



CONTRACT

**between The School Board of
Orange County, Florida and
The Orange County
Classroom Teachers Association**

**2024-2027 Contract
2025-2026 Edition
Ratified October 24, 2025**



**Orange County
Public Schools**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| <i>Article</i> | <i>Title</i> | <i>Page</i> |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| I | <u>Recognition</u> | 4 |
| II | <u>Negotiations Procedures</u> | 4 |
| III | <u>Grievance Procedure</u> | 8 |
| IV | <u>Association Rights</u> | 14 |
| V | <u>Dues Deduction</u> | 20 |
| VI | <u>Working Conditions</u> | 22 |
| VII | <u>Teacher Rights and Responsibilities</u> | 30 |
| VIII | <u>Contracts, Certificates and Other Conditions of Employment</u> | 33 |
| IX | <u>Assignments and Transfers</u> | 38 |
| X | <u>Evaluation</u> | 43 |
| XI | <u>Personnel Records</u> | 45 |
| XII | <u>Discipline</u> | 47 |
| XIII | <u>Reduction in Force</u> | 51 |
| XIV | <u>Duty Day</u> | 54 |
| XV | <u>Work Year</u> | 61 |
| XVI | <u>Salary</u> | 65 |
| XVII | <u>Fringe Benefits</u> | 76 |
| XVIII | <u>Leaves of Absence</u> | 81 |
| XIX | <u>Faculty Advisory Committee</u> | 92 |
| XX | <u>Site-Based Decision-Making</u> | 93 |
| XXI | <u>Management Rights</u> | 93 |
| XXII | <u>No Strike Clause</u> | 94 |

| | | |
|--------------|--|-----|
| XXIII | <u>Labor Management Partnership Committee</u> | 94 |
| XXIV | <u>Duration</u> | 95 |
| Appendix A | <u>Salary Schedule</u> | 97 |
| Appendix A-1 | <u>Merit Awards</u> | 98 |
| Appendix A-2 | <u>Supplement Schedule</u> | 99 |
| Appendix A-3 | <u>Student Success Act Supplement</u> | 105 |
| Appendix A-4 | <u>Targeted Schools Supplement</u> | 105 |
| Appendix A-5 | <u>Select Supplements for School Year 2025-26</u> | 106 |
| Appendix B | <u>Paid Holidays</u> | 107 |
| Appendix C | <u>Health Insurance Coverage</u> | 108 |
| Appendix D | <u>Sick Leave Bank</u> | 114 |
| Appendix E | <u>School Psychologists</u> | 117 |
| Appendix F | <u>Registered Nurses</u> | 118 |
| Appendix G | <u>Adjuncts/Technical Adult</u> | 119 |
| Appendix H | <u>OCVS Instructional Personnel</u> | 120 |
| Appendix I | <u>Universal Voluntary Pre-K Summer Program</u> | 122 |
| Appendix J | <u>Memorandums of Understanding/Letters of Understanding</u> | 123 |
| | <u>Glossary</u> | 131 |

ARTICLE I

RECOGNITION

- A. The Board hereby recognizes and acknowledges the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association, Inc., as the exclusive bargaining agent and agrees to negotiate with the Association's designated representative pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 447, Florida Statutes, for all certified non-administrative personnel as defined herein including employees on Board-approved leave of absence.
- B. The Association acknowledges and recognizes the School Board of Orange County, Florida, as the duly elected representative of the people of Orange County, Florida, and agrees to negotiate with the Chief Executive Officer or his representative pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 447, Florida Statutes.
- C. The bargaining unit shall be defined as set forth by the Public Employees Relations Commission Certification Number 27 as may be amended by PERC and as mutually agreed to by the parties.
 - 1. The parties shall set forth in a memorandum of understanding to what extent the provisions of this Contract shall apply to registered nurses and adjuncts/technical adult.
- D. Unless otherwise specified, terms used in this Contract shall be as defined in the Glossary of Terms which is incorporated into, and hereby made a part of this Contract.
- E. Any official notice between the Association and the Board required under this Contract shall be made by U.S. mail, by email, or by hand delivery to a designated representative of the party.

ARTICLE II

NEGOTIATIONS PROCEDURES

- A. The parties agreed to implement a Collective Bargaining Process in accordance with Chapter 447, Florida Statutes and any appropriate rules and procedures. Salary and fringe benefits shall be automatically reopened each year. Either party is entitled to reopen the contract each year for the purpose of negotiating up to three (3) additional articles.
 - 1. Formal ratification votes on tentative agreement(s) by the parties shall be held as needed.

2. Interim decisions to implement agreements before formal ratification shall be confirmed in writing in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding.
- B. If negotiations reach impasse, the procedures as set forth in the Florida Statutes and/or the rules of the Public Employees Relations Commission shall be followed. At the request of either party, a mediator shall be appointed.
 - C. Neither party shall have any control over the selection of the bargaining representatives of the other party, and the parties mutually pledge that their representatives will be empowered to reach tentative agreement on items being negotiated. Should either party utilize the services of outside consultants to assist in negotiations, the party using the consultants shall pay for any cost incurred for such services.
 - D. This Contract may not be modified in whole or in part except by mutual written agreement.
 - E. If any provision or application of this Contract is held to be contrary to law, then such provision or application shall not be deemed valid and subsisting except to the extent permitted by law, but all other provisions or applications shall continue in full force and effect. The parties shall either immediately meet to reopen negotiations on that provision or application or mutually agree to deal with the matter in subsequent negotiations.
 - F. The agreements in this Contract shall supersede any rules, regulations, or practices of the Board which are contrary to or inconsistent with the terms recorded herein.
 - G. There shall be two official signed copies of the final ratified Contract, one to be retained by each of the parties. The Board agrees to print one thousand five hundred (1,500) copies of the current Contract for distribution to new hires. A link will be provided to all employees during pre-planning each school year. The Association will be provided 500 copies of the full contract each year.
 - H. If bargaining is mutually scheduled during the teacher duty day, up to eleven members of the Association's bargaining team shall be granted release time for travel, caucusing, and attendance at bargaining sessions. The parties shall mutually agree on parameters to release from duty Association team members following bargaining sessions which extend late.
 - I. Equal numbers of CTA members and District personnel shall be part of collective bargaining meetings. Either party may bring consultants and/or subject matter experts outside of each respective bargaining committee to a bargaining session.
 - J. Tentative agreements shall be reduced to writing and submitted for ratification, within an agreed upon time, to the employees and to the Board. Failure to ratify tentative agreements shall make such tentative agreements null and void.

1. The parties may agree to submit packages of tentative agreements for ratification to the employees and the Board at any time.
 2. If impasse is declared, the parties shall meet to review any pending tentative agreements unrelated to the impasse and to consider their submission for ratification as outlined in Section 1. above, prior to a special master hearing and prior to a public hearing.
- K. During the term of this Contract the Association and the Board recognize that events may arise which require a mutual interpretation or modification of this Contract that does not constitute a substantive change in employees' salaries or benefits. Under these circumstances, the parties are authorized to enter into a settlement agreement or memorandum of understanding expressing these interpretations or modifications of this agreement. If such are entered into during the term of this Contract, they will remain in effect until expiration of the Contract, until superseded by the Contract, or until mutually withdrawn or agreed by the parties.
- L. Joint Committees
- 1.) The parties agree to continue a joint Fringe Benefits Committee to discuss current insurance coverages, review alternatives to the current coverages, and recommend improvements in the current coverages relative to benefits and cost. Discussions shall include co-payments, co-insurance, deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, annual employee premium increases over 10% and all items outlined in Appendix C.

In addition, the Committee will review and recommend changes in third party administrators and PPO providers, participate in the development of specifications for insurance benefit programs and other contracts prior to their being released for bid, and review bids prior to the time of awarding contracts.
 - a.) If any products after being offered for three consecutive years (including the introductory year) has less than 5% participation of benefited employees, the product will be discontinued subject to the approval of the Fringe Benefits Committee. Employees enrolled in any discontinued product will be assisted in making a transition during a six month notification period (in the third year). Exceptions are as follows:

- i. If a product has less than 5% participation, but saves both the district and the employee money, it will be continued (i.e. Flexible Spending Account (FSA).
 - ii. Products that can be purchased at a lower cost through group rates and are not readily available to individuals.
 - b.) If a product is available in the market place on an individual basis at a comparable cost and benefit structure, it will not be offered by the District.
 - c.) The joint Fringe Benefits Committee shall be comprised of equal representatives from the Association, the Board, and each of the other recognized bargaining agents within the District.
 - d.) The joint Fringe Benefits Committee may submit proposed changes in the insurance package to the Superintendent for analysis of both program input and cost, for future use in bargaining. The joint Fringe Benefits Committee shall have no power or authority to agree to any changes in insurance that would require negotiations.
 - e.) Any changes to the insurance program which are not subject to bargaining but must be approved by the Board, shall require at least a 30-day prior notice to the Committee.
- 2.) The parties agree to continue the Joint Safety Committee to review current safety rules and practices at the various work-sites, to provide a vehicle for the handling of complaints, and to determine additional ways for enhancing safety conditions. This committee shall meet as needed by mutual agreement of the parties.
- 3.) The parties agree to continue the Sick Leave Bank Committee as outlined in Appendix D.
- 4.) Participation in a Joint Committee meeting does not waive any bargaining rights for either party.

ARTICLE III

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- A. A grievance shall be defined as a dispute involving a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of a provision(s) of this Contract. The grievance procedures set forth below shall be used for the settlement of said disputes.
- B. General Provisions
 - 1. Only a member of the bargaining unit, a group of members of the bargaining unit, or the Association may file a grievance. Whenever the word "grievant" is used herein it may refer to any of the above.
 - 2. A grievant may have representation by the Association at any step of the grievance procedure. Representation by the Association shall include the right to speak and to present arguments and evidence on behalf of the grievant.
 - 3. Nothing in this Article shall be construed to prevent any employee from presenting at any time his/her own grievance, in person or by legal counsel, and having such grievance adjusted without the intervention of the Association, if the adjustment is not inconsistent with the terms of this Contract, and if the Association has been given reasonable opportunity to be present at any meeting called for the resolution of such grievance.
 - 4. Each written step in the grievance procedure shall be filed on a standard form as agreed to between the parties.
 - 5. The Association shall inform the Human Resources Department designee(s) of the grievance number, school and grievant's name when a written grievance is filed.
 - 6. The parties agree to attempt to resolve grievances at the lowest possible level, and shall present documentation and other needed information to that end.
 - 7. All grievance meetings shall be held on dates and times mutually agreed to by the parties. No employee shall suffer loss of pay for attending such meetings as a witness or party to the grievance.
 - 8. The parties agree that tape recording of any grievance meeting, other than an arbitration hearing, shall not be done without the express permission of all persons present.

9. Either party to a grievance shall be granted a three duty day extension at any step in the processing of the grievance, provided that party notifies the other party, in writing, prior to the date that the time period for that step would elapse. The time limits prescribed herein may be modified by mutual agreement of the parties.
10. Whenever illness or other incapacity of a party to a grievance prevents attendance at a grievance meeting, the time limits shall be extended to such time that the party can be present, except that the grievant may appeal to the next step if the designated administrator is incapacitated beyond ten duty days.
11. If at any step in the grievance procedure, no disposition is made within the time limits prescribed for that step, the grievant shall have the right to proceed to the next step. If the grievant fails to appeal to the next step within the prescribed time limits, his/her right to proceed with the grievance shall be waived.
12. If a grievance arises as the result of a condition which the administrator is without jurisdiction to resolve, the grievance shall be filed directly to the Human Resources Department designee(s), and placed at Step III of the grievance process and a meeting shall be held in an effort to resolve the matter, as provided for in Section C.3. of this article. Prior to scheduling the meeting, the written grievance shall be provided to the Human Resources Department designee(s), with a copy to the Association.
13. A grievant may withdraw his/her grievance at any step, but that same grievance may not be filed a second time, unless it is of a continuous nature.
14. If at any point during the processing of a grievance the grievant elects to seek resolution of a particular issue through a judicial or administrative agency proceeding, s/he shall waive the right to pursue only that particular issue through the grievance procedure.
15. The Board shall assure the grievant and any witnesses freedom from restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or reprisal in the processing of a grievance in accordance with Florida Statute.
16. The filing of a grievance shall in no way interfere with the right of the Board to carry out its management responsibilities, subject to the final decision on the grievance. However, the final decision on the grievance shall be in accordance with Florida Statute.
17. Any grievance pending at the time of expiration of this Contract shall be processed to completion, according to the provisions herein.

18. All documents, communications, and records dealing with the processing of a grievance shall be filed in a separate grievance file and shall not be kept in the official personnel file of the grievant, except those that operationally or statutorily are required to be reflected in the personnel file.

C. Grievances shall be processed as outlined below. The employee may choose to have representation at all steps of the process.

1. Step I: Good Faith Discussion

If an employee feels s/he has a grievance, the employee shall first meet and discuss the matter in good faith with the administrator in an effort to resolve the matter informally. The employee may have representation by the site association representative or his/her designee. The request for the discussions shall take place within twenty (20) duty days after the employee knew, or should have known, of the incident which is the basis of the potential grievance. The discussion shall take place within six (6) duty days.

In the discussion, the employee shall advise the administrator of the particular section(s) of the Contract the employee believes was (were) violated, and how they allegedly were violated. The employee may also present a solution. Verbal dialogue is encouraged and may continue over the next six (6) duty days, a resolution must be presented and agreed upon or the employee shall receive an explanation as to why the administrator believes the contract was not violated. Any resolution shall not violate the contract and shall be reduced to writing by the site association representation and signed by the administration.

2. Step II: Written Grievance

Failure to reach an agreement or failure to respond in six (6) duty days will automatically move the grievance to Step III. The grievance form shall be obtained by the employee from the Association office or online at https://files.smartsites.parentsquare.com/6888/grievance_form_revised_3-1-2019.pdf. The Association shall provide the grievance register number for the grievance to the grievant. Changes to the grievance form shall be mutually agreed to by the parties.

If the discussion above does not resolve the issue satisfactorily, the employee may file a written grievance within ten (10) duty days following the employee's receipt of the administrator's response. The written grievance shall be presented by the employee during a meeting with the administrator.

The written grievance shall contain:

- Specific date of alleged violation
- Date of Step I meeting
- A concise statement of the facts upon which the grievance is based
- A reference to the specific section(s) of the Contract allegedly violated
- An explanation as to how the employee believes each cited section was violated
- A suggested remedy by the employee.

Copies of the grievance shall be sent to the Human Resources Department designee(s) and the Association. A response shall be provided by the administrator, in writing, within six (6) duty days from receipt.

3. Step III: District Level Hearing

If the grievant is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance by the administrator, s/he may appeal the grievance to the Superintendent/designee. Such appeal shall be made within six (6) duty days of the receipt of the administrator's response, and include the scheduling of a meeting in an effort to resolve the dispute. The meeting shall take place within then (10) duty days of filing and shall include the grievant, his/her representative if requested by the grievant and a member of the Human Resources Department designee(s). Dialogue is encouraged to reach resolution prior to the meeting and both parties shall present any evidence to substantiate their positions in the matter. Within ten (10) duty days of the meeting, the Superintendent/designee shall respond to the grievance in writing.

4. Step IV: Mediation

If the grievant/Association is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance from the District level hearing, the grievance may be referred to mediation. The grievant/Association and the District shall mutually agree to submit a grievance to mediation. The grievant/Association shall notify the District in writing within six (6) duty days of the conclusion of Step III of the grievant/Association's desire to refer the grievance to mediation. The District shall respond to the request for mediation within three (3) duty days of the written request.

- a. Within six (6) duty days following the agreement of mediation, the grievant/Association shall notify the selected mediation service. The mediation conference shall be scheduled at a mutually convenient location and time.
- b. There shall be one designated spokesperson from each party at the mediation conference.
- c. The mediator shall have the authority to meet separately with either party, but shall not have the authority to compel the resolution of a grievance.
- d. The presentation of facts and considerations shall not be limited to those presented at Step II of the grievance procedure. However, new information shall be shared between the parties prior to the mediation conference. Proceedings before the mediator shall be informal in nature. There shall be no formal evidence rules. No transcript or record of the mediation conference shall be made. The mediator shall attempt to assure that all necessary facts and considerations are revealed to him/her.
- e. Written material presented to the mediator shall be returned to the party presenting that material at the termination of the mediation conference, except that the mediator may retain one copy of the written grievance solely for the purpose of statistical analysis.
- f. Fees and expenses shall be shared equally by the parties.
- g. Resolution through such mediation shall be reduced to writing and signed by all parties to the grievance.

5. Step V: Arbitration

If resolution is not reached through mediation or mediation is bypassed, the grievance may be submitted to arbitration. The grievant and his/her representative shall, within twenty (20) duty days after receipt of the decision of the Superintendent/designee, notify the District of the intent to submit the grievance to arbitration.

D. Arbitration Provisions

1. Within fifteen (15) duty days of its notice to the Superintendent, the Association shall request the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) to submit a panel of seven arbitrators who are qualified to hear public sector grievances or may jointly agree to set up a panel of arbitrators from which to make a choice. Upon receipt of the panel, the parties shall select, within twenty-one (21) calendar days, an arbitrator by the alternate striking method or other mutually agreeable method, and shall notify the FMCS of the arbitrator selected. The parties shall not be precluded from mutually agreeing on an arbitrator not on the panel.
2. If for some reason the arbitrator will be unable to serve or the parties mutually agree that no person on the panel is suitable, the parties shall jointly request the FMCS to submit a new panel of seven arbitrators from which an arbitrator will be selected in the same manner.
3. Arbitration hearings shall be scheduled to be held on dates and times mutually agreeable to the parties and the arbitrator; however, the arbitrator shall have the ultimate authority to decide any unresolved issues relating to scheduling. This paragraph represents the entire agreement and supersedes any past practice with regards to arbitration scheduling. All arbitration proceedings shall be conducted under and governed by the rules of the FMCS.
4. The parties agree to accept the arbitrator's award as binding upon them.
5. The parties shall share equally the cost of arbitration.
6. Should either party request a stenographic transcript of the proceedings, then that party will bear the full costs for said transcript. If both parties mutually agree to a stenographic transcript, then the cost of said transcript will be divided equally between the parties.
7. The arbitrator's decision shall be in writing and shall set forth his/her findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions on issues submitted.

E. Power of the Arbitrator

1. An arbitrator shall not have the power to add to, subtract from, modify, or alter the terms of this Contract.

2. S/he shall have no power to rule on the substantive reasons of the Board not to reemploy an annual contract teacher, placement of an annual contract teacher on a fourth year of annual contract, or the decision not to continue any teacher in any extracurricular activity, provided that said reason does not amount to a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of this Contract. The arbitrator, however, shall have the power to rule on the procedural violations of the above.
3. S/he shall have no power to rule on an alleged violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of School Board policy, provided that there was no violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of this Contract.

ARTICLE IV

ASSOCIATION RIGHTS

- A. Duly authorized representatives of the Association shall be permitted to meet with employees, subject to the following:
 1. The representative(s) shall check in and out at the work location upon arrival and departure.
 2. Visits with employees at their work location shall not be permitted during student contact time or during a period of assigned duty. Visits with individual teachers shall not require prior notice.
 3. The administrator will facilitate the visit by assigning a reasonable location for the Association representative to confer with employees. The location should provide a reasonable degree of privacy so that the union and employee(s) may speak confidentially. Further, when reasonably possible such location should not be adjacent to the administration offices.
 4. Upon request, the representative(s) shall have his/her presence announced by the posting of a notice and/or over the intercom system, outside the student day. Such announcement shall include the location and time of the visit, and may be made by either the administrator or the site Association representative.
 5. The Association, with the administrator's consent, shall be permitted to use a work location's facilities for holding meetings which include employees from other work locations, provided such meetings are held outside the employee duty day and the Association bears the actual cost of such meetings at the lowest cost category.

6. At the beginning of each school year, the Association will be provided a mutually agreeable time on the agenda during the district-wide orientation to speak to new employees.
7. If new employee orientation(s) are held during the school year, the Association will be notified at least two (2) weeks prior to the opening session(s) of the orientation(s). Subsequently, the District will receive notification from the Association one (1) week prior with their intent to attend the orientation session. The CTA President/designee will be given the same opportunity to speak to new employees as at the district- wide orientation.

B. Site Association Representatives

1. Upon conclusion of any faculty meeting, the site Association Representative shall be given the opportunity to make announcements relating to Association business. Continued attendance by employees shall be voluntary. Once a month the site Association Representative(s) shall be given the opportunity to hold a meeting during non-student contact time of all instructional personnel at a school site to make announcements relating to Association business. Attendance by employees shall be voluntary. The site Association Representative(s) shall be given an opportunity to send an Association-approved email message related to Association business to all instructional personnel at a school site.
2. The site Association Representative may use the work location's facilities for the purpose of conducting professional meetings during non-student contact times. Such meetings shall be arranged in advance with the administrator and shall not be unreasonably denied.
3. When the site Association Representatives are either involuntary transferred, or have grade/subject assignment changes and room changes on the work location's campus, the transfer or changes, shall be reviewed by the CTA President and the Superintendent or their designee. The site Association representative must request such a review in writing, and submit the request to the Association within ten (10) days of the transfer or change.
4. The Association will provide each site administrator the name of the CTA Association Representative at his/her school within six weeks of the beginning of each school year. Notification will be given of any changes throughout the year.
5. The Association shall provide and maintain a current list of site Associations Representatives and provide such a list and updates to the Human Resources Department designee(s).

6. The site Association Representative and the Administrator may meet monthly to discuss implementation of the contract and issued within the work location.
- C. When a PERC sanctioned representation challenge occurs, the challenging organization shall be granted no greater access rights than the Association.
- D. Communications
1. The Association shall have the exclusive right to bulletin board space of at least nine square feet for the purpose of posting materials related to Association business, such as newsletters, Association programs, training, meeting notices and committee reports.
 - a. The Association may, at its own expense, provide an additional bulletin board for its exclusive use subject to the provisions contained in this Section.
 - b. The bulletin board space shall be located in an area mutually determined by the administrator and the site Association representative. The President/designee shall have input into the decision.
 - c. Only the Association Representative or his/her designee may post or remove information on the bulletin board space.
 2. The Association shall be permitted to use the courier service for maintenance of this Contract, subject to the following:
 - a. The Association office shall be placed on a service route for pickup and delivery, subject to the rules and regulations of the courier office.
 - b. The Association shall not use the courier for distribution of materials/communications derogatory to the Board, publications advocating legislative positions, (other than mutually agreed upon positions), or campaign literature for candidates for public office. The Association may send out flyers on behalf of each candidate for the Association office.
 - c. An average of one bulk mailing per week may be sent. Bulk mailings may be spot-checked for compliance with the above sections. Mailings not in compliance may be returned to the Association.
 - d. The Association shall indemnify and save the Board harmless against and from any and all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability that may arise out of or by the Association's use of the courier. If the Board is notified officially of any such potential liability, the courier service shall be suspended until such time the matter may be resolved.

- e. If the Association fails to comply with these provisions, the use of the courier may be suspended upon written notification. Any request for reinstatement of the courier shall be presented by the Association to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.
- 3. The Association will be permitted to use employee worksite and electronic mailboxes (email). However, the District may deny permission for the Association to use the District's email system if it fails to comply with the provisions of this Section or Section D.4. of Article IV.
- 4. The Superintendent or designee shall receive a copy of all materials/communications to be distributed district-wide, either through the courier or through email, at least one business day prior to distribution. This shall include Association approved email messages distributed through site association representative(s). The administrator shall receive a copy of all materials/communications to be distributed in the school. When the Association disseminates information without utilizing any District resources such as mailbox, email or courier, the Association is not required to produce a copy to any administrator. Emails that are notices for Association meetings at the Association's office do not have to be sent to the District.

E. Association Leave

- 1. The Superintendent will recommend and the Board will approve, the duly elected president of the Association, a leave of absence to serve as the CTA president for the term of his/her presidency. The district will serve as the fiscal agent for the payment of his/her salary, fringe benefits, and fixed charges by placing the president in an assigned department for payroll purposes only. The Association shall reimburse the Board 100% of any and all sums paid to or on behalf of said president. The Association agrees to hold harmless the School Board for all claims that arise from actions that occur while the CTA president serves in office. Optional insurance coverage may be continued by paying the premiums due during the approved leave of absence. The bill for the optional insurance coverage will be sent directly to the president to continue the insurance plans.

The president shall return to the school previously assigned at the end of the term of his/her presidency. The president shall not earn annual leave, nor be covered by the Board's Workers' Compensation Insurance during said term. The president shall be given credit on the salary schedule for the year(s) served as president and seniority shall be accrued during said leave.

The president may transfer any unused sick leave days accrued as president, provided daily attendance is documented by the CTA president during the period served as president. It shall be the Association president's responsibility to assist in securing the requested transfer of sick leave credit from the Association. One day of sick leave may be transferred for each day accrued upon return to Orange County, up to a maximum of 12 days per year. In case of extended illness or retirement, all withheld hours will be transferred immediately.

For evaluation purposes, the President shall be classified as Category 4 during the years served in office. However, during the first year in office, any salary increases based on the previous year's evaluation scores shall be applied to his/her salary. In subsequent years, while the president is classified as a Category 4 s/he shall receive increases designated as an across the board raise.

2. The Association shall be granted 2% of membership but not less than 105 days of leave per fiscal year for use by its members. No one employee may use more than five of the above days per fiscal year. Additional leave shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent. If the leave is used for a purpose other than direct representational activities, then the CTA will reimburse the District for said leave, and such leave time will not be deducted from the granted Association leave.
3. Site Association representatives and members of the Association's Board of Directors shall be allowed to leave school at the end of the student day for up to three (3) regularly scheduled meetings per month. Bargaining Team members and Joint Committee members shall be allowed to leave school at the end of the day for one (1) regularly scheduled meeting per month.

F. Information

1. The Board shall provide the Association access to public records not exempted by Florida Statutes at mutually agreeable times and with a staff member present. Copies of said materials, if requested, shall be provided at cost, or as specified elsewhere in this Contract.
2. A monthly listing of all employees new to the District shall be provided at no cost per the Association's specifications, provided such is available in the format requested.
3. The parties agree to explore the use of electronic media as a means of improving communications.

