



Agreement

Between

Phoenix Central School District

and the

**Phoenix Central School
Teachers' Association**

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2027

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PREAMBLE

This Agreement, effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2027, is by and between the Superintendent of Schools of the PHOENIX CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, hereinafter called the "Superintendent" and the PHOENIX CENTRAL SCHOOL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION, hereinafter called the "Association."

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the Association recognize and declare that providing a quality education for the children of the Phoenix Central School District (District) is their mutual aim and that the character of such education depends predominantly upon the quality and morale of the teaching services and

Recognizing that the members of the teaching profession are particularly qualified to assist in formulating policies and programs designed to improve education standards and

Acknowledging that the Superintendent has a statutory obligation, pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law (Chapter 392 of the Laws of 1967 - Public Employees Fair Employment Act), to negotiate with the Association as the representative of its teaching personnel with respect to hours, wages, terms, and conditions of employment, for the term of this agreement and

The parties have reached certain understandings which they desire to confirm in this Agreement, the Superintendent agrees to the following:

Within 2 weeks of its execution, copies of this Agreement shall be printed at the expense of the District and distributed to all teachers now employed by the District. Teachers hereafter employed by the District shall be given copies of the Agreement at the time of employment.

ARTICLE I
Recognition

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes the Association as the exclusive negotiating agent for the Association composed of all professional, certificated personnel including part-time personnel, social workers, teaching assistants, registered school nurses, and long term substitute teachers who are employed in 1 position for 20 or more consecutive days, for the maximum period provided by law. Excluded from the Association are the Superintendent, administrators, and teaching aides.

- A. Part-time personnel (half-time or more) shall be entitled to all the rights and benefits of this Agreement except that their salaries shall be prorated to the time worked. The health and dental benefits for those employees shall be prorated at the same proration as salary - i.e., 0.50 salaried teachers will have health and dental benefits prorated at 50%, 0.75 salaried teachers at 75%, etc.
- B. Reduction in Force Full-time personnel who are involuntarily reduced to part-time status shall be entitled to all the rights and benefits except that their salary shall be prorated to the time worked. The health and dental benefits for involuntary reduced personnel shall be the same as a full-time employee. A reduced member who declines a full-time position will have their health and dental benefits prorated as outlined in Article I B.
- C. Social Workers shall be entitled to all of the rights and benefits of this Agreement except as specifically amended herein. The work day, work year and compensation of social workers shall be equal in all respects to that of school counselors. An exception to the workday shall be that social workers shall have a workday of 8 continuous hours of employment scheduled at the direction of the Director of Pupil Personnel Services/Special Education.
- D. Long-Term Substitute Teachers & Teaching Assistants (TAs) shall be entitled to all of the rights and benefits of this Agreement except as specifically amended herein.
 - 1. Long-Term Substitute Teachers & TAs:
 - a. Shall refer to a teacher or TA who has formally received an appointment for a specified time by the Board recorded in the minutes of the Board.

OR

- b. Shall refer to a substitute teacher or TA who is employed in 1 position for 20 or more consecutive days and continuing until relieved of service by the building principal.
 - c. In the event that the teacher or TA being replaced indicates in writing that his/her absence will be 60 or more working days, a substitute teacher or TA will be recommended for an appointment by the Board for a specified period of time.
 - 2. Substitutes, per Article I.E.1.a and c, will be eligible for all benefits (full or pro rata) and terms and conditions of the Association in addition to salary, retroactive to the first day of employment.

3. Long-term substitute teachers, Article I.E.1, would be paid a prorated salary rate based on Step 1 Teachers Salary Schedule, retroactive to the first day of employment. Long term substitute TAs will be paid a pro-rated salary rate based on Step 1 of the TA Salary Schedule.
 4. Substitutes, Article I.E.1.b, will not be eligible for the benefits and terms and conditions of Association Articles IX (Insurance) and XIV (Leaves) unless and until a Board appointment is made. After Board appointment, benefits for substitutes shall be retroactive to the first day of employment.
- E. Substitute teachers for regular part-time teachers shall also be included in Recognition Clause and the sections above relating to Long Term Substitute Teachers.
- F. Itinerant (per diem) substitute teachers who are employed on a rotating basis (less than 20 consecutive days in the same assignment) are not part of the recognition clause or covered by this agreement.

ARTICLE II **Negotiation Procedures**

Negotiations shall be conducted with the Association pursuant to the provisions of the Public Employees' Fair Employment Act (aka: Taylor Law), as recognized under the by-laws of the District.

ARTICLE III **Grievance Procedure**

A. Declaration of Purpose

WHEREAS, the establishment and maintenance of a harmonious and cooperative relationship between the Board and its teachers is essential to the operation of the schools, it is the purpose of this procedure to secure, at the lowest possible administrative level, equitable solutions to alleged grievances of teachers through procedures under which they may present grievances free from coercion, interference, restraint, discrimination or reprisal, and by which the Board and its teachers are afforded adequate opportunity to dispose of their differences without the necessity of time consuming and costly proceedings before administrative agencies and/or in the courts.

B. Definitions

1. Grievance: is a claim by an Association member or group of members based upon any event or condition affecting their welfare and/or terms and conditions of employment, including, but not limited to, any claimed violation, misinterpretation, misapplication or inequitable application of law, rules or regulations, having the force of law, this agreement, policies, rules, by-laws, regulations, directions, orders, work rules, procedures, practices or customs of the Board and administration.
2. Supervisor: shall mean any department chairman, principal, assistant principal, immediate superior, or other administrative or supervisory officer responsible for the area in which an alleged grievance arises except for the Superintendent.

3. Chief Officer: is the Superintendent of Schools.
4. Association: shall mean Phoenix Central School Teachers' Association.
5. Aggrieved Party: shall mean any person or group of persons in the Association filing grievance.
6. Grievance Committee: is the committee created and constituted by the Association.
7. Hearing Officer: shall mean any individual or board charged with the duty of rendering decisions at any stage in grievance hereunder.

C. Procedures

1. Written grievances shall include the name and position of the aggrieved party, the identity of the provision of law, this agreement, policies, etc. involved in the said grievance, the time when and the place where the alleged events or conditions constituting the grievance existed, the identity of the party responsible for causing the said events or conditions, if known to the aggrieved party, and a general statement of the nature of the grievance and the redress sought by the aggrieved party.
2. Except for informal decisions at Stage 1(a), all decisions beyond this Stage 1(a), shall be rendered in writing, setting forth the findings of fact, conclusions and supporting reasons therefore. Each decision shall be promptly transmitted in writing to the teacher and the Association.
3. If a grievance affects a group of teachers and appears to be associated with system-wide policies, it may be submitted by the Association according to the established order.
4. The Board and the Association agree to facilitate any investigation which may be required to make available to the appropriate hearing officer all information pertinent to the alleged grievance.
5. Except as otherwise provided in Article III.E.1.a and b, an aggrieved party shall have the right to all stages of a grievance to confront and cross examine all witnesses called against him/her, to testify and to call witnesses on his/her own behalf, and to be furnished with a copy of any minutes of the proceedings made at each and every stage of this grievance procedure.
6. No interference, coercion, restraint, discrimination, or reprisal of any kind, will be taken by any party to the grievance procedure.
7. Forms for filing grievances, serving notices, making appeals, and making reports and recommendations, and other necessary documents will be jointly developed by the Board and the Association. The Superintendent shall then have them printed and distributed so as to facilitate operation of the grievance procedure.
8. If any provision of this grievance procedure or any application thereof to any member of this Association shall be finally determined by any court 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 will continue in full force and effect.

9. The Superintendent shall be responsible for accumulating and maintaining an official Grievance Record which shall consist of the written grievance, all exhibits, transcripts, communications, minutes and/or notes of the testimony, as the case may be, written arguments and briefs considered at all levels other than Stage 1(a) and all written decisions at all stages. Official minutes will be kept at Board expense of all proceedings in Stages 2 and 3. A copy of such minutes will be made available to the aggrieved party and the Grievance Committee within 2 days after the conclusion of hearings at Stage 2 and 3. The appropriate hearing officer should be advised of any errors in said minutes. Any such claims of errors in the minutes shall become a part of the Official Grievance Record and the hearing officer shall indicate the determination made respecting such claimed error. The official Grievance Record shall be available for inspection and/or copying by the Aggrieved Party, the Grievance Committee and the Board, but shall not be deemed a public record.

D. Time Limits

1. The time limits specified for either party may be extended only by mutual agreement.
2. A written grievance will be deemed waived unless forwarded at the first available stage within 60 calendar days after the teacher knew or should have known of the act or condition on which the grievance is based.
3. If a decision at one stage is not appealed to the next stage of the procedure within the time limits specified, the grievance will be deemed to be discontinued and further appeal under this agreement shall be barred.
4. Failure at any stage of the grievance procedure to communicate a decision to the aggrieved party, his/her representatives and the Association within the specified time limit shall permit the lodging of an appeal at the next stage of the procedure within the time which would have been allotted had the decision been communicated by the final day.
5. In the event a grievance is filed on or after June 1, upon request by or on behalf of the aggrieved party, the time limits set forth herein will be reduced pro rata so that the grievance procedure may be exhausted prior to the end of the school term, or as soon thereafter as is possible.

E. Stages

1. Stage 1: Supervisor
 - a. A teacher having a grievance will discuss it with his/her supervisor, either directly or through a representative, with the objective of resolving the matter informally. The supervisor will confer with all parties in interest, but will not consider any material or statements offered by, or on behalf of, any such party in interest with whom consultation has been had without the aggrieved party and/or his/her representative present.

- b. If the grievance is not resolved informally, it shall be reduced to writing and presented to the supervisor. Within 10 school days after the written grievance is presented to him/her, the supervisor shall, without any further consultation with the aggrieved party or any party in interest, render a decision thereon in writing, and present it to the teacher, his/her representative and the Association.
 - c. A teacher not wishing to be represented by the Association is free to follow grievance procedure without involvement by the Association.
2. Stage 2: Superintendent
- a. If the teacher initiating the grievance is not satisfied with the written decision at the conclusion of Stage 1 and wishes to proceed further under this grievance procedure, the teacher shall, within 5 school days, present the grievance to the Association's Grievance Committee for its consideration.
 - b. If the Grievance Committee determines that the teacher has a meritorious grievance, then, it will file a written appeal of the decision at Stage 1 with the Superintendent within 20 school days after the teacher has received such written decision. Copies of the written decision at Stage 1 shall be submitted with the appeal.
 - c. Within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 10 school days, after receipt of the appeal, the Superintendent, or his/her duly authorized representative, shall hold a hearing with the teacher and the Grievance Committee or its representative and all other parties in interest.
 - d. The Superintendent shall render a decision in writing to the teacher, the Grievance Committee and its representative within 10 school days after the conclusion of the hearing. In cases involving a suspension from duty, with or without loss of pay, the Superintendent's decision shall be rendered within 5 school days.
3. Stage 3: Arbitration or School Board
- a. General Provisions
 - i. Grievances which are claimed violations of the Agreement are the only grievances that can be processed through the following arbitration stage.
 - ii. If the teacher and/or Association are not satisfied with the decision at Stage 2, and the Association determines that the grievance is meritorious and that appealing it is in the best interests of the District, it may submit the grievance to arbitration by written notice to the Superintendent within 15 calendar days of the decision at Stage 2.
 - iii. Within 5 calendar days after such written notice of submission to arbitration, a request for a list of arbitrators will be made to the American Arbitration Association by either party. The parties will then be bound by

the rules and procedures of the American Arbitration Association in the selection of an arbitrator.

- iv. The arbitrator selected shall hear the matter promptly and will issue a decision not later than 14 calendar days from the date of the close of hearings, or if oral hearings have been waived, then from the date the final statements and proofs are submitted to him/her. The arbitrator's decision will be in writing and will set forth his/her findings of fact, reasoning, and conclusion on the issues submitted.
- v. The cost of the services of the arbitrator, including expenses if any, will be borne equally by the Board and Association.
- vi. The arbitrator's authority shall be to interpret and apply the language of the Agreement. The arbitrator shall have no power to add to, subtract from, or change any of the provisions of this Agreement, nor to imply any obligation which is not specifically set forth in this Agreement.
- vii. Any settlement between the Board and the Association at any stage of the grievance procedure shall be binding on the Board, the Association, and the aggrieved employee (s).

b. Advisory Arbitration and School Board

- i. Except as noted in Article III.E.3.c, the award of the arbitrator shall be advisory only. The parties agree to give good faith consideration to the recommendation of the arbitrator. In the event that either of the parties fails to accept the award of the arbitrator, then either party shall be free to pursue any remedy available under law.
- ii. The Association may choose not to pursue advisory arbitration and may request that the Superintendent's recommendation be submitted to the Board for review.
- iii. Within 10 school days after the Board receives the Arbitrator's Advisory Award or the Superintendent's recommendation, the Board shall hold an executive hearing to consider the award or the recommendation. Within 10 school days of that hearing, the Board shall issue its decision on the grievance.

c. Binding Arbitration

An arbitrator's award shall be final and binding on the Board and the Association, except for the Articles excluded below:

Article VI.B.1-4 (salary placement for newly hired teachers)

Article VIII.A-B; C.1, 4-6; and D (professional improvement, conference policy, visiting days, some aspects of in-service credit and curriculum projects)

Article XI.A.1-3 (some aspects of teacher assignments)

Article XII.B.1.a; B.2.a;and D (certain aspects of class load and class size and IEPs)

Article XIV.A.2 and B.2 (sick leave bank and discretionary leave.)

Article XVI.B and C (orientation programs and teachers' responsibilities and obligations.)

