Forecast Council and as reported in the annual February budget of the government;
  - “Fiscal year” means the fiscal year of the government as defined in the *Financial Administration Act* [1996 S.B.C.] c. 138 as ‘the period from April 1 in one year to March 31 in the next year’;
  - “Calendar year” is a twelve (12) month period starting January 1<sup>st</sup> and ending December 31<sup>st</sup> of the same year based upon the Gregorian calendar.
  - “GDP” or “Gross Domestic Product” for the purposes of this LOA means the expenditure side value of all goods and services produced in British Columbia for a given year as stated in the BC Economic Accounts;
  - “GWI” or “General Wage Increase” means a general wage increase resulting from the formula set out in this LOA and applied as a percentage increase to all wage rates in the collective agreement on the first pay day after the commencement of the eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) month in a collective agreement year;
  - “Real GDP” means the GDP for the previous fiscal year expressed in constant dollars and adjusted for inflation produced by Statistics Canada’s Provincial and Territorial Gross Domestic Product by Income and by Expenditure Accounts (also known as the provincial and territorial economic accounts) and published as “Real Gross Domestic Product at Market Prices” currently in November of each year.

#### **The Economic Stability Dividend**

2. The Economic Stability Dividend shares the benefits of economic growth between employees in the public sector and the Province contingent on growth in BC’s real GDP.
3. Employees will receive a general wage increase (GWI) equal to one-half (1/2) of any percentage gain in real GDP above the forecast of the Economic Forecast Council for the relevant calendar year.
4. For greater clarity and as an example only, if real GDP were one percent (1%) above forecast real GDP then employees would be entitled to a GWI of one-half of one percent (0.5%).

### **Annual Calculation and publication of the Economic Stability Dividend**

5. The Economic Stability Dividend will be calculated on an annual basis by the Minister of Finance for each collective agreement year commencing in 2015/16 to 2018/2019 and published through the PSEC Secretariat.
6. The timing in each calendar year will be as follows:
  - (i) February Budget – Forecast GDP for the upcoming calendar year;
  - (ii) November of the following calendar year – Real GDP published for the previous calendar year;
  - (iii) November - Calculation by the Minister of Finance of fifty percent (50%) of the difference between the Forecast GDP and the Real GDP for the previous calendar year;
  - (iv) Advice from the PSEC Secretariat to employers' associations, employers and unions of the percentage allowable General Wage Increase, if any, for each bargaining unit or group with authorization to employers to implement the Economic Growth Dividend.
7. For greater clarity and as an example only:  
For collective agreement year 3 (2016/17):
  - (i) February 2015 – Forecast GDP for calendar 2015;
  - (ii) November 2016 – Real GDP published for calendar 2015;
  - (iii) November 2016 - Calculation of the fifty percent (50%) of the difference between the 2015 Forecast GDP and the 2015 Real GDP by the Minister of Finance through the PSEC Secretariat;
  - (iv) Direction from the PSEC Secretariat to employers' associations, employers and unions of the percentage allowable General Wage Increase, if any, for each bargaining unit or group with authorization to employers to implement the Economic Growth Dividend
  - (v) Payment will be made concurrent with the General Wage Increases on the first pay period after respectively May, 1, 2016, May 1, 2017, May 1, 2018 and May 1, 2019.

### **Availability of the Economic Stability Dividend**

8. The Economic Stability Dividend will be provided for each of the following collective agreement years: 2015/16 (based on 2014 GDP); 2016/17 (based on 2015 GDP); 2017/18 (based on 2016 GDP); and, 2018/19 (based on 2017 GDP).

### **Allowable Method of Payment of the Economic Stability Dividend**

9. Employers must apply the Economic Stability Dividend as a percentage increase only on collective agreements wage rates and for no other purpose or form.

