

WORKING DOCUMENT

2022-2025

PROVINCIAL COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

**BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION/
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 20 (KOOTENAY-
COLUMBIA)**

(The "Employer")

AND

**BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION/
KOOTENAY COLUMBIA TEACHERS' UNION**

(The "Union")

Effective July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025

As it applies in School District # 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)

Please note:

This document attempts to set out all the current terms and conditions of employment contained in the Collective Agreement between B.C.T.F. and B.C.P.S.E.A. under the Public Education Labour Relations Act, as those terms and conditions are applicable to this School District. In the event of dispute, the original source documents would be applicable.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

The employer and the union acknowledge that the Province of British Columbia is situated on the traditional territories of many First Nations, each with their own unique traditions and history. We commit to building respectful, productive, and meaningful relationships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit groups.

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PREAMBLE

The purpose of this collective agreement is to establish and maintain orderly contract administration procedures between the Employer and the Association. It is recognized that it is in the best interests of both parties as well as those served by the school system that harmonious employment relations be maintained.

The parties to this agreement have a desire to provide the highest quality of education service possible.

The parties agree that in the event of a conflict between this agreement and relevant legislation and their regulations, they will be read in such a way as to harmonize with the collective agreement unless the operation of the latter is clearly excluded.

SECTION A THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RELATIONSHIP

ARTICLE A.1 TERM, CONTINUATION AND RENEGOTIATION

In this Collective Agreement, "Previous Collective Agreement" means the Collective Agreement that was in effect between the two parties for the period July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2022, including any amendments agreed to by the parties during that period.

1. Except as otherwise specifically provided, this Collective Agreement is effective July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025. The parties agree that not less than four (4) months preceding the expiry of this Collective Agreement, they will commence collective bargaining in good faith with the object of renewal or revision of this Collective Agreement and the concluding of a Collective Agreement for the subsequent period.
2. In the event that a new Collective Agreement is not in place by June 30, 2025, the terms of this Collective Agreement are deemed to remain in effect until the date on which a new Collective Agreement is concluded.
3. All terms and conditions of the Previous Collective Agreement are included in the Collective Agreement, except where a term or condition has been amended or modified in accordance with this Collective Agreement.
4.
 - a. If employees are added to the bargaining unit established under section 5 of the *Public Education Labour Relations Act* during the term of this Collective Agreement, the parties shall negotiate terms and conditions that apply to those employees.
 - b. If the parties are unable to agree on terms and conditions applicable to those employees, either party may refer the issues in dispute to a mutually acceptable arbitrator who shall have jurisdiction to impose terms and conditions.
 - c. If the parties are unable to agree on an arbitrator, either party may request the Director of the Collective Agreement Arbitration Bureau to appoint an arbitrator.
5.
 - a. Changes in those local matters agreed to by a local and the employer will amend the Previous Collective Agreement provisions and form part of this Collective Agreement, subject to Article A.1.5.b below.
 - b. A local and the employer must agree to the manner and timing of implementation of a change in a local matter.
 - c.
 - i. This Collective Agreement continues previous agreements between the parties with respect to the designation of provincial and local matters (See Letter of Understanding No. 1).

- ii. The parties may agree to another designation which is consistent with the *Public Education Labour Relations Act*.

ARTICLE A.2 RECOGNITION OF THE UNION

1. The BCPSEA recognizes the BCTF as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the negotiation and administration of all terms and conditions of employment of all employees within the bargaining unit for which the BCTF is established as the bargaining agent pursuant to *PELRA* and subject to the provisions of this Collective Agreement.
2. Pursuant to *PELRA*, the employer recognizes the Kootenay Columbia Teachers' Union as the teachers' union for the negotiation in the district of all terms and conditions of employment determined to be local matters, and for the administration of this Collective Agreement in that district subject to *PELRA* and the Provincial Matters Agreement.
3. The BCTF recognizes BCPSEA as the accredited bargaining agent for every school board in British Columbia. BCPSEA has the exclusive authority to bargain collectively for the school boards and to bind the school boards by Collective Agreement in accordance with Section 2 of Schedule 2 of *PELRA*.

ARTICLE A.3 MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT

1. All employees covered by this Collective Agreement shall, as a condition of employment, become and remain members of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation and the local(s) [Kootenay Columbia Teachers' Union] in the district in which they are employed, subject to Article A.3.2.
2. Where provisions of the Previous Local Agreement or the Previous Letter of Understanding in a district exempted specified employees from the requirement of membership, those provisions shall continue unless and until there remain no exempted employees in that district. All terms and conditions of exemption contained in the Previous Local Agreement or the Previous Letter of Understanding shall continue to apply. An exempted employee whose employment is terminated for any reason and who is subsequently rehired, or who subsequently obtains membership, shall become and/or remain a member of the BCTF and the respective local in accordance with this Collective Agreement.

ARTICLE A.4 LOCAL AND BCTF DUES DEDUCTION

1. The employer agrees to deduct from the salary of each employee covered by this Collective Agreement an amount equal to the fees of the BCTF according to the scale established pursuant to its constitution and by-laws, inclusive of the fees of the local in the district, according to the scale established pursuant to its constitution and by-laws, and shall remit the same to the BCTF and the local respectively. The employer further

agrees to deduct levies of the BCTF or of the local established in accordance with their constitutions and by-laws, and remit the same to the appropriate body.

2. At the time of hiring, the employer shall require all new employees to complete and sign the BCTF and Local application for membership and assignment of fees form. The BCTF agrees to supply the appropriate forms. Completed forms shall be forwarded to the local in a time and manner consistent with the Previous Local Agreement or the existing practice of the parties.
3. The employer will remit the BCTF fees and levies by direct electronic transfer from the district office where that is in place, or through inter-bank electronic transfer. The transfer of funds to the BCTF will be remitted by the 15th of the month following the deduction.
4. The form and timing of the remittance of local fees and levies shall remain as they are at present unless they are changed by mutual agreement between the local and the employer.
5. The employer shall provide to the BCTF and the local at the time of remittance an account of the fees and levies, including a list of employees and amounts paid.

ARTICLE A.5 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

1. Local representatives on committees specifically established by this Collective Agreement shall be appointed by the local.
2. In addition, if the employer wishes to establish a committee which includes bargaining unit members, it shall notify the local about the mandate of the committee and the local shall appoint the representatives. The local will consider the mandate of the committee when appointing the representatives. If the employer wishes to discuss the appointment of a representative, the superintendent or designate, and the president or designate of the local may meet and discuss the matter.
3. Release time with pay shall be provided by the employer to any employee who is a representative on a committee referred to in Article A.5.1 and A.5.2 above, in order to attend meetings that occur during normal instructional hours. Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) costs shall be borne by the employer.
4. When a TTOC is appointed to a committee referred to in Article A.5.1 and A.5.2 above, and the committee meets during normal instructional hours, the TTOC shall be paid pursuant to the provisions in each district respecting TTOC Pay and Benefits. A TTOC attending a “half-day” meeting shall receive a half-day’s pay. If the meeting extends past a “half-day,” the TTOC shall receive a full-day’s pay.

ARTICLE A.6 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. Preamble

The parties agree that this article constitutes the method and procedure for a final and conclusive settlement of any dispute (hereinafter referred to as "the grievance") respecting the interpretation, application, operation or alleged violation of this Collective Agreement, including a question as to whether a matter is arbitrable.

Steps in Grievance Procedure

2. Step One

- a. The local or an employee alleging a grievance ("the grievor") shall request a meeting with the employer official directly responsible, and at such meeting they shall attempt to resolve the grievance summarily. Where the grievor is not the local, the grievor shall be accompanied at this meeting by a representative appointed by the local.
- b. The grievance must be raised within thirty (30) working days of the alleged violation, or within thirty (30) working days of the party becoming reasonably aware of the alleged violation.

3. Step Two

- a. If the grievance is not resolved at Step One of the grievance procedure within ten (10) working days of the date of the request made for a meeting referred to in Article A.6.2.a the grievance may be referred to Step Two of the grievance procedure by letter, through the president or designate of the local to the superintendent or designate. The superintendent or designate shall forthwith meet with the president or designate of the local, and attempt to resolve the grievance.
- b. The grievance shall be presented in writing giving the general nature of the grievance.

4. Step Three

- a. If the grievance is not resolved within ten (10) working days of the referral to Step Two in Article A.6.3.a the local may, within a further ten (10) working days, by letter to the superintendent or official designated by the district, refer the grievance to Step Three of the grievance procedure. Two representatives of the local and two representatives of the employer shall meet within ten (10) working days and attempt to resolve the grievance.

If both parties agree and the language of the previous Local Agreement stipulates:

- i. the number of representatives of each party at Step Three shall be three; and/or
 - ii. at least one of the employer representatives shall be a trustee.
- b. If the grievance involves a Provincial Matters issue, in every case a copy of the letter shall be sent to BCPSEA and the BCTF.

5. Omitting Steps

- a. Nothing in this Collective Agreement shall prevent the parties from mutually agreeing to refer a grievance to a higher step in the grievance procedure.
- b. Grievances of general application may be referred by the local, BCTF, the employer or BCPSEA directly to Step Three of the grievance procedure.

6. Referral to Arbitration: Local Matters

- a. If the grievance is not resolved at Step Three within ten (10) working days of the meeting referred to in Article A.6.4, the local or the employer where applicable may refer a Local Matters Grievance, as defined in Appendix 2 and Addenda, to arbitration within a further fifteen (15) working days.
- b. The referral to arbitration shall be in writing and should note that it is a Local Matters Grievance. The parties shall agree upon an arbitrator within ten (10) working days of such notice.

7. Referral to Arbitration: Provincial Matters

- a. If the grievance is not resolved at Step Three within ten (10) working days of the meeting referred to in Article A.6.4, the BCTF or BCPSEA where applicable may refer a Provincial Matters Grievance, as defined in Appendix 1 and Addenda, to arbitration within a further fifteen (15) working days.
- b. The referral to arbitration shall be in writing and should note that it is a Provincial Matters Grievance. The parties shall agree upon an arbitrator within ten (10) working days of such notice.
- c. Review Meeting:
 - i. Either the BCTF or BCPSEA may request in writing a meeting to review the issues in a Provincial Matters Grievance that has been referred to arbitration.

- ii. Where the parties agree to hold such a meeting, it shall be held within ten (10) working days of the request, and prior to the commencement of the arbitration hearing. The scheduling of such a meeting shall not alter in any way the timelines set out in Article A.6.7.a and A.6.7.b of this article.
- iii. Each party shall determine who shall attend the meeting on its behalf.

8. Arbitration (Conduct of)

- a. All grievances shall be heard by a single arbitrator unless the parties mutually agree to submit a grievance to a three-person arbitration board.
- b. The arbitrator shall determine the procedure in accordance with relevant legislation and shall give full opportunity to both parties to present evidence and make representations. The arbitrator shall hear and determine the difference or allegation and shall render a decision within sixty (60) days of the conclusion of the hearing.
- c. All discussions and correspondence during the grievance procedure or arising from Article A.6.7.c shall be without prejudice and shall not be admissible at an arbitration hearing except for formal documents related to the grievance procedure, i.e., the grievance form, letters progressing the grievance, and grievance responses denying the grievance.
- d. Authority of the Arbitrator:
 - i. It is the intent of both parties to this Collective Agreement that no grievance shall be defeated merely because of a technical error in processing the grievance through the grievance procedure. To this end an arbitrator shall have the power to allow all necessary amendments to the grievance and the power to waive formal procedural irregularities in the processing of a grievance in order to determine the real matter in dispute and to render a decision according to equitable principles and the justice of the case.
 - ii. The arbitrator shall not have jurisdiction to alter or change the provisions of the Collective Agreement or to substitute new ones.
 - iii. The provisions of this article do not override the provisions of the *B.C. Labour Relations Code*.
- e. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding.
- f. Each party shall pay one half of the fees and expenses of the arbitrator.

9. General

- a. After a grievance has been initiated, neither the employer's nor BCPSEA's representatives will enter into discussion or negotiations with respect to the grievance, with the grievor or any other member(s) of the bargaining unit without the consent of the local or the BCTF.
- b. The time limits in this grievance procedure may be altered by mutual written consent of the parties.
- c. If the local or the BCTF does not present a grievance to the next higher level, they shall not be deemed to have prejudiced their position on any future grievance.
- d. No employee shall suffer any form of discipline, discrimination or intimidation by the employer as a result of having filed a grievance or having taken part in any proceedings under this article.
- e.
 - i. Any employee whose attendance is required at any grievance meeting pursuant to this article, shall be released without loss of pay when such meeting is held during instructional hours. If a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) is required, such costs shall be borne by the employer;
 - ii. Any employee whose attendance is required at an arbitration hearing shall be released without loss of pay when attendance is required during instructional hours; and
 - iii. Unless the previous Local Agreement specifically provides otherwise, the party that requires an employee to attend an arbitration hearing shall bear the costs for any TTOC that may be required.

ARTICLE A.7 EXPEDITED ARBITRATION

1. Scope

By mutual agreement, the parties may refer a grievance to the following expedited arbitration process.

2. Process

- a. The grievance shall be referred to one of the following arbitrators:
 - i. Mark Brown
 - ii. Irene Holden
 - iii. Chris Sullivan
 - iv. Elaine Doyle
 - v. Judi Korbin
 - vi. John Hall

- b. The parties may agree to an alternate arbitrator in a specific case and may add to or delete from the list of arbitrators by mutual agreement.
- c. Within three (3) days of the referral, the arbitrator shall convene a case management call to determine the process for resolving the dispute. The case management process shall include a time frame for the exchange of particulars and documents, a timeframe for written submissions if directed by the arbitrator, an agreed statement of facts, or any other process considered by the arbitrator to be effective in ensuring an expeditious resolution to the dispute. The parties will endeavour to exchange information as stipulated in the case management process within seven (7) days.
- d. If an oral hearing is scheduled by the arbitrator it shall be held within fourteen (14) days of the referral to the arbitrator. The hearing shall be concluded within one (1) day.
- e. The written submissions shall not exceed ten (10) pages in length.
- f. As the process is intended to be informal and non-legal, neither party will be represented by outside legal counsel.
- g. The parties will use a limited number of authorities.
- h. The arbitrator will issue a decision within five (5) days of the conclusion of the arbitration or submission process.
- i. Prior to rendering a decision, the arbitrator may assist the parties in mediating a resolution.
- j. All decisions of the arbitrator are final and binding and are to be limited in application to the particular grievance and are without prejudice. They shall be of no precedential value and shall not thereafter be referred to by the parties in respect of any other matter.
- k. Neither party shall appeal or seek to review a decision of the arbitrator.
- l. The arbitrator retains jurisdiction with respect to any issues arising from their decision.
- m. Except as set out herein, the arbitrator under this process shall have the powers and jurisdiction of an arbitrator prescribed in the Labour Relations Code of British Columbia.
- n. The parties shall equally share the costs of the fees and expenses of the arbitrator.
- o. Representatives of BCPSEA and BCTF will meet yearly to review the expedited arbitration process.

ARTICLE A.8 LEAVE FOR PROVINCIAL CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

1. The employer shall grant a leave of absence without pay to an employee designated by the BCTF for the purpose of preparing for, participating in or conducting negotiations as a member of the provincial bargaining team of the BCTF.
2. To facilitate the administration of this clause, when leave without pay is granted, the employer shall maintain salary and benefits for the employee and the BCTF shall reimburse the employer for the salary costs.
3. Any other leaves of absence granted for provincial bargaining activities shall be granted on the basis that the salary and benefits of the employees continue and the BCTF shall reimburse the employer for the salary costs of any teacher employed to replace a teacher granted leave.
4. Any leaves of absence granted for local bargaining activities shall be granted in accordance with the Previous Local Agreement.

ARTICLE A.9 LEGISLATIVE CHANGE

1. In this article, “legislation” means any new or amended statute, regulation, Minister’s Order, or Order in Council which arises during the term of the Collective Agreement or subsequent bridging period.
2.
 - a. Should legislation render any part of the Collective Agreement null and void, or substantially alter the operation or effect of any of its provisions, the remainder of the provisions of the Collective Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
 - b. In that event, the parties shall meet forthwith to negotiate in good faith modifications to the Collective Agreement which shall achieve, to the full extent legally possible, its original intent.
3. If, within thirty (30) days of either party's request for such meeting, the parties cannot agree on such modifications, or cannot agree that the Collective Agreement has been affected by legislation, either party may refer the matter(s) in dispute to arbitration pursuant to Article A.6 (Grievance Procedure).
4. The arbitrator's authority shall be limited to deciding whether this article applies and, if so, adding to, deleting from or otherwise amending, to the full extent legally possible, the article(s) directly affected by legislation.

ARTICLE A.10 LEAVE FOR REGULATORY BUSINESS AS PER THE TEACHERS ACT

1. Upon written request to the Superintendent or designate from the Ministry of Education, an employee who is appointed or elected to the BC Teachers' Council or appointed to the Disciplinary or Professional Conduct Board shall be entitled to a leave of absence with pay and shall be deemed to be in the full employ of the board as defined in Article G.6.1.b.
2. Upon written request to the superintendent or designate from the Ministry of Education, a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) who is appointed or elected to the BC Teachers' Council or appointed to the Disciplinary and Professional Conduct Board shall be considered on leave and shall be deemed to be in the full employ of the Board as defined in Article A.10.1 above. TTOCs shall be paid in accordance with the Collective Agreement.
3. Leave pursuant to Article A.10.1 and A.10.2 above shall not count toward any limits on the number of days and/or teachers on leave in the provisions in Article G.6.

ARTICLE A.101 UNION SCHOOL STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

1. Union school Staff Representatives at each school shall be elected in accordance with Union procedures and the names shall be provided to the Board.
2. After receiving authorization from the Principal / Vice Principal, a Staff Representative may use a school facility to conduct Union business.
3. Where meetings between a Principal / Vice Principal and a teacher concern or may concern disciplinary matters, then the teacher shall have the right to have a Union Staff Representative in attendance and such attendance shall be without loss of pay. A Union representative shall include a School Staff representative or another KCTU member designated by the KCTU President.

ARTICLE A.102 ACCESS TO WORKSITE

1. After receiving authorization from the Principal / Vice Principal or the Superintendent of Schools, the Union president or their designate shall have the right to transact official Union business on school property and to utilize District facilities.
2. In addition, for the duration of this agreement, the Union will have the right to use school facilities for meetings and other Union activities in accordance with the present practice between the parties.

ARTICLE A.103 BULLETIN BOARDS

1. The Union shall have the right to post notices of activities and matters of Union concern on bulletin boards. These bulletin boards shall be provided in each staff room in each school building.

ARTICLE A.104 INTERNAL MAIL

1. The Union shall have access to the District mail and electronic mail services, and employee mail boxes, free of charge, for communication to bargaining unit members.

ARTICLE A.105 SHORT TERM LEAVE FOR UNION BUSINESS

1. Union Leaves

- a. An employee covered by this agreement shall be entitled to leave of absence to carry out Union business. The determination of what constitutes Union business is wholly up to the Union. Where practical, requests for leave pursuant to this section shall be with at least three (3) days' notice.
- b. Leave with pay shall be provided to members of the Union executive, up to six members inclusive of the president and Chief Negotiator, designated to prepare for and conduct contract negotiations. Under normal circumstances, the Union will request leaves at least three (3) days in advance.
- c. Such leave of absence shall be granted without loss of pay subject to the Board being reimbursed for the cost of the Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC).
- d. The granting of leave under this section will be subject to there being a TTOC available pursuant to Article C.106.

The Board agrees that attempts to schedule a TTOC will be made as soon as possible after receiving notice under this section and will verify the granting of leave to the teacher as soon as a TTOC is scheduled.

ARTICLE A.106 PRESIDENT'S LEAVE

1. The Board agrees to grant leave of absence for up to one FTE per year for the teacher or up to three (3) teachers elected to the position(s) of Union president. The Union will notify the Board by May 31 of the name(s) of the teacher(s) involved and the proportions of time off for the subsequent school year.
2. The Board will continue to pay that/those teacher(s) their salary and to provide benefits as specified in this agreement. The Union will reimburse the Board for such salary and benefits cost upon receipt of a monthly statement.

3. That/those teacher(s) shall be entitled to all rights of the agreement and for pension purposes be treated as if they were not on leave. That/those teacher(s) shall inform the Board of the number of days or partial days, if any, that they were absent from presidential duties due to illness.
4. The teacher(s) returning to full teaching duties from a term or terms as president shall be assigned to the position held prior to the release, or if said position no longer exists, will be subject to Article C.2 and C.108, or to another position which is acceptable to the teacher and the Board.
5. In the event that the teacher(s) is/are unable to fulfill the presidential duties due to illness which would prevent them also from returning to teaching duties, the Board shall grant leave, to another Union member to assume the duties of president. All provisions of this article shall apply in this circumstance.

ARTICLE A.107 LONG TERM LEAVE FOR UNION BUSINESS

1. Upon written request by the Union, the Board shall grant a leave of absence without pay to one teacher per year.
2. This leave shall be extended upon written application of the Union.
3. Sick Leave earned prior to the Long Term Leave shall be retained upon returning to the school district.
4. The teacher shall give written notice prior to May 31 of their intention to return to the school district in September of that year or prior to November 30 of their intention to return in January of the following year. Notwithstanding notice provisions as specified above, the teacher may return to the School District at any time, by mutual agreement.
5. On return from leave a teacher shall be assigned to their position if available, a comparable position, or if no position exists the teacher will be subject to Article C.2 and C.108.
6. Where the Board approves, one additional teacher may be entitled to Long Term Leave for Union business and all provisions of this Article shall apply in this circumstance.

ARTICLE A.108 CHIEF NEGOTIATOR'S RELEASE

1. The Board hereby agrees, subject to the recommendation of the superintendent of schools relative to the learning situation, to grant leave of absence for a teacher designated as Chief Negotiator of the Union.
2. The Board will continue to pay that teacher their salary and to provide benefits as specified in the agreement. The Union will reimburse the Board for such salary and benefits upon receipt of a monthly statement.

3. That teacher shall be entitled to all rights of the agreement and for pension purposes be treated as if they were not on leave. That teacher shall inform the Board of the number of days or partial days, if any, that they were absent from duties of the Chief Negotiator due to illness.
4. The teacher returning to full teaching duties from a term as Chief Negotiator shall be assigned to the position held prior to the release, or if said position no longer exists, will be subject to the Article C.2 and C.108, or to another position which is acceptable to the teacher and the Board.
5. In the event that teacher is unable to fulfill the duties of the Chief Negotiator due to illness which would prevent them also from returning to teaching duties, the Board shall grant leave to another Union member to assume the duties of Chief Negotiator. All provisions of this Article shall apply in this circumstance.
6. That teacher shall return to teaching duties at the commencement of the month following the conclusion of negotiations.

ARTICLE A.109 LEAVE TO INVESTIGATE GRIEVANCES

1. A Staff Representative, or other teacher designated by the Union, shall obtain the permission of their Principal / Vice Principal before leaving their work to perform their duties as a Staff Representative. Leave for this purpose shall be with pay. Such permission shall not be unreasonably withheld. On resuming their normal duties, the Staff Representative shall notify the Principal / Vice Principal.
2. The duties of the Staff Representative to which this leave provision shall apply are:
 - a. investigation of complaints of an urgent nature;
 - b. assisting any teacher in presenting a grievance in accordance with the grievance procedure;
 - c. investigation of grievances where it is necessary to do so during class time;
 - d. attending meetings at the request of the Board.
3. The cost of providing a Teacher Teaching on Call in connection with Article A.109.2.a through A.109.2.c will be paid by the Union, except where the meeting occurs during school hours at the specific request of the Board.

ARTICLE A.110 MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

1. The parties agree that except as specifically limited within this agreement the right and responsibility to manage all its operations is the exclusive responsibility of the Board and the Board has the right to assign duties and to manage and direct employees, provided this latter right is exercised fairly, reasonably and in a non-discriminatory manner.

ARTICLE A.111 CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

1. Teacher involvement in the decision-making process regarding the allocation of resources shall be encouraged. The objective shall be to have decisions made as close to the point of service as possible, consistent with a respect for the authority and responsibility of the Board for educational governance and public accountability through sound management practices.
2. **Teacher/Board Education Resources Committee**
 - a. The parties agree to establish a Teacher-Board Educational Resources Committee which shall consist of three people appointed by the Union and three people appointed by the Board.
 - b. The terms of reference of the committee are:
 - i. to provide a forum for discussion of matters dealing with educational programs and provision of educational services,
 - ii. to discuss draft policies, or proposals for policy, which involve educational programs and make recommendations to the Board,
 - iii. to review administrative decisions regarding provision of educational programs, staff, and facilities, and to make recommendations to the Board.
3. The committee will meet at least once every two months during the school year except that this may be varied by mutual agreement.
4. **School Staff Committee**
 - a. There shall be established by September 30 of each school year a recognized Staff Committee in each school.
 - b. The size and membership of the Staff Committee shall be determined by the staff.
 - c. Subject to change by a majority vote of the school staff, the Staff Committee shall have the opportunity to:
 - i. Assess the teaching and learning conditions within the school and make recommendations for improvement in the total teaching situation.
 - ii. Study and make recommendations on:
 1. School regulations, policies and routines.
 2. School educational policy.
 3. Professional and Non-Instructional Days.
 4. School curriculum planning and evaluation.

- 5. School timetable and organization.
- 6. School staffing including utilization of teaching staff and auxiliary staff.
- iii. Have access to and review all school level budget and financial information.
- iv. Review and make recommendations on other matters of concern raised by member(s) of the staff.
- d. Should the school administration choose not to implement these recommendations, written reasons shall be provided to the school Staff Committee.

ARTICLE A.112 ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- 1. The Board agrees to provide to the Union, upon request of the Union, any of the following information:
 - a. lists of teachers on continuing or temporary assignment, showing their names, addresses, salary schedule placement, and teaching assignment;
 - b. notifications, as they occur, of teacher job postings, transfers, hirings, resignations, retirements, employee deaths and any less than satisfactory evaluation.
 - c. financial information provided pursuant to the *Financial Information Act*;
 - d. the agenda, minutes, and attachments thereto of all public Board meetings;
 - e. other information relating to teachers in the bargaining unit, as is reasonably accessible at minimal cost and may be required for collective bargaining purposes and contract administration.

ARTICLE A.113 PICKET LINE PROTECTION

- 1. All employees covered by this agreement shall have the right to refuse to cross a picket line arising out of a dispute as defined in the *Labour Code of British Columbia*. Failure to cross a picket line, encountered in carrying out the employee's business shall not be considered a violation of this agreement nor shall it be grounds for disciplinary action and, any employee failing to report for duty shall be considered to be absent without pay.
- 2. Article A.113.1 shall not apply where a tribunal of appropriate jurisdiction declares the picketing to be unlawful.
- 3. The Board shall not require teachers covered under this agreement to do the work or carry out the duties normally performed by employees engaged in a strike or lock-out except in the case of emergency.

ARTICLE A.114 COPY OF AGREEMENT

1. The parties agree to share equally the costs of printing copies of this agreement in accordance with mutually agreed upon arrangements. If possible, these copies will be made available within thirty (30) days of the execution of the melded agreement.
2. The Board shall provide every employee access to an electronic version of the ratified Memorandum of Agreement within thirty (30) days of execution of any such agreement(s) and a copy of this agreement once contract melding work is completed.

