

AGREEMENT

Between the  
CHRISTINA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

And the

CHRISTINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028

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## **PREAMBLE**

This Agreement is entered into this first day of July 2025 between the Board of Education of the Christina School District, hereinafter called "the Board", and the Christina Education Association, Inc., hereinafter called "the Association."

## **WITNESSETH:**

WHEREAS, the Board has an obligation, pursuant to and consistent with Chapter 40, Title 14, Delaware Code, to negotiate with the Association as the representative of employees hereinafter designated, and

WHEREAS, the parties have reached certain understandings, which they desire to confirm in this Agreement, be it

RESOLVED, in consideration of the following mutual covenants, it is hereby agreed as follows.

## **ARTICLE 1 RECOGNITION**

- 1:1 The Board hereby recognizes the Association as the exclusive negotiating representative of the certificated non-administrative employees, not including supervisory, staff personnel, or substitutes of the District, and other non-certified non-administrative employees in all matters specified in Chapter 40, Title 14, Delaware Code unless another provision of the Delaware Code supersedes this section. Those recognized as non-administrative professionals under Section 1305 Chapter 14 of Delaware Code.
- 1:2 DEFINITION
  - 1:2.1 The "Board" as used in this Agreement shall mean the Christina Board of Education.
  - 1:2.2 An "employee" or "teacher" as used in this Agreement shall mean any certificated non-administrative employee employed by the School District not including supervisory, staff personnel, or substitutes; and reference to employees or teachers shall be deemed to include both the male and female.
  - 1:2.3 The "Association" as used in this Agreement shall mean the Christina Education Association, Inc.
  - 1:2.4 The "District" as used in this Agreement shall mean the Christina School District.
  - 1:2.5 School Work "Days" as used in this Agreement shall mean those days on which employees are scheduled to report for work according to the official District calendar.
- 1:3 District agrees to honor the terms of an employee's written voluntary authorization to have Association dues, fees, and political contributions deducted from their wages. The employee

shall authorize deductions using a form created and maintained by the Association and signed by the employee in any manner that satisfies the Delaware Uniform Electronic Transactions Act and/or other Delaware state law.

The Association shall provide the Employer with the names of any employee who has signed a payroll deduction authorization and the amount to be deducted each pay period. The Association will provide the Employer with an employee's authorization form, or proof of such authorization if signed electronically, only if there is a dispute about the existence or terms of the authorization.

The Employer will cease deductions from an employee's wages upon the Association's request. If an employee notifies the Employer that they wish to revoke their payroll deduction authorization, the Employer will refer the employee to the Association. Upon an employee's resignation or retirement, the Employer will notify the Association and cease payroll deductions.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **NEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENTS**

- 2:1 This Agreement shall be for a period as specified in the Duration Article, and negotiations concerned with the terms of this Agreement shall not be reopened during that time.
- 2:1.1 The parties agree to reopen the contract during the term of this agreement if changes occur in State or Federal laws or regulations that alter teacher wages, responsibilities or working conditions. (i.e., Delaware Performance Appraisal System II, Every Student Succeeds Act - ESSA). In addition, the only articles that would be discussed would be Article 19, Article 25, Article 26, Article 28, Appendix A, and Appendix B.
- 2:1.1.2 The Association and the District have agreed to a financial package for the 2025-2026 school year but will reopen the financial compensation negotiations for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years beginning no later than February of each year.
- 2:2 Neither party in any negotiations shall have any control over the selection of the negotiating representatives of the other party.
- 2:3 The parties mutually pledge that their representatives shall be clothed with all necessary power and authority to make proposals, consider proposals, and make counterproposals in the course of negotiations; however, the Board negotiating team shall not have the authority to bind the Board and all agreements shall be subject to final approval of the Board of Education.
- 2:4 This Agreement incorporates the entire understanding of the parties on all matters which were or could have been the subject of negotiation. During the term of the Agreement neither party shall be required to negotiate with respect to any such matter whether or not covered by this Agreement and whether or not within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time they negotiated or executed this Agreement.
- 2:5 This Agreement shall not be modified in whole or in part by the parties except by an instrument in writing duly executed by both parties.

2:6 The parties agree to enter into negotiations over a successor Agreement pursuant to and consistent with Chapter 40, Title 14, Delaware Code. Such negotiations shall begin no later than six months prior to the expiration of the Agreement.

2:7 Any agreement so negotiated shall be reduced to writing, submitted for ratification by the Association and approval by the Board, and be signed by the President of the Association, the Chairperson of the Professional Negotiations Committee of the Association, the President of the Board, and the Executive Secretary of the Board.

### **ARTICLE 3 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

#### **3:1 DEFINITION**

3:1.1 A grievance shall be defined as a written claim by an employee that the terms of this Agreement have been violated, misinterpreted, or misapplied resulting in the abridgement of rights granted to the employees by this Agreement.

3:1.2 A grievance may also be defined as a written claim by the Association that the terms of this Agreement have been violated, misinterpreted, or misapplied resulting in the abridgement of rights granted to the Association by this Agreement.

3:1.3 A grievant is the person, persons, or Association who files a grievance as provided for under this Agreement.

3:1.4 A class action grievance is a grievance filed by the Association, which asserts an effect on a group or class of employees.

3:1.5 Days as used in this Article refer to employee workdays. When a grievance is submitted between May 1 and the first teaching day, days shall refer to business days.

3:2 Purpose - The purpose of this procedure is to provide an alternative to existing means of resolving concerns over matters specified in this Agreement, which affect employees of the District. Both parties agree that these proceedings, if utilized, will be kept confidential except that the Board shall provide the Association with copies of all grievances and written decisions at each level.

3:3.1 No grievance may be changed after its formal presentation. However, the grievance may be amended with respect to cited contract items following the decisions rendered at Level 1 of the grievance procedure and shall be considered timely filed if resubmitted at Level 1 within ten days of the initial response.

3:3.2 All grievances should be processed as rapidly as possible; the number of days indicated at each level will be considered a maximum and every effort will be made at each level to expedite the process. The time limit specified may, however, be extended by mutual written agreement.

3:3.3 Failure at any level of this procedure to communicate the decision on a grievance within the specified time limits shall constitute authority for the grievant to proceed to the next level. Failure at any level of this procedure to appeal a grievance to the next level within the specified time limits shall be deemed to be acceptance of the decision rendered at that level.

3:3.4 If a grievance is a class action grievance or concerns rights of the Association, the grievance shall commence at a level appropriate to the occasion giving rise to the grievance.

#### 3:4 LINE OF GRIEVANCE

3:4.1 The line of grievance which an employee will follow in processing a written grievance is:

- (a) Building principal, immediate supervisor, or district personnel making decision
- (b) Superintendent or designee
- (c) Arbitrator

#### 3:5 SPECIFIC PROCEDURE

3:5.1 The grievant is encouraged to meet with the principal or his/her immediate supervisor or applicable District Office personnel with the objective of resolving the matter informally.

3:5.2 Level I - The grievant will set forth his/her grievance in writing as provided in Section 3:4 within fifteen days from the date the employee became aware he/she was aggrieved. Within ten days of receipt of the written grievance the principal, immediate supervisor or district office personnel shall hold a hearing. A decision in writing delineating the reason for the decision will be rendered to the grievant within five days of the hearing. (Appendix C)

3:5.3 Level II - If the grievant is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level I, he/she may, within ten days after being notified that the decision has been rendered, appeal the decision to the Superintendent or designee. The basis for the employee's continued dissatisfaction shall be delineated. The Superintendent or designee shall hold an informal grievance hearing within ten days after receiving the grievance. The Superintendent or designee shall communicate the decision in writing to the grievant within five days after the date of the hearing.

3:5.4 Level III - Submission to Arbitration- The decision of the Superintendent or his designee shall finally determine the matter unless the Association, within ten days of the Superintendent's decision, advises the Superintendent of its desire to proceed to arbitration. The Association shall submit a demand for arbitration to the Public Employment Relations Board. The request shall state in reasonable detail the nature of the dispute and the remedy requested. The parties shall then be bound by the regulations of the Public Employment Relations Board in the selection of an arbitrator. The Association shall represent the grievant at the arbitration level

#### 3:6 REDIRECTING PRINCIPLES

3:6.1 No claim by an employee or the Association shall constitute an arbitrable matter or be processed through arbitration if it pertains to:

- (a) A matter where a specific method of remedy or appeal is prescribed by law (e.g., the Fair Dismissal Act) and/or by this Agreement.
- (b) Any rule or regulation of the State Department of Education.
- (c) Any matter which according to law is either beyond the scope of Board authority or which is illegal for the Board to delegate.
- (d) Dismissal or discharge of an employee or non-renewal of an employee's contract.
- (e) Administrative decisions relating to the involuntary transfer or unassignment of an employee when it is necessary to satisfy requirements of law, court order, or affirmative action programs or being the least senior in a building.
- (f) Safety issues as specified in Section 10:1.

Items (a) through (f) above, although not arbitrable, shall be appealable through the grievance procedure to the Board within fifteen (15) days of the Superintendent's decision which shall, at its option, hold a hearing concerning the matter or determine the matter on the basis of the written records. The Board shall render its decision within thirty (30) days of the date of the filing of the appeal to the Board.

### 3:7 ARBITRABILITY

- 3:7.1 If the Superintendent or designee disagrees as to the arbitrability of the dispute; he/she may request a conference to discuss the issue of arbitrability and to seek to resolve the differences between the parties.
- 3:7.2 If the disagreement over arbitrability persists, the arbitrator appointed under the procedures set forth herein shall rule upon the question of arbitrability prior to hearing the merits of the dispute in question. The same arbitrator shall schedule a second meeting to hear the dispute on its merits if the dispute is judged to be arbitrable.

### 3:8 PROCEDURE

- 3:8.1 The Public Employment Relations Board shall administer arbitrations pursuant to regulations adopted by the Public Employment Relations Board. The arbitrator's decision shall be binding upon the parties pursuant to 14 DE Code § 4013 except for items on voluntary transfers, involuntary transfers, and unassignments for "programmatic reasons" and evaluations where the arbitrator's decision should be advisory.
- 3:8.2 The arbitrator, in the written opinion, shall not amend, modify, nullify, ignore, or add to the provisions of the Agreement. The opinion must be based solely and only upon his/her interpretation of the meaning or application of the express relevant language of the

Agreement.

3:9 COST OF ARBITRATION

3:9.1 The costs for the services of the arbitrator in determining whether a dispute is arbitrable, including per diem expenses, if any, and actual and necessary travel and subsistence expenses shall be borne by the losing party. The costs for the services of the Arbitrator incurred in deciding the merits of a dispute, including per diem expenses, if any, and actual and necessary travel, subsistence expenses, and the cost of the hearing room shall be borne equally by the Board and the Association. Any other expenses incurred shall be paid by the party incurring same.

3:10 MISCELLANEOUS

3:10.1 Commencing with Level I of the Grievance Procedure the grievant may be accompanied by a representative of his/her own choosing.

3:10.2 If the grievant does not choose to be accompanied and represented by an Association grievance representative the Association shall have the right to be present and to state its views at all levels of the grievance procedure. This shall not apply when the grievance involves matters of personal, embarrassing, and confidential nature and the grievant specifically requests, in writing, that the Association representative not be present.

3:10.3 If the employee elects to be represented, he/she must still be present at any level of the grievance procedure where his/her grievance is to be discussed except that he/she need not be present where it is mutually agreed that no facts are in dispute, and when the sole question is the interpretation of this Agreement.

3:10.4 Where grievance proceedings are mutually scheduled by the parties during school time, persons proper to be present shall suffer no loss of pay. In the event that a dispute arises as to whether it is proper that a person be present at the grievance such dispute shall be subject to resolution through the grievance procedure.

3:10.5 No documents, communications, and records which are developed in connection with the processing of a grievance shall be filed in the District's file pertaining to the employee.

3:10.6 It is understood that employees shall, during and notwithstanding the pendency of any grievance, continue to observe all assignments and applicable rules and regulations of the District until such grievance and any effect thereof shall have been fully determined.

3:10.7 A form for filing grievances shall be prepared jointly by the Association and the Administration, reproduced by the Administration and distributed to the Association so as to facilitate operation of the grievance procedure. Such form shall be attached as Appendix C of this Agreement. The appropriate form shall be used for filing a grievance at each level of the procedure. Grievances may be faxed to the appropriate administrator who will respond



by fax his/her receipt of the grievance.

- 3:10.8 Hearings at any level of the grievance procedure may be waived by mutual agreement of the parties.
- 3:10.9 Level I grievance decisions accepted by individual employees which appear in conflict with this Agreement may be grieved by the Association beginning with Level II.
- 3:10.10 If a grievance is granted at Level I and the problem continues to occur, the Association may file a class action grievance at Level II provided that the actions fall within the same school year and under the same administrator who responded at Level I.

#### **ARTICLE 4 EMPLOYEE RIGHTS**

- 4:1 Pursuant to Chapter 40, Title 14, Delaware Code, the Board hereby agrees that employees have the right to join an organization for engaging in collective bargaining.
- 4:2 The parties shall not discriminate against, interfere with, restrain, nor coerce employees in the right to organize or to join or participate in lawful Association activities or to refrain from so doing. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to deny or restrict to any employee such rights as may be held under Delaware School laws or other applicable laws and regulations.
- 4:3.1 An employee who is required to appear before the Board or an agent thereof for disciplinary reasons (~~written~~ reprimand, suspension, termination) shall be given a full 48 hours prior written notice not including non-contracted days. The letter will contain the date(s) of the incident(s) and specific reason(s), such as "Professional Responsibilities related to \_\_\_\_\_ and to the incident(s) of \_\_\_\_\_". Any topic not included in the letter will not be covered at said meeting unless agreed to by the employee. If not agreed, it will be discussed at a later date after proper notice has been given. The parties agree that 48-hour meetings will not be scheduled the day before a holiday. An employee required to appear in this instance shall be entitled to have an Association Representative present during such a meeting and any follow-up meeting that is held. With prior notice, an additional Association member may attend the meeting for training purposes or due to his/her area of expertise. In buildings that don't have an elected union representative, the parties agree that 48-hour meetings may be postponed 48 hours in order for the employee to secure representation.
- 4:3.2 When an employee is requested to meet with an administrator and at any time reasonably believes the meeting may result in disciplinary action or has an impact on their work, the employee may have an Association representative present. Such a representative must be available within a reasonable amount of time.  
  
If during any meeting, the employee believes the meeting may result in disciplinary action, they may request an Association Representative be present before such a meeting resumes.
- 4:3.3 Sections 4:3.1 and 4:3.2 do not preclude informal discussion with an employee by a member of the administrative staff pertaining to the employee's performance at his/her work location.

- 4:4 No employee shall be disciplined, reprimanded orally or in writing, or reduced in pay except for just cause. Any such action will be conducted in private.
- 4:5 Suspension of an employee pending the disposition of charges by the Board of Education shall be with full pay and benefits unless the employee is arrested for a felony offense which constitutes grounds for termination. If an employee is arrested for a misdemeanor offense related to their ability to work with children, the employee may be suspended without pay. If the said employee is exonerated, back wages will be reimbursed. Where an employee is suspended for disciplinary reasons and that suspension is not revoked through the grievance procedure, an amount of pay equal to the number of days of said suspension shall be deducted from said employee's pay. If the number of remaining pay periods permit, no more than one day's pay in any one pay period shall be deducted from the employee's pay. If an employee leaves employment of the District before the completion of the grievance procedure, if used, the employee's pay will be deducted in the last paycheck of the employee. If suspension is subsequently revoked the District shall return any monies to the employee.
- 4:5.1 When an employee has been placed on administrative leave for a period of more than two (2) months, and is scheduled to return, the employee may request a re-entry meeting. The request shall include the identification of the re-entry issues the employee would like to address. The issues should be provided to the building/ program administrator and Human Resources 24 hours prior to the official meeting. The re-entry discussion shall occur after the 48 hour meeting topics are discussed and will not be disciplinary in nature. The meeting may include an Association Representative and a Human Resource Representative.
- 4:6 Teachers are required to keep a comprehensive gradebook, inclusive of all grades given to students that are used to calculate a marking period grade. Teachers shall have the responsibility for determining grades within the grading policy of the District. Comprehensive gradebooks shall be updated/made current at a minimum of every ten school days. Only the principal, with the approval of his/her immediate supervisor, or the school counselor with the approval of the principal, shall have the right to change a grade and shall (1) if an employee is available within a reasonable amount of time, consult with the teacher before making the change, (2) as soon as possible inform the teacher in writing of his/her right to file a disclaimer of responsibility for the grade, and (3) provide in writing a reason for the grade change, one copy to be given to the teacher. A statement will be included in the electronic file noting the administrator or counselor making the change and the date the change occurred.
- 4:6.1 Any school using computerized reporting with the exception of those requiring narrative reports shall have three (3) workdays to turn in grades to the building administrator. Teachers in schools not using computerized reporting and/or those requiring narrative reports shall have six (6) workdays from the close of the last day of the marking period to turn in grades to the building administrator, excluding the last marking period. Progress reports for IEPs while computerized, require a short narrative and will be held to the six (6) workday turnaround time. The last marking period grades will be due three (3) days from a date designated by the administration. Teachers will be informed of this designated date no later than May 1. Final grades for seniors in danger of failing the course are not subject to the three (3) day timeline
- 4:6.2 One full day per marking period will be allocated for the purpose of reporting and grading, and when

possible, working remotely will be an option. These days shall be set by the District to occur on in-service days between the first student day and the last teacher day in conjunction with the grade reporting window between marking periods.

