

SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 68

AND

DISTRICT 68 EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

PROFESSIONAL NEGOTIATIONS AGREEMENT

2007 – 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article I – Recognition	
1.1 General	1
1.2 Scope	1
Article II – Purpose	2
Article III – Bargaining	
3.1 Association Team	3
3.2 Board Team	3
3.3 Consultants	3
3.4 Meetings of Bargaining Teams	3
3.5 Mediation	3
3.6 Completion of Negotiations	3
Article IV – Grievance Procedure	
4.1 Definition	4
4.2 Statement of Basic Principles	4
4.3 Procedures	4
Article V – Teacher and Association Rights	
5.1 Teacher Protections	6
5.2 Equitable Treatment of All Persons	8
5.3 Right to Organize	8
5.4 Fair Share and Dues Deduction	8
5.5 Use of District Facilities/Equipment	9
5.6 Access to District Records	10
5.7 Notification of Board and District Meetings	10
5.8 Distribution of Board Minutes	10
5.9 Teacher Policy Handbook	10
5.10 Distribution of Contract	11
5.11 Bulletin Board	11
5.12 Association Leave	11
5.13 Safety	11
Article VI – Insurance	
6.1 Health Insurance	12
6.2 Dental Insurance	13
6.3 Group Term Life Insurance	14
6.4 Long Term Disability Insurance	14
6.5 Health and Dental Insurance Continuation	14

Article VII – Leaves	
7.1 Absences from School	15
7.2 Family and Medical Leave	17
7.3 Temporary Disability Absence, Permanent Disability and Termination of Employment	18
7.4 Temporary and Extended Personal Absence Leaves	18
7.5 Partial Leave for Tenured Teachers with Annual Renewal	20
7.6 Reduction in Force	20
7.7 Employment and Benefit Status of Reinstated Personnel	21
Article VIII – Working Conditions	
8.1 Temporary and Part-Time Personnel	22
8.2 School Day	22
8.3 Calendar	23
8.4 Class Size	23
8.5 Planning Time	24
8.6 Assignment and Transfer of Teachers	24
Article IX – Salary	
9.1 Salary, Teacher Benefits and Other Considerations	26
9.2 Salary Checks and Deductions	27
9.3 Payroll Deduction for Teacher Retirement	27
9.4 Extra Pay for Extra Work	27
9.5 Mentoring	28
Article X – Benefits	
10.1 Health Care Expense Program	29
10.2 Dependent Care Assistance Program	29
10.3 Tax-Deferred Savings Plans	29
10.4 Tuition Assistance	29
10.5 Retirement Benefits for Certificated Personnel	31
10.6 Workers’ Compensation	34
Article XI – Evaluation	35
Article XII – Effect of Agreement	36
Article XIII – Duration of Agreement	37

ARTICLE I - RECOGNITION

1.1 General

The Board of Education recognizes the District 68 Education Association as the sole representative for certificated teachers of the District.

1.2 Scope

The parties shall negotiate wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The broad purposes of this Agreement are to promote the welfare of the professional staff with respect to salary, benefits and conditions of employment through harmonious, collaborative and constructive relationships between the Board and the Association. To that end, the Board and the Association shall endeavor to maintain a positive, effective and communicative working relationship.

ARTICLE III - BARGAINING

3.1 Association Team

The President of the Association shall appoint members of the bargaining team. Those members shall represent each attendance center. The President of the Association shall be a member of the Association bargaining team. The bargaining team will be no less than five and no more than ten members.

3.2 Board Team

The Board shall appoint its bargaining team not to exceed ten members.

3.3 Consultants

Consultants may be invited to present information or views for consideration.

3.4 Meetings of Bargaining Teams

Negotiations between the Association and the Board will begin no later than March of the year in which the contract expires. Meeting dates and agenda shall be determined by the bargaining teams.

3.5 Mediation

If in the course of good faith negotiations, there is no reasonable expectation of reaching an agreement, either party may request in writing to the other that the parties mutually agree to the appointment of a mediator by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), as an alternative to the appointment of a mediator through the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board.

3.6 Completion of Negotiations

Upon the completion of negotiations between the respective negotiations teams, the Agreement shall be reduced to writing and shall be submitted first to the members of the Association and then to the Board for ratification.

ARTICLE IV - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

4.1 Definition

A grievance shall mean a complaint by the Association, teacher or group of teachers that there has been an alleged violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of any provision of this Agreement.

4.2 Statement of Basic Principles

1. Every teacher covered by this Agreement shall have the right to present grievances in accordance with these procedures, with or without representation. Nothing contained in this Article or elsewhere in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent any individual from discussing a problem with the administration and having it adjusted without intervention or representation of Association representatives.
2. A teacher who participates in these grievance procedures shall not be subjected to discipline or reprisal because of such participation.
3. The failure of a teacher or the Association to act on any grievance within the prescribed time limits will act as a bar to filing or to any further appeal and an administrator's failure to give a decision within the time limits shall permit the grievant to proceed to the next step. The time limits, however, may be extended by mutual agreement.
4. Any teacher has a right to be represented in the grievance procedure. The teacher shall be present at any grievance discussion when the administration and/or the Association deems it necessary.
5. All time limits shall consist of school days; however, during summer recess, time limits shall consist of days when the central administrative office is open to the public for business.
6. With the agreement of both parties, one of the grievance steps can be bypassed.

4.3 Procedures

1. First Step: An attempt shall be made to resolve any grievance in informal, verbal discussion between complainant and his/her immediate superior.
2. Second Step: If grievance cannot be resolved informally, grievant(s) shall file the grievance in writing with the principal. Within ten (10) days after such written grievance is filed, the aggrieved, representative of the

aggrieved as desired, and the principal shall meet to resolve the grievance. The written grievance must state the nature of the grievance, note the specific clause or clauses of the Agreement allegedly violated, and state the remedy requested. Any grievance filed by the Association or a group of teachers must specifically state by name each teacher included within the grievance, the nature of the grievance and the remedy sought for each such teacher at the Step 2 meeting.

