COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

-BETWEEN-

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)



-AND-

THE CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES LOCAL 2145



JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
ARTICLE 1	PREAMBLE 1	
1.01 1.02 1.03	PURPOSE OF PARTIES TO THIS AGREEMENT	
ARTICLE 2	MANAGEMENT RIGHTS2	
2.01 2.02 2.03 2.04 2.05	MANAGEMENT AND DIRECTION HIRING AND DISCIPLINE. SUPERVISORY STAFF RECOGNITION NO DISCRIMINATION	
ARTICLE 3	RECOGNITION AND NEGOTIATION	
3.01 3.02 3.03 3.04 3.05	RECOGNITION OF THE UNION NO OTHER AGREEMENTS EXCLUSIONS REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADIAN UNION REPRESENTATION	
ARTICLE 4	UNION MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS	
4.01 4.02	Union Membership	
ARTICLE 5	CHECK OFF OF UNION DUES	
5.01 5.02 5.03 5.04	CHECK-OFF PAYMENTS	
ARTICLE 6	NEW EMPLOYEES4	
6.01	ORIENTATING NEW EMPLOYEES	
ARTICLE 7	CORRESPONDENCE4	
7.01	CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE PARTIES	
ARTICLE 8	LABOUR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS4	
8.01	JOINT MEETINGS	
ARTICLE 9	LABOUR MANAGEMENT BARGAINING RELATIONS	
9.01 9.02 9.03	Union Bargaining Committee	

ARTICLE 10	EMPLOYEE DEFINITIONS	5
10.01 10.02 10.03 10.04 10.05	PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEE CASUAL EMPLOYEE TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE REGULAR EMPLOYEE STUDENT EMPLOYEE	5 6
ARTICLE 11	GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE	6
11.01 11.02 11.03 11.04 11.05 11.06 11.07 11.08	RECOGNITION OF UNION STEWARDS AND GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE NAMES OF STEWARDS AND GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE PERMISSION TO LEAVE WORK GRIEVANCES AND REPLIES IN WRITING DEFINITION OF GRIEVANCE TIME LIMITS POLICY GRIEVANCE UNSAFE WORKING CONDITIONS	6 6 7 7
ARTICLE 12	ARBITRATION PROCEDURE	8
12.01 12.02 12.03 12.04 12.05	COMPOSITION OF BOARD OF ARBITRATION BOARD PROCEDURE DECISION OF THE BOARD EXPENSE OF THE BOARD WITNESSES	8 8 9
ARTICLE 13	DISCHARGE, SUSPENSION AND DISCIPLINE	9
13.01 13.02 13.03 13.04 13.05 13.06 13.07	RIGHT TO HAVE UNION REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE WARNINGS BURDEN OF PROOF DESIGNATION OF SUPERVISOR. CROSSING OF PICKET LINES DURING STRIKE. PERSONNEL RECORDS.	9
ARTICLE 14	SENIORITY	10
14.01 14.02 14.03 14.04 14.05 14.06 14.07 14.08	PRINCIPLE OF SENIORITY PROBATION FOR NEWLY HIRED EMPLOYEES. SENIORITY LIST NO LOSS OF SENIORITY LOSS OF SENIORITY TRANSFERS AND SENIORITY OUTSIDE BARGAINING UNIT CASUAL EMPLOYEES - SECONDARY SENIORITY CASUAL EMPLOYEES	.10 .10 .11 .11 .11
ARTICLE 15	PROMOTIONS AND STAFF CHANGES	
15.01 15.02	JOB POSTINGSVACANCIES OCCURRING IN JULY AND AUGUST	

15.03 15.04 15.05 15.06 15.07	TEMPORARY VACANCIES TRIAL PERIOD METHOD OF MAKING APPOINTMENTS INDIGENOUS SUPPORT SERVICES WORKER DUAL ROLE POSITIONS	13 13 14
ARTICLE 16	LAYOFFS AND RECALLS	
16.01 16.02 16.03 16.04 16.05 16.06	ROLE OF SENIORITY IN LAYOFFS	14 15 15
ARTICLE 17	HOURS OF WORK	16
17.01 17.02 17.03 17.04 17.05 17.06 17.07 17.08 17.09 17.10 17.11	REGULAR WORKDAY AND WORK WEEK PAID REST PERIODS WHERE NO WORK IS AVAILABLE ASSIGNMENT OF EXTRA WORK SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL ENTITLEMENT SHIFT CHANGES REDISTRIBUTION OF CUSTODIAL WORK DETERMINATION OF EDUCATION ASSISTANT HOURS SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSISTANTS / EDUCATION ASSISTANTS EDUCATION ASSISTANT TIME INDIGENOUS SUPPORT SERVICES WORKER FOUR (4) HOUR MINIMUM WORK DAY	1717171717181818
ARTICLE 18	OVERTIME	
18.01 18.02 18.03 18.04 18.05	OVERTIME ENTITLEMENT OVERTIME FOR PART-TIME EMPLOYEES TIME OFF IN LIEU OF OVERTIME COMPENSATION FOR WORK ON PAID HOLIDAYS CALL OUT PAY GUARANTEE	19 19 19
ARTICLE 19	STATUTORY HOLIDAYS	20
19.01 19.02 19.03 19.04	STATUTORY HOLIDAYS RECOGNIZED ELIGIBILITYSTATUTORY HOLIDAYS DURING TIME OFF WHEN A HOLIDAY FALLS ON A NON-WORKING DAY	20
ARTICLE 20	VACATIONS	21
20.01 20.02 20.03 20.04 20.05	LENGTH OF VACATIONS LEAVING BOARD SERVICE VACATION PERIOD APPROVED LEAVES DURING VACATION VACATION CARRY OVER	21 22 22

20.06	VACATION YEAR END PAY OUT	23
ARTICLE 21	SICK LEAVE	. 23
21.01	SICK LEAVE DEFINED	23
21.02	ACCUMULATION OF SICK LEAVE	
21.03	SICK LEAVE DURING LEAVE OR LAYOFF	23
21.04	EXTENSION OF SICK LEAVE	
21.05	Proof of Illness	24
21.06	SICK LEAVE RECORDS	24
21.07	ILLNESS IN THE FAMILY	24
21.08	PAYMENT OF UNUSED SICK LEAVE	24
ARTICLE 22	LEAVE OF ABSENCE	. 24
22.01	Union Business	24
22.02	GRIEVANCE PAY PROVISIONS	
22.03	NEGOTIATION PAY PROVISIONS	25
22.04	LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR UNION FUNCTIONS	25
22.05	BEREAVEMENT LEAVE	25
22.06	Pregnancy Leave	26
22.07	ADOPTION LEAVE	26
22.08	Parental Leave	27
22.09	PAID JURY OR COURT WITNESS DUTY LEAVE	27
22.10	Medical Care Leave	27
22.11	SPECIAL LEAVE	27
22.12	GENERAL LEAVE	
22.13	Leave for Public Duties	
22.14	FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY LEAVE	
22.15	COMPASSIONATE CARE LEAVE	_
22.16	CULTURAL LEAVE FOR INDIGENOUS EMPLOYEES	
22.17	DISAPPEARANCE OF A CHILD	
22.18	SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEAVE	
22.19	VOTING LEAVE	29
ARTICLE 23	PAYMENT OF WAGES AND ALLOWANCES	. 29
23.01	Pay Days	_
23.02	ASSIGNMENTS AND SUBSTITUTES	
23.03	Pay Procedure	
23.04	USE OF PERSONAL VEHICLE	
23.05	Personal Care Allowance	30
ARTICLE 24	JOB CLASSIFICATION AND RECLASSIFICATION	. 31
24.01	CLASSIFICATION CHANGES AND NEW POSITIONS	31
ARTICLE 25	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	. 31
25.01	HEALTH PLANS	31
25.02	MUNICIPAL PENSION PLAN	
25.03	GROUP LIFE INSURANCE	

25.04 25.05	WORKERS' COMPENSATION PAY SUPPLEMENT	
25.06	LONG TERM DISABILITY	
25.07	DEATH BENEFITS	
25.08	Pre-Retirement Counselling	32
25.09	EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PLAN	
25.10	BENEFITS TRUST	
ARTICLE 26	HEALTH AND SAFETY	33
26.01	CLOTHING	
26.02	BOOT ALLOWANCE	
26.03	INJURY PAY PROVISIONS	
26.04	TRANSPORTATION OF ACCIDENT VICTIMS	
26.05	HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE	
26.06	VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE	
ARTICLE 27	TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE	34
27.01	DEFINITION	
27.02	ADVANCE NOTICE	
27.03	INCOME PROTECTION AND TRANSFERS	
27.04	TRAINING BENEFITS	
ARTICLE 28	GENERAL CONDITIONS	35
28.01	Courses of Instruction	
28.02	SEXUAL HARASSMENT / BULLYING AND HARASSMENT	
28.03	BULLETIN BOARDS	
28.04	CONTRACTING OUT	
28.05	DRIVER RECORDS	
28.06 28.07	MEDICAL PROCEDURES	
28.08	INTERNAL MAIL	
28.09	MEAL ALLOWANCE	
28.10	APPEALS UNDER THE SCHOOLS ACT	
28.11	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	_
28.12	LOCAL BARGAINING FUNDING	
28.13	NO HARASSMENT OR DISCRIMINATION	37
ARTICLE 29	GENERAL	38
29.01	Plural and Gender-Neutral Language May Apply	38
29.02	Access to Information	
29.03	COPY OF AGREEMENT	
29.04	INDEMNIFICATION	38
29.05	Work Experience Placements	38
ARTICLE 30	TERM OF AGREEMENT	39
30.01	DURATION	39

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #1	41
RE: DEFERRED SALARY LEAVE PLAN	41
LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #2	43
RE: JOB DESCRIPTIONS/JOB EVALUATION	43
LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #3	46
RE: ARTICLE 17.04 – ASSIGNMENT OF EXTRA WORK – BUS DRIVERS	46
SCHEDULE "A"	48
Wage Schedule – Base Rate	48
SCHEDULE "B"	50
Wage Schedule – Base Rate	50
APPENDIX "A" 52	
PROVINCIAL FRAMEWORK 2022-2025Re: Employee Support Grant (ESG) after June 30, 2022	

AGREEMENT BETWEEN:

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

(hereinafter called the "Board")

and

THE CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

LOCAL 2145

(hereinafter called the "Union")

ARTICLE 1 PREAMBLE

1.01 Purpose of Parties to this Agreement.

It is the purpose of both Parties to this Agreement:

- (a) To seek to maintain and improve harmonious relations between the Board and the Union.
- (b) To recognize the mutual value of joint discussions and negotiations with regard to wages, hours of work and working conditions.
- (c) To encourage efficiency in operations.
- (d) To promote the morale, well-being and security of all employees in the Bargaining Unit of the Union.

1.02 Desirability of a Collective Agreement

It is now desirable that methods of bargaining and matters pertaining to the working conditions of the employees be drawn up in a Collective Agreement.

1.03 Acknowledgement

The parties to the agreement recognize that the Employer objectives include service to Indigenous, Inuit, Metis and other ethnic communities and the promotion, preservation, protection and interpretation of their histories, languages, cultures and artistic heritages using ways of knowing and understanding.

<u>ARTICLE 2</u> <u>MANAGEMENT RIGHTS</u>

2.01 Management and Direction

The management and the operation of and the direction and promotion of the working forces is vested exclusively in the Board, subject to the terms of this Agreement.

2.02 Hiring and Discipline

The Board shall have the right to select its employees and to discipline, transfer, demote or discharge them for proper cause.

2.03 Supervisory Staff

The selection and promotion of supervisory officials shall be entirely a matter for the Board's decision, but in making such selection or promotion, length of continuous service shall be given due consideration.

2.04 Recognition

The Board shall exercise its rights in a fair and reasonable manner.

2.05 No Discrimination

The Employer and the Union agree that all employees will be protected against discrimination respecting their human rights and employment in all matters including age, race, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, pregnancy, physical disability, mental disability, illness, or disease, ethnic, or national or Indigenous origin, family status, marital status, political belief or affiliation, or any other prohibition of the Human Rights Code.