4:7 Students shall not be removed from, added to, or transferred to an employee's classroom without a full 24-hour notice excluding weekends and non-contract days. Notification can be in the form of an email to the teacher. In cases of emergency or unforeseen circumstances requiring an immediate transfer, administration will notify the teacher as soon as possible. Relevant information concerning a student transfer shall be provided to the classroom teacher. Teachers will be provided with educational and medical information on all students with special needs with whom they have contact as soon as it is available. As used in this paragraph, "medical information" means that data necessary for the teacher to accommodate or adequately respond to known medical or health conditions.

4:7.1 Teachers shall be given three (3) workdays (except in unusual circumstances) to provide transfer grades and information for students who are withdrawing from their classes.

4:8 PARENT CONFERENCES - Efforts should be made to schedule conferences at mutually agreeable times with, at least, 24-hour notification of the conference to all appropriate parties. The teacher may request the administrator or designee to be present at said scheduled meeting as their support.

4:8.1 When the parent/guardian indicates a desire to attend a conference with a community/legal representative the building administrator shall be responsible for scheduling and attending such a conference. The employee shall have the right to bring an Association representative.

4:8.2 In the event that the parent/guardian is accompanied by a member of his/her immediate family then the employee shall not be entitled to representation. However, if at any time during the meeting the employee believes he/she needs a representative the principal shall terminate the conference until an Association representative may also be present.

4:8.3 In such cases when an Association representative attends with an employee, the Association representative must maintain the confidentiality of all material discussed at such meetings.

4:8.4 The building administrator shall terminate the conference if he/she feels the conduct or language directed at the employee becomes foul or abusive. If an administrator is not present during the conference a teacher may terminate the conference until an administrator is available. Also, if, after a verbal objection, abusive behavior continues, the teacher may leave the conference.

#### 4:9 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A copy of the District's policy concerning rights and responsibilities relating to development of instructional materials is placed at the end of this Agreement for the information of employees as Appendix F. Any recommendations for change in the policy will be submitted to the Superintendent by a teacher/administration committee. The committee will be made

up of three (3) Association representatives.

4:10 DRESS CODE

The parties recognize the positive effect a teacher can have on their students and on ensuring an environment conducive to learning and maintaining decorum in the classroom. All District employees are expected to adhere to a code of professional dress appropriate to a professional office or educational workplace setting as determined by building leadership. As a rule, business casual will be the expected professional role. An exception may be agreed to at individual buildings/programs safety reasons, specific spirit days and a professional development day which will be communicated by the building administrator or supervisor via district email. We are in agreement to the following guidelines regarding to the manner of dress and grooming for all staff members whenever performing a professional role.

4:10.1 Staff should dress and groom in a manner which shows cleanliness, ensures safety, demonstrates respect for others and not likely to distract students or disrupt the educational process.

4:10.2 Clothing and jewelry shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, obscene, profane, sexually suggestive, advocate prejudice or violence against any group/individual, or advocate the use of drugs or alcohol.

4:10.3 If, in the judgment of an employee's immediate supervisor, an employee has physical hygiene issues or is not appropriately groomed or dressed for duty, then the immediate supervisor may direct the employee to leave District premises until he/she has resolved such issues and can report to work as expected. Any time away from duty is to be charged to the employee's appropriate paid or unpaid leave.

4:11 The balance of student load, number of preparations and duties shall be considered in student assignments.

4:12 An administrator shall not delegate his/her supervisory responsibilities to individuals within this bargaining unit.

4:13 REMOTE INSTRUCTION

4:13.1 Synchronous Learning will be defined as any education, instruction, and learning (including but not limited to televisual, digital, online learning, video conference, interactive webinar, and chat-based discussion) in which students learn from teachers in time, but not in person. Asynchronous learning will be defined by the Christina School District as any instruction where a teacher is not delivering real time instruction in front of students (examples- district approved online curriculum resources such as Dreambox, I-Ready and Khan Academy, pre-recorded videos from quality sources, digital assignments based on curriculum needs in Schoology). Hybrid Instruction shall mean simultaneously instructing students who are in-person and those who are remote.

4:13.2 In the event of an unexpected building closure, the Christina School District will make every effort to inform affected staff and families by no later than 2pm on the day before

the closure. The plan for the first and subsequent inclement weather days shall be in place by the first student day. A combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning may be provided for all Christina students. Teachers shall be given one hour of individual planning during the first hour of the remote workday.

- 4:13.3 The district reserves the right to assign teachers to work from home. When necessary, teachers who teach VA students may be required to report to their physical building in order to fulfill their Professional Responsibilities (including but not limited to picking up supplies, administering state testing, attending professional development, etc.). It is understood that a teacher who opts to work in the physical building may have to share a classroom space. Teacher duties may be distributed equally to all staff with consideration given to whether they are working remotely or in-person.
- 4:13.4 If any teacher in the collective bargaining unit is required to teach in a Hybrid Teaching Model or separate in-person classes and virtual classes, they may work with their administrator to utilize Appendix I to gain additional plan time for the work required of hybrid learning.
- 4:13.5 Employees will not be required to record their lessons but will have the option to do so if they choose. If a student is absent, the teacher shall provide the student all appropriate options to make up their missed work.
- 4:13.6 Employees' instruction will not be recorded without their prior knowledge and consent. In addition, the employee's recorded lessons will not be used for any reason including disciplinary actions against the employee without their prior knowledge and consent. The Building Administrator can retain copies of a recorded lesson for purposes of a grievance or a student disciplinary matter. Administrators should be present in any lesson being used as a formal observation.

## **ARTICLE 5 EMPLOYEE-ADMINISTRATION LIAISON**

### **5:1 FACULTY LIAISON**

- 5:1.1 The establishment and make-up of the Faculty Liaison is the responsibility of the Association.
- 5:1.2 The basic purpose of the Faculty Liaison is to establish and maintain positive relationships and communication among the faculty and the administration. The Faculty Liaison will be able to:
- provide a vehicle for reviewing and discussing school problems and practices including the building budget;
  - provide a vehicle for bringing group issues of concern to teachers before the school administration in an orderly and productive manner; should a school have only one staff member in a seniority classification, and that employee has not received resolution on a concern, the individual's issue may be included on the liaison topics.
  - provide a vehicle which teachers can use without bringing attention to themselves as individuals;

- provide a vehicle for quickly stopping the spread of rumors and misinformation;
- provide an opportunity for both teachers and administrators to maintain a clear understanding of each other's needs;
- provide a vehicle by which a faculty can feel assured that their Association interests and perspectives are shared;
- provide a process for developing and maintaining positive and more efficiently run schools where teaching and learning have an improved opportunity to prosper.

5:1.3 In the spirit of collaboration the Administration of each school shall meet with the Faculty Liaison at least monthly at a mutually agreeable time for discussion of areas of concern and problem solving. Agenda items shall be exchanged at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance. The Administration and Faculty Liaison shall jointly prepare Minutes, and Minutes shall be made available to teachers in the building as well as sent to the Association President/or designee and the Superintendent's designee.

5:1.4 The District and the Association will jointly develop and keep current a faculty/administration training program for the operation of the Faculty Liaison Committee. This training will be made available via webinar on a State platform. FLC team members will participate in the webinar annually. Human Resources will provide a list of teachers and administrators who have completed the training by the last Friday in October. Information on individuals who complete the training after October will be communicated as completion is confirmed.

## 5:2 DISTRICT LIAISON

5:2.1 The Association president and individual(s) of his/her choice shall meet with the Superintendent or designee and an individual of his/her choice on a monthly basis in order to discuss the administration of this agreement and other concerns which affect employees. Meetings will be held at a mutually agreeable time and, if necessary, release time will be provided.

5:2.2 The Association shall submit a tentative agenda to the Superintendent or designee at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

5:3 The Liaison Committee(s) shall not consider matters which are more properly subjects for the grievance procedure as outlined in the Grievance Article.

5:3.1 The District Liaison Committee will not discuss items that are specific to one school, that have not been discussed by the Faculty Liaison Committee at said school.

## 5:4 BOARD LIAISON

5:4.1 In order to maintain communication and the collaborative process between the Association and the Board, the Board and the Association Executive Board will meet twice a year on a mutually

agreeable date, time, and place for at least one hour to discuss a mutually agreed upon agenda.

5:5 INSTRUCTIONAL LIAISON

- 5:5.1 Representatives of the Association and representatives of the Instructional Department shall meet at least twice during the year, at mutually agreeable times, to discuss instructional issues/practices.

**ARTICLE 6  
SHARED DECISION MAKING/RESTRUCTURING**

- 6:1 The Association and the Board Agree that shared decision making is the process of remodeling our educational system to meet the needs of all students in order to maximize individual student achievement.
- 6:2 The Association and the Board agree on the Philosophy of Shared Decision Making/Restructuring. (Appendix H).
- 6:3 For purposes of the agreement, the Association and the Board agree that the name of the Shared Decision Making team will change to Leadership Team (LT). This LT can include any leadership team such as Site Council, Building Leadership Team (BLT), Instructional Leadership Team (ILT), and Educator Leadership Team (ELT).
- 6:4 The Association and the Board agree that the following procedures are important to the implementation of shared decision making in the Christina School District.
- (a) Each building shall establish a democratic procedure for selection of the LT members. At least one of the selected members must be an association member.
  - (b) Selection procedures shall be communicated to all staff members, and parents and filed at the Administration Building and the Association. These procedures shall be in place and filed by October 31.
  - (c) All activities of the LT shall be posted or distributed in writing by the recorder for the LT by the end of each month.
  - (d) Every attempt shall be made to include the LT reports in parent and staff newsletters. The reports should include a short summary of activities, any action taken, meeting date, future agenda items, and expenditures of funds of the LT.
  - (e) All processes of the LT are subject to the negotiated agreements, policies of the Christina Board of Education, State Board of Education, and laws of the State of Delaware.
  - (f) An agreed upon procedure for reaching a decision in which everyone has input should be defined by each building. The procedure for the building should be readily communicated and followed in adopting or implementing

- all restructuring programs.
- (g) The Association will have representation on any District committee dealing with Shared Decision Making/Restructuring.
  - (h) An agenda for the LT meetings will be developed jointly by the LT members and the building administrator.
  - (i) Agenda items for the LT meetings may include, but are not limited to, the following categories:
    - Student-Centered Items (school curriculum, MTSS, class sizes, behavior supports, etc.)
    - Staff-Centered Items (building climate and culture, professional development, PLCs, staff duties and schedules, meeting schedules, equitability of class sizes and assignments, hiring process after the initial district process is complete, planning time, etc.)
    - Operations (opportunity for open dialogue and transparency of allocations for local/state funded units, grant opportunities, use of discretionary funds, technology needs, school policies, school hours and calendars, health and safety issues, building communications, etc.).
  - (j) The official meeting notes will be communicated electronically to all building users within 72 hours of the meeting. This communication should also include soliciting feedback from their constituents.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **NO STRIKE - NO LOCKOUT PROVISION**

- 7:1 Both parties recognize the desirability of continuous and uninterrupted operation of the instructional program during the normal school year and the avoidance of disputes which threaten to interfere with such operation. Since the parties have established a comprehensive problem solving procedure under which unresolved disputes may be settled the parties have removed the basic cause of work interruptions during the period of this Agreement.
- 7:2 The Association agrees that during the period of this Agreement it will not, nor will any person acting in its behalf, overtly cause, authorize, or support a strike or any other concerted disruption of normal school district activities as a result of disputes over interpretation of this Agreement or any other matter over which the Board has jurisdiction.
- 7:3 The District agrees that during the term of this Agreement it will not, nor will any person acting on its behalf, overtly cause, authorize, or support an offensive lockout of any employee covered by this Agreement as a result of a labor dispute between the District and the employees covered by this Agreement.



**ARTICLE 8**  
**MAINTENANCE OF CLASSROOM CONTROL AND DISCIPLINE**

**8:1 SPECIAL ASSISTANCE**

- 8:1.1 If an employee believes a student requires the attention of an administrator, counselor, psychologist, or other specialist, they should submit their concerns in writing to the principal or designee and request a conference. Within five (5) working days, a meeting will be scheduled with the appropriate parties to address the concern and determine next steps. The summary of the meeting shall be created and shared with all parties.

**8:2 DISRUPTIVE STUDENTS**

- 8:2.1 In accordance with Board Policy/Student Manual/Behavior Student Referral Process, an employee may remove from his/her class, or wherever disruptive behavior occurs, a student whose misbehavior or disruptive behavior makes the continued presence of the student in the classroom intolerable or detrimental to the other students. The students shall be directed to an area designated by the building administrator. A student so excluded shall be returned to class only after the appropriate action in accordance with the Student Manual has been taken and the teacher has been given notification of interventions.

- 8:2.2 The conduct referral system shall be used to report violations of the Student Manual. If the administrator or designee feels that the referral should be changed, they should communicate any changes in writing to the referring teacher.

When disciplining students, the building administrator or his/her designee shall take appropriate action in accordance with any existing behavior plan and as specified by the Student Manual. The referring staff member shall be informed in writing within five (5) working days as to what specific action(s) the administrator or designee has taken on the referral. If the teacher is in conflict with the action taken on the referral, the process outlined in Article 8:1.1 shall be followed.

- 8:2.3 The student Cumulative Record File shall contain all incidents within a student's discipline record as documented in any student information system. Each building can decide what process should be used to update the cumulative record.

- 8:2.4 Every effort shall be made to have the Student Manual be available on the District's website by the first student day. Until the updated Manual is accessible, the current (previous) Manual will remain in effect. Employees shall be able to access the Student Manual and all District forms necessary for making discipline reports electronically. However, a hard copy may be given to an employee upon written request. Concerns regarding noncompliance that are not resolved at the building level shall be specified in writing (including copies of any relevant documentation) and sent to the Association President/designee and Assistant Superintendent/designee.

- 8:2.5 The District and the Association are committed to using relationship-based approaches, along with the discipline strategies outlined in the Student Manual Intervention Matrices, when

addressing student behavior. All employees shall be trained on the Student Manual by the first student day. Employees will be provided with the time and resources necessary to practice these approaches throughout the school year, ensuring a clear and shared understanding within the building.

- 8:3 Employees involved in incidents in which they are threatened with bodily harm, are offensively touched or intentionally assaulted may request the removal of the student from their roster. Every effort will be made to accommodate this request. In such cases, consideration will also be given to any supports or accommodations outlined in the student's IEP, if applicable. Principals shall report all cases of assault suffered by an employee in connection with his/her employment to the appropriate authorities as required by law and in accordance with the Student Manual. The Superintendent shall establish procedures to inform the Association President of such cases. A summary of State law reporting procedures is provided at the end of this Agreement as Appendix G.
- 8:4 When the District receives information regarding a student, not limited to but including a student's behavior or learning needs, such information will be shared with the relevant employee(s), unless restricted by law. Upon receiving this information, the employee may request a conference with their administrator to discuss the matter. This conference will typically be scheduled within three (3) to five (5) working days with the appropriate individuals.
- 8:5 The Board and Association shall maintain an on-going discipline committee. See Article 31.
- 8:6 A student who assaults a staff member shall be dealt with in accordance with the Student Manual's definition of Assault I, II, and III which is consistent with the Delaware Criminal Code, Title II.
- 8:7 Out of building alternate placements shall be based on the guidelines established in the District Student Manual.
- 8:8 The Association and the District agree that personal cell phones and similar devices in schools are a growing issue and contribute to student misbehavior. The Association and the District shall work collaboratively and discuss any recommendations on a District-wide policy on personal cell phones and similar devices. This policy should be in place as soon as possible but no later than the beginning of 2026-2027 school year.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **PERSONAL AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

- 9:1 The personal life of an employee other than that which is covered by the Delaware Code, Chapter 14, Title 14, will not concern the Board.
- 9:2 The Board recognizes that model lessons are resources for teachers. In courses in which curriculum maps, core content standards, and mandatory course materials are provided by the District, teachers will be expected to follow the curriculum maps and/or deliver instruction that addresses the state content standards. For instructional areas that do not have state content standards, the teachers will be responsible for aligning their instruction to the course objectives.

- 9:3 The Board and the Association agree that academic freedom is essential to the fulfillment of the purposes of the District; they acknowledge the fundamental need to protect employees from censorship or restraint which interferes with the performance of their teaching responsibilities.
- 9:3.1 Employees are encouraged to develop and utilize innovative practices from life experiences, connections to previous careers and outside resources/ancillary materials that are aligned to the common core standards, to enrich academic content for courses.
- 9:4 While it is the Board's responsibilities to adopt and to provide curricular material, it is the teacher's responsibility to meet the requirements as listed in 9:2.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **PROTECTION OF EMPLOYEES, PUPILS, AND PROPERTY**

- 10:1 The Board and the Association agree that effective means for the protection of employees, pupils, and property are essential to the smooth functioning of the School District. Employees shall report in writing (except in cases of an emergency) all unsanitary, unsafe or hazardous conditions to the administrator in charge who shall, as quickly as possible after investigation and evaluation, take appropriate action to remedy the condition. The administrator within three (3) working days shall provide in writing to the reporting employee(s) the action taken. If the problem is not resolved satisfactorily a grievance may be initiated at Level II.
- 10:1.1 Employees shall not be required to work under conditions determined to be unsanitary, unsafe or hazardous by the preceding procedure. Employees may request a transfer by writing to the Human Resources Office and providing written reason and back-up information after taking appropriate action outlined in 10:1.
- 10:1.1.1 District will provide the necessary Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) such as but not limited to gloves, arm guards, and face shields if requested by an employee. If there are known physically aggressive student behaviors in a classroom, every effort shall be made to ensure the safety of the occupants in that classroom such as but not limited to putting safety protocols in place, securing furniture, and providing necessary training in de-escalation techniques.
- 10:1.1.2 Where feasible and when suitable alternative classrooms are available, an employee may request to relocate instruction if the current classroom has unreasonable temperature conditions. Unreasonable temperatures are defined by the State of Delaware as below 68°F or above 82°F. In the absence of mechanical issues, building temperature levels maintained during the school day should remain consistent through the end of the teacher's scheduled workday.
- 10:1.2 At the beginning of the school year, current emergency procedures will be reviewed with employees and they will be provided with ongoing access to these written procedures in order to respond effectively to potential life-threatening situations.
- 10:1.3 When landlines are down and the nurse needs to contact families in an emergency or for essential information, the nurse will immediately notify their administrator and be provided with

a working phone to complete the task.