Forms included in the contract (Appendix A)

ARTICLE IV **Teachers' Rights**

- A. In accordance with the law of the United States and the State of New York and established practices of the Board and the Association, there shall be no discrimination against any teacher because of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or membership or participation in the activities of the Association or other professional organizations.
- B. Teachers shall be entitled to full rights of citizenship and the exercise of such rights shall not be grounds for any disciplinary action or discrimination against a teacher.
- C. Teachers shall have the right to exercise professional judgment in selecting and presenting educational material to a class provided said material is within the policies and guidelines of the curriculum as established by the Board.
- D. All disciplinary interviews or reprimands by supervisors or school administrators will be conducted in private.
- E. Official teacher files shall be maintained under the following conditions:
 - 1. No material derogatory to a teacher's conduct, service, character or personality, (excluding references and information obtained in the process of evaluating the teacher for employment) shall be placed in the files unless the teacher has been given the opportunity to read the material. The teacher shall acknowledge that s/he has read such material by placing his/her signature on the copy to be filed, with the understanding that such signature does not necessarily indicate agreement with the content but merely signifies that s/he has read the material.
 - 2. The teacher shall have the right to answer any material filed. His/her answer shall be reviewed by the Superintendent and attached to the file copy.
 - 3. The teacher shall be given, upon request, complete access to his/her file, (excluding reference information obtained in the process of evaluating the teacher for employment and confidential letters of recommendation to other school systems).
 - 4. The personnel file also includes an electronic version of teacher evaluations and overall teacher composite scores. Only the above named electronic files that are stored in an approved system (i.e. OASYS) will be considered an official file.

- F. Terminal Interview
 - 1. Any employee terminating employment for any reason may, if so desired, obtain a terminal interview with the building principal or Superintendent.
 - 2. All forms and information available to the District applicable to termination of employment will be available during the terminal interview.
- G. When the building principal deems it feasible, s/he will utilize the talent and training of the individual members of the instructional staff in the study of proposed programs, staffing, and curriculum planning.

ARTICLE V
Association Rights

- A. The Association, for the period of its recognition as the representative unit, shall have the right to use designated areas of school buildings for business meetings of the Association. The use of these areas to be arranged with the building principal in advance.
- B. In the performance of its functions, the Association has the right to use Faculty Room bulletin boards, inter-school mail service, and teacher mailboxes.
- C. No teacher shall engage in Association activities during the time s/he is assigned to actual teaching duties.
- D. Officers and members may be granted leave by the Board, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to attend professional meetings. If this permission is granted, there will be no loss of personal leave days.
- E. The District authorizes the Association to have a telephone installed, on a direct line, in the Faculty Room in the building in which the Association President teaches. The cost of the installation of the direct telephone will be paid for directly by the Association.
- F. Every effort will be made to provide the Association with available figures used by the Board in arriving at their position in regard to financial matters in the contract.
- G. Payroll Deduction for Association Dues - Regular Association dues for the Association shall be deducted either from 1 pay, 10 pays, or 20 pays at the employee's option, or as per procedures mutually determined by the Association Treasurer and the Business Administrator. The District further agrees to provide a payroll deduction option for association dues of deductions throughout the school year or in the first 10 paychecks of the school year as long as the local NYSUT treasurer provides a list to the District indicating the preferred option, as soon after September 1 of the school year as possible.
- H. The District shall provide 15 days per school year to the Association President (or designee) for Association activities. Additional days may be approved at the discretion of the Superintendent. These additional days will not be subject to the grievance procedure, if denied.

ARTICLE VI
Salary

- A. The salary program of this section applies to all members of the "Instructional Negotiating Unit."
- B. When employing new staff, the Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for approval the placing of said staff member on the appropriate step of the salary schedule based upon the following criteria:
 - 1. Degree and/or advanced study status
 - 2. Appropriate credit for past experience
 - 3. Experience in related fields of endeavor
 - 4. Military service, with maximum credit of 2 years
- C. School counselors' and social workers' regular salary will be based on the teachers' salary schedule, plus 1/10th additional for the 11th month of service.

In addition, a school counselor and social worker will receive a monthly stipend for each month of service as follows:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
2023-24	\$209.22
2024-25	\$217.59
2025-26	\$226.29
2026-27	\$235.34

- D. Staff members with a 10-month salary notice shall be employed and entitled to salary for the school year extending from September 1 to June 30.
- E. Staff members on 11-month schedule shall be employed and entitled to salary for the school year extending from September 1 to June 30 plus the equivalent of 1 additional month.
- F. Teachers on leave of absence without pay shall be carried on the payroll at the salary step at the start of the leave. They will receive a step increment at the commencement of the school year following said leave.
- G. Salaries for summer employment shall be as follows:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
2023-24	\$54.07
2024-25	\$56.23
2025-26	\$58.48
2026-27	\$60.82

- H. Homebound Instruction, Teachers of Staff Development Courses, Teachers of In-service Courses, student supervision and Teachers who provide substitute coverage shall be compensated at the rate per hour as follows:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
2023-24	\$54.07
2024-25	\$56.23
2025-26	\$58.48
2026-27	\$60.82

- I. Staff Development work itself shall be compensated at the rate per hour as follows:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
2023-24	\$40.55
2024-25	\$42.17
2025-26	\$43.86
2026-27	\$45.61

- J. Determination of Salary Schedule:

1. All salary schedules will be structured to include a percent increase inclusive of step on the Bachelor Degree column as listed in the Teachers' Salary Schedule. The formula that includes the credit hour and the degree stipend will be carried through the schedule to the nearest dollar on each cell in the schedule. Each year of the contract, Step 1 on the Teachers' Salary Schedule will be \$400 less than Step 2.

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Percent</u>
2023-24	4.0%
2024-25	4.0%
2025-26	4.0%
2026-27	4.0%

2. There shall be 40 salary steps included in the Teachers' Salary Schedule.
3. Additional graduate hours for credit shall be approved by the Superintendent of the District and shall be compensated by the hour with compensation for each additional hour earned to begin with the first salary payment in September for hours earned during the second semester (February-June) or the summer (July-August) of that year and compensated for hours earned during the first semester (September-January) to begin with the first salary payment in February.
 - a. For 11-month teachers, additional hours earned in the second semester shall receive compensation beginning with the first salary payment in July of that year.
 - b. Additional hours credit shall be properly claimed at least 2 weeks previous to the first payday and verified within 30 days following completion of this course.
4. Compensation for each hour on the Bachelor and Masters degree schedule shall be as listed below. Compensation shall be computed at an annual rate.

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Hour</u>
2023-24	\$113.51
2024-25	\$118.05
2025-26	\$122.77
2026-27	\$127.68

5. Association members earning a Masters Degree shall be compensated for each prior approved graduate credit hour earned beyond the Bachelor Degree. The Masters Degree stipend shall be added to the step and graduate credit hour salary figure to provide the Association member's base salary as follows:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
2023-24	\$2,423
2024-25	\$2,520
2025-26	\$2,621
2026-27	\$2,726

6. Each 11-month employee shall receive the above stipend, plus 10% of the stipend for the 11th month of service.
7. Teachers will have the opportunity to select a salary payment plan, which will consist of: 21 payments; 26 payments with 12 months; OR 26 payments with 10 months.
- Teachers will have the opportunity to select a 10-month salary plan (21 payments), or a 12-month salary plan (26 payments). This 12-month salary payment (26 payments) option will also include the lump sum payment option on the last payday in June.
 - 26 payment plan will coincide with the 12-month employee's pay schedule determined by the District.
 - Once these options are made they will continue in effect for the fiscal year without change.
 - Regardless of the payment plan selected, the District shall provide each teacher with his/her first complete paycheck no later than the second Friday worked in September. For those teachers selecting a salary payment option that will be payable within the 10-month school year, their last complete paycheck shall be paid no later than the last day of actual employment in the school year.

8. Longevity:

Longevity steps shall be paid after the appropriate number of years of service in the District as listed below:

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
After 5 yrs	\$1,302	\$1,354	\$1,408	\$1,464
After 10 yrs	\$1,302	\$1,354	\$1,408	\$1,464
After 15 yrs	\$1,302	\$1,354	\$1,408	\$1,464
After 20 yrs	\$1,302	\$1,354	\$1,408	\$1,464
After 25 yrs	\$1,302	\$1,354	\$1,408	\$1,464
After 30 yrs	\$1,302	\$1,354	\$1,408	\$1,464

(Approved unpaid leave does not result in the individual forsaking their previous accumulated service toward the number of years required for longevity step, but the time spent on an unpaid leave does not add to the previous accumulated service. Paid sabbatical leaves do not interrupt the accumulation of service.)

9. New teachers employed and placed on the payroll on or before the beginning of the second semester in any given school year will be advanced to the next step of the Teachers' Salary Schedule at the beginning of the following school year. Those teachers placed on the payroll after the beginning of the second semester will remain on the same step the following school year.
10. Salary computation if teacher serves less than 10 months. (Salary for a calendar month):
- a. Salary for a calendar month will be 1/10th the annual salary rate in effect at that time including credit for graduate course hours approved as of the date of last day worked.
 - b. A calendar month containing more than 20 workdays will be treated as a full month if the teacher works or is on approved absence for at least 20 days in the month.
 - c. The teacher is obligated and is expected to teach all scheduled days in the month, however.

ARTICLE VII
Teacher Evaluation

Those employees who are covered under the new APPR 3012-d standards will be evaluated under the most recent separately negotiated APPR Plan which is incorporated by reference into this Agreement. All others will be evaluated under the terms of this Article.

The District and Association agree to re-open negotiations over the APPR only (if necessary), for the purpose of compliance with the NYS Education Department's guidelines concerning the implementation of pending changes in APPR specified in Section 3012-d of the Laws of New York (Education) and Section 100.2(o) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

A. Board Policy Considerations

The stated Board Policy on the evaluation of professional staff members will be based on the following considerations:

1. An APPR Committee will review and revise the teacher evaluation contained in this Article. The APPR Committee will be comprised of the Association President, the Superintendent (or designee), 4 teachers appointed by the Association President, and 4 administrators appointed by the Superintendent.
2. The purpose of teacher evaluation is to obtain the improvement of instruction and to encourage professional growth and responsibility on the part of the faculty member. The most vital part of the procedure is the sharing of ideas for the teacher's improvement and success. This mutual interchange of ideas results in benefits to teachers and pupils.
 - a. If a teacher is not performing satisfactorily, s/he should be given assistance by supervisors and principals to help improve his/her teaching.
 - b. The impetus for correcting and alleviating weaknesses will be a responsibility of both the teacher and administrator. A non-tenured teacher District will be evaluated periodically and weaknesses will be thoroughly discussed with the evaluator. At the end of each year, the likelihood being retained will be discussed. If such is the case, continuation into the last year of probation will occur with the thorough knowledge of weaknesses and the progress of improvement expected before tenure will be considered.
 - c. Teachers shall be evaluated by personnel qualified by training and experience to do so.
 - d. All teachers shall participate in the formal observation process. No observation of either type shall take place after June 1 of each school year.
 - e. All probationary teachers shall be visited for the purpose of written formal observations at least 3 times during the year, once on or before each of the following dates: November 1, April 30 and June 1.

- f. The approved District evaluation forms will be signed by both the evaluator and the teacher. The teacher's signature on the forms shall not necessarily constitute agreement with the evaluation.
- g. Any proposed changes to the format of the evaluation form will be presented to the APPR committee for review and consideration.
- h. All teacher committees will be on a voluntary basis.
- i. A pre-conference meeting shall be held prior to a scheduled observation. Every effort will be made to conduct the pre-conference at least 1 week prior of the formal observation. The use of the pre-observation form is optional.
- j. Each observation for the purpose of a formal written observation will be followed within 2 weeks by a post-conference with the evaluator. This post-conference, which should be conducted in a spirit of friendly cooperation, is the most important step of the evaluation procedure. If it is slighted by the evaluator, or taken lightly or defensively by the teacher, the most hopeful part of the evaluation procedure will be lost. This point cannot be over emphasized.
- k. The formal processes for professional staff evaluation are specified in this Article.

The parties agree to re-open negotiations for the purpose of compliance with the New York State Education Department's guidelines concerning the implementation of the new APPR requirements specified in §3012-c of the Laws of New York (Education) and §100.2(o) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

B. Coaching and Extracurricular Evaluations

1. After the formal evaluation of a coach or extracurricular activity advisor (visit and conferencing) to be completed prior to the conclusion of the activity/sport, the coach/advisor shall sign the composite form (completed within 3 weeks after the activity has ended) to indicate s/he has seen it. The signature in no way is to be construed as concurrence or approval with the contents of the evaluation. A copy of the composite shall remain in the evaluator's file, the second copy shall be forwarded to the Superintendent to be placed in a folder separate from the official teacher's file, and the third copy will be given to the coach/advisor.
2. The impetus for correcting and alleviating weaknesses will be a responsibility of both the coach/advisor and the administrator. A coach/advisor will be evaluated seasonally and weaknesses will be placed in writing and thoroughly discussed with the evaluator. Prior to the termination of any coach/advisor, the District shall provide sufficient opportunity to correct such identified deficiency(ies), except in cases violating relevant State Law and or Commissioner of Education's regulations.

- C. Definition of the Evaluative Criteria - All professional staff members will be informed of the criteria on which their teaching is being evaluated at the beginning of the year. The following should be helpful in understanding the criteria of evaluation.