ARTICLE 3 RECOGNITION AND NEGOTIATION

3.01 Recognition of the Union

The Board recognizes the Canadian Union of Public Employees and its Local 2145 as the sole and exclusive collective bargaining agent for all its employees as certified by the Labour Relations Board to be part of said Local.

3.02 No Other Agreements

No employee or group of employees shall be required or permitted to make a written or verbal agreement with the Board or its representatives which may conflict with the terms of this Collective Agreement.

3.03 Exclusions

The Parties to this Agreement hereby agree to exclude the position of Confidential Secretary to the Secretary-Treasurer and Superintendent of Schools from the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

The Parties further agree to exclude the payroll position from the terms and conditions of this Agreement on the understanding that the person holding the

position at the time of signing this Agreement may opt to remain under the provisions of this Agreement.

A list of excluded staff will be provided annually by September 30th.

3.04 Representative of Canadian Union

The Union shall have the right to have the assistance of representatives of the Canadian Union of Public Employees when dealing or negotiating with the Board. Such representative/s may request access to the Employer's premises in order to investigate and assist in the settlement of a grievance.

3.05 Representation

The Union will supply the Board with the names of its officers. Likewise, the Board shall supply the Union with a list of its supervisory personnel.

<u>ARTICLE 4 UNION MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS</u>

4.01 Union Membership

The Board agrees that all employees who, at the date of signing of this Agreement, are members of the Union, or any employee who hereafter during the life of this Agreement becomes a member, shall as a condition of continued employment maintain membership in good standing with the Union.

New employees commencing employment with the Board shall become members of the Union within fifteen (15) days.

4.02 Community Volunteers & Work Experience Programs

The Parties agree that volunteers bring a positive community involvement and their contribution is a valuable addition to the education of students.

The use of community volunteers and work experience programs shall not displace in full or in part or reduce the hours of work of any member of the Bargaining Unit.

<u>ARTICLE 5</u> <u>CHECK OFF OF UNION DUES</u>

5.01 Check-off Payments

As a condition of employment, every employee shall sign a check-off form authorizing the Board to deduct from the employee's earnings and pay to the Union any dues, initiation fees or assessments legally levied.

The Board shall remit the dues deducted pursuant to such assignment to the Secretary Treasurer of the Union not later than the fifteenth (15th) of the month following that in which such deductions were made, with a written statement of names of the employees for whom the deductions were made and the amount of each deduction.

Dues deductions shall commence upon the date of hire of a new employee.

5.02 Dues Receipts

At the time that Income Tax (T-4) slips are made available, the Board shall type on the amount of Union dues paid by each Union member in the previous year.

5.03 Notification

The Union shall be notified of all appointments, hirings, lay-offs, re-hirings and terminations of employment with the month-end check-off statement. Notification of hirings shall contain classification and rate of pay and in the case of casual employees, the anticipated termination date.

5.04 Financial Responsibility

Notwithstanding any provisions contained in this section, there shall be no financial responsibility on the part of the Board for the dues of an employee, unless there are sufficient unpaid wages of that employee in the Board's hands.

ARTICLE 6 NEW EMPLOYEES

6.01 Orientating New Employees

The Board agrees to advise new employees that a Collective Agreement is in effect and will provide an electronic copy or a hard copy upon request. The Parties agree that a Union Representative will be provided an opportunity to meet with new employees, to further acquaint them with Union employment. Such meetings will be scheduled so as not to disrupt normal operations.

ARTICLE 7 CORRESPONDENCE

7.01 Correspondence Between the Parties

All correspondence between the Parties, arising out of this Agreement or incidental thereto, shall pass to and from the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board and the Secretary of the Union.

ARTICLE 8 LABOUR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

8.01 Joint Meetings

Either Party may request a joint meeting to discuss matters of mutual concern regarding the application, interpretation or implementation of the Collective Agreement.

ARTICLE 9 LABOUR MANAGEMENT BARGAINING RELATIONS

9.01 Union Bargaining Committee

Union Bargaining Committee shall be elected or appointed and consist of not more than four (4) members of the Union. The Union will advise the Board of the Union nominees to the Committee.

9.02 Function of the Bargaining Committee

The Union Bargaining Committee shall be responsible for negotiating with the Board and/or their agents to establish wages, hours of work and other working conditions.

9.03 Time Off for Meetings

Up to four (4) representatives of the Union on the Bargaining Committee, who are in the employ of the Board, shall have the right to attend meetings held within working hours without loss of remuneration.

ARTICLE 10 EMPLOYEE DEFINITIONS

That for the purpose of this Agreement and unless the context otherwise requires:

10.01 Probationary Employee

Probationary employee shall be defined as a person who is serving a probationary period of forty-five (45) working days, for a regular appointment with the Board.

10.02 Casual Employee

Casual employee shall be defined as a person who is employed on a day to day basis and who has an anticipated termination date. Casual employees shall usually be hired as a temporary replacement necessitated by illness, injury, leave of absence, vacation or temporary filling of a vacancy.

In all cases, duration of assignment shall not exceed sixty (60) continuous working days, unless the period is extended by mutual agreement. Such extension shall not be unreasonably withheld.

Casual employees shall only be entitled to the provisions of this Agreement relating to wage rates, hours of work, rest periods and those benefits to which they are entitled by virtue of Federal or Provincial Government statues.

10.03 Temporary Employee

A temporary employee is one who is employed to fill a temporary existing vacancy for a defined period of sixty (60) days or more. In the case of the fixed period assignment, that period may be extended by mutual written agreement between the Union and the Board.

Temporary employees shall only be entitled to the provisions of this Agreement relating to wage rates, hours of work, rest periods and those benefits to which they are entitled by virtue of Federal or Provincial Government statutes. Temporary employees shall earn and accumulate secondary seniority credits only.

At the end of the temporary assignment, the temporary employee shall be returned to the Casual On-Call List.

10.04 Regular Employee

Regular employee shall be defined as a person who has satisfactorily completed forty-five (45) working days service with the Board and who is employed on a regular full-time or part-time basis and includes those employees assigned to normal ten (10) month positions.

Regular part-time employees, working fifteen (15) hours or more a week shall receive benefit entitlement equal to full-time employees except as otherwise specified.

10.05 Student Employee

Student Employees shall be defined as students who are returning to an educational institution at the end of their temporary assignment. They shall be employed during the natural breaks in the School Calendar which are Spring Break, Summer Break and Winter Break. This shall not include ACE-IT/Secondary Student Apprentice Program enrolled students.

Student Employees shall only be entitled to the provisions of this Agreement relating to wage rates, hours of work, rest periods and those benefits to which they are entitled by virtue of Federal or Provincial Government statutes.

ACE-IT/Secondary Student Apprentice Program enrolled students shall be employed throughout the year as required by their programs.

ARTICLE 11 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

11.01 Recognition of Union Stewards and Grievance Committee

In order to provide an orderly and speedy procedure for the settling of grievances, the Union may assist any employee whom the Union represents in preparing and presenting a grievance, in accordance with the grievance procedure.

11.02 Names of Stewards and Grievance Committee

The Union shall notify the Board in writing of the name of each Steward and the department(s) the employee represents and the name of the Chief Steward. The Union will notify the Board of the members on the grievance committee.

11.03 Permission to Leave Work

Union Representatives shall be permitted time off without loss of pay to handle grievances, provided they have first sought and obtained permission from their immediate Supervisor to absent themselves from their regular duties. Permission shall not be unreasonably withheld.

11.04 Grievances and Replies in Writing

Grievances and replies to grievances shall be in writing at all stages, and grievances settled satisfactorily shall date from the time that the grievance was filed unless there is a mutual agreement to find another date.

11.05 Definition of Grievance

A grievance is defined as any difference that arises between the Parties out of the interpretation, application, operation or any alleged violation of this Agreement, including any difference arising from the suspension or dismissal of any employee and including any question or difference as to whether the matter is arbitrable. Such question or difference shall be finally and conclusively settled without stoppage of work in the following manner:

Every reasonable effort, including the time devoted to finding a resolution, must be made to resolve the issue by the employee and/or a Representative of the Union and the employee's Supervisor prior to the initiation of a grievance.

The employee has the right to have a Shop Steward or Union Representative in attendance at all stages of this process.

- Step 1 Should the employee, having made every reasonable effort to resolve the issue with the Supervisor, consider that the issue has not been resolved, the Union may initiate a grievance by stating the alleged violation of the Collective Agreement in writing and shall submit it to the appropriate Supervisor within five (5) working days of having notified the Supervisor that the informal attempts at resolution were unsuccessful and in any case, no longer than ten (10) working days from the date of the first informal meeting. The Supervisor shall respond to the Union within five (5) working days of receipt of such grievance.
- Step 2 Failing satisfactory resolution of the grievance at Step 1, and within five (5) working days of the attempt to resolve the grievance at Step 1, the grievance shall be submitted to the Secretary Treasurer of the Board. Upon receipt of the written grievance, and within five (5) working days of such receipt, both Parties will make every reasonable effort to resolve the grievance.
- Step 3 Failing satisfactory resolution of the grievance at Step 2, and within five (5) working days of the attempt to resolve the grievance at Step 2, the grievance shall be submitted to the Board of Education. The Committee shall, if it so desires, have its advisors in attendance. Failing satisfactory settlement within ten (10) working days, the matter may be referred to arbitration.

11.06 Time Limits

It is the intention of the Parties that grievances should be presented and dealt with strictly in accordance with the time limits provided in Article 11.05. Time limits may be extended by mutual agreement or by an Arbitrator.

If a dispute is not submitted within thirty (30) calendar days after the occurrence of the act or decision giving rise to the dispute, then the dispute shall be deemed to be abandoned, and all rights of recourse to the grievance procedure shall be at an end.

If a grievance has not advanced to the next stage under Step 2 or 3 within ten (10) working days after completion of the preceding stage, then the grievance shall be deemed to be abandoned, and all rights of recourse to the grievance procedure shall be at an end.

11.07 Policy Grievance

Where a grievance involving a question or general application or interpretation occurs, or where a group of employees or the Union has a grievance, Step 1 of this Article may be by-passed.

11.08 Unsafe Working Conditions

Any claim by an employee or a group of employees that they are working under unsafe working conditions shall be investigated within forty-eight (48) hours in accordance to WorkSafe BC Guidelines. No employee shall be required to work on an assignment which is unsafe.

Such employee(s) shall not be subject to disciplinary action and will be assigned temporary alternative work at no loss in pay until the matter is resolved.

ARTICLE 12 ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

12.01 Composition of Board of Arbitration

When either Party requests that a grievance be submitted to arbitration, the request shall be made in writing, addressed to the other Party of the Agreement. Within ten (10) days thereafter, each Party shall name an Arbitrator to an Arbitration Board and notify the other Party of the name and address of its appointee. If the recipient of the notice fails to appoint an Arbitrator, or if the two (2) appointees fail to agree upon a Chairperson within ten (10) days, the appointment shall be made by the Minister of Labour upon request of either Party.

By mutual agreement of the Union and the Board, a single Arbitrator may be appointed by the Parties.

12.02 Board Procedure

The Arbitration Board may determine its own procedure but shall give full opportunity to all Parties to present evidence and make representations to it. The Arbitration Board shall endeavour to commence its proceedings within forty-eight (48) hours after the Chairperson is appointed. It shall hear and determine the difference or allegation and render a decision within fifteen (15) days from the time the Chairperson is appointed. The decision of the majority shall be the decision of the Board of Arbitration.

12.03 Decision of the Board

The decision of the Board of Arbitration shall be final and binding on all Parties, but in no event shall the Board of Arbitration have the power to alter, modify or amend this Agreement in any respect. Should the Parties disagree as to the

meaning of the decision, either Party may apply to the Chairperson of the Board to reconvene the Board of Arbitration to clarify the decision, which it shall do within three (3) days.

12.04 Expense of the Board

Each Party shall pay:

- (a) the fees and expenses of the Arbitrator it appoints;
- (b) one-half (1/2) the fees and expenses of the Chairperson.