ARTICLE A.115 STAFF ORIENTATION

1. All new employees hired for the upcoming school year shall receive an orientation provided by the Board and the Union before they commence their duties in September. If they are hired after the summer orientation, they shall receive an orientation within the first thirty (30) days of commencing duties.
2. The orientation shall acquaint employees with the basic operation of the school district and the school as well as the rights and responsibilities of the collective agreement.
3. Orientation sessions shall be scheduled at time mutually convenient to both parties.

ARTICLE A.116 BARGAINING UNIT

1. Any position that is currently included in the bargaining unit may not be excluded from the bargaining unit without the agreement of the parties or until the appropriate authority has determined that position to be excluded.
2. For new positions, other than teaching assignments, which the Union claims to be within the bargaining unit, the Board agrees to provide the Union with a written description of the job content.
3. Where the parties are unable to agree whether a newly created position is included, then the appropriate authority will make that determination.

ARTICLE A.117 INCLUSION SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

1. No Inclusion Support Employee shall be placed in a class without prior consultation with the teacher.
2. All Inclusion Support Employees hired to assist teachers in carrying out the Teachers' responsibilities and duties shall be under the direct supervision of teachers.

3. Inclusion Support Employees shall not assume the direct instructional responsibility for providing educational programs to students or groups of students, but they shall perform duties to assist the teacher as approved by the teacher.
4. An Inclusion Support Employee placed in a class will not be removed from the class without 24-hours' notice to the teacher.
5. Teachers shall be provided adequate time during the school year to meet and conference with Inclusion Support Employees whom they supervise.

ARTICLE A.118 CONTRACTING OUT

1. All work performed by members of the bargaining unit as part of their regular duties and responsibilities shall continue to be performed only by members of the bargaining unit.
2. Except as mutually agreed upon between the Board and the Union, the Board shall not contract out duties of the type and kind that would normally and regularly be performed by a teacher.

ARTICLE A.119 LABOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. The parties agree to establish a Labour Management Committee which shall consist of three people appointed by the Union and three people appointed by the Board.
2. The purpose of the Labour Management Committee shall be to promote mutual understanding, discussion, and collaborative resolution of contract-related and professional concerns of a general nature and to problem-solve any matters of interest that may arise.
3. The committee will meet monthly on a mutually agreeable schedule which will be set by the Board and the Union before June 30 for the following school year. Meetings will not exceed 2 (two) hours in length. The meeting time and length may be varied by mutual agreement.
4. The responsibility for chairing and agenda setting shall be shared by the Union and the Board and shall alternate on a mutually agreed upon schedule.
5. The functioning of this committee shall not prejudice or alter the operation of the collective agreement, including the grievance procedure herein.

SECTION B SALARY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

ARTICLE B.1 SALARY

1. The local salary grids are amended to reflect the following general wage increases:
 - a. Effective July 1, 2022
 - i. \$427 to each step of the salary grid; and
 - ii. 3.24%
 - b. Effective July 1, 2023
 - i. by the annualized average of BC Consumer Price Index (CPI) over twelve months starting on March 1, 2022 (Cost of Living Adjustment) to a minimum of 5.5% and a maximum of 6.75%, calculated as per B.1.9
 - c. Effective July 1, 2024
 - i. by the annualized average of BC Consumer Price Index (CPI) over twelve months starting on March 1, 2023 (Cost of Living Adjustment) to a minimum of 2.0% and a maximum of 3.0%, calculated as per B.1.9
2. Where collective bargaining is concluded after June 30, 2022, retroactivity of general wage increases will be applied as follows:
 - a. Teachers employed on the date of ratification and who were employed on July 1, 2022 shall receive retroactive payment of wages to July 1, 2022.
 - b. Teachers hired after July 1, 2022 and who were employed on the date of ratification, shall have their retroactive pay pro-rated from their date of hire to the date of ratification.
 - c. Teachers who retired between July 1, 2022 and the date of ratification, shall have their retroactive pay pro-rated from July 1, 2022 to their date of retirement.
3. The following allowances shall be adjusted in accordance with the percentage increases in B.1.1 above:
 - a. Department Head
 - b. Positions of Special Responsibility
 - c. First Aid
 - d. One-Room School
 - e. Isolation and Related Allowances
 - f. Moving/Relocation
 - g. Recruitment & Retention
 - h. Mileage/Auto not to exceed the CRA maximum rate

4. The following allowances shall not be adjusted by the percentage increases in B.1.1 above:
 - a. Per Diems
 - b. Housing
 - c. Pro D (unless formula-linked to the grid)
 - d. Clothing
 - e. Classroom Supplies
5. Effective July 1, 2022, each local salary grid shall be restructured to eliminate the first step of each grid.
6. Effective July 1, 2023, the local salary grids are amended to provide a 0.3% increase to the top step of the salary grid.
7. Effective July 1, 2024, the local salary grids are amended to provide a 0.11% increase to the top step of the salary grid.
8. Teachers Teaching on Call (TTOCs) on the first step of the salary grid, who accept a contract will be paid at the second step of the salary grid for the term of the contract. Temporary/term contract and continuing employees will be placed on the second step of the grid or at a higher step in accordance with the local placement on the scale provisions.
9. **2023 and 2024 Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)**

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 B.1.1 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%.

Local Provisions:

Salary Schedule: July 1, 2022

Step		Cat 4		Cat 5		Cat 5+		Cat 6
0								
1		\$ 54,875		\$ 60,907		\$ 65,285		\$ 66,823
2		\$ 57,761		\$ 64,097		\$ 68,602		\$ 70,187
3		\$ 60,647		\$ 67,285		\$ 71,920		\$ 73,549
4		\$ 63,533		\$ 70,475		\$ 75,238		\$ 76,913
5		\$ 66,418		\$ 73,664		\$ 78,557		\$ 80,276
6		\$ 69,303		\$ 76,852		\$ 81,877		\$ 83,640
7		\$ 72,189		\$ 80,040		\$ 85,194		\$ 87,003
8		\$ 75,075		\$ 83,228		\$ 88,512		\$ 90,367
9		\$ 81,069		\$ 86,418		\$ 91,830		\$ 93,732
10		-		\$ 93,181		\$ 98,945		\$ 100,970

NOTE: Effective July 1, 2022, LOU No. 5 also provides an annual allowance of \$2,761 per FTE.

Salary Schedule: July 1, 2023

Step		Cat 4		Cat 5		Cat 5+		Cat 6
0								
1		\$ 58,579		\$ 65,019		\$ 69,692		\$ 71,334
2		\$ 61,660		\$ 68,423		\$ 73,233		\$ 74,924
3		\$ 64,741		\$ 71,826		\$ 76,775		\$ 78,514
4		\$ 67,821		\$ 75,232		\$ 80,317		\$ 82,104
5		\$ 70,902		\$ 78,636		\$ 83,860		\$ 85,695
6		\$ 73,981		\$ 82,039		\$ 87,403		\$ 89,286
7		\$ 77,061		\$ 85,443		\$ 90,944		\$ 92,876
8		\$ 80,143		\$ 88,846		\$ 94,486		\$ 96,467
9		\$ 86,785		\$ 92,251		\$ 98,028		\$ 100,058
10		-		\$ 99,751		\$ 105,921		\$ 108,088

NOTE: Effective July 1, 2023, LOU No. 5 also provides an annual allowance of \$2,947 per FTE.

Salary Schedule: July 1, 2024

Step	Cat 4	Cat 5	Cat 5+	Cat 6
0				
1	\$ 60,337	\$ 66,969	\$ 71,782	\$ 73,474
2	\$ 63,509	\$ 70,476	\$ 75,430	\$ 77,172
3	\$ 66,683	\$ 73,981	\$ 79,078	\$ 80,869
4	\$ 69,856	\$ 77,489	\$ 82,726	\$ 84,568
5	\$ 73,029	\$ 80,995	\$ 86,376	\$ 88,266
6	\$ 76,200	\$ 84,501	\$ 90,025	\$ 91,964
7	\$ 79,373	\$ 88,006	\$ 93,673	\$ 95,662
8	\$ 82,547	\$ 91,511	\$ 97,321	\$ 99,361
9	\$ 89,484	\$ 95,019	\$ 100,969	\$ 103,060
10	-	\$ 102,853	\$ 109,215	\$ 111,450

NOTE: Effective July 1, 2024, LOU No. 5 also provides an annual allowance of \$3,035 per FTE.

ARTICLE B.2 TTOC PAY AND BENEFITS

1. The employer will ensure compliance with vacation provisions under the *Employment Standards Act* in respect of the payment of vacation pay.
2. For the purposes of Employment Insurance, the employer shall report for a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC), the same number of hours worked as would be reported for a day worked by a teacher on a continuing contract.
3. A TTOC shall be entitled to the mileage/kilometre allowance, rate or other payment for transportation costs, as defined by the Collective Agreement, for which the employee they are replacing is entitled to claim.
4. TTOCs shall be eligible, subject to plan limitations, to participate in the benefit plans in the Collective Agreement, provided that they pay the full cost of benefit premiums.
5. TTOCs shall be paid an additional compensation of \$11 over daily rate in lieu of benefits. This benefit will be prorated for part days worked but in no case will be less than \$5.50. Any and all provisions in the Previous Collective Agreement that provided additional or superior provisions in respect of payment in lieu of benefits shall remain part of the Collective Agreement.
6. Rate of Pay:
An Employee who is employed as a TTOC shall be paid 1/189 of their category classification and experience, to a maximum of the rate at Category 5 Step 8, for each full day worked.

Local Provisions

7. Following twenty (20) days of continuous employment in the same assignment, Non-Instructional Days occurring during the work assignment of a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) shall be considered as an assigned day of work.
8. Teachers Teaching on Call (TTOC) shall be paid a minimum of 40% of the applicable daily rate pursuant to Article B.2.6 above for any callout and shall be paid at the following minimum rates of pay in the following instances:
 - a. 50% of the applicable daily rate in assignments to half-day kindergarten programs or where the site or program school day is evenly divided between morning and afternoon.
 - b. a minimum of 60% of the applicable daily rate in morning assignments where the school day is divided with a longer morning than afternoon.
9. Provided a Teacher Teaching on Call returns immediately to the same assignment their placement on the salary scale will not be considered broken by:
 - a. a non-instructional day,
 - b. a Teacher Teaching on Call's unpaid illness or accident of two days or less,
 - c. Workers' Compensation Board leave.
 - d. the return for one (1) day or less of a teacher who has been ill who subsequently is absent.

ARTICLE B.3 SALARY DETERMINATION FOR EMPLOYEES IN ADULT EDUCATION

PCA Article B.3 does not apply in School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)

ARTICLE B.4 EI REBATE

1. The employer shall remit monthly to the BCTF Salary Indemnity Fund the proportionate share of the employment insurance premium reduction set out in the Previous Local Agreement. Where the proportionate share is not expressed in the Previous Local Agreement, the employer shall remit monthly to the BCTF Salary Indemnity Fund an amount consistent with the past practice of the local parties. The amount remitted on behalf of any employee shall not be less than 5/12 of said reduction.
2. The employer shall calculate each employee's share of the savings which have been remitted pursuant to Article B.4.1 above and include that amount as part of the employee's taxable income on the yearly T4 slip.

ARTICLE B.5 REGISTERED RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

1. In this Article:
 - a. “the BCTF Plan” means the Group RRSP entered into by the Federation and Royal Trust or a successor to that plan;
 - b. “alternative plan” means a group RRSP, including the BCTF Plan, which was entered into prior to the coming into force of this Article, and which is still in effect as of that date.
2. Where an alternative plan exists in a district pursuant to Article B.5.1.b that plan shall remain in effect.
3. The BCTF Plan shall be made available in all districts not included in Article B.5.2.
4. The employer shall deduct from the monthly salary of employees, as at the end of the month following enrollment, contributions in a fixed dollar amount specified by the employee on behalf of any employee who elects to participate in the BCTF Plan. The employer shall remit these amounts to the designated trustee no later than the 15th of the month following the month in which the deduction is made.
5. The employer shall make available, to present employees on request and to new employees at the time of hire, enrollment forms and other forms required for participation in the BCTF Plan. Completed forms shall be processed and forwarded to the designated trustee by the employer.
6. If in any month, an employee is not in receipt of sufficient net pay to cover the monthly payroll deduction amount for any reason, the contribution to the BCTF Plan for that employee shall not be made for that month. If the employee wishes to make up any missed contribution(s), the employee shall make arrangements for same directly with the designated trustee.
7. Employees shall have the opportunity to enroll or re-enroll in the BCTF Plan as follows:
 - a. between September 1 and September 30 or December 15 and January 15 in any school year;
 - b. no later than sixty (60) days following the commencement of employment.
8. An employee may withdraw from participation in the BCTF Plan where they have provided thirty (30) days’ written notice to the employer.
9. There shall be no minimum monthly or yearly contribution required of any employee who participates in the BCTF Plan.

10. Participating employees may vary the amount of their individual contributions to the BCTF Plan on either or both of October 31 and January 31 in any school year, provided that written notice of such change has been provided to the employer no later than September 30 for changes to be effective October 31, and December 31 for changes to be effective January 31.
11. The BCTF Plan established in a district pursuant to Article B.5.3 shall be made available to employees on a continuing contract of employment and employees on term or temporary contracts of employment as defined in the Previous Local Agreement.

ARTICLE B.6 SALARY INDEMNITY PLAN ALLOWANCE

1. The employer shall pay monthly to each employee eligible to participate in the BCTF Salary Indemnity Plan an allowance equal to 2.0% of salary earned in that month to assist in offsetting a portion of the costs of the BCTF Salary Indemnity Plan.
2. In paying this allowance, it is understood that the employer takes no responsibility or liability with respect to the BCTF Salary Indemnity Plan.
3. The BCTF agrees not to alter eligibility criteria under the Plan to include groups of employees not included as of July 1, 2006.

ARTICLE B.7 REIMBURSEMENT FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY LOSS

1. Private Vehicle Damage

Where an employee's vehicle is damaged by a student at a worksite or an approved school function, or as a direct result of the employee being employed by the employer, the employer shall reimburse the employee the lesser of actual vehicle damage repair costs, or the cost of any deductible portion of insurance coverage on that vehicle up to a maximum of \$600.

2. Personally Owned Professional Material

PCA B.7.2 is not applicable in S.D. No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)

Note: Any and all superior or additional provisions contained in the Previous Collective Agreement shall remain part of the Collective Agreement

Local Provisions

3. Equipment, Teaching Aids, or other Personal Material

The Board shall reimburse an employee for the cost of replacement or repair for equipment, teaching aids, or other personal material, to a maximum of \$250.00, provided:

- a. the equipment, teaching aids, and/or material has been brought to the school or place of work by the employee to be used in the performance of their work, with the prior approval of the Principal / Vice Principal, and has been registered in advance; and
- b. the equipment, teaching aids or material has been lost or damaged.

ARTICLE B.8 OPTIONAL TWELVE-MONTH PAY PLAN

PCA Article B.8.1 through B.8.10 are not applicable in S.D. No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia) See Article B.9.4

ARTICLE B.9 PAY PERIODS

PCA Article B.9.1 through B.9.3 are not applicable in S.D. No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)

Local Provisions

4. Except as specified in Article B.9.5, a teacher shall be paid their annual salary in twenty (20) equal bi-monthly instalments excepting the months of July and August or 24 equal bi-monthly instalments. The mid-month instalment shall be paid on the 15th of the month or the prior teaching day. The month-end payment shall be paid on the last teaching day in the month.
5. The Board shall pay Teachers Teaching on Call for all days worked in a month within five (5) days of the end of the month.
6. Except for Teachers Teaching on Call, the Board shall deposit each teacher's salary at the bank or Credit Union of their choice without charge by the Board to the teacher.

ARTICLE B.10 REIMBURSEMENT FOR MILEAGE AND INSURANCE

1. An employee who is required by their employer to use their private vehicle for school district related purposes shall receive reimbursement of:

Effective July 1, 2022	\$0.60/kilometre
Effective July 1, 2023	\$0.64/kilometre
Effective July 1, 2024	\$0.66/kilometre

2. The mileage reimbursement rate established in Article B.10.1 shall be increased by \$0.05/kilometre for travel that is approved and required on unpaved roads.

3. The employer shall reimburse an employee who is required to use their personal vehicle for school district purposes, the difference in premium costs between ICBC rate Class 002 (Pleasure to/from Work) and ICBC rate Class 007 (Business Class) where the employee is required to purchase additional insurance in order to comply with ICBC regulations respecting the use of one's personal vehicle for business purposes.

PCA Article B.10.4 is not applicable in S.D. No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia).

Note: Any and all superior or additional provisions contained in the Previous Collective Agreement shall remain part of the Collective Agreement.

ARTICLE B.11 BENEFITS

1. The employer will provide the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan as set out in Appendix A to Letter of Understanding No. 9.
2. The employer shall provide the local with a copy of the group benefits contract in effect for the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan and shall provide the local with a copy of the financial/actuarial statements made available to the employer from the benefit provider.
3. Teachers Teaching on Call (TTOCs) shall have access to the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan. TTOCs accessing the Plan shall pay 100 percent (100%) of the premium costs.
4. The Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan shall allow for dual coverage and the co-ordination of benefits.

Note: this language applies only where the local union has voted to adopt the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan.

Local Provisions

5. General Benefits

- a. The parties agree that except where specifically provided for elsewhere in this agreement, all continuing teachers, and all temporary teachers appointed for one (1) month or more, are entitled to participate in medical, group life, dental care, and employee and family assistance program benefits and the Board and the teacher shall share the cost of premiums as detailed.
- b. The coverage under these plans shall not be reduced without prior consultation and agreement from the Teachers' Union, and the carriers will not be changed without consultation.

[Not applicable for the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan. See Article B.11.2 and LOU No. 9.]

- c. The Board will provide to any teacher upon request and to each teacher new to the District staff application forms for participation in all benefit plans. In the event a teacher does not wish to participate in any particular benefit plan where opting out is an option, the application or enrolment form must be so noted by the teacher and kept on file by the Board.
 - d. The Board shall advise all teachers, including certificated Teachers Teaching on Call and teachers who are engaged in a less than half time capacity, that they may elect to contribute to the Teachers' Pension Plan through submission of a request to the Board, with a copy to the Commissioner of Teachers' Pensions. Where a teacher chooses to contribute to the Teachers' Pension Plan, the Board will make the appropriate deductions from the teacher's pay.
 - e. The Board shall on a monthly basis advise each teacher in writing of their accumulated Sick Leave.
 - f. The Board shall advise each teacher at the end of September, of those plans in which the teacher is enrolled.
6. a. Where a teacher is on Sick Leave of absence, following the termination of Sick Leave, the Board will continue to pay its regular share of the premiums during the period a teacher is in receipt of BCTF Salary Indemnity Fund benefits and, where necessary, a further period of one calendar year where the teacher is in receipt of benefits from the BCTF Salary Indemnity - Long Term Plan for each of the following plans in which the teacher was a participant at the time the absence began:
- i. Medical Services Plan of B.C.
 - ii. Extended Health Benefits
 - iii. Group Life Insurance Plan
 - iv. Dental Plan.
 - v. Employee and Family Assistance Program.
- b. Except where specifically provided for elsewhere in this collective agreement, an employee on any extended leave of absence shall be entitled to continue benefit coverage by making payments to the Board for their share and the Board's share of the premiums of the benefit plans listed above. Such payments shall be made to the Board in advance of the dates when the premiums are normally paid.
7. All benefit plan coverages, terms, conditions, and specific eligibility requirements shall be governed by the actual terms and conditions of the benefit plans as amended from time to time. Any descriptions in this agreement are provided for the purpose of general information.

8. **Medical Insurance**

- a. The Board shall contribute as its share of premium costs for the Medical Services Plan of B.C. one hundred percent (100%).

9. **Extended Health Care Plan**

The Board shall pay 75 per cent of the premium cost of the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan for each full and part-time teacher employed by the Board.

10. **Group Life Insurance**

- a. The Board shall contribute as its share of the Group Life Insurance Plan seventy-two (72%) of the premium costs.
- b. Membership in this plan is compulsory for all teachers currently enrolled or who join the staff.
- c. Coverage under this plan is:
 - i. Teacher under the age of 35 years 300% of annual salary for group life and 300% of annual salary for accidental death and dismemberment benefits.
 - ii. Teacher age 35 years but under age 45 years 250% of annual salary for group life and 250% of annual salary for accidental death and dismemberment benefits.
 - iii. Teacher age 45 years but under age 55 years 200% of annual salary for group life and 200% of annual salary for accidental death and dismemberment benefits.
 - iv. Teacher age 55 years and over 150% of annual salary for group life and 150% of annual salary for accidental death and dismemberment benefits.
- d. Any premium contributed by an employee toward the total premium payable under this policy for insurance on the life of such employee shall be deemed by the employer to be applied first to the premium for the amount of their insurance (if any) in excess of \$25,000 and the balance (if any) of the employee's premium shall be deemed by the employer to be applied to the first \$25,000 of their insurance.

NOTE: Insurance coverage will be rounded to the next higher \$1,000.00 if not already a multiple thereof.

11. Dental Plan

- a. The Board shall contribute as its share of the Dental Care Plan ninety percent (90%) of the premium costs. Membership in this plan is compulsory for all teachers already on the plan and will be compulsory for all new teachers who are not already participants in a dental plan. Coverage under this plan is:
 - i. Plan "A" – Basic Services 90% paid by the Plan.
 - ii. Plan "B" – Prosthetic Appliances and Crown and Bridge Procedures 50% paid by the Plan. Effective July 1, 2018, major dental coverage is 60% per the provincial minimum.
 - iii. Plan "C" – Orthodontics (lifetime limit of \$1,500) 50% paid by the Plan. Effective July 1, 2015, orthodontics coverage is 75% and the lifetime limit is \$5,000 per the provincial minimums.

12. Employee Family Assistance Program

Each employee shall contribute as their share of the Employee Family Assistance Program \$10.00 of the annual premium costs. The Board shall contribute as its share of the Employee Family Assistance Program the balance of the annual premium costs. Membership in this plan is compulsory for all regular and temporary employees.

13. Death Benefits

In the event of the death of a teacher who, at the time of death has been employed by the Board continuously for six months, the Board shall pay one month's salary to the widow/widower or dependent children. This payment is in addition to any amount earned by the deceased up to the date on which they were last employed by the Board.

ARTICLE B.12 CATEGORY 5+

1. Eligibility for Category 5+

- a. An employee with a Teacher Qualification Service (TQS) Category 5 and an additional 30 semester credits, or equivalent, as accepted by TQS;
 - i. Credits must be equivalent to standards in British Columbia's public universities in the opinion of the TQS.
 - ii. Credits must be in no more than two (2) areas of study relevant to the British Columbia public school system.
 - iii. At least 24 semester credits of the total requirement of 30 semester credits, or equivalent, must be completed at the senior level.

- b. Post undergraduate diplomas agreed to by the TQS; or
 - c. Other courses or training recognized by the TQS.
- 2. Criteria for Category 5+
 - a. The eligibility requirements pursuant to Article B.12.1 must not have been used to obtain Category 5.
- 3. Salary Rate Calculation
 - a. Category 5+ shall be seventy-four percent (74%) of the difference between Category 5 and Category 6 except where a superior salary rate calculation remained as at March 31, 2006 and/or during the term of the 2006-2011 Provincial Collective Agreement.
- 4. Application for Category 5+
 - a. BCPSEA and the BCTF agree that the TQS shall be responsible for the evaluation of eligibility and criteria for Category 5+ pursuant to Article B.12.1 and Article B.12.2 and the assignment of employees to Category 5+.
 - b. BCPSEA and the BCTF agree that disputes with respect to the decisions of TQS made pursuant to Article B.12.1 and Article B.12.2 shall be adjudicated through the TQS Reviews and Appeals processes and are not grievable.

ARTICLE B.13 BOARD PAYMENT OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS' AND SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS' PROFESSIONAL FEES

- 1. Each Board of Education shall pay, upon proof of receipt, fees required for annual Professional Certification required to be held for employment by School Psychologists and Speech Language Pathologists.

ARTICLE B.14 EXPERIENCE RECOGNITION

- 1. Effective July 1, 2022 employees who have worked as a teacher (or in a BCTF bargaining unit equivalent position) in British Columbia while employed by:
 - a. a First Nation, as defined in section 1 of the *School Act*, that is operating a school;
 - b. a Community Education Authority, as established by one or more participating First Nations under the *First Nations Jurisdiction over Education in British Columbia Act* (Canada), that is operating a school; or

- c. a treaty First Nation that is operating a school under the treaty First Nation's laws;
- shall receive credit for their work experience for the purposes of placement on the salary scale.

ARTICLE B.101 SALARY SCHEDULE PLACEMENT

1. All teachers shall be paid on the Basic Salary Schedule set out in Appendix I according to their categories as determined by the Provincial Teachers' Qualification Service and years of experience as determined in accordance with Article B.101.3 except where specifically provided for elsewhere in this agreement.
2. The Board shall notify the teacher, in writing, of the category and the experience placement that has been assigned.
3. **Experience Recognition**
 - a. All teaching experience as follows, on a continuing or temporary appointment or as a Principal / Vice Principal shall be recognized and credited for placement on the salary schedule:
 - i. in government inspected schools in the British Commonwealth and the United States;
 - ii. as a member of the faculty of education at a recognized university,
 - iii. teaching service or appropriate educational service as a member of the staff of the B.C. Ministry of Education,
 - iv. Department of National Defence teaching program:
 - v. other teaching experience where the experience is similar to that of experience gained in a school listed above, as determined by the Superintendent;
 - vi. other experience relevant to the teaching assignment, to a maximum of three (3) years, as determined by the Superintendent.
 - vii. decisions of the Superintendent are grievable at Stage 3.
 - b. All months and fractions of months of teaching service as specified in Article B.101.3.a shall be added together to determine years of experience credit. Documented proof of previous teaching experience shall be provided by the teacher.
 - c. One year of credit will be granted for each ten (10) months of full time equivalent teaching service. Not more than one year of experience will be credited for any school year.

- d. Teaching experience on staff includes leave in amounts as provided for in this agreement for:
- i. Sick Leave,
 - ii. Parenting Leave under Article G.102, Pregnancy and Parental Leave under the *Employment Standards Act*, to a combined maximum of one year,
 - iii. leave of absence for duties with the Union and affiliated organizations,
 - iv. Jury Duty,
 - v. Bereavement Leave,
 - vi. Funeral Leave,
 - vii. elective office,
 - viii. Worker's compensation,
 - ix. Education Leave provided the teacher returns directly to the District,
 - x. professional development,
 - xi. President's Leave,
 - xii. Chief Negotiator's Leave,
 - xiii. Short Term Leave for Union business,
 - xiv. Long Term Leave for Union business,
 - xv. leave of absence for duties with the Union and affiliated organizations,
 - xvi. Business Leave for teachers elected to a Board of the BC Teachers' Council
 - xvii. leave for service related to secondment to the Ministry of Education.
 - xviii. an approved exchange,
 - xix. any of the circumstances set out in Article B.101.3.a.i to B.101.3.a.vi.

4. **Salary Increments**

- a. The salary increment date for a teacher where a teacher is given credit for one more year of teaching experience on the salary schedule shall be the first of the month following the month in which applicable experience accumulation is achieved.