New York Teaching Standards

1. The professional performance review plan for teachers is based on the New York State Teaching Standards. These, therefore, are the criteria that will be used to evaluate teachers:
 - a. Knowledge of Students and Student Learning: Teachers acquire knowledge of each student, and demonstrate knowledge of student development and learning to promote achievement for all students.
 - b. Knowledge of Content and Instructional Planning: Teachers know the content they are responsible for teaching, and plan instruction that ensures growth and achievement for all students.
 - c. Instructional Practice: Teachers implement instruction that engages and challenges all students to meet or exceed the learning standards.
 - d. Learning Environment: Teachers work with all students to create a dynamic learning environment that supports achievement and growth.
 - e. Assessment for Student Learning: Teachers use multiple measures to assess and document student growth, evaluate instructional effectiveness, and modify instruction. This includes assessment techniques based on appropriate learning standards designed to measure students' progress in learning and that s/he successfully utilizes analysis of available student performance data (for example: State test results, student work, school-developed assessments, teacher-developed assessments, etc.) and other relevant information (for example: documented health or nutrition needs, or other student characteristics affecting learning) when providing instruction.
 - f. Professional Responsibilities and Collaboration: Teachers demonstrate professional responsibility and engage relevant stakeholders to maximize student growth, development, and learning. This includes the development of effective collaborative relationships with students, parents or caregivers, as needed and appropriate support personnel to meet the learning needs of students.
 - g. Professional Growth: Teachers set informed goals and strive for continuous professional growth.

- D. Process for Non-Tenured Teachers. The focus of the process for non-tenured teachers is to provide an opportunity for teachers to increase the effectiveness of their classroom techniques, improve their instruction, and enhance their personal and professional growth. It is also an opportunity to provide a process for administrators to determine tenure in an environment that encourages mutual trust and respect. Process Steps:

1. At least 3 observations will be conducted by a trained evaluator each school year. Of these, one observation will be unannounced.
 2. All Teaching Standards as outlined in the NYSUT Teaching Practice Rubric will be evaluated over the course of a school year.
- E. Process for Tenured Teachers. The focus of the process for tenured teachers is to provide opportunities for continuous growth in an environment that encourages collaboration among colleagues and is based upon mutual trust, respect, and personal and professional judgment. Tenured teachers will be evaluated every year and will be required to have at least 2 observations every school year. Process Steps:
1. At least 2 observations will be conducted by a trained evaluator each school year. Of these, one observation will be unannounced.
 2. All Teaching Standards as outlined in the NYSUT Teaching Practice Rubric will be evaluated over the course of a school year.
- F. Supportive Supervision Process (Teacher Improvement Plan)
1. The focus of the supportive supervision process is to provide intensive support and remediation to any teacher identified as having serious problems in the classroom. The supportive supervision process may be initiated by either an administrator or the staff member. Using a collaborative process, the teacher and administrator will mutually determine specific skills for remediation. Non-tenured and tenured teachers receiving an overall composite rating of ineffective or developing will be placed on supportive supervision in the subsequent school year.
 2. The supportive supervision process will be a 2-tiered process. The primary and initial focus of this process will be on growth. The informal process will consist of a series of observations and feedback. During this time, the administrator's main focus will be on correction. Data collected at this time will not be used to deny tenure or make a recommendation for dismissal. Data collected during the informal process will not be placed in a personnel file. Should improvement not be noted during this time, the process may move to the formal level. During the formal level, observations and feedback may lead to a recommendation for dismissal or denial of tenure.
 3. Process Steps:
 - a. Upon identification of a need for remediation, a letter will be sent to the teacher indicating the need to initiate the supportive supervision process. A support team will be formed by the administrator and teacher. The makeup of the support team will be as outlined on the informal and formal form. Teachers rated ineffective or developing will be notified by September 1 of the need to initiate the supportive supervision process.
 - b. Within 2 weeks, the teacher and the assigned administrator, and support team will meet to mutually determine the specific skills in need of remediation and the order in which they will be addressed. At this time, criteria that will be used for assessment will be determined. Teachers rated ineffective or developing will

have a supportive improvement plan implemented no later than 10 days from the opening of classes of the subsequent school year of the received rating.

- c. An implementation plan will also be developed at that time and will include:
 - i. specific skills to be exhibited during observations (no more than 3 skills at a time).
 - ii. specific strategies to address development of each skill (this might include the assignment of a mentor or departmental team for support, readings, observations of peers, etc).
 - iii. a timeline established by the support team.
- d. Post conferences should occur immediately following each observation to advise, actively listen and provide support and assistance, or problem-solve relevant to the skill being addressed and the data gathered during the observation. The support team will convene for any post-conferences.
- e. At the end of the informal process a recommendation will be made to continue at the same level of the process, move to the formal process, or remove from the supportive supervision process.
- f. If the decision is to move to the formal process of supportive supervision, the teacher will be advised by written notification that any documentation generated in the procedure may be used to support the beginning of dismissal proceedings or to deny tenure.
- g. An implementation plan for the formal level of supportive supervision will be developed and will include:
 - i. Specific skills to be exhibited during observations. (No more than 3 skills at a time)
 - ii. Specific strategies to address development of each skill.
 - iii. Scheduled observations and conferences by support team members.
- h. At the end of the formal process, a summative evaluation, in narrative form, will be written by the support team and shared with the teacher. The evaluation will address the improvement or lack of improvement in the classroom. A recommendation at this time will be made to continue at the same level of the process, remove from the supportive supervision process, or begin dismissal proceedings.

ARTICLE VIII
Professional Improvement

- A. The Board and the Association agree that advanced professional study, in-service training, visiting days, and participation in study councils and seminars are integral parts of each teacher's professional improvement.

The parties shall encourage the utilization of the visiting day privilege when it will introduce the visitor to innovation, experimentation, or professional knowledge or skills which will serve to further his/her professional competence and/or professional competence of the department which s/he represents.

- B. Conference Policy - Since it is educationally wise to keep abreast of trends and ideas in education, and to be active participants in educational organization, educational workshops and conferences should be utilized and supported by the District. The following conditions shall be observed (general conditions):
1. Paid attendance must fall within the budget allocation for the department, grade level, or teacher.
 2. Formal request for permission to attend will be submitted to the building administrator in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the conference..
 3. Permission to attend will be granted, or denied, by the Superintendent and the Board. The applicant will be notified in writing of the action taken in regard to this request:
 - a. Personnel to attend State and National Conference will be set up in the summer or early fall insofar as it is generally possible.
 - b. The number of persons to attend any one conference will be initially determined by the building administrator and the Superintendent upon consideration of the value of the conference program to the improvement of the local instruction program and the availability of suitable substitute teachers. It is understood that Board approval is required for attendance by more than one teacher at any single conference.
 - c. In cases where it is deemed that a teacher's attendance at a specific conference would be of benefit to the District, the building administrator and Superintendent may grant that teacher permission to attend that conference at the teacher's own expense or with only a part of his/her expense paid by the District providing all other considerations have been met.
 4. Upon request, a written report of the conference shall be submitted to the building administrator with a copy to the Chief School Administrator.
 5. Notice to be given to the Board of those attending conference.
 6. Officers and/or participating program members will be allowed to attend when expenses are paid by the State/National organization. Otherwise, the preceding conditions apply. For workshops (state, county, college, area), the enumerated general conditions, other than Article VIII.B.6, will apply.

C. In-service Credit - Recognizing the need for in-service training courses and workshops, the following provisions will pertain to such courses.

1. Recommendations and plans for in-service training programs and in-service workshops may be presented to the Superintendent. There shall be a joint planning committee for in-service workshops and in-service training programs composed of an equal number of members appointed by the Superintendent and the Association. The functions of this committee are to prepare plans for the implementation of all approved in-service training courses and workshops. There will be no remuneration or released time for service on this committee.
2. Upon acceptance of such recommendations and plans by the Superintendent and the Board, the planning and implementing of such in-service courses will be based on the following guidelines:
 - a. For each 10 hours of in-service training or workshops received in programs approved by the Board, each participant shall be credited with 1 hour of salary credit on the appropriate Bachelor or Masters Degree Teachers' Salary Schedule. (In-service hours shall not be paid for beyond the maximum graduate hours paid for by the District except where the Superintendent grants approval for the teacher to take the course.)
 - b. No in-service credit will be offered for any programs occurring during the regular school hours* or during the school days** that staff members are being compensated for by their regular salary. No in-service credit will be offered for any person enrolling in the same or equivalent program more than once. (*Regular school hours as specified in administrative handbook. **School days as specified in negotiated agreement.)
 - c. Every effort will be made to announce in-service programs so they do not conflict with other programs.
3. Attendance at all in-service workshops will be voluntary.
4. Notification of approved in-service workshops and in-service training programs will be made as early as possible with every effort made to announce fall workshops by the end of the school year and spring workshops by the end of October.
5. Members who teach staff development and/or in-service courses shall be paid for each hour of preparation and instruction at the same hourly rate as homebound instruction (Article VI.H). Preparation hours for this instruction will be paid, not to exceed 1 hour per class section.
6. In-service programs held during regular school hours on regular school days shall be jointly planned by a committee of teachers, appointed by the President of the Association, and administrators appointed by the Superintendent. The committee will be under the direction of the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction.

- D. Curriculum Projects approved by the District may be conducted during the summer vacation, at the end of the teacher workday during the school year, or on a released time basis during the teacher workday during the school year, if approved by the Superintendent.
- E. The parties will implement the District Mentoring Program as established by the Mentor Program Developing Committee. The Mentor Program will be reviewed annually by the parties in accordance with Commissioner’s Regulations 100.2. A mentor will normally be assigned to new employees for one (1) school year. The District in its discretion may, after consultation with the Association President, extend the mentorship beyond one (1) school year. District approved mentor training conducted outside the regular work day/year will be compensated at the staff development rate (Article VI.I). Each mentor will receive an annual stipend as follows:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
2023-24	\$1,123
2024-25	\$1,168
2025-26	\$1,215
2026-27	\$1,264

ARTICLE IX
Insurance Protection

- A. Health, Life, Accidental Death, Dismemberment, Disability and Dental Insurance
 - 1. Premium Contributions – Effective January 1, 2010, the District will carry the Excellus Classic Blue Regionwide health insurance plan as offered through the Central New York Health Insurance Trust. For the duration of this contract, the District will pay 85% of the insurance premium cost for individual and dependent coverage.
 - 2. 3-Tier Prescription Drug Plan - The prescription portion of the District provided health insurance plan shall be the \$5/\$20/\$40 (30-day retail order) and the \$10/\$40/\$80 (90-day mail order) plan as offered by Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield through the Cooperative Health Insurance Fund of Central New York. The plan shall include the Excellus Pharmacy Management Edits including the Prior Authorization Program, Step Therapy Program and Generic Advantage Plan.
 - 3. Coverage - Association members working the normal 10-month school year shall be entitled to 12 months of health, dental, disability and life insurance coverage regardless of the termination date of employment. (This is to ensure that those employees terminated effective at the end of the school year are entitled to insurance coverage over the summer.)
 - 4. Term Life Insurance and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Policy - The Board will pay 100% of the premiums for each individual Association member for an \$8,000 term life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment policy.
 - 5. Vision Plan - The Board will pay 100% of the premiums for a Basic Vision Plan to be mutually selected by the parties.

6. Disability Insurance - The Board agrees to increase the maximum monthly benefit available for disability insurance up to \$5,000. In addition, the Board will pay 75% of the premiums of members electing to participate in the disability insurance policy as approved.
7. Dental Plan - The District shall continue to provide a self-funded dental benefit program under the terms identified below.
 - a. The plan shall be administered by EBS/RMSCO, a local Third Party Administrator (TPA). Should the District or the Association wish to change administrators, the parties will meet and, through consensus, determine what changes need to be made.
 - b. All laws and regulations pertaining to dental insurance shall be adhered to by the TPA.
 - c. The District shall maintain sufficient funds in a dedicated account to pay all claims incurred under the dental benefit program.
 - d. The dental benefit design shall be duplicated by EBS/RMSCO with an enhanced Prime Blue 31 Schedule of Allowances, unless altered in a signed memorandum of agreement.
 - e. The Parties anticipate EBS periodically updating the Schedule 31 Fee Schedule. Should EBS discontinue updates, the parties will meet to mutually agree on how the fee schedule will be amended.
 - f. The District will notify the Association President by January 1, 2009 of any negative changes between the existing Excellus network compared to the EBS/RMSCO network.
 - g. All Association employees will be issued a copy of the group dental plan document.
 - h. The District will provide to the Association President all the supporting documentation necessary to make any changes in the premium equivalency rates. Such documentation shall include the TPA's recommendation, utilization records supporting the history of claims and any other information pertinent to the rate setting process. The District and Association Insurance Committee representatives will meet prior to August 15 of each year to review documents and TPA recommendations to mutually establish, through consensus, the premium equivalency rates for the following year.
 - i. The Insurance Committee will meet as necessary to adjudicate employee appeals and resolve any other issues which may develop in the course of administering the dental plan. It is understood that initially, all Level 1 appeals must be made directly to the TPA as part of its administrative role. Level 2 appeals for unresolved occurrences must be directed to the Insurance committee through a formalized process.

- j. The District will contribute to the dental insurance premium for each participating Association member at the rate of \$275 for individual coverage and \$575 for family coverage.
 - k. The District shall hold dental insurance funds in a separate account designated as such. Any remaining balances shall remain in such fund for the purposes of dental insurance.
- B. Retirement Benefits - "Retirement System" referenced in the contract refers to either the New York State Teachers Retirement System (TRS) or the New York State Employees Retirement System (ERS) whichever is applicable. To be eligible for retirement benefits under the contract, the employee must file for and be eligible for retirement under the applicable Retirement System. (*Note: This section is applicable only to teachers and nurses unless otherwise specifically referenced in the contract.*)
- 1. Basic Benefits
 - a. Retirement Incentive - When an employee first becomes eligible for retirement under the Retirement System without any diminution of benefits, and provides notice to the District in accordance with Article IX (B)(4) and retires in their first year of eligibility, the employee will be entitled to an incentive of \$1,000 per year of service in the District. First eligibility shall be interpreted as up until 1 full year (365 days) minus 1 day after becoming first eligible under the appropriate retirement system. If an employee is eligible to retire under the Retirement System without any diminution of benefits and retires after their first year of eligibility, the employee will be entitled to an incentive of \$300 per year of service in the District. (No minimum District service required). Years of service will include years worked as an appointed part-time employee on a prorated basis as described in Article I.B.
 - b. Sick Day Conversion - When an Employee retires from the District, regardless of years of service and regardless of their Retirement System eligibility, the employee will be entitled to convert his/her accumulated unused sick days at \$75 per day. Maximum days paid at retirement will be 320 days.
 - 2. Benefits for 20 or more years of District service
 - a. Retiree Health Insurance - When an employee becomes eligible for retirement under the Retirement System without any diminution of benefits, and has a minimum of 20 years of service in the District, the employee will be entitled to continue participation in the District's Health Insurance Plan up until Medicare eligibility. The contribution from the District will be 90% toward either the individual or family plan. This rate will be guaranteed throughout their retired eligibility period. If an employee has at least 20 years of service in the District, and is eligible under the Retirement System to retire with diminished benefits, the employee will be entitled to continue participation in the District's Health Insurance plan up until Medicare eligibility. The contribution from the District will be 40% toward their individual or family plan.
 - b. Medicare Coverage - Employees with 20 or more years of service to the District, and who have provided notice to the District in accordance with Article

IX.B.4, will receive a District contribution of \$6,500 into a 403(b) account upon retirement to help defray the cost of Medicare Part B.