12.05 Witnesses

At any stage of the grievance or arbitration procedures, the Parties may have the assistance of the employee/s concerned as witnesses, and any other witnesses, and all reasonable arrangements will be made to permit the conferring Parties or Arbitrator/s to have access to any part of the Board's premises to view the working conditions which may be relevant to the settlement of the grievance.

ARTICLE 13 DISCHARGE, SUSPENSION AND DISCIPLINE

13.01 Right to Have Union Representative Present

Where a Supervisor intends to interview an employee for disciplinary purposes, the Supervisor shall so notify the employee in advance of the purpose of the interview so that the employee may contact their Union representative to be present at the interview.

13.02 Discipline Procedure

The employee shall be notified in writing by the Employer, with full disclosure of the reasons and/or penalty, with a copy to the President of the Union.

13.03 Warnings

Whenever the Board or its authorized agent deems it necessary to censure an employee, in a manner indicating that dismissal or discipline may follow any further infraction or may follow if such employee fails to bring their work up to a required standard by a given date, the Board shall, within five (5) days thereafter, give written particulars of such censure to the employee involved, with a copy to the Secretary of the Union.

13.04 Burden of Proof

In cases of discharge and/or discipline, the burden of proof of just cause shall rest with the Board.

13.05 Designation of Supervisor

Every employee shall be notified of the name of their immediate designated Supervisor.

13.06 Crossing of Picket Lines During Strike

An employee covered by this Agreement may refuse to cross a legal picket line arising out of labour disputes. Failure to cross such a picket line by a member of this Union shall not be considered a violation of this Agreement nor shall it be grounds for disciplinary action, other than loss of pay for time not worked.

13.07 Personnel Records

All employees shall have the right to have access to and review their personnel record in the presence of an Employer representative during regular office hours at a mutually agreeable time. Such access shall be arranged within a reasonable time of the request being made. An employee shall have the right to copy any material in their personnel file pertaining to the individual.

An employee shall be permitted to file a written response with the respect to any information contained in the personnel file at the School Board Office. Such response shall become part of the personnel file.

After forty-eight (48) months, the Parties agree that the Union may assist employees who wish to apply to the Secretary Treasurer to have discipline removed from their personnel file.

ARTICLE 14 SENIORITY

14.01 Principle of Seniority

Seniority is the length of service that an employee has with the District. The application of seniority shall be on a Bargaining-Unit-wide basis.

14.02 Probation for Newly Hired Employees

A newly hired employee shall be on probation for a period of forty-five (45) working days from the date of hiring, during which time the employee shall be considered temporary with no seniority rights.

Upon satisfactory completion of the probationary period, seniority shall be retroactive to the date of hire to the regular position.

14.03 Seniority List

The Board shall maintain a seniority list showing the date upon which each employee's service commenced. An up-to-date seniority list shall be sent to the Secretary of the Union by October 31 of each year.

14.04 No Loss of Seniority

An employee shall not lose seniority rights if the employee is absent from work because of sickness, accident, layoff other than provided in Article 14.05, or leave of absence approved by the Board.

14.05 Loss of Seniority

An employee shall only lose their seniority in the event:

- (a) The employee is discharged for just cause and is not reinstated.
- (b) The employee verbally resigns and does not rescind their resignation within forty-eight (48) hours.
- (c) The employee formally resigns with written communication.
- (d) The employee is absent from work in excess of three (3) working days without sufficient cause or without notifying their Supervisor, unless such notice was not reasonably possible.
- (e) The employee fails to return to work within seven (7) calendar days following a layoff and after being notified by registered mail to do so, unless through sickness or other just cause. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to keep the Board informed of their current address.
- (f) The employee is laid off for a period longer than twelve (12) months.
- (g) Employees re-hired after loss of seniority shall not retain any benefits for past service.

14.06 Transfers and Seniority Outside Bargaining Unit

No employee shall be transferred to a position outside the Bargaining Unit without their consent. If an employee is transferred to a position outside of the Bargaining Unit, the employee shall retain their seniority accumulated up to the date of leaving the Unit but will not accumulate any further seniority.

14.07 Casual Employees - Secondary Seniority

Casual employees shall accrue secondary seniority for the purposes of job posting and shift assignment.

Secondary seniority shall be recognized once a casual employee works a total of sixty (60) shifts in any six (6) month period.

A shift shall be defined as any day on which an employee has worked.

For the purpose of filling posted regular or temporary positions, an employee who has secondary seniority and who applies for such position, shall be considered for a posted position after regular employees and prior to outside applicants.

Secondary seniority shall be lost in the event the employee:

- Refuses or fails to respond to six (6) call-ins or call-outs within a twelve (12) month period.
- Is terminated and not reinstated.
- Terminates employment with the Board.

An up-to-date list showing the position for which the employee is available, seniority date and number of shifts completed for each employee shall be sent

to the Union and posted at each worksite in October and April of each year. The lists will be effective as at the first of the month.

A casual employee with secondary seniority shall notify the Employer in writing as soon as possible when the employee is unable to work due to illness, vacation or family responsibility. If the employee notifies the Employer before a call-in, such notice will not be considered a failure to respond. If the employee notifies the Employer after or at the time of a call-in, such notice will be considered a failure to response.

14.08 Casual Employees

The amount and type of casual employment will be considered in making any permanent appointment; however, this will not limit the Board's ability to appoint the most senior qualified person.

When a casual or temporary employee is confirmed in a position the employee filled on a temporary basis, the employee's seniority will be back dated to the first day when the employee started in that position on a temporary basis.

Casual employees in temporary work will accrue secondary seniority.

A casual employee who has attained secondary seniority and is successful in obtaining a permanent position and passing the probationary period in the permanent position, shall have their seniority credited retroactively by the amount of the employee's accumulated secondary seniority.

The amount of secondary seniority credited to the employee shall be used only for seniority purposes. It is not to be used for the purpose of calculating any other entitlements, including but not limited to vacation and sick leave, contained in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 15 PROMOTIONS AND STAFF CHANGES

15.01 Job Postings

When a vacancy occurs in any classification covered by this Agreement, or in the event of a new position being created, notice thereof shall be posted for three (3) working days during the school year and five (5) days during scheduled break times (Winter, Spring and Summer breaks). An electronic copy will be sent to the Union office.

Such postings and notice shall contain the following information:

- nature of the position
- required ability
- hours of work
- wage rate or salary range
- closing date for accepting applications

Applications must be submitted in writing.

Postings shall state: "This is an internal posting only. Outside applicants shall be considered only after the position remains unfilled by internal applicants."

The Union shall be advised in writing of the name/s of the successful applicant/s within fourteen (14) days following the closing date of the posting where possible, but not later than thirty (30) days in unusual circumstances.

15.02 Vacancies Occurring in July and August

Vacancies occurring in July and August may be posted and filled prior to school opening in September. Any vacancies during the summer months shall be posted for a minimum of five (5) working days during the first three (3) weeks in August on the School District website. Employees out of town during this time may contact the School Board office, by telephone, for information on any postings.

15.03 Temporary Vacancies

This Article shall not apply to temporary replacements necessitated by illness, injury or leave of absence, or replacement of employees on vacation or for temporary filling of vacancies.

An employee who has been filling a temporary vacancy shall not be confirmed as permanently assigned to that position until the job has been posted and the successful applicant selected in accordance with this Article.

15.04 Trial Period

If the successful applicant is a regular or casual employee the employee shall be placed on trial for a period of thirty (30) working days, during which time the employee shall receive the necessary familiarization for the position. Conditional on satisfactory service, such trial promotion shall become permanent after the period of thirty (30) working days.

If, in the view of the Employer, the successful applicant proves unsatisfactory in the position, or if the employee is unable or unwilling to continue to perform the duties of the job classification, the employee shall be returned to their former position at the prevailing rate without loss of seniority, and any other employees promoted or transferred because of the rearrangement of position shall also be transferred to their former position.

Any other employee promoted or transferred because of the rearrangement of positions shall also be returned to their former position, wage, or salary rate, without loss of seniority and benefits.

15.05 Method of Making Appointments

In making promotions, transfers and demotions, the applicant with the greatest seniority and required qualifications to perform the job applied for shall be awarded the position. The Board shall determine seniority and qualifications in a fair and equitable manner.

An employee who is bypassed in favour of a less senior employee to fill the vacant job shall be notified in writing as to the reason the employee was not accepted.

15.06 Indigenous Support Services Worker

Due to the unique requirements of the position, additional special provisions will apply with respect to the posting and selection process for the position of Indigenous Support Services Worker as follows:

- (a) Priority will be given to candidates who are of Indigenous heritage and who have a working knowledge of the local Indigenous culture and traditions.
- (b) Any appointment will be subject to the approval from the Indigenous Education Council.
- (c) This clause will also apply to an employee wishing to exercise their bumping rights as per Article 16.02 into an Indigenous Support Services Worker position.
- (d) Any employee appearing before the Indigenous Education Council has the right to have a Union Representative attend with them.

15.07 Dual Role Positions

As of July 1, 2020, if a dual role position is posted as one job, all hours will be paid at the higher rate of pay.

ARTICLE 16 LAYOFFS AND RECALLS

16.01 Role of Seniority in Layoffs

Both Parties recognize that job security shall increase in proportion to length of service. In the event of a layoff the Board shall notify the incumbent employee and the Union when their position is subject to layoff.

A layoff shall be defined as a reduction in assigned regular hours in excess of twenty-five (25) percent.

When the employees' hours of work have been reduced the employee has the option of retaining the position with the reduced hours.

Where there are two (2) or more identical positions at the same work site the position laid off shall be the person(s) with the least seniority.

16.02 Bumping Rights

Employees notified of a layoff may exercise their seniority rights to bump other employees, other than a Special Education Assistant or Education Assistant, with less seniority provided the employee exercising the right has the necessary qualifications to perform the duties of the position held by the less senior employee. Subsequent to receipt of a layoff letter, the employee shall notify the Board in writing within three (3) working days, of their intention to bump. The Board shall provide a list of possible positions available to the laid off employee which includes position hours of work and worksite.

A Special Education Assistant or Education Assistant who has received a layoff notice during the school year may only bump a less senior person in the same

job classification the following September if that Special Education Assistant or Education Assistant did not get an assignment and was unsuccessful in applying for posted vacancies.

The Board reserves the right to deny an employee to bump into a Special Needs Assistant position if this would create a negative impact on the students served or the program to which the employee is assigned.

The Board reserves the right to deny an employee to bump into a Strong Start Coordinator position if this would create a negative impact on the Strong Start Program.

16.03 Recall Procedure

Employees shall be recalled in the order of their seniority, provided they are qualified to do the regular work available.

16.04 Special Education Assistant Recall

Special Education Assistants returning to work after the summer will return to the position they held in the previous June. Where their original position does not exist anymore, Special Education Assistants may apply for any posted vacancies. Where a Special Education Assistant is unsuccessful in obtaining any posted position and no further jobs are available, the Special Education Assistant will be laid off.

16.05 No New Employees

No new employees shall be hired until those laid off have been given an opportunity of recall.

16.06 Notice of Lay-off

The Board agrees to notify regular employees and the Union of layoffs in accordance with the following periods of notice:

- (a) Two (2) weeks' notice where the employee has completed a period of employment of at least six (6) consecutive months, and
- (b) Three (3) weeks' notice where the employee has completed a period of employment of two (2) years, and
- (c) After the completion of a period of employment of three (3) consecutive years, one (1) additional week of notice, and for each subsequent completed year of employment, an additional week of notice up to a maximum of eight weeks' notice.
- (d) If an employee has not had the opportunity to work the days as provided in this Article, the employee shall be paid for the days for which work was not available.

ARTICLE 17 HOURS OF WORK

17.01 Regular Workday and Work Week

(a) <u>Education Assistant / Human Service Worker / Indigenous Support Service Worker / Strong Start Coordinator</u>

The regular workday shall consist of a scheduled period of up to seven (7) hours of work between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., plus a one-half hour ($\frac{1}{2}$) or one (1) hour unpaid interval for a meal.