The filing of the grievance at the second step must be within twenty-five (25) days from the date of the occurrence of the event giving rise to the grievance, except for grievances pertaining to payroll which must be filed within thirty-five (35) days of the receipt of the initial paycheck involved in the grievance. The principal or other administrator who has authority to make a decision on the grievance shall make such decision and communicate it in writing to the teacher(s) and the Superintendent within ten (10) days of the second step meeting, with a summary of reasons for the decision.

3. Third Step: In the event a grievance has not been satisfactorily resolved at the second step, the grievant(s) shall file, within ten (10) days of the principal's written decision or answer at the second step, a copy of the grievance with the Superintendent. Within ten (10) days after such written grievance is filed, the aggrieved, representative of the aggrieved as desired, the principal and the Superintendent or designee, shall meet to resolve the grievance. The Superintendent, or designee, shall file an answer within ten (10) days of the third step grievance meeting and communicate it in writing to the grievant(s), the principal, and the Association, with a summary of reasons for the decision.
4. Fourth Step: If the grievance is not resolved satisfactorily at Step 3, there shall be available a fourth step of impartial, binding arbitration. The Association may submit, within thirty (30) days from receipt of the Step 3 answer, a demand for arbitration to the American Arbitration Association (AAA), which shall act as the administrator of the proceedings unless the parties can mutually agree on another arbitrator. The parties shall operate under the Voluntary Rules of the AAA unless they both agree to the expedited rules. The decision of the Arbitrator shall be binding on the parties. The Arbitrator shall have no right to amend, modify, nullify, ignore, add to or subtract from the provisions of the Agreement. Expenses for the Arbitrator's services shall be borne equally by the District and the Association.

ARTICLE V - TEACHER AND ASSOCIATION RIGHTS

5.1 Teacher Protections

A. Review and Release of Personnel Files

A teacher may request, in writing, permission to inspect his/her personnel file for such non-confidential content as the teacher's application for employment, academic transcripts, pertinent payroll information, work history, performance evaluations, and correspondence with the teacher and related items. A separate file is to contain items such as confidential recommendations not available for review and reports of health examinations.

The review shall be held within seven working days of the request at the District office with the personnel officer or designee present. Copies, if requested, are to be furnished at a cost of \$.15 per page.

A teacher involved in a current grievance against the District may designate, in writing, a representative to inspect those personnel records having a bearing on the resolution of the grievance, under the same inspection rights and procedures as for teachers.

Upon written request to the Superintendent, each teacher shall be granted an appointment for the purpose of reviewing the contents of his/her own personnel file, except for confidential documents excluded by law and college placement credentials, which include evaluations and letters of recommendation. A representative of the Association may, at the teacher's request, accompany the teacher in this review. Any material of a disciplinary or evaluative nature placed in a teacher's personnel file shall be provided to the teacher within five (5) calendar days of such placement. Within thirty (30) calendar days after receiving any material placed in a teacher's personnel file, the teacher shall have the right to file a written response and have such response placed in his/her personnel file.

Any documents pertaining to a grievance filed by a teacher shall be placed in a separate file, not in the teacher's personnel file.

B. Professional Treatment

Teachers, administrators and Board members recognize the importance of treating each other with professionalism, dignity and respect.

C. Teacher Suspension or Discipline

No teacher shall be given a written reprimand or suspended without first having received notice of the basis for the reprimand or suspension, a

reasonable amount of time to prepare a response and an opportunity to respond, with assistance from the Association if requested by the teacher. A suspension without pay must be for just cause. This section does not apply to the suspension of a tenured teacher as part of a dismissal initiated under the applicable tenured teacher dismissal provisions of the Illinois School Code nor does it limit the temporary reassignment of a teacher while a potential disciplinary matter is under investigation.

D. Disciplinary Action

If disciplinary action is to be taken against a teacher as a result of a complaint by a student and/or parent, the affected teacher shall be notified of the complaint and must be given the right to respond to the complaint prior to such action being taken, unless the safety and health of the students or other persons are in jeopardy. When any teacher is required to appear before the Board or any Board committee or Board member concerning any matter which could adversely affect the continuation of that teacher's employment or salary, the teacher shall, reasonably in advance of the meeting, be given written notice of the reasons for the meeting, and shall be entitled to have a representative of the Association present to advise and represent him/her during the meeting.

E. Notification and Response to Complaint

Teachers shall be advised of any complaint made by any individual to an administrator that requires investigation and subsequent adverse disciplinary action. Before any such action is taken, the administration shall attempt to arrange and participate in a conference with the concerned parties, if desired by the teacher or the complainant. Nothing in this section prohibits the administration from temporarily reassigning a teacher without loss of pay or benefits pending the disposition of any such complaint.

F. Assistance in Cases of Battery or Severe Threat

Any battery or severe verbal or physical threat against a teacher in pursuit of his or her duties shall be promptly reported to the administration. In turn, the administration shall promptly report any such severe verbal or physical threat to each teacher who is the subject of the threat and take reasonable measures to attempt to avoid imminent danger to the teacher. A teacher who is the victim of such a battery or severe threat in appropriately carrying out the teacher's responsibilities shall be assisted by the building principal or the Superintendent in communications and conferences with law enforcement and court officials. Consultation with the Board's legal counsel may also be arranged with the approval of the Superintendent as part of the assistance provided under this section.