- b. A part-time teacher shall receive an increment as above with teaching time computed on a full-time equivalent basis.
- c. A period of service of less than eight (8) months which would otherwise be eligible for experience credit as per Article B.101.03 and which was earned prior to the time of appointment to the teaching staff of the District and within the last two school years but which was not counted at the time of appointment shall be combined with service on staff for experience recognition to qualify for a salary increment.

5. Special Education Increments

A teacher, whose major instructional responsibility is fifty percent or more for one of the following classes shall be paid one increment over and above their schedule salary according to certification and experience:

- a. The following district programs qualify:
 - i. Junior Alternate Education Program
 - ii. Online Learning Centre
 - iii. Co-Operative Education Centre
 - iv. Transitions Program
 - v. Early Intervention Program
 - vi. Integrated Learning Centre at J Lloyd Crowe
- b. School based teaching staff whose major responsibility is .50 FTE or greater as Resource Teacher with primary responsibility for identified students (Category 116-119).
- c. Any other programs/teacher designated by mutual agreement.

ARTICLE B.102 PART-TIME TEACHERS' PAY AND BENEFITS

- 1. Part-time teachers on either continuing or temporary appointments shall be paid pro rata to the salary of full-time teachers.
- 2. A part-time teacher, temporary or continuing, is eligible to participate in the benefit plans in Article B.11 on the same basis as a full-time teacher.
- 3. Teachers who move from full time employment to a part-time assignment shall be considered to be on leave so that they may purchase pensionable service to provide for a full year pension credit.

ARTICLE B.103 SUMMER SCHOOL PAYMENT

1. A teacher employed to give instruction in summer school shall be paid 1/1600 of regular annual salary for each hour of instruction.

ARTICLE B.104 POSITIONS OF SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY

1.
 - a. A Position of Special Responsibility shall be any position that involves administrative or supervisory duties for which a teacher receives either an allowance or release time in lieu of regular instructional time. For the purpose of this Article, counsellors and librarians shall be considered as classroom teachers.
 - b. Job Descriptions

The Board in consultation with the Union, will prepare and maintain current job descriptions for all Positions of Special Responsibility. These descriptions shall be the recognized job descriptions for such positions and shall be appended to this agreement.
 - c. When a Position of Special Responsibility for which an allowance is to be given is created or changed during the life of the contract, any salary allowance shall be established by negotiations between the Board and the Union. If the parties fail to agree on a salary allowance, the Union may refer the matter to a single arbitrator for an interest arbitration to establish what allowance, if any, should be paid.
 - d. If the parties are unable to agree upon the selection of an arbitrator, the matter of selection will be referred to the Minister of Labour who will make an appointment. Each party will bear one-half (1/2) of the arbitrator's costs.
2.
 - a. **Creation, Elimination or Change of Positions**

Positions of Special Responsibility shall not be created, eliminated or changed without consultation with the Union.
 - b. Positions of Special Responsibility that have been or are being used in the District are:
 - i. Teacher-In-Charge
 - ii. Department Head J.L. Crowe: (12 positions)
 - iii. Department Head Rossland: (5 positions)
 - iv. Department Head Stanley Humphries: (9 positions)
 - v. Department Head Beaver Valley: (1 position)
 - vi. Department Head Kinnaird Middle School: (2 positions)
 - vii. Head Teacher:

1. Alternative Education Rossland
 2. Cooperative Education Centre
 3. On-line Learning Centre Castlegar
- viii. District Appointments:
1. Technology Coordinator
 2. French Coordinator
 3. Russian Coordinator
- ix. Others:
1. Career Preparation Coordinator J.L. Crowe Secondary
 2. Career Preparation Coordinator Rossland Secondary
 3. Career Preparation Coordinator Stanley Humphries
 4. Computer Technology Coordinator (School Based)

3. Allowances

Positions of Special Responsibility to be paid a salary allowance as follows:

	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2023	July 1, 2024
Head Teacher	\$ 3,261.57	\$ 3,481.72	\$ 3,586.18
Head Teacher Co-op Ed	\$ 2,606.14	\$ 2,782.05	\$ 2,865.51
Head Teacher Alt Ed Center	\$ 2,606.14	\$ 2,782.05	\$ 2,865.51
Head Teacher On Line	\$ 2,606.14	\$ 2,782.05	\$ 2,865.51
Coordinators	\$ 3,571.28	\$ 3,812.34	\$ 3,926.71
Department Heads	\$ 3,656.51	\$ 3,903.33	\$ 4,020.43
Teacher in Charge (daily)	\$ 34.47	\$ 36.80	\$ 37.90
Integration Support Teacher	1 increment above regular salary placement		

4. **Teacher-in-Charge**

In the case of a Teacher-in-Charge, the following conditions shall prevail:

- a. the teacher will receive at least as much administrative time during the appointment as would have been provided to the Principal / Vice Principal during the same time and the teacher will only be assigned that which they have the competence to perform;
- b. while acting as a Teacher-in-Charge, the teacher shall be provided with a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) and shall be relieved of teaching duties, to the same extent as the Principal / Vice Principal replaced.

5. **Selection Process**

- a. School Department Heads and Teachers-in-Charge and other school based Positions of Special Responsibility shall be appointed annually. The positions will be posted by May 31 and the selection will be made by June 25.
- b. Other Positions of Special Responsibility will be posted according to Article E.101 of this agreement as they become vacant.
- c. A teacher's acceptance of an appointment as Teacher-in-Charge or School's Department Head will be on a voluntary basis, except in an emergency.

6. **Associated Professionals**

- a. Associated Professionals include Speech/Language Pathologist and Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapists.
- b. The Associated Professional salaries shall be the appropriate schedule in Article B.1.

ARTICLE B.105 FIRST AID ALLOWANCE

1. a. The Board shall pay the following monthly allowance (based on ten (10) months) to a teacher or teachers holding a valid Industrial First Aid Certificate and designated to act as a First Aid attendant in each school as required under Workers' Compensation Board Regulations:

First Aid (Monthly):

Effective July 1, 2022	\$	93.06
Effective July 1, 2023	\$	99.34
Effective July 1, 2024	\$	102.32

2. The Board shall reimburse the applicable course fees for the renewal of the certificate, subject to successful completion of the course. It will be the responsibility of the teacher to apply for this reimbursement and provide proof of payment and proof of successful completion of the course. Where a teacher is designated to perform first aid duties for teachers, and is required to obtain or renew a first aid certificate, leave to take the necessary course shall be granted without loss of pay when the course is only available during prescribed school days.

ARTICLE B.106 PART MONTH PAYMENTS AND DEDUCTIONS

1. The daily salary of a teacher shall be defined as 1/200 of the current annual salary of the teacher.
2. A teacher shall be paid 1/10 of current annual salary in respect of each month in which the teacher works all prescribed school days that month.
3. Except for a Teacher Teaching on Call, the salary payment for the first teaching month for any teacher commencing employment after the first teaching day of the month shall be calculated on the basis of the number of days taught at the daily salary of the teacher to a maximum of 1/10 of current annual salary. Thereafter the teacher shall be paid on scale for each full month.
4. For any teacher leaving the employment of the Board before the last teaching day in a month, deduction for days absent in the month shall be on the basis of the daily salary of the teacher.
5. The rate of deduction for a day without pay shall be the daily salary of the teacher except as specifically provided for elsewhere in this agreement.

ARTICLE B.107 CURRENT SALARY AND CONDITIONS

1. Except as altered by this agreement or modified by the express written agreement of the parties, all privileges and benefits enjoyed by teachers covered by this agreement as of January 1, 1989 shall continue in force and shall not be unilaterally altered.
2. No teacher shall suffer a reduction in their basic salary by reason only of the adoption of this agreement.

ARTICLE B.108 RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PLAN

The Board will pay an early retirement allowance to teachers who resign and retire under the Teachers' Pension Plan before reaching the age of sixty-five (65).

1. The retirement allowance will be calculated as a percentage of the teachers placement on scale in accordance with the collective agreement in effect at the time of retirement, exclusive of other allowances and bonuses in the following amount:

<u>Age</u>	<u>One Payment in the year following retirement</u>
64	5%
63	10%
62	15%
61	20%
60	25%
59	30%
58	35%
57	40%
56	45%
55	50%

Age is defined as actual age by the Teachers' Pension Plan at the effective date of retirement.

2. In order to be eligible for this incentive, the teacher must:
 - a. be on a continuing appointment with a minimum of ten (10) years of continuous service with the Kootenay Columbia School District.
 - b. be age 55 or over in the calendar year of retirement.
 - c. application must be made by April 30.
3. Eligible teachers will continue to receive benefits (Medical Dental, and Extended Health Benefits) for six months after the date of retirement. Payment would be as per contract.
4. The above allowances shall be calculated on a pro rata basis in accordance with the average yearly percentage of time the applicable teacher actually worked in the five (5) years immediately preceding their retirement.
5. The retirement allowance outlined in Article B.108.1 will be paid in the year following retirement. The teacher will select the payment date in consultation with the Secretary Treasurer. Employees are encouraged to obtain information on alternative tax treatment before making the decision.
6. The Board reserves the right to restrict the number of early retirement incentives it pays in one year. Seniority shall be the deciding factor.

7. Access to the plan shall be determined in order of seniority.
 - a. Teachers who do not receive early retirement incentive in the first year of application shall be given first priority in the following year.
 - b. If a teacher applies, is granted early retirement, but refuses to participate, that teacher loses seniority rights (priority rights) for participation in the following year.
8. All provisions are subject to compliance with legislative provisions which may be enacted.
 - a. In the event the Ministry initiates an early retirement incentive, the Board reserves the right to modify the District's early retirement incentive plan.
 - b. The teacher may choose the most advantageous of either the District's plan or a Ministry incentive plan in place, providing that this decision is made prior to the effective date of retirement.
9. This plan shall be implemented at no cost to the Board.

SECTION C EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

ARTICLE C.1 RESIGNATION

1. An employee may resign from the employ of the employer on thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the employer or such shorter period as mutually agreed. Such agreement shall not be unreasonably denied.
2. The employer shall provide the local with a copy of any notice of resignation when it is received.

ARTICLE C.2 SENIORITY

1. Except as provided in this article, "seniority" means an employee's aggregate length of service with the employer as determined in accordance with the provisions of the Previous Collective Agreement.
2. Porting Seniority
 - a. Despite Article C.2.1 above, an employee who achieves continuing contract status in another school district shall be credited with up to twenty (20) years of seniority accumulated in other school districts in B.C.
 - b. Seniority Verification Process
 - i. The new school district shall provide the employee with the necessary verification form at the time the employee achieves continuing contract status.
 - ii. The employee must initiate the seniority verification process and forward the necessary verification forms to the previous school district(s) within one hundred and twenty (120) days of receiving a continuing appointment in the new school district.
 - iii. The previous school district(s) shall make every reasonable effort to retrieve and verify the seniority credits which the employee seeks to port.
3. Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC)
 - a. A TTOC shall accumulate seniority for days of service which are paid pursuant to Article B.2.6.
 - b. For the purpose of calculating seniority credit:
 - i. Service as a TTOC shall be credited:

1. one half (1/2) day for up to one half (1/2) day worked;
 2. one (1) day for greater than one half (1/2) day worked up to one (1) day worked.
- ii. Nineteen (19) days worked shall be equivalent to one (1) month;
 - iii. One hundred and eighty-nine (189) days shall be equivalent to one (1) year.
- c. Seniority accumulated pursuant to Article C.2.3.a and C.2.3.b, shall be included as aggregate service with the employer when a determination is made in accordance with Article C.2.1.
4. An employee on a temporary or term contract shall accumulate seniority for all days of service on a temporary or term contract.
 5. No employee shall accumulate more than one (1) year of seniority credit in any school year.

Local Provisions

6. Definition of Seniority

- a. A teacher is considered to possess seniority if the employee is currently on continuing appointment.
- b. In this agreement, "seniority" means an employee's aggregate length of service in the employment of the Board, inclusive of service under temporary appointment, as a Principal / Vice Principal, and part-time teaching. For the purpose of calculating length of service, part-time teaching shall be credited pro rata to full-time service.

In addition to the foregoing, the seniority for an employee on a continuing contract shall include:

- i. Teacher Teaching on Call seniority accumulated pursuant to PCA Article C.2.3; and
 - ii. Seniority ported in accordance with PCA Article C.2.2 provided that in no case shall an employee be credited with more than one (1) year of seniority for any school year.
- c. When the seniority of two or more employees is equal pursuant to Article C.2.6.b, the employee with the greatest continuous present employment with the Board shall be deemed to have the greatest seniority.

- d. When the seniority of two or more employees is equal pursuant to Article C.2.6.c, the employee with the greatest aggregate length of service with another school authority recognized for salary experience purposes shall be deemed to have the greatest seniority.
- e. When the seniority of two or more employees is equal pursuant to Article C.2.6.d, the employee with the greatest number of days of Teacher Teaching on Call teaching with the Board in the twelve month period just prior to the most recent appointment shall be deemed to have the greatest seniority.
- f. When the seniority of two or more employees is equal pursuant to Article C.2.6.e, the employee with the earliest employment date with the Board shall be deemed to have the greatest seniority.
- g. When the seniority of two or more employees is equal pursuant to Article C.2.6.f, the employee with the earliest application for employment with the Board shall be deemed to have the greatest seniority.
- h. For the purpose of this Article, leave of absence in excess of one month shall not count toward aggregate length of service with the Board, except for any of the following:
 - i. Education Leave as approved by the Board;
 - ii. secondment by the Ministry of Education, a Faculty of Education or pursuant to a teacher exchange program that has been approved by the Board prior to the commencement of the program;
 - iii. Sick Leave;
 - iv. leave for teaching with the Department of National Defence or Canadian Universities Overseas;
 - v. Maternity Leave/Parenting Leave;
 - vi. leave for duties with the Union, or affiliated organizations;
 - vii. leave for elective office at the provincial or federal level;
 - viii. Workers' Compensation Board claim;
 - ix. Compassionate Care Leave (Article G.2).

- i. For the purposes of this Article, continuity of service shall be deemed not to have been broken by resignation for the purposes of maternity/parenting followed by re-engagement within a period of three (3) years, or by lay-off and recall pursuant to this agreement. Seniority that was previously ported from SD No. 20 to another school district pursuant to C.2.2 shall not be re-instated, unless such credits are subsequently ported back to SD No. 20 pursuant to C.2.2.

7. Seniority List

- a. The Board shall calculate seniority to January 31st of each year and forward to the Union by November 30th of the previous year a list of all employees employed by the Board, in order of seniority calculated according to Article C.2 setting out the length of seniority. A similar list will be provided with a calculation of seniority to June 30th of each year and which shall be forwarded to the Union by April 30th of that year.
- b. For the purposes of implementing layoffs under this agreement, seniority will be calculated to the last day of service provided to the District.

ARTICLE C.3 EVALUATION

1. The purposes of evaluation provisions include providing employees with feedback, and employers and employees with the opportunity and responsibility to address concerns. Where a grievance proceeds to arbitration, the arbitrator must consider these purposes, and may relieve on just and reasonable terms against breaches of time limits or other procedural requirements.

[Note: See also Article E.103 Evaluation of Teachers.]

ARTICLE C.4 TTOC EMPLOYMENT

1. Experience Credit
 - a. For the purpose of this article, a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) shall be credited with one (1) day of experience for each full-time equivalent day worked.
 - b. One hundred seventy (170) full-time equivalent days credited shall equal one (1) year of experience.
2. Increment Date for Salary Grid Placement

Upon achieving one (1) year of experience, an increment shall be awarded on the first of the month following the month in which the experience accumulation is earned.

ARTICLE C.101 OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS FOR ARTICLE C.2 AND C.108

1. Accredited pro-rata to full-time service:
 - a. in proportion to the full-time equivalency of the teacher's appointment.
2. Another school authority recognized for salary experience purposes:
 - a. shall mean the specific school authorities which have been recognized by the secretary-treasurer to calculate the teacher's placement on the salary grid.
3. Earliest employment date:
 - a. the actual day of the month of the year in which the teacher commenced working in School District No. 20.
4. Other sources:
 - a. verifiable reports or references.
5. Past training:
 - a. the formal schooling/preparation for work which was previously obtained at an institution of learning: training is education aimed at producing a specific ability or facility in a person.
6. School term:
 - a. July 1 to December 31;
 - b. January 1 to June 30
7. Effective termination date:
 - a. the last day that a teacher is in the employ of the Board.
8. Formative:
 - a. having influence to shape, to assist.
9. Week day:
 - a. a day of the week excluding Saturday, Sunday or a statutory holiday.
10. Parenting Leave:
 - a. as per the Articles in this agreement related to Parenting Leave.

ARTICLE C.102 DISCIPLINE AND DUE PROCESS

1. The Board shall not discipline any person bound by this agreement save and except for just and reasonable cause.
2. Where an employee is under formal investigation by the Board for any cause, the employee shall be advised in writing at the earliest reasonable time and before any action is taken by the Board.
3. Notice of discipline or dismissal shall be in writing and shall set forth the reasons.
4. The Union will receive copies of all discipline, and where a teacher is dismissed the president of the Union shall be informed immediately, the parties agree that the details will be kept confidential.
5. A teacher shall have the right to be accompanied by a representative of the Union at any discussion with the Board's representatives which the employer reasonably believes might be the basis of disciplinary action including meeting in connection with Article C.102.2 above. Teachers will be advised of their right to representation prior to the commencement of any discussions. This clause shall not apply to those discussions that are of an operational nature and do not involve disciplinary action.
6. **Suspension/Dismissal Pursuant to S.15, School Act**
 - a. Where a teacher is suspended pursuant to Section 15(4) and 15(5) of the *School Act*, the teacher shall be informed in writing of the reasons for the suspension and the Board shall, before taking further action on the same issue under Section 15 hold a meeting of the Board. The teacher shall be given notice of the meeting which shall be not sooner than 72 hours after providing the reasons to the teacher and not later than 7 days from the suspension. The teacher shall be entitled to file a written reply to the allegations prior to the Board meeting, which reply, where practicable, is to be delivered to the Board not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting. The Board and the Union may vary these time constraints by mutual agreement. All documents that will be considered by the Board at the meeting will be provided to the teacher as soon as is practicable and no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting.
 - b. At the meeting pursuant to C.102.6.a, the teacher shall be entitled to be represented by the Union. The teacher and their representative shall be entitled to hear all the information presented to the Board.
 - c. Any additional information and/or documents considered by the Board prior to its decision shall be communicated to the teacher and their representative, who shall be given the opportunity to provide rebuttal.
 - d. The decision of the Board shall be communicated in writing and shall contain the grounds for the decision.

- e. The decision of the Board shall be grievable.
- 7. The Board agrees not to introduce as evidence in any hearing any document from the file of the employee, the existence of which the employee was not aware.
- 8. Any disciplinary action by the Board is subject to the Grievance Procedure in Article A.6. A grievance with respect to dismissal may be initiated at Stage 3 of the Grievance Procedure.
- 9. Provided that the conduct of a teacher subsequent to the decision to discipline does not give rise to the need for further discipline, the Board agrees that the statement of the grounds for discipline and related information shall be the material relied upon during the arbitration process in Article A.6.
- 10. The parties agree that there shall be only one grievance for any one disciplinary action and that such grievance may incorporate all procedural and process issues.

ARTICLE C.103 PROCEDURES WHERE DISMISSAL BASED ON PERFORMANCE

- 1. The Board shall not dismiss a teacher who has passed their probationary period and where the dismissal is based on performance, except where the Board has received three reports pursuant to Article E.103 of this agreement indicating that the learning situation in the class or classes is less than satisfactory.
- 2. The reports referred to in Article C.103.1 shall be prepared in accordance with the process established in Article E.103 of this agreement, and in accordance with the following conditions:
 - a. the reports shall have been issued in a period of not less than twelve (12) or more than twenty-four (24) months;
 - b. at least one of the reports shall be a report of a Superintendent of Schools an Assistant Superintendent of Schools or a Director of Instruction.
 - c. the other two reports shall include only reports of
 - i. a Superintendent of Schools, an Assistant Superintendent of Schools or a Director of Instruction;
 - ii. Director of Instruction or District Principal;
 - iii. a Principal / Vice Principal of a school to which the teacher is assigned;
 - iv. a Principal / Vice Principal of a school to which the teacher is not assigned.

- d. the reports shall be written by at least two different evaluators;

a teacher may request, in writing, that the superintendent assign an alternate evaluator to conduct the evaluation.
 - e. where more than one of the three (3) reports is written by the same person, at least six (6) months shall have elapsed between the writing of the first and the final report by that person.
- 3. Where the Board intends to dismiss a teacher on grounds of less than satisfactory teaching situation, it shall notify the teacher and the president of the Union of such intention and provide an opportunity for the teacher and their representative to meet with the Superintendent and the Board within seven (7) days of such notice.
 - 4. Where, subsequent to such meeting, the Board decides to dismiss a teacher pursuant to this article, it shall issue notice of dismissal setting out the grounds for such action.
 - 5. The parties agree that there shall be only one grievance for any one disciplinary action and that such grievance may incorporate all procedural and process issues.

ARTICLE C.104 PART TIME TEACHERS' EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

1. Partial Reduction in Assignment

- a. A teacher with a continuing full-time appointment to the teaching staff of the District may without prejudice to that appointment request a part-time assignment, specifying the fraction of time requested, and the length of time for which the part-time assignment is requested. The Board shall not unreasonably refuse such a request. Any such assignment shall not exceed two (2) years except by mutual agreement.
- b. When the request under Article C.104.1.a is granted by the Board, the teacher shall be entitled to return to a similar full-time assignment at the expiration of the period of time for which the Board has made the part-time assignment. The teacher may return to a full-time assignment at an earlier date or may extend the period of part-time teaching, by agreement with the Board, if reasonable notice of the request for earlier or later return has been given.
- c. A teacher with a continuing part-time appointment without prejudice to that appointment may request an additional temporary part-time appointment for a specified fraction of time to a maximum of full-time.
- d. Teachers on part-time continuing appointment, or part-time temporary appointment, may request a full-time continuing appointment.
- e. When the request under Article C.104.1.a is granted, the teacher shall be considered on leave for the time not working.

ARTICLE C.105 TEMPORARY TEACHERS' EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

1. Employment of Temporary Contract Teachers

- a. The Board may appoint teachers on temporary appointments:
 - i. for temporarily existing or temporarily vacant positions,
 - ii. for a period not exceeding the remainder of the current school year to any position which has become vacant during that school year.
- b. A position which exists for more than two (2) consecutive years shall be deemed not to be temporarily existing for purposes of Article C.105.1.a, unless the parties mutually agree otherwise.
- c. The Board agrees to forward to the Union, by October 15 of each year, a list of all teachers employed on temporary appointment, all temporarily existing positions and all temporarily vacant positions for the school year; and to provide updated lists by February 15 of each year.

2. Teachers who have been employed by the Board on one or more temporary contracts shall accumulate seniority, for purposes of employment pursuant to Article E.101.4.

3. Conversion to Continuing Contract

A teacher on a temporary contract shall be granted continuing contract status on the date following the completion of two (2) years full time equivalent service in the employment of the Board over a sixty (60) consecutive month period.

ARTICLE C.106 TEACHER TEACHING ON CALL HIRING PRACTICES

1. Teacher Teaching on Call List

The Board shall maintain a list of persons who, following their application to and screening by the Board, are accepted by the Board as Teachers Teaching on Call. The Board shall forward the full list including the grade levels and subject areas for which each Teacher Teaching on Call is qualified and the work locations agreed to by the Teacher Teaching on Call and the Board, to the Union and the school, at least every second month.

2. Teacher Teaching on Call Hiring

- a. The Board shall, pursuant to Section 19 of the *School Act*, select a person on the list who is qualified for the assignment and who possesses a valid B.C. teaching certificate, in preference to selecting, or retaining for more than five (5) days, a person not possessing such a certificate.

- b. The Board may appoint persons not on the list to a Teacher Teaching on Call teaching assignment only in the event that no available person on the list possesses the necessary qualifications for the assignment.
 - c. Where the Board reasonably expects a teacher to be absent for more than twenty (20) days, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment to a temporary contract.
3. Twice annually on December 30 and June 30, the Board shall provide the Union with a list of Teachers Teaching on Call who have worked in the previous term, and the number of days they have worked in each area when they are listed as qualified pursuant to Article C.106.1.

ARTICLE C.107 PROBATION

- 1. Without restricting the right of the Board to dismiss a teacher, the Board may, during the first nine months worked of a continuing teacher's appointment place a teacher on probation.
- 2. Notwithstanding Article E.103 no recommendation to place a teacher on probation for reasons of classroom performance shall be made without observation of the teacher and an evaluation report issued in accordance with this agreement.
- 3. Prior to placing a teacher on a probationary appointment, any weakness in performance shall be brought to the attention of the teacher and suggestions for improvement given.
- 4. In the event that the Board decides to place a teacher on probation, it shall provide the teacher with prior written notice and full written reasons.
- 5. A teacher on probation may be dismissed upon thirty (30) days' notice in writing including at least twenty teaching days, provided that the notice shall not be given during the first thirty days of the probation period, such notice to be issued only after consultation with the Superintendent and consideration of an evaluation report issued by the Superintendent, and also an evaluation report issued by the principal if the teacher was assigned to a school.
- 6. A teacher placed on probation shall be on probation for a maximum of six (6) months worked.

ARTICLE C.108 LAYOFF, RECALL AND SEVERANCE

- 1. **Principle of Security**
 - a. The Board and the Union agree that increased length of service in the employment of the Board entitles teachers to increased security of teaching employment.

- b. It is understood that this principle of security shall be consistent with the preservation of a satisfactory learning situation.

2. **Definition of Qualifications**

- a. In this agreement, necessary qualifications in respect to teaching position means a reasonable expectation that the teacher can perform the duties of the position in a satisfactory manner, based on a review of the teacher's certification and past training, education and teaching experience.
- b. It is understood that the review of past training, education and teaching experience will be generally conducted in accordance with the intent of the criteria contained in Article C.108.2.b.i through C.108.2.b.iv below. However, it is also understood that these criteria are not prescriptive nor do they constitute an exhaustive list of the criteria to be considered when determining qualifications.
 - i. satisfactory teaching experience in the specific school program(s) to be taught, for a minimum of one year within the last ten years; or
 - ii. educational preparation as follows, verified in official university transcripts:
 - 1. a major or minor in the specific school program(s) to be taught; or
 - 2. three or more university courses (equal to nine UBC units) completed in the specific school program(s) to be taught; or
 - 3. two university courses (equal to six UBC units) completed for the specific school program(s) to be taught with evidence of participation in a series of workshops, or enrolment in short courses or audit of courses directly related to the program(s) to be taught; or
 - iii. educational preparation sufficient for the specific school programs to be taught in the technical or vocational field that is demonstrated by such qualifications as trade school or journeyman certification; or
 - iv. demonstrated ability as documented in official reports issued within the last five years, or from other sources, which clearly indicates the teacher can undertake the specific school programs to be taught.
- c. The review of qualifications shall include consideration of the availability of education courses or other retraining opportunities relevant to the position and the specific needs of the teacher involved that would permit the teacher to establish qualifications, and which the teacher is, with written commitment, willing and able to complete prior to and/or during this assignment.