(b) Clerical

The regular workday shall consist of a scheduled period of seven (7) hours of work between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., plus a one-half hour (½) or one (1) hour unpaid interval for a meal.

(c) Maintenance

The regular workday for day shift maintenance employees shall be eight (8) consecutive hours per day, forty (40) hours per week, plus a one-half hour (1/2) or one (1) hour unpaid interval for a meal.

The non-instructional workday for maintenance employees during school breaks may be ten (10) consecutive hours per day, forty (40) hours per week, plus a one-half hour (1/2) or one (1) hour unpaid interval for a meal. Exclusions may include maintenance clerical, mechanics and the bus washing student.

(d) Custodial

The regular workday for custodial employees shall be eight (8) consecutive hours per day, forty (40) hours per week inclusive of a one-half hour (½) period for a meal to be taken on the job.

(e) Bus Drivers

Bus Drivers shall be paid a minimum of four (4) hours pay per driving day. The four (4) hours must be spent on the job in actual driving time and/or other duties as may be assigned.

(f) Regular Work Week

The regular work week shall consist of five (5) such days, Monday to Friday inclusive. The regular work week may be varied by mutual agreement between the Parties.

(g) Theatre Technician

The Theatre Technician is expected to work flexible hours, including weekends and evenings up to the established hours within the following parameters:

- Overtime will be paid after ten (10) hours per day or forty (40) hours per week.
- The overtime rate will be one and a half (1 and ½) times the hourly rate for the first three (3) hours and two (2) times the hourly rate thereafter.

The average number of hours has been established at twenty (20) hours per week, however, the actual hours may fluctuate depending on the need at the theatre.

17.02 Paid Rest Periods

All employees shall be permitted a fifteen (15) minute rest period during each continuous work period of three hours or more.

17.03 Where No Work Is Available

A regular full-time employee or a regular part-time employee starting work on their regularly scheduled shift in any day and being sent home before the employee has completed four (4) hours work, shall be paid for the lesser of four (4) hours or the length of the regularly scheduled shift at their regular rate of pay.

In the event that an employee reports for work but is sent home before commencing work on their regularly scheduled shift, the employee shall be paid for the lesser of two (2) hours or the length of the regularly scheduled shift at their regular rate of pay, unless the employee was advised by the Board not to report to work.

17.04 Assignment of Extra Work

The Parties agree that extra work which is normally performed within the Bargaining Unit will be first offered by seniority to qualified employees, who are within the same building location.

Part-time employees shall be given available opportunities to perform extra hours of work, including temporary replacements, to reach a regular work day or week, before calling a casual employee or hiring new employees.

The assignment of extra work will not include that which would normally be performed by qualified Bus Drivers.

17.05 Shift Differential Entitlement

Day Shift 7:00 a.m. to 3:59 p.m.

Afternoon Shift 4:00 p.m. to 10:59 p.m.

Night Shift 11:00 p.m. to 6:59 a.m.

Any employee working the majority of that employee's regular scheduled hours in a day within the shift shall be paid the appropriate shift differential for all regular hours worked that day.

17.06 Shift Changes

When it is necessary to change an employee's shift, twenty-four (24) hours prior notice shall be provided. When shifts are being changed there must be a minimum rest period of ten (10) hours between shifts. When an employee does not receive the minimum rest period, the employee shall be paid at overtime rates of pay for all hours worked on the subsequent shift.

17.07 Redistribution of Custodial Work

The Board agrees that where it implements a reduction or an increase in hours of work in a Board building it shall redistribute the necessary work so as to recognize Bargaining Unit wide seniority.

17.08 Determination of Education Assistant Hours

The Board shall endeavour to establish Education Assistant hours on or before September 30th of each year.

17.09 Special Education Assistants / Education Assistants

When a student, who is assigned to a Special Education Assistant / Education Assistant, is temporarily absent, the affected Special Education Assistant / Education Assistant shall receive direction from their Supervisor and will be provided alternate work.

Special Education Assistants / Education Assistants shall not assume any direct instructional responsibility for providing educational programs but may assist in:

- (a) Providing assistance to individual students and groups of students.
- (b) Maintaining student records.
- (c) The supervision of students.

Special Education Assistants / Education Assistants are under the general supervision of the school Principal.

17.10 Education Assistant Time

Time required for Education Assistant to complete assigned duties will be included within the time allocated for the position.

17.11 Indigenous Support Services Worker

This is a ten (10) month position and is subject to all provisions of this Collective Agreement as they apply to Special Education Assistant / Education Assistant positions.

The Indigenous Support Services Worker shall be under the direct supervision of the District Principal of Indigenous Education and report to the school principals of students served.

17.12 Four (4) Hour Minimum Work Day

The Employer is committed to providing a minimum of four (4) hours of work a day for a regular employee reporting for work.

Exemptions from the Four (4) hour minimum:

- (a) Noon/ Morning/ Bus/ Playground Supervisors/ Custodians
- (b) Other positions by mutual agreement

The Parties agree that, having regard to the unique nature of the position of Strong Start Coordinator, the needs of the program and the requirement for flexibility in scheduling hours of work outside of the hours of operation of the Strong Start Center, the four (4) hour minimum shift shall be interpreted as an average four (4) hours.

The four (4) hours shall be consecutive but may be interrupted by a lunch period not to exceed one (1) hour.

Bus Drivers are exempt from the requirement for consecutive hours. The daily hours shall be completed within a period of twelve (12) consecutive hours.

Where posting is required, additional hours of less than four (4) hours may be posted as "additional hours" and are available to employees who are able to accept the hours in addition to their current assignment. Where posting is not required, additional hours shall be assigned per the Collective Agreement.

ARTICLE 18 OVERTIME

18.01 Overtime Entitlement

All overtime work as directed and approved by the Supervisor shall be paid as follows:

- (a) For the purpose of calculating overtime, overtime shall be paid on all hours worked over (a) seven (7) hours per day for Clerical and Education Assistants, (b) eight (8) hours per day for all others, or (c) over thirty-five (35) hours in a week for Clerical and Education Assistants, (d) over forty (40) hours in a week for all other employees.
- (b) All time worked over the regular work day shall be paid for at time and one-half (1 1/2) the regular rate for the first three (3) hours of overtime worked in any one day, and double (2) the regular rate thereafter until the commencement of the employee's next scheduled shift.
- (c) Overtime work on Saturday or the first day of rest in the case of shift work, shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half (1 1/2) the employee's regular rate for the first three (3) hours worked and two (2) times the regular rate thereafter.
- (d) Overtime work on Sunday or the second day of rest in the case of shift work, shall be paid at the rate of two (2) times the regular rate of the employee.

18.02 Overtime for Part-time Employees

A part-time employee working less than the regular working hours per day shall not qualify for overtime rates until the regular hours have been exceeded.

18.03 Time Off in Lieu of Overtime

Instead of cash payment for overtime an employee may request to receive time off at the appropriate overtime rate at a mutually agreeable time.

In the event time off cannot be operationally accommodated by August 31 following the date the overtime was worked, payment will be made in cash on August 31. In the case of ten-month employees, cash payment will be made on June 30.

18.04 Compensation for Work on Paid Holidays

If an employee is required to work on a statutory or public holiday, the employee shall be paid at double (2) their regular hourly rate, plus be given another day off with pay at a mutually agreeable date in lieu of the statutory holiday.

18.05 Call Out Pay Guarantee

An employee, who is called out to work outside their regular working hours, shall be paid for a minimum of three (3) hours at overtime rates.

ARTICLE 19 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

19.01 Statutory Holidays Recognized

An eligible employee shall be entitled to a holiday with pay at their regular rate for each of the following statutory holidays:

New Year's Day Labour Day

Family Day Truth and Reconciliation Day

Good Friday Thanksgiving Day
Easter Monday Remembrance Day
Victoria Day Christmas Day
Canada Day Boxing Day

B.C Day

and any day proclaimed by the Federal, Provincial or Municipal government as a holiday and any special school holiday proclaimed by the Minister of Education, except where the statutory holiday falls within a period during which the employee is on a leave of absence without pay.

Only employees regularly working within the municipal boundary shall be entitled to a municipal holiday.

In the event that the Provincial government declares Truth and Reconciliation Day as a different day than the Federal Government, the Parties agree to observe the Provincially declared statutory day of recognition.

19.02 Eligibility

- (a) A regular employee shall be eligible for each of the statutory holidays.
- (b) A ten (10) month employee shall be eligible for each of the statutory holidays falling within their period of employment.
- (c) A casual employee shall be eligible for a statutory holiday provided the employee has completed fifteen (15) days of work within the thirty (30)
- (d) An employee who works less than full days or full weeks shall have their statutory holiday prorated on the basis of hours worked per week relative to a full-time employee.

19.03 Statutory Holidays During Time Off

When any of the above-mentioned holidays fall on an employee's scheduled day off, or is observed during an employee's vacation period, the employee shall receive another day off with pay at a time mutually agreed upon between the employee and the Board.

19.04 When a Holiday Falls on a Non-Working Day

If a statutory or public holiday should fall on a non-working day, the Board shall declare that the working day immediately preceding the holiday or the working day immediately following the holiday or any other day mutually agreed to, shall be observed in lieu of the holiday. Should the Provincial Government choose another date, then that date shall be observed.

ARTICLE 20 VACATIONS

20.01 Length of Vacations

A regular employee shall receive an annual vacation with pay in accordance with their years of employment as set out below. The time entitlement is as set out and the vacation pay shall be based on the percentage of annual gross earnings.

It is understood that leaves without pay, increased hours, overtime, etc., may mean that an employee's vacation pay may be more or less than the employee's regular pay for the vacation period.

Schedule:

Less than 1 year of employment	1 ¼ working days for each month to a maximum of 15 days	6% of annual earnings
In the 2 nd year of employment and each year thereafter	15 working days	6% of annual earnings
In the 6 th year of employment and each year thereafter	20 working days	8% of annual earnings
In the 13 th year of employment and each year thereafter	25 working days	10% of annual earnings
In the 21st year of employment and each year thereafter	30 working days	12% of annual earnings

Vacations shall be taken in the year in which they are earned.

A casual employee shall be entitled to 4% vacation pay, to be paid in the period in which it is earned.

The vacation year shall be September 1st to August 31st annually.

20.02 Leaving Board Service

(a) An employee leaving the service of the Board before the employee has taken their vacation shall be entitled to a proportionate payment of wages in lieu of such vacation. An employee leaving the service of the Board after the employee has taken their vacation may be required to repay a proportionate amount. A deceased employee's estate shall be credited with the value of vacation credits owing them.

(b) A regular employee, who terminates their service before completing one (1) year of service, shall only receive four percent (4%) vacation pay.

20.03 Vacation Period

Vacations shall be taken at a mutually agreeable time arranged between the Board and the employee subject to operational requirements. In the event of conflicting vacation date preferences, the choice shall be determined in accordance with seniority. Except as otherwise provided in this Collective Agreement, an employee is entitled to schedule their vacation in one (1) continuous period. Requests for vacation leave not consistent with (a) and (b) below, may be approved through application to the Secretary Treasurer.

(a) Ten (10) Month Employees

These employees will take their annual vacations during Winter and Spring Breaks when the schools are closed in accordance with the school calendar as approved by the Board.

Employees entitled to additional days will take them after the end of the school year and receive any remaining accrued holiday pay in the last pay period prior to June 15.

(b) Twelve (12) Month Employees

- (i) <u>Clerical:</u> At least three (3) weeks annual vacations will be granted during July and August.
- (ii) <u>Maintenance:</u> At least three (3) weeks annual vacations will be granted during July and August.
- (iii) <u>Custodians:</u> Custodians will normally take at least four (4) weeks of their holiday entitlement during July and August. However, a Custodian may request to displace any casual employee doing extra work during July and August in order to reschedule up to two (2) weeks of their vacation to another time during the school year.

20.04 Approved Leaves During Vacation

Where an employee qualifies for sick leave, bereavement, or any other approved leave during their period of vacation, there shall be no deduction from vacation credits for such absence. The period of vacation so displaced shall either be added to the vacation period or reinstated for use at a later date as mutually agreed.