G. Non-Tenured Teacher Dismissal

Non-tenured teachers whose contracts are not renewed shall have the right to request a conference with the Superintendent or designee to discuss reasons for non-renewal of contract.

5.2 Equitable Treatment of All Persons

Teachers shall not be restricted from filing complaints under applicable state and federal law pertaining to equal treatment and/or prohibited discrimination.

5.3 Right to Organize

The teachers shall have the right to organize, join and assist the Association and to participate in professional negotiations with the Board through representatives of their own choosing in accordance with the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act. The Board shall not discriminate against any teacher by reason of his/her participation in any such activity.

5.4 Fair Share and Dues Deduction

A. Fair Share

1. During the term of this Agreement, all teachers covered by this Agreement who are not members of the IEA shall, commencing sixty days after their employment or sixty days after the effective date of this Agreement, whichever is later, pay a fair share fee to the IEA for services rendered by the IEA in negotiating and administering this Agreement as the exclusive representative of the teachers covered by this Agreement, provided that such fair share fee shall not exceed the IEA dues (including NEA dues) uniformly required of members of the IEA. Such fair share fees shall be deducted by the Board from the earnings of non-members and remitted to the IEA. The IEA shall annually submit to the Board a list of the teachers covered by this Agreement who are not members of the IEA and an affidavit which specifies the amount of the fair share fee as defined above. The fair share fee collected from non-members shall not be used for contributions related to the election or support of any candidate for political office or for a member-only benefit.
2. The Association agrees to assume full responsibility to insure full compliance with all applicable law, including the requirements laid down by the United States Supreme Court in such cases as *Chicago Teacher's Union vs. Hudson*, 105 U.S. 1066 (1986), with respect to the constitutional rights of fair share fee payers.

3. The Association, the Illinois Education Association and the National Education Association agree to defend, indemnify, and save the Board harmless against any claims, demands, suits, or other form of liability which may arise by reason of any action taken by the Association or the Board in complying with the provisions of this Section, including reimbursement for any legal fees or expenses incurred in connection therewith.
4. Non-members who object to this fair share fee based upon bona fide religious tenets or teachings shall pay an amount equal to such fair share fee as defined above to a non-religious charitable organization mutually agreed upon by the teacher and the IEA. If the affected non-member and the IEA are unable to reach agreement on the organization, the organization shall be selected by the affected non-member from an approved list of charitable organizations established by the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board and the payment shall be made to said organization.

B. Dues Deduction

1. The Board shall deduct from the pay of each teacher all current membership dues of the Association and its affiliates, provided that at the time of such deduction the Board has received a current signed authorization card for dues deduction, voluntarily executed by the teacher. Such authorization shall specify the amount of dues to be deducted from each teacher's salary for the current school year. A list of teachers and the amount of dues to be deducted shall be annually certified by the Association and submitted, in writing, to the Board by October 1 along with the current year authorization cards from the teachers.
2. The amount specified will be prorated and deducted from paychecks starting in November and ending in May. A termination of employment for any reason shall constitute revocation of authorization for dues deduction (if not otherwise provided) on the last day of employment.
3. All dues deducted by the Board shall be remitted to the Treasurer of the Association no later than ten (10) days after such deductions are made.

5.5 Use of District Facilities/Equipment

- A. The Association shall have the right to use during non-instructional time faculty mailboxes, internet and local telephone service, computers, printers and copiers for Association business. The Association shall reimburse the Board at a one time yearly rate of \$250.00, payable no later than September

1 of each school year. No such use may interfere with any facet of the school's educational, administrative or extracurricular programs. The telephones, computers, printers and copiers which may be used under this paragraph are those regularly available for teacher use, unless other equipment is approved by the administration. The usage permitted under this paragraph shall be substantially consistent with the Association's past usage.

- B. The Association shall have the right to use school buildings for Association meetings, provided: (1) the building principal is notified two (2) school days before any such meeting; (2) no extra custodial help is necessitated because of such meetings; and (3) such meetings are during non-school hours and do not interfere with any facet of the school's educational, administrative, or extra-curricular programs.

5.6 Access to District Records

The Board shall annually provide the Association, upon request, with regularly prepared public information. This shall include, but not be limited to, the current annual financial report, the annual audit, the tentative budget, the adopted budget, staffing scattergram and pupil enrollment figures by grade and by school. Nothing in this paragraph requires the Board to prepare any information not regularly prepared and made available to the public. The Association shall reimburse the Board at the rate of 15 cents per page for reproduction of any document other than those specifically referenced in this paragraph.

5.7 Notification of Board and District Meetings

The President of the Association shall be provided a copy of the agenda of each regular and special meeting of the Board at the time the notice of the meeting is given to the public.

5.8 Distribution of Board Minutes

A copy of the minutes of the open session portions of all regular and special Board meetings shall be made available to the Association President promptly following their approval.

5.9 Teacher Policy Handbook

Two sets of the Teacher Policy Handbook shall be provided for each school throughout the District, and four sets shall also be provided for the Association. Changes in the Teacher Policy Handbook shall be furnished to the Association President within ten (10) days after final administrative or Board approval, whichever is last to occur.

5.10 Distribution of Contract

Upon ratification of the Agreement, the District will provide the Association with copies of this Agreement so that the Association can distribute such copies to the teachers covered by this Agreement. The District shall issue a copy of the Agreement to newly employed teachers at the time of their orientation.

5.11 Bulletin Board

The Association shall be provided reasonable space on one bulletin board per school for the posting of official Association notices and materials.