**Letter of Agreement Re: Employee Support Grant for May/June 2014**

**Between:**

**BC Public School Employers Association (“BCPSEA”)**

**And:**

**The K - 12 Presidents’ Council and Support Staff Unions (“the Unions”)**

**And:**

**Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of BC as  
Represented by the Ministry of Education (“the Government”)**

**Re: Employee Support Grant for May/June 2014**

- 1.** BCPSEA, the Unions and the Government agree that employees covered by collective agreements between Boards of Education and the Unions may recover wages lost as a result of legal strike activity by the BC Teachers’ Federation (“BCTF”) or lockout by BCPSEA during May and June 2014 as set out in this letter.
  
- 2.** Subject to the terms of this Letter:
  - (a)** Within thirty (30) days of ratification of a new collective agreement by a board of education, the local union and BCPSEA, the board will reimburse each employee covered by that collective agreement between the board and the local union for all scheduled hours that the employee would have worked and for which the employee has not otherwise been paid in May and/or June 2014, but for the labour dispute between BCPSEA and the BCTF.
  
  - (b)** If the employee disputes a payment received from the board, the union may submit the dispute on the employee’s behalf to a committee comprised of an equal number of representatives appointed by BCPSEA and the Unions.
  
  - (c)** If the joint committee is unable to resolve the employee’s claim it will submit the dispute to (NAMED ARBITRATOR) who must resolve the dispute within ten (10) days of hearing the differences between the board and the union.
  
- 3.** This Letter expires on November 30, 2014 and is of no further force and effect except where a board and union have a collective agreement which has been ratified by both parties no later than November 30, 2014.

Original signed on June 7, 2014 by:

*[Original signed by Renzo Del Negro]*

*[Original signed by Marcel Marsolais]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
BCPSEA

\_\_\_\_\_  
K-12 Presidents’ Council

*[Original signed by Paige MacFarlane]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ministry of Education on behalf of Her  
Majesty in Right of the Province of BC

**Letter of Agreement Re: Employee Support Grant for after June 30, 2014**

**Between:**

**BC Public School Employers Association (“BCPSEA”)**

**And:**

**The CUPE K - 12 Presidents’ Council and Support Staff Unions (“the Unions”)**

**And:**

**Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of BC as  
Represented by the Ministry of Education (the “Government”)**

**Re: Employee Support Grant for after June 30, 2014**

- 1.** This Letter establishes a process under which employees covered by collective agreements between Boards of Education and the Unions may be entitled to recover wages lost as a result of legal strike activity by the BC Teachers’ Federation (“BCTF”) or lockout by BCPSEA after June 30, 2014.
- 2.** To that end, the parties to this Letter agree that each member of the union employed as of the date of ratification of a collective agreement between a board and local unions or who retired prior to September 30, 2014 may receive payment pursuant to the terms of this Letter.
- 3.** Within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the current dispute between BCPSEA and the BCTF, boards will reimburse each employee covered by a collective agreement between the board and a local union for all scheduled hours that the employee would have worked and for which the employee has not otherwise been paid after June 30, 2014 but for the labour dispute between BCPSEA and the BCTF.
- 4.** If the employee disputes a payment received from the board, the union may submit the dispute on the employee’s behalf to a committee comprised of an equal number of representatives appointed by BCPSEA and the Unions.
- 5.** If the joint committee is unable to resolve the employee’s claim it will submit the dispute to (NAMED ARBITRATOR) who must resolve the dispute within ten (10) days of hearing the differences between the board and the union.
- 6.** This Letter expires on November 30, 2014 and is of no further force and effect except where a board and a union have a collective agreement which has been ratified by both parties no later than November 30, 2014.

Original signed on June 7, 2014 by:

*[Original signed by Renzo Del Negro]*

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BCPSEA

*[Original signed by Marcel Marsolais]*

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K-12 Presidents' Council

*[Original signed by Paige MacFarlane]*

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Ministry of Education on behalf of Her  
Majesty in Right of the Province of BC

## Provincial Support Staff Extended Health Benefit Plan

### TERMS OF REFERENCE RE: SUPPORT STAFF EXTENDED HEALTH PLAN

#### BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

K-12 PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

#### Re: Exploration of a Greater Standardization of Benefits Plans

The parties agree to move to an optional standardized provincial extended health benefits plan (standardized plan) which would include the majority of support staff members. To further such change the parties agree to form a working committee with the goal of achieving agreement on a standardized extended health benefits plan.