4. The Association shall be provided a copy of each Board agenda packet at the time of distribution to the Board. An effort shall be made to notify the Association regarding any new item added to the agenda which directly impacts the employees and the Association.
 5. The Association shall receive a copy of all materials for general distribution which pertain to employees and to this agreement. Confidential items related to collective bargaining are exempt from this provision. In addition, the Association shall receive copies of all Board publications and an official copy of School Board policies and any revisions of such.
 6. Rules and procedures outlined in school handbooks shall not violate board policies or provisions in this contract. When requested to sign the handbook, the signature of the teacher indicates receipt and review of the handbook.
- G. The Superintendent and the Association president shall meet at mutually agreeable times to discuss issues which, through these discussions, could lead to improvement in the school system.
- H. The Association shall be notified and allowed to attend meetings of the trustees of the Orange County Public Schools Employee Benefit Trust, given a place on each agenda for comment, and supplied copies of materials distributed to the trustees.
- I. The Superintendent shall meet with the Association in March of each year to receive input on the budget and facility-related concerns of employees.
- J. The Association shall have the opportunity to provide input prior to any recommended revisions of the district grading policy, attendance policy, and/or Code of Student Conduct.
- K. Mutual Agreements
1. Prior to March 1 of each year, the parties shall meet to discuss tentative school calendars for the following year and attempt to reach mutual agreement. If agreement is not reached, the Board shall establish its calendar using the parameters set forth in Article XV Section B. If the Board anticipates scheduling the end of the first semester at any time other than at the end of Winter Holiday, and/or scheduling the Spring Holiday at any time other than between the third and fourth marking periods, the parties shall meet for the purpose of impact bargaining such change(s).
 2. No changes shall be made in the Supplement Handbook without the two parties meeting to negotiate the changes.

3. The parties agree that selected forms, which are identified in this Contract and required for its maintenance, shall be agreed to and attached to a memorandum of understanding.
- L. The District agrees to make a reasonable effort to notify the Association as soon as feasible before changing any school to or from year-round, prototype or charter school status.
- M. Any request by the Association for the granting of in-service points for Association-sponsored activities shall be acted upon within 30 days of submission. The request will be judged upon its merits. Denial shall be accompanied by a written reason. Any component submitted by the Association shall be required to meet the established standards for inclusion in the District In-service Master Plan. An employee conducting an Association-sponsored in-service component shall be eligible for payment under the guidelines stated in the Staff Development Instructor Pay Schedule and in accordance with guidelines for eligibility for pay as developed by the Teacher Education Council.
- N. **Beginning at the start of the 2026-27 school year, in addition to any other payroll deduction established by this Agreement and upon written authorization from the employee, the District agrees to provide four additional payroll deduction slots for the purpose of union benefits programs or services that are made available to both dues paying and non-dues paying bargaining unit employees. These payroll deduction slots shall not be used for dues, assessments, lobbying, political action, or any purpose other than providing benefits or services directly to the individual employee authorizing the deduction. The District will be provided any information to verify compliance with this limitation upon its written request to the Association.**

ARTICLE V

DUES DEDUCTION

- A. Effective July 1, 2023, the Board will cease deducting Association dues and uniform assessments from the salaries of the bargaining unit employees.
- B. If through a change in applicable law or a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction the Board can once again legally deduct Association dues and uniform assessments from the salaries of the bargaining unit employees, the Board will reinstate dues deductions and uniform assessments under the following terms commencing the beginning of the first pay period after receiving a written request to do so by the Association and the submittal of new dues authorization forms only if required by applicable law. The Board shall deduct

Association dues and uniform assessments from the salaries of those employees who authorize the deduction of same in writing, pursuant to the following:

1. Authorization forms shall be personally or electronically signed by each employee requesting dues deduction.
2. All authorization forms must be submitted by the Association to the Payroll Office.
3. Dues deduction shall begin with the check for the first full pay period following receipt by the Board of the authorization form.
4. The Board will deduct a prorated amount of the annual dues twice a month for ten months a year.
5. In no event shall a deduction be made from the pay of an employee for any payroll period in which the employee's net earnings for that period, after other deductions, are less than the amount of dues to be collected.
6. Authorization of dues deduction for an employee shall continue from year to year, unless the employee revokes his/her authorization.
7. An employee may revoke his/her dues deduction by submitting notice on an authorized form to the Payroll Office. Such forms shall be available from the Association or the Payroll Office and will be processed within 30 days of submission.

C. General Provisions

1. Any change in the amount of Association dues subject to payroll deduction shall be certified to the payroll administrator at least 20 days prior to the effective date of change.
2. Dues shall be transmitted to the Association within one week of having been collected. As part of each District payroll, the Association will be provided a list of all employees on long-term leave, per its specifications.
3. Upon compliance by the Board with the specific requirements of this Article, the Association shall indemnify and save the Board harmless against and from any and all claims, demands, suits, or other form of liability that may arise out of or by reason of action taken, or not taken, by the Board for the purpose of complying with dues deduction requests.
4. Collection of dues for employees terminating employment prior to deduction of total annual membership dues is the responsibility of the Association.

5. The Association recognizes that the Board is expressly prohibited from any involvement in the collection of fines, penalties, or special assessments.
6. The Association agrees that if at any time during the term of this Contract the Association is guilty of authorizing, causing, engaging in, or sanctioning any strike or other illegal work stoppage of any kind, the privilege of dues deduction and collection previously granted may be revoked during the remainder of the term of this Contract, but not beyond the following June 30.

ARTICLE VI

WORKING CONDITIONS

- A. No person shall on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, or any other reason prohibited by law, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination, or harassment with respect to such person's employment or application for employment.

Employees are encouraged to report any allegations of discrimination or sexual harassment to their administrators or the applicable district-level departments for prompt investigation. Any claims shall be referred to the District EEO Officer and the employee shall retain all rights to pursue his/her claim through the appropriate federal and/or state agency.

Employees shall not be retaliated against for appropriately reporting discrimination and/or sexual harassment.

- B. The Board agrees that the professional affiliation (as defined by Florida Statutes 447.301(1) - (3)) and private, personal life of any employee, including additional employment, are not within the appropriate concern or attention of the Board, provided that these do not impair the employee's effectiveness and performance as an employee in the school system.
- C. The Board agrees to comply with Florida Statutes as it relates to actions in tort for damages as a result of the negligent or wrongful act or omission of an employee while acting in the scope of his/her employment. The Board shall not be responsible or liable for the actions of an employee who acts in bad faith or with malicious purpose or in a manner exhibiting wanton and willful disregard of human rights, safety or property. Further, if the employee relies on the Board for tort protection, the Board may exercise its right to settle any claim for damages brought against an employee in any manner the Board deems appropriate.
- D. The Board, upon request by an employee(s), may determine to provide legal services for employees who are charged with civil or criminal actions arising out of and in the course of

the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities. However, in any case in which the employee(s) pleads guilty or nolo contendere or is found guilty of any such action, the employee shall reimburse the Board for any legal services which the Board may have supplied pursuant to this provision. Each determination of the Board to expend funds for legal defense of an employee shall be made at a public meeting, with notice pursuant to Section 120.595 Florida Statutes.

- E. Any employee who receives a complaint or suspects that a student has been physically, emotionally, or sexually abused by an employee shall be required to report immediately all such suspected cases of abuse or neglect. These employees shall have immunity from liability for such reporting in good faith, and shall be required to comply with follow-up investigations. For each calendar year beginning January 1, 1994, the District shall compile information on the number of investigations of abuse that have resulted in employees being put on relief of duty for that period and shall submit a report to the Association by February 15 of the following year. Such report shall include data relating to the date(s) of the incident(s), the length of the relief of duty, and the disposition of the case.
- F. No employee shall be required to make a statement upon being questioned relative to a school incident prior to seeking Association and/or legal counsel when the statement may, in the mind of the employee, be used against him/her in a civil or criminal action or state agency investigation. An employee who then refuses to provide such statements shall waive his/her right to legal protection provided by the Board, as set forth elsewhere in this Article. When an employee has requested the presence of the CTA Representative, administration shall provide coverage or schedule the meeting at a mutually agreeable time in order to ensure that the CTA Representative may attend a meeting with the requesting employee.
- G. The administrator shall take steps, in cooperation with the employee, to provide reasonable precaution for the employee's safety.
 - 1. If an employee is harassed, upbraided, abused, threatened or suffers from bodily harm or property loss by an individual or a group during the performance of his/her duties, s/he shall immediately notify his/her administrator, in writing, as soon as possible, giving in detail the circumstances thereof. This report shall be forwarded to the Superintendent.
 - 2. The parties recognize that some employee job responsibilities may require home visits, and that travel into some geographic areas may cause concern in regard to an employee's safety. Employees are encouraged to work in teams where feasible, and to report any concerns to their administrator immediately. The parties also recognize that some employees whose jobs do not require home visits may make them on a voluntary basis.

- a. The school social worker shall assess the need for a home visit intervention based upon the school's administrator's completion of a checklist which outlines steps to obtain address and contact information.
 - b. Mobile communication devices shall be issued to school social workers. Social workers shall have the device in their possession during work hours.
3. The Superintendent shall cooperate with the employee in the event of a civil or criminal proceeding, including providing him/her with legal counsel to advise him/her of his/her rights, and shall assist the employee in connection with the handling of the incident with law enforcement and judicial authorities.
4. A prompt response shall be given to any emergency call made to the main office during the student day. A teacher may directly call 911 in a medical emergency.
5. Individual schools, through discussions between the administration and the Faculty Advisory Committee, shall be responsible for developing alternative ways of emergency notification in applicable cases where employees do not have access to telephones or intercoms.
6. When an employee has reason to anticipate a threatening situation that would be beyond what an employee is normally expected to resolve, the employee and the administrator shall develop communications or security measures appropriate to the situation.
7. It is recognized that an employee needs to be informed of a student's arrest or adjudication following the administrator's receipt of notice from the District, as provided by state law.
8. To ensure the safety of all employees during lockdowns and other emergencies, employees regularly assigned to a worksite(s) will be added to the notification system of the work-site(s).
9. **If a student and/or parent complaint results in a closed Professional Standards investigation with a finding of "Unfounded," the administrator will reassign the student related to the complaint, subject to the following. Such reassignment shall occur only if:**
 - a. **The teacher provides the administrator with a written request to remove the student related to the complaint.**

- b. **There is an available alternative assignment within the school while maintaining the student's other classes. Maintenance of "other classes" is not meant to prohibit schedule changes.**
 - c. **If there is no available alternative assignment pursuant to subparagraph b above, then:**
 - 1. **The teacher and the administrator shall meet for the purpose of implementing an alternative plan, which may include virtual classes subject to parent agreement.**
 - d. **Such assignment must comply with applicable federal and state laws.**
- H. Any interviewing of employees during the duty day as part of an internal investigation or by an outside investigative agency on the school campus shall be done in a setting affording privacy. Unless invited by the employee, school personnel shall not be present, except for the school administrator(s) and/or district level personnel who are conducting an internal investigation.
- I. Each employee shall have access in each school center to all School Board Policies, State Board of Education Rules, Florida School Laws and the Superintendent's Management Directives. Employees shall be kept apprised of any District media policy and copies shall be made available upon request. Copies of policies and rules for each individual school shall be distributed to each employee in the school. A copy of the supplement handbook shall be provided to each employee receiving a supplement, other than special duty and shall be made available to any other employee who requests it.
- J. The Board will repair or reimburse an employee the current value of any clothing or other personal property damaged or destroyed as a result of assault and/or battery or the quelling of a disturbance suffered in the course of the legal performance of his/her assigned duties unless such loss covered by insurance or reimbursement is attained from other sources not in excess \$400. If it is determined that coverage for verified cases of vandalism to personal property on school premises is permitted by Florida Statutes, such coverage shall be in the amount and under the conditions specified above.
- K. The Board agrees to maintain safe and healthful working conditions, including the provision of safety equipment. The District shall investigate complaints of harmful indoor air quality and take measures to reasonably accommodate employees if necessary. No employee shall be disciplined for refusal to work in an unsafe or hazardous situation where there is an **imminent** danger to the employee's health, safety or well-being, provided that this shall not be applicable in any circumstances where the health and safety of students otherwise clearly require employee intervention.

- L. In the case of an infectious disease outbreak that affects the District's workforce, the procedures in the Emergency Procedures Manual shall be followed. If a school or work location has cause to be shut down because of an outbreak, the Bargaining Team shall meet in an emergency session to bargain the impact.
- M. Recognizing that acts of violence on campus create an unsafe and unstable working environment, the parties agree to continue to work together by means of a task force to find ways to reduce acts of violence.
- N. When a student is identified as an exceptional education student or a student whose special needs are not being met in the classroom, it shall be the responsibility of the employee to request either an Educational Planning Conference or Educational Planning Team meeting to address the situation. This meeting shall take place within a reasonable period of time. The employee shall be kept apprised of actions taken to meet the student's special needs. When an Educational Planning Team meeting, staffing, or Educational Planning Conference is called, all teachers who work with the student shall be provided opportunities for written input and shall receive a copy of any plan written. If teachers are unavailable to attend such meetings due to conflicts in their schedule, they shall be provided the option to submit their input in writing and/or request to reschedule the meeting.
- O. A teacher shall be provided, a list of exceptional education and medically fragile students under his/her supervision. This information is for the teacher's use only and may not be copied, shared or displayed. Training of employees who perform invasive medical and other prescribed health services shall be done in accordance with Florida Statutes. Except in case of emergency, clean-up of students of a personal nature shall be done with the presence of another employee in the immediate vicinity.
- P. An employee shall be permitted to use necessary and reasonable force to quell a disturbance, to protect himself/herself or others from possible injury, to restrain a disruptive student or to protect personal property and district property, and such shall not be construed as corporal punishment.
- Q. An employee shall not be required to perform the following duties:
 - 1. Ride buses except for field trips during the duty day or extracurricular activities.
 - 2. Clean instructional or work areas, such as bathrooms, floors, windows, or sinks on a daily or periodic basis.
 - 3. Move furniture and/or materials not personally belonging to the employee in and out of rooms or from one room to another.

4. Transport students in a personal automobile.
 5. Accept gate duty.
 6. Work in the school clinic.
- R. No employee shall be requested to search for bombs.
- S. The Board shall continue to provide opportunities for CPR and AED training and certification.
- T. Creation of Materials
1. Title to patents and copyrights of materials or equipment developed on school time or utilizing school supplies are equally the property of the Board and the employee. Clear title shall vest in the Board if the employee, for any reason, terminates his/her employment. An employee changing work locations within the county may retain physical possession of such materials, with the approval of the employee's current administrator.
 2. Educational innovations and/or materials created by an employee during non-duty hours and utilizing his/her own supplies are the property of the employee, and the Board hereby waives the right to receive any royalties for any such development.
 3. Any materials or equipment created as a result of an employee's contractual obligations to develop such materials are the property of the Board.
- U. The Board shall provide equipment and supplies to aide employees in the performance of their duties. No employee shall be required to provide personal property for school use. The Board shall not be responsible for loss of any property volunteered by an employee for school use.
1. All employees shall be provided an identification badge upon employment. The Board will, at no cost to the employee, replace badges damaged through normal wear and tear including a faded photograph, or badges which are lost or stolen.
- V. Each school shall provide:
1. Appropriate space for use as a non-student employee lounge.
 2. A room or private area for exclusive use by non-students during the duty-free lunchtime.
 3. A workroom for use by employees.

4. Restroom facilities at each school for exclusive use by non-students.
 5. A desk, chair, computer and workspace will be provided for each employee. If the desk cannot be locked, the Board will provide the employee with another storage facility such as a filing cabinet or other area that can be locked.
 6. The use of a copier/printer. Access to a copier/printer and a private confidential area conducive to counseling and similar services shall be provided to school psychologists, social workers, speech therapists and other itinerant instructional personnel to meet with students.
 7. At least one outside telephone for use by the employees and other school personnel. The location of the telephone should be such that it affords as much privacy of conversation as possible. Such phones are not to be used for personal calls except in situations which affect the health, safety and welfare of the individual or his/her immediate family. The district shall continue to upgrade the telephone system.
 8. First aid supplies.
 9. Head lice shampoo when not provided by Workers Compensation.
- W. Employees shall be responsible for maintaining at their school a current home address and telephone number where they may be contacted. The employee shall not be required to notify directly the Employment Services Department of any changes.
- X. Expenditures from a faculty fund, such fund having been created by contributions from employees, shall be at the discretion of the faculty.
- Y. Employees shall not be required to use their personal automobiles for work-related travel except for employees such as teachers who travel between campuses of the same school, teachers who are assigned to travel as part of their school's improvement plan, employees who serve more than one school per day, and itinerant and selected vocational teachers whose job regularly requires such use. Such teachers will be reimbursed mileage for travel from the first work location to other work locations during the day based on their documentation. During preplanning the District shall provide procedures and contact information for implementation of mileage reimbursement travel for such employees.
- Z. Standardized Testing
1. Teachers shall count and sign for standardized tests upon receipt. Upon return of the tests, the person designated to receive them shall count and verify by signature. A signed copy will be provided to the teacher.

2. With respect to district assessments, students who are not testing shall not be in the same room as testing students. This shall not apply to students who have completed a test before the testing time ends.

AA. Nursing employees are entitled to receive pumping breast milk-related accommodations for a period of up to one calendar year following childbirth. A member requesting these supports will notify their administrator when a need for nursing support is anticipated. The Superintendent or their designee will also review information and resources regarding these supports with members who process a leave of absence for childbirth.

The Superintendent or their designee will ensure the following are provided, if needed:

1. A secure location with an electrical outlet, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers, students, and the public for the member to express breast milk. The Superintendent or their designee will support in identifying an appropriate location through consultation with the member and the administrator.
2. Reasonable break times for a nursing employee to express breast milk each time the employee needs to express breast milk.

BB. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

1. **At the beginning of each school year, bargaining unit members will be provided with a list of District-approved AI platforms which may be utilized by the teachers for instructional purposes.**
2. **If, during the school year, the District approves any additional AI platform(s) which may be used by the teachers for instructional purposes, it will provide notification to bargaining unit members and will make available training on how to use the platform(s).**
3. **Employees shall not be disciplined or held responsible when students fail to follow instructions or misuse AI platform(s) for any technological malfunctions or errors generated by such platform(s); or for any information or responses generated by such platform(s). If a teacher becomes aware of a student's failure to follow instructions or misuse of an AI platform, s/he shall take action to correct the student's noncompliance. If a teacher becomes aware of a student's failure to follow instructions or misuse of an AI platform and s/he does not take action to correct the student's noncompliance, the teacher may be subject to disciplinary action.**

ARTICLE VII

TEACHER RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Teachers shall have freedom in the implementation of the adopted curriculum, including the right to select materials and engage in classroom discussions as they relate to the subject matter being taught and the level of the student. The administrator has the right and obligation to question, consult, and direct whenever necessary.

In exercising such freedom, teachers shall follow state standards. The District acknowledges and agrees that teachers are not required to use Curriculum Resource Materials (CRMs), or any similar document regardless of its name or any lesson plan template(s).

- B. A teacher may express his/her own opinions in regard to political, social, and religious issues provided that the total presentation is essentially balanced and fair. S/he shall not use his/her professional contacts with students to impose upon them his/her personal convictions or those of any other individual or group.
- C. Teachers shall be responsible for determining students' grades and promotions pursuant to district-wide policies. Any administrative change in a grade or promotion shall not be made without attempting prior consultation with the teacher. If such a change is necessary, the administrator shall initial the change on the student's permanent record and indicate if the change was made without the teacher's agreement.
- D. Teachers shall assist in the selection of instructional materials both on a District-wide and school-wide basis. A teacher shall not be held responsible for the cost of any instructional material a student has lost, destroyed or damaged.
1. A teacher shall have easy access to all locally used state adopted textbooks in each of the courses s/he teaches. A teacher shall be provided with a copy of the textbook, teacher guide and activity manual and, to the extent feasible, any supplemental materials which are used in each of the courses s/he teaches.
 2. A teacher may purchase materials and supplies with school-based funds for school use with the prior approval of the administrator.
- E. Each teacher shall assume such authority for the control of students assigned to him/her by the administrator, and shall keep order in the classroom and in other places in which s/he is assigned to be in charge of students.

1. During preplanning or prior to any student contact, each teacher shall be provided with an online copy of the Orange County Code of Student Conduct and current Student Referral form and any additional disciplinary plan and forms referenced in the plan which may have been developed for his/her school.
 2. Teachers may refer disruptive students to the office from the classroom with a referral slip provided by their administrator describing the behavioral problem when, in the judgment of the teacher, normal corrective measures have been ineffective in bringing about satisfactory improvement in the student's behavior. In emergency situations, the student may be sent to the office immediately with a written report to follow. Information on the disposition of the referral shall be provided to the teacher within five (5) duty days, and the status of the referral shall be provided upon request.
 3. If a student is referred to the office because of continuing disruption, the administrator shall advise the teacher of the action taken in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct prior to the student's return to the classroom on that day. If a student demonstrates a pattern of continued disruption, the teacher shall be granted a review of the matter with the administrator and/or a discipline intervention team.
 4. In Accordance with F.S. 1003.32 (4) a teacher may suspend a student from class. Under no circumstances shall a teacher suspend a student from school. A teacher may recommend a consequence to the principal when a disruptive student is sent to the principal's office and the principal must consult with that teacher prior to enacting lesser disciplinary action. The teacher shall be notified of the disposition within five (5) duty days.
 5. A Placement Review Committee shall be formed for the purpose of determining placement of a student who has been suspended from a class in accordance with F.S. 1003.32 (4), (5), (6). The Placement Review Committee shall include the following: Two teachers, one elected by the faculty and one appointed by the teacher referring the student to the Committee and one member from the school's staff who is selected by the principal. A teacher may appeal the decision of the Placement Review Committee to the District Superintendent.
 6. Upon re-entry to school, an expelled student whose conflict was with a teacher shall not be returned to that teacher's class, except under unusual circumstances.
- F. Teachers may not release students to non-school personnel including parents, without authorization from the administrator. If the teacher makes a reasonable effort to prevent an unauthorized removal of a student s/he shall not be subject to disciplinary action.

- G. A teacher shall report to the administrator any student s/he believes has a contagious or infectious disease or head lice. Students with head lice, pink eye, or impetigo shall not be returned to class until they no longer present a health threat. Teachers shall not be required to check for the existence of head lice.
- H. After assigning a teacher to teach in a re-locatable classroom and prior to the first class session, the Board shall furnish that re-locatable classroom with standard features of a permanent classroom. Such features shall include chalkboards/dry erase boards, proper lighting, climate control, desk for both students and teacher, and other equipment that a teacher might reasonably expect in a permanent classroom to aid in the performance of his/her duties.
- I. Both parties agree that interruptions of the instructional period are sometimes necessary, but the administrator will attempt to keep such interruptions to a minimum. However, no visitations to a teacher's class except by school system personnel shall be allowed until the teacher has been notified of the visit and purpose in advance. If the visitor(s) might be subjected to a safety hazard, access shall not be permitted without approval of the administrator and notification of the teacher in advance of the visit.

Parents/patron visitations shall be scheduled at mutually agreeable times between the parent/patron and teacher subject to prior approval of the principal.

- J. Any openings in the administrative pool shall be posted. Such postings shall include information describing the application process and be far enough in advance to allow for the completion of that process.
- K. The Board may provide garments for special subject teachers such as shop and art. The Board shall provide without cost to the teacher such special clothing, equipment and devices as may be required by State Board of Education Rules and Florida Statutes.
- L. Teachers shall be expected to dress in a manner which is professional and appropriate to their work assignments.
- M. Teacher complaints of misconduct by administrators shall be investigated by Professional Standards. If the investigation exceeds thirty (30) calendar days from the date all material allegations are received, the Professional Standards office shall provide the Association with an update and every thirty (30) days thereafter until completed. Professional Standards will provide the Association and the complainant(s) with a written report of the findings of the investigation within ten (10) duty days after the investigation has been completed.
- N. Instructional personnel who receive communication after the contracted work day will have forty-eight (48) hours to respond beginning with the next contracted work day.

- O. A teacher may make arrangements with another teacher to cover his/her class in situations where the teacher will be out for less than two hours during the student day upon approval of the administrator.
- 1. Non-classroom teachers may be out for less than two hours during the duty day upon approval of their administrator.

ARTICLE VIII
CONTRACTS, CERTIFICATES AND
OTHER CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this contract, all bargaining unit teaching positions shall be filled with probationary, annual, professional service, or continuing contract teachers pursuant to Florida Statutes.
- B. The Board shall issue individual electronic contracts to each teacher which shall include their position name and current annual salary for the school year and such additional salary as may be prescribed and subject to collective bargaining. Teachers shall electronically sign contracts and have access to a copy. The individual contract shall be electronically signed by the teacher within twenty (20) duty days of its issuance. If any individual contract contains any provision inconsistent with this Contract, this Contract shall be controlling.
- C. Every teacher shall provide to the Employment Services Department a valid Florida or District teaching certificate, or evidence of having qualified and applied for one within forty (40) duty days following initial employment, except as provided by Florida Statutes. The Board shall notify each new employee of this requirement upon employment. It shall be the responsibility of the teacher to maintain a current valid certificate. Each teacher shall ensure that a copy of his/her current valid certificate is on file in the Employment Services Department.
- D. The following types of contracts shall apply to teachers hired after June 30, 2011:
 - 1. Probationary contract:
 - a. Each individual newly hired as instructional personnel and returning retirees hired by the district school board shall be awarded a probationary contract. Probationary contracts expire one day prior to the first day of pre-planning for the subsequent school year. Upon successful completion of the probationary contract and reappointment, the district school board shall award an annual contract to newly hired teachers and to re-employed retirees.

b. Probationary contracts are for:

- 1) Teachers hired new to the District on or before the last day of the first marking period.
- 2) Teachers returning to the District after a break in service as defined by Florida Statute 1012.335. A break in service is defined as any separation from employment other than an authorized leave of absence.
- 3) Teachers returning to the District as re-employed retirees

2. Temporary contract - The teacher shall be awarded a temporary contract if s/he is:

- a. Is replacing a teacher on a leave of absence
- b. Is hired on or after the first day of the 2nd marking period

It is understood that there shall be no further expectation of employment upon expiration of the temporary contract. Temporary contracts shall expire no later than the last day of post-planning of the current school year.

3. Annual contract:

- a. The teacher has a valid Florida or District teaching certificate.
- b. An annual contract may be awarded to instructional personnel who have
 - 1) Successfully completed a probationary contract with the district in the prior year without a break in service or
 - 2) Received an annual contract from the district in the prior year without a break in service and has not received pursuant to Florida Statute 1012.34: two (2) consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations, two (2) unsatisfactory evaluations in a three (3) year period, three (3) consecutive needs improvement (NI) or a combination of NI and unsatisfactory evaluations
- c. Annual contracts shall expire one day prior to the first day of pre-planning for the subsequent school year.

E. Annual, professional service, or continuing contract teachers who accept out-of-field assignments, or assignments held by teachers on leave, shall retain their contract rights.