- 10:2 An employee may, within the scope of employment, use and apply such amount of force as is reasonable and necessary as defined in the Delaware Code. For the information of employees, a summary of the State law is placed at the end of this Agreement as Appendix D.
- 10:3 Employees shall immediately report cases of injury suffered by them in connection with their employment to their principal or other immediate supervisor. In the case of the employee who remains at work, he/she must complete an official incident report in collaboration with the school nurse, when available, on the day of the incident.
- 10:4 No employee shall be required to transport a pupil in a personal automobile.
- 10:5 When feasible, where acceptable alternative facilities exist and upon request of the employee, instruction shall not continue in a classroom when there are unreasonable temperature conditions. Employees will be informed as to the steps taken to remedy the situation.
- 10:6 The District shall take reasonable precautions to provide protection for an employee's vehicle while parked on school property but shall not assume liability for loss or damage.
- 10:7 No employees, other than school nurses, will be required to administer medicines. In the event that it is permitted by law, resident advisors may administer medication. No employees, other than school nurses, will be required to handle the changing of feeding tubes.
- 10:7.1 Employees other than school nurses shall not be required to perform nursing duties except in an emergency. In such cases a qualified medical person shall be brought to the scene as soon as possible and the employee shall be held harmless from liability by the Board unless the employee's acts or omissions amount to gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct.
- 10:8 Employees who have a work-related injury (Worker's Compensation) will continue to receive all Board-paid fringe benefits as outlined in the District's Worker's Compensation policy.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **RIGHTS OF THE PARTIES**

- 11:1 The Board agrees to make available to the Association upon reasonable written request all information, reports, and budgets which are available to the public and shall, upon reasonable written request, make available to the Association other statistics, information, and records necessary for negotiations.
- 11:2 The Association shall have the right to use school buildings for Association business on the same basis as other school-affiliated organizations in accordance with District policy.
- 11:3 The Association may use the school mail system and bulletin board space for posting notices in areas readily available to employees and assigned for the dissemination of information by means

of notices, circulars, or other similar materials pertaining to Association business under the following provisions:

- (a) The material must clearly identify the individual(s) and/or organization responsible for the information contained therein.
- (b) A copy of the material for general distribution or an opportunity to copy material being distributed must be given to the building principal or his designee prior to or at the time of posting or dissemination in that building. If the material is to be distributed or posted system-wide, a copy also must be furnished to the Superintendent or designee prior to or at the time of posting or dissemination.
- (c) The use of the mail system and bulletin boards may not interfere with the normal business of the school.

- 11:4 A copy of current Board policy and Board minutes (agendas) are available electronically on the Board's approved posting system that provides public access. The Association shall provide the Board copies of its Constitution and By-Laws and a current roster of its elected and appointed officials. A table of the District's administrative organization with names will be available on the District website.
- 11:5 The building representative shall have the right to speak to employees during regularly scheduled faculty meetings if the representative notifies the building principal at least two (2) days in advance of the scheduled meetings. The requirement for two (2) days advance notice may be waived by mutual agreement. Placement on the meeting agenda shall be at the discretion of the building principal.
- 11:6 The Association shall have the right to use, on school premises, office and A-V equipment as designated by the principal when not otherwise being used. The Association shall pay for the cost of materials and supplies. The Association also agrees that it will pay for the repair or replacement of equipment damaged during such use.
- 11:7 Accredited representatives of the local, State, and National Association shall be permitted to transact official Association business on school property at all reasonable times provided that this shall not interfere with or interrupt the program of the School District. The Association representative shall obtain the approval of the principal of the building or other person in charge of the building which the representative is visiting by reporting to the office. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 11:8 Whenever, by mutual agreement of the parties, any employees participate in negotiations during working hours they shall suffer no loss in pay, nor shall they be required to make up the time lost.
- 11:9 The Association shall have input into the preparation of the District calendar and the District budget. Final determination of the calendar and budget shall reside with the Board.
- 11:10.1 Except as limited by this Agreement, the Christina School Board, on its own behalf and on behalf

of the citizens of the District, hereby retains and reserves unto itself all powers, rights, authority, duties, and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it by the laws and the Constitution of the State of Delaware and of the United States, and including the right to administer and to supervise the schools of the District, and shall have the authority to determine policy and adopt rules and regulations for the general administration and supervision of the schools of the District. Such administration, supervision, and policy shall be conducted and formulated in accordance with Delaware law and the policies, rules, and regulations of the State Board of Education. Additionally, nothing contained herein shall be considered to deny or restrict the Board of its rights, responsibilities, and authorities provided by applicable law(s).

- 11:10.2 The Board, subject to Delaware Code and in accordance with the policies, rules, and regulations of the State Board of Education, shall in addition to other duties:
- (a) determine the educational policies of the District and prescribe rules and regulations for the conduct and management of the schools.
  - (b) enforce the provisions of this Title relating to school attendance.
  - (c) grade and standardize all the schools under its jurisdiction and may establish kindergarten and playgrounds and such other types of schools as in its judgment will promote the educational interest of the District.
  - (d) adopt courses of study.
  - (e) select, purchase, and distribute free of charge such textbooks and other materials of instruction, stationery, furniture, equipment, apparatus, and supplies as are necessary to the work of the schools.
  - (f) provide forms on which regular school employees shall make such reports as may be required by the Board.
  - (g) make all reports required by the State Secretary of Education at such time, upon such items, and in such form as may be prescribed by the State Superintendent; and
  - (h) appoint personnel.
- 11:11 In an emergency affecting the health, safety, or welfare of the students of the District, the Board or designee may take appropriate actions.
- 11:12 The rights and privileges of the Association and its representatives as set forth in this Article shall be granted only to the Association so long as it remains the exclusive representative of the employees.
- 11:13 The Association shall indemnify and hold the employer harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits, and other forms of liability that shall arise out of or by reason of any action taken or not taken by the employer for the purpose of complying with any of the provisions

of this Agreement.

- 11:14 The District shall provide a telephone in the classroom of the President of the local Association or in an area easily accessible to the President. Such telephone shall not be utilized during normal class time except in an emergency.
- 11:15 The District will allow the President of the Association forty (40) days per year for legal association activities. Additional days may be added with mutual agreement of the parties. Use of such days must be with advance notice to the Superintendent or designee and the employee's building administrator unless exigent circumstances prevent such notice. In the event of exigent circumstances, the President of the Association shall subsequently provide the building administrator and the Superintendent or designee with a brief written summary specifying the exigency. In addition, the Association may purchase an additional 100 days at the per diem rate (based on the status of the person hired) so a "parallel teacher" can be employed.
- 11:16 At the request of the President, the District will allow the Association thirty (30) days per year for legal Association activities. Use of such days must be by prior notice to the Superintendent or designee and the employee's building administrator.
- 11:17 The Association shall be advised of any formal committee that deals with teacher working conditions and be given the opportunity to appoint teachers to the committee.
- 11:18 The Association shall have the right to have a representative on any committee that is related to the development and operation of a drug and alcohol program.
- 11:19 The Association's designee shall receive copies of all information that is to be broadcast or distributed to members of the Bargaining Unit.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **EMPLOYMENT**

- 12:1 Employees shall be notified of their employment status for the next fiscal year pursuant to law.
- 12:2 Employees who may be required to use their own automobiles in the performance of their duties shall be reimbursed for such required travel at the rate provided by Delaware Code. Employees will follow District procedures for reimbursement and will utilize District forms that may be obtained from the building secretary for personal reimbursements.
- 12:3 In general, employees of the District shall be given first consideration to provide homebound instruction occurring beyond the normal school day for students assigned to them. The District, however, reserves the right to establish the homebound instruction program in a manner it

believes to be most beneficial to students.

12:4 Paraprofessionals/Paraeducators shall be under the direction of the classroom teacher during the time the paraprofessional/paraeducators are assigned to said teacher. However, it is understood by the parties that both the teacher and the paraprofessional/paraeducators shall be under the direction of the building administrator during the employee(s) workday.

12:5 Community partners shall coordinate with school or District administration before engaging directly with teachers/ specialists, to ensure alignment with educational goals and operational protocols. Teachers/ Specialists shall coordinate through school or district administration before engaging directly with community partners, to ensure alignment with educational goals and operational protocols.

Teachers shall be given at least 48 hours' notice, excluding weekends, whenever a community partner is scheduled to observe a classroom.

### **ARTICLE 13**

#### **EMPLOYEE WORK YEAR**

13:1 The in-school work year for employees employed on a ten-month, eleven-month or twelve-month basis shall not exceed the State/District funded days. Should the District decide to initiate a "year-round school program" it shall meet with representatives of the Association to develop the procedures necessary to implement the program including the voluntary assignment of employees. If during the term of this contract, the State mandates additional days or hours, the parties will meet to discuss Article 25.

13:2 The above stated maximum number of work days for each category may be extended three (3) additional days for new employees for the purpose of orientation and in- service education. The association will be allocated two hours for an orientation breakfast.

13:3 Employees will be paid for the days that are worked as determined and funded by the State.

13:4 **SPECIAL SCHOOLS**

13:4.1 Positions at special schools requiring workdays in excess of the ten-month in-school work year will, to the extent possible, be filled from within the school on a voluntary basis.

13:4.2 If these positions are not filled from within the school on a voluntary basis the positions shall be open to all qualified employees in the District.

13:4.3 In the event there are not sufficient qualified applicants for such positions, qualified special school employees may be assigned to said positions on a rotating basis with the employee having the least amount of seniority and the least number of rotational involuntary special school assignments being assigned first with notification of such involuntary assignment to



be made by May 1.

## **ARTICLE 14**

### **TRANSFERS**

#### **14:1 DEFINITIONS**

##### **14:1.1 Temporary Vacancy**

14:1.2 A vacancy resulting from leaves of absence, special assignment, or any position so designated by the Superintendent.

##### **14:1.3 New Position**

A newly created position within the District or the authorization of additional positions not recognized under State allotment.

##### **14:1.4 Reassignment**

Changing an individual's position on the staff of a building to another position in that building or to a combined position in that building and another constitutes a reassignment. Individuals who are working in more than one building, program, and/or content area whose placement or assignment is changed within those buildings, programs, and/or content areas shall be considered to have been reassigned. Such reassignments may take place before the identification of a permanent vacancy or a new position.

In unique situations that impact staff, such as opening or closing of a school, realignment of student attendance patterns, and relocation of programs, the District and the Association agree to collaboratively plan for reassignment of staff. The District will make the final decision.

14:1.4.1 Employees shall be given the opportunity to request a reassignment through the building principal for the next school year prior to March 1. Teaching assignments will be determined by the building principal.

14:1.4.2 If it becomes necessary to reassign staff within a building, the principal shall first solicit and consider volunteers from the entire staff in writing. The reassigned person can request a meeting with their administrator to discuss the reassignment.

14:1.4.3 If an employee is assigned outside of his/her current major teaching assignment and is not in agreement with assignment, every effort will be made to return the employee to his/her original teaching area the next school year. When reassigned, teachers will be notified that the change in placement may impact their current teacher evaluation systems. Teachers will

be notified that the reassignment does not change their seniority date.

14:1.4 Unassigned/Excessed Employees

Employees who are displaced from their previous placement as a result of declining pupil enrollment, educational program changes, and/or adjustment in staff allocations. All permanent employees who are excessed will receive a placement.

14:2 Building Placement

14:2.1 Employees shall be notified in writing of a known change in their building placement or assignment (including assignments outside of their certificated area) for the ensuing year not later than June 1. If a change is necessary after June 1 the employee shall be notified in writing, with reasons, by email as soon as the change becomes evident.

14:3 VACANCY POSTINGS/INTERVIEWS

14:3.1 Employees who would like to transfer to another building location may submit their request for any posted vacancy within the district throughout the calendar year. There will be a streamlined process for internal applicants. All qualified employees who apply within the posted time period shall be offered the opportunity to interview. Principals, at their discretion, may interview applicants who are not certified. The District reserves the right to offer an employee a permanent or temporary contract for a vacancy. During the timeframe of November 1 to July 14, a position shall be posted for a minimum of ten (10) calendar days prior to the closing date of the posting. During the timeframe of July 15 to October 31, a position shall be posted for a minimum of three (3) workdays prior to the closing date of the posting. The District will send direct notice of postings through the Christina School District email system to all current employees. External candidates cannot be considered until the Recall process has been completed.

14:3.2 All vacancies shall be posted and reposted if not filled. The vacancy posting shall contain:

- (a) type of vacancy;
- (b) position description;
- (c) location;
- (d) starting date;
- (e) general required qualifications;
- (f) specific preferred qualifications for special programs;
- (g) salary;
- (h) other relevant information;

14:3.3 The description set forth for a particular position shall not be substantively changed after posting. Any other changes must be made prior to the application deadline or must be brought to the attention of the applicant at the time of interview.

14:3.4 Interviews with internal and external applicants may be conducted on the same day. The Association shall have a minimum of one (1) Association member on the internal interview committee. The President of the Association will be given at least 48 hours prior notice of the date, time, and location of the interview(s) to assign one (2) association members which

can include one from the building or program to the interview panel.

14:3.5 The following factors shall be considered by the interview committee, and no one factor outweighs the other: certification; seniority; qualifications; professional experience; system-wide balance; and other relevant factors. An employee shall be allowed one voluntary transfer per school year. A school year transfer purpose will run from July 1 to June 30.

14:3.6 Current employees must use the online application system to become part of the applicant pool for a position that becomes available. The employee's eligibility will remain in place until the close of the Right of Return process. (Refer to 14:7.2)

#### 14:4 SUMMER SCHOOL POSITIONS

14:4.1 All openings for positions in the evening school, summer school, and other similar programs shall be posted in each school building at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the application deadline.

14:4.2 Employees who are properly certificated applicants for summer school and other similar programs shall be given preference over outside applicants in the filling of such vacancies. Individuals on the District recall list shall have full application rights for such positions.

#### 14:5 VOLUNTARY TRANSFER

A voluntary transfer shall be defined as a transfer to an internal vacant position within the District. Permanent or temporary employees may request a voluntary transfer. Permanent employees who have been unassigned/excessed shall also be allowed to participate in the voluntary transfer process. Employees on a directed plan are not eligible to participate in the voluntary process for the duration of the directed plan as referenced in Article 15:4.

14:5.1 During the time frame of November 1 to July 14, the employee will have 72 hours, not including weekends and holidays, to respond to a notice of an opening of a requested position. During the time frame of July 15 to October 31, the employee will have 24 hours not including weekends and holidays, to respond to a notice of an opening of a requested position. Employees will be notified of their offer via district email.

14:5.2 Transfer requests to a different field will not be considered until all unassigned/excess transferred, declared unassigned, or have served in a special assignment have been given the option to return as established in Section 14:7.2.

14:5.3 Vacancies not filled by an internal candidate through the voluntary transfer process (as determined by 14:3:4 ) shall be filled by the next eligible person on the appropriate recall list and then open to external candidates. If the vacancies are not filled from the original posting, the positions shall be reposted until filled.

14:5.4 While the interview panel may make a recommendation to the principal, the

decision of the principal is final based the selection criteria above. In the event the interview panel's recommendation is not the principal's final choice, the principal shall communicate the rationale to the interview panel upon request. Unsuccessful candidates shall be so informed in a timely manner. If an employee is denied a transfer, written reason(s) will be given upon written request of the employee.

- 14:5.5 The District determines the start date of the voluntary transfer which could be up to the beginning of the next school year. The impacted administrators, in collaboration with HR, will create a plan for the voluntary transfer. The VT timeline shall be shared with the employee upon acceptance of the position and timely updates shall be given.

#### 14:6 UNASSIGNED/EXCESS EMPLOYEES

- 14:6.1 Notice of "unassignment" shall be given to the employee upon knowledge of such "unassignment."

- 14:6.2 The least senior certificated employee in a seniority classification within a building/ program will be declared unassigned/excessed unless the sending or receiving school's program or human physical resources utilization requires a particular employee's certification and qualifications or where it is necessary to satisfy requirements of law, court order, or diversity. Seniority is as defined in Article 16.

- 14:6.3 Unassigned employees will have the opportunity to view a list of all known vacancies posted on the District website. Such employees will state their preferences as to the positions and return the list to the Human Resources Office on or before the date indicated. Unassigned employees shall have the right to complete a voluntary transfer request.

#### 14:7 INVOLUNTARY TRANSFER

- 14:7.1 Notices of proposed involuntary transfers shall be given to the employee involved upon knowledge of such transfer with reasons stated as system-wide balance or specific programmatic needs.

- 14: 7.2 An employee may request a meeting with the Human Resource Administrator to discuss the involuntary transfer after meeting with the principal or supervising administrator.

- 14:7.3 An employee shall not be transferred to a position outside his/her area of certification except in unusual circumstances. Specific reasons for such unusual circumstances shall be explained to the employee upon request.

- 14:7.4 Where involuntary transfers are deemed necessary, the least senior certificated employee in a building/program will be involuntarily transferred unless the sending or receiving school's program or human and physical resources utilization require a particular employee's certification and qualifications or where it is necessary to satisfy requirements of law, court order, or affirmative action programs. Seniority is as defined in Article 16.