5.12 Association Leave

The Association President or designee shall be allowed up to fifteen (15) school days of non-accumulative leave in the aggregate in any school year, with pay, to conduct Association business. The leave shall be taken in one-half or full day increments. No teacher may use more than five (5) school days of Association business leave in any school year. The Association shall reimburse the Board for the full cost of the substitutes employed to replace the teacher(s) on Association leave. At least two (2) weeks notice shall be given in writing to the Superintendent of leave to be used for out-of-district conferences. At least two (2) days notice shall be given in writing to the Superintendent of leave to be used for in-district purposes, except in emergency situations.

5.13 Safety

A teacher who encounters a condition in school facilities, such as mold or air quality, which is likely to endanger the health or safety of users of the facility shall promptly report the condition to the teacher's supervisor or building principal. The supervisor or principal shall promptly investigate the reported condition and inform the teacher of the action, if any, to be taken in response to the teacher's report.

ARTICLE VI INSURANCE

6.1 Health Insurance

1. Plan Options

The Board will provide options for comprehensive group medical/hospitalization insurance.

Options to be offered include:

- A Participating Provider Option (PPO) plan which provides two benefit levels for hospital-related services and doctors, with higher benefits for hospitals and doctors in the network.
- A Participating Provider Option (PPO) plan which allows participants to use their choice of doctors but provides two benefit levels for hospital related services, with higher benefits for hospitals in the network.
- A Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) which requires participants to manage their health care through a primary care physician and provides first dollar coverage for most services.

2. Eligibility and Cost Sharing

Membership in the group insurance plan is optional and teachers may elect to participate:

- If a full-time teacher elects to participate in the group health insurance plan, the Board will pay the following percentage of the premium:

<u>Plan</u>	<u>Single Coverage</u>	<u>Family Coverage</u>
PPO+	80%	70%
Hospital only PPO	80% of PPO+ Premium	70% of PPO+ Premium
HMO	80%	70%

- Family coverage extends to those with domestic partners.
- Teachers who work at least one-half time throughout the school year will be eligible to participate in the group health insurance plan, in accordance with proration of benefits described in Section 8.1 of this Agreement.

Participating teachers will authorize the District to make payroll deductions for their share of the premium cost.

3. Continuation of Coverage

a. Leave of Absence

Teachers on extended personal leaves, in accord with Section 7.4 of this Agreement, may elect to retain their group membership at the time the leave is granted for the duration of the leave. The teacher is responsible for payment of the full premium to the District in advance. This continuation of coverage includes the COBRA continuation period.

b. Medical/Disability Leave

Teachers absent from the District due to a leave covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act, in accord with Section 7.2 of this Agreement, may elect to continue group coverage if they reimburse the District in advance for the teacher's share of the premium.

Teachers absent from the District for reasons of extended temporary disability, in accord with Section 7.3 of this Agreement, will be entitled to retain group coverage provided they reimburse the District for the teacher's share of the premium.

c. Retirement

The retired teacher must be at least 55 years of age and eligible for retirement benefits under Section 10.5 of this Agreement. The retiree is responsible for paying 100% of the premium for single or family coverage in advance. The teacher must apply for this coverage prior to leaving service with District 68. Inclusion in District 68's group plan would terminate the earlier of when the teacher became eligible for Medicare/Medicaid or 10 years after retirement. Retirees currently participating in the District health insurance program including the Medicare/Medicaid supplement will be eligible to remain in the program.

6.2 **Dental Insurance**

The Board shall make available a group dental insurance plan. The plan shall pay, to a total annual \$2,000 limit per individual, the usual and customary costs of diagnostic and preventive treatments, and after a \$50 annual deduction, 85% of basic treatments for the preservation of natural teeth and 60% of major treatments and replacements. The plan shall also pay 50% of orthodontic costs for dependents under 19 years of age, after a \$100 lifetime deductible to a lifetime limit of \$1,000.

If a regular, full-time teacher elects to participate in the group dental insurance plan, the Board shall pay 60% of the premium costs; for part-time teachers the Board shall pay a lesser proportion as outlined in Section 8.1 of this Agreement.

Teachers absent from the District due to a leave covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act (in accordance with Section 7.2 of this Agreement) shall be entitled to continue group coverage if they reimburse the District in advance for pro rata costs.

6.3 Group Term Life Insurance

The Board shall make available group term life insurance in an amount equal to the teacher's annual salary rounded up to the next even thousand but not less than \$5,000 to those teachers eligible for fringe benefits who elect such coverage. If a regular, full-time teacher elects to participate in the group term life insurance plan, the Board shall pay 60% of the premium costs; for part-time teachers the Board shall pay a lesser proportion as outlined in Section 8.1 of this Agreement.

6.4 Long Term Disability Insurance

The Board shall make available, to those teachers eligible for fringe benefits, long-term disability insurance that pays 70% of the teacher's present gross salary in conjunction with any other group disability benefit coverage or 60% if not coordinated with another group disability program. Benefits are available after a disability that uses all sick leave credit, but not sooner than 30 calendar days after the start of the disability. If a regular, full-time teacher elects to participate in the long-term disability insurance plan, the Board shall pay 60% of the premium costs; for part-time teachers, the Board shall pay a lesser proportion as outlined in Section 8.1 of this Agreement.

6.5 Health and Dental Insurance Continuation

Federal law, commonly known as COBRA, provides for the continuation, at employee expense, of health and dental insurance benefits in certain circumstances after termination or retirement from employment. The law also requires that specific notice about these rights be given individually upon termination of employment. To facilitate awareness, the Board shall provide teachers with a summary of their COBRA rights upon termination of employment.

ARTICLE VII LEAVES

7.1 Absences from School

1. Personal Illness.

Full-time teachers will be granted 10 days of sick leave per year for their first 2 years in the district, 12 days per year for years 3 through 10, 15 days per year for years 11 through 20 and 20 days per year thereafter.