20.05 Vacation Carry Over

All employees are expected to schedule and use their vacation entitlement in the year it is accrued. Employees who wish to request up to five (5) days carry over, will make their request in writing, by August 31st.

Application for carry over request will be made to Human Resources Administrator. Responses to such requests will be issued via email to employees within ten (10) business days and a copy to the Union.

20.06 Vacation Year End Pay Out

Any monies left in vacation accrual, except any amount permitted to be carried over consistent with Article 20.05, shall be paid out annually in September.

ARTICLE 21 SICK LEAVE

21.01 Sick Leave Defined

- (a) "Sick Leave" means the period of time a regular employee is permitted to be absent from work with or without pay, by virtue of sickness, unavoidable quarantine, while enrolled in a recognized treatment centre for substance abuse or accident for which compensation is not payable under Worksafe BC.
- (b) Regular part-time employees shall accrue sick leave prorated in accordance with hours of work per month relative to hours of work of a regular full-time employee.

21.02 Accumulation of Sick Leave

Sick leave shall be granted to regular employees on the basis of one and one-half (1 1/2) days for every month of service. On January 1st of every year the Board will deposit to the credit of the employee the sick leave entitlement for the whole of that year. Any credit not earned in service shall be recovered from the employee. The unused portion of an employee's sick leave shall accrue for their future benefits to a maximum of one hundred and twenty (120) days. A deduction shall be made from accumulated sick leave of all normal working days (exclusive of statutory holidays) absent for sick leave.

21.03 Sick Leave During Leave or Layoff

When an employee is given leave of absence for any reason or is laid off on account of lack of work, the employee shall not receive sick leave credits for the period of such absence but shall retain their cumulative credit, if any, existing at the time of such layoff.

21.04 Extension of Sick Leave

- (a) An employee who has exhausted their sick leave credits or does not qualify for sick leave with pay shall be allowed up to one (1) year's leave of absence without pay. At the end of one (1) year, an extension may be granted by the Board.
- (b) An employee who is on leave under the provision of this Article may maintain benefit coverage under Articles 25.01 and 25.03 provided the employee pays 100% of the cost. These benefit costs must be prepaid by the employee in order to maintain enrolment.

(c) An employee who returns to work within one (1) year of medical leave shall return to the position held prior to the leave. An employee absent for more than one (1) year may use their seniority to bid on postings.

21.05 Proof of Illness

An employee may be required to produce a certificate from a duly qualified medical practitioner for any illness in excess of three (3) consecutive days or after five (5) absences due to illness have been taken in the last year. The Board shall pay for medical certificates upon presentation of a receipt.

21.06 Sick Leave Records

A record of all unused sick leave will be kept by the Board. An employee is to be advised on application of the amount of sick leave accrued to their credit.

21.07 Illness in the Family

Where an immediate member of the family of an employee, who lives in the residence of the employee, becomes ill, an employee may be entitled after notifying their Supervisor to use up to three (3) days of their accumulated sick leave, per illness, to provide the care required.

21.08 Payment of Unused Sick Leave

An employee entitled to sick leave under this Article shall receive, upon termination of employment, the following percentum of their unused accumulated sick leave after a minimum of ten (10) years continuous service:

25% of unused sick leave after 10 years of service;

40% of unused sick leave after 15 years of service;

60% of unused sick leave after 20 years of service.

Payment of unused sick leave as entitled will be made to the estate in case of death of an employee.

ARTICLE 22 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

22.01 Union Business

The Board agrees to grant time off without pay during any working day to officers of the Union in the employ of the Board for Union business purposes.

This shall include release time for the President or designate of the Union for the purpose of conducting Union business. The amount of release time shall be determined annually by the local and requests for such leave shall be in writing to the Employer no later than September 30.

Where the Board is unable to adequately fill the resulting part-time position, the release time may be cancelled at any time.

22.02 Grievance Pay Provisions

The Board agrees that time spent in settling grievances during regular working hours, pursuant to Article 11 or 12 hereof by up to two (2) Union representatives shall be considered as time worked and paid at regular rates of pay.

22.03 **Negotiation Pay Provisions**

All bargaining representatives in the employ of the District shall have the privilege of attending collective bargaining meetings with the Board if held during regular working hours without loss of remuneration. In the event an employee on the bargaining committee works afternoon shifts, they shall attend bargaining meetings with the Board without loss of remuneration and a replacement will be brought in to cover the shift. The Union agrees to notify the Board of the names of such employees, whose number, for the purpose of this section, shall not exceed a total of four (4) employees at any one time.

22.04 Leave of Absence for Union Functions

- (a) Upon request to the Board, two (2) employees elected or appointed to represent the Union at conventions shall be allowed leave of absence.
- (b) Upon request to the Board, employees may be granted leave of absence to attend executive and committee meetings and seminars of CUPE, its affiliated or chartered bodies and any labour organizations with which the Union is affiliated. Such leave shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- (c) An employee who is elected or selected for a full-time position with the Union, or anybody with which the Union is affiliated, shall be granted leave of absence without pay and without loss of seniority for a period of up to two (2) years.
- (d) During leave of absence for Union functions, the Board agrees to maintain the employee's regular wages and benefits. The Union shall reimburse the Board the employee's regular wage and benefit cost for such leave.

The following leaves are provided by the Employment Standards Act. For further information, and current/updated wording, please scan the QR code for a direct link to the Employment Standards Act."

22.05 Bereavement Leave

An employee shall be granted:

- Up to five (5) regularly scheduled workdays leave without loss of salary or wages, in the case of the death of a parent, foster parent, spouse (same sex, common law spouse), brother, sister, child, foster child, grandchild, grandparent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, son-in-law or daughter-in-law.
- Additional leave of absences may be granted, upon application to the Secretary Treasurer, with or without pay, including cultural obligations, travel and estate affairs.
- Any other request for bereavement leave shall be considered under Article 22.12 – General Leave.



The following leaves are provided by the Employment Standards Act. For further information, and current/updated wording, please scan the QR code for a direct link to the Employment Standards Act."

22.06 Pregnancy Leave

Pregnancy leave shall be granted in accordance with the Employment Standards Act.



The following leaves are provided by the Employment Standards Act. For further information, and current/updated wording, please scan the QR code for a direct link to the Employment Standards Act."

22.07 Adoption Leave

A period of three (3) days paid leave shall be provided for the purpose of adoption of a child. A further period of unpaid leave will be provided under the conditions specified under Article 22.08 Parental leave.



The following leaves are provided by the Employment Standards Act. For further information, and current/updated wording, please scan the QR code for a direct link to the Employment Standards Act."

22.08 Parental Leave

Parental leave shall be granted in accordance with the Employment Standards Act.



22.09 Paid Jury or Court Witness Duty Leave

The Board shall grant leave of absence to an employee who serves as a juror or as a subpoenaed court witness other than on their own behalf. The Board shall pay such an employee the difference between their normal earnings and the payment the employee receives for jury service or court witness, excluding payment for traveling, meals or other expenses. The employee will present proof of service and the amount of pay received.

22.10 Medical Care Leave

In recognition of the absence of adequate medical and dental facilities, employees shall be allowed paid leave of absence in order to engage in personal medical and dental care when the employee, or their dependents, is referred by their doctor or dentist to a medical practitioner or medical facility in another municipality. At the request of the Employer, employees may be required to show proof of medical or dental care. Such leave shall be deducted from the employee's accrued unused sick leave.

22.11 Special Leave

- (a) Employee's marriage three (3) days paid leave
- (b) Birth of employee's child three (3) days paid leave

22.12 General Leave

The Board may, upon written request, grant leave of absence with or without pay and without loss of seniority to a regular employee requesting such leave. Such leave shall not be for taking up employment elsewhere. Accepting employment elsewhere shall be cause for immediate cancellation of such leave.

22.13 Leave for Public Duties

The Board recognizes the right of employees to participate in public affairs. Upon request to the Secretary-Treasurer, an employee shall be granted leave

of absence without pay to allow that employee to stand as a candidate in federal, provincial or municipal elections.

An employee who is elected to federal or provincial office shall, upon request, be granted leave of absence without pay and without seniority accumulation during the term of office.

An employee who is elected to municipal office may be allowed leave of absence without pay during the term of office. Such leaves shall not be unreasonably withheld.

22.14 Family Responsibility Leave

Family Responsibility Leave shall be granted in accordance with the Employment Standards Act.

22.15 Compassionate Care Leave

Compassionate Care Leave shall be granted in accordance with the Employment Standards Act.

22.16 Cultural Leave for Indigenous Employees

- 1. Indigenous employees are entitled to up to two (2) days leave per school year to observe or participate in traditional Indigenous activities that connect these employees to their culture and language.
- 2. A minimum of two (2) weeks' notice is required for leave under this provision. Where two (2) weeks' notice is not possible due to the unpredictable nature of the event, then as much notice as possible shall be provided. Such leave shall not be unreasonably withheld.

The following leaves are provided by the Employment Standards Act. For further information, and current/updated wording, please scan the QR code for a direct link to the Employment Standards Act."

22.17 Disappearance of a Child

An Employee whose child under the age of 19 years who disappears and where it is probable that the disappearance is the result of a crime, the Employee is entitled to unpaid leave totaling 52 weeks to be taken within the 53 week period commencing from the date of the child's disappearance.



The following leaves are provided by the Employment Standards Act. For further information, and current/updated wording, please scan the QR code for a direct link to the Employment Standards Act."

22.18 Sexual and Domestic Violence Leave

An Employee who experiences sexual or domestic violence, including psychological or attempted violence, as well as domestic violence directed at a child or other person under the Employee's care, is entitled to five (5) days of paid leave, as well as an additional five (5) days, plus fifteen (15) weeks of unpaid leave.



The following leaves are provided by the Employment Standards Act. For further information, and current/updated wording, please scan the QR code for a direct link to the Employment Standards Act."

22.19 Voting Leave

All employees are entitled to four (4) consecutive hours free of employment on the day of a federal, provincial, or municipal election or by-election, during the hours in which the polls are open. No employee shall suffer a loss of pay in order to comply with this provision. Where an employee's normal schedule would not leave four (4) consecutive hours free of employment on an election day, the Employee is entitled to paid leave as necessary to allow four (4) consecutive hours free of employment.



ARTICLE 23 PAYMENT OF WAGES AND ALLOWANCES

23.01 Pay Days

The Board shall pay salaries and wages bi-weekly in accordance with schedules "A" and "B" attached hereto and forming part of this agreement. On each pay day each employee shall be provided with an itemized statement of their wages, overtime, and other supplementary pay and deductions. The

Board is not required to create or fill such positions set out in schedules "A" and "B".

23.02 Assignments and Substitutes

An employee who, for a period of one (1) working day or longer, is assigned to or substitutes on any job during the absence of another employee, or who performs the duties of a higher classification, shall receive, from the beginning, the higher rate of pay in the classification grid.

23.03 Pay Procedure

Employees shall receive on the last office day preceding commencement of their annual vacation any monies which may fall due during the period of their vacation, if requested by the employee at least two (2) weeks prior to commencement of the vacation.

23.04 Use of Personal Vehicle

Employees shall not be required to supply a vehicle to perform their duties as a condition of employment.

23.05 Personal Care Allowance

The Parties agree to a two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) per hour allowance to Special Education Assistants or Education Assistants working with students identified for funding purposes within the Ministry defined categories of autistic, severe to profound and/or multi-handicapped students for the hours they are assigned to these students.

Personal care tasks shall be defined as tasks that require the Special Education Assistant / Education Assistant to follow the routine practices/standards precaution approach to preventing the spread of infectious disease.

The tasks include the management of bodily functions and exposure to bodily fluids.

An "approved student" shall be identified by the Parties using an agreed upon criteria of a student's needs. When considering what students qualify for personal care support, all of the following criteria will apply:

- The student is designated in a funded Ministry education special needs category.
- The personal care needs of the student will expose the Special Education Assistant / Education Assistant to bodily fluids.
- The age of the student and/or cognitive ability are factors in determining the extent of the student's personal care needs.
- The student's personal care needs are indicated on the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- Exceptional circumstance will be determined by the District Principal of Learner Support Services.