- F. Annual contract teachers shall be considered each school year for reappointment for the subsequent school year. Recommendation of a teacher by an administrator shall be contingent upon an allocation for the subsequent school year; be in accordance with section D.3.b. and H of this Article; and contingent upon their final Summative Evaluation Score.
1. The teacher shall be notified, in writing, by his/her administrator if s/he will or will not be recommended to the Superintendent for reappointment for the subsequent year within the timelines set forth in the Florida Statutes, but in no event later than the last day of post planning, unless extended by mutual agreement.
 2. These teachers who are not recommended for reappointment for budget allocations shall have the opportunity to interview for vacant positions at the same time as PSC/CC, Annual and Probationary contract teachers recommended for reappointment.
 3. Any teacher not recommended for a reappointment shall be notified in a private setting and, upon request, shall be provided in writing, within ten (10) days, the reason(s) for the non-reappointment.
 4. The Employment Services Department will compile a list of those teachers not recommended for reappointment for reasons other than performance. A copy shall be sent to schools with vacancies. The Employment Services Department shall assist these teachers by identifying positions for which they are certified and qualified.
- G. A professional services contract shall be renewed pursuant to Florida Statute 1012.33 each year unless:
1. The district school superintendent, after receiving the recommendations required by Florida Statute 1012.34, charges the employee with unsatisfactory performance and notifies the employee of performance deficiencies or
 2. The employee receives pursuant to Florida Statute 1012.34:
 - a. Two (2) consecutive annual performance evaluation ratings of unsatisfactory
 - b. Two (2) annual performance evaluation ratings of unsatisfactory within a three (3) year period
 - c. Three (3) consecutive annual performance evaluation ratings of needs improvement or a combination of needs improvement and unsatisfactory
- H. Any recommendation for reappointment of an annual contract teacher, shall be conditioned upon the teacher presenting a valid certificate or providing evidence of having qualified and applied for one by June 30. By October 1, the Employment Services Department shall notify, in writing, each teacher whose certificate is expiring at the end of that school year.

- I. The following procedures shall be used prior to the filing of formal written charges against a teacher for incompetence:
 1. The teacher shall be notified in writing of documented deficiencies which, if not corrected, could lead to dismissal. The notice shall identify a tentative time frame for improvement and include a statement that failure to correct such deficiencies may lead to dismissal. Such notice shall be preceded by a conference(s) to discuss the deficiencies and to review recommendations for improvement, and the available assistance to effect improvement.
 2. At least one follow-up conference shall be provided to the teacher within three working weeks of the written notice. Following the conference(s), the teacher shall be provided, in writing, specific recommendations covering all major areas of deficiency, designed to assist him/her in improving performance.
 3. A reasonable period of time not less than three teaching months from the notice required in Subsection I.1. above shall be provided for correction of deficiencies. The time period shall be specified in writing but may be extended by mutual consent.
 4. At the end of the time period provided to correct deficiencies, a formal evaluation of the teacher's performance shall be completed. The teacher shall be notified at least one week prior to the evaluation.
 5. Following the formal evaluation, the Superintendent shall meet with the teacher to summarize the results of the evaluation, and explain what charges and recommendation s/he is considering, including the statutory procedures to be followed if charges are filed.
 6. In extreme cases, the Superintendent may direct an immediate formal evaluation of an annual contract teacher provided, however, that s/he shall notify the teacher in writing of the reasons for his/her action, and provide the teacher reasonable opportunity to discuss the basis for the action, in accordance with this Article. Such action shall be taken only when there is direct evidence that the health, safety or welfare of the students is being immediately, radically, and adversely affected.
- J. The following procedures shall be used prior to recommending dismissal for the incompetence of other employees:
 1. Prior to filing formal written charges against a PSC/CC teacher for incompetence, the District shall comply with the provisions of FS 1012.34.
 2. Incompetence shall be defined as continued failure to satisfactorily meet performance standards for the job.

3. The employee shall be notified in writing of documented deficiencies, which could lead to dismissal. The notice shall include specific recommendations for improvement, a tentative time frame for improvement and a statement that failure to correct the deficiencies may lead to dismissal.
 4. Further explanation of the deficiencies and suggested corrections designed to assist him/her in improving performance, shall be provided to the employee in a conference(s), the first of which shall be held within three weeks of the written notice.
 5. A reasonable period of time, not less than six weeks from the written statement required above, shall be provided for correcting deficiencies. This time period may be extended and shall be specified in writing.
 6. At the end of the time period provided, a formal evaluation of the employee's performance shall be made.
 7. In extreme cases, an immediate formal evaluation of an employee's performance may be made provided that the employee shall be notified in writing of the reasons for this action and be provided reasonable opportunity to discuss the basis for the action. Such action shall be taken only when there is direct evidence that an extreme emergency exists.
 8. In lieu of the Superintendent recommending dismissal for incompetency, an employee may be offered options to include, but not be limited to: alternative job evaluation and job retraining, other employment within the District for which the employee is qualified, early retirement, and assistance in seeking other employment. If accepted by the employee, during a mutually agreed upon period of transition, the employee shall continue to receive full salary and benefits.
- K. A teacher who qualified for a certificate on the basis of non-academic preparation shall be entitled to contractual rights and privileges granted other teachers holding an equivalent certificate, however, such teacher may not be assigned to render instruction to students in an academic class or program.
- L. For purposes of this Contract, the standard vocational certificate shall be equivalent to the certificate held by a teacher with a bachelor's degree; the advanced vocational certificate shall be equivalent to the master's degree.

- M. The Board shall provide a record of in-service points earned for certificate extension to each teacher at least twice during each school year. A teacher may request in-service points for participation in training designed to enhance a teacher's competency. If the training has not been previously approved, the teacher may submit a written request to the Talent Acquisition and Human Resources Compliance Department for approval. The record shall include approved in-service courses, and when feasible, in-service hours earned but not approved for credit.
- N. Teachers shall be informed of ESOL requirements and shall be provided opportunities to earn mandated ESOL endorsement through in-service programs. Teachers whose certificates expire in the current year shall be given placement priority. In-service opportunities shall be afforded at a variety of times and locations. The district will provide several options of training for teachers required to take the 60 hour training. In the event that these non-ESOL teachers are required to take training in excess of 60 hours, the parties agree to meet to impact bargain this matter.
- O. No employee shall be required to work nights or weekends or to accept assignments for which supplements are paid, as set forth in Appendix B, as a condition of employment except as specified elsewhere in this Contract.
- P. No teacher shall be required to supervise interns as a condition of employment.
- Q. A teacher shall not terminate his/her employment without first being released from his/her contract of employment with the Board.
- R. A PSC/CC teacher shall be placed on performance probation for ninety (90) calendar days upon receipt of an overall unsatisfactory evaluation and notice of unsatisfactory performance as per Florida Statute 1012.34.
- S. A teacher holding a continuing or professional services contract may be returned to annual contract status as provided by Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE IX

ASSIGNMENT AND TRANSFERS

- A. Employees shall be assigned by the Superintendent to positions which fit their preparation, certification, experience and aptitude.
- B. A teacher shall not be assigned, except temporarily and for good cause, outside the scope of his/her teaching certificate.

- C. Teachers shall receive notice of their tentative teaching assignments on or before the first day of traditional calendar post-planning. It is expressly understood that such assignments are only tentative and may be changed for reasons relating to changes in school-wide or class enrollment, the addition or reduction of educational services at the school, changes in staffing, or vacancies.
 - 1. If changes are required, the teacher shall be notified of the new assignment, and the reason for the change, as soon as feasible. An opportunity shall be provided for the teacher to discuss the change.
 - 2. The teacher may request an alternate assignment.
 - 3. Involuntary changes in assignment at the work-site shall not be made in a punitive manner.
- D. Guidance personnel and Resource Teachers within a school should be utilized fully in programs that are student oriented.
- E. When an employee is hired to replace someone on long-term leave, the following shall apply:
 - 1. Such temporary employees shall be members of the bargaining unit and shall be issued temporary interim contracts or placed on temporary employment status.
 - 2. It is understood that the temporary employment shall be for a specified period depending on the length of the leave and there shall be no further expectation of employment beyond the time specified.
 - 3. If the employee who took the leave of absence does not return to duty upon the expiration of that leave, the temporary employee shall have no expectation of being recommended to fill the position. The administrator shall not be precluded from recommending a temporary employee for regular employment.
 - 4. The temporary employee may reactivate his/her application for employment upon completion of the temporary assignment.
- F. Temporary Assignments and Transfer
 - 1. When the superintendent temporarily assigns an employee to a special project, the employee's regular position shall be treated as if s/he were on a long-term leave of absence for purposes of this article.

2. When the superintendent temporarily transfers an employee, the transfer should not exceed 30 duty days. After the temporary transfer period ends, the employee will return to their original assignment and work location.

G. The following provisions shall apply to the transfer of teachers:

1. Two teachers may voluntarily change schools upon mutual agreement of the administrators involved and with the approval of the Superintendent.
2. Any voluntary transfer of a teacher out of a non-Title I school after three weeks prior to his/her preplanning shall require mutual agreement of both administrators.
3. Any voluntary transfer of a teacher out of a Title I school after four weeks prior to his/her preplanning shall require mutual agreement of both administrators.
4. A teacher seeking a voluntary transfer out of a school utilizing split or irregular shifts, or a prototype, charter or year round school may be interviewed for vacancies prior to and/or during the time involuntary transfers are being assigned. If vacancies exist for which the teacher is certified and/or qualified, s/he shall be offered a position prior to the assignment of other voluntary transfers or new hires. If the teacher declines such offer, the Board shall have no further obligation to transfer the teacher.
5. In staffing new schools, consideration shall be given to employees working in schools from which students are being reassigned.
6. An employee may be involuntarily transferred to another school at any time provided written notice is given to the employee at least five duty days prior to the effective date of the transfer. If at least 14 days remain prior to the start of the work year, the employee shall be provided a minimum 14-day notice. Such transfer shall be for the following reasons:
 - a. District-wide changes in the organization of the school system.
 - b. Decreasing enrollment in the employee's school.
 - c. Reduction of educational services at the employee's school.
 - d. Maintenance of court required ratios.

7. When involuntary transfers become necessary, the administrator shall meet with the affected department(s)/program(s) to seek volunteers. Volunteers will be selected, based upon greatest seniority. If there is an insufficient number of volunteers, the selection shall be by seniority. In computing seniority for half-time employees, the salary credit formula shall be used. If two or more employees have the same seniority, the involuntary transfer shall be determined using the following sequence: contract type, degree, selection by lot.
8. If a teacher who has been identified for transfer has certification in two or more areas, s/he may designate which instructional area will be the determiner of certification, provided s/he has taught within the designated subject area(s) within the past ten years and there are district vacancies within the designated area(s). These provisions shall not apply beyond the 15th day of student attendance.
9. The Association recognizes the Superintendent may involuntarily transfer an employee. Such transfers shall not be done in a punitive manner. Those employees transferred by the Superintendent shall be provided the reasons in writing in a formal setting prior to the transfer.
10. Any area of certification:
 - a. If a vacancy occurs in a position for which any area of certification may be utilized, teachers at the school with the vacancy may be considered for the vacant position.
 - b. If a position utilizing any area of certification is cut, and there are no vacancies at the school within the teacher's area(s) of certification, the teacher occupying the position shall be placed on the involuntary transfer list, if otherwise eligible in accordance with Article VIII.
 - c. It is understood that filling a position utilizing any area of certification does not in and of itself, constitute an area of certification and Article IX, Section G.8 (above) shall not apply to these situations.
11. The Superintendent may preclude a volunteer from transferring and shall provide the reason(s) for the denial in writing to the volunteer upon request.
12. The provisions of Sub Sections 5. and 6. above notwithstanding, annual, professional service or continuing contract teachers who have indicated in writing their desire to remain in an out-of-field assignment and their intention to meet the requirements to do so, but who do not meet such requirements, may be involuntarily transferred based upon their in-field certification, regardless of seniority.

- H. The District and the Association will meet by January 15 to discuss timelines for the following procedures:
1. Administrators will identify and notify employees for involuntary transfer.
 2. Employment Services will develop a district-wide involuntary transfer list and vacancy list.
 3. A list of vacancies will be provided to the affected employees
 4. A period of time will be designated for affected employees to interview and/or be assigned to vacancies. Involuntary transfers shall be placed in positions within their areas of certification where such vacancies exist.
 5. When at least 80 percent of the involuntary transfers have been placed, a minimum of two weeks will be designated for voluntary transfer(s). The first week shall be for all PSC/CC teachers and Annual contract teachers with a 3.0 or higher Instructional Practice score. Beginning the second week, all PSC/CC, Annual, Probationary and Temporary contract teachers eligible for reemployment may participate in the voluntary transfer process. During this time period, Employment Services shall forward a list of job postings along with a list of non-reappointed teachers eligible for reemployment. Vacancies shall be sent to all instructional personnel.
 6. The provisions in Section 5. above shall not apply to subject areas or disciplines in which unassigned teachers are not certified, provided the total number of vacancies in the District exceeds the number of teachers on the involuntary transfer list.
 7. It is anticipated that the process of assigning the employees described in Section 5. above shall be completed prior to the first day of post-planning. If the above timelines cannot be met due to a need to delay notification of allocations or because the number of employees being involuntarily transferred is too great for the coming year, the parties shall mutually determine and reduce to writing, a memorandum of understanding outlining new timelines for implementation of transfers for that year.
- I. Nothing herein shall preclude members of the same family being assigned to the same school, provided that they shall not be assigned in direct line of supervision. If, as a result of employment, transfer or promotion of an employee's family member or the transfer of an employee results in a violation of this provision, reassignment or transfer of the affected employee shall be made without violating the provisions of this Article.
- J. Vacancies in bargaining unit positions, listed on the OCPS Web Site, shall be available to all employees.

K. Hardship Transfer

1. An employee who has completed at least one year of service with the District may apply for a hardship transfer when there is a serious medical and/or serious personal problem that can be substantiated to the satisfaction of his/her Area Superintendent or designee.
2. Any hardship transfer approval is at the sole discretion of the Area Superintendent or designee.
3. Any approved hardship transfer will be effective at the beginning of a marking period, if an appropriate vacancy exists.
4. Travel time and/or distances alone will not be considered as a reason to seek or to grant a hardship transfer.
5. If the employee's condition is one that should be considered under provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the employee will be directed to apply for an ADA accommodation with the District's EEO/ADA Coordinator in lieu of a hardship transfer.

ARTICLE X
EVALUATION

- A. The purpose of evaluation shall be to improve the quality of instruction in compliance with the mandates of Florida Statutes and State Board Rule regarding the evaluation of the performance of instructional personnel. These mandates include Section 1012.34(1)(a), Fla. Stat. which provides that:

[T]he district school superintendent shall establish procedures for evaluating the performance of duties and responsibilities of all instructional, administrative, and supervisory personnel employed by the school district. The procedures established by the district school superintendent set the standards of service to be offered to the public within the meaning of s. 447.209 and are not subject to collective bargaining.

Nothing herein waives the position of either party regarding the interpretation, applicability, or constitutionality of Section 1012.34(1)(a), Fla. Stat., and/or of the ability of the Superintendent to make changes to the current Instructional Personnel Evaluation System without bargaining. Should the Association prevail in an action relating to Section 1012.34(1)(a), Fla. Stat., the parties agree to automatically reopen this article for further negotiations pursuant to Chapter 447, Fl. Stat.

B. The Instructional Personnel Evaluation System Procedures Manual (Evaluation Manual) for the current Instructional Personnel Evaluation System and the online resources related to the Evaluation System is available online through the following link: <https://ocpsfl.sharepoint.com/sites/EvaluationSystemsOCPS> .

C. Changes to the current Instructional Personnel Evaluation System shall be subject to the following:

1. Any changes will be presented to the Association prior to being submitted for approval to the Florida Department of Education and prior to being implemented.
2. The changes will not be implemented unless approved by the Florida Department of Education ("FDOE").
3. During preplanning, each teacher shall be provided with the link to an online copy of the revised Instructional Personnel Evaluation System Procedures Manual (Evaluation 65Manual) incorporating the FDOE-approved changes.
4. The District will only implement approved changes to the Instructional Personnel Evaluation System at the beginning of the contract year.

D. Appeals

1. An employee may elect to appeal a concern regarding the application of the procedures contained within the Evaluation Manual to the supervising administrator. If the issue is unresolved, the employee may elect to appeal any unresolved procedural issue(s) through either the Appeals Committee or the grievance/arbitration procedure – but not both. Instructional Practice appeals shall be submitted by an instructional employee by June 15, Student Learning Growth appeals shall be submitted by an instructional employee within thirty (30) duty days of receiving the Student Learning Growth score.

The parties agree that alleged violations of provisions contained within the Evaluation Manual are subject to the grievance and arbitration process.

2. If it has been determined that there was a procedural error in an instructional employee's status score, then the following formula shall be used to report the revised score:
 - If the Status Score is between 1.0 and 2.9, and there is a procedural error, the Status Score shall be a 3.0 Effective
 - If the Status Score is 3.0 or higher, and there is a procedural error, the Status Score shall be a 3.3 Highly Effective

- If it has been determined that there was a procedural error in an instructional employee's Deliberate Practice Score, then the revised score shall be .3 Applying and shall be added to the Status Score.
3. If it has been determined that there was a procedural error in an instructional employee's Student Learning Growth Score the following formula shall be used to report the revised score:
 - If the Student Learning Growth Score is a 1.49 or a 2.39, and there is a procedural error, the Student Learning Growth Score shall be a 3.29 Effective
 - If the Student Learning Growth Score is a 3.29, and there is a procedural error, the Student Learning Growth Score shall be a 4.0 Highly Effective.
 4. In the event the Appeals Committee decision results in a tie, the parties agree that the CTA President or designee and the Senior Executive Director of Human Resources or designee will meet to investigate, review and, if necessary, conduct a discussion with all parties involved, with the intent to resolve the appeal. This will occur no later than thirty (30) days from the notification of the Appeals Committee decision. Decisions of the CTA President and Senior Executive Director will be final and binding for all parties.
 5. In the event the CTA President and Senior Executive Director of Human Resources are unable to resolve the matter, the appeal may be filed directly to Step 3 as defined in Article III, Grievance Procedures, including mediation and arbitration, if necessary.
- E. The Classroom Teachers Association Evaluation Committee members, the CTA President, and OCCTA staff members shall have the opportunity to attend the Instructional Framework Observer Training or Instructional Framework Observer Recertification Training professional development delivered by a member of the designated department staff.

ARTICLE XI

PERSONNEL RECORDS

- A. All files maintained on employees shall be confidential, except as provided herein or by Florida Statutes.
- B. A personnel file shall be maintained for each employee. An employee's health and physical fitness certificate will be considered an official part of the personnel file but will be maintained in a separate file.

C. School files shall be considered confidential except as access is provided by this Article or by law. The administrator shall maintain an official school personnel file on each employee, which may be forwarded to a new school when an employee transfers.

D. Access to Files

1. To the extent permitted by law, the personnel file of each employee shall be open to inspection only by the School Board, the Superintendent, the administrator, the employee and such other persons as the employee or the Superintendent may authorize in writing. Evidence of a reasonable effort shall be made to notify the affected employee prior to the review of his/her file by persons not employed by the school system. All inspections shall be documented.

2. An employee shall have the right to examine the contents of his/her personnel file, which is maintained at the District office, at a reasonable time in the presence of an Employment Services Department staff member. All references originating outside the District on the basis of confidentiality for initial employment shall not be available for inspection by the employee. By written authorization, the employee may permit any designated person to examine his/her file. An employee may request that a representative accompany him/her when reviewing his/her file.

An employee, upon request, shall have the right to meet with his/her administrator for the purpose of examining the contents of any work location file which may be maintained on the employee.

3. Employees shall have the right to receive a copy of any of their file documents at no cost.

E. Letters of reprimand and/or complaints shall not be placed in an employee's personnel or school file unless the employee has had the opportunity to review such material or affix his/her signature to the copy to be filed with the expressed understanding that such signature in no way indicates agreement with the contents thereof. Any written response from the employee and/or a copy of the final annual assessment from the employee shall be appended to the material at the request of the employee.

F. After two years, at the request of an employee, written reprimands, material of a derogatory nature or complaints shall be appended with the notice that the material is no longer relevant for disciplinary purposes, provided there has not been a recent incident of a similar problem or complaint. Recency as used herein shall be two years, except for written reprimands addressing excessive force and/or physical, verbal, or other conduct directed against students or employees in violation of the Code of Ethics of the Education Profession of Florida. In these cases, recency shall be five years.

ARTICLE XII

DISCIPLINE

A. General Provisions

1. An employee may be disciplined only for just cause, and discipline shall be imposed only for a violation of an expressed rule, an expressed order, an expressed policy or a reasonable expectation of management which reasonably should have been known to the employee. This shall not be construed so as to prohibit the administrator from questioning an employee and/or offering reasonable direction at the time of the occurrence of any incident, the result of which might later be dealt with in a disciplinary manner.
2. Any teacher may be suspended or dismissed at any time during the year, provided that the charges against him/her are based on immorality, misconduct in office, incompetence, gross insubordination, willful neglect of duty, drunkenness, or conviction of any crime involving moral turpitude, where applicable, and in accordance with Florida Statutes.
3. Employees shall be entitled to representation in any meeting with the administration when the employee reasonably feels that discipline may result.
4. Prior to imposing any form of discipline, a fair and objective investigation will be conducted.
 - a. The employee shall be informed, in a meeting, of the basis upon which discipline is being considered, the witnesses, the results of any preliminary investigation, and the form of discipline being considered. Reasonable advance notice of the formal conference shall be given.
 - b. The employee shall be given an opportunity to explain, within a reasonable time, his/her perception of the matter and name other witnesses or provide additional information. These shall be investigated prior to taking disciplinary action.
 - c. The employee shall be provided written notification at the conclusion of the investigation when the decision is to take no disciplinary action.
5. During the course of an investigation, an employee may be relieved of duty with pay, which action shall not be considered disciplinary in and of itself. If the relief of duty exceeds ten workdays, written notice shall be provided, including the basis for the time extension.

6. In the event an employee cannot be reached during any period of time when s/he is not required to be on duty, no disciplinary action shall be taken until s/he is required to be on duty, s/he has received actual notification, or a reasonable attempt at notification of the proposed action has been made. Written notice via paid courier to the last known address of the employee shall be considered a reasonable attempt.
7. Employees shall not be required or permitted to discipline other employees.
8. When any state agency is contacted by the administration pursuant to this Article, the affected employee and the Association shall be notified in a timely manner.
9. In cases where an employee's conduct and/or performance indicate that a physical and/or mental examination might be appropriate, the Superintendent may require that the employee undergo such examination, at the expense of the Board. A choice from among State licensed physicians and/or psychiatrists shall be made by the employee from a list provided by the Board. Prior to requiring an examination, a meeting shall be held with the employee, at which time the basis for requiring the examination shall be explained. This shall be followed up in writing. The employee shall have the right to seek an additional opinion from a State licensed physician or psychiatrist of the employee's choosing and at his/her expense, within a reasonable time.
10. In cases where an employee's conduct or performance forms a basis for disciplinary action, considerations shall be given as to whether or not an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) referral is appropriate. In such cases, and where the employee accepts such intervention, the Board may elect to postpone taking such disciplinary action pending successful completion of treatment through the EAP.
 - a. In cases where performance has deteriorated to a point which may form a basis for dismissal, the Board and the employee may mutually enter into a written agreement which mandates enrollment in the EAP. The terms of such agreement shall include standards of behavior and performance requirements for successful compliance, timelines, and monitoring of both the program of treatment and the employee's conduct/performance. The employee may have representation by the Association in entering into such an agreement and throughout the process of monitoring compliance with its terms.
 - b. Nothing herein shall be interpreted as constituting a waiver of management's right to maintain standards of conduct or performance, or its right to take disciplinary action in cases of misconduct or poor performance.

B. Reprimands

1. Oral reprimands shall be given in private and in a formal discussion.
2. Written Reprimands
 - a. A written reprimand shall be issued within ten duty days of the initial formal conference. This time limit may be extended on cases where additional witnesses and/or sources of information are/were unavailable for further investigation or upon written notice to the employee of an anticipated completion date.
 - b. An employee may, within 20 duty days after receipt of a written reprimand, file a response which shall be appended to the reprimand.
 - c. A written reprimand shall not serve as prima facie evidence of the facts alleged therein in any later situation involving dismissal.
 - d. A written reprimand shall be deemed no longer relevant for disciplinary purposes after a specified period of time, in accordance with Article XI, Section F. The reprimand shall indicate such in writing.

C. Suspension without Pay

1. If a given suspension without pay was preceded by a written reprimand for a similar problem, the employee must have been given reasonable time to correct the problem prior to the suspension without pay.
2. An employee may be suspended without pay without a previous written reprimand if serious circumstances exist that could possibly lead to dismissal.
3. For the purpose of discipline, the parties recognize that the board may authorize the Superintendent to suspend instructional personnel without pay for a period of time to not exceed five duty days.
4. The provisions for written reprimands specified above, relating to the employee's right to respond and appending of file documents shall also apply to suspensions without pay.
5. The employee shall receive written notification of the suspension without pay including the date(s) and the basis for this action. A copy shall be placed in the employee's personnel file and another sent to the Association.

D. Dismissal

1. Prior to filing formal charges, the teacher shall be informed that s/he is not required to make a written or oral statement if s/he chooses not to do so.
 - a. Upon completion of the investigation, if a basis for action appears to exist, the Superintendent shall meet with the teacher to explain what the misconduct or other basis for action is, who the witnesses are and other sources of information upon which the action would be based, what recommendation(s) the Superintendent is considering, and what statutory procedures will be followed if charges are filed.
 - b. Within a reasonable period of time, the teacher may explain his/her perception of the facts with respect to the allegations. S/he may explain or identify other sources of information, including witnesses that may provide information concerning the allegations. The Superintendent shall then determine if further investigation is necessary or if formal written charges will be filed without further investigation. The Superintendent shall notify the teacher of his decision.
 - c. Any documentation used to support the subsequent filing of formal charges shall be shared with the teacher.
2. The following procedures shall be used in filing formal charges:
 - a. At least one week prior to the time that formal charges against a teacher will be considered by the Board, the teacher and the Association shall be notified in writing of the Superintendent's recommendation. Notification shall include a draft of the formal charges.
 - b. The Superintendent shall submit the charges to the Board at the next regular meeting, unless there has been mutual agreement to extend the timelines.
 - c. Upon receipt of formal written charges, the Board shall act on the Superintendent's recommendation. If the Board suspends the teacher without pay, insurance benefits shall continue to be provided.
 - d. If the teacher requests a Chapter 120 hearing and it cannot be concluded within the first 45 duty days, a mutually agreeable alternative may be established and followed. This alternative shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- e. A final recommendation shall be submitted to the Board at its next regular meeting following receipt of a written notification waiving the teacher's right to a hearing, the expiration of the timeline to request a hearing without action, or receipt of the hearing officer's recommended order. In the latter case, these time lines may be extended.
- 3. At least one week prior to the time that a recommendation will be submitted to the Board in regard to other employees, the employee shall be so notified.
- 4. If the charges are not sustained, the teacher shall be reinstated immediately, any unpaid back salary shall be paid, and s/he shall be deemed to have been an active employee during any period of suspension. If the recommendations is either to dismiss a teacher or to fix the terms under which a teacher may be returned to duty, such action shall require an affirmative vote of the majority of the Board.
- E. A teacher holding a continuing or professional service contract may be returned to annual contract probationary status as provided by Florida Statutes.