Upon ratification of this contract, teachers continuing employment from the 2006-07 school term will be transitioned to the sick leave plan described above (new plan) from the sick leave plan contained in the 2003-07 contract (former plan) as follows:

- Total sick leave for teachers with 20 or more years of service in the District will be based on the higher of the former or the new plan allotments, less days used since the start of employment
- Total sick leave for teachers with 15 to 19 years of service in the District will be based on the new plan allotments plus 34 additional days, less days used since the start of employment
- Total sick leave for teachers with less than 15 years of service in the District will be based on the new plan allotments, less days used since the start of employment

A detailed plan of transition for sick leave will be included in a memorandum of agreement covering all transitional issues upon ratification of this contract.

Teachers joining at mid-term or mid-year will be credited with a pro rata share of sick leave based upon the remaining time left in the school term. Fractions of days so computed will be rounded off to the nearest whole number.

When a teacher is absent for three days or more, he/she may be required, at the discretion of the appropriate administrator, to furnish evidence at the teacher's expense from a qualified physician or practitioner that such leave was for valid reasons. Nothing in this paragraph diminishes the Board's rights under the School Code to require health examinations and reports at its expense.

Teachers shall annually receive a written report showing the number of sick leave days credited, deducted and accumulated. There is no limit on the number of days that may be accumulated.

Teachers who carry long-term disability insurance may be advanced up to 15 days of sick leave, limited to the period prior to the date when the teacher becomes eligible for long-term disability insurance payments.

Upon resumption of duty after a verified catastrophic illness or accident or childbirth, which required 20 or more consecutive sick days, 10 days of such sick leave will be returned to the teacher's sick leave account. Family illness is to be included in this benefit.

Pay deductions for absences in excess of available days shall be made on the basis of the teacher's daily rate.

2. Family Illness. Leave shall be granted to eligible teachers for reasons of serious illness or death in the immediate family. Paid leave and time granted are not to be used to provide childcare or healthcare which would enable the primary care givers of the sick family member to be at work. Immediate family means parents, spouse, domestic partner, brothers, sisters, children, grandparents, grandchildren, parents-in-law, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, daughters-in-law, sons-in-law and legal guardians.

Leave granted under this section shall be deducted from the teacher's sick leave and shall be limited to a reasonable period of time until other care arrangements can be made. The teacher may be requested by the appropriate administrator to demonstrate evidence of need. All leave granted under this policy is subject to review by the teacher's supervising administrator and approval of the Superintendent.

3. Bereavement. Five days bereavement leave will be allowed for the absence of a teacher due to the death of someone very close to the teacher. Such days, if used, shall not be deducted from accumulated sick leave.
4. Business Leave. For business which cannot be conducted on other than a school day, two days of personal business leave will be granted. Personal business which cannot be conducted on other than a school day would include, but not be limited to, the following situations:
 - a. Legal business, such as court proceedings
 - b. Unexpected happenings, such as emergencies at home
 - c. Family ceremonies, such as weddings and graduations of teacher or immediate family members
 - d. Pressing business appointments scheduled by others, such as moving dates, or house closings
 - e. Bereavement not covered under family illness.
 - f. Under unique and non-recurring circumstances, the Superintendent may grant up to 2 additional business days to be deducted from sick leave.

A leave request form shall be submitted to the appropriate administrator at least two school days in advance of the leave, except in emergency situations for which the request must be submitted in writing to the administrator as soon as reasonably possible. Personal business leave will not be granted during the first or last week of school or on work days

immediately preceding or following a school holiday or recess except in emergency situations for which the administrator may require an explanation. At the end of the teacher's work-year, unused business days will be added to accumulated unused sick leave.

5. **Religious Observance.** When established religious holidays fall on regular working days, affected teachers shall be excused for religious observance. Deductions from pay or sick leave shall not be made for absence due to this reason. All such persons anticipating such absences shall inform the appropriate administrator.
6. **Jury Duty.** Leave of absence will be granted to a teacher who is summoned for jury duty. A teacher serving on a jury will be paid at the normal rate of pay. Reimbursement will be made to District 68 of the per-diem payment and expense allowance received for jury service, less transportation and meal expenses to the extent of District guidelines for travel reimbursement.
7. **Absence from Summer School.** On those days summer school is in session, summer school personnel who have been employed during the previous school year may use up to 2 days of sick leave from the regular accrued sick leave by charging one-half day for each summer school day's absence due to illness.
8. **Birth/Adoption Leave:** For mothers, fathers or adopting parents, the Board will provide up to five days non-disability leave at full compensation immediately following the birth or adoption of a child in compliance with the Family and Medical Leave Act without deduction from accumulated sick leave. This leave must be taken within three weeks of the date the child arrives in the home. This benefit is in addition to the benefits provided in section 7.2.

7.2 Family and Medical Leave

A full-time teacher with at least one year of experience in District 68 is eligible for up to 12 weeks per year of unpaid leave for the following reasons:

- Child adoption or child care (must be within 12 months of birth or placement with teacher)
- Family illness of immediate family member (spouse, domestic partner, child or parent)
- Teacher illness

During the period of family and medical leave, teachers may continue health and dental insurance benefits if they reimburse the District in advance for any pro rata costs of applicable benefits for which they apply.

A teacher may substitute business leave or accumulated sick leave for all or a portion of this unpaid leave if the teacher's situation meets the requirements of personal or family illness as described in Section 7.1 of this Agreement.

A teacher eligible for an Extended Personal Leave under Section 7.4 of this Agreement may incorporate an approved Family Medical Leave into that Personal Leave.