- 14:8 Any employee who is involuntarily transferred, declared unassigned, or on a special assignment shall be given the right to return to his/her original building (in the category listed in the seniority roster) where a permanent full- or part-time vacancy occurs if:
- (a) He/she so requests in writing within ten calendar days of being declared unassigned or transferred involuntarily.
  - (b) The vacancy occurs during the voluntary transfer period or the following school year if a vacancy is available as a result of a temporary special assignment; or
  - (c) Organizational needs permit.
- 14:8.1 Rejecting a part-time position does not preclude the option of returning to a full-time position should one become available.
- 14:8.2 The Right to Return period will end on the last working day in July.
- 14:9 ADMINISTRATIVE VACANCIES
- 14:9.1 When the Superintendent determines that a vacancy exists, an administrative/supervisory position shall be posted as cited in Section 14:3.1.
- 14:9.2 The Superintendent shall establish in consultation with Association leadership, a procedure to provide employee input into the selection of District or building-level administrators. The President of the Association will be given at least 48 hours prior notice of the date, time, and location of the interview(s) to assign up to 2 association members which can include one from the building or program to the interview panel.
- 14:10 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS
- 14:10.1 A Special Assignment is a temporary position that is not a regular classroom assignment. Such assignments are still in the collective bargaining unit and are voluntary. Special assignments shall not constitute a break in service and time spent in such assignments shall count toward seniority.
- 14:10.2 Employees selected for Special Assignments shall be informed in writing of the assignment, and pay and schedule prior to accepting it. Employees in a Special Assignment may direct work, but shall not supervise or evaluate any other employee.
- 14:10.3 If an employee is in a Special Assignment for less than a school year, said employee shall be given the right to return to their original position. District may temporarily hire a person to fill the original position.

**ARTICLE 15**  
**EMPLOYEE APPRAISAL**

- 15:1 Evaluation and judging of an employee's performance shall be for, but not limited to, the following purposes:
- (a) To provide teachers with feedback and support for continuous self-improvement.
  - (b) To provide an enhancement process in order to promote creativity, innovation, and risk-taking.
  - (c) To motivate members of the staff to participate in formulating and evaluating instructional programs.
  - (d) To provide an atmosphere of cooperation between administrators and teachers throughout the evaluative process.
  - (e) To provide information for decisions on in-service training and staff improvement programs.
  - (f) To provide information for making judgments about personnel promotions, reassignments, tenure, and dismissal.
- 15:2 The state approved appraisal system shall be the official system used to appraise employees. All administrators doing teacher appraisals will be trained according to State procedures.
- 15:3 Complaints that the proper procedure and timelines have not been followed may be processed through the grievance procedure with the last step being advisory arbitration.
- 15:4 When an employee is notified that a directed plan will be developed, he/she will receive a 48-hour meeting notice for the development of the plan. The notice will include language stating the employee has the right to have an Association representative present. The directed plan shall be developed collaboratively according to the guidelines in the State appraisal system.
- 15:4.1 When an improvement plan has been satisfactorily completed, it will be recorded in the electronic performance appraisal system.
- 15:5 Within timelines specified by the state approved appraisal system, the employee may respond in writing. The employee shall submit a copy of his/her response to the appraiser who shall attach the employee's response to the appraisal report and forward the employee's appraisal and response to the appropriate office for filing.
- 15:6 Employees shall have the opportunity to provide information about the instructional climate to their appropriate supervisor.
- 15:7 Employees may suggest alternate or additional times for formal evaluative observations because

of classroom activities. No unannounced formal or short observations shall be done one day before or after Thanksgiving break, the winter holiday break, and spring holiday break.

- 15:7.1 All formal evaluative observations must be completed by the administrators in the building who are credentialed observers or their designee who is a School District administrator credentialed observer.
- 15:7.2 Building Instructional Coaches shall not be used as evaluators. Coaching is a reflective practice in collaboration with the teacher to support effective instruction. Any information from individual coaching sessions will not be used in DTGSS evaluations unless the teacher chooses to use the coach-provided data.
- 15:8 Appraisal of an employee's voluntary or involuntary participation in an extra-curricular activity shall be separate from the employee's classroom performance appraisal. Such appraisal shall be used for the sole purpose of retaining or dismissing the employee from this extracurricular activity.
- 15:9 Non-participation in extra-curricular activities beyond those described in Appendix J shall not be a factor in the appraisal of an employee; however, commendations for participation in multiple extra-curricular activities may be placed in the employee's personnel file.
- 15:10 The employee shall follow the process required by the electronic performance assessment system to acknowledge evaluative material received which will become part of the evaluation record.
- 15:11 The Association and the Board agree that walk-throughs are a useful tool in assisting to evaluate the overall instruction within a building. Whenever possible, teachers will be notified when walk-throughs occur within the building and the individuals who will participate in the process. The administration is responsible for sharing the data collected during the walk-throughs with the faculty as a whole on a mutually agreed upon basis.

## **ARTICLE 16**

### **SENIORITY, LAYOFF, AND RECALL**

#### **16:1 SENIORITY**

- 16:1.1 Seniority shall be calculated as the length of most recent continuous service as a teacher and/or administrator in the District. Time earned as a temporary contract employee in the district shall count toward seniority upon the hiring of the employee on a permanent contract provided that service is continuous.
- 16:1.2 For transition purposes, seniority dates for teachers shall be the seniority date as established in the spring 1981 seniority roster of the New Castle County School District adjusted for any time spent on layoff during 1981-82 and other reasons for adjustment as outlined by this Article.
- 16:3 An administrator who is assigned to bargaining unit positions shall be afforded seniority as a

teacher commensurate with the time of his/her previous employment as either a teacher and/or administrator by the District, the New Castle County School District, and/or one of the component districts prior to July 1, 1978. Such service must be continuous and a resignation is considered a break in service. (Moving from a teacher to an administrative position within the same District is not considered a resignation.)

- 16:4 The Human Resources Office shall annually publish a list of all employees by field of current major teaching assignment listed in seniority order. This list shall be published and posted in each school by February 15 of each year. Employees who wish to appeal their placement on this list must do so in writing to the Human Resources Office before March 15 of the year the list is published. A final list shall be published by April 15 each year. An employee's failure to question prior to March 15 his/her seniority date and classification on the first published list will preclude the assertion of incorrect seniority date and classification in challenging a subsequent layoff.
- 16:4.1 If an employee's seniority date or classification is different on the second list as compared to the first list such employee has three (3) days from the posting of the second list to appeal the change.
- 16:5 The Association will be made aware of the composition of the seniority list prior to the posting of such list. The Association may make suggestions for additions and/or deletions. The final composition of the seniority list shall rest with the Superintendent and is not subject to the grievance procedure outlined in Article 3.
- 16:6 In the event that two or more employees have the same seniority date the following criteria shall be used in the order enumerated as tie breakers:
- (a) total length of teaching service in the Christina School District;
  - (b) total length of State teaching service
  - (c) length of total teaching experience;
  - (d) educational level on the salary schedule; and
  - (e) lottery.
- 16:1.7 Board-approved leaves of absence shall not constitute a break in service, but will not be counted toward seniority as applied in this Article with the following exceptions:
- (a) sabbatical leaves
  - (b) military leave
  - (c) leave for officer of the Teacher Association(s)
- 16:2 LAYOFF
- 16:2.1 The Superintendent or designee shall determine the number of positions to be reduced, taking into consideration known attrition, and shall apprise the President of the Association of this information and also share with the Association how this information was developed.
- 16:2.2 To accomplish the necessary reduction in force, employees will be laid off from the field of their



current major assignment on the basis of seniority.

16:2.3 Employees who work in programs of limited duration and are scheduled to be laid off from such program shall be permitted to return to a regular position in their former major teaching field when the limited duration program is reduced or terminated provided the employees have sufficient seniority. When a decline in enrollment, a decrease in program, or a reduction in funding is anticipated for the following year, any necessary reduction will be made in that field consistent with seniority to permit such reassignment.

16:2.4 Employees who have been involuntarily transferred or involuntarily reassigned to an assignment that places them in a different seniority classification and are scheduled to be laid off from such classification shall, at the employee's option, be permitted to return to their previous seniority classification provided they have sufficient seniority.

16:2.5 Employees who are on one of the seniority classifications listed below and are scheduled to be laid off in that classification shall, at the employee's option, be permitted to exert their seniority provided they have sufficient seniority to the least senior employee in the related classification(s) listed below for which they are fully certificated. Such certification must be on file in the Human Resources Office prior to March 1 of the year the reduction takes place:

<u>Seniority Classification</u>	<u>Related Classification</u>
Biology	All other science classifications
Chemistry	All other science classifications
Earth Science	All other science classifications
Physics	All other science classifications
Physical Science	All other science classifications
General Science	All other science/elementary classifications
Elementary Vocal Music	All other music classifications
Elementary Inst. Music	All other music classifications
Secondary Vocal Music	All other music classifications
Secondary Inst. Music	All other music classifications
Strings	All other music classifications

16:2.6 Employees who are laid off shall be placed on the recall list in the subject field from which they were laid off and in a field in which they have been issued a standard certificate. An employee may request that his/her name be removed from a seniority classification on the recall list. Placement on the recall list will be for two years.

16:3 RECALL

16:3.1 Notification of recall will be by telephone and personal email address. The employee will be responsible for submitting their preferred telephone number and email address to Human Resources upon notification of their reduction in force status. A person who has been placed on the recall list shall be notified of a recall prior to any external candidate being hired. The person will be expected to respond to the offer within 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) of the telephone call or email.

- 16:3.2 If notification by telephone and email is not successful Human Resources will contact the CEA President and Uniserv Director via email. They will have an additional 72 hours excluding weekends to contact the teacher and garner a response.
- 16:3.3 The person who accepts recall will report to work on the date indicated by the administration or at a later date if mutually agreeable. A person may have at least 72 hours to report to work.
- 16:3.4 A person who refuses a permanent full-time position in the classification from which he was laid off or accepts a position in another school district will be removed from the recall list and the District will have no further obligation to the person. A person who refuses a permanent full-time position in a classification other than which he/she was laid off will stay on the recall list in other classifications, but the District will have no further obligation to offer another position in the same classification.
- 16:3.5 A person on the recall list who is offered and accepts recall to a temporary or a part-time position will not forfeit his/her right to a permanent full-time position. The person may be placed in a permanent full-time position before the completion of temporary or part-time employment with administrative approval. The person will be placed at his/her appropriate position on the recall list upon completion of such temporary employment.
- 16:3.6 A person who declines a temporary or part-time position will not be removed from the recall list but the District will have no further obligation to offer another temporary or part-time position to such a person.
- 16:3.7 Persons who are eligible for recall must keep the Human Resources Office informed in writing of any changes in their address, telephone number, and/or certification.
- 16:3.8 Time lost by an employee laid off under provisions of this Article who is subsequently recalled under provisions of this Article shall not be considered to interrupt continuous service, but such time shall not be counted toward seniority. Adjustments of seniority will be calculated based on the number of days not worked,
- 16:4 MISCELLANEOUS
- 16:4.1 Employees on Board-approved leaves of absence shall be subject to all provisions of this Article.
- 16:4.2 Employees who resign or have been dismissed for any reason other than a reduction in staff are not subject to the provisions of this Article.
- 16:4.3 Nothing in this Article shall apply to an individual on a temporary contract or in any way serve to extend the employment of such individuals, except as provided in Section 16:3.5.
- 16:4.4 Laid off employees may continue benefits at their own expense where the company/carrier permits.

**ARTICLE 17**  
**PERSONNEL RECORDS**

- 17:1 Personnel files on each employee will be maintained at the Human Resources Office.
- 17:2 The Board agrees that it will maintain only one personnel file for each employee.
- 17:3 An employee shall have the right to review the District's personnel file on him or her, with the exception of confidential materials, at a time mutually agreeable to the employee and the personnel officer or designee. In any event, such a review shall take place within five (5) working days provided there are not an inordinate number of requests. Confidential materials shall be defined as college placement papers, references, interview records, and similar materials gathered in connection with the employee's application for a position in the District.
- 17:4 An employee may have a representative of the Association present during such review; however, the personnel file shall not be taken from the office by the employee and shall be examined in the presence of the personnel officer or his/her designee.
- 17:5 The employee shall affix his/her signature to all evaluative material to be placed in his/her file to indicate that he/she has seen the material. The Association shall be informed in writing if any employee refuses to sign material placed in his/her file. A meeting of the employee, the Association president or his/her designee, and the administrator shall be held at a mutually agreeable time. At this time the administrator shall once again request that the employee sign the material in question. If the employee refuses to sign, the Association president or his/her designee shall sign a statement typed on the material for this purpose. The statement shall read: "I have witnessed refusal to sign this material."  
Employee's Name \_\_\_\_\_
- 17:6 Any document regarding an employee's performance which an employee either has not signed or been given the opportunity to sign shall not be placed in the employee's file or shall not be utilized in any proceeding against him/her.
- 17:7 Within 15 days of receipt of the document, the employee shall have the right to answer, in writing, any material filed (except confidential material) and the answer shall be attached to the file copy.
- 17:8 Employees may receive copies without charge of up to ten (10) individual pages of non-confidential documents filed in the personnel files. Once the employee has received ten (10) free copies, he/she shall be charged ten cents per copy for each page of additional non-confidential material received except as provided in other provisions of this Agreement.
- 17:9 An employee may request in writing to the personnel officer that material he/she deems unfavorable contained in his/her personnel file be removed. If the request is approved, such documents and all directly related documents shall be removed. The employee shall be advised in writing of the disposition of his/her request within 10 days.
- 17:10 Anyone who reviews the District file on an employee, other than employees of the Personnel Office, shall do so in a manner prescribed by administrative regulation. An individual authorized by such

regulations to review the file shall indicate such action by affixing his/her name and date of such review.

17:11 Copies of commendations issued to employees by the Board or administrative personnel shall be placed in the District's employee file. Employees may request additional items of recognition be placed in the District's file on the employee at the discretion of the District.

17:12 Investigation files will be maintained by the District for the purpose of keeping documentation that a complaint or allegation of any misconduct with a student was investigated. In situations where allegations were unsubstantiated, memos of summary will be kept in these files instead of personnel files.

## **ARTICLE 18 LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

18:1 SICK LEAVE

18:1.1 Sick leave and absences for other reasons shall be according to Delaware State Law. For the information of employees a summary of State Law is placed at the end of this Agreement as Appendix E.

18:1.2 Personal Days - In accordance with Delaware State Law, employees will be allowed up to five (5) days for personal reasons. Employees must request use of such days at least five (5) days prior to the date of the planned absence except in cases of emergency.

18:1.3 Employees will have access to an electronic record of their annual leave balance.

18:1.4 In accordance with Delaware State Law, allowable sick leave for subsequent employment is to be available at the start of the school year. Adjustments for employees who terminate service prior to the end of the school year will be made in their final paycheck. Adjustments will be prorated based on sick leave being earned at the rate of one day per month of service to the District.

18:1.5 DONATED LEAVE PROGRAM - A donated leave policy has been developed to assist employees who have used all sick leave, personal leave, and at least half of annual leave, if applicable, as a result of a catastrophic illness or injury of the employee or his/her immediate family. The Association shall have the right to have a representative on any committee that's related to the operation of this program.

18:2 LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Maternity, sabbatical, and military leaves shall be according to Delaware State Law. For the information of employees, a summary of State Law is placed at the end of this Agreement as Appendix E.

18:2.1 Leaves of absence not covered by State Law shall be granted by the Board of Education for up to one year for the following reasons:

(a) illness of the employee;

- (b) for the purpose of caring for a critically ill member of the employee's immediately.
- 18:2.3 Leaves of absence not covered by State Law may be granted by the Board of Education for the following reasons:
  - (a) adoption of an infant up to four-years old;
  - (b) service as a staff member of the Teacher Association;
  - (c) for the purpose of childcare or child rearing; and
  - (d) other.
- 18:2.4 The Board of Education shall grant a leave of absence to any employee elected as an officer in the local, State, or National Association for the term of the office. Such leave cannot exceed six years. No more than two (2) employees shall be granted such leave during the same year.
- 18:2.5 All leaves granted under Sections 18:2.2, 18:2.3, and 18:2.4 will be on the basis of an agreement between the Board and the individual employee.
- 18:2.6 All leaves granted under Sections 18:2.2, 18:2.3, and 18:2.4 shall be without pay and without credit for experience toward tenure, salary computation, or pension eligibility or compensation.
- 18:2.7 Employees granted leaves under Sections 18:2.2, 18:2.3, and 18:2.4 shall retain all seniority and salary rights earned prior to such leave upon return to employment.
- 18:2.8 Employees who are absent because of short-term illness (including maternity) and do not have enough sick leave days to cover their illness period will be placed on unpaid leave of absence and will be able to return to work at a mutually agreeable date. This short-term illness must be for a period of less than one semester.
- 18:2.9 In addition to the State rate for sabbatical leave, during the term of this Agreement the District will pay a local supplement of \$6,000 for a full school year or \$3,000 for a half year.
- 18:2.10 FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE - Some of the types of leaves of absence mentioned in this section may qualify as a Family and Medical Leave. All requests for a leave of absence will be reviewed for qualification under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. The employer will designate the leave as FMLA and notify the employee in writing.
- 18:3 In addition to State-provided personal leave, the District will provide that when an employee is required to attend a legal proceeding as a party on behalf of the District or is subpoenaed as a witness on behalf of the District such absence shall not be charged against sick leave if:
  - (a) the legal proceeding is related to school matters and the employee's presence as a party or witness is not caused by any fault or misconduct on the part of the employee as determined by the outcome of the proceeding; or

- (b) the legal proceeding involved a matter of public interest as distinguished from a private dispute, and the appearance of the employee as a witness in said proceeding may properly be considered to be the discharge of a civic responsibility.