3. Benefits for less than 20 years of District service - In lieu of the Basic Benefits outlined in Article IX.B.1, Association members who are eligible to retire under the Retirement System and retire from the District with less than 20 years of service in the District may opt to receive \$270 per day of accumulated unused sick/family illness leave to a maximum of 320 days.
 4. Retirement Notice - Employees who plan to retire between June 30 and December 31 must provide notice to the District by February 1 of that year. Employees who plan to retire between January 1 and June 29 must provide notice to the District by November 1 of the preceding year.
 5. Retirement 403(b) Contributions - Any payment to an employee pursuant to the above retirement provisions will be deposited into a 403(b) account, selected by the employee from a list of available accounts. If the amount owed to the employee exceeds the amount allowable under law for contribution into a 403(b) account, then the District will contribute the maximum allowable each year until the balance is exhausted.
- C. Spouse Benefits – If the retiree dies or the spouse has not reached Medicare Eligibility, the spouse will be eligible to purchase District’s Health Insurance Plan at full cost (no cost to the District) until becoming Medicare Eligible.
- D. Insurance Committees
1. The Association will agree to continue to activate the District insurance committee to look at possible alternatives to the current health and dental plans. Any conclusions drawn by the committee must be presented to the membership of the Association for the right of approval. If approval is granted for a change in policies, the contract will be amended to reflect the change.
 2. The Association will agree to activate the District insurance committee to look at the addition of a “Medicare Supplement” Insurance policy, for members age 65 and older. Any conclusions drawn by the committee must be presented to the membership of the Association for the right of approval. If approval is granted to include an additional policy, the contract will be amended to reflect the change.

ARTICLE X

Payroll Deductions

District employees shall be permitted to use a payroll deduction program for each of the following with the procedures and administration of same set by the Board.

- A. Premiums for District sponsored insurance program for dependents.
- B. Phoenix Central Schools Employees' Federal Credit Union (Empower).

- C. Take Home Option - If a teacher desires to maintain his/her personal contribution of 5% to the State Retirement Fund, said amount shall be deducted from pay and forwarded to State Fund. The same holds true for the 8% Take Home Option.
- D. Regular Association dues for the Association shall be deducted either from 1 pay, 10 pays, or 20 pays at the employee's option, or as per procedures mutually determined by the Association Treasurer and the Business Administrator.
- E. NYSUT Benefit Trust and Vote Cope.
- F. Flexible spending accounts shall be established providing for childcare, health insurance premiums, deductibles, co-payments, etc. The parties shall mutually determine the provider as soon as possible after execution of this agreement and shall implement the plan as soon as possible after the selection of the provider.

ARTICLE XI
Transfers, Vacancies, and Promotions

- A. Teacher Assignments:
 - 1. Teachers shall be notified in writing of any changes in their programs for the ensuing school year or ensuing semester, including the schools to which they will be assigned, the grades and/or subject that they will have, as soon as practicable, and under normal circumstances not later than June 1 for changes between years and December 1 for changes between semesters. Of course, such circumstances as sickness or resignations may necessitate changes to meet the situation.
 - 2. In order to assure that pupils are taught by teachers working within their areas of competence, teachers shall not be assigned, except in accordance with the regulations of the State Board and for good cause, to subject and/or grades or other classes outside the scope of their teaching certification and/or their major or minor fields of study.
 - 3. Teachers desiring a change of assignment should make this fact known simultaneously to the Superintendent and the Principal of the school in which the teacher is currently serving. Said request for change of assignment should be made in writing and should state reasons for wishing to make the change. Such letters may be submitted at any time; however, when change is desired for the beginning of a school year, the letter should be submitted at the beginning of January. The Superintendent should reply to this request within 30 days. The term "change in assignments" shall include change from grade level to grade level as well as building-to-building.
 - 4. Teachers being transferred by the District, and not on the basis of a request by the subject teacher, shall be given within 30 days of such transfer, a notice. The teacher shall be made aware in writing of the relevant circumstances involved in the change in assignment.

B. Publishing Vacancies within the District:

1. Information relative to the vacancies (administrative, regular faculty, specialists, etc.), caused by death, retirement, discharge, or by the creation of a new position in the District, will be posted in each building, setting forth the qualifications needed for said position, at the same time it is released to College Placement Offices.
2. Members of the professional staff who desire to apply for a vacancy shall file their applications in writing in the office of the Superintendent.

ARTICLE XII
Teaching Hours, Class Load, and Class Size

A. Teaching Hours:

1. Any change in teacher work schedule in terms of hours and number of nights teachers are required to return to school will be on voluntary basis by the staff. Teachers will be required to attend 1 Open House per school year that will not exceed 90 minute participation. The District may require teachers to be available for Parent Conferences up to 4 evenings per year. Compensatory time will be given. The workday shall not exceed 7.5 hours. Teachers with no scheduled conferences may be excused by the building principal.
2. The workday of Social Workers shall be 8 continuous hours of employment scheduled at the direction of the Director of Pupil Personnel Services/Special Education.

B. Class Load, Class Size - Class load and class size shall be guided by the following:

1. Elementary
 - a. The Board will make all efforts to maintain class size and class loads within the limits of sound educational practices.
 - b. Elementary classroom teachers shall not be required to remain in the classroom while a special teacher is instructing except for a few minutes at the beginning and end of each lesson.
 - c. All elementary school teachers shall, in addition to their lunch period, have at least 250 minutes of preparatory time each week, inclusive of at least 30 continuous minutes each day (the district will strive to provide 50 continuous minutes where the district deems it practicable), during which they shall not be assigned to any other duties.
2. Secondary
 - a. Every effort shall be made so that special area teachers (laboratory, shop, home economics, etc.) shall have a guideline of 18-22 pupils in a class unless a qualified aide assists the teacher and the physical facility permits more pupils. The total load should not exceed 110 pupils.

- b. All secondary school teachers, and all social workers shall, in addition to their lunch period, have at least 1 preparatory period each day, during which they shall not be assigned to any other duties.
- C. Rotation of Non-Teaching Duties - Non-teaching duties shall be rotated among the members of the teaching staff and may include but not be limited to the following:
 1. Bus Supervision
 2. Cafeteria Duty
 3. Non-paid chaperoning and/or supervision of social events
 4. Corridor Supervision
 5. Graduation Duty
- D. Every effort shall be made by the building principals to provide sufficient duty free time to accomplish the preparation of IEPs and for meeting with parents.
- E. Block Scheduling
 1. The Association and District enter into this trial of block scheduling with the belief that Block scheduling will help to maximize student achievement by creating a better climate for learning, allowing for more academic support, and reducing student discipline problems. It is not the intent of the District to utilize block scheduling in order to increase class loads or class sizes. Current (1997-98) JCB and (2001-2002) EJD scheduling practices will be honored in the block schedule process. Should conditions make it necessary to deviate from current practices, the JCB instructional staff (Association members, principal and vice-principal) and/or the EJD instructional staff (Association members, principal and vice-principal) will have the right to vote whether to continue with block scheduling or return to the traditional schedule.
 2. JCB and EJD will each adopt an alternating-day block schedule in which each block will meet every other day.
 3. A block shall be defined as an instructional period not to exceed 84 continuous minutes. A split block shall be defined as an instructional period not exceeding 84 minutes, interrupted by a lunch break. A half block shall be defined as an instructional period equal to half the number of minutes in a block.
 4. Teachers will be provided with 1 full block of planning/preparation time each day, during which they will not be assigned to any other duties.
 5. Teachers shall not be assigned to more than 2.5 continuous instructional/duty blocks on any day unless the teacher willingly volunteers to do 3 continuous blocks. If it remains necessary to schedule some EJD teachers with back-to-back planning and study halls during the first and second blocks of the day, even if only every other day,

this schedule will be rotated among all grade levels and special areas at EJD from year to year.

6. Teachers of science courses with labs will be able to schedule up to half of 1 block in each 4-day cycle as student study time. Teachers will have flexibility as to scheduling what day in each cycle will include this study time. Teachers will have flexibility to use this time as instructional time when they deem it appropriate.
7. Save Harmless Clause: Any existing contract provision not explicitly amended, negated or overruled by this memorandum will remain in full force and effect.
8. EJD
 - a. It is understood that WIN (What I need) will not exceed 30 minutes. It will be a non-teaching period and will be a time for students to meet with staff to review lessons missed, make-up work, get additional help, etc.
 - b. This schedule shall not be used to establish precedent for the number of daily teacher assignments (instructional and/or supervisory) considered acceptable under the contract. A 2-day teacher load shall not exceed 10 teaching periods and 2 supervisory periods.
9. District Administration and PCSTA will form a committee to review and make recommendations in regards to the block scheduling structure. Any recommendations made by the committee will be subject to district and PCSTA membership approval.

ARTICLE XIII **Teacher Aides**

- A. It is proposed that through the implementation of teacher aides more constructive and worthwhile usage of teacher time can be attained.
- B. Teacher aides will be utilized in each school in the District with number of aides, duties, etc., to be determined by the Board after conferring with the administration.

ARTICLE XIV **Leaves**

- A. Paid Leaves
 1. Sick Leave - Family Illness
 - a. The annual sick leave allotment shall be 10 days for 10-month employees and 11 days for 11-month employees. The employee's total annual allotment shall be available for the employee's use on the first day of each school year and shall be credited to employees on sick leave, temporary disability leave, or any other paid leave. These days can be used for illness of the employee or for illness in the employee's immediate family. The immediate supervisor

shall be notified as soon as possible in cases of illness in the immediate family.

- b. Maximum number of sick days to accumulate shall be unlimited.
- c. Employees hired after the beginning of the school year would receive an allotment equivalent in days to the number of months left in said school year.
- d. Any employee leaving the District during the school year, either through termination or leave of absence without pay, shall, for that school year, be entitled only to a proportionate amount of sick leave. The proportionate amount of sick leave shall be dependent on the number of months the employee was actually employed in a paid capacity during the school year. It is understood that upon termination of the commencement of a leave of absence without pay, any employee who has used sick leave in excess of that to which s/he was entitled shall be obligated to repay the District for such extra days.
- e. Use of Sick Leave: The District may require the employee to provide a certificate from a physician or dentist (MD, DDS, DC) (obtained at the expense of the employee) as proof of any personal or family illness and/or fitness to return to work for any absence of 3 consecutive days or more. In cases where abuse of sick leave is suspected and upon notice to the employee, the District may require medical certification for periods of less than 3 consecutive days.

2. Sick Leave Bank

- a. There shall be established a Sick Leave Bank to be available to all teachers and nurses as defined in the recognition statement in Article I. There shall be a separate Sick Leave Bank established for TAs (see Article XVIII.A.7). The intention of this Sick Leave Bank is to protect the members from financial burden due to major illness or injury. It is not intended to be a solution to the problem of the exhaustion of a member's sick days. (Note: for the provisions of this article, "serious illness or injury" shall be defined as one which is generally regarded as such by those in the medical profession.)
- b. This Bank shall be administered by a committee consisting of 2 teachers, appointed by the President of the Association, and 2 administrators, appointed by the Superintendent. This committee shall review, and pass upon, applications for additional sick leave days submitted by the members of the Bank. The decisions of this committee shall be final, binding and not subject to the Grievance Procedure set forth in this agreement.
- c. Each member of the staff covered by this agreement shall have the opportunity to elect to participate in the Sick Leave Bank by filing a signed authorization statement no later than October 1 of each year. A teacher who begins employment after September 1 will have 30 days from the beginning date of employment in which to sign such authorization.

- d. Each teacher who elects to participate in the Sick Leave Bank shall contribute 1 day of accrued sick leave during each of their first 2 years of participation. After contributing 2 days, a member need only sign indicating intention to remain a Sick Leave Bank member. In subsequent years of participation, a member shall donate 1 day per year, only if the total number of days in the Sick Leave Bank falls below 150 days.
- e. A member will not withdraw days from the Sick Leave Bank until his/her own accumulated sick leave is depleted. In any case, at least the first 30 days of serious illness or injury must be covered by the member's own accumulated sick leave or absence without pay.
- f. Concurrently with the submission of a written request for additional sick leave, the teacher shall provide the Sick Leave Bank Committee with a medical report setting forth the nature of the illness or date of initial incapacitation. In addition, the member shall supply a written report stating the number of accumulated sick days they have remaining on the date the request is submitted and the number of additional sick days they are requesting. All such forms shall be submitted to the Superintendent, who shall, within 5 school days, call the Committee into session.
- g. A teacher may request any or all of the 90 days maximum offered by the Sick Leave Bank. Necessary additional days up to 90 may be requested when the original request is for less than the full amount.
- h. Persons withdrawing from the Sick Leave Bank, retiring, or leaving the District must leave contributed days in the Sick Leave Bank.
- i. In the event that the Committee cannot reach a decision, they shall confer with the Superintendent who shall cast the decisive vote based on all available information.