7.3 Temporary Disability Absence, Permanent Disability and Termination of Employment

After a tenured teacher has exhausted all sick leave and continues to be unable to perform his/her job assignment because of health conditions, the teacher will be on unpaid, extended temporary disability absence for a maximum of the remainder of the school year and one school year thereafter. If, upon exhaustion of this extended temporary disability absence, the teacher is found by the Superintendent to be unable to return to work, the teacher shall be classified as permanently disabled and employment status shall be terminated.

Disability is defined as that condition in which a teacher is incapacitated because of ill health or for any other reason is physically or mentally unfit for performance of his/her duties. Determination of such disability shall rest with the Superintendent; however, the Superintendent may at his/her discretion require the teacher to submit medical reports as to the extent of the disability, and provide access to documents about the disability status from the Teachers' Retirement System. In addition, the Superintendent may require independent verification from two District-designated physicians.

After the Superintendent determines that a teacher on disability is able to return to the former job assignment, the teacher will resume regular employment and payroll status. Although the initial reassignment may be to a temporary job classification, return to a job classification similar to that held before disability status is to be scheduled as soon as possible with a view of maintaining effective service in the position.

Health insurance benefits during disability shall follow the provisions of Section 6.1 of this Agreement. Access to the District term life insurance premium shall be provided in accord with Section 6.3 of this Agreement. The disabled teacher pays 100% of the premium for the first six months of the disability. The premium is waived by the insurance company for any subsequent period.

7.4 Temporary and Extended Personal Absence Leaves

1. Temporary Personal Absence Leave

A teacher may request temporary personal absence leave without pay for personal circumstances not otherwise described in the District's leave

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provisions covered in Section 7.1 of this Agreement. Such temporary personal leave for a reasonable period of time, usually for a day or several days, may be granted by the Superintendent with the prior approval of the appropriate administrator. To ensure continuity of the educational program, non-emergency related leaves will be approved only for unique, rare and non-recurring circumstances. Leave adjacent to school holidays or recesses shall not be granted except in emergency situations.

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Requests for leave under this section must be submitted in writing to the Superintendent not less than 10 school days in advance of the leave, except in emergencies when the request shall be submitted as soon as possible. Nothing requires the Superintendent or Board to grant this type of leave and any grant is not precedential.

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2. **Extended Personal Absence Leave**

Extended leaves of absence without pay may be granted to tenured teachers upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the approval of the Board. Such leaves may be for a period of one month up to one and one-half years. Leave must be requested in writing to the Superintendent at least 90 days in advance of the leave. A tenured teacher desiring an extended leave as a result of becoming an adoptive parent must notify the Superintendent in writing, upon the initiation of such adoption proceedings. It is the responsibility of the applying teacher to keep the Superintendent informed of the status of the proceedings and, as soon as known, the expected date of the delivery of the child. If circumstances change (e.g. the death of a child or a cancelled adoption), the leave request may be rescinded upon approval of the Superintendent if a teaching position in the District for which the teacher is qualified is available.

A leave of less than one-half a year that terminates before or at the end of the school year is considered as one leave. This leave may be extended up through the end of the following year and will still count as one leave. A leave of one-half year or more that ends on the school year is considered as one leave.

The beginning and ending dates for extended personal absence leaves shall be determined by the Superintendent after consultation with the teacher and the program appropriate administrator. For a teacher's leave, the interest of the pupils in having regular and complete teaching service shall be paramount in the establishment of this date. Extended leave for teachers shall end at the end of the school year. Nothing requires the Board to grant this type of leave and any grant is not precedential.

Leaves may be granted for such reasons as:

- a. Child adoption or child care
- b. Family affairs
- c. Health and hardship

- d. Other reasons at the discretion of the Superintendent and the Board wherein the pupils' interests are well served during the leave period.

Teachers on such leaves may continue insurance benefits at their cost for the full premium. Teachers will not advance on the salary schedule while on approved leave of absence without pay nor will they earn sick leave, but will have access to unused accumulated sick leave upon regaining status.

For seniority purposes other than salary, experience will accumulate during such extended personal absence leaves at the proportion of employment in effect at the time the leave is granted.

7.5 Partial Leave for Tenured Teachers with Annual Renewal

- A. Upon mutual agreement and where pupils' interest will be well served, a tenured teacher may be granted partial leave along with a part-time assignment without loss of tenure. Such leaves shall be for a period of one school year and shall be annually renewable by mutual agreement. When on such leave, the teacher shall be eligible for Board subsidy of fringe benefits based on the percentage worked.
- B. One full year of experience for seniority purposes other than salary shall be credited for each year of partial teaching service when combined with partial leave to provide the equivalent of a full-time assignment. Salary credit will be based on the percentage worked.
- C. Teachers may make job sharing proposals under this section for consideration by the Superintendent, and if recommended by the Superintendent, by the Board.
- D. Nothing requires the Board to grant this leave and any grant is not precedential.

7.6 Reduction in Force

- A. When the Board deems it necessary to undertake a reduction-in-force of tenured teachers, the Board shall give the Association President written notice of such determination at least twenty (20) days before the Board takes final action on such reduction and provide the President or designee the opportunity to discuss the reduction with the Administration and present the views of the Association.

Tenured teachers dismissed as a result of a reduction-in-force and entitled to recall pursuant to Section 24-12 of the Illinois School Code shall be notified of recall by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the teacher at the last known address contained in the teacher's personnel file. A copy

of all such recall notices shall be sent to the Association President by the same method. Failure of the teacher to respond to the recall notice within fifteen (15) days of deposit in the mail, as provided above, shall automatically terminate the teacher's right of recall.