- 18:4 JURY DUTY - In accordance with State Board of Education regulation, any teacher who is called for jury duty during his/her working day shall receive his/her regular pay for the time spent on jury duty. Employees may keep the payment received from the court for jury duty.
- 18:5 At the end of a leave the employee shall be accepted into (full-time) appointment by the Board and assigned to the same or a similar position to the one from which leave was granted, or at least to a position in the District for which they are certificated. In no case may an assignment be made so as to invalidate a person's certification status or bring about a reduction in regular salary.
- 18:6 Employees on leaves of absence shall be able to continue to participate in Board- sponsored group benefit programs at their own expense provided the company providing such benefits agrees.
- 18:7 Employees on leaves of absence shall notify the Human Resource Office by certified mail two months prior to the expiration of the leave or the intended return date, if earlier, of his/her intention to return. For a leave from which the employee would return to employment at the beginning of a school year, notification must be given by April 1. Failure to provide notification prior to the deadlines of intention to return from leave will serve to convert the leave to a resignation provided the employee received a reminder of the deadlines from the Human Resources Office.

## **ARTICLE 19**

### **TIME REQUIREMENTS**

- 19:1 To ensure the safety of both students and staff and following the completion of a collaborative process in selecting the digital/electronic system, a consistent digital/electronic system should be applied for staff "check-in" throughout the District as staff enter and leave a building throughout each contracted day. Data collected from the said digital/electronic application should only be used to ensure who is in the building for safety purposes. No discipline shall be issued as a result of this data. Staff shall not be required to use their own personal devices. The selection process will be complete by January 1, 2026.
- Should an employee find it necessary to be absent, he/she shall notify the appropriate administrator or designee in accordance with administrative regulations. In no event shall an employee be required or permitted to obtain his/her substitute.
- 19:2 The employee may leave the building during duty-free lunch and planning and preparation time according to the procedure established in 19.1.
- 19:3 Employee shall have a daily thirty (30) minute duty-free lunch period in addition to planning

and preparation time. Such lunch period shall occur during the time scheduled for student lunches except in schools where there is only one student lunch period.

19:4 The employee's normal in-school workday shall be seven and one-half continuous hours and shall normally fall between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Except in schools that have a six hour student day, the time required shall be governed by adding sixty minutes to the student day in the specific work location and may be divided before or after the student day in a manner best suited to building operations. Should the State require an increase in the student day, then the employees' normal in-school workday shall be increased the same amount of time. Should the District determine the need to go to "split sessions" in some buildings, it shall meet with representatives of the Association to develop the procedures necessary to implement the program.

19:4.1 In addition to the in-school day set forth above, employees agree to direct their major effort toward activities which promote the educational process, and which are necessary to clarify school business or provide professional growth. Recognizing that circumstances may vary from school to school, the Board and Association agree to the following needs:

- (a) Those meetings necessary to fulfill requirements for Middle States or State Department of Education school evaluations, which are in addition to those held during the school day.
- (b) Two professional meetings per month, e.g., building faculty, department, building committee, or grade level meetings. Such meetings shall be held on the same day of the week as established by the Superintendent. The building administrator may use the time deducted from the two meetings referenced in Article 19:4.1(b) to balance any missed planning time.
- (c) Those essential meetings necessary beyond paragraph (b) to resolve critical school problems, but not to exceed a total of four (4) per month for combining paragraphs (a), (b), and (c).
- (d) These meetings shall take place before or after the pupil day and shall not exceed sixty (60) minutes except in cases of emergency. Meetings held before school shall begin no earlier than sixty (60) minutes before the beginning of the pupil day. After-school meetings shall begin no later than twenty (20) minutes after the end of the pupil day. These meetings shall not be on Friday or the day preceding a holiday except in an emergency.
- (e) A calendar for the District and for each building shall be established by September 1 of each year which will include the normal events affecting staff. These calendars shall be established in cooperation with employee representatives selected by the Association. In the event other activities are scheduled which involve employees, notice shall be given as far in advance as possible.

19:4.2 Except in an emergency, an agenda for all meetings shall be given to the employees involved

at least one (1) day prior to the day of the meeting. Such agenda may be modified and updated at the time of the meeting. Employees shall have an opportunity to recommend items for placement on the agenda.

19:4.3 The Association and the Board agree that as a professional, each employee is expected to devote to his/her assignment the time necessary within and beyond the normal in-school day to meet his/her professional responsibilities. It is understood that employees shall not be expected to attend more than two (2) open house or similar activity per school year.

19:4.4 Any employee who is required to work beyond the in-school workday, except as provided in Section 19:4.1 and for those employees filling positions listed on the extra-pay schedule, shall be compensated at no less than the EPER hourly rate. That rate shall not be less than the rate in effect as of July 1, 2007.

#### 19:5 PLANNING AND PREPARATION TIME

##### 19:5.1 Elementary Schools

Teachers shall, in addition to their lunch period, receive 225 minutes of planning and preparation per week. With the exception of teachers teaching within a half-day position, this time shall be in blocks of at least 30 minutes, within the allowable contracted work hours, during which teachers will not be assigned to any other duties.

If a teacher is required to attend a meeting during their planning time, including but not limited to an IEP meeting, a plan for making up any missed planning time should be collaborated between the administrator and the teacher. See options in Appendix I. This plan shall be completed within five (5) workdays of the notification of the reason for teacher's missed planning time. Except in the case of an emergency, no teacher will lose his/her planning or preparation time. Planning time for the purpose of coordinated and collaborative planning will not exceed 45 minutes per week and is in addition to the 225 minutes of planning and preparation time. The time and day of the weekly PLCs should be coordinated collaboratively with the teachers. A final decision about the time and date will be made by consensus. In the case of a tie, the building administrator will make the final decision.

##### Secondary Schools

Teachers shall, in addition to their lunch period, receive 225 minutes of planning and preparation per week. With the exception of teachers teaching within a half-day position, this time shall be in blocks of at least 45 minutes, within the allowable contracted work hours, during which teachers will not be assigned to any other duties.

If a teacher is required to attend a meeting during their planning time, including but not limited to an IEP meeting, a plan for making up any missed planning time should be collaborated between the administrator and the teacher. See options in Appendix I. This plan shall be completed within five (5) workdays of the notification of the reason for teacher's missed planning time. Except in the case of an emergency, no teacher will lose his/her planning or preparation time. Planning time for the purpose of coordinated and collaborative planning will



not exceed 45 minutes per week and is in addition to the 225 minutes of planning and preparation time. The time and day of the weekly PLCs should be coordinated collaboratively with the teachers. A final decision about the time and date will be made by consensus. In the case of a tie, the building administrator will make the final decision.

- 19:5.2 Teachers who must travel to perform their assignments shall be provided a reasonable time to travel.
- 19:5.3 Except in an emergency (such as, but not limited to, building closing, early dismissal, lack of substitutes, and/or conditions of health or unsafe working conditions), no employee shall lose his/her planning and preparation time. Employees will not be required to attend a meeting during planning/preparation time unless given 24-hour notification. Group meetings shall not be regularly scheduled during the 225 minutes per week planning and preparation time, i.e. Department meetings, Team meetings, grade level meeting.
- 19:5.4 School-created building schedules will be created at each school, which will ensure that passing time arrival, dismissal, and transition times do not reduce the time employees are afforded for lunch and planning time.
- 19:6 Employees will not normally be required to collect money for community drives, student contributions to charities, money for school banks, PTA dues, student pictures, or student insurance. This provision does not apply to collection of envelopes without regard to content. Employees will may be responsible for collecting and transmitting money to be used for educational purposes such as field trips and fund-raising activities.
- 19:7 Supervision of a student teacher or methods student shall be voluntary. The employee shall receive the stipend paid by the college for performing this service.
- 19:8 Within the confines of the total school program the building principal shall make a reasonable effort to assign employees on teaching teams to the same planning and preparation time period.
- 19:8.1 If concerns related to equitable class schedules, class sizes, staffing assignments, caseloads or preparation times arise, the building administration will schedule a meeting to discuss the concerns with the individual teacher or building representative.
- 19:9 Where a departmentalized schedule is utilized the building principal shall make a reasonable effort to limit the number of each employee's teaching preparations per day.
- 19:10 Whenever possible all notices to delay or cancel school openings shall be transmitted not later than 6:00 A.M. for announcement over radio stations, the District's Internet site, and other media. In the event of delayed openings employees are expected to arrive at work as early as possible taking into consideration the reasons for the delay and the distance traveled.
- 19:10.1 If school is closed for children but open for twelve-month employees, employees may, with the approval of the Superintendent, come to work with no expected make-up day for each seven and one-half (7 ½) hours of work. The notice to close school shall include an announcement on whether teachers may come to work. Time may be worked in one-half (1/2) day increments.

Employees who do come to work on inclement weather days shall be required to record hours electronically in a manner approved by the District to verify their work hours on these days.

- 19:11 Reasonable effort shall be made to limit a classroom teacher's placement to not more than two buildings.
- 19:11.1 The District shall make good faith efforts to involve each Expressive Arts teacher in his/her placement/schedule when there is a building assignment change and/or when the assignment may necessitate working in more than two buildings. The Association and the District agree to monitor this provision during the term of this agreement.
- 19:11.2 Non-teaching staff will be given a schedule at the beginning of each school year for duties, lunches, and planning. Permanent schedule changes are subject to change based on the needs of the building but notification of 48 hours will be given for those changes.
- 19:12 The Association and the District agree that effective lesson planning is essential to student growth and success. All teachers shall maintain up-to-date lesson plans. Such plans shall be made available to the administrator upon request. No teacher shall be required to submit daily or weekly lesson plans, unless mandated by a directed plan/an improvement plan. In the event a teacher is absent, instructional plans for three (3) days in advance must be available for the substitute teacher.
- 19:13 An employee's class which was not created for the specific purpose of holding or disciplining students shall not be used as such. This includes library and study hall.
- 19:14 Wherever possible schedules of employees who function outside the regular classroom shall be developed jointly between the employee and administrator in charge of scheduling and these schedules shall be in operation by the first day of school.
- 19:15 Teachers will receive release time for alternative testing training. Additional release time may be granted for alternative test data entry and home visits if mutual agreement between building/program administrator/teacher is made.
- 19:16 Employees may bank time in the event that school is cancelled for the entire district. A maximum of 21 hours, the equivalent of 3 days (minus 30 minutes for lunch) may be banked. Participation in activities in an effort to bank time shall be during the contracted year and is optional. Time for which an employee is already receiving compensation may not be used as banked time.

If during the school year, school is not cancelled due to inclement weather or other reasons, or if the number of banked hours an employee has accumulated exceeds the number of inclement weather hours, then those hours will not be paid or compensated in any way.

Hours may be accumulated using any combination of the following activities:

- Professional Development with prior approval from supervising administrator,

which is done outside of the normal workday and for which compensation is not provided.

- Participation in school events identified by supervising administrator (maximum of 14 hours).
- District-approved events, which will be announced as opportunities for banked time.
- IEP Writing that occurs outside of the contractual day.

For each of the activities in which the opportunity is provided to bank time, employees will be told prior to the activity how the hours will be documented. The employee will be responsible for taking the necessary steps to do what is required to document participation at the designated time. Hours will be documented electronically in a manner approved by the District. Not doing so, may result in forfeiting the hours as banked time.

19:17 The Association and the District agree that there are teachers and specialists who are already participating in professional learning opportunities beyond regular work hours. To support this, the District will provide designated Trade-In days on the official Board-approved calendar. The application of hours will be adjusted annually based on the upcoming calendar. An initial menu of Trade-In hours will be disseminated by July 1 of each school year. Time spent on Non-Academic Mandatory trainings that go beyond the time allocated by the District (7 hours) may also count toward Trade-In time pending administrative approval.

19:17.1 Trade-in hours will be available from July 1 through the last student day unless otherwise approved by the designated administrator. All professional learning activities must be completed, documented, and approved by administration at least 48 hours before the scheduled trade-in day. Employees who do not meet these requirements will be required to report to work on the scheduled professional development trade-in day or submit a sick/personal day in the electronic absence system.

19:17.2 Family Engagement hours are defined as approved time worked by an employee during events where families are present and the primary focus is on fostering student progress and success. The goal of Family Engagement hours is to strengthen the partnership between home and school in support of student achievement. Guidelines for completing and receiving approval for Family Engagement hours will be shared at the start of the school year.

19:18 Each school will establish and share a process for coverage. At the beginning of the year, admin may solicit volunteers who are willing to provide coverage in exchange for Trade In Time.

## ARTICLE 20

### FACILITIES AND SUPPLIES

20:1 The standards set forth herein are considered to be the standards for employee facilities and the Board will make every reasonable effort, within administrative and budgetary

constraints, to provide such facilities. When new buildings are designed or existing buildings are renovated, the Board will make every effort to comply with these standards.

- 20:1.1 An easily accessible communication system shall be provided so that employees can communicate quickly with the main building office.
- 20:1.2 Where available, parking facilities identified for employee use shall be provided.
- 20:1.3 Suitable closet space with locks shall be provided for each employee to store coats, other personal articles, and instructional materials and supplies.
- 20:1.4 Classroom windows shall have appropriate window coverings where necessary.
- 20:1.5 Books, lined paper, copy paper, pencils, pens, chalk, erasers, and other such material reasonably required in daily employee responsibility shall be provided.
- 20:1.5.1 Each school administrator shall make efforts to provide teachers access to computers and copying machines during planning and preparation time.
- 20:1.6 Subject to administrative approval the faculty shall have the right to install a reasonable number of vending machines in any faculty lounge. The proceeds from all such vending machines shall be used by that school's faculty.
- 20:1.7 An employee work area will be provided in each school to aid in the preparation of instructional materials. Employees shall have access to necessary duplicating equipment. Such equipment shall be maintained in good working condition.
- 20:1.8 A furnished faculty lounge will be provided in each school.
- 20:1.9 Accessible telephones in relatively private areas shall be provided in each building in a ratio of approximately 1:20 employees.
- 20:1.10 A serviceable desk and chair will be provided for the use of each employee. Necessary filing space will be provided upon the request of the employee. Employee restrooms, separate from students, shall be provided in each school.
- 20:1.11 A dining area, separate from students, for the use of all employees will be provided in each school.
- 20:1.12 Chalk/dry eraser board space will be provided in each classroom. Best effort will be made for any teacher who has a class roster/caseload to have a fully functioning Interactive Display Panel (IDP) such as a SMARTBoard (and all its required components) and document camera such as ELMO by the first school day for staff.
- 20:1.13 Employees who work in more than one school building will be assigned a work area and have

access to lockable storage space in each school.

## **ARTICLE 21**

### **SALARY DEDUCTIONS**

- 21:1 The Board shall provide payroll deductions for, but not limited to:
- (a) Unified membership dues
  - (b) Tax sheltered annuities
  - (c) United Way
  - (d) State life insurance
  - (e) Savings bonds
  - (f) Delaflex
  - (g) Association Service Fee
- 21:2 Deductions beyond those stipulated in Section 21:1 shall be pursuant to law or at the discretion of the Board.
- 21:3 The Association, on or before August 15 of each year, shall transmit to the Board's designated agent a list of those employees who have maintained payroll deduction authorizations. Within a reasonable time, the Association will also transmit to the Board's designated agent the names of all new enrollees who have properly signed payroll deduction authorization forms and submitted them to the Association.
- 21:4 Deductions for Association dues will be made in the pay periods falling between September 1 and June 30 and shall be transmitted to the Association within ten days after each pay period. Paycheck date lags 13 days from the pay period end date.
- 21:5 If the employee leaves the employment of the district before the total amount of dues owed has been deducted the District will deduct the amount in the employee's final paycheck as provided for by the dues deduction authorization card.

## **ARTICLE 22**

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT**

- 22.1 The Board and Association agree that professional development is important to the maintenance of strong public education and jointly agree to promote professional development which supports systemic change.
- 22.2 The Board and Association shall maintain an on-going Professional Development Committee. See Article 31.
- 22:3 The Board and Association recognize the obligation of employees to participate in professional development programs for the improvement of curriculum and performance. Each employee who participates in in-service programs at the District level shall be given an opportunity to evaluate such programs.

- 22:4 Where curriculum improvement projects or in-service workshops occur beyond the normal in-school workday (as defined in Article 19), an employee's participation shall normally be voluntary.
- 22:5 In the event an employee requests and is granted an assignment which requires additional certification the cost of the course work for such additional certification shall be borne by the employee.
- 22:6 In the event the Board requires an employee to take any course or involuntarily transfers or reassigns an employee involuntarily to a position requiring additional certification the Board shall pay the full cost of tuition and mileage at the State rate plus tolls and other mutually agreeable necessary expenses to a mutually acceptable college or university. No such reasonable expenses will be denied. Such money will be paid after the successful completion of the course.
- 22:7 If the Board requires an employee to attend any workshop or conference outside the District, the Board shall pay necessary expenses as follows:
- (a) Travel by private automobile shall be reimbursed at the State mileage rate plus tolls, if applicable. Travel by commercial carrier shall be coach class or the equivalent thereof, except that the Board may approve other than coach class on an ad hoc basis;
  - (b) Reimbursement for meals and lodging shall be at the rate established or approved by the Board;
  - (c) Where travel, meals, and lodging are approved and the employee elects to commute such reimbursement shall be no greater than the cost of roundtrip transportation, meals, and lodging;
  - (d) Alternate financial arrangements to those set forth herein shall be by mutual agreement of the Board and the employee.
- 22:8 Employees will receive 7 hours per school year, during the contracted day, as scheduled by the building or program administrator, to complete mandated State trainings. An employee's planning time shall not be included in said hours unless the employee agrees.
- 22:9 If an employee is hired to work at the Delaware School for the Deaf and is not fluent in American Sign Language (ASL), the District will provide ASL training for said employee. School staff who volunteer ASL training (outside of school hours) will be paid at the academic EPER rate.