- d. The review of qualifications shall include consideration of a reasonable period of familiarization and/or suitable support for the teacher. In determining what is a reasonable period of familiarization and/or suitable support for the teacher, the above mentioned training opportunities will be considered. Failure by the teacher to complete the course(s) or retraining agreed to, within the specified period, shall result in the loss of qualifications for the teaching position, unless circumstances arise which are beyond the control of the teacher and which prohibit participation by the teacher. In such circumstances the teacher's qualifications will be reassessed pursuant to this section.
- e. It is understood that teachers shall be required to supply academic records and other evidence of pre and inservice training details, records of teaching and/or work experience, teaching reports and references; also, a teacher may be required to attend personal interview(s) with the superintendent of schools and/or other District and/or school administrative staff.
- f. It is understood that if a teacher is given an unfamiliar position, that at least two informal formative consultations will be provided by the supervising Principal / Vice Principal as support for the teacher. A report on the teacher's performance may be issued during the teacher's first year in the teaching position.

3. Security of Employment Based on Seniority and Qualifications

- a. "Layoff" means an action by the Board of Education to layoff a continuing teacher due to:
 - i. a discontinuation or reduction in the level of a program, activity or service;
 - ii. a change in the organizational structure of the school district, or;
 - iii. the amount of available operating funds.
- b. If the Board determines that it is necessary to layoff a teacher under Article C.108.3.a, the teachers to be retained on the teaching staff of the District shall be those who have the greatest seniority, provided that they possess the necessary qualifications for the positions in the District.
- c. A teacher for whom no position is available under Article C.108.3.a be laid off.
- d. The Board shall give each teacher it intends to layoff pursuant to this section:
 - i. at least thirty (30) days' notice before the end of a school term, if the layoff is to take place at the end of the term, or

- ii. at least sixty (60) days' notice before the layoff is to take place, if the effective layoff date is at any time other than at the end of a school term. Such notice will not be issued between June 1 and August 31 inclusive, except to deal with the result of an arbitration decision made under Article A.6 of this agreement.
 - iii. Any notice given pursuant to this section shall contain the reason for the layoff, and a list of teaching positions, if any, in respect to which the Board proposes to retain a teacher with less seniority. The Board shall concurrently forward a copy of such notice to the Union.
- e. No teacher shall be laid off for at least ten (10) teaching months as the result of the return of a Principal, Vice Principal or Director of Instruction to the bargaining unit pursuant to Section 21 of the *School Act*.

No teacher shall be transferred from their school in the same school year as the result of the return of a Principal, Vice Principal or Director of Instruction to the bargaining unit at that school pursuant to Section 21 of the *School Act*, unless arrangements for the return were concluded by May 31 of the previous school year.

The parties agree that Article C.108.3.e does not have application in the following circumstances:

When a teacher accepts an administrative position that is:

- i. Temporarily existing or temporarily vacant due to an administrative absence for reasons of health, secondment to another position, Maternity/Parenting or a defined leave of absence, or;
- ii. for a period not exceeding the remainder of the current school year to any position which has become vacant during that school year

and the teacher returns to a teaching assignment at the end of the administrative appointment.

4. **Rights to Recall**

- a. In this Article "re-engagement" means the restoration to staff of a teacher who has been laid off under this agreement.
- b. When a position on the teaching staff of the District becomes available, the Board shall, notwithstanding any other provision of this agreement, except for Article C.108.7, first offer recall to the teacher who held a continuing contract at the time of layoff and who was the most senior among those laid off pursuant to Article C.108.3, and who possesses the necessary qualifications for the available position. If that teacher declines the offer, the position shall be offered to the teacher who held a continuing contract at the time of layoff and who was the next most senior

provided that the teacher possesses the necessary qualifications, and the process shall be repeated until the position is filled. All positions shall be filled in this manner while there are remaining teachers who have been laid off pursuant to Article C.108.3.

- c. A teacher who is offered recall pursuant to Article C.108.4.b shall inform the Board whether or not this offer is accepted, within two weekdays of the receipt of such offer. It is the obligation of the teacher to inform the Board in writing of their current address and phone number and to check their school district email regularly.
- d. The Board shall allow a maximum of ten (10) days from the acceptance of an offer under Article C.108.4.c for the teacher to commence teaching duties, provided that, where the teacher is required to give a longer period of notice to their present employer, such longer period shall be allowed to a maximum of thirty (30) days.
- e. A teacher who is not able to accept a teaching position offered under this Article, because of involvement in an educational program or eligibility for Maternity/Parenting Leave, shall not lose rights to recall.
- f. A teacher's rights to recall under this section are lost if:
 - i. the teacher refuses to accept two offers of continuing positions of equal or greater percentage of full-time equivalency the teacher had at the time of layoff, for which they possess the necessary qualifications, excepting a teacher as described in Article C.108.4.e, or
 - ii. three (3) years elapse from the date of layoff under Article C.108.3.d and the teacher has not been re-engaged.
 - iii. the teacher elects to receive severance pay under Article C.108.8.
- g. A teacher shall be entitled to a continuing appointment or a temporary appointment to the teaching staff of the District subject to Article C.108.1.b, if the teacher held a continuing appointment at the time of layoff. A teacher on temporary appointment within the school district who becomes entitled to a newly open continuing position pursuant to this section shall receive a continuing appointment, and at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools another teacher may be appointed on an interim basis to the newly open continuing position for the remaining term of the original temporary appointment. A teacher who held a continuing appointment and who accepts any position other than a continuing position shall retain right to recall under the provisions of this agreement.

5. **Sick Leave Entitlement**

A teacher re-engaged pursuant to Article C.108.4 shall be entitled to all Sick Leave credit accumulated at the date of layoff.

6. **Participation in Benefits**

A teacher who retains rights of recall pursuant to Article C.108.4 shall be entitled, if otherwise eligible, to maintain participation in all benefits provided in Article B.11 by payment of the full cost of such benefits to the Board.

7. **Competition for Administrative Positions**

Nothing in this agreement shall prohibit the Board from determining which individuals fill school and District administrative positions.

8. **Severance Pay**

- a. A teacher on continuing appointment who has one or more years of continuous employment and who is laid off, pursuant to this agreement, may elect to receive severance pay at any time before the expiration of that teacher's right to recall pursuant to this Article.
- b. Severance pay shall be calculated at the rate of five percent (5%) of one year's salary, for each of the first four (4) years, six percent (6%) thereafter, for each year of seniority in the District, to a maximum of one (1) year's salary, with a lump sum payment. The salary on which severance pay is calculated shall be the teacher's salary at the time of the layoff.
- c. A teacher who receives severance pay pursuant to this Article and who is subsequently rehired by the Board shall retain any payment made under the terms of this Article, and in such case, for purposes only of above of this Article, the calculation of years of service shall commence with the date of such rehiring.

9. **Operational Definitions**

Operational definitions for this Article are contained in Article C.101.

10. **Retraining**

- a. Within three (3) years of layoff under Article C.108.3 a teacher shall be entitled to enter a retraining program. The period of time taken for retraining shall not be deducted from the three (3) years during which the teacher is entitled to re-engagement. In the event that a teacher elects to retrain pursuant to this Article the Board shall allow a maximum time period of twelve (12) months for this purpose. This period shall be without pay and not count towards the aggregate length of service with the Board.

- b. When the Board implements new equipment, the operation of which is necessary for proper instruction of a class, the teacher(s) affected will be provided with training in the operation of the new equipment, such training to be with pay.

SECTION D WORKING CONDITIONS

ARTICLE D.1 CLASS SIZE AND TEACHER WORKLOAD

Note: This table is a summary of the K-3 class size limits and is provided for reference only. The parties must refer to the language in full when applying the Collective Agreement. In particular, parties should review Letter of Understanding No. 12 Re: Agreement Regarding Restoration of Class Size, Composition, Ratios and Ancillary Language ("LOU No. 12") Class Size provisions – paragraphs 6 – 9.

Grade	Class Size Limits	Source of Class Size
Kindergarten	Shall not exceed 20 students	LOU No. 12
Grade 1	Shall not exceed 22 students	LOU No. 12
Grade 2	Shall not exceed 22 students	LOU No. 12
Grade 3	Shall not exceed 22 students	LOU No. 12

1. Maximum class sizes shall be:

- Grades 4-7: multi-age, split grades 24
- Grades 8-12:
 - multi-age, 24
 - labs in Science, 24
 - Home Economics, 24
 - Industrial Education 24
- Special Education Class (and E.S.L.)
 - Grades K-7: 10
 - Grades 8-12: 15
- Any other class (Grades 4 - 12) 30

Note: Also see Local LOU No. 1 *Re: Class Size Limit*

2. After September 30 of each year, and 21 calendar days from the start of class, in the second semester of a semestered school, the size of a class shall not exceed the numbers in Article D.1.1 above by more than two students for all grades, except for where a larger grouping of students is requested by the teacher directly involved to fulfil a particular educational purpose.
3. The number of students in a laboratory, shop or other specialized classroom shall not exceed the number for which the facilities were designed.

4. In an emergency situation an Administrative Officer may assign a student to any classroom on a temporary basis while a practical alternative is being determined. The teacher shall be advised of the situation. Such an assignment shall normally not exceed one week.

ARTICLE D.2 CLASS COMPOSITION AND INCLUSION

No provincial language.

Local Language:

1. The Board and Union recognize that students, other than those identified for purposes of Student Support Services funding, may significantly affect classroom management, routines and instructions.
2. Where the teacher determines that there are students in their class who significantly affect classroom management, routines, or instruction, they shall have the right to refer such students to the Principal for consideration and appropriate action.
3. A teacher not satisfied with Principal's response may refer the situation to the Educational Resources Committee.
 - a. The Committee will meet within five (5) working days of the request.
 - b. Where the need for review is urgent, the Committee may appoint a two person sub-committee, one person representing the Board and the other the Union, to conduct the review.
 - c. The Education Resources Committee will review the decision or the report of the two-person committee and make its conclusions and recommendations known to the Board, the KCTU and the person(s) requesting the review.

Mainstreaming and Integration

4. Where practicable in schools providing special programs and/or mainstreaming/integration, the following criteria and conditions shall prevail regarding the integration/entrance and/or exit of students with special needs.
5. Entrance and exit from a special program will be with the approval of the school based team and parent(s) or guardian.
6. Integration will be coordinated by the school based team which will include the Administrative Officer or Head Teacher, the regular classroom teacher(s), special services personnel and parent/guardian.

7. The degree of integration into regular classes will depend upon the ability of the special student to function within the class instructional range and be socially/behaviourally adaptive at the regular class level.
8.
 - a. The "receiving" regular classroom teacher may receive, upon request to the Director of Special Services, inservice to ensure that the integration experience meets the needs of the teacher, the special program student(s) and the regular classroom students.
 - b. Upon the recommendation of the Director of Special Services any teacher of an exceptional student shall have the opportunity for professional development retraining. Whenever possible this professional development shall take place prior to placement of the student.
 - c. Where such in-service training or professional development must take place in the months of July and/or August the teacher shall be compensated as specified in Article D.103.6 and shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred.
9. A review of each student in special programs shall be conducted annually by the school-based team.
10. The Board will ensure that any additional resources necessary to integrate an exceptional student are available prior to the placement of an exceptional student in any class. The necessary resources shall be determined by the Board in consultation with the school based team.
11. Teachers of integrated children shall be given appropriate release time as approved by the Director of Special Services, based on the recommendation of the school based team, for the purposes of conferencing with regards to integration of exceptional children. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

Review Process

12. Where the processes or resources referred to above and in D.2.1 – D.2.3 are not followed or made available because it is deemed impracticable, on the request of anyone directly affected by that decision, a review of that decision will be made.
13. A person wishing a review will make such request to the Educational Resources Committee. The Committee will meet within five (5) working days of the request.
14. Where the need for review is urgent, the Committee may appoint a two person sub-committee, one person representing the Board and the other the Union, to conduct the review.
15. The Education Resources Committee will review the decision or the report of the two-person Committee and make its conclusions and recommendations known to the Board, the KCTU and the person(s) requesting the review.

ARTICLE D.3 NON-ENROLLING STAFFING RATIOS

Note: This table is a summary of the provincial non-enrolling teacher staffing ratios and is provided for reference only. The parties must refer to Letter of Understanding No. 12 Re: Agreement Regarding Restoration of Class Size, Composition, Ratios and Ancillary Language (“LOU No. 12”) in full when applying the ratios.

Where the ratio below is from a source other than LOU No. 12, it is a lower ratio and has replaced the ratio in LOU No. 12.

Position	Ratio	Source of ratio
Teacher Librarian	1:670 students	Agreement in Committee (1998)
Counsellors	1:678 students	Agreement in Committee (1998)
Learning Assistance Teachers (LAT)	1:486 students	Agreement in Committee (1998)
Special Education Resource Teachers (SERT)	1:298 students	Agreement in Committee (1998)
English Second Language (ESL)/ English Language Learning (ELL)	1:60 ESL/ELL students	Former LOU No. 5 (2000)

ARTICLE D.4 PREPARATION TIME

PCA Article D.4.1 through D.4.3 is not applicable in SD 20 (Kootenay-Columbia). See Article D.102

ARTICLE D.5 MIDDLE SCHOOLS

1. Where there are no negotiated provisions concerning the implementation or operation of a middle school program, this article shall govern the implementation or operation of a middle school program in a school district.
2. Should the employer seek to establish a middle school program in one or more schools in a district, the employer and the local shall meet, no later than ten (10) working days from a decision of the employer to implement a middle school program, in order to negotiate any alternate or additional provisions to the Collective Agreement which are necessary to accommodate the intended middle school program.
3. In the absence of any other agreement with respect to the instructional day and preparation time, the provisions of the Collective Agreement with regard to secondary schools shall apply to middle schools.

4. If the employer and the local are unable to agree on what, if any, alternate or additional provisions of the Collective Agreement are necessary to accommodate the intended middle school program(s), either party may refer the matter(s) in dispute to expedited arbitration for final and binding resolution pursuant to Article D.5.5 below.
5.
 - a. The jurisdiction of the arbitrator shall be limited to the determination of alternate or additional provisions necessary to accommodate the intended middle school program(s).
 - b. In the event the arbitration is not concluded prior to the implementation of the middle school program, the arbitrator will have remedial authority to make appropriate retroactive modifications and adjustments to the agreement.
 - c. The arbitration shall convene within thirty (30) working days of referral to arbitration in accordance with the following:
 - i. Within ten (10) working days of the matter being referred to arbitration, the parties shall identify all issues in dispute;
 - ii. Within a further five (5) working days, there shall be a complete disclosure of particulars and documents;
 - iii. Within a further five (5) working days, the parties shall exchange initial written submissions;
 - iv. The hearing shall commence within a further ten (10) working days; and
 - v. The arbitrator shall render a final and binding decision within fifteen (15) working days of the arbitration concluding.
6. Where a middle school program has been established on or prior to ratification of the 2006-2011 Provincial Collective Agreement, the existing provisions shall be retained unless the parties mutually agree that they should be amended.

Note: Also see Local LOU No. 1 *Re: Class Size Limit*

ARTICLE D.6 ALTERNATE SCHOOL CALENDAR

1. In this article, an alternative school calendar is a school calendar that differs from the standard school calendar as specified in Schedule 1 (Supplement) of the *School Calendar Regulation 114/02*.

2. When a school district intends to implement an alternate school calendar, written notification shall be provided to the local no later than forty (40) working days prior to its implementation. The employer and the local shall meet within five (5) working days following receipt of such notice to negotiate modifications to the provisions of the agreement that are directly or indirectly affected by the proposed change(s). The aforesaid modifications shall preserve, to the full legal extent possible, the original intent of the agreement.
3. The process outlined below in Article D.6.4 through Article D.6.7 applies only to modifications to the school calendar that include a four-day school week, a nine-day fortnight, or a year round calendar.
4. If the parties cannot agree on the modifications required, including whether or not a provision(s) is/are directly or indirectly affected by the proposed alternate school calendar, the matter(s) in dispute may be referred, by either party, to expedited arbitration pursuant to Article D.6.6 below for final and binding resolution.
5. The jurisdiction of the arbitrator shall be limited to the modifications of the agreement necessary to accommodate the alternate school calendar.
6. In the event the arbitration is not concluded prior to the implementation of the alternate school calendar, the arbitrator will have remedial authority to make retroactive modifications and adjustments to the agreement.
7. The arbitration shall convene within thirty (30) working days of referral to arbitration in accordance with the following:
 - a. Within ten (10) working days of the matter being referred to arbitration, the parties shall identify all issues in dispute;
 - b. Within a further five (5) working days, there shall be a complete disclosure of particulars and documents;
 - c. Within a further five (5) working days, the parties shall exchange initial written submissions;
 - d. The hearing shall commence within a further ten (10) working days; and
 - e. The arbitrator shall render a final and binding decision within a further fifteen (15) working days.
8. Where an alternate school calendar has been established prior to the ratification of the Collective Agreement, existing agreements that accommodate the alternate school calendar shall be retained unless the parties agree that they should be amended.

Note: BCTF will provide a list of acceptable arbitrators from the current list of arbitrators available through the Collective Agreement Arbitration Bureau.

ARTICLE D.101 ITINERANT TEACHER

1. An itinerant teacher's assigned instructional time shall include necessary travel time between schools on the same school day.

ARTICLE D.102 REGULAR WORK WEEK

1. A teacher's assigned instructional time shall not exceed 1325 minutes per week.
2. Part-time Teachers' assigned instructional time shall be pro-rated from 1325 minutes per week.
3. The current averaging arrangement practiced in each school with regard to assigned instructional time may continue.
4. No teacher shall be required to offer classroom instruction for more than five (5) hours daily except by mutual agreement.
5. Notwithstanding clauses D.102.1 – D.102.4
 - a. Teacher's assigned instructional time at a secondary school shall not exceed 1352 minutes per week.
 - b. Part-time teacher's assigned instructional time at a secondary school shall be pro-rated from 1352.
 - c. The current averaging arrangement for teacher's practiced in each school with regard to assigned instructional time of 1352 minutes may continue.
 - d. No teacher at a secondary school shall be required to offer classroom instruction for more than five (5) hours and nine (9) minutes daily except by mutual agreement.
6.
 - a. The parties agree that on occasion it may be desirable to vary the maximum minutes of assigned instructional time per week. A teacher wishing to vary the maximum minutes per week should discuss this with their Principal. If there is mutual interest in this arrangement it shall be referred to the Union and Board for discussion, negotiations and agreement.
 - b. If parties agree, the exception to Article D.102 will be valid through June 30th of that year.

ARTICLE D.103 REGULAR WORK YEAR FOR TEACHERS

1. If the Ministry of Education issues a school calendar the annual salary established by this agreement shall be paid in respect of that school calendar.

2. If the Ministry of Education does not issue a school calendar, the Board and the Union will meet to negotiate a school calendar which provides for all such days in session to be scheduled between the first day after Labour Day and the last Friday in June, provided that this is in compliance with the Ministry requirements for the number of days and hours of instruction.
3. If the parties are unable to reach a mutual agreement, the issue will be referred by either party to consensual mediation - arbitration as provided in Part 7, Section 105 of the proposed *Labour Relations Code* R.S.B.C. 1996, c.244 with amendments.
4. The annual salary established by this agreement shall be paid in respect of that school calendar.
5. All Non-Instructional Days shall be scheduled by mutual agreement.
6. **Compensatory Time Off**

Any work performed by employees covered by this agreement beyond the regular teacher's work year shall be voluntary, and shall be compensated at the rate of 1/200 of an annual salary per diem to be taken as compensatory time off (CTO), and all other benefits and conditions provided by this agreement shall apply to such work. Scheduling of CTO pursuant to this section shall be at the teacher's discretion subject to there being a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) available pursuant to Article C.106.

ARTICLE D.104 SUPERVISION DUTIES

1. Noon Hour Supervision

No teacher shall be required to perform regular supervision duties during the school's regularly scheduled noon intermission.

2. Assignment of Duties

All supervisory duties shall be assigned on an equitable basis by the Principal / Vice Principal in each school.

3. Duties of Teachers

Teachers, except Teachers Teaching on Call and those teachers whose assignment is that of permanent Teacher Teaching on Call, shall not be required:

- a. to perform the instructional duties of a teacher who is absent; or
- b. to supervise the students of a teacher who is absent; or

- c. to supervise study sessions or other classroom supervision except in the following circumstances:
 - i. within the assigned instructional time limit of 1325 minutes per week at elementary levels and 1352 minutes per week at secondary levels; or
 - ii. by mutual agreement; or
 - iii. in the case of an emergency.
- 4. Notwithstanding Article D.104.3 librarians shall not be used to provide non-instructional time for other teachers.

ARTICLE D.105 EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 1. In this agreement, extra-curricular programs and activities include all those that are beyond the provincially prescribed and locally determined curricula of the school.
- 2. The Board agrees that all extra-curricular activities are voluntary and teachers can withdraw from such activities at any time.

ARTICLE D.106 STAFF MEETINGS

- 1. A schedule of staff meetings for the year will be developed in consultation with all school staff no later than the first staff meeting of the school year.
- 2. At least seven (7) days' notice of any changes to scheduled staff meetings shall be given; and where practicable, at least two (2) days' notice will be given of agenda items.
- 3. All staff members are encouraged to forward items to be considered by the Principal / Vice Principal for inclusion on the agenda.
- 4. Minutes of staff meetings shall be taken and circulated to all staff members within five (5) business days of the meeting.
- 5. Scheduled staff meetings shall be conducted in an expeditious manner with due consideration given to length.
- 6. Part-time and itinerant teachers are expected to attend staff meetings whenever practicable.
- 7. Whenever practicable, teachers should avoid scheduling other commitments during scheduled staff meeting times.

ARTICLE D.107 TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

1. The parties agree to be bound by the *Labour Relations Code* R.S.B.C. 1996, c.244 with amendments as it relates to technological change.

ARTICLE D.108 DISTRICT HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. Statutory Compliance

The Union and the Board agree that regulations made pursuant to the *Workers' Compensation Act*, the *School Act* or any other statute of the Province of British Columbia pertaining to the working environment, shall be fully complied with.

2. District Health and Safety Committee

- a. A District Health and Safety Committee shall be established by the employer, and may include other bargaining units.
- b. The committee shall be composed of not more than six members, with equal representation from the Teachers' Union and the employer, or such other representation as is mutually agreed to.
- c. The chairperson and secretary shall be elected by the members of the committee. Where the chairperson is an employer-member, the secretary shall be an employee member and vice versa.

d. Function

The District Health and Safety Committee shall assist in creating a safe and healthy place of work and learning.

e. Detailed Duties

The committee shall:

- i. provide general oversight, at a district level, on regular inspections of the place of employment that are carried out as required by the *Workers' Compensation Act* of British Columbia.
- ii. provide general oversight, at a district level, on the provisions of health services as outlined in the *School Act* are carried out.
- iii. recommend measures, at a district level, required to attain compliance with the *School Act* and the *Workers' Compensation Act* of B.C. and the correction of hazardous conditions.

- iv. hold regular meetings at least once each month for the review of:
 - 1. reports of current accidents, their causes and means of prevention;
 - 2. remedial action taken or required by the reports of investigations and inspections;
 - 3. any other matters pertinent to health and safety.
- v. Record the proceedings of the committee and forward the minutes promptly to the employer.

3. Assistance to Pupils

- a. Teachers have a duty to render assistance to pupils as would a caring and responsible parent.
- b. Teachers shall not be required to administer or dispense medication nor administer other medical procedures, on a regular or predictable basis.

ARTICLE D.109 SMOKE FREE WORK ENVIRONMENT

- 1. Both parties agree that there will be no smoking on school premises.

ARTICLE D.110 HOME EDUCATION CHILDREN

- 1. A teacher given responsibility outside a regularly scheduled class for provision of educational services to one or more home education children shall be given appropriate time to enable the teacher to provide such services.

SECTION E PERSONNEL PRACTICES

ARTICLE E.1 NON-SEXIST ENVIRONMENT

1. A non-sexist environment is defined as that in which there is no discrimination against employees based on sex, gender identity or expression, including by portraying them in gender stereotyped roles, refusing to acknowledge their identity, or by omitting their contributions.
2. The employer does not condone and will not tolerate any expression of sexism. In September of each school year the employer and the local shall jointly notify administrative officers and staff, in writing, of their commitment to a non-sexist environment.
3. The employer and the local shall promote a non-sexist environment through the development, distribution, integration and implementation of anti-sexist educational programs, activities, and learning resources for both staff and students.
4. Prior to October 31st of each school year, principals or vice-principals will add to the agenda of a regularly scheduled staff meeting a review of anti-sexist educational programs, activities and learning resources.

ARTICLE E.2 HARASSMENT/SEXUAL HARASSMENT

General

1. The employer recognizes the right of all employees to work, to conduct business and otherwise associate free from harassment or sexual harassment, including harassment based on the grounds in the *Human Rights Code* of BC.
2. The employer considers harassment in any form to be totally unacceptable and will not tolerate its occurrence. Proven harassers shall be subject to discipline and/or corrective actions. Such actions may include:
 - a. counselling;
 - b. courses that develop an awareness of harassment;
 - c. verbal warning, written warning, transfer, suspension or dismissal.
3. No employee shall be subject to reprisal, threat of reprisal or discipline as the result of filing a complaint of harassment or sexual harassment which the complainant reasonably believes to be valid.

4. There will be no harassment and/or discrimination against any member of the local because they are participating in the activities of the local or carrying out duties as a representative of the local.
5. All parties involved in a complaint agree to deal with the complaint expeditiously and to respect confidentiality.
6. The complainant and/or the alleged offender, if a member(s) of the Local, may at the choice of the employee be accompanied by a representative(s) of the Local at all meetings in this procedure.

Definitions

7. Harassment includes:
 - a. any improper behaviour that would be cruel and/or offensive to any reasonable person, is unwelcome, and which the initiator knows or ought reasonably to know would be unwelcome; or
 - b. objectionable conduct, comment, materials or display made on either a one-time or continuous basis that would demean, belittle, intimidate, or humiliate any reasonable person; or
 - c. the exercise of power or authority in a manner which serves no legitimate work purpose and which a person ought reasonably to know is inappropriate; or
 - d. misuses of power or authority such as exclusion, intimidation, threats, coercion and blackmail; or
 - e. sexual harassment.
8. Sexual harassment includes:
 - a. any comment, look, suggestion, physical contact, or real or implied action of a sexual nature which creates an uncomfortable working environment for the recipient, made by a person who knows or ought reasonably to know such behaviour is unwelcome; or
 - b. any circulation or display of visual or written material of a sexual nature that has the effect of creating an uncomfortable working environment; or
 - c. an implied promise of reward for complying with a request of a sexual nature; or
 - d. a sexual advance made by a person in authority over the recipient that includes or implies a threat or an expressed or implied denial of an opportunity which would otherwise be granted or available and may include a reprisal or a threat of reprisal made after a sexual advance is rejected.

Resolution Procedure

9. Step 1 – Informal Resolution Process

Note: Step 1 (Informal Resolution Process) is not required in order to proceed to Step 2 (Formal Complaint Process).