- B. The reduction in force of tenured teachers shall be on the basis of seniority and qualifications as provided by law. However, where two or more tenured teachers are subject to reduction-in-force and have equal seniority and qualifications the following criteria shall be applied in descending order to break any ties:
 - 1. Teaching experience in the subject matter of the remaining positions.
 - 2. Highest placement attained on the salary schedule.
 - 3. Date of action by the Board to hire.
 - 4. By lot as determined by the President of the Association and a designee of the Superintendent.
- C. Tenured teachers reduced to less than full time service as a part of a reduction-in-force shall retain their tenure and accrue seniority on a pro-rata basis. Acceptance of part-time employment by such teachers shall in no way affect their rights to return to a full-time position.

7.7 Employment and Benefit Status of Reinstated Personnel

Tenured teachers honorably discharged due to a decrease in the number of positions and reinstated within one school term following completion of service will resume contractual continued service (tenure) status under the provisions of Section 24-12 of the *Illinois School Code*. Such teachers shall also be credited with sick leave benefits and salary placement accrued prior to dismissal. Sick leave benefits and salary placement will be restored in the event of reinstatement on non-tenure status within two school years following the expiration of the period during which tenured reinstatement is provided by law.

Non-tenured teachers who are discharged in good standing or who resign due to birth or adoption of a child, and who are rehired within two school years, shall receive salary placement and the accumulated sick leave that they had at the time of discharge or resignation.

ARTICLE VIII - WORKING CONDITIONS

8.1 Temporary and Part-Time Personnel

Teachers assigned half-time or more shall be subject to all policies and procedures governing full-time employment, except as modified by the provisions of this Agreement. Salary shall be prorated based on the percentage of a full time assignment worked. For part-time teachers, the proportion of full-time scheduled salaries paid shall be used to determine the percentage of benefits for which the teacher is eligible.

<u>Teacher's Proportion Of Full-Time Salary</u>	<u>% of full time Board subsidy for health, dental, life and disability insurance benefits</u>
50%	65%
62%	85%
75%	100%

The following fringe benefits are available to all teachers prorated according to average daily hours:

- a. Sick leave
- b. Personal business leave

8.2 School Day

- A. Teachers shall devote sufficient time to meet their professional responsibilities. Meetings of District and building committees on which teachers voluntarily serve, special education student periodic reviews and special education staffings may extend beyond the normal teacher workday as part of their professional responsibilities. In addition, music concerts, eighth grade graduation and parent meetings may extend beyond the normal teacher workday as part of their professional responsibilities.
- B. For K-5 teachers, the normal teacher workday at school will be as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30 – 4:00	8:30 – 3:30	8:30 – 3:45	8:30 – 3:45	8:30 – 3:15

For 6-8 teachers, the normal teacher workday at school will be as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:20 – 4:00	8:20 – 3:30	8:20 – 3:30	8:20 – 3:30	8:20 – 3:30
- C. Any required meetings beyond those considered part of a teacher's professional responsibilities which extend beyond the normal teacher workday shall be compensated at the curriculum stipend rate.

- D. Teachers (K-8) shall be required to attend one evening Open House and to participate in designated Parent Conferences and teacher institute days as part of their professional responsibilities. The normal teacher work day for parent-teacher conferences and teacher institute days shall be six hours in length. Teachers conducting evening parent conferences shall be given a compensatory half-day off on a parent conference day.
- E. Teachers (6-8) may be required to provide one night of evening supervision per year as part of their professional responsibilities. Teachers (6-8) may be required to provide bus supervision for which the Supervision stipend will be paid.
- F. All teachers shall have a duty free lunch period equivalent to the student lunch period but no less than 40 minutes. Teachers shall have discretion over their lunch period including leaving the building during the lunch period provided they notify the school office of their departure.
- G. The Board recognizes the importance of instructional continuity. Teachers will not be required to attend more than the equivalent of 8 days of staff development during the student day per school term, unless the Superintendent gives written notice to the Association President explaining the need for, and the dates of, any such additional staff development days and, if requested by the Association President, discusses the need and the dates with representatives of the Association.

8.3 Calendar

The school calendar shall consist of 185 days including five (5) emergency days, one of which will be used as a Record's Day if not needed as an emergency day. There shall be no meetings scheduled on the Monday afternoon of the weeks in which parent teacher conferences are held; however, parent-teacher conferences may be scheduled on Monday afternoon as needed. To allow time for classroom preparation, no meetings shall be scheduled for the afternoon of the second Institute Day of the year.

8.4 Class Size

The Board acknowledges the interest of teachers in the maintenance of reasonable class size consistent with the financial and physical resources of the District. Concerns with class size or make-up shall be discussed by the teacher with the building principal. In considering such concerns, the importance of maintaining the lowest teacher/pupil ratio at the K-2 grade levels, next at the 3-5 grade levels and then at the 6-8 grade levels should be recognized. The inclusion of Special Education students will also be taken into consideration when determining class size.

8.5 Planning Time

- A. Full-time K-5 teachers shall be provided a minimum of 180 minutes of aggregate individual planning time during a regular school week. Full-time 6-8 teachers shall be provided a minimum of 200 minutes of aggregate individual planning time during a regular school week. The Administration shall make a good faith effort to avoid infringing upon the teacher's individual preparation time to allow teachers to use such time to plan.
- B. Part-time teachers shall be entitled to pro-rated individual planning time per week.
- C. If the Administration is unable to obtain a substitute, teachers may voluntarily substitute for the absent teacher during their planning time. Grades 6-8 teachers who substitute during their planning time will be compensated at the curriculum stipend rate for the amount of time they substitute.