## **ARTICLE 23**

### **INNOVATIVE PRACTICES**

- 23:1 The Board and Association agree that risk-taking, creativity, and innovation in classroom practices are to be encouraged and supported.

- 23:2 The Board and Association recognize the importance of collegial sharing and will encourage teachers to share their unique and innovative lessons and practices.

## **ARTICLE 24 TECHNOLOGY**

- 24:1 The Board and Association recognize the importance of technology in the instructional process to foster student achievement and as a resource. The primary intended use of technology is the furtherance of the Christina School District's mission and goals.
- 24:1.1 All technology-related issues should be submitted through the designated ticketing process. Issues will be addressed in the order in which they are received. Every effort will be made to resolve requests and activate necessary accounts as promptly as possible.
- 24:2 The Board and Association acknowledge that any communications over the network have no expectation of privacy due to the nature of network operations. Materials, files, information, and data carried on the network may, in the course of normal maintenance and service, be revealed. Confidential student information may only be accessed by authorized personnel.
- 24:3 The Board and Association agree that under no circumstances will personal materials/files of employees be accessed or downloaded by any other individual. Materials, files, information or data stored by an employee on Christina School District's network may become part of a personnel investigation or proceeding only after written notification by the District of its intent to examine employee communications, files or information. Notification in specificity must be delivered not less than 10 or more than 30 working days prior to the reading or harvesting of said materials except for the purpose of commendation. This timeline is null and void if there is a reasonable suspicion of inappropriate use or the employee is involved in a criminal investigation regarding the illegal use of the District's network or a violation of the State of Delaware Acceptable Use Policy.
- 24.4 The Board and Association agree that all newly acquired software and hardware used as technology resources in the District, must be compatible with District Standards. For District furnished materials, this is the responsibility of the technology office. For employee furnished materials, this is the responsibility of the individual. Employees must, therefore, gain the explicit written approval of the Chief Information Officer or his/her designee prior to using employee furnished materials as a technology resource. With such approval, the employee shall be held harmless by the District for any consequences connected to system or individual computer failure.

## **ARTICLE 25 SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

- 25:1 The salaries of all employees covered by this Agreement shall be the salaries as prescribed by Chapter 13, Title 14, Delaware Code, plus a supplement from District funds in the amounts set forth in Appendices A, Band B (1) which are attached hereto and made a part

hereof.

25:1.1 Salary increases are as described herein and reflected in the salary tables in Appendix A:

2025-2026 2% on scale

2026-2028 Financial Reopener for 2 years

The Association and the District have agreed to a financial package for the 2025-2026 school year but will reopen the financial compensation negotiations for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years beginning no later than February of each year.

25:1.2 New teachers who attend New Hire Orientation shall be paid \$100 per day for attendance for up to three days each, provided they are not being otherwise paid by the district for the day.

25:1.3 Deans shall be paid an annual stipend of \$1000. This stipend will be prorated for Deans who are not employed for the full year.

25:1.4 The District may offer recruitment incentives to teacher or specialist candidates who sign an employment contract. Such signing bonuses shall be given at the discretion of the district to encourage the employment of teachers and specialists in critical needs areas.

25:2 All State salary increases including bonuses and cost-of-living supplements shall be passed on to all employees unless contrary to law.

25:2.1 The local salary schedule will be increased by a \$300 longevity increment beginning the 16th year of credited experience, \$500 longevity increment beginning the 21st year of credited experience and by a \$1000 longevity increment beginning the 26th year of credited experience.

25:3 The salaries of all extra-curricular employees are set forth in Appendix B which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

25:4 DIRECT DEPOSIT - Employees are required to have their paychecks deposited to their account by the State in any such bank which agrees to accept such deposits in accordance with the procedures established by the State.

25:5 The Board shall make checks available to employees on the day designated by the State or within twenty-four hours of receipt by the District, whichever is later.

25:6 Payment for Athletic EPER positions shall be made within thirty days of the completion of the activity.



25:7 Pay for a year-long/academic EPER positions shall be paid in three installments - December, March, and June.

25:8 FRINGE BENEFITS

25:8.1 Full-time employees shall receive the following stipends per month above the State contribution toward health insurance provided they use such money for coverage. The District will pay the State portion of health insurance for those full-time employees who do not qualify for such.

Effective 7/1/05 Up to \$135.00 per month

25:8.2 Full-time employees shall receive a stipend of \$1950 per year (calculated monthly) toward the purchase of benefits.

25:8.3 The stipend in Section 25:8.2 may be used toward the purchase of the following benefits:

Life Insurance  
Dental Care  
Long-Term Disability Insurance Prescriptions  
Blood Bank Vision

25:8.4 Employees who work half-time or more, but less than full time, based on the normal week set forth for this bargaining unit shall receive one-half the stipends in 25:8.2 per year (calculated monthly) toward the purchase of benefits.

25:8.5 The stipend in Section 25:8.4 may be used toward the purchase of the following benefits:

Life Insurance  
Dental Care  
Long-Term Disability Insurance Prescriptions  
Blood Bank Vision

28:5.6 Any additional cost of benefits selected by an employee shall be by payroll deduction.

25:8.7 The District shall appoint a benefits committee consisting of a representative of each recognized Association, administrative, and other "employee group" representatives. This committee shall meet, as needed, to review benefits, consider changes to the current benefit package and on other benefit related issues that directly impact employees.

25:9 EARLY NOTIFICATION OF RETIREMENT

A payment of \$500 will be made to a teacher who gives written notification of his or her retirement when the notification is received by the Human Resource Office on or before February 1st for the end of that academic year. The payment will be made in the employee's final paycheck (usually the first pay in July after the retirement is effective.)

25:10 The Board agrees that the District will allocate local funds each school year for tuition reimbursement for CEA bargaining unit members. The District shall allocate \$100,000 of local funds per school year for all eligible participants as follows:

50% of the total allocation shall be for reimbursement of summer semester courses;  
25% of the total allocation shall be for reimbursement of fall semester courses;  
25% of the total allocation shall be for reimbursement of winter and spring semester course.

Reimbursement will be available for credit generating course work related to PreK-12 education. District approval must be received for the desired course prior to beginning classes. Approval would require submission of a Tuition Reimbursement Form and a course description from the university/college catalog or website.

The reimbursement amount will be calculated by dividing the funding designated for the semester by the number of employees submitting a request for reimbursement for courses during this semester. The reimbursement amount will vary based on the number of employees participating each semester.

Tuition payment reimbursements shall be processed using the State Financial System. The District will adhere to guidelines set by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Employees will be required to follow the District's personal reimbursement procedure and required to submit a receipt for the tuition paid and a transcript demonstrating a final minimum grade of a B or better.

## **ARTICLE 26**

### **EXTRA PAY FOR EXTRA RESPONSIBILITY (EPER)**

26.1 An extra responsibility position shall be any responsibility assignment which normally takes place beyond the in-school workday and which is listed in Appendix B of this Agreement.

26.2 There are three categories of EPER positions. They are:

- (a) Year-Long / Academic EPER
- (b) Seasonal or Coaching EPER
- (c) Hourly EPER

26:3 Extra Pay for Extra Responsibility positions are filled for one year/season only and at the end of that time frame will be considered vacant. If a position has been filled with a candidate that has served in a satisfactory role, the district may allow said candidate to continue in the respective role for up to two (2) years without reposting of the position. This position would require a posting after this two-year time period. A vacancy that arises during the one year/season may be filled for the remainder of that year/season.

26.4 An employee serving in an EPER position shall not be removed from the position without just cause during the duration of said position. However, an employee serving in an EPER position does not have a right to automatically continue to serve in the EPER position the

following school year, unless article 26.3 is exercised by administration. To fill or not fill a position on the EPER salary scale is the prerogative of the District.

- 26.5 Employees covered in this agreement will be notified in writing by the principal according to the following schedule in regards to EPER positions for the upcoming year:

Fall season & Year-Long/Athletic - by June 1

Winter season - by October 1

Spring season - by January 15

- 26.6 Athletic positions will be filled in accordance with DIAA rules.

- 26.7 Vacant Year-Long EPER positions shall be posted in each building for a period of at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the application deadline. Postings will be disseminated by the building principal via email and a copy of the posting placed in the faculty lounge. The posting shall include job responsibilities, required qualifications and application deadline.

- 26.7.1 Vacant seasonal/coaching positions shall be advertised District-wide for a period of at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the application deadline. Postings will be disseminated by the building principal via email and a copy of the posting placed in the faculty lounge. The posting shall include job responsibilities, required qualifications and application deadline.

- 26.8 A candidate's years and experience in coaching the sport or in a non-athletic position for which they are applying shall be given serious consideration in determining whether or not they are qualified. Qualified employees in the building will be interviewed and given first consideration in filling a building EPER positions before any other applicants. If the position is not filled from within the building, qualified district employees who applied for the current posted position, at the time of the most recent posting, will be interviewed and considered.

- 26.9 If a position is not filled on a voluntary basis from within the District volunteers will be sought from the community. Positions that are "academically oriented" are not covered by this section (grade advisors, department chairperson, team leader, A-V director, student council advisor, etc.).

- 26.10 Credit towards years of experience on the EPER salary schedule shall be granted for experience in the same category and level.

- 26.11 If an annual EPER position is shared by two (2) or more employees, the EPER salary shall be split equally based on the equal responsibilities delineated for said employees by their immediate supervisor.

- 26.12 If an employee does not complete a year-long/academic EPER position for the entire year, his/her EPER salary shall be prorated according to the following formula provided all of the required work was completed during the time the employee held the position:

Year-long position:

Annual EPER total/state contracted days x number of contracted days in the position.

26:12.1 Payment for a year-long extra responsibility activity shall be made in three (3) installments:

- (a) December
- (b) March
- (c) June

However, if within seven (7) days of the last workday of the school year the supervising principal submits to the employee a written list of the responsibilities of the extra responsibility position which have not been completed, the June payment shall be made within 45 days of the completion of the responsibilities which appear on the list.

26:12.2 Payment for seasonal/coaching EPER shall be divided into two (2) equal installment payments with the first payment installment half (1/2) at the midpoint of the season and the second payment installment half (1/2) at conclusion of duties within 45 days of the last scheduled activity for the EPER position provided all of the required work was completed during the time the employee held the position.

26:12.3 If a coach is responsible for two teams that practice simultaneously but compete separately (such as boys and girls tennis), such a coach shall be paid at the rate of 150% of the applicable scale for the sport.

26:12.4 If an employee does not complete an entire season, his/her EPER salary shall be prorated according to the following formula provided all of the required work was completed during the time the employee held the position.

Seasonal position: Annual EPER rate-divided by the number of days from start of activity to end of activity x number of calendar days in the position for that particular season.

26:12.5 The salaries of all annual EPER positions are set forth in Appendix B which are attached hereto and made apart hereof.

26:12.6 Nurses shall have one day in addition to the setup day reserved during the first staff week for performing "health regulation compliance" duties. Nurses will be exempt from three (3) of the grading/professional development days, as identified by Pupil Personnel Services, to perform "health regulation compliance" duties.

26:13 Any employee who is required to work beyond the in-school workday, except as provided in Section 19:4.1 and for those employees filling positions listed on the EPER schedule, shall be compensated at the rate listed in this agreement associated with the work the employee is completing. That rate shall not be less than the rate in effect as of July 1, 2025.

26:14 Those employees filling positions listed on the extra pay schedules shall be compensated according to the EPER schedules. Additional activities beyond the regular school day or

year shall be compensated at the State or District rate established for that program, but in any event not less than the athletic EPER rate. Rates are listed in Appendix B. Examples would include, but not limited to, scorekeepers, announcers, clock operators, security, crowd control, ticket takers, chain crews, etc.

- 26:15 All EPER positions created by the Wilmington Learning Collaborative (WLC) shall follow the process outlined in Article 26. If for any reason, the EPER process cannot be followed, the District will notify the Association and negotiate any terms and conditions of the positions. The compensation for the WLC positions will follow the EPER pay schedule unless otherwise negotiated with the Association.

## **ARTICLE 27**

### **CLASS SIZE**

- 27:1 The Board and the Association agree that the pupil/teacher ratio is an important part of an effective educational program.

- 27:2 The following criteria, among others, shall be used to determine efficient class size:

- (a) The capacity of the teaching facilities and the number of adequate teaching stations and pupil stations in a room.
- (b) The appropriateness of the room to the content of the course or purposes to be served and the methods to be employed.
- (c) The general conditions which affect the health, safety, and effective supervision of the pupils.
- (d) The availability of sufficient books, supplies, and equipment.
- (e) Ability level of the students.
- (f) Available student behavioral information
- (g) Severity of the disability

- 27:2.1 The balance of student load, number of preparations and duties shall be considered in student assignments.

- 27:2.2 When a teacher is absent, or there is a teacher vacancy (including but not limited to grade level vacancy or special education caseload), every effort shall be made to get a substitute.

- 27:3 When class size becomes excessive in the opinion of the teacher involved, the following process is to be utilized rather than the grievance procedure:

- (a) The teacher shall report this concern in writing to the building principal. The

building principal shall meet with the teacher within five working days of receiving the written concern to give reasons for the situation and explore methods to resolve the situation.

(b) In the event the situation is not resolved at the building level the employee may appeal the matter in writing within five working days of the decision at the building level to the immediate supervisor of the principal. The immediate supervisor shall meet with the employee within five working days of receiving the concern.

(c) In the event the situation is not resolved at the immediate supervisor level the employee may appeal the matter in writing, within five working days of the decision of the immediate supervisor, to the Superintendent or designee. A copy of the appeal shall be sent to the Association. The Superintendent or designee shall meet with the employee within five working days of receiving the concern. An Association representative can be present at the meeting.

27:4 If a student has a need for additional adult support documented in their IEP, that support will be provided in all classes needed.

## **ARTICLE 28 SPECIAL EDUCATION**

28:1 SECs shall be compensated for summer work to support building needs based on year-to-year financials.

28:1.1 The building administrator will develop a process for coverage when an employee is required to attend an IEP meeting during student instructional time.

28:2 Employees assigned to work with students with disabilities under IDEA or other applicable laws such as but not limited to Special Education Coordinators (SEC) and Special Education teachers shall be provided the in-service training necessary to comply with this law as determined by the Superintendent or designee. The District shall supply the necessary resources, as determined by the Superintendent or designee, to meet the requirements of IDEA or other applicable laws.

28:3 Employees assigned to work with students with disabilities under IDEA or other applicable laws such as but not limited to Special Education Coordinators (SEC) and Special Education teachers shall be provided with resources and support personnel required to meet the legal requirements of IDEA or other applicable laws as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

28:4 In the development of recommendations for compliance with the law, the Superintendent or designee shall work cooperatively with the Association as well as other agencies, administrators, parents, students, and teachers.

28:5 The District and Association will work collaboratively to develop and offer professional development programs that will enhance and expand instruction of special education techniques and programs.

- 28:6 No special education teacher shall be required to accept the assignment of volunteer aides.
- 28:7 Elementary instructional paraprofessionals will be allocated to the classroom teachers to enhance the development of reading and math skills. Allocations will be based on the availability of federal funds as determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
- 28:8 Secondary instructional paraprofessionals will get assigned to grade levels by buildings based on availability of federal funds as determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
- 28:9 District interpreters will participate in in-service days, rather than performing their normal job duties as interpreters.
- 28:10 Materials required for compilation of special education state assessments shall be provided or paid for by the district.
- 28:11 Participation in Special Olympics shall be voluntary.
- 28:12 One PLC per month shall be a collaboration between those educators who are responsible for student IEPs to focus on the development, writing, or maintenance of specific IEPs or any IEP training.
- 28:13 The Christina School District and Christina Education Association agree that teachers who do special education responsibilities outside of their contracted day or outside their normal workload should be compensated for these responsibilities. A work compensation study will be implemented for the 2025-2026 school year only. The data collected from said study shall be used to create a more data-driven, *fair* compensation plan for the specified teachers. This plan shall be negotiated during the Association and District financial opener beginning no later than February 2026.

The District will allocate \$500,000 to launch said study to compensate teachers at the academic hourly EPER rate for any special education responsibilities done outside of their contracted day or outside their normal workload. These responsibilities could include but are not limited to any work related to IEP writing, progress monitoring, creating or adapting lessons for students, or fulfilling any requirements of IDEA. Teachers will submit said time spent using a dropdown menu provided through timesheet submissions along with a write in option. The District shall approve submissions and collect the data. Teachers may be asked to submit a log of their time and tasks/activities accomplished at the request of the Building and/or District administration.

## **ARTICLE 29**

### **SCHOOL CLOSINGS/OPENINGS/MOVEMENT OF GROUPS OF STUDENTS**

- 29:1 If the School Board officially designates a building to be closed/opened, or the

Superintendent/Designee designates a program or grade level or other specified group of students to be moved, the Board and the Association agree to the concept that teachers follow students.

29:2 At such time, the administration and the Association will meet to develop the procedure necessary to implement the concept in Section 30:1.

29:3 If it is agreed that Section 30:1 is not a viable concept, the administration and the Association will meet to develop an alternative concept and the procedures to implement it.

### **ARTICLE 30**

#### **RESIDENT ADVISORS**

30:1 Based on the nature of Resident Advisors' positions certain sections of this Agreement are not valid. In addition to the sections listed below there may be other sections of the Agreement which may not reasonably apply.

Section 8:2.1  
Section 10:7  
Section 19:2  
Section 19:4  
Section 19:4.4  
Section 19:5.1  
Section 19:5.2  
Section 19:5.3  
Section 19:5.4  
Section 19:10  
Section 20:1.7  
Section 20:1.12

In lieu of the above sections the following are clarifications.