ARTICLE XIII

REDUCTION IN FORCE

- A. In the event a reduction in force becomes necessary the Superintendent shall notify the Association of such necessity in writing with an explanation of the reasons. Such notification shall be prior to formal School Board action relating to such reduction in force.
- B. The Board shall determine the subject areas and/or programs, and the positions in which reductions must be made. The Association shall be notified of such determinations.
- C. Certification, evaluation score, contract type, and level of degree shall be sequentially used, as outlined below, to determine the order of layoff. For non-certified positions, the sequence shall begin with evaluation score. The employee's status on the date of official notice to the Association of a reduction in force shall be used to determine his/her placement within the above factors.
 - 1. Certification for each teacher shall be established. If a teacher has certification in two or more teaching areas, s/he will designate which teaching area will be the determiner of certification for purposes of layoff.

- a. If a teacher is teaching out-of-field and has completed less than half the requirements for said certification when a layoff occurs, his/her status shall be determined by the area of current certification. If half or more of the requirements have been completed when a layoff occurs, a teacher's status may be determined as if s/he had certification in the out-of-field area.
 - b. The parties recognize that in certain subjects/disciplines and/or programs within an area of certification, or in a program utilizing "any area of certification," specific preparation and/or experience may be required. These may include:
 - 1) Recency of teaching experience in the subject/discipline and/or program.
 - 2) An appropriate combination of licenses, documentation and/or recency of work experience necessary to meet program and/or industry needs.
 - 3) Documentable skills needed to address student needs in a specific program excluding those based solely upon supplemental activities in Appendix B.
 - c. Prior to a layoff, if the District has determined there is a need to utilize the provisions in 1.b. above, the parties shall mutually identify the subjects/disciplines and/or programs to which this shall apply, and what specific preparations and/or experience will be required.
2. Evaluation Score shall be determined by the Final Evaluation Score or Instructional Practice Score whichever is most recent.
3. Contract type shall be used to determine the order of layoff in the following sequence:
 - a. Temporary Contract
 - b. Probationary Contract
 - c. Annual Contract
 - d. Professional Services or Continuing Contract
3. The lowest degree level or its equivalent shall be laid off first.
4. A final determination shall be made, if necessary, by lot.

- D. The position of an employee on a long-term leave of absence shall be treated as if the position were filled by said employee. Any other employee filling said position shall be allowed to fulfill the terms of his/her employment within the sequentially ordered factors applied to the employee on leave.
- E. When PSC/CC employees are identified for a reduction in force from a school or program, they shall be placed on unassigned status. The District shall then identify available positions which these employees are certified and/or qualified to hold, those employees remaining on the unassigned list shall then be reassigned to the available positions.
- F. No new employee shall be placed in a position for which a certified and/or qualified laid off employee remains until all such laid off employees have been recalled or have declined or failed to accept recall.
- G. The following procedures shall be used for recall:
 - 1. Each employee shall be responsible for maintaining with the Employment Services Department, in writing, a telephone number and an address to which a notice of recall may be sent.
 - 2. The Board shall determine the subject areas and/or programs and the positions for which recall will be made.
 - 3. Employees shall be recalled in inverse order of their layoff according to the sequential factors in Section C. above. These employees shall be recalled to schools/programs with vacancies regardless of the school/program from which they were laid off.
 - a. Nothing herein shall preclude offering a qualified teacher on the recall list reemployment out-of-field, upon recommendation of the Employment Services Department and the Superintendent.
 - b. Full-time teachers on recall who decline half-time positions and half-time teachers on recall who decline full-time positions shall retain their recall rights for full-time and half-time positions, respectively.
 - 4. Notice of recall may be made by direct telephone contact with the employee, by paid courier or by public notice. Employees shall have five days to respond to a notice of recall.

5. If the employee declines an offer of reemployment, s/he shall have no further right to recall. Failure to respond to a notice of recall within the time limits prescribed shall be construed as declining an offer of reemployment. If a teacher declines or fails to respond to a notice of recall, it shall not preclude a teacher an opportunity to seek re-employment with the District in the future.
6. Upon reemployment the employee shall be placed on the salary schedule and granted seniority and benefits as if s/he had been on an unpaid leave of absence. Any waiting period required of new employees for receipt of insurance benefits shall be waived.
7. Period of Recall
 - a. Laid off teachers with continuing or professional service contracts shall remain on recall for a period of three years from the date of layoff.
 - b. Teachers with temporary interim contracts shall remain on recall until the end of their contractual period of employment.
 - c. All other employees shall remain on recall for a period of time equal to their seniority but not to exceed three years.
8. After a laid off employee's recall period has expired, the district shall have no further obligation for reemployment.

ARTICLE XIV

DUTY DAY

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, the employee duty day shall be seven hours and 30 minutes including a duty-free lunch, or 37 ½ hours per week total.
- B. As part of an ongoing program of school improvement, and in recognition of individual schools' needs to be given increased responsibility for site-based decision making, the parties agree to the following relating to the employee duty day:

1. The duly elected Faculty Advisory Committee and the administrator, with input from the school staff may mutually agree on scheduling arrangements for teachers to include, teaching load(s), student contact time, planning time, duty time, extended-duty assignments, compensatory time, coverage of classes in lieu of using substitutes, scheduling of elementary teachers, the use of flexible time blocks, common planning time, end of course testing schedules, scheduling of special area teachers and the implementation of any mandated school wide programs which affect any of the provisions found in this article. At the end of each school year, each teacher may submit scheduling preferences for elementary special area teachers to this process for consideration.
2. Such agreements shall be conditioned upon a majority vote of support by secret ballot of those voting from the faculty, reduced to writing and distributed to each teacher at the school. The agreement(s) shall remain in effect until the end of the school year. The FAC shall conduct the election. The faculty shall receive notice of the election in writing at least two duty days prior to the voting. The voting period shall extend for up to two duty days. The most senior Association Representative shall be present at ballot counting. If there is no Association Representative, the administrator shall contact the Association President/designee prior to the ballot counting so that s/he may be present to observe.
3. In the absence of mutual agreement, the following provisions shall apply to those areas where such agreement cannot be reached:
 - a. When an emergency situation arises, an extended duty assignment beyond the regular duty day may be made. When such becomes necessary, volunteers shall be sought first. If no one volunteers, consideration shall be given to the employees' personal commitments which cannot be rescheduled. Employees so assigned shall be allowed to take an equal amount of time off during non-student contact time, within ten duty days or at a time mutually agreeable between the teacher and the principal. Employees may receive time off for voluntarily participating in school activities occurring outside of their regular workday.
 - b. When a medical or legal appointment involving the employee or a member of his/her immediate family, or a school-related conference involving the employee's dependent, is required that cannot be scheduled outside the employee duty day, or when an employee attending in-service or college classes needs reasonable commuting time, an employee may be allowed to leave at the end of the regular student day, provided acceptable arrangements to accommodate duty or other school activities have been made and are communicated.

- c. When a personal emergency results in an employee either having to arrive late or leave early, the employee shall be charged with appropriate leave, only when the absence exceeds one-quarter day and/or requires the use of a substitute.
- d. No teacher shall be assigned responsibility for students for more than three continuous hours.
- e. Except as may be provided elsewhere in this Contract, assigned instructional responsibility shall be based upon approximately 25.5 hours per week, except in post-secondary schools and Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten classes where it shall be based upon no more than 30 hours per week. In the secondary schools, assignments to a supervised study hall or non-compensated extra-curricular activity during school hours shall be considered assigned instructional responsibility, however passing time shall not.
- f. In the event supervision of students, both within and/or outside of the regular student day, is required, assignments shall be rotated on an equitable basis to the extent possible.
- g. Administrators will cooperate with employees in making arrangements for a break in either the morning or afternoon. Employees needing to use the restroom may call the office at any time of the day to receive relief without a delay.
- h. Elementary teachers shall have an average daily planning time of 60 minutes, at least 45 of which shall be contiguous. Middle and high school teachers shall have a contiguous daily planning time equal to a student academic period or 50 minutes, whichever is less. The parties recognize that in some cases, contiguous planning time may need to be temporarily adjusted due to unanticipated circumstances. Post-secondary teachers shall have an average daily planning time of at least 50 minutes, at least 35 of which shall be contiguous.

Planning time shall be used for purposes of preparation, which may also include conferences with parents, administrators, or other teachers, and/or giving special assistance to students. A teacher shall not be restricted to remain in a particular area of the school during his/her planning time; however, this provision does not apply to common planning time. A reasonable effort shall be made by the administrator to provide a special area for planning. Schools shall provide a common planning time once a week for instruction.

Teachers who assume additional teaching or duty assignments or have rotational assigned supervision during the student day may not necessarily be guaranteed the planning time outlined above.

- C. The Board agrees to provide substitute teachers for art, music, and physical education teachers and media specialists. No teacher shall be used as a substitute for another teacher except in cases of emergency or unforeseen circumstances. The District shall maintain a substitute pool for the filling of vacancies due to absenteeism.

The District will provide a long-term certified substitute for non-classroom certified personnel who are on a long-term leave, where possible. Upon written request from the Union, the District will notify the Union of the reason for not providing a long-term certified substitute within twenty (20) duty days of the written request.

1. In cases of non-emergency, teachers cannot be required to substitute for another teacher. In cases of emergency, teachers may be required to substitute for another teacher, however, classified staff and non-classroom teachers should be used to cover classes prior to resorting to splitting classes.
2. The definition of emergency is a sudden unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition; perplexing contingency or complication of circumstances; a sudden or unexpected occasion for action; exigency; pressing necessity. Emergency is an unforeseen combination of circumstances that calls for immediate action without time for full deliberation. Examples include, but are not limited to, a sudden unexpected and severe medical event at school, or when a teacher has a family crisis during the school day requiring his/her immediate attention.
3. It is not an emergency when:
 - a. a teacher arrives late due to reasons such as illness, car problems, or traffic and misses less than a quarter day of work;
 - b. a teacher needs one or two periods of class coverage to attend meetings on campus and other events, such as picture days, awards ceremonies and giving guest lectures in colleagues' classes;
 - c. a teacher leaves early due to a doctor's appointment;
 - d. a Kelly Services substitute arrives after the start of a work day; or
 - e. teachers are released to attend professional development either off-site or on-site.
4. School administrators are precluded from cancelling substitutes and will be notified of such limitation on their authority.

5. Any bargaining unit member required to split classes or substitute for another teacher will receive a proportionate share of compensation that a substitute teacher is paid to cover absences in that particular school.
- D. Media centers in all schools shall observe a flexible schedule.
- E. The Board shall encourage class sizes consistent with District goals, the nature of different subject matter, instructional objectives, the requirements of different instructional processes, the capacities of the physical facilities, state laws and regulations, and the special needs of students.
1. If an individual teacher feels a class has an excessive number of students, s/he may request a meeting with the administrator who will discuss the issue with the teacher and attempt to resolve it.
 2. If the matter cannot be resolved within two weeks at the school level, it shall be referred by the administrator to the appropriate chief, area superintendent, or associate superintendent who will within two weeks assess the situation and make a final decision as to whether an adjustment in class size should be made. Said decision will be communicated to the teacher and will state the reasons.
 3. If district-wide ratios for students to social workers not assigned to schools exceed the prior year's ratio, the designated lead social workers may request a meeting with the Superintendent or designee to discuss the issues and attempt to resolve them.
 4. If the district-wide ratios for students to school psychologists not assigned to schools exceed the prior year's ratio, the designated lead school psychologist may request a meeting with the Superintendent or designee to discuss the issues and attempt to resolve them.
- F. Employees shall check (√) in and out upon arrival and departure from their work site.
- G. On the day before a scheduled holiday, the employee duty day shall end at the close of the student day. Non-school based personnel may leave 30 minutes before the end of their regular day. If the day before the Winter and/or Spring Holiday period for school based teachers is a non-student contact day, it shall be 6.5 hours in length.
- H. The parties recognize the importance of employees' participation in school-related activities, such as open house, PTA, and other school functions, which occur outside of normal working hours and flex time may be used for affected teachers. The administrator may require attendance at the school's annual open house.

- I. On election days, employees whose duty day usually begins 45 minutes or more before the student day who wish to vote before the duty day begins, may opt for reporting to work 15 minutes before the student day. In the alternative, employees may leave at the end of the student day for purposes of voting.
- J. An employee, other than an itinerant employee, who is required to leave his/her work site in the performance of assigned duties, shall leave with his/her administrator a daily itinerary, so that the employee can be reached throughout the duty day. An itinerant employee shall provide a weekly schedule to the administrator of each school s/he serves during the week. The schedule shall include a duty-free lunch, planning time (if applicable) and travel time. Each itinerant teacher shall be assigned a private space to provide instruction.
- K. Employees may, with the approval of the administrator, take part in activities outside the school building which are of interest to their present and prospective students. These activities shall include, but are not limited to, liaison activities with community and social agencies, vocational/educational guidance workshops, parental contact, exceptional education home visits, and job and educational placement activities.
- L. Middle and senior high school teachers shall not be required to teach more than two subject areas.
- M. Employees shall be scheduled for a minimum of **30 minutes** for lunch (**except for elementary teachers on Wednesdays when they will receive minimum 25 minutes**) which shall be within the scheduled lunch periods for students except on field trips or in unplanned emergencies. On student contact days, in work locations where there is no lunchroom or in job assignments which permit flexible lunch schedules, an employee may be given approximately one hour for lunch by mutual agreement with his/her administrator. In such cases, the workday for the employee may be proportionately extended to provide for equity with other employees, without violating this Contract. On any non-student contact day, employees shall have a lunch period of one hour which may be off site.
- N. An employee may leave the work site, upon receiving permission, during his /her planning time and duty-free lunch. No reasonable request shall be denied.
- O. When post –secondary courses are taught in three-hour blocks and students are given a break, teachers shall be entitled to the same break.
- P. Irregular Scheduling
 - 1. The parties recognize that certain post-secondary, district-level and/or special programs may require variations in scheduling. Such irregular scheduling shall be

voluntary and may be used when insufficient student enrollment exists, based on current program standards, to justify a regular assignment of an employee.

- a. Student Minimums in Career Technical and Adult General Education Programs shall be determined by school based administration. Exceptions to the standards shall be considered on an individual program basis.
- b. When a need for an irregular schedule exists, the administrator shall meet with the affected employee at least ten duty days prior to said assignment. Volunteers shall be sought first. When certification and job experience are equal, preference shall be given to the most senior employee who volunteers. If no volunteers are available, then the administrator shall select the least senior qualified employee eligible for a teaching assignment in the affected area. The affected employee may request a review of other options which might modify the need for split shifts.
- c. An employee who is assigned an irregular schedule shall be informed of the reason for and the specific duration of the assignment. Within 45 student contact days, the program will be re-evaluated. The duration may be extended because of specific program needs for the remainder of the school year. There shall be no expectation of such extended hours from year to year. If sufficient enrollment then exists, the employee shall be returned to a regular schedule.

- 2. Employees other than those on split shifts, who work flexible hours within the regular work day shall be given compensatory time so that they do not work in excess of 37½ hours per week. If the work week is extended beyond 37½ hours in order not to disrupt the quality of a program, the excess hours shall be accrued under the provisions of Section B.1.a.

- Q. Required meetings or other required activities relating to the Teacher Induction Program normally shall not be scheduled so as to infringe upon teacher planning time or lunch of either the peer teacher or the beginning teacher. Arrangements shall be made to relieve these teachers of student contact time or other required duties for a period equal to that utilized in required meetings or activities relating to the Teacher Induction Program.
- R. If district-wide committees/task forces or School Advisory Councils on which teachers serve, schedule their meetings during a part of or all of the duty day, teachers shall be given release time to attend.
- S. Workdays shall be used primarily for grading and planning, and other requirements shall not exceed approximately one hour. Grades shall not be required more than one hour prior to the close of the day.

- T. Teachers shall attend faculty meetings as called by the administrator. Any meetings called to solicit funds from teachers shall be pre-announced as to the meeting's purpose and teacher attendance shall be voluntary. Faculty meetings shall be called for specific reasons, and except during preplanning and post-planning, shall not exceed approximately one hour per week except for emergencies. Scheduled activities during preplanning will be limited to the equivalent of no more than two and one-half (2 ½) duty days so as not to significantly impede the teachers' time for preparation for the coming school year. This does not apply to new hires to the District and/or work location, schools assigned to the School Transformation Office, or schools identified as Corrective Program Schools.
- U. Physical education teachers who are routinely responsible for multiple classes and are regularly provided assistance shall be assured of similar support in the event of absenteeism.
- V. During the contract year, whenever a fifth Wednesday of the month falls on a duty day, teachers will receive an uninterrupted planning period after student contact time. No meetings, workshops or professional development will be scheduled during this time.
- W. A classroom teacher may work remotely on non-student contact days upon mutual agreement with his\her administrator. A non-classroom teacher may work remotely on days when they do not have students assigned. Requests shall not be unreasonably denied. The administrator must provide the reason for any denial in writing.

ARTICLE XV

WORK YEAR

- A. Ten-month employees shall have 197 duty days of which 180 shall include student contact. Eleven-month employees shall have 217 duty days. The calendar for school psychologists shall have 228 days. The total number of paid holidays for ten and 11-month employees shall be six. School psychologists receive one additional paid day off. Twelve-month employees shall be scheduled to work all weekdays when the Ronald Blocker Educational Leadership Center is open for business other than nine paid holidays. Paid holidays and the School Calendars shall be as set forth in Appendix B, which is hereby incorporated into and made a part of this Contract.
- B. The 10-month calendar shall include the following:
 - 1. Six (6) days of pre-planning prior to the first student attendance day, one of which will be a voluntary Staff Development Day, and two days of post-planning following the last student attendance day.

2. A workday scheduled at the end of each of the approximate nine-week grading periods, the last one of which shall be part of the post-planning period.
 3. A professional day scheduled for a Friday in October, in conjunction with the day chosen as the statewide professional day. Beginning with the 2025-26 school year, the professional day will be scheduled for a Friday in April, that does not negatively impact standardized testing.
 4. There shall be a full (M-F) two-week Winter Holiday.
 5. Instructional personnel shall be permitted to work up to three (3) days prior to preplanning to prepare their classroom. They shall check (√) in and out upon arrival and departure from their work site. Instructional personnel may be excused for an equivalent number of workdays as identified at the end of each grading period providing they have fulfilled all requirements for submitting grades.
- C. If a full Wednesday student day is required during the weeks of standardized student testing that increases student contact time, then the workday shall mirror the traditional Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday schedule for students and employees. On the following Wednesday when testing has ended, all teachers shall be permitted to leave at the end of the scheduled student day. There shall be no mandatory professional development or required administrative meetings for teachers on that Wednesday. If two Wednesdays are required back to back, teachers shall be allowed to leave at the end of the scheduled student day on the following back to back Wednesdays. Other arrangements may be made between a teacher and the administrator with mutual consent.
- D. Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, a maximum of two (2) early release days per month shall be used at the sole discretion of the administrator. Remaining early release days shall be used for uninterrupted planning time after student contact time. Teachers will be provided a copy of the schedule during preplanning for the first semester and before winter break for the second semester.

Before the beginning of the school year, the District will send communication discouraging the scheduling of unnecessary meetings and/or Professional Development scheduled the Wednesday before report cards or progress reports are due.

On the last Wednesday before the end of the school year in which students are in attendance no meetings and/or professional development shall be scheduled. This day shall be reserved for teacher use for activities related to the close of the academic year.

- E. When it becomes necessary to close a school because of weather or for other reasons as deemed necessary by the Superintendent, the days lost shall be made up by extending the

school year for that school, as determined by the Board, after consultation with the Association, without it being a violation of this Contract.

- F. Attendance at in-service activities off the school campus shall be voluntary except when attendance at such activities is necessary for the implementation of a required program. There shall be no mandatory in-service during the first or final day of preschool planning nor during post-school planning for school-based employees.
- G. Teachers who must prepare 504 and/or Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) shall be provided up to four student contact days per year to perform duties related to said preparation, at times mutually agreeable between the teacher and the administrator. Additional time may be requested. Release time from regular duties shall be provided in reasonable time blocks. A teacher may work remotely upon mutual agreement with his/her administrator. Requests shall not be unreasonably denied. The administrator must provide the reason for any denial in writing.
- H. Any teacher transferred within the student year, or hired after pre-planning, shall be provided at least three student contact days for orientation and preparation prior to assuming responsibilities for teaching students.
- I. If, after the start of the school year, a change is made in an elementary teacher's grade level or a middle school teacher's team assignment, such teacher shall be given two student contact days for orientation and preparation. In secondary schools, such shall be applicable for a teacher reassigned out-of-field, and the two days shall be prorated to conform to the actual number of classes changed. Other secondary teachers whose assignments must be changed during the school year requiring a new preparation shall be given notice of at least two days.
- J. Extended Employment
 - 1. Employees shall be reimbursed for any extensions of employment at their daily rate of pay, per their primary contract for the school year just completed, except as may be provided elsewhere in this Contract.
 - 2. Employees shall be notified of the availability of extended employment opportunities one month before the end of their work year. The acceptance of extended employment is voluntary on the part of the teacher, and such acceptance signifies a commitment to the particular extended employment.

3. Beginning in the 2020-21 school year, JROTC teachers shall work 197 duty days. They shall be offered up to ten (10) duty days of extended employment and the period shall be mutually agreed upon between the administrator and the teachers. The principal has the option to offer additional duty days of extended employment beyond the ten (10) duty days.
4. The athletic director shall be offered up to 20 days of extended employment and the period shall be mutually agreed upon between the administrator and the athletic director.
5. CRTs assigned to elementary schools or special centers may be offered extended employment of up to 20 days during the summer months.
6. Guidance counselors, school psychologists, media specialists, and Magnet Program Coordinators may be offered extended employment for the period following post-planning and/or for the period preceding preplanning.
 - a. School Psychologists may be considered for summer employment for which they are qualified before others are hired.
7. Secondary cooperative vocational education teachers and vocational agriculture teachers may be offered extended employment for the summer months. If these secondary schools have a ninth grade center, the days used for the extended employment may be used between the teachers from the main campus and the teachers from the ninth grade center.
8. High Schools shall be given a total of five (5) days of extended employment for the athletic trainer (s) to cover athletic practices prior to pre-planning.
9. Summer School
 - a. Regular employees shall be considered for summer employment for which they are qualified before others are hired. Such consideration first shall be given to those assigned to the school for the coming year. In post-secondary schools, if a course is continued during the summer session, the position(s) first shall be offered to a teacher who taught that course during the regular school year.
 - b. Nothing herein shall prohibit mutually acceptable agreements between employees and administrators to divide these work assignments in an equitable manner.
 - c. Teachers shall be paid a full day's salary if they report to work in the summer session and there are not enough students to justify the continuance of a class.

- d. Each high school with a summer academic program will be provided with a minimum of one half-time media specialist for the summer session.
- K. Nothing herein shall preclude the Board from adopting a modified workweek during the summer months. If the workweek for the summer program is modified from a regular five-day workweek to a concentrated five-day workweek, the following shall apply:
 - 1. The duty day shall be nine hours and 22 minutes in length with a required on-site portion of at least eight hours and 30 minutes, including a 30-minute duty free lunch. Employees may leave the school during their duty free lunch.
 - 2. Student contact time per day shall not exceed six hours and 15 minutes excluding passing time.
 - 3. Employees may take 22-minute breaks at their discretion, with the approval of the administrator.
 - 4. The on-site planning period shall be at least 30 minutes per day.
 - 5. Employees shall be paid at their hourly rate of pay.
 - 6. Sick leave shall be prorated on a 9.35 hour day

ARTICLE XVI

SALARY

- A. Salaries shall be as set forth in Appendix A, which is incorporated into, and hereby made a part of this Contract and shall be retroactive to the first duty day of the current school year. For school year **2025-26**, there will be no retroactive pay for any teacher who leaves the district prior to final ratification.

1. For the 2025-26 school year, the parties agree to increase the minimum salary for the Salary Structure for Performance Pay (Appendix A) to \$50,000 and to make compression adjustments based on experience. Any teacher whose current base salary falls below the experience range minimum will receive an increase to the range minimum effective with the employee's first duty day of the 2025-26 school year.

| Compression Adjustment | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Years of Exp | Experience Range Minimum |
| 0-1 | \$50,000 |
| 2-4 | \$50,225 |
| 5-9 | \$50,575 |
| 10-14 | \$51,000 |
| 15-19 | \$53,000 |
| 20-24 | \$55,000 |
| 25-29 | \$60,000 |
| 30-31 | \$65,000 |
| 32+ | \$70,000 |

2. Teachers with a summative performance rating of Effective shall receive an additional **3.01%**.
3. Teachers with a summative performance rating of Highly Effective shall receive an additional **4.01%**.
4. Raises based on performance shall be paid after the Student Growth scores have been finalized and combined with the Instructional Practice score to create the Summative Evaluation score. This will occur after all assessment scores used in the calculation of local student learning growth models are received by the district, verified, and final calculations completed.

B. Differential Pay

1. Supplement for Advanced Degrees
 - a. The Advanced Degree Supplement shall be subject to the following:
 - 1) The employee must provide an official college transcript of record showing the award of the earned degree to the Employment Services Department.