3. Personal Leave

- a. There will be no deduction in pay for absences, not to exceed 4 days in any 1 year because of leave for personal reasons as follows:
 - i. Personal matters shall be for business that cannot be conducted outside the working day. Teachers need only indicate the following reasons, but not limited to, for leave:
 - Legal/Financial
 - Medical/Dental
 - Religious
 - Ceremonies (graduation, weddings, college visitation, funerals)
 - Moving of Household items
 - ii. May not be taken on the first or last day of school (unless approved by the Superintendent).

- iii. May not be used the day before or the day after a holiday, except as outlined in Article.XIV.A.3.a.v.
 - iv. 1 of the 4 days may be without reason.
 - v. Personal leave can be used on days prior to or following a holiday or vacation period for a court appearance or other legal matter where the teacher is a party; marriage, religious, or other ceremonies, and for a significant immediate family ceremony or event (example: child's graduation). Upon provision of details (who, what, where, when, why) of one of the mentioned reasons to the Superintendent, such leave will be approved. No more than 5 members will be granted such leave around a given holiday or vacation.
 - vi. All personal leave must be requested at least 3 working days in advance of the leave to ensure adequate substitute coverage, unless an emergency arises. In such emergencies, the building administrator will be notified as soon as possible.
- b. Employees hired after the beginning of the school year would receive a bank equivalent in days to the number of months left in said school year (1 day for each 2 months up to the maximum of 4 days).
 - c. For those employees whose services are terminated or leave for any other purpose during any given school year, family illness-sick leave will be determined 1 day per 2 months for those months employed and personal business days will be determined by 0.8 day per 2 months employed for that year.
 - d. Family Bereavement
 - i. Employees will be allowed up to 5 days of absence without loss of pay on account of death in the immediate family. (Immediate family is understood to include a parent, grandparent, guardian, spouse, child, grandchild, sister, brother, mother-in-law, father-in-law, or others residing in household).
 - ii. 1 day may be used for each instance involving other family members not mentioned in Article XIV.A.3.d.i.
 - e. Unused Personal Business days will be credited at the end of the school year to an individual's Sick Leave.
 - f. An employee may be paid for certain other absences due to personal business provided that approval has been obtained from the Superintendent.
4. Temporary Disability Leave - Temporary Disability Leave will commence at a time when the employee is not capable of performing the duties required of the position. The District retains the right to secure, at its expense, a medical opinion if a disagreement occurs as to the fitness of the employee to perform the duties required of the position. Return to employment is required at termination of the temporary

disability. The District's financial obligation shall be limited to the amount of sick leave time accumulated by the employee at the time of the commencement of the leave or payment for time granted through the Sick Leave Bank.

5. Visitation Day Leave - Teachers may be excused from their official duties at least 1 day per year without loss of pay to visit other schools and classrooms with the approval of the building principal.
6. Leave for Jury Duty
 - a. Since it is a responsibility of American citizenship to serve on a jury, the District will not ask for release from such duty for any employee.
 - b. The District will compensate for jury duty his/her daily wage less the amount compensated for by the county.
7. Sabbatical Leave - All professional personnel with 7 years of service in the District are eligible for 1 sabbatical leave during their service in the District for the purpose of educational study, research and/or travel.
 - a. Length of Leave - Sabbatical leave will be granted for 1 year at half pay. Such recipient shall be paid at the regular pay periods during absence without restrictions on grants or fellowship awards. A sabbatical leave shall count as 1 year of service for the purpose of retirement, salary schedule and seniority. Contributions by the District to health insurance, retirement, and other fringe benefits shall continue without interruption during the leave.
 - b. Number of Staff Members on Leave:
 - i. No more than 1 professional staff member shall be granted sabbatical leave per year for reasons of professional advancement in the area of administration.
 - ii. No more than 1 professional staff member shall be granted sabbatical leave per year for reasons of professional advancement in the area of curriculum currently teaching.
 - c. Application for Sabbatical Leave:
 - i. A teacher applying for a sabbatical leave will submit his/her request in writing prior to March 1 of the school year previous to the year for which leave is requested. The application must contain a detailed outline of the program of study, research, and/or travel.
 - ii. The Superintendent shall make a recommendation to the Board, for final approval, of personnel to be granted a sabbatical leave.
 - d. Criteria for Selection - The granting of sabbatical leave will be based on the following criteria:
 - i. Contribution to the District of the applicant.

- ii. Benefit of the leave to the teacher.
- iii. Seniority.
- iv. Order of application.

- e. Guarantee of Future Service - A professional employee who takes a sabbatical leave shall not voluntarily terminate District employment for a 1 year period following the completion of such leave. In the event the individual voluntarily leaves before the 1 year period, s/he must repay the District for the salary received during the sabbatical leave.

B. Unpaid Leaves Without Benefits

1. Extended Child Bearing and/or Child Rearing Leave

- a. Leaves of absence will be approved for a period not to exceed 2 years with return to duty to commence at the start of a semester. Salary and benefits cease during this leave.
- b. Teachers who wish to convert from a paid temporary disability leave to an unpaid, without benefits, extended leave will be allowed to do so provided that the conversion commences with the cessation of the disability. The District retains the right to secure, at its own expense, a medical opinion if a disagreement occurs as to the cessation of the disability. Conversion to an unpaid extended leave shall not extend the combined temporary disability leave and extended unpaid leave to a period of more than 2 years.
- c. Teachers on unpaid or extended child bearing/rearing leave will notify the District within a minimum of 120 days before the leave expires of their intention to return or not.

2. Discretionary Leave - Leaves without pay and benefits shall be considered on an individual basis by the Superintendent. The granting of an unpaid discretionary leave shall be within the sole discretion of the Superintendent. Denial of such requests shall not be subject to the grievance-arbitration procedure.

In the case of approved short term leaves of absence without pay or unpaid absences, resulting when a member has exhausted available paid leave time, the member will be assessed the District's cost of medical and dental premiums at the rate of 1/20th of the monthly cost of such benefit for each day of absence. This provision will not apply in regards to FMLA eligible absences.

- C. Leave for Military Service - Under Military Law (Sec. 243) all employees of a District (whether service on probation, on tenure, or under contract) are entitled to leaves of absence while engaged in performance of military duty and must be reinstated after the termination of such military duty provided application is made for reinstatement within 90 days after termination of such military duty or at any time during terminal leave there from. Such employees may also be reinstated within 1 year at the discretion of the Board. Persons who voluntarily enlisted between January 1, 1947, and June 25, 1950, are excepted from this

provision. The position of a teacher absent on military leave can be filled only by the appointment of a military substitute who acquires no rights to the position (Military Law 243).

ARTICLE XV Student Teachers

It has become quite apparent that the schools will become increasingly involved in the matter of teacher training and preparation. Not only will the schools have the responsibility for refining the skills of the graduate teacher, but also, the obligation to provide the opportunity for student teachers to put their theory and methods to practical use. With this in mind, the school has a clear responsibility - that of providing the physical facilities under which the student teacher can actually teach. The cooperating teacher and the student teacher have definite responsibilities one to the other if the student teacher experience is to be valuable and meaningful.

A. Cooperating Teacher

1. Criteria for selection:
 - a. Be willing to accept the responsibility of a student teacher.
 - b. On tenure or 3 years total teaching experience with 2 years in the District in the particular subject area.
 - c. Recommended by the building principal.
2. Responsibility to:
 - a. School - present an honest appraisal of the District.
 - b. Student teacher - to provide adequate teaching experiences for the student teacher to be able to develop skills, techniques and attitudes necessary for successful teaching and to encourage the student teacher to participate in faculty activities.
 - c. Students - to insure that the quality of instruction remains constant with the goals of the District.
 - d. Profession - install in the student teacher, by mood and actions, the proper attitude toward the teaching profession.
 - e. College - to familiarize himself/herself with the goals of the student teaching program of the participating institution.
3. Number of student teachers each year - At the discretion of the building principal and with the consent of the cooperating teacher but no more than 2 student teachers in any 1 year. Exceptions to this would require the approval of the Superintendent.

4. Utilization of student teacher - Adequate observation of and familiarization with the student teacher's readiness before allowing him/her to assume the responsibility of the full teaching load.

B. Student Teacher - Responsibility to:

1. Phoenix Central School - to assume his/her role as a member of the professional staff and be aware of the policies of the District.
2. Student - to provide the students with the best possible instruction through proper preparation, planning and execution.
3. Co-op teacher - to work harmoniously with the cooperating teacher in order to provide an educational experience that will be valuable to the students and be willing to accept constructive criticism.
4. Profession - to develop those professional qualities that contribute to successful teaching and human relations.

C. District - Responsibility to:

1. Provide student teachers with a list of available housing in the District.
2. Provide an orientation program for student teachers.
3. Conduct cooperating teacher-student teacher seminars involving all cooperating and student teachers.
4. Notify student teachers of all faculty functions.
5. Student teachers shall not be used as substitute teachers. In the case of an emergency, as defined by the building principal (an unexpected situation occurring during the school day which causes an area normally supervised by a staff member to be left unsupervised, thus necessitating a temporary coverage of the class by a cooperating teacher until a substitute can be found), the student teacher will carry on with his/her assigned duties. When a cooperating teacher is absent, his/her student teacher may teach independently of the cooperating teacher provided that this procedure has been established in advance of the absence and meets with the approval of the building principal based upon input from the cooperating teacher, college supervisor and student teacher. The duration of this independent teaching will be based upon evidences of past successful classroom experiences of the student teacher.

ARTICLE XVI
School Calendar, Orientation & Teacher's Responsibilities and Obligations

A. School Calendar

1. 10-Month Personnel (September 1 – June 30)

Holidays and Special Days (11 days)

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| a. Labor Day | g. New Year's Day |
| b. Columbus Day | h. Martin Luther King Day |
| c. Veterans' Day | i. Lincoln's Birthday or Washington's Birthday |
| d. Thanksgiving Day | j. Memorial Day |
| e. Thanksgiving (Friday) | k. Good Friday |
| f. Christmas | |

2. 11-Month Personnel (August 1 – June 30)

- a. Holidays and Special Days (12 days).
- b. School counselor and Social Worker calendar will be up to 210 days. The days in addition to the student calendar will be as follows:
- i. 19 working days in July and August. July 4 is a paid holiday.
 - ii. The Tuesday after Labor Day
 - iii. Up to 5 working days between Graduation Day and July 1.
- c. School Psychologist calendar will be up to 205 days. The days in addition to the student calendar will be as follows:
- i. (19 working days in July and August. July 4 is a paid holiday.
 - ii. The Tuesday after Labor Day
 - iii. The days between Graduation Day and July 1 are not required work days, however these days may be used toward the 19 required days in Section Article XVI.A.2.c.i..
- d. Unlike during the regular school year, School Counselors, Social Workers and School Psychologists have flexibility in choosing the additional days as required in Section A.2.b.i. and Section A.2.c.i. If for any reason a scheduled day cannot be worked, an alternate day shall be worked after July 1.

3. Faculty Calendar

- a. The Faculty (except School counselor and Social Worker) calendar will be the student calendar plus 1 day for orientation.

- b. If there are at least 2 unused snow days available on May 15 of any given year, 2 days shall be added to the Memorial Day Vacation. If only 1 snow day remains unused, then 1 day shall be added to the Memorial Day Vacation. This determination shall be made and announced by the Superintendent as early as feasible, but by no later than May 15.
- c. During each of the last 4 days of the school year, all elementary teachers will be provided ½ day of released time from their normal student instructional responsibilities in order to conduct their grading, record-keeping, and other year-ending responsibilities.

B. Orientation

1. The Association and the Board will continue to improve and strengthen the orientation program.
2. The format for the orientation program for new teachers will be designed through a committee* approach and will be forwarded to the Superintendent. [* This Committee will consist of 12 members and will include personnel from all areas (teachers, supervisors, principals, guidance, etc.): 6 members will be named by the Association Executive Committee and 6 will be appointed by the Superintendent.]

C. Teacher's Responsibilities and Obligations

1. To know the students, and participate, whenever possible, in student-centered activities.
2. To plan their work on a regular basis so as to be able to provide for the student a meaningful learning experience.
3. Every effort shall be made by the building principals to provide time for staff members to work in their rooms on Orientation Day in preparation for the new school year.

ARTICLE XVII
Traveling Teachers

The District will make every reasonable effort to lessen the responsibility of teachers of supervisory and non-teaching duties (e.g., bus, hall, cafeteria duties and homeroom) of teachers who travel from one building to another during the regular day and provide a 15-minute period between assignments for these teachers when changing buildings. However, each full-time secondary teacher will be expected to carry a full teaching load of 5 class periods and one supervisory period.

ARTICLE XVIII
Teaching Assistants

A. Teaching Assistant (TA)

1. Purpose - The purpose of the TA position is to provide additional learning opportunities for children in the District under the direction of the teaching staff and school administration.
2. Duties - Examples of the duties and responsibilities are outlined in the position guide for TAs (Article XVIII.B).
3. Work Day and Work Year
 - a. TAs will work a 7 hour day, not including a 30-minute lunch period. They will be paid on an annual basis computed upon a 10-month school calendar (the student calendar plus 1 day for orientation). Half-time TAs will work a 3.5 hour day.
 - b. TAs will be expected to work with children as time allows (before, during and after school) or to conference with supervising teachers or building administrators.
 - c. A 15-minute break will be provided both morning and afternoon at the discretion of the teacher/principal who is arranging the work schedule.