30:1.1 Resident Advisors will work a forty (40) hour week which may be arranged in split shifts. No split shift shall be less than two hours.

30:1.2 Mealtimes which occur with the students will be part of the program.

30:1.3 During early dismissal days, in-service programs, one-day vacations, and snow days which fall within a school week, resident advisors may have to work additional hours beyond their normal weekly hours. At such times they will be paid at their normal rate of pay for such additional hours worked.

30:1.4 Resident advisors will have approximately 120 minutes of planning and preparation time within work week.

30:1.5 The resident advisor may leave the building during planning and preparation time according to a reasonable procedure established by the administration.



30:1.6 Election Day will be a holiday for resident advisor staff if District offices and schools are closed.

30:1.7 The work week of the resident advisors will operate on a Sunday to Saturday calendar.

### **ARTICLE 31**

#### **CONTRACT MANDATED COMMITTEES**

31:1 The Association shall be allowed representation on any group, task force, District committee, or Board committee that is formed and deals with any work-related issues.

31:2 Joint committees shall normally be composed of four (4) representatives from the Association, appointed by the President, and four (4) representatives from the Administration, appointed by the Superintendent.\*\*

\*\*Unless mutually agreed to be of a different size or composition.

31.2.1 Committees shall be jointly co-chaired.

31.2.1 Co-chairs will jointly set the agenda and meeting dates and time so as to meet the charges listed below:

- (a) Meet initially by October 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- (b) Provide minutes to all parties (Superintendent, Association President and community members, if appropriate).
- (c) Sub-committees may be appointed by mutual agreement. All sub-committees must report to the Committee of the whole for inclusion/exclusion in the final committee report.
- (d) Release time provided if necessary.
- (e) Parents, students and parties outside the bargaining group may be included, by mutual agreement, on any sub-committee established.
- (f) Provide finalized report to the Superintendent and Association President by May 1.

31:3 JOINT COMMITTEES

31:3.1 Discipline Committee will deal with discipline related matters, including but not limited to: (Article 8)

- (a) Any modifications of the Student Manual.
- (b) Student attendance issues.
- (c) Discipline referrals.
- (d) Discipline records.

- (e) Matters of discipline implementation and application.
  - (f) Training needed
- 31:3.2 If the District and CEA mutually agree it is necessary to address any of the following matters, an Appraisal Committee will be convened.
  - (a) Review the Delaware Professional Appraisal System
  - (b) Review District procedures
  - (c) Appraiser verification
  - (d) Appraisal instruments
  - (e) Training needed
  - (f) Alternative appraisal system(s)
- 31:3.3 Professional Development Committee will deal with professional/staff development matters, including but not limited to: (Article 22)
  - (a) Relevancy, meeting the needs of a diverse staff.
  - (b) Record keeping and requirements of training.
  - (c) Explore alternative staff development time and ideas,
  - (d) Explore ways in which the District and the Association can become active partners in providing meaningful professional development.
- 31:3.4 Technology Committee will deal with any technology matters, including but not limited to: (Article 24)
  - (a) Develop, recommend and maintain standards as they relate to instructional practices and policy in technology to the Superintendent.
  - (b) Recommend suggestions for technological professional development to the Professional Development Committee.
  - (c) Recommend resources that will enhance technology and education at the sites.
- 31:3.5 Grade Reporting Committee will include five teachers selected by the Association. The Alternative methods of student assessment.
  - (a) Employee grade reporting materials.
  - (b) Promotion requirements.
  - (c) Report card revisions.
  - (d) Grade reporting systems and procedures.
- 31:3.6 Special Education Committee will deal with any issues pertaining to but not limited to: (Article 28)
  - (a) Special education and instruction.
  - (b) Recommend to the Superintendent changes in policy and procedure.
  - (c) Be an agent of informal problem solving.
- 31:3.7 The District and the Association shall maintain an EPER Committee to address issues regarding EPER positions. The Committee shall consist of employees appointed by the Association President (1 high school, 1 middle school and 1 elementary school) and 3

committee members appointed by the District including the Superintendent's designee. The committee shall meet annually by March 31 and shall:

- (a) Review job descriptions and responsibilities for new positions.
- (b) Recommend the minimum parameters for each new position.
- (c) Recommend the annual rates of pay for new positions based on comparable positions.

The committee's recommendations are to be given to the Association President and the Director of Human Resources for consideration by the respective bargaining teams. Job descriptions may be modified between annual meetings of the EPER committee if the need should arise.

31:3.8 Finance Committee will meet throughout the length of the contract to review District finances.

#### 31:4 REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEES

31:4.1 The Association shall have the right to official representation on:

- (a) Calendar Committee dealing with setting the District calendar. (Article 11)
- (b) Drug and Alcohol Testing Committee dealing with issues related to the drug and alcohol testing policy. (Article 11)
- (c) Screening Committees to provide employee input into administrative selections. (Article 14)
- (d) Donated Leave Program Committee assisting employees who have used all sick leave, personal leave, as a result of catastrophic illness or injury. (Article 18)
- (e) Benefits Committee (Article 25)
- (f) Instructional Materials Committee (Article 4)
- (g) Shared Decision Making/Restructuring Committee (Article 6)

### ARTICLE 32 MISCELLANEOUS

32:1 The Board and the Association agree that all practices, procedures, and policies of the District shall clearly exemplify that there shall be no discrimination in the hiring, training, assignment, promotion, transfer, evaluation, or discipline of employees or in the application or administration of this Agreement on the basis of color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification, marital status, disability, age, genetic information or veteran's status.

32:2 If any provision of this Agreement or any application of this Agreement is held to be contrary to law then such provision shall be null and void. However, all other provisions or applications shall continue in full force and effect. If any such provision or application of this Agreement is determined invalid the parties shall meet to renegotiate the provision held to be unlawful.

32:3 If an individual contract contains any language inconsistent with this Agreement, during its life, shall be controlling over the inconsistent language.

- 32:4 If during the life of this Agreement any administrative rule or regulation or Board policy shall be inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement, this Agreement, during its life, shall be controlling over the inconsistent language in such administrative rules and regulations or Board policy.
- 32:5 Nothing in this Agreement which changes existing Board policy, rules, or regulations shall operate retroactively unless expressly so stated.
- 32:6 The Board shall post a copy of the contract on the intranet once ratified. In addition, the Board shall provide the Association with 10 copies.
- 32:7 Notices under this Agreement shall be given by either party to the other by certified mail as follows:

To the Board at:  
1899 South College Ave. Newark, DE 19702

To the Association at:  
4135 Stanton Ogletown Road Newark, DE 19713

### **ARTICLE 33**

#### **CITY SCHOOLS**

- 33.1 Teachers at Maurice Pritchett Academy, Bayard, Pulaski, and Stubbs for grades PK-8 will work an extended day to a total of 7.75 hours per day for the 180 student days. Teachers who are required to work 7.75 hours per day pursuant to this section will be paid their per diem rate for the extra 15 minutes per day outside the teacher hours as defined in the existing CBA.
- 33.2 There will be an additional 45-minute period provided in the teacher contractual day for individual teacher planning, scheduled PLCs, IEPs, building-level meetings, or Professional Development (PD). A schedule for such meetings will be collaboratively developed with building administration and the Educator Leadership Team (ELT). The priority will be to maximize individual teacher planning time; with a target of providing at least one additional day per week of individual planning time. Additional meetings added to teacher schedules should be agreed upon by the Educator Leadership Team (ELT) and scheduled at least one week in advance with the exception of IEP meetings which both parties agree would not require Educator Leadership Team (ELT) approval and may be scheduled on short notice based on administrator, teacher, student or family need.
- 33.3 District shall make every effort to provide students at Bayard and Pritchett access to two instructional support staff (for example - Reading Specialist/Math Interventionist/Instructional Coach) in each school by the first day.
- 33.4 33:4 District and the Association agree that maintaining smaller class sizes maximizes student learning. For all city schools, District will maintain class sizes of no more than 18 students for grades Kindergarten through 3. As long as the partnership with the Wilmington Learning Collaborative (WLC) is in place, this article shall remain for the duration of this agreement.

- 33:5 Bayard and Pritchett will have a Talented and Gifted (TAG) or similar enrichment program that will provide an equitable level of service across District schools.
- 33:6 Students in the city schools, in grades Pre-K through 8, will be offered and given access to the same Related Arts disciplines as their suburban school counterparts. There should be at least one related arts teacher for every discipline offered in each school.
- 33.7 Each city teacher in grades PK-8 who works in a city school for one year shall receive a bonus of \$3500 total. This bonus will be payable to each teacher in two (2) lump sums per year totaling \$3500. One lump sum shall be paid by the end of December for \$1500 and the other by the end of June for \$2000. In the event that an employee leaves his/her/their CSD city position mid-year, the employee will only be responsible for reimbursing the CSD for the amount owed based on the number of months not employed at those schools. If the reason for an employee's departure is due to circumstances beyond his/her control (such as long-term disability), the employee will not be required to pay back the bonus.
- 33.8 City PK-8 teachers who are required to pay the city of Wilmington wage tax due to working in the City of Wilmington shall receive a supplement to cover the total cost of the city wage tax as long as they continue to be subject to the City Wage Tax and covered by this agreement.

#### **ARTICLE 34 DURATION OF AGREEMENT**

- 34:1 This Agreement shall be in effect as of July 1, 2025 and shall continue until June 30, 2028 in part subject to the Association's right to negotiate over a successor Agreement as provided in Article 2. The Association and the District have agreed to a financial package for the 2025-2026 school year but will reopen the financial compensation negotiations for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years beginning no later than February of each year.
- 34.2 This Agreement shall not be extended orally and it is expressly understood that it shall expire on the date indicated unless it is extended in writing by mutual agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this agreement to be signed by their respective designees, all on the day and year first above written.

CHRISTINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

David S. Kohan

By: David Kohan

Its: President

CSD CHRISTINA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monica N. Moriak

By: Monica Moriak

Its: President

# APPENDIX A

2025-2026 2% on scale

2026-2028 Financial Reopener for 2 years

Non-Grandfathered										
Christina School District										
Teacher's Salary Schedule										
FY2026										
STEP	No Degree	Bachelors	Bachelors + 15	Bachelors + 30	Masters	Masters + 15	Masters + 30	Masters + 45	Master + 60	Doctorate
1	14,085	15,358	15,508	17,211	17,318	18,605	19,258	20,144	20,799	21,453
2	14,734	15,727	16,050	17,858	18,605	19,896	20,544	21,196	21,775	22,430
3	15,379	16,870	17,200	17,962	19,896	21,196	21,833	22,481	23,083	23,735
4	16,024	18,010	18,337	19,258	21,196	22,481	23,121	23,769	24,389	25,042
5	16,669	19,157	19,484	20,544	22,481	23,769	24,417	25,059	25,695	26,348
6	17,962	20,300	20,632	21,833	23,769	25,059	25,709	26,353	27,007	27,658
7	19,258	21,444	21,833	23,121	25,059	26,353	26,994	27,658	28,312	28,968
8	20,544	22,591	23,121	24,417	26,353	27,643	28,290	28,968	29,623	30,274
9	21,833	23,735	24,417	25,709	27,643	28,931	29,579	30,274	30,927	31,579
10	23,121	24,881	25,709	26,994	28,931	30,225	30,867	31,579	32,232	32,889
11	24,417	26,025	26,994	28,290	30,225	31,517	32,166	32,889	33,544	34,194
12	25,709	27,333	28,290	29,579	31,517	32,807	33,870	34,854	35,506	36,160
13	26,994	28,635	29,579	30,867	32,807	34,097	35,833	36,815	37,468	38,121
14	28,290	29,944	30,867	32,166	34,097	36,034	37,796	38,777	39,430	40,087
15	29,579	31,255	32,166	33,455	35,390	37,972	39,755	40,740	41,395	42,042
16	31,832	33,355	34,413	35,706	38,576	41,126	42,475	43,168	43,418	44,308
21	32,032	33,555	34,613	35,906	38,776	41,326	42,675	43,368	43,618	44,508
26	32,532	34,055	35,113	36,406	39,276	41,826	43,175	43,868	44,118	45,008
<b>Longevity Information:</b> Beginning the 16th year of credited experience, the local tables include a longevity increment of: \$300.00 (Step 16) Beginning the 21st year of credited experience, the local tables include a longevity increment of: \$500.00 (Step 21) Beginning the 26th year of credited experience, the local tables include a longevity increment of: \$1000.00 (Step 26)										

APPENDIX B  
EXTRA PAY FOR EXTRA RESPONSIBILITY (EPER)  
SCHOOL YEARS 2025-2026 through 2027-2028

<u>HIGH SCHOOL</u>	<u>I (0 Years)</u>	<u>II (1-2 Years)</u>	<u>III (3+ Years)</u>
Athletic Director	7251	7713	8207
Assistant Athletic Director	4854	5177	5521
Category A (Head)	5533	5952	6392
Category B (Head)	4923	5289	5686
Category C (Head)	3692	3966	4264
Advisor (12th Grade)	1632	1757	1889
Advisor (11th Grade)	1307	1404	1508
Advisor (9th/10th Grade)	980	1052	1132
Band Director	5222	5611	6032
Assistant Band Director	3916	4208	4523
Band Front Coordinator	1632	1757	1889
Assistant Band Front Coordinator	1307	1404	1508
Band - Line Coach	1632	1757	1889
Indoor Band Coach	1632	1757	1889
Choir Director	1955	2104	2261
Orchestra	1955	2104	2261
Clubs	916	983	1059
Department Chair (Base)	593	636	685
1-10	237	257	274
10+	147	161	174
Drama Director	2609	2802	3014
Drama: Music/Orchestra	2609	2802	3014
Drama: Stage Craft	1632	1757	1889
Newspaper Advisor	3260	3506	3770
Pool Manager	3260	3506	3770
School Store Manager	1307	1404	1508
Student Council Advisor	1307	1404	1508
Yearbook Advisor	3260	3506	3770
Technology Coordinator	1913	2041	2169
Discretionary A	1307	1404	1508
Discretionary B	916	983	1059
(Discretionary funds will be determined by the building admin.)			
<u>MIDDLE SCHOOL</u>	<u>I (0 Years)</u>	<u>II (1-2 Years)</u>	<u>III (3+ Years)</u>
Athletic Coordinator	4351	4628	4925
Orchestra	1307	1404	1508
Middle School Band	1307	1404	1508
Middle School Chorus	1307	1404	1508
Clubs	980	1052	1132

Drama	980	1052	1132
Department Chair (Base)	593	637	685
	147	161	174
Intramural Director	2713	3306	3553
Newspaper	1307	1404	1508
Student Council Advisor	1307	1404	1508
Yearbook Advisor	1307	1404	1508
Technology Coordinator	1913	2041	2169
Discretionary A	1307	1404	1508
Discretionary B	980	1052	1132
(Discretionary funds will be determined by the building admin.)			

<u>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</u>	<u>I (0 Years)</u>	<u>II (1-2 Years)</u>	<u>III (3+ Years)</u>
Team Leader (One for each)	593	637	685
	147	161	174
Team Leader (Math, Rdg, Sci, SS)	952	1021	1099
Newsletter	593	637	685
Yearbook	593	637	685
Technology Coordinator	1913	2041	2169
Discretionary A	980	1052	1132
Discretionary B	593	637	685

<u>DISTRICT LEVEL</u>	<u>I (0 Years)</u>	<u>II (1-2 Years)</u>	<u>III (3+ Years)</u>
District Chair	6526	7016	7539

<u>SPECIAL SCHOOLS</u>	<u>I (0 Years)</u>	<u>II (1-2 Years)</u>	<u>III (3+ Years)</u>
Resident Advisor (Head)	2968	3157	3392

#### HOURLY EPER RATES

Instructional EPER	\$35.00 per hour
Summer Instructional	\$35.00 per hour beginning in June, 2026
Non-instructional EPER	\$25.00 per hour

#### SUMMER SCHOOL PAY RATES

Site Coordinator	\$31.09 per hour
Head Teacher	\$30.02 per hour
Teacher	\$28.69 per hour
Nurse	\$28.69 per hour



#### INSERVICE EPER RATES

*Teacher PD participant	\$18.17 per hour
Teacher with product	\$24.00 per hour
Presenter	\$28.69 per hour
**Presenter Preparation	\$18.17 per hour

\* If the training takes place during the teacher's contracted day, compensation may not be above the regular salary. Compensation may be done for preparation work in order to teach the workshop.

\*\* A presenter may be paid for up to two hours of preparation for each hour of presentation. This two-to-one ratio is only for presenters who have not taught this training before. If the trainer has taught the material before, use a one hour of preparation to one hour of presentation calculation. The preparation must take place outside of the contracted day.

#### EXTENDED YEAR SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Teachers	State/Local Daily Rate
Nurses	State/Local Daily Rate

#### EXTENDED PROGRAMS

Guidance	State/Local Daily Rate
Agriculture	State Daily Rate

**APPENDIX C**  
**CHRISTINA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**GRIEVANCE FORM - LEVEL I**  
(Must be submitted within fifteen (15) days of alleged violation)

Grievant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of alleged violation: \_\_\_\_\_

Building: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Article & Section violated: \_\_\_\_\_

Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of grievance statement of adverse effect caused by this alleged violation:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Remedy sought:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Grievant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator/Designee's Signature: Date & Time of Hearing, if any:

Principal/Supervisor's Decision:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Principal/Supervisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**GRIEVANCE APPEAL - LEVEL II**  
(Must be submitted within ten (10) days of date of previous decision)

Level I decision is appealed for the following reason:

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Grievant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*  
\*

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Administrator/Designee's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Time of Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator's decision: \_\_\_\_\_

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Administrator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Check if Grievant desires representation by the Association

Distribution    1 copy sent to Association  
                     1 copy sent to Human Resources Office  
                     1 copy kept by Administrator answering grievance

## **APPENDIX D**

### **USE OF FORCE**

#### **DEFENSES TO CRIMINAL LIABILITY (Title 11, Chapter 4, Sub-Section 468)**

Justification; use of force by persons with special responsibility for care, discipline, or safety of others.