ARTICLE 24 JOB CLASSIFICATION AND RECLASSIFICATION

24.01 Classification Changes and New Positions

When duties in any classification are substantially changed, or when a new position is created, the rate of pay shall be subject to negotiation between the Parties. If the Parties are unable to agree as to the classification and/or rate of pay of the job in question, such dispute shall be submitted to arbitration in accordance with Article 12 of this Agreement. The new rate shall become retroactive to the time the position was first filled by an employee

ARTICLE 25 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

25.01 Health Plans

The Board and the employees shall share the cost of the following plans for those regular employees who have completed their probationary period and do not have other similar coverage:

- (a) B.C. Government Medical Plan Board pays 100% of the premium;
- (b) Extended Health Benefit Plan Board pays 100% of the premium;
- (c) Dental Plan, which provides 90% A, 60% B and 60% C, maximum \$1,500.00. Board pays 90% of the premium;
- (d) Medical Travel Benefits (Extended Health Benefit Plan Supplement) Board pays 100% of the premium.

25.02 Municipal Pension Plan

All eligible employees covered by the Agreement shall participate in and be covered by the provisions of the Municipal Pension Plan.

25.03 Group Life Insurance

All eligible regular employees who have completed their probationary period will, as a condition of employment, be covered under the terms and conditions of the PEBT Life Insurance Plan or equivalent with benefits at two (2) times salary - Board pays 100% of the premium.

The Union will be given an opportunity to verify that a new plan is equivalent prior to its being changed.

25.04 Workers' Compensation Pay Supplement

An employee prevented from performing their regular work with the Board on account of an occupational accident that is recognized by WorkSafe BC as compensable within the meaning of the Act, shall upon request receive from the Board the difference between the amount payable by WorkSafe BC and their regular salary. Such difference shall be deducted from the employee's accumulated sick leave, provided the employee has such benefits to their credit. Should the employee have no sick leave to their credit, then the employee shall be entitled only to the amount paid by WorkSafe BC.

25.05 Continuation of Benefits

An employee receiving the benefits under Articles 25.01 and 25.03 shall continue to do so at regular sharing rates for the premiums during the summer months, provided the regular assignment of the employee is on the basis of ten (10) months a year and provided the employee returns to the job in September.

25.06 Long Term Disability

- (a) The Board agrees to administer a Union sponsored Long Term Disability Plan for eligible employees. The Plan and the carrier shall be determined by the Union.
- (b) Upon completion of the probation period, all regular employees working fifteen (15) or more hours per week and not otherwise covered by a wage loss replacement plan shall participate in the Plan as a condition of employment.
- (c) The Board agrees to deduct the premium from the earnings of each enrolled employee and forward the premiums and required reports once a month to the carrier of the Plan with a copy to the Union.

25.07 Death Benefits

In the event of the death of an employee, their benefits will remain in effect for three (3) months following the month in which the death occurred. The employee's salary will continue for two (2) pay periods at regular rates without any bonuses following the pay period in which the death occurred.

25.08 Pre-Retirement Counselling

The Employer agrees to provide two (2) unpaid days to the members of Local 2145 for a seminar for pre-retirement counselling purposes.

25.09 Employee Assistance Plan

All regular employees with a continuing appointment of fifteen (15) hours per week or more will be included in a mutually agreeable Employee Assistance Plan. The Board will pay sixty percent (60%) and the employee will pay forty percent (40%) of the premium cost for the plan.

25.10 Benefits Trust

The Parties have agreed to participate in the Public Education Benefits Trust (PEBT) and to place their dental, extended health and group life insurance coverage specified in this Article with the PEBT.

The Parties have further agreed to participate in the government funded "Core" long-term disability plan and the Joint Early Intervention Service provided through the PEBT.

ARTICLE 26 HEALTH AND SAFETY

26.01 Clothing

The Board shall provide and clean all protective clothing, coveralls and gloves as required. The Board shall provide reimbursement of up to two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per school year (upon submission of receipt) for work clothing, to regular maintenance employees.

For Special Education Assistants / Education Assistants when accompanying students in the pool as a requirement of their assignment, employees will be compensated yearly for necessary swimwear. The Board shall provide reimbursement of up to one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per school year (upon submission of receipt).

26.02 Boot Allowance

As of July 1, 2020, all regular employees required to wear safety boots in accordance with WorkSafe BC regulations applicable to their worksite, shall be entitled to reimbursement up to a maximum four hundred dollars (\$400.00) every year upon submission of receipt.

26.03 Injury Pay Provisions

An employee who is injured during working hours and is required to leave for treatment or is sent home as a result of such injury shall receive payment for the remainder of the shift at their regular rate of pay, without deduction from sick leave, unless a doctor or nurse states that the employee is fit for further work on that shift. An employee who has received payment under this section shall receive pay for time necessarily spent for further medical treatment of the injury during regularly scheduled working hours, subsequent to the day of the accident.

26.04 Transportation of Accident Victims

Transportation to the nearest physician or hospital for employees requiring medical care as a result of an accident shall be at the expense of the Board.

26.05 Health and Safety Committee

A District Health and Safety Committee shall be established as follows:

The Committee shall be composed of not fewer than six (6) members chosen by and representing the Teachers' Association, the Employer and CUPE equally.

Terms of Reference for the Committee:

- (a) meet monthly, except July and August to discuss safety-related matters;
- (b) circulate and post committee minutes at each work site;
- (c) promote safety in the district through the distribution of information;
- (d) provide recommendations for any safety awareness program;

- (e) perform safety inspections in all district buildings, work and play areas;
- (f) make recommendations for enhancing safety with respect to procedures, equipment, buildings vehicles, etc.;
- (g) provide assistance to school safety committees in the investigation of safety-related accidents

26.06 Violence in the Workplace

The Parties agree that the School District 54 will work towards a safe working environment that includes procedures to eliminate or minimize the risk of workplace violence in accordance with WorkSafe BC Regulations and in support of the Provincial Framework Agreement.

Further, the Parties agree to meet, develop and implement a Joint District process to distribute information regarding Violence in the Workplace.



ARTICLE 27 TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

27.01 Definition

"Technological change" means

- (a) The introduction by the Board of a change in their work, undertaking or business, or a change in their equipment or material from the equipment or material previously used by the Board in their work, undertaking or business; or
- (b) Change in the manner the Board carries on their work, undertaking or business (related to the introduction of that equipment or material).

27.02 Advance Notice

Three (3) months before the introduction of technological change the Board shall notify the Union of the proposed change. The Parties will meet to discuss the changes.

27.03 Income Protection and Transfers

A regular employee who is displaced as a result of technological change shall be offered an opportunity to bid on jobs held by employees with less seniority, providing the displaced employee possesses the qualifications required of the job held by the junior employee.

An employee placed in a lower-rated position as a result of technological change shall not have their wages reduced but shall continue to receive their

old rate until such time as the agreement rate for their new position is equal to their actual rate of pay.

An employee whose services are terminated by the Board because of technological change shall be entitled to severance pay equivalent to one (1) week's pay for each year of service.

27.04 Training Benefits

Where new or greater skills are required than those already possessed by affected employees, where feasible such employees shall, at the expense of the Board, be given a reasonable period of time, during which they may perfect or acquire the skills necessitated by the technological change. There shall be no reduction in salary or benefits during the training period and no reduction in pay upon being reclassified in the new position.

ARTICLE 28 GENERAL CONDITIONS

28.01 Courses of Instruction

The Board agrees to pay the full cost of any course of instruction required and approved by the Board for any employee to better qualify the employee to perform their job. Such payment shall be made upon the successful completion of the course.

28.02 Sexual Harassment / Bullying and Harassment

The Parties agree that an employee has the right to work in an environment free of harassment in accordance with Provincial and Federal legislation.

Sexual harassment is defined as:

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. It is sexual harassment if someone repeatedly says or does things to you that are insulting and offensive. It can be words or actions that are sex or gender related.

Bullying and harassment is defined as:

- (a) Includes any inappropriate conduct or comment by a person towards a worker that the person knew or reasonably ought to have known would cause that worker to be humiliated or intimidated, but
- (b) Excludes any reasonable action taken by an Employer or Supervisor relating to the management and direction of workers or the place of employment.



28.03 Bulletin Boards

The Board shall supply bulletin boards in the schools, Board office and maintenance shops so that the Union may post information of interest to its members.

28.04 Contracting Out

No regular employee shall be laid off or have their hours reduced as a consequence of contracting out work normally performed by members of the Bargaining Unit. This Article shall also apply to Article 17.04.

28.05 Driver Records

Any employee involved in the transportation of students may be required, from time to time, to produce a current driving record. Such request will normally not be made more than once every year unless serious concerns arise about the employee's driving habits.

28.06 Medical Procedures

Employees required to perform routine medical procedures shall be given childspecific training in accordance with the Inter-Ministerial Protocol and any updates thereto. A copy of the record of such training shall be maintained by the Board.

28.07 Administration of Medication

An employee will normally not be required to administer medication to a student unless the following conditions are met:

- (a) The medication is required while the child is attending school.
- (b) A parent has requested the school's assistance and has signed a waiver concerning administration of the medication by the school or a district employee.
- (c) The employee has received training/demonstration concerning the administration of the medication.
- (d) A medication log is maintained documenting the administration of the medication.

28.08 Internal Mail

The Union shall have access to the District mail service and employee mailboxes for communication to Union members, free of charge, provided any increased volume does not add extra costs to the Employer.

28.09 Meal Allowance

Any employee required to work outside of their scheduled work area on the business of the Board shall receive reimbursement for meals, up to the maximum set in Board Policy, upon submission of receipts to their Supervisor.

28.10 Appeals Under the Schools Act

- (a) Where a pupil or parent/guardian files an appeal under the School Act (Section 11), upon receipt of notice of appeal, the employee and the Union shall be notified, be provided with a copy of the notice of appeal and have the opportunity to provide a written reply to any allegations contained in the appeal.
- (b) The employee shall be entitled to attend any meeting in connection with the appeal where the appellant is present and shall have the right to representation by the Union.
- (c) The Board shall not make a decision on an appeal unless the employee concerned has had an opportunity to present their side of the issue to the Board.
- (d) Decisions of the Board relative to such appeals shall be communicated to all parties forthwith.

28.11 Professional Development

The Parties agree that employees may participate without loss of pay in two (2) District scheduled Professional Development days.

Further, the Parties agree that as of July 1, 2022, monies from the Service Improvement Fund, not to exceed \$12,000, will be allocated to the existing Professional Development funds.

The Parties will consult and agree on the implementation of Professional Development funds.

28.12 Local Bargaining Funding

The Parties agree that the Local Bargaining Funds, as referenced in item 6 of the Provincial Framework Agreement, shall be allocated as follows effective July 1, 2022:

The District is under no obligation to expend more than the Service Improvement Allocation of \$40,000 in year (1) one, \$50,000 in year two (2) and \$60,000 in year three (3).

Further, the Parties agree that the \$39,748 surplus accrued in the 2019-2022 Service Improvement Fund be carried over for spending in the 2022-2025 Service Improvement Fund.

28.13 No Harassment or Discrimination

Non Derogation

For greater certainty, nothing in this agreement shall be construed so as to abrogate or derogate from the protection provided for existing Indigenous or treaty rights of the Indigenous peoples of Canada by the recognition and affirmation of those rights in section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

ARTICLE 29 GENERAL

29.01 Plural and Gender-Neutral Language May Apply

This Agreement will reflect gender neutral language. Whenever the singular is used in this Agreement, it shall be considered as if the plural has been used where the context so requires.

29.02 Access to Information

- (a) The Board shall provide the Union with an employee list containing the following information, no later than October 31 each year:
 - name
 - mailing/ email address
 - home telephone/cell number
 - work site
 - position or classification
- (b) The Board shall furnish copies of agendas and minutes of public Board meetings, annual audited financial statements, and the preliminary and final budget as approved by the Board.