#### Terms of Reference:

1. The committee will consist of no more than 4 members of the K-12 Presidents' Council and no more than 4 members of the BCPSEA bargaining teams. Each party will identify its representatives by June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
2. The parties agree the committee will utilize the services of Morneau Shepell to assist in the process. Each party shall retain the right to invite a member of its organization to participate in the discussions where that person would bring in valuable expertise.
3. Local unions who decide to join the standardized plan must elect to do so by July 1, 2016 or a later date as mutually agreed by the Parties.
4. Where the local union in a district determines their existing plan has superior benefits and that local union elects not to participate in the standardized plan, the local union shall retain their existing plan.
5. Local unions may choose not to join the standard benefits plan without opting out of the provincial framework agreement.
6. Any measurable savings realized by movement towards a standardized plan will be retained by the PEBT unless a local collective agreement provides otherwise.
7. BCPSEA will provide ongoing annualized funding to the Boards of Education in the amount of \$3,000,000 effective September 1, 2017 to facilitate the completion of a standardized plan.
8. Any residual unused funds from the implementation of this standardized plan will be allocated to the job evaluation fund.
9. The parties commit to engaging in intensive discussions with the goal of developing a responsible standardized extended health benefit plan by June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 or a mutually agreed upon day.

**LETTER OF AGREEMENT RE: LEARNING IMPROVEMENT FUND**

**BETWEEN:**

**BCPSEA**

**AND**

**K-12 SUPPORT STAFF UNIONS**

**AND**

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BC AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION**

**RE: LEARNING IMPROVEMENT FUND: Support Staff Priorities**

WHEREAS:

The Ministry has established and maintains additional funding for the purpose of addressing high priority challenges to student learning arising from the organization of classes within schools in the province; and

The K-12 support staff unions have since 2006 raised concerns in bargaining regarding the issues of unpaid Education Assistant (EA) work, lack of stable EA hours, bell to bell EA scheduling and lack of livable earnings for EAs, and

The Support Staff Education & Adjustment Committee (SSEAC) is a joint committee of K-12 Support Staff Unions and the BC Public School Employers' Association.

THEREFORE:

The parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Funding for addressing the above matters as it relates to employees covered by this collective agreement between BCPSEA and the K-12 Support Staff Unions will be in the greater amount of \$10 million or 20% of any annual amounts established by government in the Learning Improvement Fund.
2. The allocation of the LIF to school districts is established annually by the Ministry of Education and will provide this information to school districts including the portion of the LIF to be allocated to education assistants.
3. In the event of a dispute arising from the interpretation, application or alleged violation of this agreement there will be a meeting of the parties, and failing agreement, the parties will submit the concern to a mutually agreed arbitrator.
4. This letter replaces the letter between the parties signed December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 titled "CLASS ORGANIZATION FUND: Support Staff Priorities"  
Original signed on June 7, 2014 by:

*[Original signed by Renzo Del Negro]  
Marsolais]*

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BCPSEA

*[Original signed by Paige MacFarlane]*

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Ministry of Education

*[Original signed by Marcel*

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Support Staff Unions



Letter of Agreement (“Letter”)

Between:

BC Public School Employers Association (“BCPSEA”)

And:

The CUPE K - 12 Presidents’ Council and Support Staff Unions (“the Unions”)

**Re: Employee Support Grant (ESG) after June 30, 2019**

This Employee Support Grant (ESG) establishes a process under which employees covered by collective agreements between Boards of Education and the Unions shall be entitled to recover wages lost as a result of legal strike activity by the BC Teachers’ Federation (“BCTF”) or lockout by BCPSEA after June 30, 2019.