- 2) If the transcript does not indicate the date on which the degree was awarded, the employee must provide additional confirmation of the degree by submitting an updated transcript showing the date of the award, a copy of an official letter from the institution indicating the date the degree was awarded, or a copy of an official diploma from the institution indicating the date the advanced degree was awarded.
 - 3) It is understood that the advanced degree shall have been granted by a standard institution or shall have been properly validated as described in the State Board of Education Rules.
- b. The advanced degree differential shall be at least the same percentage as the increase in the entry teacher's salary.
- c. Teachers shall be paid the supplement once the advanced degree is verified. The supplement for advanced degrees shall be retroactive to the date the degree was awarded or the beginning of the teacher's primary contract school year, whichever is later.
3. Differential pay/Supplemental activities shall be compensated as set forth in Appendices A-1 through A-4 which is incorporated into, and hereby made a part of, this Contract.
4. Supplement Handbook
 - a. The Board shall publish and post a Supplement Handbook on the websites: <https://www.ocps.net/labor-relations-home> and www.orangecta.fea.aft.org.
 - b. The Supplement Handbook will provide information regarding the use of supplements, requirements of the supplement receiver, number of each supplement, and related information.
 - c. No changes shall be made in the Supplement Handbook without CTA and the District meeting to negotiate such changes.
5. Additional Period Pay

- a. The parties recognize that in some K-12 schools, teachers may volunteer to teach more than the required number of teaching periods. Teachers who accept these extended teaching assignments may not be scheduled with the same amounts of planning time, student contact time, or other duty assignments as other teachers. If more teachers volunteer than are needed, teachers shall be selected according to seniority from among those qualified to hold a position.
- b. For teaching each additional instructional period during, before or after the regular student day, the amount of the supplement the teacher receives for teaching the additional period should be based on the hourly rate of pay for an entry teacher with no experience based on the **previous** year's salary schedule. Calculations will be as follows: the annual salary of entry teacher based on the previous year's salary schedule/197 days in a teacher's contract year/7.5 hours in a teacher's workday x 180 instructional days of instruction in a year, rounded to the nearest one hundred dollars. This amount may be prorated by semester based on the school's academic needs. For teachers with the additional instructional period before or after the regular student day, the normal teacher load must be completed during the regular student day.
- c. This shall not preclude a teacher whose primary assignment is non-classroom teaching from receiving the supplement in B.5.a. above upon approval of the Superintendent's designee.
- d. Any Florida statutory requirement of schools to provide additional instruction outside of the standard student day or year shall adhere to the following:
 - 1) The assignment for instructors at these schools to teach during the extended day or year is required on the part of the teacher. In doing so, these teachers shall receive an additional pay equal to their hourly rate.
 - 2) Teachers at the designated schools may request in writing a transfer within ten (10) days of notification. A teacher shall be placed in his/her same school level (elementary, middle, or high) if such a vacancy exists. If a school level vacancy does not exist, the teacher shall be placed in a vacancy for which s/he is certified. Teachers shall be placed in their equivalent school if such vacancies exist. The District shall make a reasonable effort to transfer the teacher to a position in close proximity to his/her original assignment.
 - 3) Class size requirements for the additional instructional period shall follow state guidelines

- 4) Observations made during the additional instructional period are for feedback purposes only and shall not be used as a part of the Instructional Evaluation System
- 5) Support with curriculum and materials shall be provided to the teacher upon request to assist in planning for the additional instructional period.

6. Irregular Schedule Pay

Employees, who are assigned irregular schedules in accordance with Article XIV Section P, shall be compensated as follows:

- a. Teachers assigned a split shift on a regular basis for a 37.5 hour week including meal breaks shall be paid an additional \$2,520 per year. A split shift shall be defined as a shift that is not continuous.
 - b. Teachers in post-secondary schools who are given an additional hour of assigned instructional responsibility per day beyond the normal six hours shall be paid an additional \$3,000 per year.
 - c. Teachers selected for these supplements who have not had a break in service since 1996-97, shall be assured of the applicable amount as set forth above or the amount received in 1996-97, whichever is greater.
- C. The fiscal year for 10 and 11 month teachers begins with the first day of their primary contract. The number of duty days in a teacher's primary contract is specified in Article XV.A. The daily rate of pay for teachers shall be determined by dividing their annual salary for their primary contract of employment by the number of duty days specified therein.
- D. In-service training and planning on a non-duty day will be compensated at a minimum of \$75 for a three hour day and \$150 for a six hour day, provided the funding is available. Non-monetary consideration in lieu of the above may be agreed to between the administrator and the employee. This provision shall apply to compensate teachers newly hired to the District for work performed prior to the start of their contract. Such payment shall be authorized only upon successful completion of background screening including fingerprinting and drug testing. This will not become effective until the date of final ratification of the 2014-15 contract. This language is not retroactive to the beginning of the 2014-15 SY.
- E. Summer session employment shall be paid at the teacher's rate of pay per their primary contract for the school year just completed.

F. Method of Payment

1. Ten-Month Employees

- a. Employees shall be paid biweekly beginning on the third week of their work year. The number of payments to be issued will correspond to the length of time from the first to the last duty day in the school year. One (1) payment per year will be for eight days each and will occur during a pay period where there are no insurance deductions. The remaining payments will be for equal amounts of nine days each, in so far as possible.

1) If requested in the MyOCPS portal,

- **No later than the last day of preplanning, ten-month teachers may select to defer 16% of their wages and shall be placed on deferred pay status. These employees will be paid the deferred monies in four separate paychecks on a bi-weekly schedule following the employee's final payment of the school year. Employees that choose this option may not change percentages until the following school year and no later than the last day of preplanning.**
- **Ten-month teachers may elect to defer 11%, 12% 13% or 14% of their wages and shall be placed on deferred pay status. These employees will be paid the deferred monies in one check following the employee's final payment of the school year.**

2. Eleven-Month Employees

- a. **Employees shall be paid bi-weekly. The number of payments to be issued will correspond to the length of time from the first to the last duty day in the school year.**
3. To the extent permitted by law, and provided employees will not be paid in advance of time worked, payments shall be issued biweekly. When a payday falls on a bank holiday, the payment will be made on the business day prior to the bank holiday.
4. The parties agree to mandatory direct deposit effective for all employees by December 31, 2006. Upon request of an employee, the Board shall provide direct deposit of each of his/her payment to the financial institution of the employee's choice, subject to regulations relating to direct deposit.
5. The Board shall issue payments to employees employed in summer school in equal installments on a biweekly schedule, insofar as possible.

6. Under normal circumstances, supplements will be included in the employee's regular payment.
 - a. Payment for high school winter sports will begin in November and for spring sports in February.
 - b. Payment for middle school sports will begin the month following the beginning of each sport season.
 - c. Up to \$100 of the agribusiness and/or FFA supplements may be held until after completion of all required activities during the month of June.
 7. Payments shall be generated in a manner that guarantees privacy.
 8. Any payment which must be rewritten due to an employee's absence(s) near or at the end of the work year shall be reissued within one week following his/her last **paycheck**.
 9. It is understood that the last payment in the fiscal year may not be distributed until after the final duty day.
- G. If active service is terminated by death, all salary owed at the time of death shall be paid to the employee's designated beneficiary or estate if no beneficiary has been designated.
- H. Employees shall be paid entry salary with no experience until such time as verification for experience is received by the Board. Upon verification of experience any adjustment of salary shall be made by the end of the next payroll period. Any salary adjustment for experience credit shall be retroactive to the first duty day of the employee's primary contract, in the fiscal year in which the verification is received.

One day more than the number of days constituting one-half year of another district's regular school year shall be considered as one year of credit.

A teacher shall be paid on the salary schedule, based upon the following criteria:

1. Teaching Experience
 - a. In-state public school teaching experience: Credit shall be given for each year of full-time public school teaching service earned in the state of Florida which is verified by previous employer(s). Experience credit shall be reviewed and pay shall be based on what similar teachers with the same amount of experience credit are compensated.

For 2014-2015, newly hired teachers who worked at another Florida school district or charter school during the 2013-2014 school year will receive a one-time recruitment bonus, equivalent to half of the respective 2014-2015 salary increase amounts (COLA plus performance) based on their officially documented 2013-2014 summative evaluation rating. Documentation consisting of print screens of the evaluation rating must be provided to Human Resources during the teacher's first calendar year. Teachers who did work at OCPS during the 2013-14 school year and received a final evaluation rating, are ineligible for this bonus and will return to OCPS at their previous salary plus 2014-2015 increase (COLA plus performance).

- b. Out of state public school teaching experience: Instructional personnel hired from outside of the state of Florida shall receive credit for each year of full-time public-school teaching which is verified by the previous employer. Experience credit shall be reviewed and pay shall be based on what similar teachers with the same amount of experience credit are compensated.
- c. Instructional personnel hired from private schools (or school systems, including college) shall receive credit for each year of full time teaching. Teaching experience may be added to all prior public school experience credit. Experience credit shall be reviewed and pay shall be based on what similar teachers with the same amount of experience credit are compensated.
- d. Instructional personnel shall provide verification of effective performance for all years of experience to the Human Resources Department.
- e. Paid holidays shall be counted in computations which apply to credit for teaching.
- f. Half-time: Effective July 1, 2011, half-time teaching shall be counted year for year for salary credit. Half-time teaching prior to July 1, 2011 will continue to be combined so two one-half years equals one year of experience. Half-time experience shall continue to count as one-half of full-time experience for the purpose of calculating seniority.
- g. Half Year: Work less than the number of days constituting one-half year of another district's regular school year. Teachers may combine two one-half years of experience for a full year of teaching credit. One-half year of teaching shall be defined as at least 26% to 50% of the total number of days, 26% of which must be continuous duty days, in any regular school year.

- h. Teaching experience credit shall apply to equivalent school employment, such as guidance counselor, media specialist, and curriculum resource teacher. Working in the position of a four-year degreed permanent substitute in the District shall count as equivalent school employment.
- i. No salary credit shall be given for substitute teaching, graduate assistantships, private nursery school pre-k or kindergarten teaching, unless pre-k kindergarten teaching was a part of an elementary school or school district.
- j. Teachers shall receive no salary credit for teaching for any time prior to being awarded a four-year degree.

2. Work Experience

- a. All years of work related experience, excluding those years required for certification, shall be granted for salary purposes to those positions requiring work experience for certification and to school psychologists, social workers, audiologists, and speech therapists. Experience credit shall be reviewed and pay shall be based on what similar teachers with the same amount of experience credit are compensated.
- b. Upon initial employment, teachers who fill positions for which work experience may be used or is required for certification, shall be granted either work experience credit (above that used toward certification) or teaching credit, for salary purposes.
- c. Work experience may be combined for salary credit in the same manner as such combinations apply to certification based on work experience.
- d. If a teacher transfers into a position for which work experience may be used or is required for certification, the teacher may apply work experience (above that which would have been used for certification) in lieu of teaching experience for salary purposes. Such adjustment shall be retroactive to the first day of employment of the fiscal year in which the teacher applies for the adjustment.
- e. In no case shall both work experience and teaching experience, as used in conjunction with one another above, be granted for salary purposes if earned during the same calendar year.

- f. Teachers who are certifiable in the critical needs areas of mathematics, science and exceptional education may be granted, upon initial employment, work experience credit for all years of work related experience. Work experience must be directly related to the position for which the teacher is hired, and documentation must be provided by the teacher for review and approval by Employment Services.
- g. Military Experience – If honorably discharged, including a general discharge under honorable conditions, credit for pay purposes shall be granted for up to four years of active military duty in the armed forces of the United States of America. This credit will be granted upon receipt of the employee's DD 214 by Employment Services.

3. JROTC

- a. It is understood the JROTC instructor will have retired from active military duty.
- b. The following procedures shall apply to pay upon hire:
 - 1) The difference between the active duty pay and the retirement pay is the Minimum Instructor Pay (MIP). This documentation is provided by the JROTC instructor's branch of the military.
 - 2) Until documentation is provided or if that amount falls below the salary of similar teachers with four (4) years of experience, pay upon hire will be the same as similar teachers with four years of experience.
 - 3) If the MIP amount is more than the amount paid to teachers with fifteen (15) years of experience, the employee shall be paid the MIP and shall not receive district increases, until such time as the amount those with 15 years of experience are earning meets or exceeds that amount.
 - 4) Active JROTC Instructors whose salaries are frozen, therefore ineligible for performance pay increase shall receive lump sum bonuses in the same increase amounts (performance + COLA) for the respective evaluation ratings based on their individual summative evaluations. Payout of the bonus will occur after ratification of salary.

- c. Any increase on the salary schedule in subsequent years shall be in accordance with the pay increase of other bargaining unit members, which is contingent upon negotiated contractual provisions. However, eligible JROTC instructors shall only receive the higher salary increase of either the MIP or what is granted to other eligible instructional personnel, not both.
 - d. The parties recognize that should any of the above provisions be held to be contrary to law, Article II.E. shall apply.
- 4. Former employees who are re-hired after retiring under any Orange County Public Schools retirement incentive shall be placed on the salary schedule entry teacher pay.
- 5. Former employees who are re-hired shall return to their previous salary less any differential as outlined in Article XVI. B., or be placed on the new teacher entry placement schedule, whichever is greater.
- I. Salary adjustments for administrative mistakes in granting salary credit shall be retroactive. The retroactive period for back pay shall include the current year and up to a maximum of five previous years. The district will correct an error involving wages or other means of compensation up to two years from the date the error was identified per F.S. 95.11. The employee shall receive back pay, once s/he has brought the matter to the attention of the Employment Services Department, at the end of the next payroll period. If an employee has been overpaid, an adjustment shall be made at the end of the next payroll period, and arrangements shall be made whereby the employee may take a period of time, up to the end of that school year, to reimburse the Board for such an overpayment. In extreme cases, the time may be extended. Except in cases where an employee knew or should have known of the overpayment, the total amount due for an overpayment on the salary schedule shall only be retroactive to the beginning of the school year in which the over payment was discovered. It is the employee's responsibility to review his/her salary statements for accuracy.
- J. An employee shall be responsible for providing documentation of academic degrees and experience for salary, differential pay and supplement purposes to the Employment Services Department.
- K. A PSC/CC teacher's salary may be frozen if identifiable less than effective performance exists. The following procedures shall be used:
 - 1. The administrator shall notify the teacher in writing of the less than effective performance, including specific examples. Notification shall occur prior to the beginning of the second semester.

2. A conference shall be held between the administrator and the teacher within ten duty days to review the matter. A specific written plan, including reasonable timelines, shall be developed by the administrator to assist the teacher in improving performance.
 3. Within ten duty days of the development of this plan, the teacher may request an independent review of the matter by the applicable associate superintendent.
 4. Failure to demonstrate significant improvement prior to one month before the end of the teacher's work year may result in a recommendation by the administrator for retention of the teacher on the salary schedule.
 5. The Superintendent shall make a decision for retention on the salary schedule prior to the end of the teacher's work year and shall so notify the teacher in writing, with a copy to the Association
 6. The teacher shall be entitled to Association representation throughout this procedure.
 7. Such freezing of a teacher's salary shall not be used two years in a row, unless the provisions of Article XII Section C. have been initiated.
- L. For any solicitations of contributions from instructional personnel, the District shall ensure that all contributions and information about contributions shall be kept confidential.

ARTICLE XVII

FRINGE BENEFITS

A. Health Insurance

1. The Board agrees to provide, a health insurance program with various health plan options through the Orange County Public Schools Employee Benefits Trust.
 - a. Effective June 30, 2024, and implemented the beginning of Plan Year 2024-25, for employees hired prior to July 1, 2024, the premium will be shared as follows between Board and employees for Employee Only coverage: Plan A - 95% (Board)/5%(Employee); Plans B and C - 90% (Board)/ 10% (Employee) and Plan D – 100% (Board)/0% (Employee). Fifty percent of the cost will be paid by the Board for half-time employees who elect Employee Only coverage. Annual individual premium cost increases exceeding 10%over the prior year will be equally shared by the District and employees. Such shared costs may be accomplished by either employee premium cost sharing or plan revisions, or both.

- b. For the plan year 2024-25, the District will provide CTA bargaining unit employees a premium discount equal to \$4.4 million. This premium discount shall be split among all CTA bargaining unit employees employed with the District and covered by one of the District's plans prior to July 1, 2024. The parties shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement implementing the premium discount.
 - c. For employees hired on or after June 30, 2024, the premium will be shared as follows between Board and employees for Employee Only Coverage: Plan A, B and C – 85% (Board)/15% (Employee) and Plan D – 100% (Board)/0% (Employee). Fifty percent of the cost will be paid by the Board for half-time employees who elect Employee Only coverage.
 - d. Effective June 30, 2024, employees who separate service for more than sixty (60) calendar days and return after that timeframe will only be eligible for the plans provided to new hires as outlined in Article XVII.A.1.c. above.
- 2. The program shall include hospitalization, emergency services, general medical services, and prescription drugs, and may differentiate between in-network and out-of-network coverage as specified in the Plan Document and Appendix D. Appendix D shall hereby be incorporated into and made a part of this Contract.
 - a. The program shall include a plan with a contracted provider network, (an HMO and/or PPO type).
 - b. Mental health and chemical dependency benefits may be offered through a contracted provider network, subject to provisions spelled out in the Plan Document.
 - c. In situations of severe personal injury or life-threatening illness, a case management review may be required after a review by a medical panel as set forth in Appendix C Section G.
 - d. Compliance with pre-certification and utilization review programs shall be required.
- 3. Employees shall be responsible for payment of all specified deductibles, coinsurance, copayments and premium costs as specified in the Plan Document.
- 4. The effective date of health plan insurance for a newly hired employee shall be the first day of the month following 59 days from the date of hire.
- 5. Health plan insurance coverage shall terminate at the end of the month in which employment terminated or during any unpaid leave of absence when premium payments have not been made, except that coverage shall continue through August 31 if a ten-month employee resigns or retires at the end of the previous school year.

6. An employee may apply the Board's contribution toward employee only, employee + child(ren), employee + spouse/domestic partner or employee + family coverage of health insurance available through twice monthly payroll deduction.
7. If an employee and his/her spouse/domestic partner are both employees of the Board, the Board agrees to combine their health insurance contributions and apply the same toward family coverage.
8. The Board shall provide health insurance at the same contributions to employees who are on leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, to the extent required by law.
9. Comparable health insurance plans shall be made available, subject to normal limits imposed on such benefit plans, to employees upon retirement. The cost of the premium shall be borne by the retiree.
10. The Fringe Benefit Committee shall review and advise on questions used in the bi-annual insurance survey.

B. Alternatives to Health Insurance

1. The Board agrees to provide, at no cost to employees, an alternative to health insurance, as set forth in Appendix C, Section J.
2. Eligibility for an alternative shall require that the employee has group health insurance from another source.
3. An employee may re-enroll in the health insurance program during annual enrollment or within 30 days of a qualifying event as defined by IRS Section 125.

C. Life Insurance

1. The Board agrees to provide, at no cost to the employee, a term life insurance policy with accidental death and dismemberment coverage, equal to the employee's annual base salary.
2. In the event a beneficiary has not been designated by the employee, the Board shall pay the benefits under the policy equally to members of the first of the following surviving classes: spouse/domestic partner, children, parents, siblings, and executor or administrator.

- D. The Board agrees to provide employees with the use of payroll deduction for obtaining disability insurance, flexible spending accounts, universal life insurance, and additional term life insurance and any other insurance products mutually agreed to by the parties; however, the total cost of the premiums shall be borne by the employee.
1. Universal life insurance coverage shall be available for the employee and/or spouse/domestic partner from a minimum amount of \$10,000 up to the maximum provided in the policy document in \$10,000 increments to the maximum of the policy.
 2. Additional term life insurance coverage shall be available up to a maximum of \$10,000 for the teacher's spouse/domestic partner and up to a maximum of \$5,000 for each child depending upon the teacher's annual salary.
- E. The Board shall provide for the purchase of additional benefits through the provisions of IRS Section 125. If significant changes are made in these plans offered by the District, employees shall be given an opportunity to change enrollment in benefit programs in accordance with Federal regulations. Programs offered may include, but shall not be limited to, dependent medical, life, dental, and vision insurance plans and flexible spending accounts.
- F. The Board shall provide free payroll deductions for up to two tax-sheltered investments, the Addition Financial Credit Union accounts, the U.S. Savings Bond program and the IRS Section 125 program. At the time of deduction, funds shall be transmitted to the appropriate agency, unless otherwise prohibited.
- G. Terminal Pay
1. Per F.S.1012.61(2) 4, upon retirement an employee shall receive terminal pay equal to his/her daily rate of pay multiplied by the number of days of accumulated sick leave, according to the following formula:

| Years of Service in the District | Percentage Factor |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 0-3 | 35 |
| 3.01-6 | 40 |
| 6.01-9 | 45 |
| 9.01-12 | 50 |
| 12.01 – over | 100 |

- a. Effective July 1, 2008, employees may use cumulative years of service for calculation of terminal pay if, when rehired by the district they remain employed immediately preceding retirement, for at least five years.

b. Consecutive years of service will be used for calculation of terminal pay in all other situations.

2. An employee will (a) notify the appropriate District department in writing on or before April 1 of the fiscal year in which s/he is retiring and (b) work at least 45 duty days during that fiscal year. The Superintendent may waive the above requirements in unusual circumstances.

The Superintendent may waive the above timelines in mitigating circumstances.

3. An employee who retires under the disability provisions of the Florida Retirement System or Teacher Retirement System shall be eligible for terminal pay as specified in this Contract.
4. The Board agrees to provide terminal pay to the employee's designated beneficiary, or to the estate of the employee if no beneficiary has been designated, if active service is terminated by death. Active service shall include an employee on Board-approved leave.
5. Terminal pay shall be made available within 30 duty days of the date of retirement, or on a mutually agreed upon date.
6. An employee who is laid off shall be compensated for his/her accumulated sick leave according to the formula in Section 1. Above, if requested by the employee.

H. A twelve-month employee who leaves his/her employment for any reason shall be paid for all of the annual leave accrued through his/her last workday. Payment shall be made within 30 duty days.

I. Employees shall be covered by Workers' Compensation as provided by law.

J. Employees shall be eligible for participation in the Orange County Public Schools Employees Sick Leave Bank, which rules and procedures are set forth in Appendix D.

K. Expenses

1. An employee assigned to more than one work-site shall have one work-site assigned as his/her base school, and shall be reimbursed for all mileage excluding the round trip mileage from his/her home to his/her base school.

2. An employee who is authorized and required to use his/her automobile in the performance of his/her assigned duties shall be reimbursed at the maximum rate permitted by Florida law. Said employee shall also be reimbursed for tolls paid upon submission of receipts for same.
- L. Free off-street parking facilities shall be provided for employee use at each school. Employee and student parking at high schools shall be separate.
- M. All employees with proof of employment along with picture identification or an O.C.P.S. picture identification may attend all school activities in which pupils participate, free of charge, unless otherwise prohibited by a regulatory agency.
- N. The parties support an ongoing program of employee assistance, recognizing that chemical dependency, mental and/or health problems and other problems of a personal nature may contribute to misconduct and/or a decline in job performance. As such the parties will continue cooperative efforts in providing an Employee Assistance Program. The Board shall continue to provide basic funds for the continuing operation of the program.
- O. The Board agrees to make a reasonable effort to maintain the Institute for Professional Development to serve as a confidential resource for teachers.
- P. The parties agree to participate in a mandatory plan for all employees to shelter a portion of their sick leave pay out at retirement.

ARTICLE XVIII

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

- A. General Provisions
 1. Applications for leave, except short-term sick leave with or without pay, shall be submitted to the administrator on a request for leave of absence form.
 2. When an employee finds it necessary to be absent, s/he shall notify the administrator or designee with as much advance notice as possible, preferably the night before but no later than an hour before the time s/he is scheduled to be on duty, except in cases of emergency, so arrangements can be made to secure a substitute if necessary.
 3. Leaves of absence shall be reported in increments of full or half days.
 4. An employee shall not be responsible for finding a substitute in the event of his/her absence.

5. During leaves of six (6) or more duty days, an employee shall not be required to keep records, prepare lessons, or perform any of the duties required while in attendance.
6. An employee on long-term leave shall be considered as if s/he were part of the staff of the school from which s/he took leave. In special circumstances such as cases of extended worker's compensation or relief of duty, this provision may be waived.
7. If at any time the reasons given for requesting leave have changed, the employee shall promptly notify the administrator and shall either be directed to return to duty or continue on leave.
8. Upon return from leave, the employee shall complete a certificate of absence.
9. Any leave days credited to an employee at the time of an approved leave of absence, which are not taken during that leave of absence, shall be credited to the employee upon return to active duty.
10. All long-term leaves of absence, unless specifically stipulated otherwise, shall terminate on June 30 of the fiscal year for which the leave was granted.
11. An employee granted a long-term leave of absence may be employed while on leave upon approval by the Superintendent.
12. For reasons relating to illness of an employee or the employee's spouse, parent, son, or daughter; adoption, or newborn child-care, the employee may take a leave of absence for a period up to 12 weeks under the provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.
13. Up to one (1) year of long-term medical leave with or without pay, shall be granted to employees for personal illness, or illness or death of a member of the employee's family as defined in Florida Statutes. Any leave taken under the Family and Medical Leave Act referenced above shall count as part of the total leave taken.
14. Should an employee on long-term medical leave return to duty for a period of less than one (1) teaching month and then require additional leave for medical reasons, such additional leave shall be considered as one period of leave if within one (1) school year.
15. Long-term personal leave of up to one year without pay may be granted, subject to the approval of the Superintendent. Applications for such leave shall include an explanation for the request.

16. Extension of Long-Term Leaves

- a. An extension of up to one year may be granted for long-term medical and personal leave.
- b. An employee who desires an extension of long-term medical leave must request same as soon as possible, but in no event later than one week prior to expiration of the leave.
- c. An employee who desires an extension of long-term personal leave for the following school year must request same in writing by March 15. If the leave was granted after March 15, any request for extension shall be made as soon as possible.

17. Return from Long-Term Leave

- a. An employee who plans to return to duty at the expiration of a long-term leave shall notify the administrator in writing by March 15 of the school year for which the leave was granted. In the event the leave was granted after March 15, the employee's intent to return to duty at the expiration of the leave shall be deemed given upon requesting the leave. On or before February 15, the Board shall notify each employee on leave of this provision. The employee shall respond, indicating his/her intent to return, requesting an extension, or resigning from his/her position. Except for extenuating circumstances, an employee who fails to respond shall be considered to have resigned with an effective date of his/her last duty day of the fiscal year.
- b. An employee, upon expiration of his/her leave of absence, may return to duty without prejudice and shall be credited with all previous experience earned prior to the leave.
- c. An employee desiring to return from medical leave prior to the leave expiring shall be allowed to return to duty only when a vacancy exists for which s/he is certified and/or qualified.
- d. An employee desiring to return from personal leave prior to the leave expiring may be allowed to return to duty if a vacancy exists for which s/he is certified and/or qualified.
- e. Failure or refusal of an employee returning from long-term leave to accept a written offer of assignment made to his/her last known mailing address shall remove any obligations of the Board to provide further employment.