29.03 Copy of Agreement

The Board shall provide members of the Bargaining Unit with an electronic copy of the Collective Agreement within sixty (60) working days after ratification.

The Employer shall provide and maintain two (2) printed copies of the Collective Agreement at all School District #54 sites.

The format of the Collective Agreement shall be agreed on by the Parties.

The Employer will provide ten (10) additional copies of the Collective Agreement to the Union.

29.04 Indemnification

The Board shall indemnify and save harmless all employees covered by this agreement from any claim or action brought against the employee as a result of the lawful performance of their duties, provided that the employee shall first obtain written approval from the Board as to their choice of legal counsel and shall have provided the Board with full particulars of the alleged offense within a reasonable time after the charge has been laid against the employee.

29.05 Work Experience Placements

The Parties agree that the following guidelines for the placement of work experience participants apply:

- 1. CUPE members' participation is voluntary.
- 2. Work experience students shall not be used to avoid bringing in replacement workers.

- The Board shall not make any work experience placements that would result in the displacement of a regular or casual employee, to replace an employee who is on lay-off, or to replace workers during a labour relations dispute.
- 4. If concerns arise which cannot be resolved by the Parties, such placements shall be terminated.
- 5. All work experience programs involving CUPE employees must be approved in writing by the Board, the Union and the employee involved in the placement using a Work Experience Placement form as agreed between the Parties.

ARTICLE 30 TERM OF AGREEMENT

30.01 Duration

This Agreement shall be binding and remain in effect from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 and shall continue from year to year thereafter unless either Party gives to the other Party notice to commence collective bargaining in accordance with the Labour Relations Board.

Approved and Adopted by: THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES S This24 th day ofJanuary_,2023 THE CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EM This12 th day ofDecember,2	
Signed on Behalf of: The Board of School Trustees of School District No. 54 (Bulkley Valley)	Signed on Behalf of: The Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 2145
Jennifer Williams, Chairperson	Cindy O'Halligan, President, Local 2145
Dave Margerm, Secretary-Treasurer	Lynda Coralea Thomas, National Representative

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #1

between

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY) and

CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES LOCAL 2145

Re: Deferred Salary Leave Plan

- 1. "Committee" refers to the Board Finance Committee and two appointees of the Union.
- 2. "Eligible Employee" means a member of CUPE Local 2145.
- 3. Position on Return

On return from their leave of absence, the employee will be assigned to the position with the Board which the employee held prior to taking the leave of absence, providing such a position still exists. If the position has been made redundant because of changing circumstances, technological, financial or other, the employee will be offered a position similar to that which was held prior to the leave. It is recognized by the Parties that this may result in bumping.

4. Fringe Benefits

During a leave of absence, the participant is obliged to pay the total cost of any benefits. The Board shall pay such costs on behalf of the participant on their request, and deduct the monies so paid from the monies otherwise payable to the participant during the leave of absence.

5. Sick Leave

Sick leave credits will be in accordance with the current Collective Agreement but will not accrue or be available during the leave of absence. Upon return from leave, the employee will have the previously unused sick leave credited to their account.

6. Superannuation and U.I.C.

The Board will make superannuation deductions required by the Municipal Pension Plan. The participant shall be responsible for the employee and Employer shares of Canada Pension Plan and Unemployment Insurance Commission premiums, if such payment is required by the Government.

7. Seniority

Seniority shall accrue during the leave of absence; however, it is agreed that no salary increments will be earned by a participant during the period of leave of absence.

8. It shall be understood that the year of leave may commence on January 1, rather than July 1, at the discretion of the employee, and further, by mutual consent of the employee and the Board, the year of leave may commence at any given time.

SIGNED THISDAY OF	February, 2020
FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SD #54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)	FOR CUPE LOCAL 2145
Dave Margerm, Secretary Treasurer	Rolanda Lavallee President

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #2

BETWEEN

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

and

CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, LOCAL 2145

Re: Job Descriptions/Job Evaluation

The Parties agreed in 1995 to undertake a process to comply with the PSEC Pay Equity Program. The Parties agreed on the ratings and the value of jobs within the Bargaining Unit as required by the PSEC policy. The Parties also agreed that they would jointly write job descriptions. Letters of Understanding for these items are included in the Collective Agreement.

The PSEC policy requires that there be an on-going mutually agreed to gender neutral job evaluation plan. The Parties agree that the previously agreed to plan should be the one used by the Parties to resolve job evaluation issues.

To that end the Parties agree to the following process to be completed no later than July 1, 2007:

- 1. The Parties will jointly identify the documents that make up the current job evaluation plan and ensure they are complete.
- 2. The Parties will write job descriptions based on the duties and responsibilities of the positions evaluated during the pay equity review and process. These job descriptions and the job evaluation plan shall be used as the basis for the Maintenance Plan for the Job Evaluation Program.
- 3. If the Employer wishes to include duties, responsibilities and qualifications not previously valued, then the Parties will rate these revised jobs at the time that they write the job descriptions. There will be no retroactive adjustment to the wage assigned to the revised jobs. The new rates of pay (if any) will be effective July 1, 2007.
- 4. The Parties agree, provided items #1-3 are completed by July 1, 2007, to the following job evaluation maintenance plan effective July 1, 2007.

Maintenance Plan for the Job Evaluation Program

There will be a Joint Job Evaluation Committee, (the Committee) made up of two (2) representatives from the Employer and two (2) representatives from the Union.

The role of the Committee will be to administer the job evaluation plan. Either Party may engage advisors to assist them in this process. Any costs of an advisor will be borne by the Party engaging the advisor.

It is understood and agreed that authority for determining and assigning duties, responsibilities and qualifications rests solely with the Employer.

(a) Revised positions:

Where an employee or Supervisor believe that the duties and/or responsibilities of the position have substantially changed, the changes will be forwarded in writing to the Committee for review provided that at least twelve (12) months have passed since the position was last reviewed. The Committee shall then review the agreed upon job description and if it is no longer an accurate reflection of the duties, responsibilities and qualifications of the position, the Committee will write a new job description based on information obtained by the Committee as a result of its investigation. The Committee shall rate the position only if the job description is changed.

Any changes to the rate of pay will be set by the Committee and will be consistent with the terms, conditions and ratings of the existing job evaluation plan and pay equity plan.

If there is a change in the rate of pay as a result of this process, the new rate of pay shall commence with the first full pay period following the receipt of the written request for review.

(b) New positions:

Any new position created by the Employer (not covered by a recognized job description) shall have an interim rate of pay set by the Employer. After the incumbent(s) have been in the new position(s) for six (6) months, the Committee will review the new position and rate the position using the job evaluation plan. If the rating results in a higher rate of pay than the interim rate, the incumbent(s) shall be paid the higher rate of pay retroactive to the start date in the new position. If the rating results in a rate of pay lower than the interim rate, the incumbent(s) shall be paid the lower rate of pay commencing with the start of the next full pay period following the date of written notification to the incumbent(s).

(c) Five (5) year review:

Notwithstanding a) and b), all positions will be reviewed at least once every five (5) years.

(d) **Dispute Resolution:**

If the Committee is unable to reach mutual agreement in a), b), c) above, the Committee may engage advisors as provided for above, to assist in resolving the disagreement. Failure to reach mutual agreement after the involvement of the advisors shall be resolved by referring the issue directly to Arbitration as per the provisions of the Collective Agreement.

Pursuant to the terms of the Collective Agreement, the Arbitrator shall decide the matter upon which the Joint Job Evaluation Committee has been unable to agree, and the decision of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding.

The Arbitrator shall be bound by this Agreement, the job evaluation plan and the pay equity plan and shall not have the power to modify or amend any of the provisions. The jurisdiction of the Arbitrator shall be limited to the matter in dispute, as submitted by the Parties.

The Arbitrator shall have the powers of an Arbitrator appointed pursuant to the Collective Agreement and in addition, shall have the authority to require the Parties to present additional information and to require other person(s) to present evidence, as deemed necessary by the Arbitrator.

The Arbitrator's fees and expenses shall be borne equally between the Employer and the Union.

- (e) Once the Parties reach agreement on the outstanding issues in #1-3 then Article 24.01 will be replaced by the language covering the Maintenance Plan for the Job Evaluation Program in #4 above.
- (f) If the Parties are unable to reach agreement and resolve outstanding matters covered by #1-3 above either Party may use the provisions of Article 24.01 to resolve any outstanding matter.

SIGNED THIS	25	DAY OF	February	, 2020

FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SD #54 (BULKLEY VALLEY) FOR CUPE LOCAL 2145

Dave Margerm, Secretary Treasurer

Rolanda Lavallee, President

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #3

BETWEEN

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

and

CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, LOCAL 2145

Re: Article 17.04 – Assignment of Extra Work – Bus Drivers

The Parties hereby agree to the following amendment to the 2022-2025 Collective Agreement, Article 17.04 - Assignment of Extra Work:

On a without prejudice or precedent basis, the Parties agree that for the purpose of bus driving duties in Article 17.04 – Assignment of Extra Work, other than the transportation of students on normally scheduled runs, the process shall be as follows:

- (a) A rotational roster, organized by seniority, of interested Regular Employee Drivers will be maintained. The rotational roster will be displayed at a location where it is accessible to employees during normal office hours.
- (b) Extra Work will be first offered to the Driver who is next in line on the appropriate roster.
- (c) Placement of the Driver's name will be posted during normal working hours or reasonable effort to contact the Driver by phone, outside of normal working hours, will constitute an offer of Extra Work.
- (d) Drivers who decline or are unavailable for Extra Work for any reason, other than conflicting midday runs, will be assigned a "Pass" on the appropriate rotating roster.
- (e) The Board reserves the right to limit the assignment of Extra Work for the Special Needs service to those Drivers who have been trained for Special Needs work. The Parties agree that training for employees interested in becoming qualified for such jobs may be considered.
- (f) Once awarded, Extra Work shall not be reassigned to another Driver unless the Driver to whom it was offered subsequently declines. The Board reserves the right to alter or cancel any Extra Work assignment if circumstances warrant.
- (g) A Driver will not lose their placement on the rotational roster if there is a late cancellation or a Driver was assigned on short notice.
- (h) In order to maintain equity in hours of work for Casual Employee Drivers, subject to employee availability, the Transportation Supervisor will schedule spare workday to day, by secondary seniority, on a rotational basis.
- (i) When applicable, the Board will encourage the use of District busses for all curricular and extra-curricular travel for larger groups of students.

SIGNED THIS	
FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SD #54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)	FOR CUPE LOCAL 2145
Dave Margerm, Secretary Treasure	Rolanda Lavallee, President

SCHEDULE "A" Wage Schedule – Base Rate

Position	30-Jun- 21	1-Jul-22		1-Jul-22		1-Jul-22 1-Jul-23		1-Jul-24	
	-	-	\$0.25; and 3.24% GWI		hille		GWI; COLA*		
MAINTENANCE									
Certified Trades	\$ 31.50	\$	32.78	\$	34.99	\$	35.69		
Carpenter	\$ 31.50	\$	32.78	\$	34.99	\$	35.69		
Electrician	\$ 31.50	\$	32.78	\$	34.99	\$	35.69		
Painter	\$ 31.50	\$	32.78	\$	34.99	\$	35.69		
Plumber/Gasfitter	\$ 31.50	\$	32.78	\$	34.99	\$	35.69		
Custodian	\$ 22.86	\$	23.86	\$	25.47	\$	25.98		
Custodian/First Aid Level II/Noon Hour Supervisor	\$ 23.35	\$	24.36	\$	26.01	\$	26.53		
Custodian Foreperson/Custodian	\$ 26.70	\$	27.82	\$	29.70	\$	30.30		
Maintenance I	\$ 23.35	\$	24.36	\$	26.01	\$	26.53		
Maintenance II	\$ 24.21	\$	25.25	\$	26.96	\$	27.50		
Maintenance III	\$ 24.50	\$	25.55	\$	27.28	\$	27.82		
Maintenance Foreperson	\$ 33.00	\$	34.33	\$	36.64	\$	37.38		
Student Labourer	\$ 17.54	\$	18.37	\$	19.61	\$	20.00		
Theatre Technician	\$ 24.21	\$	25.25	\$	26.96	\$	27.50		
TRANSPORTATION									
Bus Driver	\$ 24.72	\$	25.78	\$	27.52	\$	28.07		
Certified Trades – Mechanic	\$ 31.50	\$	32.78	\$	34.99	\$	35.69		
Transportation Foreperson/Bus Driver	\$ 26.70	\$	27.82	\$	29.70	\$	30.30		
TECHNOLOGY									
Information Technology Administrator	\$ 31.50	\$	32.78	\$	34.99	\$	35.69		
Information Technology Senior Support	\$ 24.24	\$	25.28	\$	26.99	\$	27.53		
Information Technology Support	\$ 23.35	\$	24.36	\$	26.01	\$	26.53		

^{*}July 1, 2024 COLA adjustments will be confirmed by PSEC in March each year. 2024 COLA max is 1%.