TA Salary Schedule

- a. Full-time TAs will be paid at the following rates:

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Step 1	\$29,789	\$31,055	\$32,375	\$33,751
Step 2	\$30,379	\$31,671	\$33,017	\$34,420
Step 3	\$31,584	\$32,926	\$34,325	\$35,784

- b. Each TA entitled to an annual step movement shall receive such annual movement until s/he reaches the top of the schedule. Returning TAs who are off step will receive the annual negotiated percent increase.
- c. Supervision, tutoring, in-service and staff development work shall be at the following rate:

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
2023-24	\$24.26
2024-25	\$25.29
2025-26	\$26.36
2026-27	\$27.48

4. Longevity - The following longevity stipends will be paid, based on years of service in the District, from date of first hire (as TA or Teacher Aide).

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
After 5 yrs	\$980	\$1,022	\$1,065	\$1,110
After 10 yrs	\$980	\$1,022	\$1,065	\$1,110
After 15 yrs	\$980	\$1,022	\$1,065	\$1,110
After 20 yrs	\$980	\$1,022	\$1,065	\$1,110
After 25 yrs	\$980	\$1,022	\$1,065	\$1,110

5. Benefits

- a. For the duration of the contract, for TAs who elect health insurance coverage, the District will pay 87% of the insurance premium cost for individual and dependent coverage for full-time and a pro-rata amount for part-time TAs (unless reduced as described in Article I.C).
- b. The prescription portion of the District provided health insurance plan shall be in accordance with Article.IX.A.2.
- c. TAs shall be eligible to participate in the same dental plan as is offered to the Teachers. The District will pay \$275 annually of the premium for individual coverage and \$575 annually of the premium for family plan. Any premiums due above these amounts shall be paid by the enrolling employee.
- d. The District will provide disability insurance to all TAs who choose to enroll and will pay for 75% of the premium costs for such plan.
- e. The District shall provide individual and family coverage in the same vision plan as is available to the Teachers.
- f. The District will provide \$8,000 in term life insurance with 100% of premiums being paid by the District.
- g. TAs will receive 10 sick days per year. Unused Personal Days will convert to sick leave and may be accumulated as sick leave. The sick days can be used for illness of the employee or for family illness.
- h. Personal Days: 4 days, non-accumulative, for urgent personal business. One of these days may be used without reason, as per Article XIV.A.3.a.
- i. TAs will receive 5 days of bereavement leave as per Article XIV.A.3.d.
- j. TAs shall be entitled to leave for Jury Duty as per Article XIV.A.6.
- k. TAs are entitled to leave without pay and without benefits as outlined in Article XIV.B.

1. TAs shall be eligible for the benefits involved in Flexible Spending Accounts as per Article X.A.6.
6. Sick Leave Bank
 - a. There shall be established a Sick Leave Bank to be available to all para-professional certified personnel as defined in the recognition statement in Article I. The intention of this Sick Leave Bank is to protect the members from the financial burden due to major illness or injury. It is not intended to be a solution to the problem of the exhaustion of a member's sick days. (Note: for the provisions of this article, "serious illness or injury" shall be defined as one that is generally regarded as such by those in the medical profession.)
 - b. This Bank shall be administered by a committee consisting of 2 TAs appointed by the President of the Association and 2 administrators appointed by the Superintendent. This committee shall review, and pass upon, applications for additional sick leave days submitted by the members of the Bank. The decisions of this committee shall be final, binding and not subject to the Grievance Procedure set forth in this agreement.
 - c. Each TA covered by this agreement shall have the opportunity to elect to participate in the Sick Leave Bank by filing a signed authorization statement no later than October 1 of each year. A TA who begins employment after September 1 will have 30 days from the beginning date of employment in which to sign such authorization.
 - d. Each TA who elects to participate in the Sick Leave Bank shall contribute 1 day of accrued sick leave during their first 3 years of participation. After contributing 3 days, a TA need only sign indicating intention to remain a Sick Bank Member. In subsequent years of participation, a TA shall donate 1 day per year only if the total number of days in the Sick Bank falls below 100 days.
 - e. A member will not withdraw days from the Sick Leave Bank until his/her own accumulated sick leave is depleted. In any case, at least the first 30 days of serious illness or injury must be covered by the member's own accumulated sick leave or absence without pay.
 - f. Concurrently with the submission of a written request for additional sick leave, the member shall provide the Sick Leave Bank Committee with a medical report setting forth the nature of the illness or injury, the anticipated date of recovery and return to work and the date of initial incapacitation. In addition, the member shall supply a written report stating the number of accumulated sick days they have remaining on the date the request is submitted, the number of days used prior to the request and the number of additional sick days they are requesting. All such forms shall be submitted to the Superintendent, who shall, within 5 school days, call the Committee into session.
 - g. The maximum allocation from the Bank to any one TA shall be 30 days with a possible extension of an additional 30 days under extraordinary circumstances. An additional request form with the physician's statement of illness or injury disability will be needed.

- h. In the event that the Committee cannot reach a decision, they shall confer with the Superintendent who shall cast the decisive vote based on all available information.
 - i. TAs withdrawing from the Sick Leave Bank, retiring, or leaving the District must leave contributed days in the Sick Leave Bank.
 - j. At the conclusion of the school year a committee appointed by the President of the Association should reconvene to make adjustments to the plan.
- 7. Grievance Procedure - The attached grievance procedure will be used to resolve any misunderstandings that may arise between TAs, other school employees, and the District.
- 8. Qualification - TAs will be expected to hold and maintain appropriate certification for this position title. Certification may be gained through BOCES or the New York State Education Department.
- 9. Retirement Benefit – TAs are entitled to the retirement benefits outlined below and not those listed in Article IX unless specifically referenced herein.
 - a. Accumulated sick days will have a cash value of \$95 per day that may be claimed at retirement. The value of the days will be \$75 if the employee is eligible for, and opts for, the Retiree Health Insurance Benefit at time of retirement.
 - b. TAs who are eligible and file for retirement under the applicable Retirement System may be eligible for the Retirement Incentive in Article IX.B.1.a and Article IX.B.2.b.
 - c. Any payment to a TA pursuant to the above retirement provisions will be deposited into a 403(b) account, selected by the employee from a list of available accounts. If the amount owed to the employee exceeds the amount allowable under law for contribution into a 403(b) account, then the District will contribute the maximum allowable each year until the balance is exhausted.
 - d. Retiree Health Insurance – When an employee becomes eligible for retirement under the Retirement System without any diminution of benefits, and has a minimum of 20 years of service in the District, the employee will be entitled to continue participation in the District’s Health Insurance Plan up until Medicare eligibility. The contribution for the District will be 90% toward either the individual or family plan. This rate will be guaranteed throughout their retired eligibility period.

B. Position Guide

1. Broad Function

Under the overall supervision of the Superintendent, a TA reports directly to the school principal and teacher. The TA is expected to coordinate tasks with various

specialists within the District. S/he is expected to work in harmony with the policies of the Board, state laws and Commissioner's regulations.

2. Duties and Responsibilities:

- a. provide academic assistance to students.
- b. work with individual students and small groups.
- c. utilize instructional plans developed by the teacher.
- d. meet with classroom teachers to review instructional activities.
- e. have knowledge of the subject matter being taught.
- f. give input about students to appropriate staff members that will assist in developing an educational plan.
- g. help develop appropriate materials.
- h. utilize effective teaching techniques.
- i. exhibit effective classroom control.
- j. assist in student evaluation.
- k. assist the teacher in motivating reluctant learners.
- l. respect confidentiality of student information.
- m. perform other duties as assigned (within the realm of TA responsibilities).

3. Authority - The TA reports directly to the building principal and teachers but is responsible in an overall sense to the Superintendent. Responsibility for some tasks may be directed by other District administrators.

4. Measures of Accountability

- a. the degree to which the TA is prompt and reliable.
- b. the degree to which the TA works effectively and efficiently with children.
- c. the degree to which the TA interacts and works well with staff.
- d. the degree to which the TA carries out the teacher's instructional plans.
- e. the degree to which the TA contributes to the planning, instruction, classroom management and overall classroom operation.

5. Evaluation

- a. The evaluation of TAs will be based on the following considerations:
 - i. The purpose of evaluation is to obtain the improvement of instruction and to encourage the growth of professional attitude and responsibility on the part of the staff member. The most vital part of the procedure is the sharing of ideas for the staff member's improvement and success. This mutual interchange of ideas results in benefits to staff and pupils.
 - ii. If a TA is not performing satisfactorily, s/he should be given assistance by supervisors and principals to help improve.
 - iii. The impetus for correcting and alleviating weaknesses will be a responsibility of both the TA and administrator. Each TA will be evaluated periodically and weaknesses will be thoroughly discussed with the evaluator. At the end of each year, the likelihood of being retained will be discussed.
 - iv. TAs shall be evaluated only by personnel qualified by training and experience to do so.
 - v. Both the evaluator and the TA will sign the approved District evaluation form. The TA's signature on the form shall not necessarily constitute agreement with the evaluation.
 - vi. When the administration makes any changes in the format of the evaluation form, they will contact the Executive Board of the Association to review the proposed changes and discuss the rationale behind said changes.
 - vii. Committee membership will not be used as a criteria in evaluation. All committee service will be on a voluntary basis.
 - viii. Each observation for the purpose of formal written evaluation will be followed within 2 weeks by a conference with the evaluator. This conference, which should be conducted in a spirit of friendly cooperation, is the most important step of the evaluation procedure. If it is slighted by the evaluator, or taken lightly or defensively by the TA, the most hopeful part of the evaluation procedure will be lost. This point cannot be over emphasized.
- b. Formal Procedures for TA Evaluation
 - i. Each TA will be visited for the purpose of evaluation at least once a year. Administrators will complete the evaluations of all TAs in their respective buildings or within their responsibility areas, e.g. special education. Each TA shall be notified as to when his/her evaluation will occur. All evaluations will be done by June 1 of each school year.

- ii. The administrator will observe the TA in the classroom setting at least once prior to writing the evaluation. The administrator will then fill out the evaluation form and discuss it with the TA. The TA may add comments to the evaluation form prior to signing the form.
- c. Definition of the Evaluative Criteria
- i. Works Effectively with Children – A TA should maintain control, communicate effectively with students, understand students’ needs, be helpful and receptive to students, have the respect of students, and respect student rights and confidentiality.
 - ii. Works Effectively with Teachers – A TA should contribute to the planning process, carry out teachers’ instructional plans, follow the directions of a classroom teacher, be able to adapt to each teacher’s style, maintain a task-oriented atmosphere and carry out tasks in a timely fashion.
 - iii. Recognition and Acceptance of Responsibilities – A TA should consider him/herself a part of a larger unit than his/her own classroom. S/he should do his/her share in working for the general betterment of the school. This would include maintaining a positive attitude toward responsibilities, accepting responsibilities for special areas assigned, performing high quality work, showing initiative and being enthusiastic.
 - iv. Professional Ethics – The TA should respect all members of the staff and conduct him/herself at all times in a professional manner.
 - v. Professional Growth – This is evidenced when there is growth in subject matter knowledge, teaching skill and insight into educational problems. Receptiveness to constructive criticism and appreciation of the role of the school in serving the community are also important factors in professional growth.
 - vi. Effective Communication – This includes enunciation, pronunciation, voice quality, volume and variety of tone. It also includes the correct use of both written and oral ability to speak on the level of the class comprehension.
 - vii. Dependability and Punctuality – This is evident when the TA performs assigned tasks without being constantly checked or reminded. This includes the making of reports and the keeping of records. It includes a conscientious attitude toward all aspects of his/her position.
- d. The TA’s personnel file includes an electronic version of TA’s narrative evaluations. Only the above named electronic files that are stored in an approved system (i.e. OASYS) will be considered an official file.

C. Grievance / Arbitration

1. Definition of Grievance - A grievance is a dispute concerning the interpretation, application, or claimed violation of a specific term or provision of this Article.
2. Procedure - For the raising and processing of a grievance:
 - a. Step 1 - Informal Stage - A grievance shall first be discussed orally by the grievant, with or without representation by the Association, and the immediate supervisor.
 - b. Step 2 - Formal Stage
 - i. Any grievance not resolved in Step 1 shall be reduced to writing, signed by the employee, and presented to the Chief School Administrator (or designee) within 30 calendar days following the occurrence giving rise to the grievance. The written grievance must be signed together with a statement of the facts surrounding the grievance. If a grievance involves all members of the Association, the Association may file the written grievance.
 - ii. The Chief School Administrator (or designee) will call a meeting of the parties within 20 school days of the date of presentation of the written grievance. The Association President will be present at this meeting.
 - iii. Within 10 school days after the meeting, the Chief School Administrator will render his/her decision in writing to the grievant with a copy to the Association President.
 - c. Step 3 - Arbitration
 - i. If the grievance remains unresolved after the conclusion of Step 2, the Association may, within a time limit of 20 calendar days after receipt of the Step 2 answer, submit the unresolved grievance in writing (copy to the Chief School Administrator) to a mutually agreed upon arbitrator, or, if none, to the American Arbitration Association.
 - ii. The arbitrator selected shall hear the matter promptly and will issue his/her decision not later than 14 calendar days from the date of the close of the hearings, or if oral hearings have been waived, then from the date the final statements and proofs are submitted to him/her.
 - iii. The decision or award rendered by the designated arbitrator shall be advisory only and non-binding on the parties.
 - iv. The fees and expenses of the arbitrator will be shared equally by the Board and the Association.
 - v. The Association shall have the option of waiving the Step 3 advisory arbitration state, and proceed directly from Step 2 to Step 4.

- d. Step 4 - Appeal Stage - Within 15 school days after receipt of the arbitrator's recommendation, or after receipt of the Chief School Administrator's decision in Step 2, in the event that Step 3 advisory arbitration is waived, the Board will hold an executive session on the grievance. Within 15 school days after the session, the Board will issue the final decision on the grievance.