- f. For employees returning or who have recently returned from medical leave, a doctor's statement may be required.

B. Sick Leave

1. An employee shall be credited with four days of sick leave with pay on the first day of employment of each fiscal year, as provided by law.
2. An employee shall earn one day of sick leave with pay at the end of each month of employment, credited at the end of that month, which shall not be used prior to the time it is earned and credited to the employee; provided that the employee shall earn no more than one day of sick leave times the number of months of employment during the fiscal year.
3. An employee may transfer unused sick leave days from another Florida school district, from another job within the District, and from other State agencies as provided by law. It shall be the employee's responsibility to assist in securing the requested transfer of sick leave credit from his/her previous employer. One day of sick leave may be transferred for each day accruing with the District.
4. There shall be no limit to the number of sick leave days which an employee may accrue.
5. Sick leave may be used for personal illness of the employee, including a temporary disability due to pregnancy, or for death or personal illness of a member of his/her immediate family, and as provided by the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.
6. The employee may use accumulated sick leave for the purpose of bereavement leave.
7. An employee may use accrued sick leave for the purpose of taking physical examinations.
8. An employee who has exhausted his/her accumulated sick leave shall be granted sick leave without pay for the reasons stated in B.5. above, not to exceed 20 duty days.
9. Employees who work in the summer school program shall earn sick leave as follows:

| PST (Paid Service Time) Hours Worked During Summer | Earned Sick Leave Hours |
|---|-------------------------|
| 0.00 – 36.75 | 0.00 |
| 36.76 – 110.25 | 3.75 |
| 110.26 – 183.75 | 7.50 |
| 183.76 – 257.25 | 11.25 |
| 257.26 – 333.75 | 15.00 |

10. Sick Leave Donation

- i. Any district employee may authorize his or her spouse, child, parent, or sibling who is also a district employee to use sick leave that has accrued to the authorizing employee.
- ii. Any district employee may authorize any district employee to use sick leave that has accrued to the authorizing employee as follows:
 - 1. The recipient must provide documentation, by the treating physician, of the illness, accident, or injury for which leave is otherwise authorized.
 - 2. The recipient must have at least a **four (4) day** balance of accrued sick days in order to receive donated sick leave.
 - 3. Any unused transferred sick leave shall be returned to the authorizing employee whose donated sick leave has not yet been used.
 - 4. The employee who authorizes the donation must retain at least a ten-day balance in his or her own sick leave account.
- iii. The recipient of donated sick leave may not use the donated sick leave until all of his or her sick leave has been depleted, excluding sick leave from the Sick Leave Bank.
- iv. Donated sick leave shall have no terminal value.

C. Illness/Injury In-Line-of-Duty Leave

- 1. Illness/injury in-line-of-duty leave with pay may be taken when an employee is absent from duty because of:
 - a. A personal injury in the discharge of duty.
 - b. An illness contracted as a direct result of his/her employment, if it can be proven that the illness was not contracted from another source.

2. Leave for such illness(es) and/or injury(ies) shall be for a period of time not to exceed ten duty days during the school year, as provided by Florida Statutes.
3. An employee may request additional leave under Florida Statutes, and if it is not granted, the employee may elect to take accrued sick leave and/or to be paid under Workers' Compensation. If s/he chooses the latter, s/he may be paid the balance of his/her daily rate of pay not provided by Workers' Compensation by using his/her accumulated sick leave on a prorated basis.
4. If an employee is injured in the line of duty as a result of a physical assault and/or battery, he/she may be eligible for line-of-duty leave, including an extension as set forth above.

D. Personal Leave

1. Up to six (6) days per year, non-cumulative and chargeable to accrued sick leave, may be granted to employees for personal leave, subject to the following:
 - a. Personal leave is to be used for matters which cannot be scheduled outside of regular working hours.
 - b. Employees shall not be required to divulge the reasons for requesting personal leave with pay.
 - c. Except in cases of emergency, or in extenuating circumstances, personal leave is to be requested at least one week in advance.
 - d. Requests for personal leave shall not be unreasonably denied.
 - e. Personal leave may not be taken one (1) duty day before and/or after a scheduled holiday or the first and/or last five (5) days of the school year for students. This shall not be applicable in cases of emergency, to attend the graduation of a spouse, child, parent, or oneself or to work in a voting precinct or the observance of a religious holiday.
 - f. Any denial of requests for personal leave which will result in more than 7% or three (3) teachers, whichever is greater, of a school's staff being absent on a given day, shall not be construed as unreasonable denial.
 - g. In emergency situations, an administrator may grant personal leave for a brief period of time pending the submission of a request for leave form. During the period of time the leave is granted verbally by the administrator, the employee shall not be considered absent without leave.

- h. Except for emergencies, personal leave may not be used during periods of extended employment outside of the employee's regular work year.
- 2. When an employee has exhausted all sick/personal leave with pay, s/he may be granted short-term personal leave without pay for emergencies or in extenuating circumstances and the restrictions set forth in 1.e. above shall apply.

E. Professional Leaves

1. Exchange Teaching

An employee on continuing or professional service contract may be granted a leave of absence for one year for the purpose of exchange teaching. Exchange teaching shall be limited to accredited public school systems, colleges and universities or similar institutions. The cooperating school system, college or university must furnish an employee to take the place of the employee released by the Board. The released employee shall draw full salary plus the value of any supplements performed by the cooperating employee. Application for exchange teaching for the next school year must be made by April 15.

2. Detached Service

The Board may grant detached service leave for a period of one year for an employee to work in an educational institution, with an official government agency or in such programs as the Peace Corps and the Overseas Exchange Teacher Program. The employee may request an extension of the original leave for up to one additional school year. Before an employee is granted detached service leave, s/he must present evidence of an offer of employment from one of the accepting agencies. Application for detached service leave for the next school year must be made by April 15.

3. Temporary Duty

- a. Temporary duty leave may be granted by the Superintendent if it is for the benefit of the school or school system, or the professional growth of the employee.
- b. Temporary duty leave may be initiated by the employee or the Board. If initiated by the Board, the Board shall bear all expenses as provided by Florida Statutes.
- c. If initiated by the employee, expenses may be borne by the employee or shared with the Board, if mutually agreed upon prior to the taking of the leave.

- d. Temporary duty leave shall be with full pay for the affected regular duty days of the employee or for any other day if the leave is initiated by the Board and agreed to by the employee.
- e. Temporary duty may be granted for recognized state/national professional subject area organization meetings.

4. Temporary Professional

- a. An employee may be granted professional leave with pay for up to ten (10) duty days, to attend classes (which may include travel time) for earning the required hours for renewal or extension of his/her certificate or license, or for certification in a new teaching area during a five (5) year period. The leave must be requested at least ten duty days prior to the effective date of the leave.
- b. An employee may be granted professional leave without pay for working toward advanced degrees, not to exceed ten duty days at the beginning or at the close of the school year in order to attend summer school classes, except that this leave may not be taken when assigned students. The leave may include consideration of reasonable travel time.
- c. Evidence of acceptance in an institution of higher learning must be attached to any request for professional leave to attend a college or university program.

F. Civic Leaves

1. Jury Duty Leave

- a. An employee duly subpoenaed to serve on jury duty shall receive his/her full salary and may retain any expense allowance, including transportation reimbursement, provided while serving on jury duty.
- b. Such leave shall not be charged against accrued sick or personal leave.

2. Court Leave

- a. Court leave with pay shall be granted to employees, duly subpoenaed or summoned, for the time necessary to make appearances in court proceedings, subject to Subsection c. below. The Superintendent may deny requests for court leave which extend beyond five days, in non-work related cases. If court leave with pay is denied, personal leave with or without pay shall be granted.
- b. Such leave shall not be charged against accrued sick or personal leave.

- c. An employee shall not be granted court leave in cases where the employee is a litigant against the School Board in a court of law or a state or federal agency proceeding.

3. Political Leave

- a. Leave of absence without pay for up to twelve (12) weeks shall be granted to an employee for the purpose of campaigning for a public office for which s/he has officially qualified.
- b. Leave of absence without pay may be granted for any employee elected to public office.
- c. Short-term leave of absence with pay shall be granted for elected public officials to conduct official business for up to five (5) days per year. Additional days may be granted by the Superintendent.

G. Annual Leave

- 1. A 12-month employee shall be granted paid annual leave as provided herein.
- 2. Annual leave shall be credited at the close of each month. Any credited leave beyond thirty (30) days will be removed at the end of each calendar year (December 31). Each employee shall be encouraged to use leave on an annual basis.
- 3. The number of years of continuous experience in Orange County shall determine the allocation of annual leave, which shall be as follows:

| Years of Service | Annual Leave Days |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 0-4 | 13 |
| 5-9 | 16 |
| 10 or more | 19 |

- 4. For purposes of computing the number of years of experience in order to determine the number of days of annual leave to which an employee is entitled, a year of experience is earned when an employee is employed for one or more days beyond six (6) months within a fiscal year.
- 5. One (1) or more days of annual leave may be used at any time during the year subject to the approval of the administrator in advance. Annual leave must be scheduled at a time when it will cause a minimum of interruption to the efficiency of the school.

6. A teacher shall be paid at his/her current daily rate of pay for accrued annual leave if s/he is returned to less than 12-month status.
7. If Annual Leave is requested and not granted during that fiscal year, an employee shall be paid at the end of that fiscal year for the number of days requested, and his/her annual leave balance shall be adjusted accordingly.
8. No employee shall be granted fewer annual leave days than s/he received prior to ratification of this Contract.
9. An employee who leaves his/her employment for any reason shall receive payment for all of the annual leave accrued through his/her last duty day up to a maximum of thirty (30) days unless prohibited by law.
10. If an employee elects to enter the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP), s/he may receive annual leave pay-out subject to the provisions of DROP.

H. Military Leave

1. Short-Term

- a. An employee who is a member of the National Guard, or who is a commissioned reserve officer or reserve enlisted personnel in the United States military service, shall be granted a leave of absence from his/her respective duties, without loss of pay, time or efficiency rating, for all days s/he is engaged in active duty or training ordered under the provisions of the United States military. Such leaves of absence shall not exceed 17 days in any one annual period.
- b. Military leave shall not affect an employee's annual leave time for those positions earning annual leave.
- c. The employee shall attach a copy of his/her orders to his/her request for leave.
- d. The employee should endeavor to have his/her periods of training scheduled during his/her summer vacation. In cases where the employee requests military leave, the employee shall furnish a letter from his/her commanding officer indicating the necessity of taking leave at that time.

2. Long-Term

- a. Extended military leave shall be granted to an employee who is required to serve military obligations in the Armed Forces of the United States.

- b. Employees called to active duty shall receive full pay for the first 30 days.
- c. Employees may elect to use annual leave if applicable after the initial 30 days.
- d. An employee granted long-term military leave shall be re-employed provided that:
 - 1. The tour of duty is completed.
 - 2. The application for reemployment is filed within six months following the date of discharge or release from active military duty.
 - 3. Original eligibility for employment has been maintained.
 - 4. Reassignment within a reasonable time, not to exceed six months, is afforded the School Board, except as provided by law.
- e. Military leave shall not be granted to an employee who volunteers to serve when such service is not required.

I. Bereavement Leave

- 1. When a death occurs in the immediate family of an employee, the employee shall be granted leave without loss of pay for three (3) duty days to travel to and from the funeral location and attendance at the funeral. An employee shall be granted up to two (2) additional duty days to attend out-of-state funerals, provide they must use accrued leave or without pay if the employee does not have any accrued leave for the additional bereavement leave. Bereavement Leave with Pay shall be used within six (6) months of the date of death. Bereavement Leave shall not carry over from year to year.
- 2. Immediate family is defined as spouse, same sex domestic partner, child (natural, adopted or step), mother, father, brother, sister, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent or grandchild.

Additional time may be granted at the discretion of the Administrator. This additional leave will come from the employee's accrued leave or without pay if the employee does not have accrued time.

- 3. Upon request, the employee must provide to his/her supervisor a copy of the obituary, funeral program or other document showing the name of the deceased, date of death, city of death and the deceased's relationship to the employee upon return from the leave. Failure to provide the requested information may result in the employee being charged accrued leave or without pay if the employee does not have any accrued leave.

4. The changes to this section shall be applied retroactively to the beginning of the bargaining unit employee's 2024-25 contract year.
- J. In the event the Board seeks to resume the practice of granting sabbatical leave, the District and the Association shall immediately meet to negotiate the provisions governing this sabbatical leave.
- K. The District and the Union will continue to review and implement improvements in the Employee Self Service System (ESS).

ARTICLE XIX

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- A. The Faculty Advisory Committee shall have a membership of not less than five or more than eleven employees elected by the employees at each school. Education Support Professionals may be included on the committee by a vote of the faculty. The Faculty Advisory Committee shall be elected by secret ballot election, conducted by the site Association representative within the first six weeks of the school year. In the absence of a site Association representative, CTA shall assist in selecting a teacher on that school's staff to conduct the election. A list of the members of the Faculty Advisory Committee of each school shall be sent to the Association and the administrator. The administrator shall meet with the Faculty Advisory Committee within three weeks of a request.
- B. The Faculty Advisory Committee may meet during the regular duty day at such times as committee members have no student contact. The Faculty Advisory Committee may choose to meet with other employees and/or with the administrator, during the regular duty day provided the employees have no assigned instructional responsibility and that such meetings shall not conflict with previously scheduled meetings.
- C. In addition to duties outlined in Article XIV, the Faculty Advisory Committee may meet to discuss and make recommendations concerning the following:
 1. A rotation plan composed of available staff to substitute in case of emergency.
 2. The purchase and distribution of instructional equipment, materials and supplies.
 3. Student discipline plans, which may include guidelines for referral of students into alternative education settings.
 4. The disposition of discipline referrals in a timely manner.

- 5. Additional safeguards to deal with acts of violence, including those involving weapons, and procedures for notification of teachers when their students have been found to have carried a weapon on campus.
- 6. Other concerns of the faculty which may result in a smoother operation of the school.
- D. Any school-wide drives or collection of money which involve teachers shall not be approved until such have been discussed with the Faculty Advisory Committee.
- E. The Faculty Advisory Committee shall be responsible for establishing a process to elect teacher representatives to the School Advisory Committee.
- F. Participation on the FAC shall not serve as a basis for the evaluation of any teacher.

ARTICLE XX

SITE-BASED DECISION-MAKING

- A. The District shall provide the training and staff development to support accountability/site-based decision-making activities. Teachers shall be given release time to attend these programs.
- B. Participation on the SAC shall not serve as a basis for the evaluation of any teacher.
- C. A minimum of three (3) to a maximum of five (5) teachers from each school shall serve on their school's budget advisory committee formed for the purpose of making recommendations on the school's general fund budget. Teacher members shall be elected by the faculty. Minutes from such meetings may be requested by the faculty and may be posted on the CTA bulletin board at the school by the Association Representative.

ARTICLE XXI

MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

The Board, on its own behalf and on behalf of the District, hereby retains and reserves unto itself all powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it by the laws and the Constitution of the State of Florida and the United States except as modified by the specific terms and provisions of this Contract.

ARTICLE XXII

NO STRIKE CLAUSE

The Association agrees to comply with statutory provisions prohibiting strikes by public employees. In the event of any such violation during the term of the Contract the Association shall endeavor to return the employees to work as quickly as possible by:

- A. Delivering immediately to the Board a copy of a notice addressed to all employees repudiating such acts of the employees and ordering them to cease such acts and to return to work.
- B. Taking such other action which it deems reasonable and appropriate to bring about compliance with the terms of this Contract.

ARTICLE XXIII

LABOR MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

- A. Labor Management Partnership Committee ("LMP"). The parties have a shared interest in the delivery of quality education and the support of students and educators. To that end, the parties will establish a Labor Management Partnership Committee to identify and understand workplace issues and develop viable solutions. The parties intend to foster an ongoing communicative relationship in which the parties are encouraged to speak freely and resolve issues of concern for students and teachers.
 - 1. The Committee will consist of 2 members designated by the Union and 2 members designated by the District and will be co-chaired by the OCCTA President and the OCPS Senior Executive Director of Human Resources.
 - 2. Each party will be allowed to bring content area experts.
 - 3. Agenda items for the Committee will be exchanged by the parties at least five (5) days before each meeting. Additional items might be added the day of the meeting by mutual agreement.
 - 4. The Committee will meet at such times as mutually agreed but not less than once a month.
 - 5. The Committee has the authority to form work groups. All contractual subcommittees and specifically formed work groups shall report to the Labor Management Partnership Committee.

ARTICLE XXIV
DURATION

The provisions of this Contract shall be effective from the date of ratification by both parties and shall continue and remain in full force and effect, except as modified in accordance with the provisions of this Contract, through and including June 30, 2027.

The parties shall begin initial discussion for a successor agreement by no later than March 1, 2027.

**Signature Page for the 2025-26 Contract Between
The School Board of Orange County, Florida and
The Orange County Classroom Teachers Association**

School Board of Orange County, Florida

**Teresa Jacobs
Chair**

**Maria F. Vazquez
Superintendent**

Jeffrey E. Mandel, Chief Negotiator

**LeighAnn Blackmore
Director, Labor Relations**

**James Preusser
Senior Executive Director, Human Resources**

Orange County Classroom Teachers Association

Clinton McCracken, President

**Maribel Rigsby
OCCTA Bargaining Specialist**

APPENDIX A

Salary Structure for Performance Pay

| <u>Open Range Schedule</u> | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| <u>Minimum</u> | <u>Maximum</u> |
| \$50,000 | \$117,000 |

- Non Degreed Registered Nurses: 3 years of work experience shall serve in lieu of a Bachelor's Degree.
- Adjuncts/Technical Adult: Placement at Level A and based on degree or its equivalent. The degree or its vocational equivalent is as defined in Article VIII, Section L.
- New hires shall be placed on the schedule at the same level as teachers with comparable years of instructional experience.

Salary Structure for Performance Pay for School Psychologists

| <u>Open Range Schedule</u> | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| <u>Minimum</u> | <u>Maximum</u> |
| \$58,410 | \$118,000 |

APPENDIX A-1

MERIT AWARDS

The Merit Awards plan will include:

- A. The total amount for Merit Awards shall be \$100,000.00.
- B. Teacher of the Year
 - 1. The amount of \$75,000 will be divided equally among teachers of the year at each work site and candidates for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Teachers of the Year finalists will not be eligible for both awards. Final determination of the amount of the award will be made after the annual deadline of June 15.
 - 2. Each of the five finalists for Orange County Teacher of the Year shall receive a \$5,000.00 one-time merit award. This award will be presented at the annual Teacher of the Year Awards Ceremony.
- C. National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
 - 1. Any teacher showing documentation of submission of a completed portfolio by June 15 of the current school year to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards shall receive a one-time merit award equal to B.1. above.
 - 2. Documentation of submission of the portfolio shall be a copy of the Portfolio Receipt Acknowledgment from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. This copy should be sent to the designated district office.
- D. Bonuses

Federal state and local bonus money will be distributed in a timely manner and in a lump sum unless otherwise specified.

APPENDIX A-2 SUPPLEMENT SCHEDULE

Laned High School Athletic Supplement Rates

| (Non-Endorsed) | | | | | (Endorsed) | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|--|------|------|------|------|
| | 0-3 | 4-6 | 7-14 | 15+ | | 0-3 | 4-6 | 7-14 | 15+ |
| Athletic Management | | | | | Athletic Trainer, Certified | 6451 | 7224 | 7999 | 9031 |
| Athletic Trainer, Certified | 5160 | 5779 | 6399 | 7224 | Athletic Director CAA | 5408 | 6056 | 6705 | 7571 |
| Athletic Director | 3035 | 3400 | 3765 | 4250 | Athletic Director | 3795 | 4250 | 4705 | 5313 |
| Asst. Athletic Director | 1518 | 1700 | 1882 | 2125 | Asst. Athletic Director | 1897 | 2125 | 2353 | 2656 |
| Athletic Business Mgr. | 2024 | 2267 | 2509 | 2834 | Athletic Business Mgr. | 2530 | 2834 | 3136 | 3541 |
| Group II | | | | | Group II | | | | |
| Football | 3162 | 3541 | 3953 | 4427 | Football | 3795 | 4250 | 4743 | 5313 |
| Football Asst. | 2108 | 2362 | 2635 | 2952 | Football Asst. | 2530 | 2834 | 3162 | 3541 |
| Group III | | | | | Group III | | | | |
| Basketball | 2530 | 2834 | 3162 | 3541 | Basketball | 3035 | 3400 | 3795 | 4250 |
| Basketball Asst. | 1686 | 1889 | 2108 | 2361 | Basketball Asst. | 2024 | 2267 | 2530 | 2834 |
| Group IV | | | | | Group IV | | | | |
| Baseball, Softball, Soccer, Swimming, Track, Wrestling, | 2261 | 2482 | 2748 | 3102 | Baseball, Softball, Soccer, Swimming, Track, Wrestling | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Baseball Asst., Softball Asst. Soccer Asst., Swimming Asst., Track Asst., Wrestling Asst. | 1477 | 1654 | 1832 | 2068 | Baseball Asst., Softball Asst. Soccer Asst., Swimming Asst., Track Asst., Wrestling Asst. | 1847 | 2068 | 2290 | 2585 |
| Group V | | | | | Group V | | | | |
| Spirit Cheerleading, Volleyball | 1834 | 2055 | 2293 | 2568 | Spirit Cheerleading, Volleyball | 2201 | 2465 | 2751 | 3082 |
| Competitive Cheer | 918 | 1028 | 1146 | 1284 | Competitive Cheer | 1101 | 1233 | 1376 | 1541 |
| Spirit Cheerleading Asst., Volleyball Asst. | 1223 | 1370 | 1529 | 1712 | Spirit Cheerleading Asst., Volleyball Asst. | 1468 | 1644 | 1834 | 2055 |
| Competitive Cheer Asst. | 612 | 685 | 764 | 856 | Competitive Cheer Asst. | 734 | 822 | 918 | 1028 |
| Group VI | | | | | Group VI | | | | |
| Flag Football, Lacrosse | 1760 | 1972 | 2184 | 2465 | Flag Football, Lacrosse | 2201 | 2465 | 2730 | 3081 |
| Flag Football Asst., Lacrosse Asst. | 1054 | 1180 | 1317 | 1476 | Flag Football Asst., Lacrosse Asst. | 1265 | 1416 | 1581 | 1771 |
| Group VII | | | | | Group VII | | | | |
| Beach Volleyball, Crew, Rhythmic Gym, Water Polo | 1457 | 1632 | 1807 | 2040 | Beach Volleyball, Crew, Rhythmic Gym, Water Polo | 1821 | 2040 | 2259 | 2550 |
| Beach Volleyball Asst., Crew Asst., Rhythmic Gym Asst., Water Polo Asst. | 971 | 1088 | 1204 | 1360 | Beach Volleyball Asst., Crew Asst., Rhythmic Gym Asst., Water Polo Asst. | 1214 | 1360 | 1506 | 1700 |
| Group VIII | | | | | Group VIII | | | | |
| Cross Country, Tennis, Golf, Weightlifting | 1170 | 1310 | 1463 | 1638 | Cross Country, Tennis, Golf, Weightlifting | 1404 | 1573 | 1755 | 1965 |
| Cross Country Asst., Tennis Asst., Golf Asst., Wtlifting Asst. | 780 | 873 | 975 | 1092 | Cross Country Asst., Tennis Asst., Golf Asst., Wtlifting Asst. | 936 | 1049 | 1170 | 1311 |
| Group IX | | | | | Group IX | | | | |
| Special Olympics, Sports | 1760 | 1972 | 2184 | 2465 | Special Olympics, Sports | 2201 | 2465 | 2730 | 3081 |
| Group X | | | | | Group X | | | | |
| Bowling | 941 | 1054 | 1246 | 1522 | Bowling | 1176 | 1317 | 1496 | 1827 |
| Bowling Asst. | 627 | 702 | 830 | 1015 | Bowling Asst. | 784 | 897 | 997 | 1217 |

* Color Guard/Winter Guard Sponsor: Until such time as the parties have the resources to fund new supplements, the color/winter guard sponsor may be paid up to 3 Extra Curricular Activities. The Parties have established that the color/winter guard sponsor shall be paid at the rhythmic gymnastics level, once we have the funds.