Schedule "A"

1. Shift differential

As of July 1, 2022,

Afternoon shift: one dollar (\$1.00) per hour for each hour on the shift Night shift: one dollar and five cents (\$1.05) per hour for each hour on the shift

2. Classrooms

When Custodians are employed less than a full day the following shall be the basis of establishing the hours of work and determining the pay.

1 classroom schools: 2 hours2 classroom schools: 3 hours3 classroom schools: 3 1/2 hours4 classroom schools: 4 1/2 hours

3. Lead Hand

An employee appointed as a lead hand will receive ninety cents (\$0.90) per hour above the employee's regular rate.

4. Head Custodian

The Board may appoint Head Custodian(s).

5. <u>Dirty money</u>

Dirty money at one dollar and fifty (\$1.50) per hour; for a minimum of one (1) hour, will be paid to employees while doing the following work:

- (a) Cleaning domestic hot-water tanks;
- (b) Re-bricking boilers;
- (c) Cleaning fuel tanks;
- (d) Spray painting;
- (e) While exposed to raw sewage;
- (f) Cleaning oil-fired furnaces and/or boilers.
- (g) Changing of air-handling unit, filters and servicing.

6. Maintenance Foreman rate differential

The Maintenance Foreman rate shall be a minimum of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per hour above the Trades certified rate.

7. First Aid Stipend

As of July 1, 2020, when a site requires a First Aid Attendant, the District shall offer the training to the most senior and qualified employee who agrees, and provide required training, at no cost or loss of wages.

The First Aid Attendant will be provided a stipend of seventy-five cents (\$0.75) an hour for every shift the certification is required as per WorkSafeBC regulations.

8. Certified Trades and Information Technology Labour Market Adjustment

Certified Trades and Information Technology positions shall receive 3.3% per hour labour market adjustment above the Schedule "A" base rate.

SCHEDULE "B"

Wage Schedule – Base Rate Special Education Assistant/Education Assistants

Position	30-	30-Jun-21		1-Jul-22		1-Jul-23		1-Jul-24	
	-		\$0.25; and - 3.24% GWI		5.5% GWI; plus COLA*		2% GWI; plus COLA*		
Education Assistant	\$	21.66	\$	22.62	\$	24.15	\$	24.63	
Education Assistant - Special Ed	\$	25.95	\$	27.05	\$	28.87	\$	29.45	
Speech Language Assistant	\$	25.95	\$	27.05	\$	28.87	\$	29.45	
Food Services Worker	\$	21.99	\$	22.96	\$	24.51	\$	25.00	
Strong Start Coordinator	\$	29.54	\$	30.76	\$	32.83	\$	33.49	
Library Clerk	\$	21.66	\$	22.62	\$	24.15	\$	24.63	
Library Clerk II	\$	25.95	\$	27.05	\$	28.87	\$	29.45	
Secretary 1	\$	21.99	\$	22.96	\$	24.51	\$	25.00	
Secretary 2	\$	26.33	\$	27.44	\$	29.29	\$	29.88	
Secretary 2 - Part Time	\$	23.20	\$	24.21	\$	25.84	\$	26.36	
Secretary 2 - SIS	\$	26.71	\$	27.83	\$	29.71	\$	30.31	
Secretary 3	\$	27.68	\$	28.83	\$	30.78	\$	31.40	
Accounts Payable Clerk	\$	26.70	\$	27.82	\$	29.70	\$	30.30	
Human Service Worker	\$	25.95	\$	27.05	\$	28.87	\$	29.45	
Indigenous Support Service Worker 1	\$	21.99	\$	22.96	\$	24.51	\$	25.00	
Indigenous Support Service Worker 2	\$	24.68	\$	25.74	\$	27.48	\$	28.02	
Indigenous Support Service Worker 3	\$	26.59	\$	27.71	\$	29.58	\$	30.17	
Indigenous Support Service- Language	\$	26.59	\$	27.71	\$	29.58	\$	30.17	
Drug and Alcohol Prevention Worker	\$	26.59	\$	27.71	\$	29.58	\$	30.17	

Schedule "B"

Special Education Assistant/Education Assistants

- 1. Education Assistants (non-certified) will normally be paid at Payroll Category #1.
- 2. Those Education Assistants possessing the following qualifications will be classified as Special Education Assistants and will be paid at Payroll Category #2.

a) One (1) year of successful experience working with students with special needs in an Early Learning - 12 educational environment, AND

b)

1) Successful completion of one (1) year of training at a recognized post-secondary institution in the areas of Special Education Assistant / Education Assistant or equivalent as approved by the Assistant Superintendent of Schools,

OR

2) Post-Secondary credits in special education or equivalent as approved by the Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

APPENDIX "A"

PROVINCIAL FRAMEWORK 2022-2025

Provincial Framework Agreement ("Framework")

between

BC Public School Employers' Association ("BCPSEA")

and

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

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

1. Term

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025

2. Wages Increases

General wage increases as follows:

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

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

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

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

3. Wage Increase Retroactivity

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

4. COLA Adjustment

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

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

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

5. Public Sector Wage Increases

1. If a public sector employer, as defined in s. 1 of the *Public Sector Employers Act*, enters into a collective agreement with an effective date after December 31, 2021 and the first three years of the collective agreement under the Shared Recovery Mandate includes cumulative nominal (not compounded) general wage increases (GWIs) and Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) that, in accordance with how GWIs are defined and calculated in this LOA, are paid out and exceed the sum of the GWIs and COLAs that are paid out in the K-12 Provincial Framework Agreement, the total GWIs and COLAs paid out will be adjusted on the third anniversary of the

collective agreement so that the cumulative nominal (not compounded) GWIs and COLAs are equivalent. This paragraph 5 is not triggered by any wage increase or lump sum awarded as a result of binding interest arbitration.

- 2. For the purposes of calculating the general wage increases in paragraph 1:
 - a) a \$0.25 per hour flat-rate wage increase for employees with their hourly wage rates set out in the collective agreement; or
 - any alternative flat-rate wage increase for employees whose hourly wage rates are not set out in the collective agreement that is determined by the Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat to be roughly equivalent to a \$0.25 per hour flatrate wage increase;

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

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

6. Local Table Bargaining Money

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

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

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

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

7. Provincial Labour Management Committee

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

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

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

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

8. Support Staff Education Committee (SSEC)

Structure:

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

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

Mandate:

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

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

Terms of Reference:

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

Funding:

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

9. Safety in the Workplace

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

10. Provincial Joint Health and Safety Taskforce

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

The Provincial Joint Health and Safety Taskforce will:

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

11. Job Evaluation

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

- Review the results of the phase one and phase two pilots and outcomes of the committee work. Address any anomalies identified with the JE tool, process, or benchmarks.
- Rate the provincial benchmarks and create a job hierarchy for the provincial benchmarks.

- Gather data from all school districts and match existing job descriptions to the provincial benchmarks.
- Identify the job hierarchy for local job descriptions for all school districts.
- Compare the local job hierarchy to the benchmark-matched hierarchy.
- Develop a methodology to convert points to pay bands The confirmed method must be supported by current compensation best practices.
- Identify training requirements to support implementation of the JE plan and develop training resources as required.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Create a maintenance program to support ongoing implementation of the JE plan at a local, regional or provincial level. The maintenance program will include a process for

addressing the wage rates of incumbents in positions which are impacted by implementation of the JE plan.

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

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

12. Committee Funding

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

13. Public Education Benefits Trust

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

14. Benefits

a. Effective July 1, 2023, provide \$3 million dollars as ongoing annual funding to explore enhancements to the Standardized Extended Health Plan, including dental coverage, counselling and other improvements to benefits. A one-time joint committee of up to four representatives appointed by BCPSEA and up to four representatives appointed by support staff unions will determine the enhancements to be implemented.

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

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

15. Production of Local Collective Agreements

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

16. Demographic, Classification and Wage Information

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

17. Unpaid Work

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

18. Education Assistant Credential Standardization

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

19. Provincial Framework Bargaining 2025

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

20. Provincial Dispute resolution

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

21. Funding

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

22. Employee Support Grant

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

23. Adoption of the Provincial Framework Agreement

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

Dated this 15th day of September, 2022.

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

K-12 Presidents' Council and	BC Public School Employers'
Support Staff Unions	Association
"Paul Simpson"	"Leanne Bowes"
· · · · · · ·	

"Justin Schmid"	"Bruce Anderson"
"Kirsten Daub"	"Alan Chell"
"Jeff Virtanen"	"Kyle Uno"
"Gray Boisvert"	"Tammy Sowinsky"
"Tammy Carter"	"Rae Yu"
"Michelle Bennett"	"Richard Per"
"Patti Pocha"	"Ken Dawson"
"Denise Bullock"	"Nancy Brennan"
"David Bollen"	"Eric Harvey"
"Monica Brady"	"Alex Dounce"
"Warren Williams"	
"Tim DeVivo"	
"Jane Massy"	
"Amber Leonard"	
"Jason Franklin"	
"Christina Forsyth"	
"Tammy Murphy"	

"Jeannette Beauvillier"
"Daun Frederickson"
"Tracey O'Hara"
"Katarina DiSimo"

Provincial Framework Agreement - Appendix A

Letter of Agreement ("Letter")

Between:

BC Public School Employers Association ("BCPSEA")

And:

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

Re: Employee Support Grant (ESG) after June 30, 2022

This Employee Support Grant (ESG) establishes a process under which employees covered by 2022 – 2025 collective agreements between Boards of Education and the Unions shall be entitled to recover wages lost as a result of legal strike activity by the BC Teachers' Federation ("BCTF") or lockout by BCPSEA after June 30, 2022.

- 1. The ESG will be available provided that:
 - a. A board and local union have a collective agreement which has been ratified by both parties no later than January 25, 2023 and,
 - b. There has been no successful strike vote by the BCTF or local support staff union prior to local union ratification.
- 2. Employees are expected to attend their worksite if there is no lawful BCTF picket line.
- 3. Employees who have lost wages as a result of not crossing lawful picket lines during full days of a BCTF strike/BCPSEA lockout shall be compensated. This compensation shall be in accordance with the following:
 - a. In the event that employees are prevented from attending work due to a lawful picket line, employees will be paid for all scheduled hours that the employee would have otherwise worked but for the labour dispute. Their pay will be 75% of their base wage rate.

- b. The residual 25% of the employees' base wage rate will be placed in a district fund to provide professional development to support staff employees. Funds will be dispersed by the district following agreement between the district and the local union.
- 4. Within forty-five (45) days of the conclusion of the labour dispute between BCPSEA and the BCTF, boards will reimburse each employee for all scheduled hours for which the employee has not otherwise been paid as a result of strike or lockout.
- 5. If the employee disputes a payment received from the board, the union may submit the dispute with particulars on the employee's behalf to a committee comprised of an equal number of representatives appointed by BCPSEA and the Unions.
- 6. If the joint committee is unable to resolve the employee's claim it will submit the dispute to a mutually agreed upon arbitrator who must resolve the dispute within ten (10) days of hearing the differences between the board and the union.

Original signed on 15th September, 2022 by:

"Leanne Bowes"

BCPSEA

Leanne Bowes

"Paul Simpson"

K-12 Presidents' Council

Paul Simpson