The use of force upon or toward the person of another is justifiable if:

1. The defendant is the parent, guardian, or other person similarly responsible for the general care and supervision of a minor, or a person acting at the request of a parent, guardian, or other responsible person and:
  - (a) The force is used for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the welfare of the minor, including the prevention or punishment of his misconduct; and
  - (b) The force used is not designed to cause or known to create a substantial risk of causing death, serious physical injury, disfigurement, extreme pain or mental distress, or gross degradation; or
2. The defendant is a teacher or a person otherwise entrusted with the care or supervision of a minor for a special purpose and:
  - (a) The defendant believes that the force used is necessary to further the special purpose, including the maintenance of reasonable discipline in a school, class, or other group, and that the use of the force is consistent with the welfare of the minor; and
  - (b) The degree of force, if it has been used by the parent or guardian of the minor, would be justifiable under subdivision (1) b. of this section; or
3. The defendant is the guardian or other person similarly responsible for the general care and supervision of an incompetent person, and:
  - (a) The force is used for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the welfare of the incompetent person, including the prevention of his misconduct, or, when such incompetent person is in a hospital or other institution for his care and custody, for the maintenance of reasonable discipline in such institution; and
  - (b) The force used is not designed to cause or known to create a substantial risk of causing death, serious bodily harm, disfigurement, extreme or unnecessary pain, mental distress, or humiliation; or

4. The defendant is a doctor or other therapist or a person assisting him at his direction and:
  - (a) The force is used for the purpose of administering a recognized form of treatment which the defendant believes to be adapted to promoting the physical or mental health of the patient; and
  - (b) The treatment is administered with the consent of the patient or, if the patient is a minor or an incompetent person, with the consent of his parent, guardian, or other person legally competent to consent in his behalf, or the treatment is administered in an emergency when the defendant believes that no one competent to consent can be consulted and that a reasonable person, wishing to safeguard the welfare of the patient, would consent; or
5. The defendant is a warden or other authorized official of a correctional institution, and:
  - (a) He believes that the force used is necessary for the purpose of enforcing the lawful rules or procedures of the institution; and
  - (b) The nature or degree of force used is not forbidden by any statute governing the administration of the institution; and
  - (c) If deadly force is used, its use is otherwise justifiable under this Criminal Code; or
6. The defendant is a person responsible for the safety of a vessel or an aircraft or a person acting at his direction, and:
  - (a) He believes that the force used is necessary to prevent interference with the operation of the vessel or aircraft or obstruction of the execution of a lawful order; and
  - (b) If deadly force is used, its use is otherwise justifiable under this Criminal Code; or
7. The defendant is a person who is authorized or required by law to maintain order or decorum in a vehicle, train, or other carrier or in a place where others are assembled, and:
  - (a) He believes that the force used is necessary for such purpose; and
  - (b) The force used is not designed to cause or known to create a substantial risk of causing death, physical injury, or extreme mental distress.

## APPENDIX E

### LEAVES OF ABSENCE

#### PARENTAL LEAVE (BIRTH OF A CHILD OR ADOPTION OF A CHILD) (Title 14, Chapter 13, Sub-Section 1333)

- a) Any full-time employee or employee who has been employed by a reorganized school district, charter school or vocational school district for at least 1 year, shall be entitled to 12 weeks of paid leave upon the birth of a child of the employee, or upon the adoption by the employee of a child who is 6 years of age or younger.
- (b) The entitlement to leave under subsection (a) of this section shall expire at the end of the 12-month period beginning on the date of such birth or adoption.
- (c) Without regard to length of employment, a full-time or part-time employee of a reorganized school district, charter school, or vocational school district shall be entitled to use accumulated sick leave upon the birth of a child of the employee, or upon the adoption of a child who is 6 years of age or younger.
- (d) The rights and benefits described in this section shall run concurrently with any rights and benefits available under the Family Medical Leave Act, 29 U.S.C. § 2601 et seq. for the birth and adoption of a child and short-term disability benefit pursuant to § 5253 of Title 29 for the birth of a child.
- (e) No state agency, board, department, reorganized school district, charter school, vocational school district or other employing officer or agency of this State may alter or terminate the benefits of or terminate the employment of any full-time employee as a result of taking leave pursuant to this section.

#### MILITARY LEAVE (Title 14, Chapter 13, Sub-Section 1327)

- A. If a regularly appointed and employed principal, teacher, or other employee of a school district is called to the service of or voluntarily entered the Armed Forces of the United States of America or the National Guard of this State when in continuous active service, the school board shall grant to such principal, teacher, or other employee, a leave of absence which shall cover the period of military service, not to exceed three years, or until the term of service to which he or she has been called is terminated and upon the completion of the leave of absence reinstate such principal, teacher, or other employee in the position which he or she held at the time that the leave of absence was granted. The contract with such principal, teacher, or other employee shall continue in force under the same conditions as if the principal, teacher, or other employee has been in the continuous service of the Board during the period of the leave of absence; provided such regularly appointed employed principal, teacher, or other employee has received a certificate of satisfactory completion of military service.
- B. The person who may be appointed to replace the principal, teacher, or other employee shall be appointed only for the period covered by the leave of absence.

SICK LEAVE AND ABSENCES FOR OTHER REASONS (Title 14, Chapter 13, Sub-section 1318)

- A. Teachers and other school employees shall be allowed ten (10) days of sick leave per year with full pay; those teachers and other school employees employed eleven (11) months a year shall be allowed eleven (11) days of sick leave per year with full pay; and those teachers and other school employees employed twelve (12) months a year shall be allowed twelve (12) days of sick leave per year with full pay. Any unused days of such leave shall be accumulated to the employee's credit without limit.
- B. In the case of a death in the immediate family of the employee there shall be no reduction of salary of said employee for an absence not to exceed five (5) working days. Members of the immediate family shall be defined as: the employee's spouse or domestic partner; parent, stepparent or child of the employee; parent of spouse or domestic partner; employee's grandparent or grandchild; employee's sibling; spouse of employee's child; any relative who resides in the same household; or any minor child for whom the employee has assumed and carried out parental responsibilities. This absence shall be in addition to other leaves granted the employee.
- C. In the case of a serious illness of a member of the employee's immediate family, as defined in subsection (b) of this section that requires the employee's personal attention, an employee may use accrued sick leave. An employee needing sick leave under the provisions of this section shall inform that employee's own immediate supervisor of the fact and reason in advance, when possible, or otherwise before the expiration of the first hour of absence or as soon thereafter as practicable; failure to do so may be cause for denial of pay for the period of absence. Before approving pay for sick leave, the supervisor may at that supervisor's discretion require either a doctor's certificate or a written statement signed by the employee setting forth the reason for the absence. In the case of an absence of more than five (5) consecutive days, a doctor's certificate is required as a condition of approval. The days so lost are to be counted in the sick leave of the employee.
- D. In case of the death of a near relative there shall be no deduction in the salary of the employee for absence on the day of the funeral. A near relative shall be defined as first cousin, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparent-in-law, or other friend living in the employee's household. This absence shall be in addition to other leaves granted the employee.
- E. In the case of the observance of recognized religious holidays an employee may be absent without loss of pay on no more than three (3) calendar days per year. The days so lost are to be counted in the sick leave of the employee.
- F. An employee may be absent without loss of pay, no more than **five (5)** days per fiscal year for personal reasons of the employee. Such absences shall be included in the sick leave of the employee. Such absences must be approved by the chief school officers.

G.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

APPENDIX E CONTINUED

RECORDS OF ABSENCES; PROOF (Title 14, Chapter 13, Sub-Section 1319)

Each employing Board shall keep an accurate record of the absences from duty and reasons therefore of all employees for whatsoever reasons and may require a statement from the employee when absent because of illness to the effect that he or she was unable to perform his or her duties during the period of absence. The Board may request a physician's certificate if in its judgment this is necessary.

SELECTION OF EMPLOYEE TO PUBLIC OFFICE; LEAVE Title 29, Chapter 51, Sub-Section 5110)

In the event any employee of this State, including any employee of the public schools, is elected to any public office provided for by the Constitution of the State or the Delaware Code, such employee shall be granted such leave of absence without pay as is reasonable and necessary to perform his duties in such office. Upon the completion of such leave the employee shall be reinstated in the position which he held at the time such leave of absence was granted.



## APPENDIX F

### DEVELOPMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Personnel employed by the Christina School District (the "District") may have occasion to develop computer programs and other curriculum materials which have commercial value (hereinafter "materials"). These activities may involve use of District resources, including computer equipment and software (hereinafter "facilities") and may be supported by District funds or funds provided by outside sponsors.

The Federal Copyright Act provides that, in the case of a "work made for hire," the originator's employer is the "author" of the work and is entitled to copyright the work unless the parties have expressly agreed otherwise. A "work made for hire" is defined by the Act as "a work prepared by an employee within the scope of his or her employment."

It is the purpose of this policy to establish the respective rights and obligations of the District and District personnel related to the development of copyrightable materials and administrative procedures for carrying out this policy.

#### 1. Administrative Responsibility

The administration of this policy is the responsibility of the Director of Instruction who shall not depart from this policy without the Board's consent.

#### 2. General Principles

- a. District employee who develops materials which may be copyrightable is required to cooperate with the District in defining and establishing rights under the Federal Copyright Act, this obligation extends to any materials, whether or not made on District time and whether or not District facilities were used. An employee shall not use District facilities for the purpose of developing materials unless the employee has the prior written approval of the Director of Instruction. When materials have been generated, with or without the use of District facilities, the originator shall promptly provide the Director of Instruction with a statement describing the circumstances under which the materials were produced, with particular attention to:
  - b. Identifying the sponsor, if any, of the project;
  - c. Stating whether the activity resulting in development of the materials is within the originator's normal activities and responsibilities as a District employee;
  - d. Indicating the extent to which equipment or physical facilities provided by the District were used in producing the materials;
  - e. Indicating whether the materials were developed under terms of a consulting agreement;  
and
  - f. Noting the existence of any agreement between the originator and the District with respect to the materials.

If it is determined by the Director of Instruction that the District has rights to the materials, the originator agrees to provide the District with an unconditional license to use the materials. Such a license shall be provided at no cost to the District apart from the consideration of the originator's employment. Such a license shall be in a form acceptable to the District. Materials developed by District personnel under terms of consulting agreements fall within the provisions of this Section. District personnel may not use District facilities for work related to consulting agreements without the prior written approval of the Director of Instruction. It is the responsibility of District personnel to advise potential consultation clients of their District obligations prior to entering into consulting agreements.

### 3. Rights and Obligations of District Personnel with Respect to Certain Instructional Materials

#### (a) Work Conducted independently by District Personnel

Materials resulting from work conducted wholly at the expense of the individual, without use of District facilities, equipment, or materials, and outside the scope of the individual's normal field of District activities and employment responsibilities, are the property of the individual. In all such cases the Director of Instruction shall agree, in writing, that the materials belong to the originator to dispose of as he/she sees fit.

#### (b) Work Financed Wholly or in Part by Government Funds

The District may be obligated to report to the appropriate government agency with respect to all materials derived from work which has had any financial support from the Government of the United States. The Government may determine that:

- i. The public interest requires that the materials be disclosed in the open literature; or
- ii. The Government shall have exclusive rights to the materials; or
- iii. The materials shall be released to the District, in which event the District shall release the materials to the originator subject to the originator's agreement to provide the District with a license to use the materials (see Section .2).

Irrespective of which of these alternatives is selected by the Government, the Government usually retains rights to a royalty-free, non-exclusive, irrevocable license throughout the world under any copyright which may be issued on the materials, or to free use of the materials for Government purposes. Any rights to the materials granted by the District are subject to such retained Government rights. If the District releases the materials to the originator, the release shall specify that the originator agrees to convey to the District such rights as the District may need in order to fulfill its obligation to the Government.

DEVELOPMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS  
APPENDIX F ( CONTINUED)

- (c) Work Financed Wholly or in Part by Industrial, Philanthropic, or Other Organizations, or by Individuals Under Contracts or Written Agreements with the District

Rights with respect to materials in this category are governed by the terms of the individual agreements.

4. Arbitration of Dispute

In the event the District and the originator cannot agree with respect to any of their respective rights or obligations under this policy, such dispute shall be submitted to arbitration. An arbitrator shall be selected in accordance with the rules and procedures of the American Arbitration Association. The costs for the services of the arbitrator, including per diem expenses, travel expenses, subsistence expenses, and the cost of the hearing room shall be borne equally by the District and the originator.

5. Additional Provisions

- a. The originator agrees not to use the District, or the District's name, in the use of such materials without prior written approval by the District. The District has the right to have its name included if it so desires.
- b. The originator agrees to execute all documents including license of the materials to the District.
- c. It is the originator's responsibility to provide the Director of Instruction with a mailing address.
- d. The originator warrants that all materials he/she develops are the original work of the originator and free from infringement of existing copyright. If the originator incorporates copyrighted materials in such materials, he/she shall provide proof of release from copyright holder prior to their inclusion. Further, the originator agrees to take no action or enter into any agreements or arrangements under which any other person or organization may develop rights in such materials without the prior written approval of the Director of Instruction.

## **APPENDIX G**

### **TITLE 14, SUB-SECTION 4112**

#### **DISCIPLINE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPERINTENDENTS**

##### **(b) Complaints**

In any instance where a school employee reports to the superintendent any assault or offensive touching (as prohibited in Title 11, DELAWARE CODE, Sub-Section 601, 611-613) against such employee by a pupil, the superintendent or designee, after verifying the identity of the pupil involved and the probable cause to believe that a criminal charge is appropriate, without unreasonable delay after the incident being reported, shall file such appropriate charge against such pupil. The superintendent or designee shall also file a report of such incident with the State Department of Public Instruction. The obligations of the superintendent as set forth in this sub-section are mandatory and are not discretionary.

## **APPENDIX H**

### **PHILOSOPHY OF SHARED DECISION MAKING/RESTRUCTURING**

- We have a philosophy of restructuring in which... each child is the central purpose of the restructuring process... each child can learn and deserves to be taught... EXCELLENCE in teaching and learning is our primary concern... equal access to QUALITY EDUCATION is given to every child without regard to race, religion, gender, or family background... all multicultural differences are cherished, and all are accountable for results, student learning, and development.
- We have a philosophy of restructuring in which... the restructuring in our District will meet the challenges of the future, through INNOVATION and CHANGE, for each child and build upon the staff successes of the past... various teaching and learning styles are utilized... schools are environments where students meet daily success.
- We have a philosophy of restructuring in which... EMPOWERMENT comes to all from shared ideas and COLLABORATIVE DECISION MAKING... trust is promoted... fairness is a practiced belief... support is given to risk taking... challenges to existing assumptions are encouraged... growth is encouraged... the whole individual is acknowledged and nurtured.
- We have a philosophy of restructuring in which... collaboration involves the School District, the School Board, parents, students, staff, community, and civic agencies working together to improve education for children... we all have the responsibility to build CONSENSUS of support for the restructuring process.

### **SHARED DECISION MAKING/RESTRUCTURING MISSION**

To create and implement a process of change that remodels our educational system in terms of its structure, curriculum, systems, and processes so that all of our students develop the essential skills for lifelong learning in their chosen work and the ever-changing society.

To accomplish this Mission we place high value on:

- Creating stakeholders and cooperating partners of Board, administrators, teachers, staff, students, parents, the community, and business.
- Ongoing alignment in common purpose and direction, from Board to classroom, and across feeder patterns.
- Empowerment at all levels, in particular decentralization to sites in terms of resource management, accountability, and authority.
- The use of planning, implementation, and evaluation teams as agents of change.
- Risk taking for new initiatives.
- Student achievement; each student realizing their individual potential.

## APPENDIX I

### PLANNING TIME OPTIONS

Both parties agree that it is important for teachers have sufficient individual planning and preparation time and are willing to **make** a conscious effort to work together to protect that time. If a teacher loses their planning time, the following options can be considered to make up that time:

- (a) Missed planning time can be used toward PD Trade-in hours or make-up snow hours
- (b) Substitute coverage by a qualified substitute teacher for another class period to make up missed planning time
- (c) Excusal from afterschool PLCs, PDs, or meetings listed in Article 19:4.14
- (d) Excusal from teacher duties
- (e) Establish specific dates and times for IEPs well in advance and build time into the master building schedule for teachers to make up missed planning
- (f) Hire people to cover recess/lunch duty so that teachers have an additional half hour for planning.
- (g) Review the roles and responsibility that are on teacher's plate
- (h) Utilize specialists who may have an additional slot open for planning for teachers
- (i) Utilize paras/others to create a common planning time for collaboration in addition to regular planning
- (j) Planning days that are placed into the schedule. Maybe using some PD days/time for time to plan for IEPs
- (k) Combine planning times across grades and special education (Spec Ed planning w/ Gen Ed selective attendees). Rotate staff to support classrooms while team members plan (report back using google docs)

## **APPENDIX J**

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The parties agree that is important to address issues around special education in order to do what is best for all students. The parties commit to work collaboratively on the following options to improve delivery of special education services:

- (a) Professional development for teachers and administrators;
- (b) Written guidelines regarding best practices for student/teacher ratios special education classrooms;
- (c) Examination and sharing district-wide of what is working;
- (d) Newsletter from Special Education department to buildings periodically;
- (e) Special education Department led audits of caseload to include complexity of student needs and behaviors. Teachers may request an audit from their building administrator

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