Laned High School Fine Arts Supplements

| | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Band Director | 3795 | 4250 | 4743 | 5313 |
| Band Director Assistant | 2530 | 2834 | 3162 | 3541 |
| Choral Director | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Choral Director Assistant | 1847 | 2068 | 2290 | 2585 |
| Orchestra Director | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |

Laned High School Co-Curricular Supplements

| | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Digital Media/Newspaper | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| JROTC | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Student Council | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Student Council Assistant | 1847 | 2068 | 2290 | 2585 |
| Yearbook | 3795 | 4250 | 4705 | 5313 |

Laned High School Extracurricular Supplements

| | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Drama/Thespian | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Drama/Thespian Assistant | 1847 | 2068 | 2290 | 2585 |
| Forensics | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Jr. Class Sponsor | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Senior Class Sponsor | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |

Other High School Supplements

| Type | Supplement |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Agribusiness (4) | 1401 |
| Agribusiness Extended | 315 |
| Club Sponsor (2) | 453 |
| Department Chair/Team Leader | 74/person |
| Extracurricular Activities Sponsor | 453 |
| FFA | 700 |
| Freshman/Sophomore Class Sponsor | 453 |
| Lead Mentor | 793 |
| Magnet Program Coordinator | 1530 |
| New Instructional Personnel Induction Mentor | 227/beginning instructional personnel |
| Professional Development Certification Program (PDCP) Mentor | 453 |
| Quiz Bowl | 1360 |
| Special Duty | 782 |
| Sports Abilities Team | 453 |
| Visual and/or Performing Arts Sponsor | 906 |
| Wellness Representative | 782 |

Laned Middle School Athletics Supplement Rates

| Non-Endorsed | | | | | Endorsed | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years | | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years |
| MS Athletic Director | 2034 | 2278 | 2582 | 2847 | MS Athletic Director | 2542 | 2847 | 3153 | 3560 |
| Head Coach, Sports | 1085 | 1214 | 1355 | 1518 | Head Coach, Sports | 1301 | 1457 | 1626 | 1821 |
| Asst. Coach, Sports | 723 | 810 | 903 | 1012 | Asst. Coach, Sports | 867 | 971 | 1085 | 1214 |
| Special Olympics | 1760 | 1972 | 2184 | 2465 | Special Olympics | 2201 | 2465 | 2730 | 3081 |

Laned Middle School Arts/Music Supplements

| | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Associate Band Director | 1847 | 2068 | 2290 | 2585 |
| Associate Choral Director | 911 | 1020 | 1138 | 1275 |
| Band Director | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Choral Director | 1366 | 1530 | 1708 | 1913 |
| Orchestra Director | 1366 | 1530 | 1708 | 1913 |
| Performing Arts Director | 1366 | 1530 | 1708 | 1913 |

Middle School Extracurricular Supplements

| Type | Supplement |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Club Sponsor | 510 |
| Sports Abilities | 510 |

Other Middle School Supplements

| Type | Supplement |
|--|--|
| Agribusiness | 1401 |
| Agribusiness Extended | 315 |
| Department Chair | 49/person |
| Extracurricular Activities Sponsor | 453 |
| FFA | 700 |
| Intramural Coordinator | 1723 |
| Lead Mentor | 793 |
| Magnet Program Coordinator | 1020 |
| New Instructional Personnel Induction Mentor | 227 / beginning instructional personnel ♦ |
| Professional Development Certification Program (PDCP) Mentor | 453 |
| Special Duty | 782 |
| Team Leader | 1082 |
| Visual and/or Performing Arts Sponsor | 906 |
| Wellness Representative | 782 |

Laned Elementary Athletics Supplement Rates

| Non-Endorsed | | | | | Endorsed | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years | | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years |
| Special Olympics | 1760 | 1972 | 2184 | 2465 | Special Olympics | 2201 | 2465 | 2730 | 3081 |

Other Elementary School Supplements

| Type | Supplement |
|--|---|
| Club Sponsor | 510 |
| Elementary Activity Sponsor | 510 |
| Events Coordinator | 782 |
| Grade Level Chair | 74/person |
| Lead Mentor | 793 |
| Magnet Program Coordinator | 510 |
| Music Sponsor | 876 |
| New Instructional Personnel Induction Mentor | 227 / beginning instructional personnel ◇ |
| Professional Development Certification Program (PDCP) Mentor | 453 |
| Safety Patrol Sponsor | 1133 |
| Special Duty | 782 |
| Sports Abilities Team | 510 |
| Visual and/or Performing Arts Sponsor | 510 |
| Wellness Representative | 782 |

Laned Postsecondary Extracurricular Supplements

| | 0-3 Years | 4-6 Years | 7-14 Years | 15+ Years |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Student Advisory Board | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Student Advisory Board Assistant | 1847 | 2068 | 2290 | 2585 |
| Digital Media/Newspaper | 2770 | 3102 | 3435 | 3878 |
| Tech Center Senior Class Sponsor | 1847 | 2068 | 2290 | 2585 |

Other Postsecondary Supplements

| Type | Supplement |
|--|---|
| Club Sponsor | 510 |
| Department Chair/Team Leader | 74/person |
| Lead Mentor | 793 |
| New Instructional Personnel Induction Mentor | 227 / beginning instructional personnel |
| Professional Development Certification Program (PDCP) Mentor | 453 |
| Wellness Representative | 782 |

An employee holding a supplemented position may voluntarily relinquish the position provided s/he notifies the administrator at the earliest possible date. The administrator will notify the employee as soon as feasible if the employee will be terminated in the supplemental position. If the supplement receiver is terminated, the reason(s) will be provided upon request.

If an employee resigns the supplemental duty late or separates from it early, or for any other reason cannot complete all of the requirements to receive the full supplement, s/he shall be paid a prorated amount based on the period of time during which the supplement duties were performed.

Supplements for assistant coaches shall be two-thirds of the corresponding rate for coaches in the same sport.

When coaching both the boys' and girls' team of the same sport, a coach shall be paid full supplements for both sports upon the recommendation of the administrator and approval by the District Office for Athletics.

Coaches may obtain approved Department of Education coaching endorsement either through in-service points or equivalent college credit. Supplemental pay adjustments shall be retroactive to the beginning of the school year in which the endorsement is earned.

Athletic directors may be granted an amount of time equivalent to at least one teaching period per day to perform those duties, which cannot be accomplished after the duty day.

The parties agree that supplements may be expanded or added to the Contract to fulfill requirements for Other Interscholastic Athletic Opportunities. If a new supplement is added, the parties will meet to negotiate the amount.

APPENDIX A-2

SUPPLEMENT SCHEDULE

ADVANCED DEGREES SUPPLEMENTS

Masters: **\$3,517**

Specialist: **\$5,396**

Doctorate: **\$7,115**

In order to receive credit for advanced degrees, (Masters, Specialist and Doctorate) employees must provide an official transcript of record showing the award of the earned degree to Employment Services.

Eleven month employees add 0.10 to the above amounts.

Twelve month employees add 0.20 to above amounts.

APPENDIX A-3

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT SUPPLEMENTS

Pursuant to Florida Statute 1012.22, the District shall provide eligible teachers in the following categories earning regular wages in an active pay status, an additional pay supplement of no less than \$5.00 a pay check: assignment to a Title I eligible school; assignment to a Focus or Priority School; certification and teaching in named critical shortage areas as identified by district staffing needs; and assignment of additional academic responsibilities. The supplement will be paid bi-weekly throughout the work year. These supplements will be paid bi-weekly throughout the work year. These supplements due on regular wages earned during the summer will be paid of the first instructional check of the next work year.

APPENDIX A-4

TARGETED SCHOOLS SUPPLEMENT

Eligible teachers who work at schools which are on the Targeted School List (inclusive of the School Transformation Office schools, elementary and middle schools with previous school grade of an "F" or three consecutive "D's," and high schools with a previous grade of "F" or one "D") will receive a bi-weekly supplement.

Teachers assigned to the Targeted Schools will receive a minimum annual supplement in the amount of \$1,500 paid bi-weekly. An additional annual amount of \$1,100 paid bi-weekly funded by Title I will also be provided.

The amounts may vary contingent on available funding and the number of Targeted Schools. In the event a school no longer qualifies for this supplement, all eligible teachers may continue to receive the supplement for one additional school year.

The current list of schools will be maintained on the OCPS Compensation and Labor Relations webpages.

APPENDIX A-5

SELECT SUPPLEMENTS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2025-26

A. Exceptional Student Education (ESE)

1. Classroom teachers assigned to a self-contained unit with at least one student identified as ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) or EBD (Emotional/Behavioral Disability) will receive an annual supplement of \$4,000.
2. Behavior Specialist who are not assigned to a self-contained unit with at least one student identified as ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) or EBD (Emotional/Behavioral Disability) will receive an annual supplement of \$2,500
3. Staffing Specialists and 504 Coordinators will receive an annual supplement of \$2,000.
4. Exceptional Student Education teachers including EMH, emotionally handicapped, Prek handicapped, profoundly handicapped, SLD, speech therapy, teacher of the deaf, TMH teacher, varying exceptionalities, visually handicapped, vocational education/exceptional education who provide services listed on a student's IEP but are not covered by paragraphs A.1, A.2, or A.3 above will receive an annual supplement of \$1,500.

B. Certificate of Clinical Competence

Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists holding a current Certificate of Clinical Competence and employed as a speech language pathologists or audiologists will receive an annual supplement of \$8,000.

C. Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Mental Health Counselors, and Registered Nurses.

Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Mental Health Counselors, Licensed Registered Nurses holding a current license and employed as a social worker, mental health counselor, registered nurse respectively will receive an annual supplement of \$5,000.

D. Payment for supplements is added to the employee's regular paycheck,

If an employee starts a supplemented position late or terminates from it early or for any other reason cannot complete all of the requirements to receive the full supplement, s/he shall be paid a prorated amount based on the period of time during which the supplemented position was held.

APPENDIX B

PAID HOLIDAYS and ADDITIONAL VACATION DAYS

TEN AND ELEVEN MONTH EMPLOYEES

| Holiday |
|----------------------------|
| Labor Day |
| Thanksgiving |
| New Year's Day |
| Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| Memorial Day |

TWELVE MONTH EMPLOYEES:

| Holiday |
|-----------------------|
| Independence Day |
| Labor Day |
| Thanksgiving Holidays |
| Winter Holidays |

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS:

| Holiday |
|----------------------------|
| Labor Day |
| Thanksgiving Holidays |
| Christmas Day |
| New Year's Day |
| Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| Memorial Day * |

* Additional Paid Day Off

ADDITIONAL VACATION DAYS FOR TWELVE MONTH EMPLOYEES

| |
|-----------------------------|
| New Year's Day |
| Martin Luther King, Jr. Day |
| Memorial Day |

If a holiday or paid day off occurs on a Saturday, employees will celebrate the holiday on the Friday immediately before the Saturday holiday. If a holiday or paid day off occurs on a Sunday, employees will celebrate the holiday on the Monday immediately following the Sunday holiday. If a two-day holiday or paid day off occurs on a Saturday and a Sunday, the employee will celebrate the holidays on both the Friday immediately before and the Monday immediately following the Saturday/Sunday holidays.

Note: The 2019-20 annual salary for school psychologists will remain the same as the annual salary for 2018-19 after adding the applicable salary increases awarded to all instructional employees.

APPENDIX C

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Effective June 30, 2024

- A. Employees shall be able to choose from in-network and out-of-network doctors, hospitals and pharmacies. In addition, a select in-network option shall be available.
 - 1. Effective June 30, 2024, and implemented the beginning of Plan Year 2024-25, for employees hired prior to July 1, 2024, the premium will be shared as follows between Board and employees for Employee Only coverage: Plan A - 95% (Board)/5% (Employee); Plans B and C – 90% (Board)/10% (Employee) and Plan D - 100% (Board)/0% (Employee). Fifty percent of the cost will be paid by the Board for half-time employees who elect Employee Only coverage. Annual individual premium cost increases exceeding 10% over the prior year will be equally shared by the District and employees. Such shared costs may be accomplished by either employee premium cost sharing or plan revisions, or both.
 - 2. For the plan year 2024-25 the District will provide CTA bargaining unit employees a premium discount equal to \$4.4 million. This premium discount shall be split among all CTA bargaining unit employees employed with the District and covered by one of the District's plans prior to July 1, 2024. The parties shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement implementing the premium discount.
 - 3. For employees hired on or after June 30, 2024, the premium will be shared as follows between Board and employees for Employee Only coverage: Plan A, B and C - 85% (Board)/15% (Employee) and Plan D - 100% (Board)/0% (Employee). Fifty percent of the cost will be paid by the Board for half-time employees who elect Employee Only coverage.

4. Effective June 30, 2024, employees who separate service for more than sixty (60) calendar days and return after that timeframe will only be eligible for the plans provided to new hires as outlined in Appendix C.A.3. above.

B. Annual out-of-pocket maximums and deductibles:

| 2024-25 Health Insurance Plans For Employees Hired Prior to 07/01/2024 | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| Plan D (SureFit) | | Plan A (Local Plus Network) | | Plan B (Open Access Plus High Deductible Health Plan and Health Savings Account - HDHP) | | Plan C (OAPIN) | |
| No premium cost for Employee Only Coverage (full-time) | | Employee Paid Premium \$545/year or \$27.25/per check | | Employee Paid Premium \$1,172/year or \$58.60/per check | | Employee Paid Premium \$1,172/year or \$58.60/per check | |
| | | | | In-Network Benefits | | | |
| Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500Individual/ \$9,000 Family | Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500 Individual/\$9,000 Family | Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500 Individual/\$9,000 Family | Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500 Individual/ \$9,000Family |
| | Pharmacy: \$2,500 Individual/ \$5,000 Family | | Pharmacy: \$4,000 Individual/ \$8,000 Family | | Pharmacy: \$4,000 Individual/ \$8,000 Family | | Pharmacy: \$4,000Individual/ \$8,000 Family |
| Deductibles | \$300 Individual/\$600 Family | Deductibles | \$500 Individual/\$1,000 Family | In-Network Deductibles | \$1,750Individual/ \$3,500 Family | Deductibles | \$400 Individual/\$800 Family |
| | | | | Out of Network Coverage | | | |
| | | | | Out of Network Deductibles | Medical: \$5,000 Individual/ \$10,000 Family | | |
| | | | | Out of Network Maximums | Medical: \$10,000 Individual/\$20,000 Family | | |
| | | | | | Pharmacy: Unlimited | | |

- * Family deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums are two (2) times the individual deductible and out-of-pocket maximum amounts.
- ** In-network out-of pocket annual maximums shall include any deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance. Once a member has met their out of pocket maximum, the plan will pay 100% of the covered charges for the remainder of the plan year.

In-network and out-of-network deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums shall

accumulate separately. Deductibles paid for services rendered during the last three months of a plan year (July, August, and September) shall apply toward the next plan year.

| 2024-25 Health Insurance Plans For Employees Hired On or After 07/01/2024 | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| Plan D SureFit | | Plan A (Local Plus Network) | | Plan B (Open Access Plus High Deductible Health Plan and Health Savings Account - HDHP) | | Plan C (OAPIN) | |
| No premium cost for Employee Only Coverage (full-time) | | Employee Paid Premium is \$1,759/year or \$87.95/check | | Employee Paid Premium is \$1,759/year or \$87.95/per check | | Employee Paid Premium is \$1,759/year or \$87.95 per check | |
| | | | | In-Network Benefits | | | |
| Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500Individual/ \$9,000 Family | Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500 Individual/\$9,000 Family | Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500 Individual/\$9,000 Family | Out of Pocket Maximums | Medical: \$4,500 Individual/ \$9,000Family |
| | Pharmacy: \$2,500 Individual/ \$5,000 Family | | Pharmacy: \$4,000 Individual/ \$8,000 Family | | Pharmacy: \$4,000 Individual/ \$8,000 Family | | |
| Deductibles | \$300 Individual/\$600 Family | Deductibles | \$500 Individual/\$1,000 Family | In-Network Deductibles | \$1,750Individual/\$3,500 Family | Deductibles | \$400 Individual/\$800 Family |
| | | | | Out of Network Coverage | | | |
| | | | | Out of Network Deductibles | Medical: \$5,000 Individual/ \$10,000 Family | | |
| | | | | Out of Network Maximums | Medical: \$10,000 Individual/\$20,000 Family | | |
| | | | | | Pharmacy: Unlimited | | |

* Family deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums are two (2) times the individual deductible and out-of-pocket maximum amounts.

** In-network out-of-pocket annual maximums shall include any deductibles, copayments, and coinsurance. Once a member has met their out of pocket maximum, the plan will pay 100% of the covered charges for the remainder of the plan year.

In-network and out-of-network deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums shall accumulate separately. Deductibles paid for services rendered during the last three months of a plan year (July, August, and September) shall apply toward the next plan year.

1. In the PPO-like Plan B, High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) product in-network co-insurance shall be 80 percent (with the member paying 20 percent) and out-of-network co-insurance shall be 70 percent (with the member paying 30 percent) of the in-network fee schedule. The HDHP plan will comply with federal regulations required for a HDHP with a Health Savings Account (HAS)
2. In-network copayments for the contracted provider network for each Primary Care Physician (PCP) and for each Specialist visit covered by the healthcare products are covered as listed in the chart below.

| Plan Name | Plan D: SureFit | Plan A: Local Plus In- Network | Plan B: Open Access Plus HDHP In and Out of Network Plan | Plan C: OAPIN |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Specialist and Primary Care Visit Copays (in-network only) | | | | |
| Primary Care (PCP) | \$15 | \$15 | \$15 | \$15 |
| Specialist | \$55 | \$55 | \$65 | \$65 |
| Specialist CCN * | N/A | N/A | \$45 | \$30 |

* Cigna Care Network Specialist

3. Effective June 30, 2024, and implemented the beginning of Plan Year 2024-25 the HMO-like plan, SureFit, shall provide a prescription plan with a \$9 charge for generic drugs for a 30-day supply; a \$60 charge for formulary drugs for a 30-day supply; and a \$100 charge for drugs more than \$1,500 for a 30-day supply at participating network pharmacies. Certain non-formulary drugs may be provided at a participating network pharmacy for a \$90 charge for a 30-day supply when medical necessity has been verified with a Prior Authorization form filed with the Pharmacy Benefit Management Company. See your physician for step therapy details.

Effective June 30, 2024, and implemented the beginning of Plan Year 2024-25 HMO-like, Plan A: Local Plus In-network product, the PPO-like, Plan B: Open Access Plus HRA In and Out of Network and HMO-like Plan C: OAPIN shall provide a prescription plan with a \$9 charge for generic drugs for a 30-day supply; a 10% coinsurance/minimum \$60 co-pay charge for formulary drugs for a 30-day supply; a 10% coinsurance/minimum \$100 co-pay for medications more than \$1,500 for a 30 day supply at participating network pharmacies. Certain non-formulary drugs may be provided at a participating network pharmacy for 50% coinsurance/minimum \$90 co-pay charge when medical necessity has been verified with a Prior Authorization form filed with the Pharmacy Benefit Management Company. See your physician for step therapy details.

Maintenance medications must be purchased through the mail order at Caremark.com or via the CVS Pharmacy Retail 90 program. Members shall be charged the full cost of the medication if mail order or CVS Retail 90 is not utilized for maintenance medication. In Plan B: HRA employees using out-of-network pharmacies for prescription drugs will pay copay plus the difference in cost between out-of-network and network cost to the plan (excluding maintenance medications which must be purchased at mail order). There are no out of network benefits for pharmacy in SureFit, Plan A: Local Plus In-Network or Plan C: OAPIN.

4. Hospice treatment in network coinsurance shall match coinsurance amounts in the plans.
5. Second opinions are covered as outlined in the plan.
6. Emergency Room visits copayments are as follows:

- HMO-like products SureFit and Plan A and C: \$400
- PPO-like products Plan B: \$400 plus 20% co-insurance

Emergency Room copayment shall be waived if the plan member is admitted to the hospital. If a plan member has a documented referral to the ER by an urgent care center or physician and is not admitted to the hospital, he/she may use the appeal process as outlined in the Plan Document for possible reimbursement of the Emergency Room copayment.

7. Advanced Radiological Imaging includes but is not limited to MRIs, CT scans, PET scans, and radiological stress tests.

| Plan Name | SureFit | Plan A: Local Plus In- Network | Plan B: Open Access Plus HDHP In and Out of Network Plan | Plan C: OAPIN |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Hospital Based/ Hospital Affiliated including Emergency Room | 10% after deductible | 20% after deductible | 20% after deductible | 20% after deductible |
| Freestanding imaging center | \$100 | \$100 | \$100 + 20% | \$100 |

- C. Medically necessary home health care services shall be provided through a contracted provider network as specified in the plan.
- D. In both the PPO-like and HMO-like product child health supervision services in network shall be \$20 per visit.
- E. A mammography benefit shall be provided. Preventive care will be covered at no cost to the member. The services must be coded from the provider as a preventive.
- F. The daily room rate allowance shall be at least \$175 for out-of-network hospitals.

- G. A pre-certification/utilization review program will be utilized, requiring the submission of a written form to the Third-Party Administrator five working days prior to non-emergency surgery (in- or out-patient). Concurrent review will be performed during admission to a hospital. Pre-certification will be mandatory for non-emergencies and could result in a reduction in covered benefits if not followed. The Third-Party Administrator (TPA) must be contacted within 48 hours following any emergency admission.
- H. Durable Medical Equipment will be subject to deductible and coinsurance for all plans.
- I. In cases involving life-threatening illnesses where the recommended experimental or investigative treatment or procedure is not covered by the Plan Document, a case management review may be requested by the affected member.
 - 1. Such requests shall be referred to a medical review panel to review the recommended alternative experimental or investigative treatment or procedure. The five members of the panel shall be: a representative from the Association, a representative from the Board and three medical representatives agreed to by the parties. The Association and the Board representatives shall have no voting power. These five panel members shall mutually agree on other panel members from medical specialties who might be needed to resolve each special case.
 - 2. An experimental or investigative treatment or procedure may be recommended by the panel if all of the following criteria are met:
 - a. The illness is life-threatening.
 - b. The experimental or investigative treatment or procedure is recommended as having merit by a licensed board-certified specialist, in lieu of conventional medical procedures recognized by a national medical authority such as (but not limited to) the National Institute of Health, the American Medical Association, or the Food and Drug Administration.
 - c. The experimental or investigative treatment or procedure is conducted by a Joint Commission accredited hospital and a licensed board-certified specialist.
 - d. The experimental or investigative treatment or procedure is recognized as having merit by national medical experts.
 - e. The affected employee must fit the provider's qualifications to be a candidate for such treatment or procedure.
 - f. The affected employee is fully informed of the treatment or procedure and acknowledges that the treatment or procedure is experimental or investigative.

- g. The affected employee requests to participate in the treatment or procedure after analyzing the benefits and the risk.
- 3. The panel shall make a case management recommendation to the Trustees for final action. The Trustees may reject the recommendation if it does not meet the above criteria. The panel shall meet, deliberate and recommend and the Trustees of the Benefits Trust will take final action in an expeditious manner.
- J. Employees who select an alternative to health insurance as set forth in Article XVII, Section B shall have the option of the following:
 - 1. A disability program providing an eligible benefit (based on the teacher's annual salary) not to exceed \$1,500 per month and vision insurance.
- K. Any wellness program will be optional to all instructional employees. All such programs will be confidential and all employee information will be protected by a third party per HIPAA regulations. Incentives shall be negotiated through the bargaining process.
- L. A telehealth program will be offered through the medical coverage which allows members to access a physician either by phone or secure video to help treat non-emergency medical conditions. For all plans, there is a \$0 copayment.

APPENDIX D

SICK LEAVE BANK

The Orange County Public Schools Employees Sick Leave Bank, hereinafter referred to as the SLB, is designed to ease the financial impact of serious illness, accident or injury. Although not an exclusive list, typical usage would be for heart attack, cancer, serious automobile accident or major surgery. Serious illness shall be defined as being hospitalized, homebound under psychiatric care, temporarily totally disabled, and/or not able to perform the majority of the Activities of Daily Living (ADL). This definition shall be applicable to all references to illness/accident/injury throughout this appendix.

- A. Membership
 - 1. The SLB shall have two enrollment periods yearly, during the first 30 calendar days of the first and second semesters.
 - 2. Any employee with one or more years of service and having at least six days accrued sick leave may enroll in the SLB. The employee shall complete a SLB enrollment form and contribute one sick leave day to the SLB at the time of enrollment. Membership is effective immediately following the close of the enrollment period. The six days accrual may occur at any time during the enrollment period.

3. Sick leave days contributed to the SLB shall be deducted from the accrued sick leave balance of the member. Such days shall not be returned except as a benefit as set forth in Section C.
4. All members shall contribute an additional sick leave day if the balance of the SLB is diminished below 300 days. Assessment shall be automatic and each member shall be sent a notice of such. If a member is unable to contribute an assessed day, assessment will occur as soon as a sick leave day is earned unless a member is receiving benefits from the SLB.
5. Members who are retiring shall be permitted to donate any portion of their unused sick leave days to the SLB.
6. Any member who wishes to discontinue membership in the SLB may do so during any enrollment period by submitting a SLB withdrawal form prior to the end of the enrollment period. Receipt of the withdrawal form shall terminate all rights and obligations under the rules of the SLB at the end of the enrollment period.
7. If the SLB cannot maintain a balance of at least 300 days after replenishment, it will be terminated when the total number of days has been exhausted.
8. Members shall not have to pay back in any manner the number of days used from the SLB except as outlined in the Abuse of Benefits section and the Eligibility for Benefits.

B. Administration and Governance

1. A SLB Committee designated by the Superintendent will administer the SLB and determine the validity of claims against the SLB. The Sick Leave Bank Committee shall include health care professionals (two non-voting) from the plans in the Benefits Trust, the CTA president and designee, the OESPA president and designee, and two District administrators. Such determination shall be expedited in cases of extreme hardship.
 - a. Step 1: The initial decision is made by a designee(s) of the Committee and sent to the employee.
 - b. Step 2: If the claim of the member is denied, an employee may request, in writing, an appeal of the decision within five duty days of receipt of the denial. Such decisions will be appealed to the full Committee. The decision of the full Committee is final.
2. Quarterly reports of usage of the SLB shall be available to members upon request. A copy shall be provided to the Association and the Fringe Benefits Committee. The report shall include the number of days used and the reasons for usage.

C. Eligibility for Benefits

1. A member shall be eligible for benefits for any single illness/accident/injury following 15 duty days of absence within a thirty duty day period.
2. Subject to Section A.7. above, a member shall draw from the SLB up to a maximum of 100 paid sick leave days per twelve-month period commencing on the first day of paid sick leave from the SLB. The lifetime maximum for any one illness, accident or injury shall be 100 days.
3. In the event a member draws a total of 100 days over any period of time from the SLB, such members shall reinstate their membership by re-establishing eligibility per section A.2.
4. Illness or conditions which were known to exist prior to an employee becoming a SLB member shall not be covered for the first twelve (12) months of membership.
5. A member shall be eligible for the use of the SLB if the member is on Workers' Compensation. Sick leave days drawn from the SLB shall be prorated downward according to the percentage of the daily rate not paid through Workers' Compensation.
6. The SLB will not provide benefits to those members having surgery which is not medically necessary as defined by the OCPS medical plans.
7. The SLB shall not provide benefits for normal maternity-related cases where being homebound is recommended as a precaution to bring a pregnancy to full term.
8. When an employee is notified of eligibility for benefits under a disability retirement plan and applies for the same within twenty (20) workdays, SLB benefits shall continue until retirement benefits begin, subject to Section B.2. above. If the employee does not apply for retirement benefits, SLB benefits shall cease as of the 21st day.
9. If active service is terminated by death, SLB benefits shall cease upon the day that death occurs.
10. The SLB shall not cover unauthorized leaves.

D. Use of Benefits - A member may receive benefits from the SLB to cover an extended absence as follows:

1. All accumulated sick leave must first be expended, except that an application for SLB days may be submitted at any time during an illness.

2. Any sick leave drawn from the SLB must be used for a member's personal illness, accident or injury and shall only be for days which would normally be scheduled for duty during their primary contracted term/year.
3. A written request must be made to the appropriate District department and received within 90 calendar days of the first day for which SLB days could have been drawn. The request shall have attached a doctor's statement on a form provided by the appropriate District department, attesting to the member's extended illness, accident or injury and stating the probable date the member will be able to return to work. The applicant will bear the cost of obtaining the medical statement. A second medical statement may be requested, prior to rendering a decision as to the number of days to be granted.
4. A member who has submitted all the required documents to request benefits shall be notified of the status of the request following review by designee(s) of the Sick Leave Bank Committee meeting.

E. Abuse of Benefits

1. Reported abuse of the SLB shall be investigated by the Superintendent or his designee and, on a finding of wrong doing the member shall be denied and /or shall repay all of the sick days drawn from the SLB. A requirement for repayment shall be subject to the grievance procedure; however, the arbitrator shall limit his decision as to whether or not the finding was justified. The decision shall not be split.
2. Proven abuse of the SLB shall result in permanent termination of membership from the SLB.
3. Alleged abuse of the SLB may be considered grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with Article XII.