- a. At any point in the Informal Resolution Process, should the administrator determine that a formal process is required, they will stop the informal process and inform the complainant and respondent in writing.
- b. The complainant may choose to speak to or correspond directly with the alleged harasser to express their feelings about the situation.
- c. Before proceeding to Step 2, the complainant may approach their administrative officer, staff representative or other contact person to discuss potential means of resolving the complaint and to request assistance in resolving the matter. The assistance may include the administrative officer meeting with the alleged harasser to communicate the concern and the request that the behaviour stop. If the matter is resolved to the complainant's satisfaction the matter is deemed to be resolved.
- d. If the matter is not resolved, the administrator may meet with the complainant and respondent separately, and may invite them to participate in a facilitated discussion. All parties involved must agree to respect confidentiality.
- e. In the circumstances where a respondent has acknowledged responsibility, the employer may advise the respondent in writing of the standard of conduct expected by the employer. Such a memo shall be non-disciplinary in nature and may be referred to only to establish that the respondent has been advised of the expected standard of conduct.

10. Step 2 – Formal Complaint Process

- a. If a complainant chooses not to meet with the alleged harasser, or no agreement for resolution of the complaint has been reached, or an agreement for resolution has been breached by the alleged harasser, a complaint may be filed with the superintendent or designate.
- b. The complaint should include a description of the specific incident(s) that form the basis of the complaint and the definitions of sexual harassment/harassment which may apply; however, the form of the complaint will in no way restrict the investigation or its conclusions.
- c. The complainant may request that the employer consider an alternative dispute resolution process to attempt to resolve the complaint.

- d. The employer shall notify in writing the alleged harasser of the complaint and provide notice of complaint or investigation.
- e. In the event the superintendent is involved either as the complainant or alleged harasser, the complaint shall, at the complainant's discretion, be immediately referred to either BCPSEA or a third party who shall have been named by prior agreement of the employer and the local who shall proceed to investigate the complaint in accordance with Step 3 and report to the board.

11. Step 3 – Formal Resolution Process

- a. The employer shall review the particulars of the complaint as provided by the complainant pursuant to Article E.2.10.a. The employer may request further particulars from the complainant, including information about any requested alternative dispute resolution process. Upon the conclusion of such a review, the employer shall:
 - i. initiate an investigation of the complaint and appoint an investigator pursuant to Article E.2.11.c below, or;
 - ii. recommend mediation or other alternative dispute resolution processes to resolve the complaint.
- b. Should the complainant not agree with the process described in Article E.2.11.a.ii, the employer shall initiate an investigation. The employer shall provide notice of investigation.
- c. The investigation or other formal resolution process shall be conducted by a person who shall have training and/or experience in investigating complaints of harassment.
- d. The complainant may request an investigator, mediator or facilitator who:
 - i. is of the same gender as the complainant;
 - ii. is Indigenous, and/or has cultural knowledge and sensitivity if a complainant self-identifies as Indigenous;
 - iii. is a person of colour if the complainant is a person of colour.

Where practicable the request(s) will not be denied.

- e. Where there is an investigation, the investigation shall be conducted as soon as is reasonably possible and shall be completed in twenty (20) working days unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld.

- f. Participation in mediation or an alternative dispute resolution process (per Article E.2.11.a.ii) shall not preclude an employee from making a new complaint should the harassment continue or resume following this process.

Remedies

- 12. Where the investigation determines harassment has taken place, the complainant shall, when appropriate, be entitled to but not limited to:
 - a. reinstatement of sick leave used as a result of the harassment;
 - b. any necessary counselling where EFAP services are fully utilised or where EFAP cannot provide the necessary services to deal with the negative effects of the harassment;
 - c. redress of any career advancement or success denied due to the negative effects of the harassment;
 - d. recovery of other losses and/or remedies which are directly related to the harassment.
- 13. Where the investigator has concluded that harassment or sexual harassment has occurred, and the harasser is a member of the bargaining unit, any disciplinary sanctions that are taken against the harasser shall be done in accordance with provisions in the agreement regarding discipline for misconduct.
- 14. The local and the complainant shall be informed in writing whether there was a finding of harassment, and whether disciplinary action was or was not taken.
- 15. If the harassment results in the transfer of an employee it shall be the harasser who is transferred, except where the complainant requests to be transferred.
- 16. If the employer fails to follow the provisions of the Collective Agreement, or the complainant is not satisfied with the remedy, the complainant may initiate a grievance at Step 3 of Article A.6 (Grievance Procedure). In the event the alleged harasser is the superintendent, the parties agree to refer the complaint directly to expedited arbitration.

Training

- 17. The employer, in consultation with the local, shall be responsible for developing and implementing an ongoing harassment and sexual harassment awareness program for all employees.

Where a program currently exists and meets the criteria listed in this agreement, such a program shall be deemed to satisfy the provisions of this article. This awareness program shall be scheduled at least once annually for all new employees to attend.

18. The awareness program shall include but not be limited to:
 - a. the definitions of harassment and sexual harassment as outlined in this Agreement;
 - b. understanding situations that are not harassment or sexual harassment, including the exercise of an employer's managerial and/or supervisory rights and responsibilities;
 - c. developing an awareness of behaviour that is illegal and/or inappropriate;
 - d. outlining strategies to prevent harassment and sexual harassment;
 - e. a review of the resolution procedures of Article E.2;
 - f. understanding malicious complaints and the consequences of such;
 - g. outlining any Board policy for dealing with harassment and sexual harassment;
 - h. outlining laws dealing with harassment and sexual harassment which apply to employees in B.C.

ARTICLE E.101 APPOINTMENT TO THE TEACHING STAFF OF THE DISTRICT

1. Employment on Continuing Contract

All teachers appointed by the Board to the teaching staff of the District shall be appointed, pursuant to the provisions of this agreement, on a continuing contract of employment, except for:

- a. temporary teachers, subject to the provisions of this agreement,
- b. Teachers Teaching on Call, subject to the provisions of this agreement.

2. Posting Procedures

- a. The Board shall post notices on the school district website of all temporary and continuing positions for which appointments to the teaching staff of the District will be required. The Board, as a courtesy only, will circulate copies of all teacher postings via district email to all teachers.
- b. Advertisements and application forms for appointment to the teaching staff of the District shall not include reference to extra-curricular activities and programs, and such matters shall not form part of any contract of employment.
- c. Prospective appointees shall be informed of the general nature of the initial assignment.
- d. A verbal or written offer of employment made by a representative of the Board, is binding.

3. **Posting and Filling of Vacant Continuing Positions**

- a. In this section "vacancy" means an existing or newly created teaching assignment/position reasonably expected to exist for more than two (2) years and to which a continuing teacher is not permanently assigned.
- b. Vacancies shall be filled by competition after the consideration of:
 - i. continuing appointees transferred on the initiative of the Board, subject to Article E.102.1;
 - ii. teachers on the recall list under Article C.108.
 - iii. Principal(s), Vice Principal(s) or Director(s) of Instruction of the District appointed to the teaching staff pursuant to Section 21 of the *School Act*.

The Board in making appointments by competition shall take as the primary consideration, the ability and qualifications of the person for the position and where abilities and qualifications are adjudged to be substantially equal, seniority shall be the determining factor. Qualified internal applicants shall be given preference over external applicants.

The parties agree that the Board will not view applications of external applicants unless the internal competition does not identify a qualified person.

4. **Posting and Filling of Vacant Temporary Positions**

All temporary vacancies shall be filled by competition. The Board in making temporary appointments by competition shall take as the primary consideration the ability and qualifications of the person for the position and where abilities and qualifications are adjudged to be substantially equal, seniority shall be the determining factor. For purposes of this section, seniority shall mean the aggregate length of service in the employment of the Board inclusive of service under temporary appointment, continuing appointment and part-time teaching but exclusive of services as a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC).

ARTICLE E.102 TRANSFER AND ASSIGNMENTS

1. **Transfers Initiated by the Board**

- a. A Board-initiated transfer shall not be unjust or unreasonable, nor for arbitrary or capricious reasons.
- b. Transfers shall not be made as a disciplinary measure, but a transfer arising out of the evaluation process shall not be considered discipline for the purposes of this section.
- c. At least one (1) month prior to initiating a transfer of a teacher, the Board official intending to recommend transfer of a teacher shall,

- i. meet with the teacher to discuss the transfer providing the rationale for the envisioned transfer, and providing as many alternatives as possible. The teacher may be accompanied by an Union representative.
 - ii. give consideration to the teacher's professional and personal goals and reactions to the envisioned transfer, and if possible, obtain the teacher's agreement to transfer.
 - iii. upon request, arrange a meeting with the Superintendent and the teacher and their chosen representative, and if desired either or both Principals involved.
- d. Every effort should be made to advise a teacher of an envisioned transfer at the earliest possible date. This is to permit adequate time for the teacher to respond, prior to any approval of the transfer by the Board of Education and if possible to resolve any grievance which may follow. Grievances under this Article may commence at stage 3 of the grievance procedure and the parties agree to put any remaining dispute to arbitration.
- e. A teacher subject to Board-initiated transfer, shall receive written notice of the transfer following the Board's approval of the transfer, along with the reasons for the transfer.
- f. Where a transfer results from a position reduction and in the case of a vacancy, it is understood that:
 - i. there remain no vacancies in the sending school for which they have the necessary qualifications;
 - ii. the principal of the sending school will have first exhausted all options to retain the teacher in the school, including a request to qualified staff members to volunteer for transfer.
- g. Where it is necessary to staff school curricular programs, it is agreed that no teacher will be required to transfer until after the posting procedures under Article E.101 are exhausted, whereupon the teacher to be transferred shall have the least District-wide seniority among teachers in their grade level or subject area.
- h. The Board may transfer a teacher to an assignment involving a significantly different grade level or significantly different subject area where the posting procedures have been unsuccessful, only if:
 - i. there remain no vacancies in the teacher's existing grade level or subject area for which they have the necessary qualifications; and,
 - ii. the teacher has the least District-wide seniority among teachers in their existing grade level or subject area.

- i. The Union shall receive a copy of the written notice of transfer provided to the teacher.
- j. The teacher shall have the opportunity to advise the Board of any retraining requirements, in-service release time, or assisting teacher support which they believe necessary to adequately prepare for the proposed transfer.
- k. Receiving Principal / Vice Principals are expected to provide every assistance possible to facilitate the transfer, and assist the teacher in their new assignment. This includes assistance with resources and settling in.
- l. In general, the same kind of assistance and orientation is expected from school and District staff for transferred teachers that is routinely provided to beginning teachers.
- m. Except when the transfer is necessary because of a reduction in teachers pursuant to Article C.108, any teacher who has transferred without agreement shall not be subject to a further transfer without agreement, for three (3) school years.
- n. Any teacher, except a teacher transferred as a result of an unsatisfactory evaluation, who has transferred without agreement or because of a position reduction shall be entitled to eligibility for vacant positions under Article E.101 as though they were on the recall list pursuant to Article C.108.4.

2. **Transfer Initiated by the Teacher**

Teachers wishing a reassignment may request consideration for same by submitting the request in writing to the Superintendent before April 15 of the current school year or by applying for a specific advertised position as provided in this agreement. When a teacher requests reassignment and the reassignment cannot be effected, they shall be advised.

3. **Assignment - In School**

- a. Assignment within a school shall consider the qualifications, training, experience, equitable distribution of workload, and personal preference of the teacher, and shall not be used for disciplinary purposes.
- b. Prior to the end of the school year, Principal / Vice Principals shall have discussions individually and with groups of teachers or at staff meetings, to discuss proposed timetables and proposed staff assignments for the next school year.
- c. Nothing in this Article will be read as affecting the number of pupils in a class.
- d. Where practicable, part-time assignments in secondary schools shall be scheduled in consecutive teaching blocks.

ARTICLE E.103 EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

[Note: See also Provincial Article C.3 Evaluation.]

1. All reports on the work of a teacher (including a Teacher Teaching on Call) shall be in writing and according to this Article.
2. The criteria to be utilized in evaluating a teacher shall be consistent with those established by the Board and communicated to the Union no later than September 1 of each year and shall not be applied before September 30 of the same year. No criteria shall be applied which relate to aspects of the learning situation over which the teacher does not have both responsibility and control.
3. The procedure to be utilized for evaluating a teacher shall include the following:
 - a. the teacher shall be notified thirty (30) days in advance that an evaluation is to be conducted;
 - b. at the time that notification is provided, the teacher shall be given a copy of the evaluation criteria referred to in Article E.103.2; and
 - c. at the time that notification is provided, the teacher and the evaluator shall meet to discuss the purposes of the evaluation, and the procedures for providing the evaluation report which shall include:
 - i. pre-observation conference between the teacher and the evaluator prior to each mutually agreed to observation;
 - ii. a series of not less than three observations of the teacher at work on their assignment;
 - iii. periods chosen for observation shall not be at abnormal or inappropriate times and the teacher shall have the opportunity to select one observation time;
 - iv. a post-observation conference between the teacher and the evaluator following each observation;
 - v. the provision of a draft report to the teacher;
 - vi. the opportunity for the teacher to meet with the evaluator to discuss the draft report prior to filing a final report.
4. Reports shall focus on the teacher's assignment in their prime area(s) of expertise and no teacher will be evaluated during the first ten (10) school months of an assignment outside of their primary areas of expertise.

5. Involvement or non-involvement in extra-curricular activities, or matters not directly related to teaching duties are outside the scope of evaluating and reporting on the work of a teacher unless requested by the teacher only at their own initiative.
6. Reports shall be prepared only by evaluators authorized under Article C.103.2.c and shall be prepared independently and without collaboration on content or results. No report shall be written by a person in respect of whom there exists reasonable apprehension of bias.
7. The final report shall be filed in accordance with the *School Act*, and at the same time the evaluator will provide a copy to the teacher.
8. A teacher may submit a written rebuttal which will be attached to all copies of the final report.
9. In the event of an unsatisfactory report, other than the third unsatisfactory report in a twenty-four (24) month period, a plan of assistance developed in consultation with the teacher shall be made available to the teacher. Where the time limits of this Article permit, the teacher shall be given reasonable time to complete the plan of assistance before another report is initiated. Wherever possible the plan of assistance shall include a time frame.
10. Nothing in this Article shall preclude:
 - a. any visits to the classroom by the Superintendent or their designate at any time in conformance with the *School Act*;
 - b. any communications from the Superintendent or their designates to teachers in respect of their general performance.
11. **Formative Assistance**

The parties agree that nothing in this agreement shall prevent teachers and their supervisors from consulting to establish the most appropriate means of delivering instruction.

ARTICLE E.104 NO DISCRIMINATION

1. There will be no discrimination against any applicant to a position covered by this agreement or against any member of the bargaining unit on the basis of any of the protected grounds in the *BC Human Rights Code*, or any other applicable legislation, or because they are participating in the activities of the Union.
2. The Board and the Union recognize the right of all persons to work, learn, conduct business and otherwise associate in an environment free of discrimination.

ARTICLE E.105 PERSONNEL FILES

1. There shall be only one personnel/disciplinary file for each teacher, maintained at District office. Any file relating to a teacher kept at a school shall be transferred into the teacher's District office file when the teacher leaves that school.
2. After receiving a request from a teacher, the Superintendent, in respect of the District file, or the Principal of the school, in respect of any school file, shall forthwith grant access to that teacher's file.
3. The Secretary-treasurer or designate shall be present when a teacher or a person designated in writing by the teacher, reviews their file. The teacher may be accompanied by an individual of their choosing.
4. The School Board agrees that only factual material and material relevant to the employment of the teacher, shall be maintained in personnel files. In the event that the appropriate Board official does not agree to removal of specified material, the teacher may file a grievance pursuant to Article A.6 of this agreement.
5. Personnel files will be kept confidential.
6. Upon the teacher's request, material critical of the teacher, other than material relating to danger or harm to pupils, and discipline, other than formal evaluations, shall be removed from the teacher's file after the expiration of two (2) years, provided that no further material of that nature has been subsequently filed.
7. Teachers will be notified if any material critical of the teacher is to be put on their file.

ARTICLE E.106 FALSELY ACCUSED EMPLOYEE

1. When a teacher remains on the teaching staff of the District after having been accused of child abuse or sexual misconduct in the course of exercising duties as a teacher, and
 - a. upon investigation by the Board has been found to have been falsely accused, or
 - b. has been acquitted of criminal charges in relation to the accusation, or
 - c. an arbitrator considering discipline or dismissal of the teacher finds the accusation to be unsubstantiated; the Superintendent (or designate) will work closely with the President of the Union (or designate) and the teacher involved to assist the teacher to the extent reasonably possible to successfully return to or remain in teaching duties, and in making available the resources upon which the District can draw.
2. Where (a), or (c) apply the Board shall reimburse the teacher for any loss of salary and benefits.

ARTICLE E.107 APPEALS SECTION 11 OF SCHOOL ACT

1. Where a pupil and/or parent/guardian files an appeal under the *School Act* (Section 11) and Board By-law of a decision of an employee covered by this agreement, or in connection with or affecting such an employee,
 - a. the employee and the Union shall be immediately notified of the appeal, and shall be entitled to receive all documents relating to the appeal;
 - b. the employee shall be entitled to attend any meeting in connection with the appeal that involves the pupil, parent, or guardian unless the Board feels to do so will prejudice a fair hearing;
 - c. where the employee does not attend a meeting, the employee will be given an opportunity to meet with the Board or appropriate Board official, to discuss the meeting and the appeal before a decision is made;
2. The Board shall refuse to hear any appeal where the pupil and/or parent/guardian of the pupil has not first discussed the decision with the employee(s) who made the decision.

ARTICLE E.108 NON-RACIST ENVIRONMENT

1. The Union and the Board recognize the right of teachers to work in an environment free from racism.
2. Any allegation of racism within the Board's jurisdiction will be investigated by the Superintendent and the results reported to the Board.

SECTION F PROFESSIONAL RIGHTS

ARTICLE F.1 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

PCA Article F.1.1 and F.1.2 are not applicable in S.D. No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia).

3. Upon ratification in each subsequent round of bargaining, where Article F.1.1 does not already apply, then Article F.1.2 will be implemented as part of the melding process.

ARTICLE F.101 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: FUNDING AND CONTROL

1. The Board and the Union mutually recognize the importance and necessity of assisting teachers to improve their capability and performance through provision of professional development programs.
2. The Board and Union agree to establish a fund for the purpose of providing professional development of teachers employed by the Board.
3. Effective September 01, 1997 and each September thereafter, the total amount to be placed in the fund shall be \$79,000 with the Board contributing \$71,000 and the Union contributing \$8,000.
4. The control and administration of professional development monies shall be jointly determined.
5. Opportunities for professional development activities shall be distributed equitably.

ARTICLE F.102 SCHOOL ACCREDITATION

1. A voluntary elementary accreditation process shall occur only in those schools where the school staff decides, by majority decision, to undertake the accreditation.
2. Where a secondary school accreditation or elementary school accreditation is to be undertaken, the Board shall notify the staff of the purposes and objectives of the accreditation.
3. The Board shall provide as much release time as possible to carry out the accreditation.
4. There shall be no evaluation of Teachers' performance the week before, the week during, or the week following the presence of an external evaluation team.

ARTICLE F.103 CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Union recognizes the authority of the Board to implement curriculum and curriculum policy changes.
2. There shall be a Joint Curriculum Implementation Committee established consisting of an equal number of representatives of the Union and the Board.
3. The committee shall consider curriculum and curriculum policy implementation matters such as: time considerations, in-service requirements, provision and identification of materials, funds required for implementation and the need for field testing; and shall make recommendations to the Superintendent for the administration of all funds in the District which are available for implementation of curriculum and curriculum policy.
4. The Board shall provide necessary in-service opportunities to each Union member affected by changes in curriculum and curriculum policy and materials.

ARTICLE F.104 PROFESSIONAL AUTONOMY

1. The Board recognizes and respects the professionalism of teachers covered by this collective agreement. Teachers shall, within the bounds of the prescribed curriculum and consistent with recognized effective educational practice, have individual professional autonomy.

ARTICLE F.105 INDEMNIFICATION

1. The Board agrees to defend, save harmless and indemnify a teacher from any suits or actions or prosecutions which may be brought against them and which arise from the lawful performance of their duties and for any cost, loss, damage and liability arising there from, provided that the Board is advised of the action against the teacher at the earliest possible date.

SECTION G LEAVES OF ABSENCE

ARTICLE G.1 PORTABILITY OF SICK LEAVE

1. The employer will accept up to sixty (60) accumulated sick leave days from other school districts in British Columbia, for employees hired to or on exchange in the district.
2. An employee hired to or on exchange in the district shall accumulate and utilize sick leave credit according to the provisions of the Collective Agreement as it applies in that district.
3. Sick Leave Verification Process
 - a. The new school district shall provide the employee with the necessary verification form at the time the employee receives confirmation of employment in the school district.
 - b. An employee must initiate the sick leave verification process and forward the necessary verification forms to the previous school district(s) within one hundred and twenty (120) days of commencing employment with the new school district.
 - c. The previous school district(s) shall make every reasonable effort to retrieve and verify the sick leave credits which the employee seeks to port.

(Note: Any provision that provides superior sick leave portability shall remain part of the Collective Agreement.)

ARTICLE G.2 COMPASSIONATE CARE LEAVE

1. For the purposes of this article “family member” means:
 - a. in relation to an employee:
 - i. a member of an employee's immediate family;
 - ii. an employee's aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, current or former foster parent, ward or guardian;
 - iii. the spouse of an employee's sibling or step-sibling, child or step-child, grandparent, grandchild, aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, current or former foster child or guardian;
 - b. in relation to an employee's spouse:
 - i. the spouse's parent or step-parent, sibling or step-sibling, child, grandparent, grandchild, aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, current or former foster parent, or a current or former ward; and

- c. anyone who is considered to be like a close relative regardless of whether or not they are related by blood, adoption, marriage or common law partnership.
- 2. Upon request, the employer shall grant an employee Compassionate Care Leave pursuant to Part 6 of the BC *Employment Standards Act* for a period up to eight (8) weeks or such other period as provided by the Act. Such leave shall be taken in units of one or more weeks.
- 3. Compassionate care leave supplemental employment insurance benefits:

When an employee is eligible to receive employment insurance benefits, the employer shall pay the employee:

 - a. one hundred percent (100%) of the employee's current salary for the first week of the leave, and
 - b. for an additional eight (8) weeks, one hundred percent (100%) of the employee's current salary less any amount received as EI benefits.
 - c. Current salary shall be calculated as 1/40 of annual salary where payment is made over ten months or 1/52 of annual salary where payment is made over twelve months.
- 4. A medical certificate may be required to substantiate that the purpose of the leave is for providing care or support to a family member having a serious medical condition with a significant risk of death within 26 weeks.
- 5. The employee's benefit plans coverage will continue for the duration of the compassionate care leave on the same basis as if the employee were not on leave.
- 6. The employer shall pay, according to the Pension Plan regulations, the employer portion of the pension contribution where the employee elects to buy back or contribute to pensionable service for part or all of the duration of the compassionate care leave.
- 7. Seniority shall continue to accrue during the period of the compassionate care leave.
- 8. An employee who returns to work following a leave granted under this article shall be placed in the position the employee held prior to the leave or in a comparable position.

(Note: The definition of "family member" in Article G.2.1 above, shall incorporate any expanded definition of "family member" that may occur through legislative enactment.)

ARTICLE G.3 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ACT LEAVES

In accordance with the *BC Employment Standards Act* (the “Act”), the Employer will grant the following leaves:

- a. [Section 52 Family Responsibility Leave](#)
- b. [Section 52.11 Critical Illness or Injury Leave](#)
- c. [Section 52.5 Leave Respecting Domestic or Sexual Violence](#)

Note: In the event that there are changes to the Employment Standards Act with respect to the Part 6 Leaves above, the legislated change provisions (A.9) will apply to make the necessary amendments to this provision.

ARTICLE G.4 BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

[This Article contains various paid and unpaid leave provisions. Please read the article in its entirety to understand the full leave entitlements provided herein.]

1. Five (5) days of paid leave shall be granted in each case of death of a member of the employee’s immediate family.

For the purposes of this article “immediate family” means:

- a. the spouse (including common-law and same-sex partners), child and step-child (including in-law), parent (including in-law), guardian, sibling and step-siblings (including in-law), current ward, grandchild or grandparent of an employee (including in-law), and
 - b. any person who lives with an employee as a member of the employee’s family.
2. Two (2) additional days of paid leave may be granted for travel purposes outside of the local community to attend the funeral. Such requests shall not unreasonably be denied.
 3. In addition to leave provided in Article G.4.1 and G.4.2, the superintendent may grant unpaid leave for a family member. Additional leave shall not be unreasonably denied. For the purpose of Article G.4.3 “family member” means:
 - a. in relation to an employee:
 - i. a member of an employee's immediate family;
 - ii. an employee’s aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, current or former foster parent, former ward or guardian or their spouses;

- b. in relation to an employee's spouse or common-law partner or same-sex partner:
 - i. the spouse's parent or step-parent, sibling or step-sibling, child, grandparent, grandchild, aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, current or former foster parent, or a current or former ward; and
- c. anyone who is considered to be like a close relative regardless of whether or not they are related by blood, adoption, marriage or common law partnership.

[See also Article G.4.5.]

- 4. Any and all superior provisions contained in the Previous Collective Agreement shall remain part of the Collective Agreement.

Local Provisions:

- 5. In the event of the death of any relative not mentioned above in Article G.4.1, the teacher shall be entitled to leave for one (1) day, with pay, for the purpose of attending the funeral. [See also Article G.4.3 for additional unpaid leave]
- 6. In the event of the death of a friend of the teacher, the teacher shall be entitled to leave for one (1) day, with pay, for the purpose of attending the funeral and additional days, if necessary, without pay, for travel.

ARTICLE G.5 UNPAID DISCRETIONARY LEAVE

- 1. a. An employee shall be entitled to a minimum of three (3) days of unpaid discretionary leave each year.
 - b. The leave will be subject to the educational requirements of the district and the availability of a replacement. The leave must be approved by the superintendent or designate. The request shall not be unreasonably denied.
- 2. The leave will be in addition to any paid discretionary leave provided in local provisions.
- 3. The combination of this provision with any other same provision shall not exceed three (3) days.

[Note: See also Article G.107 Discretionary Leave.]

Implementation:

- 1. *Any and all superior provisions contained in the Previous Collective Agreement shall remain part of the Collective Agreement. The combination of this provision with any other same or superior provision shall not exceed three (3) days.*

2. *The provisions of this article establish a minimum level of entitlement for unpaid discretionary leaves for all employees. Where the minimum level of entitlement has already been met through any previous provisions relating to discretionary leaves, an employee shall receive no additional entitlement.*

ARTICLE G.6 LEAVE FOR UNION BUSINESS

[Note: Article G.6.1.b applies for the purposes of Article A.10 only. Articles G.6.1.a and G.6.2 through G.6.10 are not applicable in School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia).]

See Articles A.105 (Short Term Leave for Union Business), A.106 (President's Leave), and A.107 (Long Term Leave for Union Business)].

1. b. 'Full employ' means the employer will continue to pay the full salary, benefits, pensions contributions and all other contributions they would receive as if they were not on leave. In addition, the member shall continue to be entitled to all benefits and rights under the Collective Agreement, at the cost of the employer where such costs are identified by the Collective Agreement.

ARTICLE G.7 TTOCs CONDUCTING UNION BUSINESS

1. Where a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) is authorized by the local union or BCTF to conduct union business during the work week, the TTOC shall be paid by the employer according to the Collective Agreement.
2. Upon receipt, the union will reimburse the employer the salary and benefit costs associated with the time spent conducting union business.
3. Time spent conducting union business will not be considered a break in service with respect to payment on scale.
4. Time spent conducting union business will be recognized for the purpose of seniority and experience recognition up to a maximum of 40 days per school year.