1. The ESG will be available provided that:
  - a. A board and local union have a collective agreement which has been ratified by both parties no later than November 30, 2019 and,
  - b. There has been no successful strike vote by the BCTF or local support staff union prior to local union ratification.
2. Employees are expected to attend their worksite if there is no lawful BCTF picket line.
3. Employees who have lost wages as a result of not crossing lawful picket lines during full days of a BCTF strike/BCPSEA lockout shall be compensated. This compensation shall be in accordance with the following:
  - a. In the event that employees are prevented from attending work due to a lawful picket line, employees will be paid for all scheduled hours that the employee would have otherwise worked but for the labour dispute. Their pay will be 75% of their base wage rate.
  - b. The residual 25% of the employees’ base wage rate will be placed in a district fund to provide professional development to support staff employees. Funds will be dispersed by the district following agreement between the district and the local union.
4. Within forty-five (45) days of the conclusion of the labour dispute between BCPSEA and the BCTF, boards will reimburse each employee for all scheduled hours for which the employee has not otherwise been paid as a result of strike or lockout.

5. If the employee disputes a payment received from the board, the union may submit the dispute with particulars on the employee's behalf to a committee comprised of an equal number of representatives appointed by BCPSEA and the Unions.
6. If the joint committee is unable to resolve the employee's claim it will submit the dispute to a mutually agreed upon arbitrator who must resolve the dispute within ten (10) days of hearing the differences between the board and the union.

Original signed on \_\_\_\_\_ by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
BCPSEA  
Leanne Bowes

\_\_\_\_\_  
K-12 Presidents' Council  
Warren Williams

Letter of Agreement (“Letter”)

Between:

BC Public School Employers Association (“BCPSEA”)

And:

The CUPE K - 12 Presidents’ Council and Support Staff Unions (“the Unions”)

**Re: Public Sector General Wage Increases**

1. If a public sector employer as defined in s. 1 of the Public Sector Employers Act enters into a collective agreement with an effective date after December 31, 2018 and the first three years of the collective agreement includes a cumulative nominal (not compounded) general wage increase of more than 6%, the general wage increase in the 2019-2022 Provincial Framework Agreement will be adjusted on the third anniversary of the 2019-2022 Provincial Framework Agreement so the cumulative nominal (not compounded) general wage increases are equivalent. This Letter of Agreement is not triggered by any general wage increase awarded as a result of binding interest arbitration.
2. A general wage increase and its magnitude in any agreement is as defined by the PSEC Secretariat and reported by the Secretariat to the Minister of Finance.
3. For certainty, a general wage increase is one that applies to all members of a bargaining unit and does not include wage comparability adjustments, targeted lower wage redress adjustments, labour market adjustments, service improvement allocations, and is net of the value of any changes agreed to by a bargaining agent for public sector employees to obtain a compensation adjustment.
4. This Letter of Agreement will be effective during the term of the 2019-2022 Provincial Framework Agreement.

This information is provided for reference only and is current as of the date of drafting. Please visit [www.worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com) for current information.



## Refusing unsafe work

Workers have the right to refuse unsafe work. If you have reasonable cause to believe that performing a job or task puts you or someone else at risk, you must not perform the job or task. You must immediately notify your supervisor or employer, who will then take the appropriate steps to determine if the work is unsafe and remedy the situation.

As an employer, workers are your eyes and ears on the front line of workplace health and safety. When workers refuse work because they believe it's unsafe, consider it an opportunity to investigate and correct a situation that could have caused harm.

If a worker refuses work because it's unsafe, workplace procedures will allow the issue to be properly understood and corrected. As a worker, you have the right to refuse to perform a specific job or task you believe is unsafe without being disciplined by your employer. Your employer or supervisor may temporarily assign a new task to you, at no loss in pay.

### Steps to follow when work might be unsafe:

#### 1. Report the unsafe condition or procedure

As a worker, you must immediately report the unsafe condition to a supervisor or employer.