APPENDIX E

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

- A. School Psychologists will work an 8 hour day with a duty free (25 minute) lunch.
- B. School Psychologists will be paid advanced degree supplement for which they submit verification per Article XVI, Section B.1. a.-d. and Appendix A-2.
- C. School Psychologists will be credited with prior teaching experience for which they submit verification per Article XVI, Section H.

The parties shall meet to review language in the contract to determine the applicability to school psychologists.

APPENDIX F

REGISTERED NURSES

- A. The following articles and sections are not applicable to registered nurses:
 - 1. Article VI, Section Q.6.
 - 2. Article VII
 - 3. Article VIII, Sections A - I., N., Q., R.
 - 4. Article IX, Sections B., C., D., and G.8. and 12.
 - 5. Article X, Sections A., B., C, D., E., H. K.2.
 - 6. Article XIV, Sections B.3.d., e., f., h.; D., E., L., O., P., Q., and U.
 - 7. Article XV, Sections F., G., and H.
 - 8. Article XVI, Sections B.5. (all), B.6. (all), H.1., 2., 3., K.
 - 9. Article XVII, Sections H. and O.
 - 10. Article XVIII, Section E.1.
- B. The work year for registered nurses shall be 197 days including six paid holidays.
- C. Any employment beyond the 197 days per year shall be considered as extended employment, and be based upon the daily rate of pay.
- D. The probationary period shall be for three years, in accordance with the following:
 - 1. During any of the first three years of employment, termination shall be for cause only.
 - 2. At the end of each of the first three years, reappointment shall be based upon the same provisions as set forth for teachers in Article VIII.
- E. For non-degreed registered nurses, three years of work experience shall serve in lieu of a Bachelors degree.
- F. All years of work related experience shall be granted for salary purposes, excluding the three years required for placement of non-degreed nurses on the salary schedule. Salary credit shall

be retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year in which it is verified. No credit shall be granted for work experience prior to the earning of a nursing license.

- G. Where not specifically excluded as applicable, any language in the Contract referencing certification shall be interpreted as licensure for registered nurses.
- H. Nurses who are asked to cover school clinics in lieu of a substitute nurse will receive the average rate of pay for an agency registered nurse to cover a school clinic.
- I. The Board shall provide equipment and supplies to aid the registered nurses assigned to the district office(s) in the performance of their duty to train clinic and school staff to provide safe and reliant care to students.
- J. Registered nurses assigned to the district office(s) will be provided an annual five percent (5%) supplement of his/her base salary paid biweekly.

APPENDIX G

ADJUNCTS/TECHNICAL ADULT

- A. The adjunct/technical adult must hold at least a part time certificate, in-field, and meet two or more of the following criteria: work in an agency partnership, work off-site, teach courses rather than a program, generate either continuing Career and Technical Education funding or teach a fee supported class, teach a start-up class, or fill a temporary need position.
- B. If the contract between the District and the agency is terminated for any reason, the employee shall have no right or expectation of continued employment with the District.
- C. Continuing employment shall be contingent upon performance being satisfactory to the administrator and the agency. The employee shall not be entitled to an annual, continuing or professional services contract.
- D. The employee may be suspended or dismissed at any time during the year based on immorality, misconduct in office, incompetency, gross insubordination, willful neglect of duty, drunkenness, or conviction of any crime involving moral turpitude.
- E. Seniority is defined as being among the adjuncts/technical adult at their specific work location and within the courses they teach and, for those hired at the time of ratification of this memorandum of understanding, is retroactive to September 24, 1996 or the date of hire, whichever is later.
- F. Transfers will be from among the adjuncts/technical adult at their specific work location and within the courses they teach.

- G. Salary placement will be at Step 0 of Appendix A and employees will have membership in the Florida Retirement System.
- H. Evaluation will be conducted by the respective administrator with input from the agency involved. The Association will be provided the opportunity for input in the evaluation process to be used.
- I. Any discipline of an employee shall be only for just cause, and shall be imposed only for poor performance, or a violation of an expressed rule, an expressed order, an expressed policy, or a reasonable expectation of management which reasonably should have been known to the employee. Discipline shall be appropriate to the allegation and shall be limited to oral reprimand, written reprimand, or dismissal.
- J. Employees shall be entitled to representation in any meeting with the administration when the employee reasonably feels that discipline may result.
- K. The following articles/sections of the Contract are not applicable to adjuncts/technical adult:
 - Article VIII, Sections A. - I., N., Q., R.
 - Article IX, Sections C. - E., G., and H.
 - Article X
 - Article XII, all
 - Article XIII
 - Article XIV, Sections D., E., L., Q. and U.
 - Article XV, Sections F. - H., I.3.-6., 7.d.
 - Article XVI, Sections A. - B.2., 3., 4., I., J., L.
 - Article XVIII, Section E.1.
 - Appendix E

APPENDIX H

ORANGE COUNTY VIRTUAL SCHOOL INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL

- A. Instructors are assigned in a full-time status to OCVS.
 - 1. Instructors shall have a 7.5 hour duty day within a thirteen hour period.

- a. The thirteen hour period shall be from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.
 - b. The instructor shall schedule at least one evening session per week, and the session shall end at 8:00 pm.
 - c. There shall be a minimum of 25 minutes per day scheduled for the duty-free meal break.
 - d. The instructor shall have the discretion to schedule their duty day within the aforementioned parameters.
2. Each instructor shall have a planning period of at least 50 minutes, not to exceed 60 minutes. OVCS instructors are to use the planning period primarily for preparations.
 3. Newly hired instructors, prior to being assigned his/her first virtual instruction course, must be provided training on virtual instruction through the professional learning program established by OCVS and/or its partners.
- B. Preparations are based on the number of instructors and the number of students per instructor. As the number of teachers and students increase, the number of preparations shall decrease accordingly. The parties shall meet annually to agree on the number of preparations assigned to each teacher.

| Elementary Level Class Size Chart | |
|--|--|
| Grade Level Range | Average Number of Students per Semester |
| K-3 | 35 |
| 4-5 | 40 |
| Elective/Specials | 180 |

| Secondary Level Class Size Chart | |
|---|--|
| Number of Curriculum Preps | Average Number of Students per Semester |
| 1 | 180 |
| 2 | 165 |
| 3 | 150 |
| 4 or more | 135 |

- C. Any Instructor that is over the class cap by 20% based on average active weekly enrollment for the semester shall be given a prorated Additional Period Pay supplement.

APPENDIX I

UNIVERSAL VOLUNTARY PRE-K SUMMER PROGRAM

- A. Three hundred (300) instructional hours are required for Summer VPK.
- B. The duty day for the Summer VPK program shall be 9.5 hours in length
- C. Teachers shall be paid at their regular hourly rate of pay
- D. The work day shall include:
 - 1. 15 minutes on-site planning in the morning
 - 2. 25 minutes duty-free lunch
 - 3. 15 minutes on-site planning at the end of the day
 - 4. 30 minutes off-site planning
- E. No paid leave or leave accrual will be provided.
- F. Regular employees shall be considered for summer employment for which they are qualified before others are hired.

APPENDIX J

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING/LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING

The following pages include the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Letters of Understanding (LOUs) executed by the parties.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #2
Paid Maternity Leave
January 27, 2025

Effective July 1, 2025, the parties agree to provide three (3) weeks of paid maternity leave for the 2025-2026 year. This is a pilot program and the parties agree to work during the term of this MOU to further explore parental leave for future implementation.

Eligibility for Paid Maternity Leave:

Eligibility for paid maternity leave requires an employee to be actively employed for at least one year without a break in service and who gives birth to a child.

Paid Maternity Leave:

An eligible employee as defined above will receive three (3) weeks (15 consecutive duty days) of paid leave time beginning on the first duty day after the birth of her child.

Paid maternity leave is to be used for maternity purposes before using any accrued leave or leave without pay for maternity purposes.

Application for Paid Maternity Leave:

An eligible employee, as defined above, shall submit a long-term leave request form to her supervisor.

Information about the PUMP Act:

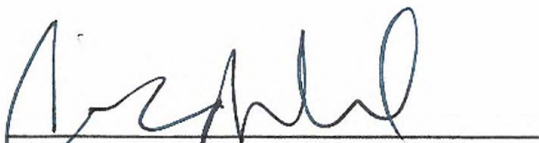
Once the employee submits the request for maternity leave, an email will be sent to the employee and the employee's supervisor providing information about the PUMP Act.

Review of 2025-26 Paid Maternity Leave Pilot Program

The parties agree to meet to review implementation of the 2025-26 Paid Maternity Leave Pilot Program 60, 90, and 180 days after initial implementation. Through mutual agreement, the parties may modify this pilot program based on the implementation review.

This MOU expires June 30, 2026.

For School Board of Orange County, Florida:



Jeffrey E. Mandel
Chief Negotiator

For Orange County Classroom Teachers
Association:



Clinton McCracken
President

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #4
Meet the Teacher for 2025-26
April 29, 2025

This Memorandum of Understanding is made on this 30th day of April 2025, by and between the School Board of Orange County, Florida (District) and the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association (OCCTA), to memorialize the parties' understanding and agreement regarding the suspension of Open House for the 2025-26 school year.

Article XIV.H. states "The parties recognize the importance of employees' participation in school-related activities, such as open house, PTA, and other school functions, which occur outside of normal working hours and flex time may be used for affected teachers. The administrator may require attendance at the school's annual open house."

Recently the parties recognized that hosting both Meet the Teacher and Open House has generated duplicity and added to teachers' work demands outside of scheduled working hours. The District and OCCTA independently surveyed stakeholders to seek input regarding these duplicative events. Based on these results, the parties wish to substitute Meet the Teacher for Open House as an event requiring teacher attendance for the 2025-26 school year.

The requirement for teachers to participate in Meet the Teacher for the 2025-26 school year includes the following provisions:

1. All schools will schedule Meet the Teacher during pre-planning.
2. In the event that the scheduled hours for Meet the Teacher extend beyond the teacher duty day, principals will either adjust the duty day or provide flex time for the affected teachers. The District agrees to share the communication for administrators regarding implementation of this MOU, including clarification of the use of flex time, for review and feedback prior to its distribution.
3. The District will work with schools to minimize the overlap of scheduling Meet the Teacher across school types.
4. The District agrees to suspend Open House activities for the 2025 26 school year.

The parties agree to seek input from stakeholders, share the input, and discuss future implementation of Meet the Teacher versus Open House.

This MOU expires June 30, 2026.

For School Board of Orange County, Florida:


Jeremy E. Mandel
Chief Negotiator

For Orange County Classroom Teachers Association:


Clinton McCracken
President

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #5
2025-26 Extra Hour Instruction (Reading or Reading/Mathematics)
May 5, 2025

In previous years, the State of Florida required select schools to provide an extra hour of reading instruction. This is no longer statutorily required; however, the District and the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association believe in the value to our students in continuing this program at select schools. The extra hour of instruction will be in reading or reading/mathematics based on student needs. The select schools identified for this program are:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Catalina Elementary | Phillis Wheatley Elementary |
| Eccleston Elementary | Pineloch Elementary |
| Engelwood Elementary | Pinewood Elementary |
| Hiawassee Elementary | Ridgewood Park Elementary |
| Ivey Lane Elementary | Rock Lake Elementary |
| Lake Weston Elementary | Rolling Hills Elementary |
| Lovell Elementary | Rosemont Elementary |
| Mollie Ray Elementary | Shingle Creek Elementary |
| Orange Center Elementary | Tangelo Park Elementary |
| Orlo Vista Elementary | Washington Shores Elementary |

As in the current year, the implementation of this program will include the following provisions:

- The assignment for instructors at these schools to teach during the extended day or year is required on the part of the teacher. In doing so, these teachers shall receive additional pay equal to their hourly rate.
- Teachers at the designated schools may request in writing a transfer within ten (10) days of notification. A teacher shall be placed in a school of the same level (elementary, middle, or high) if such a vacancy exists. If a school level vacancy does not exist, the teacher shall be placed in a vacancy for which s/he is certified. Teachers shall be placed in their equivalent school if such vacancies exist. The District shall make a reasonable effort to transfer the teacher to a position in close proximity to his/her original assignment.
- Class size requirements for the additional instructional period shall follow state guidelines
- Observations made during the additional instructional period are for feedback purposes only and shall not be used as a part of the Instructional Evaluation System
- Support with curriculum and materials shall be provided to the teacher upon request to assist in planning for the additional instructional period

This MOU expires May 29, 2026.

For School Board of Orange County, Florida:



Jeffrey E. Mandel
Chief Negotiator

For Orange County Classroom Teachers Association:



Clinton McCracken
President

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #6
ParentSquare Implementation
May 23, 2025

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made on this 25th day of May 2025, by and between the School Board of Orange County, Florida ("District" or "OCPS") and the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association ("Union" or "OCCTA").

This MOU is to memorialize the parties' agreement regarding the use of ParentSquare for the purpose of communicating with administrators, staff, and parents beginning on July 1, 2025. The parties agree as follows:

1. The use of ParentSquare by teachers is voluntary. Teachers have flexibility to communicate with parents, administrators, and staff, through either District email, District phone, ParentSquare, and/or Canvas at their discretion. Teachers may only use District-approved and supported platforms to communicate with parents.
2. The district will provide optional training on the use of ParentSquare. Teachers are not expected to complete the training outside the duty day or during their individual, uninterrupted planning time.
3. ParentSquare allows teachers to establish office hours for two-way communication purposes. Teachers who choose to establish office hours will not be required to reply or make any updates outside the duty day or the optional teacher-established office hours. Teacher-established office hours are to match the teacher duty day, but a teacher may expand his/her office hours if preferred by the teacher. Principals will not establish or require teacher office hours beyond the duty day.
4. Teachers will not be required to reply or make any updates outside the duty day for communications through District email, District phone, and/or Canvas.
5. Teachers will not be expected to reply to or read communication sent through the platform if they choose not to use ParentSquare.
6. Teachers are responsible for the content they communicate in District email, District phone, ParentSquare, and/or Canvas; therefore, they are accountable for their content. Teachers shall not be disciplined or held responsible for content or comments made by parents, students, or anyone with access to the platform.
7. Voluntary use or non-use of ParentSquare shall not serve as a basis of evaluation of a teacher. A teacher is expected to communicate with parents either through District email, District phone, Canvas and/or voluntary use of ParentSquare.
8. The District agrees to share the communication for administrators regarding the implementation of this MOU for review and feedback by OCCTA prior to its distribution.
9. The parties agree to meet to review the implementation of ParentSquare 60, 90, and 180 days after the initial implementation.
10. The parties do not waive any of their contractual or bargaining rights by entering into this MOU.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #6
ParentSquare Implementation
May 23, 2025

The parties may modify this agreement based on the implementation review through written mutual agreement.

This MOU expires June 30, 2026.

For School Board of Orange County, Florida:

For Orange County Classroom Teachers
Association:



Jeffrey E. Mandel
Chief Negotiator



Clinton McCracken
President

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #7
2025-26 Extra Hour Instruction (Reading or Reading/Mathematics)
at Orange County Public Schools Academic Center for Excellence (OCPS ACE)
June 4, 2025

In previous years, the State of Florida required select schools to provide an extra hour of reading instruction. This is no longer statutorily required; however, the District and the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association believe in the value to our students in continuing this program at select schools. The extra hour of instruction will be in reading or reading/mathematics based on student needs.

The implementation of this program will include the following provisions:

- The assignment for instructors at OCPS ACE to teach during the extended day or year is required on the part of the teacher. In doing so, these teachers shall receive additional pay equal to their hourly rate.
- Teachers at OCPS ACE may request in writing a transfer within ten (10) days of notification. A teacher shall be placed in a school of the same level (elementary, middle, or high) if such a vacancy exists. If a school level vacancy does not exist, the teacher shall be placed in a vacancy for which s/he is certified. Teachers shall be placed in their equivalent school if such vacancies exist. The District shall make a reasonable effort to transfer the teacher to a position in close proximity to his/her original assignment.
- Class size requirements for the additional instructional period shall follow state guidelines
- Observations made during the additional instructional period are for feedback purposes only and shall not be used as a part of the Instructional Evaluation System
- Support with curriculum and materials shall be provided to the teacher upon request to assist in planning for the additional instructional period

This MOU expires May 29, 2026.

For School Board of Orange County, Florida:



Jeffrey E. Mandel
Chief Negotiator

For Orange County Classroom Teachers
Association:



Clinton McCracken
President

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #8
Maintenance Request Tracking Process Pilot Program
June 11, 2025

This Memorandum of Understanding is made on this 11th day of June 2025, by and between the School Board of Orange County, Florida (District) and the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association (OCCTA) is to memorialize the parties' agreement to pilot a maintenance tracking form process for the reporting of and communication of status of maintenance issues at the school level beginning August 11, 2025.

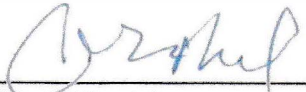
The parties agree as follows:

1. The parties identified eight schools to participate in the 2025-2026 maintenance request tracking process pilot program.
2. The District and OCCTA will jointly create a submission form that will include but will not be limited to: teacher name, room number or area, description of the concern, and additional comments. The submission form will also include the ability to submit files to support the maintenance request.
3. The District will provide administrators at each of the pilot schools with the training, submission form template, and any other necessary documents to implement the pilot. The administrators will provide the materials to the designated school-based staff member responsible for reporting and tracking maintenance requests. The content of the template may not be altered although principals may suggest improvements to the Labor Relations Department for discussion at the Labor Management Partnership Committee.
4. Each pilot school will make the submission form available to all instructional staff for the reporting of maintenance requests. The submission form and spreadsheet link will be shared with teachers during pre-planning.
5. The designated school-based staff member responsible for reporting and tracking maintenance requests will provide instructional staff with an alternate contact method other than the maintenance submission form for reporting emergency items.
6. The designated school-based staff member responsible for reporting and tracking maintenance requests will review all requests submitted and provide a status update on the school-based spreadsheet.
 - a. Status will include, but not be limited to, work order entered, work order in progress, work order complete, and/or not applicable.
7. The designated school-based staff member responsible for reporting and tracking maintenance requests status will update the spreadsheet as soon as practicable so instructional staff have access to the most accurate status of work order requests.
8. The parties agree to meet to review the implementation of the pilot program 30, 60, and 120 days after the initial implementation.
9. Through written mutual agreement, the parties may modify this agreement and pilot program-based on the implementation review.
10. The parties do not waive any of their contractual or bargaining rights by entering into this MOU.

This MOU expires June 30, 2027.

For School Board of Orange County, Florida:

For Orange County Classroom Teachers
Association:



Jeffrey E. Mandel
Chief Negotiator



Clinton McCracken
President

GLOSSARY

Administrator - The principal who is responsible for a school or, an assistant principal or manager who may be delegated a worksite responsibility in this contract.

Arbitration - The fourth and final step of the grievance procedure conducted before an arbitrator.

Assignment - The subject area(s) or grade level designated by the administrator.

Assignment to a School - Teacher appears on school's staffing report and is observed and evaluated by the administrators at the school.

Assistance Plus Schools - Schools receiving a state assigned letter grade of 'F' for more than once during a four year period.

Base School - The school which records an employee's attendance.

Bilingual Teacher - A classroom teacher who is required to have bilingual or ESOL certification for his/her assignment.

Board (or School Board) - Appropriate Administrative staff, except where obvious by the context, who may be delegated the authority and responsibility to implement this contract.

Business Day - A day that the district administrative offices are officially open for business.

By Lot - By lot shall be defined as any means of random selection with the purpose of breaking a tie where all other factors are the same. Example: two teachers may have the same seniority date and one teacher must be moved because of district-wide student enrollment re-calculation. All other factors being the same, the tie may be broken by drawing straws, drawing names or personnel numbers from a bowl, etc.

Continuing Contract - Contractual status of a continuing nature, which shall include both a Professional Service Contract (PSC) of a continuing nature and a Continuing Contract as defined by Florida Statutes.

Day - A calendar day.

Directive - A Directive is a statement of performance expectation by an administrator and is not considered to be a form of discipline. After two years, at the request of the employee, a directive shall be appended with a notice that recency has expired.

District-wide Enrollment Recalculation - The process by which the district selects a certain time at the beginning of the school year (usually 10-15 student days after the beginning of a school year) to count the number of students actually enrolled and in attendance at each school. The actual student count is then compared with the anticipated student count to determine if staff allocations need to be adjusted. Teachers at schools with student enrollments less than projected are relocated to schools with student enrollments greater than projected. Teachers are relocated based on seniority. Where the seniority dates are the same, the following sequence shall apply: contract type, degree, selection by lot.

Domestic Partner - A domestic partner must be age 18 or over, of the same sex, and shall not be blood related. The length of the required joint financial responsibility and co-habitation is twelve (12) months. The length of co-habitation is waived for first time domestic partner applicants; however, no domestic partner may be covered within twelve (12) months of another domestic partner being covered.

Duty Day - A day on which an employee is required to be at work.

Employee - Any member of the bargaining unit, as set forth in Article I.

Exclusive Provider Organization Health Plan - A health option that requires benefits to be provided within a specified network of facilities and providers. Coverage for out-of-network services is only provided for out-of-area emergencies.

Flexible Scheduling - A schedule whereby the media specialist's contact time includes time when s/he is available for any student who enters the media center without being assigned a particular group of students on regular schedule.

Formulary drugs - A list of preferred brand name drugs, within therapeutic categories that do not have a generic equivalent. Preference is determined by the pharmacy benefit manager and is subject to change at the discretion of the pharmacy benefit manager.

Grievance - A dispute involving a violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of a provision(s) of the contract.

Immediate Family - An employee's spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandparent, grandchild, in-laws of the same, parent's siblings and their children, and other persons of the employee's household, as set forth in Florida Statutes. For the benefits and leave granted in compliance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, only the employee's spouse, parent, or child shall be considered immediate family.

Mediation - A process of resolving a dispute which may be utilized prior to an arbitration hearing to resolve a grievance.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) - A legal agreement between all parties on a common issue that does not substantially change salaries or benefits which takes immediate effect until the Contract ratification vote, mutual withdrawal, or until the expiration of the Contract. (See Article II.K.)

Non-Formulary Drugs - Brand name drugs that are not listed as a Formulary Drug. The pharmacy benefit manager determines the drugs considered non-formulary, and it is subject to change at the discretion of the pharmacy benefit manager. Brand name drugs that have a generic equivalent and are not listed as a Formulary Drug are subject to additional co-payments.

Long-Term Leave - Any continuous leave in excess of 20 duty days.

Non-Student Contact Day - A day when employees are required to be at work but students are not required to be in attendance.

Peer Teacher - An experienced teacher who holds a valid regular certificate and, preferably, teaches at the same level, in the same subject area, or the same service area as a beginning teacher, and supports the beginning teacher as a part of the Professional Orientation Program.

Preparations - Preparations are subjects as they are listed in the course code directory.

Preplanning and Post-Planning Day - A non-student contact day before and after the student year, respectively.

President - The elected president of the Association or the designee to whom the President may delegate a responsibility in this contract.

Primary Contract - The agreement between the District and the individual teacher that outlines the number of duty days per year, states the beginning and ending dates of the work year, states the annual salary and lists the type of contract a teacher has with respect to their certification status and type of position filled (temporary, annual, continuing, professional service.) A teacher's annual salary is based upon the primary contract. See Article VII.B. and C, Article XV.A. and Article XVI.D.

Resource Teacher - Any non-classroom teacher unit providing support services to classroom based teachers.

Retirement - Early Retirement:

FRS Pension Plan Members: If you are vested and have not reached your normal retirement date, you may elect to take early retirement. If you do, the amount of your benefit will be reduced by 5 percent for each year between your age at retirement and your normal retirement age. FS 121.021 (30)

FRS Investment Plan Members: Employees that are at least age 59 1/2 with six years of creditable service or at least 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age.

Retirement - Normal Retirement:

FRS Pension Plan Members: Six (6) years of service and age 62 or at least 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age that apply for and receive distributions. F.S. 121.021(29) (a) 1. 2. and F.S. 112.0801

FRS Investment Plan Members: Six (6) years of service and age 62 or at least 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age and eligible to receive distribution. F.S. 121.021(29) (a) 1. 2. and F.S. 112.0801

Retirement - Vesting: The guarantee that a member is eligible to receive a future retirement benefit upon completion of the required years of creditable service for the employee's class of membership, even though the member may have terminated covered employment before reaching normal or early retirement date. (pension plan six years or investment plan one year for regular class) F.S. 121.021 (45) (a)

Scheduled Holiday - A weekday, during the student calendar year, when students are not required to be in attendance.

School - The facility or work-site to which an employee is assigned.

Seniority - The length of time an employee has served in the District based upon the most recent period of full-time continuous employment, exclusive of long-term leaves of absence without pay and exclusive of time earned by employees prior to their entering the bargaining unit if they have changed positions to do so. Half-time experience shall count as one-half of full-time experience for the purpose of calculating seniority.

Staff Development and In-service days - Staff development and in-service are terms that may be used interchangeably to identify activities and programs that are conducted to meet the needs of the district, school/work location or the individual employee.

Student Contact Day - A day when students are required to be in attendance at school.

Student Contact Time - Time when teachers are assigned responsibility for students.

Superintendent - The Superintendent or a district-level administrator to whom the Superintendent may delegate a responsibility in this contract.

Supplement - Additional salary for which an employee performs extra duties and/or responsibilities before, during or after the regular workday.

Teacher - A certified employee of the bargaining unit.

Tentative Agreement (TA) - An agreement reached between the parties on language on an issue that will eventually be a part of the ratification vote for the Contract.

OCPS EEO Non-Discrimination Statement

The School Board of Orange County, Florida, does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other reason prohibited by law. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities.

The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies, reports of alleged violations, concerns about compliance and/or the grievance procedure(s), etc.:

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Officer and Title IX:

Keshara Cowans – Staff Attorney III
Office of Legal Services
Ronald Blocker Educational Leadership Center
445 W. Amelia St. Orlando, FL 32801
(407) 317-3411

ADA Coordinator:

Jay Cardinali – ADA Compliance Officer
Office of Legal Services
Ronald Blocker Educational Leadership Center
445 W. Amelia St. Orlando, FL 32801
(407) 250-6248

Section 504:

Tajuana Lee-Wenze – Senior Director
ESE Policy and Procedures: Public K-12
Ronald Blocker Educational Leadership Center
445 W. Amelia St. Orlando, FL 32801
(407) 317-3279