ARTICLE G.8 TTOCs – CONDUCTING UNION BUSINESS NEGOTIATING TEAM

Time spent conducting union business on a local or provincial negotiating team will be recognized for the purpose of seniority and experience recognition.

ARTICLE G.9 TEMPORARY PRINCIPAL / VICE-PRINCIPAL LEAVE

1. A teacher shall be granted leave upon request to accept a position if the teacher is:
 - a. replacing a Principal or Vice-Principal in the school district who is on leave or has departed unexpectedly; and,
 - b. their appointment as Principal or Vice-Principal does not extend past a period of one (1) year (12 months).
2. Upon return from leave, the employee shall be assigned to the same position or, when the position is no longer available, a similar position.
3. The vacated teaching position will be posted as a temporary position during this period.
4. Where there are extenuating personal circumstances that extend the leave of the Principal or Vice-Principal, the vacated teaching position may be posted as temporary for an additional year (12 months).
5. Teachers granted leave in accordance with this Article who have a right to return to their former teaching position will not be assigned or assume the following duties:
 - a. Teacher Evaluation
 - b. Teacher Discipline
6. Should a leave described above extend beyond what is set out in paragraphs 1, 3 and 4, the individual's former teaching position will no longer be held through a temporary posting and will be filled on a continuing basis, unless a mutually agreed to extension to the leave with a right of return to a specific position is provided for in the local Collective Agreement or otherwise agreed to between the parties.

ARTICLE G.10 TEACHERS RETURNING FROM PARENTING AND COMPASSIONATE LEAVES

Teachers granted the following leaves in accordance with the Collective Agreement:

- a. Pregnancy Leave (Employment Standards Act [ESA])
- b. Parental Leave (Employment Standards Act [ESA])
- c. Extended Parental / Parenthood Leave (beyond entitlement under Employment Standards Act [ESA])
- d. Adoption Leave (beyond entitlement under Employment Standards Act [ESA])
- e. Compassionate Care Leave

will be able to return to their former teaching position in the school that they were assigned to for a maximum of one (1) year (twelve months) from the time the leave of absence commenced. The

teacher's position will be posted as a temporary vacancy. Upon return from leave, the employee will be assigned to the same position or, if the position is no longer available, a similar position.

ARTICLE G.11 CULTURAL LEAVE FOR ABORIGINAL EMPLOYEES

The Superintendent of Schools or their designate, may grant five (5) paid days per year leave with seven (7) days written notice from the employee to participate in Aboriginal Cultural event(s). Such leave shall not be unreasonably denied.

ARTICLE G.12 MATERNITY/PREGNANCY LEAVE SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

1. When an employee takes maternity leave pursuant to Part 6 of the *Employment Standards Act*, the employer shall pay the employee:
 - a. One hundred percent (100%) of their current salary for the first week of the leave; and
 - b. When the employee is in receipt of Employment Insurance (EI) maternity benefits, the difference between the amount of EI maternity benefits received by the teacher and one hundred percent (100%) of their current salary, for a further fifteen (15) weeks.

[Note: In SD 20, for employees who do not qualify for EI maternity benefits, G.12.1 does not apply. See G.12.2 below.]

Local Provisions:

2. When a pregnant teacher takes Maternity Leave to which they are entitled pursuant to the Employment Standards Act, and the teacher is not in receipt of EI maternity benefits, the Board shall pay such teacher eighty-five percent (85%) of their current salary for the first two (2) weeks of the leave.

See Article G.102 (Parenting Leave) for leave provisions.

ARTICLE G.101 SICK LEAVE

1. Sick Leave entitlement will be accumulated by a teacher on a continuing or temporary appointment at the rate of one and one-half (1 1/2) days for each month of employment on the staff of the School District and any days utilized for illness or unavoidable quarantine shall be charged against that teacher's unused accumulated Sick Leave.
2. There is no maximum number of days of Sick Leave that may be accumulated, but the number of days for which a teacher may be allowed Sick Leave with pay shall not exceed one hundred twenty (120) days in any school year.

3. Unused Sick Leave accumulated by each teacher prior to the execution of this agreement shall be credited to that teacher.
4. Part-time teachers shall accumulate Sick Leave on a pro rata basis. A part-time teacher shall be paid and charged against their unused accumulated Sick Leave on a pro rata basis related to their current teaching appointment.
5. At the discretion of the Superintendent or Director of Human Resources, a medical certificate signed by a medical practitioner and including prognosis, may be requested and will be provided by the teacher.
6. A teacher with less than fifteen (15) Sick Leave credits, on September 1, will be allowed an advance of Sick Leave days so as to bring their total credit to fifteen (15) days.

[See PCA Article G.1 for porting of Sick Leave to/from other school districts.]

ARTICLE G.102 PARENTING LEAVE

1. A teacher may request and the Board shall grant Parenting Leave for up to twelve (12) calendar months without payment of salary to one parent for a new addition to the family. Such leave may be extended by mutual agreement.
2. On return from Parenting Leave a teacher shall be placed in their former position at a time which will coincide with the commencement of a term or semester or after the spring break. Where the former position no longer exists, the teacher will return to another position which is acceptable to the teacher and the Board, or be subject to Article C.108.
3. Where a teacher elects to maintain coverage on benefit plans in which they are enrolled, the Board will continue to pay its share of the premium costs up to a maximum of six (6) months. The benefit costs for a teacher who extends the Parenting Leave beyond six (6) months shall be borne by the teacher.
4. Teachers on Parenting Leave shall advise the Superintendent at least two (2) months prior to termination of the leave, of the intent to return or not to a teaching position in the District. Failure to give notice under this clause shall not, of itself, constitute resignation. A scheduled return date shall constitute notice under this section.

5. Pregnancy of a teacher

In the case of a pregnancy of a teacher,

- a. the period of Parenting Leave shall be from eleven (11) weeks before the expected date of termination of the pregnancy. Such period shall be deferred upon written request of the employee approved in writing by a qualified medical practitioner.

- b. the Board shall, with the agreement of the teacher, defer the commencement of Parenting Leave for any period approved in writing by a qualified medical practitioner. Where a teacher who is at work becomes ill or injured following the commencement of the eleven (11) week period in section (a) above, such illness or injury shall be covered by Sick Leave as follows:
 - i. where the illness or injury is not directly related to the condition of pregnancy, Sick Leave may extend to the scheduled date of commencement of Parenting Leave.
 - ii. where the illness is caused through an abnormal condition of pregnancy and the employee returns to work before the scheduled commencement date of Parenting Leave, the period of absence will be covered by Sick Leave.

See Article G.12 (Maternity/Pregnancy Leave Supplemental Employment Benefits) for provisions on supplemental employment benefits.

- 6. Notwithstanding Articles G.102.1 through G.102.5 above, a teacher who requires an extension for medical reasons shall be granted the extension and shall be considered to be on Sick Leave and entitled to sick benefits from the original scheduled date of return.
- 7. In the case of an incomplete pregnancy or other extenuating circumstances, an application for return to teaching duty may be considered by the Superintendent at a date earlier than the scheduled return date.

ARTICLE G.103 JURY DUTY AND APPEARANCES IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

- 1. A teacher on continuing or temporary appointment will be granted leave of absence with pay for the time required to serve on a jury, or being called for jury duty, or being subpoenaed as a witness. Any fees or payments made to them for such duties or services must be remitted to the Board other than travel, meal or incidental expenses.
- 2. Where the private affairs of an employee have otherwise occasioned an appearance in legal proceedings, a leave of absence with full pay less the cost of a Teacher Teaching on Call shall be granted by the Board.

ARTICLE G.104 LEAVE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

- 1. Should a teacher be elected to public office or appointed to municipal or Regional District offices or public boards, they shall be granted a full time long-term leave of absence without pay for their term of office.
- 2. Teachers involved in a community service may be granted, at the cost of a Teacher Teaching on Call, paid leave of absence up to a maximum of five (5) days in any one school year.

ARTICLE G.105 BIRTH OR ADOPTION LEAVE

1. On the birth of a child or in the case of adoption or legal guardianship, the teacher may apply for and shall be granted leave with pay up to a maximum of two (2) days.

ARTICLE G.106 EMERGENCY LEAVE FOR FAMILY ILLNESS

1. In the case of illness in the family of a teacher, the teacher shall be entitled, after notifying their supervisor, to use up to a maximum of three (3) days' paid leave at any one time for this purpose. Leave pursuant to this clause shall be available to only one parent at a time.

ARTICLE G.107 DISCRETIONARY LEAVE

1. The Board will grant to any teacher on continuing or temporary appointment two (2) days paid leave of absence each school year.
2. Notification by the teacher shall be provided to the immediate Principal / Vice Principal well in advance of the leave occurring.
3. In the event that the absence is of an emergent nature, then notification shall be provided no later than one (1) hour prior to the commencement of school on the day leave is taken.
4. Teachers need not provide a specific reason for request of this leave.
5. Unexpended leave is not cumulative.
6. The rate of deduction for such leave will be an amount equal to the Teacher Teaching on Call salary in Article C.106.

[Note: See also Article G.5 Unpaid Discretionary Leave]

ARTICLE G.108 EDUCATIONAL LEAVE

1. The Board shall grant leave of absence up to a maximum of two (2) school years without pay to employees for educational purposes conditional on the following terms:
 - a. Application will be made to the Superintendent stating the particular purpose for the leave and the proposed activities designed to fulfil that purpose.
 - b. Application for leave must be made prior to March 1 of the school year preceding the school year in which leave is to be taken.

- c. On return from Education Leave a teacher shall be placed in their former position at a time which will coincide with the commencement of a term or semester or after spring break. Where the former position no longer exists, the teacher will return to another position which is acceptable to the teacher and the Board, or be subject to Article C.108.
- d. The Board may postpone leave where a qualified replacement cannot be found.
- e. Leave shall be restricted to two (2) teachers at one time except by mutual agreement or where operational requirements permit.

ARTICLE G.109 GENERAL LEAVE

- 1. Notwithstanding any provision for leave in this agreement, the Board may grant a leave of absence without pay to a teacher requesting leave for an emergency or other unusual circumstances.

ARTICLE G.110 LEAVE FOR SCHOOL YEAR

The Board shall grant leave of absence without pay to a continuing teacher for a school year.

- 1. Application must be made by April 15.
- 2. The teacher must have worked as a continuing teacher in the District for at least four (4) consecutive years prior to the commencement of the leave.
- 3. The teacher must confirm by April 15, in writing, the intent to return at the conclusion of the leave or will be deemed to have resigned.
- 4. The teacher shall return to the position held immediately prior to the leave if available, a comparable position, or if no position exists will be subject to Article C.108.
- 5. The leave shall only be granted provided a suitable replacement is available.

ARTICLE G.111 WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD LEAVE

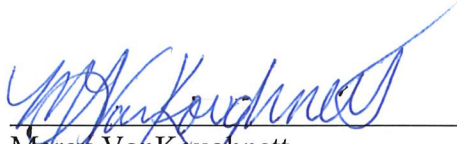
- 1. The Board agrees that when a teacher is in receipt of Workers' Compensation Board benefits, then they will be paid their regular salary by the Board and their Workers' Compensation Board wage loss benefits shall be reimbursed to the Board.
- 2. There shall be no entitlement to nor loss of sick-leave credits for absence under this Article.
- 3. Wage loss benefits do not include a disability pension or other final lump sum settlement or award arising from a compensable disability.

ARTICLE G.112 SELF-FUNDED LEAVE PLAN

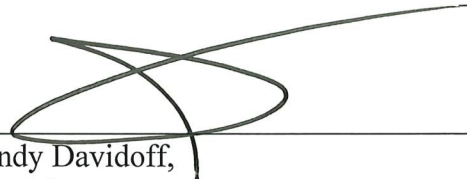
1. A self-funded leave plan, in accord with the separate agreement involving the Board and the Union, shall be provided. See attachment.

SIGNATURES

Signed at Trail, British Columbia, this 3rd day of March, 2025.



Marcy VanKoughnett,
Assistant Superintendent Human Resources
School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)



Andy Davidoff,
President
Kootenay Columbia Teachers' Union



Alison Jones,
Director, Labour Relations (Collective Bargaining)
British Columbia Public School
Employers' Association



Clint Johnston,
President
British Columbia Teachers' Federation

Provincial Letters of Understanding/Intent

BETWEEN

The British Columbia Teachers' Federation

AND

The British Columbia Public School Employers' Association

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 1
BETWEEN
THE BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION
AND
THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

Re: Designation of Provincial and Local Matters

1. Pursuant to the Public Education Labour Relations Act (PELRA), the provincial and the local parties agree to the designation of provincial and local matters as follows:
 - a. Those matters contained within Appendix 1 shall be designated as provincial matters.
 - b. Those matters contained within Appendix 2 shall be designated as local matters.
2. Provincial parties' roles will be pursuant to PELRA.
3. Referral of impasse items to the provincial table will be pursuant to PELRA
4. Timing and conclusion of local matters negotiations:
 - a. Local negotiations will conclude at a time determined by mutual agreement of the provincial parties.
 - b. Outstanding local matters may not be referred to the provincial table subsequent to the exchange of proposals by the provincial parties at the provincial table.
 - c. Where no agreement is reached, local negotiations will conclude at the time a new Provincial Collective Agreement is ratified.
5. Local and provincial ratification processes:
 - a. Agreements on local matters shall be ratified by the local parties subject to verification by the provincial parties that the matters in question are local matters (Appendix 2).
 - b. Agreements on provincial matters shall be ratified by the provincial parties.
6. Effective date of local matters items:
 - a. Agreements ratified by the school district and local union shall be effective upon the ratification of the new Provincial Collective Agreement unless the timelines are altered by mutual agreement of the provincial parties.

Signed this 8th day of March, 2013

<p style="text-align: center;">Appendix 1 PROVINCIAL MATTERS</p>
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Appendix 1 – Provincial Matters

Housekeeping – Form Issues

1. Common provincial provisions
2. Common provincial terminology
3. Cover Page of Agreement
4. Interpretation of Teacher Contracts and School Act

Section A – The Collective Bargaining Relationship

1. Term and Renegotiation, Re-opening Agreement During Term, Bridging, Strikes, Renewal, Retroactivity
2. Legislative Change
3. Recognition of the Union
4. Membership Requirement
5. Exclusions from the Bargaining Unit
6. Job Security including Contracting Out
7. Deduction of BCTF Dues and Professional Fees
8. President's/Officer Release
9. Management Rights and Responsibilities
10. Pro-D Chairperson/Coordinator Release
11. Release for Local, BCTF, CTF, Teacher Regulation Branch and Education International Business
12. Leave for Contract Negotiations
13. School Staff and District Committees
14. Access to Information
15. Copy of Agreement and melding/interfaces
16. Grievance/Arbitration (including Expedited) Procedure and Troubleshooter

Section B – Salary and Economic Benefits

1. Determination of Salary
 1. *Placement on Scale*
 2. *Salary Review*
 3. *Bonus for Education Courses, Reimbursement for Non-Credit Courses*

4. *Classification of Salary for Letters of Permission*
 5. *New Positions, Reclassification*
 6. *Experience Recognition*
2. Salary Scale
 1. *Category Addition*
 2. *Category Elimination*
3. Payment of Salary
 1. *Increment Dates*
 2. *Withholding*
 3. *Error in Salary – Adjustments*
 4. *Part Month Payments and Deductions including Schedule*
 5. *Pay Periods including payment schedule*
4. Employees' Pay and Benefits including sick leave
 1. *Full time and continuing teachers*
 2. *Part Time and temporary or term teachers*
 3. *Teachers Teaching on Call*
 4. *Summer School and Night School Payment*
 5. *Associated Professionals*
5. Positions of Special Responsibility
6. Teacher in Charge/Acting Administrators (Filling Temporarily Vacant Position)
7. Automobile/Travel Allowance
8. First Aid, First Aid Allowance and Training
9. Special Allowances, i.e., Moving/Relocation, Travel, Isolation, One-Room School, Rural, Outer Island, Village Assignment, Pro-D Travel Allowance, Clothing, etc.
10. Establishment and funding of Classroom Supply Fund or Allowance (Compensation for Funds Spent by Teachers on Class)
11. Housing and Housing Assistance
12. No Cuts in Salary and Benefits
13. Payment for Work Beyond Regular Work Year
 1. *Counsellors Working Outside School Calendar*
 2. *Night School Payments*
 3. *Summer School Payments*
 4. *Salary – Payment for Additional Days*
 5. *Not Regular School Days*
14. Payment of Teacher Regulation Branch and other professional fees
15. Benefits – general information and benefits management committee
16. Benefits – Coverage
17. Employment Insurance/all EI rebates
18. Continuation of Benefits

19. Retirement Benefits and Bonuses
20. Wellness Programs, Employee and Family Assistance Program
21. Personal Property loss, theft, vandalism and Insurance
22. Benefits – RRSP

Section C – Employment Rights

1. Employment on Continuing Contract
 1. *Appointment on Continuing Contract*
 2. *Employment Rights – Temporary Teachers converting to continuing*
 3. *Probationary period*
2. Dismissal and Discipline for Misconduct
 1. *Conduct of a Teacher (Inside and Outside School)*
3. Dismissal Based on Performance
4. The Processes of Evaluation of Teachers' Teaching Performance
5. Part-Time Teachers' Employment Rights
 1. *Sick Leave and Benefits*
 2. *Long Services – Part Time Teaching Plan, Part Year Teachers*
6. Teacher Teaching on Call Hiring Practices
7. Seniority
8. Severance
9. Retraining, Board directed education upgrading

Section D – Working Conditions

1. Teacher Workload
 1. *Class Size*
 2. *Class Composition*
2. Inclusion
 1. *Urgent Intervention Program or similar*
 2. *School Based Team*
3. Professional Teaching Staff Formulas including advisory committees
4. Hours of Work
 1. *Duration of School Day*
 2. *Instructional Time*
 3. *Extended Day; Alternate Calendars e.g. Four Day Week*
5. Preparation Time
6. Regular Work Year for Teachers, School Calendar, Year Round Schools, Staggered Part Day Entries

7. Closure of Schools for Health or Safety Reasons
8. Supervision Duties, Duty Free Lunch Hour, Noon Hour Supervision
9. Availability of Teacher on Call
10. Teacher on Call Working Conditions
11. Mentor/Beginning Teacher Program, Student Teachers, Beginning Teacher Orientation
12. Child Care for Work Beyond Regular Hours, Day Care
13. Home Education, Suspended Students, Hospital/Homebound Teachers
14. Non-traditional Worksites, e.g.
 1. *Distributed Learning*
 2. *Adult Education*
 3. *Storefront Schools*
 4. *Satellite School Programs*
15. Technological Change, Adjustment Plan – Board Introduced Change
16. Hearing and Medical Checks, Medical Examinations, Tests, Screening for TB
17. Teacher Reports on Students, Anecdotal Reports for Elementary Students, Parent Teacher Conference Days

Section E – Personnel Practices

1. Definition of Teachers
2. Selection of Administrative Officers (Note: See Addendum B)
3. Non-sexist Environment
4. Harassment
5. Falsely Accused Employee
6. Violence Prevention
7. Criminal Record Checks
8. Resignation and Retirement

Section F – Professional Rights

1. Educational/Curriculum Change including committees
2. Professional Development Funding (Note: see also Addendum C)
 1. Tuition Costs
 2. *Professional Development Committee – as related to funding*
3. Professional Days (Non-Instructional)
4. School Accreditation and Assessment
5. Professional Autonomy

6. Responsibilities – Duties of Teachers

Section G – Leaves of Absence

1. Sick Leave, Sick Leave Portability, Preauthorized Travel for Medical Services Leave
2. Maternity and Parental Leave and Supplemental Employment Benefits Plan
3. Short Term Paternity Leave and Adoption Leave
4. Jury Duty and Appearances in Legal Proceedings
5. Educational Leave and Leave for Exams
6. Bereavement/Funeral Leave
7. Leave for Family Illness, Care of Dependent Child or Relative, Emergency or Long Term Chronic Leave, Compassionate Care Leave
8. Discretionary Leave, Short Term General Leave and Personal Leave
9. Leave for Elected Office and Leave for Community Services
10. Worker's Compensation Leave
11. Leave of Absence Incentive Plan
12. Religious Holidays
13. Leave to Attend Retirement Seminars
14. Leave for Communicable Disease
15. Leave for Conference Participation
16. Leave for Competitions
17. Leave for Teacher Exchange
18. Secondment and Leave for external employment
19. Leave for University Convocations, Leave for graduation, Exams
20. Leave for Special Circumstances including: Citizenship, Marriage, Weather Leaves
21. Leave for Blood, Tissue and Organ Donations, Leave for Bone Marrow, Cell Separation Program Participation
22. Miscellaneous Leaves with cost

January 22, 2021 - Provincial Matters

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

Appendix 2 LOCAL MATTERS

Appendix 2 – Local Matters

Housekeeping – Form Issues

1. Glossary of Terms for local matters
2. Preamble, Introduction, Statement of Purpose

Section A – The Collective Bargaining Relationship

1. Local Negotiation Procedures
2. Recognition of Union
3. Access to Worksite
4. Use of School Facilities
5. Bulletin Board
6. Internal Mail
7. Access to Information
8. Education Assistants, Aides, and Volunteers
9. Picket Line Protection, School Closures – Re: Picket Lines (Strikes)
10. Local Dues Deduction
11. Staff Representatives, Lead Delegates
12. Right to Representation, Due Process
13. Staff Orientation
14. Copy of Agreement

Section B – Salary and Economic Benefits

1. Purchase Plans for Equipment e.g. computer purchase
2. Payroll, Deductions to Teachers Investment Account, Investment of Payroll – Choice of Bank Account
3. Employee Donations for Income Tax Purposes

Section C – Employment Rights

1. Layoff-Recall, Re-Engagement
2. Part-Time Teachers' Employment Rights

1. *Job Sharing*
2. *Offer of Appointment to District*
3. *Assignments*
4. *Posting & Filling Vacant Positions*

Section D – Working Conditions

1. Extra-curricular Activities
2. Staff Meetings
3. Health and Safety, including committees
4. Student Medication and Medical Procedures
5. Local Involvement in Board Budget Process,
 1. Committee – Finance Board Budget
 2. School Funds
6. Teacher Involvement in Planning New Schools
7. Space and Facilities
8. Services to Teachers e.g. translation
9. Inner City Schools, Use of Inner City Schools Funds

Section E – Personnel Practices

1. Posting and Filling Vacant Position
 1. *Offer of Appointment to District*
 2. *Assignments*
 3. *Job Sharing*
 4. *Posting Procedures – Filling*
 5. *Posting & Filling Vacant Positions – School Reorganization*
 6. *Transfer: Board Initiated Transfers, Transfer related to Staff Reduction*
 7. *Creation of New Positions*
 8. *Job Description*
2. Definition of Positions and Assignments
3. Personnel Files
4. School Act Appeals
5. Input into Board Policy
6. No Discrimination
7. Multiculturalism
8. Gender Equity
9. Selection of Administrative Officers (Note: See Addendum B)
10. Parental Complaints, Public Complaints

Section F – Professional Rights

1. Professional Development Committee as related to funding control (Note: see also Addendum C)
2. Committees
 1. *Professional Relations/Labour management*
 2. *Parent Advisory Council*
 3. *Joint Studies Committee*
 4. *Professional Development Committee (Note: see also Addendum C)*
 5. *Leave of Absence Committee*
3. First Nations Curriculum
4. Women's Studies
5. Fund Raising
6. Reimbursement of Classroom Expenses

Section G – Leaves of Absence

1. Long Term Personal Leave
2. Extended Maternity/Parental Leave/Parenthood (or their equivalent)
3. Deferred Salary/Self Funded Leave Plans
4. Unpaid Leaves: unpaid leave not otherwise designated as a provincial matter in Appendix 1 (Provincial Matters) of the agreement, except for those elements of the clause that are provincial including: continuation of benefits, increment entitlement and matters related to pensions.

January 22, 2021 - Local Matters.

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

**Addendum A To
Letter of Understanding No. 1
Appendix 1 and 2**

Unpaid Leave In The Designation Of Provincial and Local Matters

Unpaid leave shall be designated for local negotiations, except as it relates to those elements of the clause that are provincial including: continuation of benefits, increment entitlement, pension related matters, and posting and filling.

Signed this 25th day of October 1995

**Addendum B To
Letter of Understanding No. 1
Appendices 1 and 2**

Concerning Selection of Administrative Officers

“Selection of Administrative Officers” shall be designated as a local matter for negotiations in those districts where the Previous Local Matters Agreement contained language which dealt with this issue or its equivalent. For all other districts, “Selection of Administrative Officers” shall be deemed a provincial matter for negotiations.

The issue of Administrative Officers returning to the bargaining unit does not form part of this addendum to appendices 1 and 2.

For the purposes of paragraph one of this addendum, the parties acknowledge that language on the issue of “Selection of Administrative Officers” or its equivalent exists in the Previous Local Agreements for the following districts: Fernie, Nelson, Castlegar, Revelstoke, Vernon, Vancouver, Coquitlam, Nechako, Cowichan, Alberni and Stikine.

The parties further acknowledge that there may be language in other Previous Local Agreements on this same issue. Where that proves to be the case, “Selection of Administrative Officers” or its equivalent shall be deemed a local matter for negotiations.

Signed this 11th day of December 1996.

**Addendum C To
Letter of Understanding No. 1
Appendices 1 and 2**

Professional Development

For the purposes of section 7 of part 3 of PELRA the parties agree as follows:

Teacher Assistants:

Teacher Assistants language shall, for all purposes, remain as a local matter pursuant to the Letter of Understanding signed between the parties as at May 31, 1995 save and except that language which concerns the use of teacher assistants as alternatives for the reduction of class size and/or the pupil/teacher ratio shall be designated as a provincial matter.

Professional Development:

Language concerning the date that funds for professional development are to be made available in a district, reference to a “fund” for professional development purposes and the continued entitled of an individual teacher to professional development funds and/or teacher-on-call time following a transfer shall be designated as local matters.

Signed this 23rd day of April 1997.

**Addendum D To
Letter of Understanding No. 1
Appendices 1 and 2**

Re: October 25, 1995 Letter of Understanding (“Unpaid Leave”) – Revised

1. The parties agree that “unpaid leave” for the purposes of the Letter of Understanding signed between the parties on October 25, 1995 means an unpaid leave not otherwise designated as a provincial matter in Appendix 1 (Provincial Matters) of the agreement on designation of the split of issues.
2. Unpaid leave as described in (1) above shall be designated for local negotiations except for provincial considerations in the article including: continuation of benefits, increment entitlement and matters related to pensions and posting and filling.

Signed this 7th day of October 1997.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 2

BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

Re: Agreed Understanding of the Term Teacher Teaching on Call

For the purposes of this Collective Agreement, the term Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) has the same meaning as Teacher on Call/Employee on Call (TOC/EOC) as found in the 2006-2011 Collective Agreement/Working Documents and is not intended to create any enhanced benefits.

The parties will set up a housekeeping committee to identify the terms in the Collective Agreement/working documents that will be replaced by Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC).