As a supervisor or employer, you must investigate the matter and fix it if possible. If you decide the worker's concern is not valid, report back to the worker.

#### 2. If a worker still views work as unsafe after a supervisor or employer has said it is safe to perform a job or task

As a supervisor or employer, you must investigate the problem and ensure any unsafe condition is fixed. This investigation must take place in the presence of the worker and a worker representative of the joint health and safety committee or a worker chosen by the worker's trade union. If there is no safety committee or representing trade union at the workplace, the worker who first reported the unsafe condition can choose to have another worker present at the investigation.

#### 3. If a worker still views work as unsafe, notify WorkSafeBC

If the matter is not resolved, the worker and the supervisor or employer must [contact WorkSafeBC](#). A prevention officer will then investigate and take steps to find a workable solution.

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety/create-manage/rights-responsibilities/refusing-unsafe-work?origin=s&returnurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.worksafebc.com%2Fen%2Fsearch%23q%3Dunsafe%2520work%26sort%3Drelevancy%26f%3Alanguage-facet%3D%5BEnglish%5D>

Note: WorkSafeBC establishes a range of employer and employee rights and responsibilities. Please visit [www.worksafebc.com](http://www.worksafebc.com) for current information.



## Worker Rights and Responsibilities:

On a worksite, everyone has varying levels of responsibility for workplace health and safety. You should know and understand your responsibilities — and those of others. If you're a worker, you also have three key rights.

### Your rights

- The right to know about hazards in the workplace
- The right to participate in health and safety activities in the workplace
- The [right to refuse unsafe work](#) without getting punished or fired

### Your responsibilities

As a worker, you play an important role in making sure you — and your fellow workers — stay healthy and safe on the job. As a worker, you must:

- Be alert to hazards. Report them immediately to your supervisor or employer.
- Follow safe work procedures and act safely in the workplace at all times.
- Use the protective clothing, devices, and equipment provided. Be sure to wear them properly.
- Co-operate with [joint occupational health and safety committees](#), worker health and safety representatives, WorkSafeBC prevention officers, and anybody with health and safety duties.
- Get treatment quickly should an injury happen on the job and tell the health care provider that the injury is work-related.
- Follow the treatment advice of health care providers.
- Return to work safely after an injury by modifying your duties and not immediately starting with your full, regular responsibilities.
- Never work under the influence of alcohol, drugs or any other substance, or if you're overly tired.

## Employer Responsibilities:

Whether a business is large or small, the law requires that it be a safe and healthy place to work. If you are an employer, it is your responsibility to ensure a healthy and safe workplace.

### Your responsibilities

- Establish a valid occupational [health and safety program](#).
- [Train](#) your employees to do their work safely and provide proper supervision.
- Provide [supervisors](#) with the necessary support and training to carry out health and safety responsibilities.
- Ensure adequate [first aid](#) equipment, supplies, and trained attendants are on site to handle injuries.
- Regularly [inspect](#) your workplace to make sure everything is working properly.
- Fix problems reported by workers.
- Transport injured workers to the nearest location for medical treatment.
- Report all injuries to WorkSafeBC that required medical attention.
- Investigate incidents where workers are injured or equipment is damaged.
- Submit the necessary forms to WorkSafeBC.

## Supervisor Responsibilities:

Supervisors play a key role with very specific health and safety responsibilities that need to be understood.

A supervisor is a person who instructs, directs, and controls workers in the performance of their duties. A supervisor can be any worker — management or staff — who meets this definition, whether or not he or she has the supervisor title. If someone in the workplace has a supervisor's responsibilities, that person is responsible for worker health and safety.

### Your responsibilities

- Ensure the health and safety of all workers under your direct supervision.
- Know the WorkSafeBC requirements that apply to the work under your supervision and make sure those requirements are met.
- Ensure workers under your supervision are aware of all known hazards.
- Ensure workers under your supervision have the appropriate [personal protective equipment](#), which is being used properly, regularly inspected, and maintained.

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety/create-manage/rights-responsibilities>