ARTICLE XIX
Registered & Licensed Practical Nurses

A. Position Statement

1. The Registered Nurse (RN) is employed by the District as a Registered School Nurse and hired under Civil Service in the non-competitive class. As such, the RN is required as a condition of employment to become a member of the New York State Employees Retirement System. Also, the nurse will be required to have successfully completed the training and be certified as a RN. In addition, the individual must possess and practice the highest standards of discretion, integrity, cooperation, loyalty, consideration and professional competence. Further, the nurse must be flexible in performance of tasks as decreed by the job outline, District policy, state law and administrative directives. This position requires, as a condition of employment, the incumbent to have his/her own transportation for movement from school building to school building. Reimbursement for car expenses will be paid in the amount set down in District policy.
2. Regardless of additional training or certification held by the incumbent beyond that of RN, the position will not be altered by such additional certificates and will exist solely as a Registered School Nurse position under Civil Service. This position is devoid of any assigned teaching responsibilities or other responsibility reserved exclusively under law for school nurse teachers. Hence, the individual bears no obligation for joining educationally or professionally oriented teacher groups or organizations.
3. The RN and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) will work a 7.5 hour day, 30-minutes being allotted for lunch. A period not to exceed 15 minutes is to be set aside each morning and afternoon for relief periods. The RN and LPN will be employed on a per diem basis for 186 days of each school year between September 1 and June 30. The days the RN will actually work are the days the students are scheduled to be in attendance as specified by the student school calendar, teacher orientation day, and such other days as approved by the Building Principal and the Director of Pupil Personnel Services as needed for record keeping, but not to exceed 186 days. The exception to this will be 11 paid holidays per work year as outlined below. In addition, there are 10 sick leave days and 5 personal/family illness leave days per work year as outlined below. At such time as the nurse may be requested to work additionally, additional remuneration commensurate with the request will be paid.
4. The LPN is to be hired under Civil Service in the non-competitive class. As such, the LPN is required as a condition of employment to become a member of the New York State Employees Retirement System. In addition, the individual must possess and practice the highest standards of discretion, integrity, cooperation, loyalty, consideration and professional competence. Further, the LPN must be flexible in

performance of tasks as decreed by the job outline, District policy, state law and administrative directives. This position may require, as a condition of employment, the incumbent to have his/her own transportation for movement from school building to school building. Reimbursement for car expenses will be paid in the amount set down in District policy.

B. Insurance Protection

1. For the duration of the contract, RNs and LPNs who elect health insurance coverage, the District will pay a premium contribution in accordance with Article IX.A.1 for full-time and a pro rata amount for part-time RNs and LPNs (unless reduced as described in Article I.C.).
2. The prescription portion of the District provided health insurance plan shall be in accordance with Article IX.A.2.
3. The Board will pay 100% of the premiums on the approved \$10,000 term life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment policy.
4. The Board will pay 85% of the premiums each year for those nurses and LPNs electing to participate in the disability insurance policy as approved. The Board will issue a monthly maximum allowance of \$5,000 in the present Long Term Disability policy.
5. The Board will pay \$325 for single and \$575 for family per participating member of the Association toward the BC/BS of Central New York Prime Blue group dental plan for the duration of the contract.
6. The District will pay 100% of the premiums for the same Vision Plan provided to members of the Association.

C. Retirement Health Insurance - RNs and LPNs will be entitled to the Retirement Benefits enumerated in Article IX.B.

D. Pre-Service And In-service Programs - It will be necessary for the school nurse to attend and participate in pre-service and regular in-service programs. If these sessions, through necessity, extend beyond regular school hours, the nurse will be commensurately reimbursed with either time and/or a salary allowance. Attendance at these sessions will be a condition of employment.

E. Remuneration and Benefits

1. Pay Rate

Pay rate is based on 7.5 hours per day and 197 days per year (186 work days plus 11 paid holidays).

School Year	RN Hourly	RN Annual	LPN Hourly	LPN Annual
2023-2024	\$44.05	\$65,090	\$22.03	\$32,545
2024-2025	\$45.81	\$67,694	\$22.91	\$33,847
2025-2026	\$47.64	\$70,402	\$23.83	\$35,201
2026-2027	\$49.55	\$73,218	\$24.78	\$36,609

2. Paid Holidays and Special Days - The District will grant a day off with a normal day's pay for any 11 legal holidays that occur during the regular work year and fall on days that students are not in regular sessions.

Columbus Day	New Year's Day
Veterans' Day	Martin Luther King Day
Thanksgiving Day	Lincoln's Birthday
Thanksgiving Friday	Washington's Birthday
Christmas Day	Memorial Day
	Good Friday

3. Longevity - RNs and LPNs will be entitled to a longevity bonus at the completion of 5, 10 and 15 years of service to the District.

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
After 5 yrs	\$1,632	\$1,697	\$1,765	\$1,836
After 10 yrs	\$1,632	\$1,697	\$1,765	\$1,836
After 15 yrs	\$1,632	\$1,697	\$1,765	\$1,836

4. Pay Schedule - Registered School Nurses and LPNs will have the opportunity to select a 10-month salary plan (21 payments), or a 12-month salary plan (26 payments), payable throughout the calendar year with the vacation period checks mailed to their homes. The 26 payment plan will coincide with the 12-month employee's pay schedule determined by the District. Once these options are made they will continue in effect for the fiscal year without change.

F. Leaves - There are 2 categories of leaves: paid and unpaid.

1. Paid Leaves

- a. Sick Leave - Each school nurse and LPN shall annually accumulate sick leave at the rate of 1 day for each month of employment. This accumulation shall be credited to the employee's sick leave account on the first day of the school year. At the beginning of each school year, employees will be notified of the amount

of accumulated sick leave that has been credited to them. Sick leave shall be subject to the following conditions:

- i. **Maximum Accumulation:** If any employee does not use the full amount of sick leave accumulated in a given year, the excess shall be carried over and credited to his/her sick leave account on the first day of the next school year, provided that the total accumulated sick leave credited to an employee's account shall at no time exceed 360 days.
 - ii. **Interim Hires:** Employees hired after the beginning of the school year will receive a sick leave credit equivalent in days to the number of months left in the work year.
 - iii. **Use of Sick Leave:** Sick leave may be used only when the employee is unable to work by reason of personal illness. A doctor's certificate may be required as proof of any personal illness in case of obvious abuse of sick leave.
- b. **Personal Leave – (Immediate Family Illness and/or Personal Business, 5_Days)**
- i. **Immediate family illness-** Immediate family is understood to mean spouse, parent, child and sibling.
 - ii. **Personal Business -** Personal business is understood to mean:
 - (a) **Personal matters shall be for business that cannot be conducted outside the working day. Nurses and LPNs need only indicate the following reasons, but not limited to, for leave:**
 - Legal/Financial
 - Medical/Dental
 - Religious
 - Ceremonies (graduation, weddings, college visitation, funerals)
 - Moving of Household items
 - (b) **May not be taken on the first or last day of school (unless approved by the Superintendent).**
 - (c) **May not be used the day before or the day after a holiday except as outlined in Article XIV. A. 3.a. v.**
 - iii. **All personal leave must be requested at least 3 working days in advance of the leave to ensure adequate substitute coverage, unless an emergency arises. In such emergencies, the building administrator will be notified as soon as possible.**
 - iv. **Unused immediate family and/or personal leave days will be credited at the end of the school year to an individual's sick leave.**

- c. Family Bereavement - 5 Days
 - i. Refer to Article XIV.A.3.d.
 - ii. Days off require approval in advance by the employee's immediate supervisor, whenever possible.
- d. Temporary Disability Leave - Temporary disability leave will commence at a time when the employee is not capable of performing the duties required of the position. The District retains the right to secure, at its expense, a medical opinion if a disagreement occurs as to the fitness of the employee to perform the duties required of the position. Return to employment is required at the termination of the temporary disability. The District's financial obligation shall be limited to the amount of sick leave time accumulated by the employer at the time of commencement of the leave.

2. Unpaid Leaves

- a. Extended Child Bearing and/or Child Rearing Leave - Leaves of absence will be approved for a period not to exceed 2 years with return to duty to commence at the start of a semester. Salary and benefits cease during this leave, except for the 12 week period as outlined in the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1994. Nurses and LPNs who wish to convert from a paid temporary disability leave to an unpaid, without benefits, extended leave will be allowed to do so provided that the conversion commences with the cessation of the disability. The District retains the right to secure, at its own expense, a medical opinion if a disagreement occurs as to the cessation of the disability. Conversion to an unpaid extended leave shall not extend the combined temporary disability leave and extended unpaid leave to a period of more than 2 years.
- b. Discretionary Leave - Leaves without pay and benefits shall be considered on an individual basis by the Superintendent. The granting of an unpaid discretionary leave shall be within the sole discretion of the Superintendent. The decision of the Superintendent (or designee) shall be final and binding on the parties to this agreement.

- 3. Sick Leave Bank – Nurses and LPNs will be entitled to participate in the Teacher sick leave bank as provided for in Article XIV.A.2.

- G. Liability Insurance - The Board has and will continue to keep in effect its current insurance protection which covers the District and all its employees acting in the scope of their duties.
- H. Pension - All Eligible employees shall be enrolled in the appropriate Tier of the New York State Employee Retirement System. Those who are eligible shall also be enrolled in the new Career Plan 75i.

ARTICLE XX
Employer's Rights

Except as expressly abridged, deleted or modified by a specific term of this Agreement, the Board shall retain all rights, powers, and discretionary authority granted by law or otherwise residing in the Board as an employer.

ARTICLE XXI
Savings Clause

Should any valid federal or state law or final determination of any court of competent jurisdiction declare illegal any provision of this contract, the provision or provisions so affected shall be made to conform to the law either by amendment or deletion, and otherwise this contract shall remain in full force and effect. In such a case, the parties will meet to negotiate a legal replacement, if possible, for such provision. It is understood that such negotiations shall be strictly limited to the particular provision which was declared illegal and that no other provisions of the contract shall be affected or subject in any way to renegotiation.

ARTICLE XXII
Agreements between Public Employers and Employee Organizations

IT IS AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT ANY PROVISION OF THIS AGREEMENT REQUIRING LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO PERMIT ITS IMPLEMENTATION BY AMENDMENT OF LAW OR BY PROVIDING THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS THEREFOR, SHALL NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL THE APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE BODY HAS GIVEN APPROVAL.

ARTICLE XXIII
Duration of Agreement

This contract shall be effective as of July 1, 2023 and shall continue in effect through June 30, 2027 without any rights or reopeners or amendments reserved to either party except as specifically set forth in Article VII.

Association

District

President

Superintendent

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2023

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Association

District



President



Superintendent

Dated this 19 day of July, 2023

APPENDIX A
Forms

Extra Pay Position Evaluation

Teaching Assistant Summary Evaluation

Grievance Form

Phoenix Central Schools

Phoenix, New York

Extra Pay Position Evaluation

Coach/Advisor	Position
Sport/Activity	Years of Experience in Sport/Activity

Summary of Evaluation:

Signature of Supervisor	Signature of Coach/Advisor*
Date	Date

* *My signature attests only that I have read and understand the contents of the above evaluation.*

Teaching Assistant Summary Evaluation

Teaching Assistant's Name: _____

Date of Report: _____

Evaluator's comments:

Teaching Assistant's comments:

TA's Signature:* _____ Date _____

Evaluator's Signature: _____ Date _____

* My signature attests only that I have read and understood the contents of the above evaluation.

APPENDIX B
Placement into Coaching / Extra Pay Positions

Outlined below is the manner in which individuals will be placed into a Coaching and/or Extra Pay Position.

NOTE: Chaperone positions are excluded from this placement provision.

1. When a coaching or extra pay position is vacant or unoccupied from the previous school year, qualified Association members who apply to the position will be selected for the position over non-members. Incumbents who are unit employees or non-unit employees will have the right to retain their coaching and/or extra pay positions from the previous school year unless the previous evaluation documents unsatisfactory performance and failure to improve, per Article VII.B.2. When a coaching or extra pay position was occupied during the previous school year by an individual other than a unit employee or non unit employee, the District will have the right to appoint the same individual to the position or post the position and appoint a qualified unit employee to the position. If no unit employees apply for the position, the District shall have the right to appoint any qualified individual who applies for the position. Any unit employee who applies for a vacant or unoccupied position will be granted an interview.
2. The District has the right to interview and select between two (2) Association members.
3. Incumbent Association members have the right to submit a leave of absence from an extra pay position for personal reasons for a duration that does not exceed 1 year/season. Such leave will be submitted in writing to the Superintendent. A second leave of absence may be requested, which the District may or may not grant.