Signed this 25th day of June, 2012

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 3.a

Between

**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION
(BCTF)**

And

**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL
EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION
(BCPSEA)**

Re: Section 4 of Bill 27 Education Services Collective Agreement Act

Transitional Issues—Amalgamated School Districts—SD.5 (Southeast Kootenay), SD.6 (Rocky Mountain), SD.8 (Kootenay Lake), SD.53 (Okanagan-Similkameen), SD.58 (Nicola-Similkameen), SD.79 (Cowichan Valley), SD.82 (Coast Mountains), SD.83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap), SD.91 (Nechako Lakes).

Does not apply in School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 3.b

BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

Re: Section 27.4 Education Services Collective Agreement Act

Does not apply in School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 4

BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

Re: Employment Equity – Indigenous Peoples

The parties recognize that Indigenous Peoples are underrepresented in the public education system. The parties are committed to redressing the under-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the workforce and therefore further agree that:

1. They will encourage and assist boards of education, with the support of the local teachers' unions, to make application to the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner under section 42 of the *Human Rights Code* to obtain approval for a "special program" that would serve to attract and retain Indigenous employees.
2. They will encourage and assist boards of education and local teachers' unions to include a request to grant:
 - a. priority hiring rights to Indigenous applicants; and
 - b. priority in the post and fill process and layoff protections for Indigenous employeesin applications to the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner.
3. The parties' support for special program applications is not limited to positions funded by targeted Indigenous Education Funding.
4. The provincial parties will jointly develop communications and training which will support the application for and implementation of special programs in districts. As part of the communications and training initiative, the parties will develop an Implementation Guide to be shared with boards of education and local teachers' unions.
5. The provincial parties will meet to initiate this work within three (3) months of ratification of this agreement (or other time period as mutually agreed to) with the goal of completing the Implementation Guide and a plan for communications and training within one (1) year.

Signed this 28th day of October, 2022

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 5

BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

Re: Teacher Supply and Demand Initiatives

The BC Teachers' Federation and the BC Public School Employer's Association agree to support the recruitment and retention of a qualified teaching force in British Columbia.

1. Remote Recruitment & Retention Allowance:

- a. Each full-time equivalent employee in the schools or school districts identified in Schedule A is to receive an annual recruitment allowance of \$2,761 effective July 1, 2022 upon commencing employment. Each part-time equivalent employee is to receive a recruitment allowance pro-rated to their full-time equivalent position.
- b. All employees identified will receive the annual recruitment allowance of \$2,761 effective July 1, 2022 as a retention allowance each continuous year thereafter. Each part-time employee is to receive a retention allowance pro-rated to their full-time equivalent position.
- c. The allowance will be paid as a monthly allowance.

2. Joint Remote Recruitment and Retention Review Committee

The parties agree to establish a committee within six (6) months of the conclusion of the 2022 provincial bargaining (or other period as mutually agreed to).

The committee shall be comprised of up to three (3) representatives appointed by BCTF and up to three (3) representatives appointed by BCPSEA.

The committee will review:

- a. the 2008 criteria used to establish Schedule A;
- b. current demographics and data related to implementation of LOU 5;
- c. cost implications of potential future changes to LOU 5;
- d. current data related to remote recruitment and retention;

The parties agree to complete the work of the committee January 1, 2024 (or other period as mutually agreed to).

Signed this 28th day of October, 2022

Schedule A to Provincial Letter of Understanding No. 5 Re: Teacher Supply and Demand Initiatives

Schedule A - List of Approved School Districts or Schools

School Name	Town/Community
05 - Southeast Kootenay (<i>only part of district approved</i>)	
Jaffray Elementary	Jaffray
Grasmere	Grasmere
Elkford Secondary School	Elkford
Rocky Mountain Elem School	Elkford
District Learning Centre - Elkford	Elkford
Sparwood SS	Sparwood
Frank J Mitchell	Sparwood
Mountain View Elementary	
Fernie Sec School	Fernie
Isabella Dickens	Fernie
District Learning Centre - Fernie	Fernie
District Learning Centre - Sparwood	Sparwood
06 - Rocky Mountain (<i>entire district approved</i>)	
08 - Kootenay Lake (<i>entire district approved</i>)	
10- Arrow Lake (<i>entire district approved</i>)	
20 - Kootenay Columbia (<i>entire district approved</i>)	
27 - Cariboo Chilcotin (<i>only part of district approved</i>)	
Anahim Lake	Anahim Lake
Tatla Lake Elem and Jr Sec	Tatta Lake
Forest Grove Elementary	
Alexis Creek	Alexis Creek
Likely Elem	Likely
Naghtaneqed Elem	Nemiah
Dog Creek Elem Jr Sec	Dog Creek
Big Lake Elem	Big Lake
Bridge Lake Elem	Bridge Lake
Horsefly Elem	Horsefly
Buffalo Creek Elem	Buffalo Creek
28 - Quesnel (<i>only part of district approved</i>)	
Narcosli Elem	Narcosli
Red Bluff Elem	
Nazko Valley Elem	Nazko
Wells Elem	Wells

Kersley Elem	Kersley
Lakeview Elem	Lakeview
Barlow Creek Elem	Barlow Creek
Parkland Elem	Moose Heights
Bouchie Lake	Bouchie Lake
47 - Powell River (only part of district approved)	
Texada Elem	Texada Island
Kelly Creek Elem	
49 - Central Coast (Entire District)	
50 - Haida Gwaii (Entire District)	
51 - Boundary (only part of district approved)	
Beaverdell Elementary	Beaverdell
Big White Elementary	Big White
Christina Lake Elementary School	
Dr. DA Perley Elementary School	
Grand Forks Secondary School	Grand Forks
Greenwood Elem	Greenwood
John A Hutton Elementary School	
Midway Elementary	Midway
Boundary Central Secondary	Midway
West Boundary Elem	Rock Creek
52 - Prince Rupert (Entire District)	
54 - Bulkley Valley (entire district approved)	
57 - Prince George (only part of district approved)	
Dunster Elem	Dunster
Mackenzie Elem	Mackenzie
Mackenzie Secondary	Mackenzie
Morfee Elem	Mackenzie
McBride Sec	McBride
McBride Elem	McBride
Hixon Elem	Hixon
Giscome Elem	Giscome
Valemount Secondary	Valemount
Valemount Elementary	Valemount
59 - Peace River South (Entire District)	
60 - Peace River North (Entire District)	
64 - Gulf Islands (only part of district approved)	
Saturna Elementary	Saturna
69 - Qualicum (only part of district approved)	
False Bay School	Lasqueti

70 - Alberni (only part of district approved)

Bamfield	Bamfield
Wickanninish	Tofino
Ucluelet Elem	Ucluelet
Ucluelet Sec	Ucluelet

72 - Campbell River (only part of district approved)

Surge narrows	Read Island
Sayward Elem	Village of Sayward
Cortes Island	Cortes island

73 - Kamloops/Thompson (only part of district approved)

Blue River Elem	Blue River
Vavenby Elem	Vavenby
Brennan Creek	Brennan Creek

74 - Gold Trail (only part of district approved)

Gold Bridge Community	Gold Bridge/ Bralorne
Sk'il' Mountain Community	Seton Portage/South Shalalth/Shalalth
Lytton Elementary	
Kumsheen Secondary	
Venables Valley Community	Venables Valley
	Lillooet/Pavilion/ Fountain/Band
Cayoosh Elementary	Communities
	Lillooet/ Pavilion / Fountain/Band
George M. Murray Elementary	communities
	Lillooet / Pavilion / Fountain/Band
Lillooet Secondary	communities

81 - Fort Nelson (Entire District)**82 - Coast Mountain (Entire District)****84 - Vancouver Island West (entire district approved)****85 - Vancouver Island North (Entire District)****87 - Stikine (Entire District)****91 - Nechako Lakes (Entire District)****92 - Nisga'a (Entire District)****93 - Conseil Scolaire Francophone (only part of district approved)**

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LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 6
BETWEEN
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION
AND
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

Re: Article C.2. – Porting of Seniority – Separate Seniority Lists

This agreement was necessitated by the fact that some districts have a separate seniority list for adult education teachers, i.e., 1 seniority list for K – 12 and a second separate seniority list for adult education seniority. Consistent with Irene Holden's previous awards on porting, implementation of this agreement is meant to be on a prospective basis and is not intended to undo any previous staffing decisions with the understanding that anomalies could be discussed and considered at labour management. There are 4 possible situations and applications:

1. Teacher in a district with 1 list ports to a district with 1 list (1 to 1)
 - Both K – 12 and adult education seniority are contained on a single list in both districts.
 - Normal rules of porting apply.
 - No more than 1 year of seniority can be credited and ported for any single school year.
 - Maximum of 20 years can be ported.
2. Teacher in a district with 2 separate lists ports to a district with 2 separate lists (2 to 2)
 - Both K – 12 and adult education seniority are contained on 2 separate lists in both districts.
 - Both lists remain separate when porting.
 - Up to 20 years of K – 12 and up to 20 years of adult education can be ported to the corresponding lists.
 - Although the seniority is ported from both areas, the seniority is only activated and can be used in the area in which the teacher attained the continuing appointment. The seniority remains dormant and cannot be used in the other area unless/until the employee subsequently attains a continuing appointment in that area.

- For example, teacher A in District A currently has 8 years of K – 12 seniority and 6 years of adult education seniority. Teacher A secures a K – 12 continuing appointment in District B. Teacher A can port 8 years of K – 12 seniority and 6 years of adult education seniority to District B. However, only the 8 years of K – 12 seniority will be activated while the 6 years of adult education seniority will remain dormant. Should teacher A achieve a continuing appointment in adult education in District B in the future, the 6 years of adult education seniority shall be activated at that time.
3. Teacher in a district with 2 separate lists ports to a district with 1 seniority list (2 to 1)
 - A combined total of up to 20 years of seniority can be ported.
 - No more than 1 year of seniority can be credited for any single school year.
 4. Teacher in a district with 1 single seniority list ports to a district with 2 separate seniority lists (1 to 2)
 - Up to 20 years of seniority could be ported to the seniority list to which the continuing appointment was received.
 - No seniority could be ported to the other seniority list.
 - For example, teacher A in District A currently has 24 years of seniority and attains a K – 12 position in District B which has 2 separate seniority lists. Teacher A could port 20 years of seniority to the K – 12 seniority list in District B and 0 seniority to the adult education seniority list in District B.

The porting of seniority only applies to seniority accrued within the provincial BCTF bargaining unit. The porting of seniority is not applicable to adult education seniority accrued in a separate bargaining unit or in a separate BCTF bargaining unit.

Signed this 26th day of March, 2020

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 7
BETWEEN
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION
AND
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

**Re: Article C.2 – Porting of Seniority & Article G.1 Portability of Sick Leave –
Simultaneously Holding Part-Time Appointments in Two Different Districts**

The following letter of understanding is meant to clarify the application of Article C.2.2 and G.1 of the provincial Collective Agreement with respect to the situation where a teacher simultaneously holds part-time continuing appointments in two (2) separate school districts, i.e., currently holds a part-time continuing appointment in one (1) district and then subsequently obtains a second part-time continuing appointment in a second district. Should this specific situation occur, the following application of Article C.2.2 and G.1 shall apply:

1. The ability to port sick leave and seniority cannot occur until the employee either resigns/terminates their employment from the porting district or receives a full leave of absence from the porting district.
2. The requirement for the teacher to initiate the sick leave verification process (90 days* from the initial date of hire) and the seniority verification process (within 90 days* of a teacher's appointment to a continuing contract) and forward the necessary verification forms to the previous school district shall be held in abeyance pending either the date of the employee's resignation/termination of employment from the porting district or the employee receiving a full leave of absence from the porting district.

[* Note: effective November 30, 2022, initiation of sick leave and seniority verification process was increased from 90 days to 120 days.]

3. Should a teacher port seniority under this Letter of Understanding, there will be a period of time when the employee will be accruing seniority in both districts. For this period of time (the period of time that the teacher simultaneously holds part-time continuing appointments in both districts up until the time the teacher ports), for the purpose of porting, the teacher will be limited to a maximum of 1 years seniority for each year.
4. Should a teacher receive a full-time leave and port seniority and/or sick leave under this letter of understanding, the rules and application described in the Irene Holden award of June 7, 2007 concerning porting while on full-time leave shall then apply.

5. Consistent with Irene Holden's previous awards on porting, implementation of this agreement is meant to be on a prospective basis and is not intended to undo any previous staffing decision with the understanding that anomalies could be discussed and considered at labour management.

The following examples are intended to provide further clarification:

Example 1

Part-time employee in district A has 5 years of seniority. On September 1, 2007 they also obtain a part-time assignment in district B. On June 30, 2008, the employee resigns from district A. The employee will have 90 days from June 30, 2008 to initiate the seniority and/or sick leave verification processes and forward the necessary verification forms to the previous school district for the porting of seniority and/or sick leave. No seniority and/or sick leave can be ported to district B until the employee has resigned or terminated their employment in district A. Once ported, the teacher's seniority in district B cannot exceed a total of 1 year for the September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 school year.

Example 2

Part-time employee in district A has 5 years of seniority. On September 1, 2007 they also obtain a part-time assignment in district B. On September 1, 2008, the employee receives a leave of absence from district A for their full assignment in district A. The employee will have 90 days from September 1, 2008 to initiate the seniority and/or sick leave verification process and forward the necessary verification forms to the previous school district for the porting of seniority. The Irene Holden award dated June 7, 2007 will then apply. No seniority can be ported to district B until the employee's leave of absence is effective. Once ported, the teacher's seniority in district B cannot exceed a total of 1 year for the September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 school year.

The porting of seniority and sick leave only applies to seniority and sick leave accrued with the provincial BCTF bargaining unit. The porting of seniority and sick leave is not applicable to seniority accrued in a separate bargaining unit or in a separate BCTF bargaining unit.

Signed this 26th day of March, 2020

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

* Note: effective November 30, 2022, initiation of sick leave and seniority verification process was increased from 90 days to 120 days.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 8
BETWEEN
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION
AND
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

Re: Article C.2 – Porting of Seniority – Laid off Teachers who are Currently on the Recall List

The following letter of understanding is meant to clarify the application of Article C.2.2 of the provincial Collective Agreement with respect to the situation where a laid off teacher on recall in district A obtains a continuing appointment in district B, i.e., while holding recall rights in one (1) district obtains a continuing appointment in a second district. Should this specific situation occur, the following application of Article C.2.2 shall apply:

1. Laid off teacher holding recall rights in one school district may port up to twenty (20) years of seniority to a second school district when they secure a continuing appointment in that second school district.
2. Such ported seniority must be deducted from the accumulation in the previous school district for all purposes except recall; for recall purposes only, the teacher retains the use of the ported seniority in their previous district.
3. If the recall rights expire or are lost, the ported seniority that was deducted from the accumulation in the previous school district will become final for all purposes and would be treated the same way as if the teacher had ported their seniority under normal circumstances. No additional seniority from the previous school district may be ported.
4. If the teacher accepts recall to a continuing appointment in the previous district, only the ported amount of seniority originally ported can be ported back, i.e., no additional seniority accumulated in the second school district can be ported to the previous school district.
5. The ability to port while on layoff/recall is limited to a transaction between two districts and any subsequent porting to a third district can only occur if the teacher terminates all employment, including recall rights with the previous school district.

6. Consistent with Irene Holden's previous awards on porting, implementation of this letter of understanding is meant to be on a prospective basis and is not intended to undo any previous staffing decision with the understanding that anomalies could be discussed between the parties.
7. This letter of understanding in no way over-rides any previous local provisions currently in effect which do not permit a teacher maintaining recall rights in one district while holding a continuing position in another school district.

Example 1

A Teacher has 3 years of seniority in district "A" has been laid off with recall rights. While still holding recall rights in district "A", the teacher secures a continuing appointment in district "B". Once ported, this teacher would have 3 years seniority in district "B", 3 years of seniority in district "A" for recall purposes only and 0 years of seniority in district "A" for any other purposes. This teacher after working 1 year in district "B" accepts recall to a continuing appointment in district "A". Only 3 years of seniority would be ported back to district "A" and for record keeping purposes, the teacher's seniority record in district "B" would be reduced from 4 years down to 1 year.

Example 2

A Teacher has 3 years of seniority in district "A" has been laid off with recall rights. While still holding recall rights in district "A", the teacher secures a continuing appointment in district "B". Once ported, this teacher would have 3 years seniority in district "B", 3 years of seniority in district "A" for recall purposes only and 0 years of seniority in district "A" for any other purposes. After working 2 years in school district "B" this teacher's recall rights in school district "A" are lost. No further seniority can be ported from district "A" to district "B" and for record keeping purposes, the teacher's seniority record in district "A" would be zero for all purposes.

Original signed March 26, 2020

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 9

BETWEEN:

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

Re: Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan

1. The Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan as provided for under Article B.11.1 is as set out in Appendix A to this Letter of Understanding.
2. The Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan may only be amended or altered by agreement of BCPSEA and the BCTF.
3. The carrier/insurer for the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan may only be changed with prior consultation between BCPSEA and the BCTF.

The consultation process will be consistent with the 2012 process. In the event of a dispute in the selection/change of the carrier/insurer, the matter shall be referred to Mark Brown, or an agreed-upon alternative, to be dealt with on an expedited basis.

This provision covers any district or local that is part of the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan.

4. Any efficiencies or cost reductions achieved as a direct result of the establishment of the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan will be used to further enhance the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan.
5. The Provincial Extended Health Benefit plan does not include a medical referral travel plan (a "MRTP"). However, any school district that elects to participate in the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan and currently has a MRTP will continue to provide a MRTP.
6. Where the local union elects not to participate in the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan, the school district will continue to provide the existing extended health benefit plan between the parties.

7. As of September 1, 2022, local unions representing all members in the following school districts have voted against joining the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan:
 - a. Vancouver Teachers' Federation [VSTA, VEAES]¹ / SD No. 39 (Vancouver)
 - b. Coquitlam Teachers' Association / SD No. 43 (Coquitlam)
8. The local unions representing all members in the school districts in paragraphs 7.a and 7.b may elect to join the Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan at any time during the term of the Collective Agreement.

Signed this 26th day of November, 2012

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

¹ The references to VSTA and VEAES represent internal union organization. The reference to the Vancouver Teachers' Federation is for Collective Agreement matters.

Appendix A to Letter of Understanding No. 9

Benefit Provision	Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan
Reimbursement	80% until \$1,000 paid per person, then 100%
Annual Deductible	\$50 per policy
Lifetime Maximum	Unlimited
Coverage Termination	June 30 th following an employee attaining age 75, or upon earlier retirement.
Prescription Drugs	
Drug Formulary	Blue Rx
Pay-Direct Drug Card	Yes
Per Prescription Deductible	\$0
Sexual Dysfunction	Covered
Oral Contraceptives	Covered
Fertility	\$20,000 Lifetime Maximum
Medical Services and Supplies	
Medi-Assist	Included
Out-of-province emergency medical	Covered
Ambulance	Covered
Hospital	Private/Semi-Private
Private Duty Nursing (including In-home)	\$20,000 per year
Miscellaneous Services and Supplies (subject to reasonable and customary limits as defined by Pacific Blue Cross)	Covered Note: Coverage includes Dexcom Continuous Glucose Monitor

Medical Services and Supplies continued	
Hearing aids	\$3,500 per 48 months
Orthopedic shoes	\$500 per year
Orthotics	\$500 per year
Vision Care	
Maximum	\$550 per 24 months
Eye exams per 24 months	1 per 24 months*
Prescription Sunglasses	Included in Vision Maximum
Paramedical Services	
Naturopath	\$900 per year
Chiropractor	\$900 per year; effective January 1, 2023: \$1,000
Massage therapist	\$900 per year; effective January 1, 2023: \$1,000
Physiotherapist	\$900 per year; effective January 1, 2023: \$1,000
Counselling Services	\$900 per year; effective January 1, 2023: \$1,200
Speech therapist	\$800 per year
Acupuncturist	\$900 per year; effective January 1, 2023: \$1,000
Podiatrist/Chiropodist	\$800 per year

* Eye exams are subject to Pacific Blue Cross *Reasonable and Customary* limits.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING No. 10

BETWEEN:

BOUNDARY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

AND

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.51 (BOUNDARY)

AND

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

Re: Recruitment and Retention for Teachers at Beaverdell and Big White Elementary Schools

Does not apply in School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia).

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 11

BETWEEN

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)

AND THE

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION (BCTF)

Re: Article C.4 TTOC Employment – TTOC Experience Credit Transfer within a District

The purpose of this letter of understanding is to address situations within a single district where a temporary/continuing teacher is also currently a Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) or in the past has been a TTOC.

Teachers described above accrue experience for the purpose of increment advances under two (2) separate Collective Agreement provisions (silos), i.e., within a district, the employee triggers increments under Article C.4 for TTOC experience accrued and may also trigger increments under the applicable previous local agreement increment language for temporary/continuing experience accrued.

In order to allow a TTOC the opportunity to transfer, within a district, their TTOC experience earned under Article C.4 (new provision effective September 19, 2014) towards that of the applicable previous local Collective Agreement increment language for continuing and/or temporary employees, the parties agree to the following:

1. This option can only be exercised where in a single district a temporary/continuing teacher is also currently a TTOC or in the past has been a TTOC in the same district.
2. This agreement only applies to TTOC experience earned under Article C.4 since September 19, 2014 in that district.
3. This agreement only applies to a transfer within a district. This agreement is in no way applicable to a transfer of experience or recognition of experience between districts.
4. The transfer of experience credit can only be transferred one way; from that of TTOC experience earned under Article C.4 to that of the temporary/continuing previous local agreement increment provision, i.e., it cannot be transferred for any reason from that of temporary/continuing to that of a TTOC.
5. Transfers can only be made in whole months.
6. For the purpose of transfer, 17 FTE days of TTOC experience credit will equal/be converted to one month of experience credit.

7. Should the teacher choose the option to transfer, transfers must be for the entire amount of TTOC experience in their Article C.4 bank on the deadline date for notice, i.e., with the exception of any leftover days remaining (1 – 16 days) after the whole month conversion calculation is made, no partial transfer of TTOC experience are permitted. (See example below).
8. Once transferred, the previous local Collective Agreement increment provisions for temporary/continuing employees (including effective date of increment) will apply to the TTOC experience transferred.
9. Transfers can only occur and take effect twice a year (August 31 and December 31).
10. For a transfer to occur effective August 31st, written notice from the employee to transfer must be received by the district no later than June 30th of the preceding school year (see attached form A). This transfer would only include the TTOC experience accrued up until June 30th of the preceding school year. Once written notice is received from the teacher to transfer the TTOC experience that decision is final and under no circumstances will the experience be transferred back to C.4.
11. For a transfer to occur effective December 31st, written notice from the employee to transfer must be received by the district no later than November 15th of the school year (see attached form B). This transfer would only include the TTOC experience accrued up until November 15th of the school year. Once written notice is received from the teacher to transfer the TTOC experience that decision is final and under no circumstances will the experience be transferred back to C.4. (See attached form B)
12. This agreement takes effect on the signatory date signed below.

Example:

1. On June 1, 2015, Teacher A provides written notice to the district that they would like to transfer their Article C.4 TTOC experience that they will have accrued up until June 30, 2015 (in terms of closest equivalent month) to their temporary/continuing previous local agreement increment experience bank.
2. On June 30, 2015, Teacher A has 70 TTOC days of experience accrued under Article C.4.
3. On August 31, 2015, 4 months of experience would be transferred to their experience bank under the applicable previous local Collective Agreement increment language for continuing and/or temporary employees and 2 days of TTOC experience would remain in their TTOC bank under Article C.4. (70 divided by 17 = 4 whole months, with 2 days remaining)
4. Effective August 31, 2015, the previous local Collective Agreement increment language for temporary/continuing employees would then apply to the 4 months of experience that was transferred.

Signed this 22nd day of April, 2015

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

TEACHER NOTICE: LOU 11 – TTOC EXPERIENCE TRANSFER REQUEST – FORM A

Re: August 31st transfers for TTOC experience accrued up to and including June 30th

This constitutes my written notice under LOU No. 11 of the Collective Agreement that I, _____ wish to transfer my eligible TTOC experience credits earned under Article C.4 (up to and including June 30, _____) to that of the applicable previous local Collective Agreement increment language for continuing and/or temporary employees. Transfer of these experience credits shall take place and be effective August 31, _____.

I understand that once I submit this application to the employer, this decision to transfer is final and cannot be reversed.

Teacher Signature

Date signed

District Receipt Confirmed

Date of Receipt

Please Note: This written notice must be provided by the teacher and received by the district no later than June 30th of the preceding school year for a transfer for TTOC experience credits earned up to and including June 30th to take effect on August 31st of the following school year.

TEACHER NOTICE: LOU 11 - TTOC EXPERIENCE TRANSFER REQUEST - FORM B

Re: December 31st transfers for TTOC experience accrued up to and including November 15th

This constitutes my written notice under LOU No. 11 of the Collective Agreement that I, _____ wish to transfer my eligible TTOC experience credits earned under Article C.4 (up to and including November 15, _____) to that of the applicable previous local Collective Agreement increment language for continuing and/or temporary employees. Transfer of these experience credits shall take place and be effective December 31, _____.

I understand that once I submit this application to the employer, this decision to transfer is final and cannot be reversed.

Teacher Signature

Date Signed

District Receipt Confirmed

Date of Receipt

Please Note: This written notice must be provided by the teacher and received by the district no later than November 15th of the school year for a transfer for TTOC experience credits earned up to and including November 15th to take effect on December 31st of the same school year.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 12

BETWEEN

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)

AND THE

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION (BCTF)

Re: Agreement Regarding Restoration of Class Size, Composition, Ratios and Ancillary Language

WHEREAS the Parties acknowledge that, as a result of the majority of the Supreme Court of Canada, adopting Justice Donald's conclusion that the *Education Improvement Act* was unconstitutional and of no force or effect, that the BCPSEA – BCTF Collective Agreement provisions that were deleted by the *Public Education Flexibility and Choice Act* in 2002 and again in 2012 by the *Education Improvement Act* are restored.

AND WHEREAS the Parties further acknowledge that the Supreme Court of Canada's decision triggered Letter of Understanding No. 17 to the 2013 – 2019 BCPSEA – BCTF Provincial Collective Agreement which required the Parties to re-open Collective Agreement negotiations regarding the Collective Agreement provisions that were restored by the Supreme Court of Canada.

AND WHEREAS the Parties further acknowledge that Letter of Understanding No.17 required an agreement "regarding implementation and/or changes to the restored language".

AND WHEREAS this Letter of Understanding has been negotiated pursuant to the Letter of Understanding No. 17 fully and finally resolves all matters related to the implementation of the Supreme Court of Canada's Decision. As such, the Parties acknowledge that the re-opener process set out in Letter of Understanding No. 17 has been completed.

THEREFORE THE PARTIES AGREE THAT:

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

Shared Commitment to Equitable Access to Learning

1. All students are entitled to equitable access to learning, achievement and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of their education. The Parties are committed to providing all

students with special needs with an inclusive learning environment which provides an opportunity for meaningful participation and the promotion of interaction with others. The implementation of this Letter of Understanding shall not result in any student being denied access to a school educational program, course, or inclusive learning environment unless the decision is based on an assessment of the student's individual needs and abilities.

Schedule "A" of All Restored Collective Agreement Provisions

2. The Parties have developed a Schedule of BCPSEA-BCTF Collective Agreement provisions that were deleted by the *Public Education Flexibility and Choice Act* in 2002 and again in 2012 by the *Education Improvement Act* ("the restored Collective Agreement provisions") that will be implemented pursuant to this Letter of Understanding. This Schedule is attached to this Letter of Understanding as Schedule "A".

Agreement to be Implemented

3. School staffing will be subject to the terms and this Letter of Understanding, comply with the restored Collective Agreement provisions that are set out in Schedule "A".

II. NON-ENROLLING TEACHER STAFFING RATIOS

4. All language pertaining to learning specialists shall be implemented as follows:
 - A. The minimum district ratios of learning specialists to students shall be as follows (except as provided for in paragraph 4(B) below):
 - i. Teacher librarians shall be provided on a minimum pro-rated basis of at least one teacher librarian to seven hundred and two (702) students;
 - ii. Counsellors shall be provided on a minimum pro-rated basis of at least one counsellor to six hundred and ninety-three (693) students;
 - iii. Learning assistance teachers shall be provided on a minimum pro-rated basis of at least one learning assistance teacher to five hundred and four (504) students;
 - iv. Special education resource teachers shall be provided on a minimum pro-rated basis of at least one special education resource teacher to three hundred and forty-two (342) students;

- v. English as a second language teachers (ESL) shall be provided on a minimum pro-rated basis of at least one ESL teacher per seventy-four (74) students.
- B. For the purpose of posting and /or filling FTE, the Employer may combine the non-enrolling teacher categories set out in paragraph 4 (A) (iii) - (v) into a single category. The Employer will have been deemed to have fulfilled its obligations under paragraphs 4 (A) (iii) – (v) where the non-enrolling teacher FTE of this single category is equivalent to the sum of the teachers required from categories 4 (A) (iii)-(v).
- C. Where a local Collective Agreement provided for services, caseload limits, or ratios additional or superior to the ratios provided for in paragraph 4 (A) above – the services, caseload limits or ratios from the local Collective Agreement shall apply. (Provisions to be identified in Schedule “A” to this Letter of Understanding).
- D. The aforementioned employee staffing ratios shall be based on the funded FTE student enrolment numbers as reported by the Ministry of Education.
- E. Where a non-enrolling teacher position remains unfilled following the completion of the applicable local post and fill processes, the local parties will meet to discuss alternatives for utilizing the FTE in another way. Following these discussions the Superintendent will make a final decision regarding how the FTE will be deployed. This provision is time limited and will remain in effect until the renewal of the 2022-2025 BCPSEA – BCTF provincial Collective Agreement. Following the expiration of this provision, neither the language of this provision nor the practice that it establishes regarding alternatives for utilizing unfilled non-enrolling teacher positions will be referred to in any future arbitration or proceeding.

III. PROCESS AND ANCILLARY LANGUAGE

- 5. Where the local parties agree they prefer to follow a process that is different than what is set out in the applicable local Collective Agreement process and ancillary provisions, they may request that the Parties enter into discussions to amend those provisions. Upon agreement of the Parties, the amended provisions would replace the process and ancillary provisions for the respective School District and local union. (Provisions to be identified in Schedule “A” to the Letter of Understanding).

IV. CLASS SIZE AND COMPOSITION

PART 1: CLASS SIZE PROVISIONS

6. The BCPSEA – BCTF Collective Agreement provisions regarding class size that were deleted by the *Public Education and Flexibility and Choice Act* in 2002 and again in 2012 by the *Education Improvement Act* will be implemented as set out below:

Class Size Provisions: K - 3

The size of primary classes shall be limited as follows:

- A. Kindergarten classes shall not exceed 20 students;
 - B. Grade 1 classes shall not exceed 22 students;
 - C. Grade 2 classes shall not exceed 22 students;
 - D. Grade 3 classes shall not exceed 22 students.
7. Where there is more than one primary grade in any class with primary students, the class size maximum for the lower grade shall apply.
8. Where there is a combined primary/intermediate class, an average of the maximum class size of the lowest involved primary grade and the maximum class size of the lowest involved intermediate grade will apply.

K-3 Superior Provisions to Apply

9. For primary and combined primary/intermediate classes where the restored Collective Agreement provisions provide for superior class size provisions beyond those listed in paragraphs 6 through 8 above, the superior provisions shall apply. [Provisions to be identified in Schedule “A” to this Letter of Understanding].

Class Size Language: 4-12

10. The BCPSEA-BCTF Collective Agreement provisions regarding Grade 4–12 class size that were deleted by the *Public Education and Flexibility and Choice Act* in 2002 and again in 2012 by the *Education Improvement Act* will be implemented.

PART II – CLASS COMPOSITION PROVISIONS

Implementation of Class Composition Language

11. The BCPSEA-BCTF Collective Agreement provisions regarding class composition that were deleted by the *Public Education and Flexibility and Choice Act* in 2002 and again in 2012 by the *Education Improvement Act* will be implemented. The Parties agree that the implementation of this language shall not result in a student being denied access to a school, educational program, course, or inclusive learning environment unless this decision is based on an assessment of the student's individual needs and abilities.
12. The parties agree that the August 28, 2019 Jackson Arbitration on *Special Education Designations* is binding on the parties and that Arbitrator Jackson maintains jurisdiction on the implementation of the award.

PART III: CLASS SIZE AND COMPOSITION COMPLIANCE AND REMEDIES

Efforts to Achieve Compliance: Provincial Approach

13. The Parties agree that paragraphs 14-16 of this agreement establish a provincial approach regarding the efforts that must be made to comply with the class size and composition provisions set out in Schedule "A" to this agreement and the remedies that are available where non-compliance occurs. This provincial approach applies to all School Districts and replaces all restored Collective Agreement provisions related to compliance and remedies for class size and composition. For clarity, the restored Collective Agreement compliance and remedy provisions that are replaced by this provincial approach are identified in Schedule "A" to this Letter of Understanding. The Parties commit to reviewing this provincial approach in the 2022 round of negotiations.

Best Efforts to Be Made to Achieve Compliance

14. School Districts will make best efforts to achieve full compliance with the Collective Agreement provisions regarding class size and composition. Best efforts shall include:
 - A. Re-examining existing school boundaries;
 - B. Re-examining the utilization of existing space within a school or across schools that are proximate to one another;
 - C. Utilizing temporary classrooms;
 - D. Reorganizing the existing classes within the school to meet any class composition language, where doing so will not result in a reduction in a maximum class size by more than:

- five students in grades K-3;
- four students for secondary shop or lab classes where the local class size limits are below 30, and;
- six students in all other grades.

These class size reductions shall not preclude a Superintendent from approving a smaller class.

Note: For the following School Districts, class sizes for K-1 split classes will not be reduced below 14 students:

- School District 10 (Arrow Lakes)
- School District 35 (Langley)
- School District 49 (Central Coast)
- School District 67 (Okanagan-Skaha)
- School District 74 (Gold Trail)
- School District 82 (Coast Mountain)
- School District 85 (Vancouver Island North)

E. Renegotiating the terms of existing lease or rental contracts that restrict the School District's ability to fully comply with the restored Collective Agreement provisions regarding class size and composition;

F. Completing the post-and-fill process for all vacant positions.

Non-Compliance

15. Notwithstanding paragraph 14, the Parties recognize that non-compliance with class size and composition language may occur. Possible reasons for non-compliance include, but are not limited to:

- compelling family issues;
- sibling attendance at the same school;
- the age of the affected student(s);
- distance to be travelled and/or available transportation;
- safety of the student(s);
- the needs and abilities of individual student(s);
- accessibility to special programs and services;
- anticipated student attrition;

- time of year;
- physical space limitations;
- teacher recruitment challenges.

Remedies for Non-Compliance

16. Where a School District has, as per paragraph 14 above, made best efforts to achieve full compliance with the restored Collective Agreement provisions regarding class size and composition, but has not been able to do so:

- A. For classes that start in September, the District will not be required to make further changes to the composition of classes or the organization of the school after September 30 of the applicable school year. It is recognized that existing “flex factor” language that is set out in the restored Collective Agreement provisions will continue to apply for the duration of the class.

For classes that start after September, the District will not be required to make further changes to the composition of classes or the organization of schools after 21 calendar days from the start of the class. It is recognized that existing “flex factor” language that is set out in the restored Collective Agreement provisions will continue to apply for the duration of the class.

- B. Teachers of classes that do not comply with the restored class size and composition provisions will become eligible to receive a monthly remedy for non-compliance effective October 1st (or 22 calendar days from the start of the class) as follows:

$$(V) = (180 \text{ minutes}) \times (P) \times (S1 + S2)$$

V = the value of the additional compensation;

P = the percentage of a full-time instructional month that the teacher teaches the class;

S1 = the highest number of students enrolled in the class during the month for which the calculation is made minus the maximum class size for that class;

S2 = the number of students by which the class exceeds the class composition limits of the Collective Agreement during the month for which the calculation is made;

Note: If there is non-compliance for any portion of a calendar month the remedy will be provided for the entire month. It is recognized that adjustments to

remedies may be triggered at any point during the school year if there is a change in S1 or S2.

C. Once the value of the remedy has been calculated, the teacher will determine which of the following remedies will be awarded:

- i) Additional preparation time for the affected teacher;
- ii) Additional non-enrolling staffing added to the school specifically to work with the affected teacher's class;
- iii) Additional enrolling staffing to co-teach with the affected teacher;
- iv) Other remedies that the local parties agree would be appropriate.

In the event that it is not practicable to provide the affected teacher with any of these remedies during the school year, the local parties will meet to determine what alternative remedy the teacher will receive.

Dated this 26th day of March 2020.

Revised with housekeeping 28th day of October, 2022

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 13
BETWEEN
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)
AND THE
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION (BCTF)

Re: Committee to Discuss Indigenous Peoples Recognition and Reconciliation

The provincial parties commit to building respectful, productive, and meaningful relationships with Indigenous groups.

The parties agree to establish a committee within two (2) months of the conclusion of 2022 provincial bargaining (or other period as mutually agreed to).

The committee shall be comprised of up to three (3) representatives appointed by the BCTF and up to three (3) representatives appointed by BCPSEA, unless mutually agreed otherwise.

Representatives from the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), and other organizations as agreed to by the parties, will be invited to participate. The scope of participation and scheduling of these representatives will be by mutual agreement of the parties.

The committee will:

1. Discuss ways that the parties can support:
 - a. *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and specifically, the education commitments of the Declaration Act Action Plan;
 - b. Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action
2. Review the Collective Agreement to identify ways to support the recruitment and retention of Indigenous teachers. The committee may mutually recommend to the provincial parties potential changes to the Collective Agreement.

Signed this 28th day of October, 2022

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 14
BETWEEN
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)
AND THE
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION (BCTF)

Re: Cultural Leave for Aboriginal Employees

Employees in School Districts No. 61 (Greater Victoria), No. 64 (Gulf Islands), No. 85 (Vancouver Island North), No. 92 (Nisga'a), and No. 93 (Conseil Scolaire Francophone de la Colombie-Britannique) who have leaves in excess of those provided for in G. 11 *Cultural Leave of Aboriginal Employees* shall maintain those leaves.

For clarification, the new leave provisions of Article G.11 are not in addition to the current provisions contained in local Collective Agreements.

Signed this 26th day of March, 2020

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 15
BETWEEN
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)
AND THE
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION (BCTF)

Re: Structural Review Committees

1. Tri-partite sub-committee to review the split-of-issues

Further to Mediator Schaub's recommendation in his June 7, 2021 Section 53 Report, the parties agree to establish a sub-committee to review the split-of-issues between Provincial Matters and Local Matters.

The sub-committee will consist of equal representation from Provincial Government, BCPSEA, and BCTF. There will be no more than three (3) representatives from each party.

The sub-committee will commence within three (3) months of the conclusion of the 2022 provincial bargaining process.

The committee will provide their agreed to recommendations to the appropriate Ministers of the Provincial Government and their respective parties within two (2) months of their first meeting, or another period mutually agreed to.

2. Review of local bargaining trial procedure

The parties agree to review the 2022 Local Bargaining Procedure within six (6) months of the completion of the 2022 round of provincial collective bargaining, or another period as mutually agreed to by the provincial parties.

The parties may make determinations about an extension of the Procedure without prejudice to either party's ability to raise Letter of Understanding No. 1 *Re: Designation of Provincial and Local Matters* in provincial collective bargaining.

A committee of not more than three (3) BCPSEA and three (3) BCTF representatives will complete the review. The committee will conclude its work within two (2) months of the first meeting date, or another period as mutually agreed.

Signed this 28th day of October, 2022

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 16
BETWEEN
BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)
AND THE
BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION (BCTF)

Re: Benefits Improvements

1. The parties agree to benefits improvements to the standardized Provincial Extended Health Benefits Plan in the following amounts, effective January 1, 2023:
 - a. add registered clinical counsellors and registered social workers to the existing Psychologist coverage and increase the combined total to \$1200 per year;
 - b. in Appendix A to LOU #9 (Re: Provincial Extended Health Benefit Plan), rename the grouping of "Psychologist" coverage to "Counselling Services";
 - c. include coverage for the Dexcom Continuous Glucose Monitor;
 - d. increase Chiropractic coverage to \$1000;
 - e. increase Massage Therapist coverage to \$1000;
 - f. increase Physiotherapist coverage to \$1000; and
 - g. increase Acupuncturist coverage to \$1000.

2. The parties further agree to enter into discussion around the allocation of:
 - a. Effective July 1, 2023 \$1,500,000 of ongoing money
 - b. Effective July 1, 2024 an additional \$2,000,000 of ongoing money

The allocation of benefits improvement funding may include the standardized provincial extended health plan, local dental plan provisions, and local dental plan levels of minimum coverage.

3. The parties will conclude benefit improvement discussion by no later than April 30, 2023.

Signed this 28th day of October, 2022

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 17

BETWEEN

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION (BCPSEA)

AND THE

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION (BCTF)

Re: Employment Equity – Groups That Face Disadvantage

The parties support building a public education system workforce which reflects community diversity.

The parties recognize that Boards of Education may identify within their workforce the need to support groups who face disadvantage as recognized by the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner (e.g. racialized people, people with disabilities/disabled people, LGBTQ2S+ people, etc.).

The parties therefore agree that:

3. They will encourage and assist boards of education, with the support of the local teachers' unions, to make application to the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner (under section 42 of the *Human Rights Code*) to obtain approval for a "special program" that would serve to attract and retain employees from groups who face disadvantage.
4. They will encourage boards of education to consult with the local teachers' unions regarding the identification of the group(s) the special program is intended to attract and retain.
5. They will encourage boards of education to consult with the local teachers' unions regarding the identification of the position(s) to which the special program application should apply. The parties recognize that a special program application may be in relation to a specific position or program, or an overall hiring objective.
6. They will encourage and assist boards of education and local teachers' unions to include in applications to the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner a request to grant:
 - a. priority hiring rights to applicants from groups who face disadvantage; and
 - b. priority in the post and fill process for employees from groups who face disadvantage.

7. In conjunction with LOU No. 4, the provincial parties will jointly:
 - a. develop communications and training which will support the application for and implementation of special programs in districts; and
 - b. develop an Implementation Guide to share with boards of education and local teachers' unions.

Signed this 28th day of October, 2022

Local Letters of Understanding

LOCAL LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING NO. 1

Re: Class size limit

BETWEEN:

The Board of School Trustees of School District No. 20 (Kootenay Columbia),

AND

The Kootenay Columbia Teachers' Union.

Effective September 01/98

The extra students referred to in D.1.2 of the collective agreement will not apply to any classes which have 30 scheduled students. Class size of regular classes shall not exceed 30.

Effective September 01/98

Science 8 classes in Middle schools shall not be considered lab courses and shall have a maximum class size of 30.

The above notwithstanding Science 8 classes at Secondary schools shall remain as per contract.

Original signed by

P. DOOLEY
J CORMACK

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
S.D. NO. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)

Original signed by

F. SANTESSO
B. GORKOFF

KOOTENAY COLUMBIA
TEACHERS' UNION

[Note: Cross-reference updated August 2021]

ATTACHMENT

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.20 (KOOTENAY-COLUMBIA)

-

SELF-FUNDED LEAVE PLAN

As:

- A. It is desired to establish for the benefit of employees of the Board a plan to enable them to fund leaves of absence from employment not less than six (6) consecutive months or not less than three (3) consecutive months where the purpose is to permit full time attendance at an educational institution through deferral of salary on such terms as may be set out in this Agreement, and
- B. It is intended that such plans qualify as “prescribed plans” within the meaning of Regulation 6801 of the Income Tax Act (Canada).

The following sets out the terms of the Self-Funded Leave Plan for the eligible employees of the Board of Education of School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia).

1. Definitions

“Accrued Interest” means the amount of interest earned in accordance with clause 3.c on the monies retained by the Board on behalf of the participant, calculated from:

- a. The first day any of such monies has been received by the eligible financial institution, or
 - b. The last date to which interest has been paid in accordance with clause 3.e,
- whichever is later.

“Agreement(s)” means the agreement(s) in force from time to time between the Board and the Union.

“Union” means the Kootenay Columbia Teachers’ Union.

“Board” means the Board of Education School District No. 20 (Kootenay-Columbia).

“Contract year” means the twelve (12) month period from July 1 to June 30.

“Current compensation amount” means the total compensation payable by the Board to the participant for the contract year, including their proper salary and all allowances in accordance with the agreement(s) in force.

“Deferral period” shall be the number of years, not to exceed six (6) years, for which compensation is deferred in accordance with clause 3.a, including the years referred to in clauses 4.d and 4.e, if applicable. To allow for the possible application of these clauses, the original deferral period should not exceed five (5) years.

“Deferred compensation amount” means the portion of the current compensation amount which is retained by the Board for a participant in each year in accordance with clause 3.a and augmented from time to time by interest thereon calculated in accordance with clause 3.c, but less all interest paid to the participant in accordance with clause 3.e.

“Eligible employee” means an employee of the Board in continuing employment.

“Eligible financial institution” means any Canadian chartered bank, any trust company authorized to carry on business in the province of British Columbia, and any Credit Union authorized to carry on business in the province of British Columbia. The financial institution must provide deposit insurance sufficient to cover the deposits of the participants.

“Joint committee” means a committee as defined by agreement(s) between the Board and the Union.

“Leave of Absence” means the period described in clause 4.a.

“Memorandum of Agreement” means the agreement described in Schedule A.

“Participant” means an eligible employee who has complete a memorandum of agreement and whose application for participation in the plan has been approved by the Board in accordance with clause 2.b.

“Plan” means the Self-Funded Leave Plan set out in this agreement and includes all amendments thereto.

“Trustee”- the eligible financial institution selected by the Joint Committee to receive, invest and disburse deferred compensation amounts.

2. Application

a. Formal Application

In order to participate in the plan, an eligible employee must make written application to the Board on or before March 31 of the current school year, stating the date when the eligible employee wishes the monthly deferrals (deductions) to commence.

b. Approval

An application to participate in the plan shall not be unreasonably denied. The Board shall, at least in one (1) month prior to the requested commencement of deferrals under the plan, or at a date otherwise agreed between the Board and the Union, advise each applicant of the approval or disapproval of their application, and if the latter, an explanation therefore.

c. Date of Participation

If the application is approved under clause 2.b, the participation of the eligible employee in the plan will become effective on the date agreed to by the Board and the employee.

3. Funding For Leave Of Absence

a. Compensation Deferred

During each year of the deferral period, the participant will receive their current compensation amount, less the percentage amount which the participant has specified in the Memorandum of Agreement, which is to be retained by the Board, and less statutory deduction and other withholdings. Such percentage amount may be carried subject to clause 3.b, by giving written notice to the Board at least one (1) month prior to July 1 in any year for the next or subsequent years.

b. Maximum Percentage Deferred

The percentage of the annual current compensation amount deferred by the participant cannot exceed thirty-three and one third (33 1/3) percent.

c. Investment of Deferred Compensation

The monies retained by the Board for each participant, in accordance with clause 3.a, including interest thereon (until paid out in accordance with clause 3.e) shall be pooled and shall be invested and reinvested as directed by the eligible financial institution within fifteen (15) calendar days. The Joint Committee shall choose such eligible financial institution and in making such determination, neither the Board, nor the Union, or the members of the Joint Committee shall be liable to any participant for any investments made which are authorized by this clause.

d. Insolvency

In the event that any of the monies retained and invested pursuant to the terms of this plan be lost be reason of insolvency of the eligible financial institution, the Board shall not be obliged to pay the participants any further amounts in respect to services for the deferral period.

e. Payment of Accrued Interest

The eligible financial institution shall pay the accrued interest on each December 31 to the participant.

f. Reporting to Participants

The Board shall make, no later than July 31 of each year, an annual report to each participant as to the deferred compensation amount held as at June 30.

4. Taking Of Leave of Absence

a. Minimum Length of Leave

The Leave of Absence shall be for not less than six (6) consecutive months or not less than three (3) consecutive months where the purpose is to permit full time attendance at an educational institution.

b. Manner of Payment During Leave

The time and manner of payment to the participant by the Board during the leave of absence shall be in accordance with a plan determined by the participant prior to the commencement of the leave, but in any event, payments shall be provided monthly and all amounts payable shall be paid to the participant no later than the end of the first taxation year that commences after the end of the deferral period.

c. Amount of Payment During Leave

The total of the payments to be made to a participant in accordance with clause 4.b during a leave of absence shall be the deferred compensation amount retained but the Board, but less any monies required by law to be paid by the Board for or on behalf of the participant. The participant shall not receive any salary from the Board during the leave other than the deferred compensation amount.

d. Board's Right to Defer Leave

If the Board is unable to obtain a suitable replacement for a participant for the period of a leave of absence specified in the Memorandum of Agreement, the Board, upon not less than six (6) months' notice prior to the scheduled date for the commencement of the leave, may at its discretion defer the leave of absence on one occasion only for one (1) year. In such case, the participant may choose to remain in the plan or may withdraw from the plan.

e. Participant's Right to Defer Leave

Notwithstanding the period of leave specified in the Memorandum of Agreement, a participant may, on one occasion only, with the consent of the Board, given not

less than six (6) months' notice prior to the scheduled date for the commencement of the leave postpone such leave for one (1) year.

f. Leave of Absence

Unless provided for under clauses 4.d or 4.e of the Plan, the leave of absence shall immediately follow the deferral period.

g. Return to Employment

The participant shall return to employment with the Board, or with an employer that participates in the same or similar plan to fund leaves of absence for a period not less than the period of leave.

h. Participant's Return From Leave

The participant returning to teaching duties shall be assigned to the position held prior to the release, or if said position no longer exists, will be subject to Article C.108 or assigned to another position which is acceptable to the teacher and the Board.

5. Withdrawal

a. Termination of Employment

A participant who ceases to be employed by the Board also terminates participation in the plan.

b. Withdrawal from the Plan

With the consent of the Joint Committee, a participant may withdraw from the plan upon giving written notice of withdrawal not less than six (6) months prior to the date on which the leave of absence is to commence.

c. Payment

Upon termination of employment and/or withdrawal from the plan, the Board shall pay to the participant the deferred compensation amount, including any unpaid interest, within sixty (60) days or, at the option of the participant, at a later date but not later than the end of the first taxation year that commences after the end of the deferral period. Upon such payment being made, the Board shall have no further liability to the participant.

d. Upon Death

Should a participant die, the Board shall, within sixty (60) days notification of such death, pay any deferred compensation amount retained at the time of death to

the participant's estate, subject to the Board receiving any necessary clearance and proofs normally required for payment to estates.

6. Termination Or Amendment Of Plan

a. Agreement

The plan may be amended or terminated by mutual agreement between the Board and the Union.

7. General

a. Administration

The Employee will bear the administrative expenses of the plan which shall be charged against each employee's fund from interest earnings.

b. Payroll Deductions

The Board will bear the expense of payroll deductions and forwarding same to the Trustee.

c. Sick Leave Credits

Employees will not be entitled to utilize Sick Leave credits during the leave nor accumulate same.

d. Increments

Employees will not be eligible for increment credits for salary purposes.

e. Health and Welfare Plans

During the period of leave, the participant shall be entitled to continue medical, extended health, group life and dental benefits by paying their contractual share of the cost. The Board will continue to pay its share.

f. Statutory Deductions

i. E.I.

EI premiums are to be based on the employee's gross salary before deferrals during the period of deferral and no premiums are to be withheld from the deferred amounts when paid to the employee during the leave period.

ii. C.P.P

CPP premiums are to be based on the salary the employee actually receives-during both the deferral period and the leave period.

iii. INCOME TAX

Income Tax deductions are to be based on the salary the employee actually receives –during both the deferral period and the leave period.

g. Teachers' Pension Plan

Teachers' Pension Plan contributions are based on the employee's gross salary before deferrals during the period of deferral and no contributions are to be withheld from the deferred amounts paid the employee during the leave period.

h. BCTF/ Local Union Fees

The fees are based on the employee's gross salary before deferrals during the period of deferral and no fees are to be withheld from the deferred amounts paid the employee during the leave period.

i. Joint Committee

- i. The Self-Funded Leave Plan shall be governed by a Self-Funded Leave Plan Committee composed of two participants from the Union and two from the Board.
- ii. The Joint Committee shall determine any questions referred to it regarding the operation of the Self-Funded Leave Plan including the selection of an eligible financial institution for the deferred compensation amounts.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 20 (KOOTENAY-COLUMBIA)

SELF-FUNDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE PLAN APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ SOCIAL INSURANCE NO. _____

TELEPHONE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

I have read the terms and conditions of the Self-Funded Leave Plan and understand same and I agree to participate in the plan under the following terms and conditions:

1. Commencement Date

My enrolment in the plan and the deferrals shall become effective _____.

2. Number of Years of Participation

I shall participate in the plan for _____ years (not to exceed five (5) years including deferrals in paragraph 3), and my leave of absence shall immediately follow thereafter but subject to the provisions of paragraph 3 below.

3. Period of Leave

In accordance with clause 4.f of this Appendix I shall take my leave of absence from _____ to _____ (not be less than six (6) consecutive months or not less than three (3) consecutive months where the purpose is to permit full time attendance at an educational institution), but in accordance with clause 4.e of the Plan, I may, with the consent of the Board, postpone on one (1) occasion only such leave for one (1) year, the Board shall have the right in accordance with clause 4.d of the Plan, to defer such leave for one (1) year.

4. Funding of Leave of Absence

In accordance with clause 3.a of the Plan, I direct the percentage amounts as set out in this section be withheld by the Board from my current compensation amount with respect to my application in the Plan for the following school years: (not exceed thirty-three and one third (33 and 1/3) percent in any one (1) year.

First Year _____%

Fourth Year _____%

Second Year _____%

Fifth Year _____%

Third Year _____%

Or For All Years _____%

I understand that by written notice to the Board, one (1) month before my anniversary in the Plan, I may alter the percentage amount for the next or subsequent years.

5. Return to Employment

I understand I shall return to employment with the Board or with an employer that participates in the same or similar plan to fund leaves of absence for a period not less than the period of leave.

6. This plan is not established to provide benefits on or after my retirement.

7. Interest will be paid by December 31 for the previous calendar year.

Participant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Superintendent's Recommendation: _____

Approved by the Board:

Secretary Treasurer

Date

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