APPENDIX C
Salary Schedules

- Coaching Positions by Group
- Coaching Salary Schedule
- Extra Pay Positions
- Teachers Salary Schedule

Coaching Positions by Group

Group A

Varsity Boys Basketball
Varsity Football
Varsity Girls Basketball
Varsity Girls Volleyball
Varsity Wrestling

Group B

Intramurals Boys EJD (2)
Intramurals Girls EJD (2)

Group C

Head JV Football
JV Boys Basketball
JV Girls Basketball
JV Girls Volleyball
JV Wrestling

Group D

Assistant JV Football
Assistant Varsity Football
Assistant Volleyball
Assistant Wrestling

Group E

Varsity Baseball
Varsity Boys Track
Varsity Girls Softball
Varsity Girls Track

Group F

Varsity Boys Soccer
Varsity Girls Soccer

Group G

Boys Indoor Track
Girls Indoor Track
Varsity Boys Cross Country
Varsity Girls Cross Country

Group H

JV Baseball
JV Boys Soccer
JV Girls Soccer
JV Girls Softball

Group I

Cheerleading Fall
Cheerleading Winter
Golf
Modified Football
Tennis

Group J

Assistant Baseball
Assistant Boys Basketball
Assistant Boys Soccer
Assistant Boys Track
Assistant Girls Basketball
Assistant Girls Soccer
Assistant Girls Track
Assistant Softball

Group K

Freshman Boys Basketball
Modified Boys Basketball (7)
Modified Boys Basketball (8)
Modified Girls Basketball (7)
Modified Girls Basketball (8)
Modified Girls Volleyball (7)
Modified Girls Volleyball (8)
Modified Wrestling

Group L

Intramurals Boys JCB
Intramurals Girls JCB

Group M

Modified Baseball
Modified Boys Cross Country
Modified Boys Soccer
Modified Boys Track
Modified Girls Cross Country
Modified Girls Soccer
Modified Girls Softball
Modified Girls Track
Unified Basketball (0.5)
Unified Bowling (0.3)

Coaching Salary Schedule

2023-24

Group	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Step 1	8,482	7,109	6,790	5,948	5,744	5,584	4,959	4,597	4,226	4,005	3,635	3,571	3,319
Step 2	8,654	7,247	6,928	6,066	5,857	5,694	5,055	4,698	4,310	4,085	3,704	3,642	3,382
Step 3	8,822	7,389	7,067	6,181	5,975	5,807	5,151	4,781	4,396	4,163	3,776	3,718	3,451
Step 4	8,970	7,537	7,211	6,333	6,121	5,954	5,305	4,931	4,543	4,313	3,925	3,867	3,600

2024-25

Group	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Step 1	8,822	7,394	7,062	6,186	5,974	5,807	5,157	4,781	4,395	4,165	3,780	3,714	3,451
Step 2	9,000	7,537	7,206	6,309	6,092	5,922	5,258	4,886	4,482	4,249	3,853	3,788	3,517
Step 3	9,175	7,685	7,349	6,428	6,214	6,040	5,357	4,972	4,572	4,330	3,927	3,867	3,589
Step 4	9,329	7,838	7,500	6,586	6,366	6,192	5,517	5,128	4,724	4,485	4,082	4,021	3,744

2025-26

Group	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Step 1	9,174	7,690	7,344	6,433	6,213	6,039	5,363	4,972	4,570	4,332	3,931	3,863	3,589
Step 2	9,360	7,838	7,494	6,561	6,335	6,159	5,468	5,081	4,661	4,418	4,007	3,939	3,658
Step 3	9,542	7,992	7,643	6,685	6,462	6,281	5,571	5,171	4,755	4,503	4,084	4,021	3,732
Step 4	9,702	8,152	7,800	6,849	6,621	6,440	5,738	5,333	4,913	4,665	4,245	4,182	3,894

2026-27

Group	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Step 1	9,541	7,997	7,638	6,690	6,461	6,281	5,578	5,171	4,753	4,505	4,089	4,017	3,733
Step 2	9,734	8,152	7,794	6,824	6,589	6,405	5,687	5,284	4,848	4,595	4,167	4,097	3,804
Step 3	9,924	8,312	7,949	6,952	6,721	6,532	5,794	5,378	4,945	4,683	4,248	4,182	3,882
Step 4	10,090	8,478	8,112	7,123	6,886	6,697	5,967	5,546	5,110	4,851	4,415	4,350	4,050

- ◇ Step 1 shall be the salary paid in each year of the agreement to all coaches coaching that particular sport for the first time.
- ◇ Coaches who coached the same sport the previous year will move up 1 step the following year for each year of the agreement.
- ◇ Coaches who transfer from one sport to another or return to coaching after a period of not coaching will be placed on the step equal to the step last coached.
- ◇ Post-season play: Coaches with teams that qualify for post season play will receive the following weekly stipends:

	<u>Head coach</u>	<u>Assistant Coach</u>
Sectionals	\$300	\$150
States	\$500	\$250

The post season week runs from Sunday to Saturday following the last regularly scheduled competition.

Extra Pay Positions

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Fall Field Band				
Director	9,076	9,439	9,817	10,209
Assistant to the Director	4,004	4,164	4,331	4,504
Music Arranger	2,342	2,436	2,533	2,635
Drill Designer	3,710	3,858	4,012	4,173
Percussion Arranger	1,663	1,729	1,799	1,871
Caption Head <i>(4 positions)</i>	4,004	4,164	4,331	4,504
Instructor <i>(8 positions)</i>	2,226	2,315	2,407	2,503
Senior Winter Guard				
Director/Choreographer	5,948	6,186	6,433	6,690
Assistant Director	3,319	3,451	3,589	3,733
Guard Instructor <i>(3 positions)</i>	2,967	3,086	3,209	3,338
Junior Winter Guard				
Assistant Director	3,710	3,858	4,012	4,173
Guard Instructor <i>(3 positions)</i>	2,967	3,086	3,209	3,338
Cadet Winter Guard				
Guard Instructor <i>(3 positions)</i>	2,967	3,086	3,209	3,338
Winter Drumline				
Director	3,710	3,858	4,012	4,173
Music Arranger	1,113	1,157	1,204	1,252
Drill Designer	1,113	1,157	1,204	1,252
Instructor <i>(2 positions)</i>	2,967	3,086	3,209	3,338
Parade Band				
Director	1,666	1,733	1,802	1,874
Assistant Director	1,666	1,733	1,802	1,874
Instructor <i>(10 positions)</i>	540	561	584	607

Music Events: Music instructors attending festivals and auditions (not conferences/symposiums) may submit a claim form to the Superintendent for pre-approval of supervision pay, mileage and lodging. Claim forms must include festival information, personal mileage information and lodging details. Pay while attending a Music Event \$230 per day (see maximum days permitted for each event).

Music Event	Max Day(s) Allotted
OCMEA Elem All County Band	1.5
OCMEA Elem All County Chorus	1.5
OCMEA Sr High All County Auditions	0.5
OCMEA Jr High All County Auditions	0.5
OCMEA Jr / Sr All County Band	1.5
OCMEA Jr / Sr All County Orchestra	1.5
OCMEA Jr / Sr All County Chorus	1.5
OCMEA Jr / Sr All County Jazz Festival	1.0
NYSSMA Jr / Sr Area All State	2.0
NYSSMA Conference All State	2.0
NYSSMA Jr High Solo Fest	1.0
NYSSMA Sr High Solo Fest	1.5
MENC All Eastern	2.0

Extra Pay Positions *(continued)*

Clubs, Events, Misc.	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
After School Open Gym*	\$25.33	\$26.35	\$27.40	\$28.50
Assistant Drama Club	\$2,253.68	\$2,343.83	\$2,437.58	\$2,535.08
Assistant Drama Production	\$879.84	\$915.03	\$951.63	\$989.70
Assistant Musical Production	\$1,331.20	\$1,384.45	\$1,439.83	\$1,497.42
Chaperone** (per event)	\$99.84	\$103.83	\$107.99	\$112.31
Chorus EJD 5 & 6	\$3,607.76	\$3,752.07	\$3,902.15	\$4,058.24
Chorus EJD 7 & 8	\$3,607.76	\$3,752.07	\$3,902.15	\$4,058.24
DECA	\$2,533.44	\$2,634.78	\$2,740.17	\$2,849.78
Director, Drama Production	\$1,806.48	\$1,878.74	\$1,953.89	\$2,032.04
Director, Musical Production	\$3,607.76	\$3,752.07	\$3,902.15	\$4,058.24
Drama Club	\$5,369.52	\$5,584.30	\$5,807.67	\$6,039.98
Driver Education*** (per hour)	\$64.39	\$66.96	\$69.64	\$72.43
EJD Musical Director	\$1,806.00	\$1,878.24	\$1,953.37	\$2,031.50
EJD News	\$3,167.00	\$3,293.68	\$3,425.43	\$3,562.44
EJD Select Band	\$3,469.00	\$3,607.76	\$3,752.07	\$3,902.15
Esports Coach	\$2,489.00	\$2,588.56	\$2,692.10	\$2,799.79
Freshman Class Advisor (JCB)	\$524.16	\$545.13	\$566.93	\$589.61
HS Robotics Coach	\$2,850.00	\$2,964.00	\$3,082.56	\$3,205.86
Jazz Band (EJD)	\$3,607.76	\$3,752.07	\$3,902.15	\$4,058.24
Jazz Band (JCB)	\$3,607.76	\$3,752.07	\$3,902.15	\$4,058.24
JCB French Club	\$524.00	\$544.96	\$566.76	\$589.43
Junior Class Advisor (JCB)	\$1,050.40	\$1,092.42	\$1,136.11	\$1,181.56
Junior National Honor Society	\$1,900.08	\$1,976.08	\$2,055.13	\$2,137.33
Memory Book (EJD)	\$1,050.40	\$1,092.42	\$1,136.11	\$1,181.56
Music Director / Musical	\$3,607.76	\$3,752.07	\$3,902.15	\$4,058.24
Musical Accompanist	\$1,232.40	\$1,281.70	\$1,332.96	\$1,386.28
Musical Choreographer	\$1,312.48	\$1,364.98	\$1,419.58	\$1,476.36
National Honor Society	\$2,533.44	\$2,634.78	\$2,740.17	\$2,849.78
Orange / Black Shack (EJD)	\$2,095.60	\$2,179.42	\$2,266.60	\$2,357.26
School Newspaper	\$2,366.00	\$2,460.64	\$2,559.07	\$2,661.43
Scorekeeper (per event)	\$99.84	\$103.83	\$107.99	\$112.31
Senior Class Advisor (JCB)	\$1,050.40	\$1,092.42	\$1,136.11	\$1,181.56
Sophomore Class Advisor (JCB)	\$524.16	\$545.13	\$566.93	\$589.61
Student Council Advisor (EJD)	\$2,095.60	\$2,179.42	\$2,266.60	\$2,357.26
Student Council Advisor (JCB)	\$2,095.60	\$2,179.42	\$2,266.60	\$2,357.26
Timer (per event)	\$99.84	\$103.83	\$107.99	\$112.31
TV (JCB)	\$3,166.80	\$3,293.47	\$3,425.21	\$3,562.22
Yearbook (JCB)	\$6,677.84	\$6,944.95	\$7,222.75	\$7,511.66

* *After School Open Gym shall not exceed a 30:1 student / teacher ratio.*

** *Chaperone assignments not filled by an Association member (after posting for a reasonable amount of time) will be filled by the District (may be a non-member of the Association).*

*** *Before/After school or summer sessions driver education instructor rate.*

Teachers Salary Schedule

Off step will receive percentage raise as outlined in Article VI.K.1

STEP	BACHELOR DEGREE			
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
1	55,866	57,701	59,609	61,593
2	56,266	58,101	60,009	61,993
3	56,682	58,517	60,425	62,409
4	57,111	58,949	60,857	62,842
5	57,553	59,395	61,307	63,292
6	58,007	59,855	61,771	63,760
7	58,475	60,327	62,249	64,242
8	58,956	60,814	62,740	64,739
9	59,451	61,314	63,247	65,250
10	59,958	61,829	63,767	65,776
11	60,865	62,356	64,302	66,318
12	61,792	63,300	64,851	66,874
13	62,737	64,264	65,832	67,445
14	63,681	65,246	66,834	68,465
15	64,662	66,229	67,856	69,508
16	65,682	67,249	68,878	70,570
17	66,742	68,309	69,939	71,633
18	67,843	69,412	71,042	72,736
19	68,987	70,556	72,189	73,883
20	70,174	71,747	73,379	75,076
21	71,399	72,981	74,617	76,314
22	77,416	74,255	75,901	77,602
23	77,606	80,513	77,225	78,937
24	77,800	80,710	83,734	80,314
25	78,001	80,912	83,939	87,083
26	78,209	81,121	84,149	87,296
27	78,420	81,337	84,365	87,515
28	78,643	81,556	84,591	87,740
29	78,876	81,789	84,819	87,974
30	79,115	82,031	85,060	88,211
31	79,367	82,279	85,312	88,463
32	79,623	82,541	85,571	88,725
33	79,893	82,808	85,843	88,993
34	80,180	83,089	86,120	89,277
35	80,490	83,387	86,413	89,565
36	80,815	83,710	86,723	89,869
37	81,170	84,047	87,058	90,192
38	81,552	84,417	87,409	90,541
39	81,973	84,814	87,794	90,905
40	82,429	85,252	88,207	91,306

STEP	MASTERS DEGREE			
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
1	61,693	63,761	65,911	68,148
2	62,093	64,161	66,311	68,548
3	62,509	64,577	66,727	68,964
4	62,938	65,010	67,160	69,397
5	63,379	65,455	67,610	69,846
6	63,834	65,914	68,073	70,314
7	64,302	66,387	68,551	70,796
8	64,783	66,874	69,042	71,293
9	65,278	67,374	69,549	71,804
10	65,785	67,889	70,069	72,331
11	66,693	68,416	70,605	72,872
12	67,619	69,361	71,153	73,429
13	68,564	70,324	72,135	73,999
14	69,508	71,306	73,137	75,021
15	70,489	72,289	74,159	76,062
16	71,510	73,309	75,180	77,125
17	72,569	74,370	76,241	78,187
18	73,671	75,472	77,345	79,291
19	74,814	76,618	78,491	80,439
20	76,002	77,807	79,682	81,631
21	77,226	79,043	80,919	82,870
22	83,243	80,315	82,204	84,156
23	83,434	86,573	83,527	85,492
24	83,628	86,772	90,036	86,868
25	83,827	86,974	90,242	93,637
26	84,036	87,181	90,453	93,852
27	84,246	87,397	90,668	94,071
28	84,471	87,616	90,893	94,294
29	84,703	87,850	91,121	94,529
30	84,942	88,091	91,364	94,766
31	85,195	88,339	91,615	95,019
32	85,450	88,602	91,873	95,279
33	85,720	88,868	92,147	95,548
34	86,007	89,149	92,423	95,832
35	86,317	89,447	92,715	96,119
36	86,641	89,770	93,025	96,424
37	86,997	90,107	93,361	96,746
38	87,379	90,477	93,711	97,095
39	87,800	90,874	94,096	97,460
40	88,256	91,312	94,509	97,860