8.6 Assignment and Transfer of Teachers

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to assign, or transfer, teachers to positions within the school system in which the Superintendent feels they can render the greatest service to the system. In doing so, the following procedures shall be observed:

- a. Vacancies in teaching positions will be announced or posted for at least seven (7) days before a final decision is made on the selection of the person to fill the vacancy, unless a shorter period is necessary to fill the vacancy to minimize disruption of the delivery of educational services to students. Vacancy notices will be announced in the District's electronic staff newsletter during the school term and, during the summer recess, posted in the central administrative office. The Association President will be provided with a copy of each vacancy notice at the time of announcement or posting. Internal building reassignments are not considered vacancies and need not be posted.
- b. Teachers requesting transfers to vacant teaching positions must file a written transfer request with the person designated and within the time provided in the notice of vacancy. A written acknowledgement must be sent to the teacher that the proper administrator has received this request. If the principal chooses not to honor the teacher's request, the teacher may request a conference with the administrator to discuss the decision. An Association representative may accompany the teacher. If not given the transfer, and upon request after the conference, the teacher must be given a letter summarizing the reasons for denial.

- c. The Administration will consider all internal candidates who apply for any vacant teaching position for which they are qualified and internal candidates will be notified of the final decision concerning their application.

- d. Except in emergency situations, a building administrator or the Superintendent shall meet with any teacher proposed for an involuntary transfer at least fourteen (14) days before a final decision on the transfer. The administrator shall consider the opinions of the affected teacher as part of the transfer decision-making process and notify, in writing, the teacher of any decision to involuntarily transfer the teacher, with a summary of the reasons for doing so, if requested by the teacher. Any teacher who is involuntarily transferred may have a conference with the Superintendent or central administrative office designee to review the involuntary transfer decision.

ARTICLE IX - SALARY

9.1 Salary, Teacher Benefits and Other Considerations

1. The Salary schedules for the 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years are attached as Appendices 1 through 4. The base salary increases for the four years of the contract are as follows:

2007-2008	3.2%
2008-2009	3.0%
2009-2010	3.0%
2010-2011	3.0%

2. Credit for teaching experience prior to employment by School District 68 may be granted at the recommendation of the Superintendent. Such credit may be given on the basis of recent experience and quality of the teaching experience and may be credited up to 100%.
3. Credit for experience that falls into the general category of teaching, but is not commonly considered school teaching, will be given at the discretion of the Superintendent and the Board.
4. All college training must be acceptable toward a District-approved advanced degree program, or it must be approved for salary credit in advance by the Superintendent or designee if credit toward salary is to be given.
5. Credit for training is cumulative and salaries will be adjusted semi-annually, with full year credit earned for coursework completed by the first day of school and one-half year credit for coursework completed by January 31. All course completion or satisfaction of degree requirements must be verified by official university documents submitted to the personnel office.
6. Professional growth credit shall be awarded to teachers who engage in activities that enhance their competence as teachers, subject to the review and approval of credit applications by both the District Professional Growth Committee and the Superintendent.
7. Graduate study beyond the master's degree may be compensated at the rate of 2 teacher salary index points (an index point being .01 of the base BA salary) for each block of eight (semester hours) to a maximum of 8 index points (except for current teachers in the PhD lane who would be grandfathered at 16 index points). No more than 6 index points may be allowed for non-graduate training. All such credit shall be allowed only upon the recommendation of the Superintendent or designee.

9.2 Salary Checks and Deductions

Beginning with the applicable period of service, the annual salary of teachers shall be paid in bi-weekly installments over twelve months unless the person completes the work year in a shorter period of time. If the work year is completed within ten months, the teacher shall be given the option of being paid in bi-weekly installments from September through June or over twelve months.

Deductions shall include compulsory deductions for retirement, Social Security, Medicare, state and federal income taxes, and any other deductions required by law or provided for in this agreement. No other salary deductions shall be made without the expressed written request of the teacher.

9.3 Payroll Deduction for Teacher Retirement

As a condition of employment of each certificated teacher who is eligible to participate in the Teachers' Retirement System, payments for certificated teachers shall be deducted from salary payments and made to the Teachers' Retirement System in the percentage amount required by Illinois law.

9.4 Extra Pay for Extra Work

The Board shall identify extra duties and activities necessary to an exemplary educational program. Compensation for such duties and activities shall be as shown in Appendix 5. When the activity is so designated, fully qualified volunteers shall be solicited first. If a fully qualified volunteer staff member cannot be found for the activity it shall be assigned to a suitably qualified teacher. Required service in this category shall be limited to two school years, subject to reassignment after a two school year break.

A committee of administrators and teachers will be formed to define the role and responsibilities of new elementary leadership positions in the areas of assessment and instruction/curriculum.

Additionally, a building activity committee consisting of the building principal and teacher representatives will be formed at each school. The committee will meet each year in the spring to review proposals for activities for the following school year. Based on the annual building unit allocation, the committee will allocate units to support such activities. A unit is an activity or club that meets once per week for one quarter (minimum of 8 times) after school or before school (OOJH only).

9.5 **Mentoring**

A Mentoring Committee shall be established to develop a recommendation for a mentoring program for new teachers. The committee will be comprised of no more than six administrative representatives appointed by the Superintendent and no more than six teacher representatives appointed by the Association. In developing the recommendation, the committee will consider the integration of the mentoring program with existing leadership roles and the impact on associated leadership stipends. The recommendation shall be presented to the Board and the Association in writing by May 1, 2008. Representatives of the Board and the Association will meet promptly to discuss the report and consider implementation of the recommendation.

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ARTICLE X - BENEFITS

10.1 Health Care Expense Program

A Health Care Expense Program is available to District 68 teachers. The program includes premium conversion and a health care expense reimbursement account. Through this program, teachers may elect to have the cost of their District insurance premiums and up to \$4,000 per year in qualified health care expenses excluded from gross income for Medicare and income tax purposes.

The premium conversion portion of the program covers the teacher share of dental and health insurance (including HMOs) offered by the District.

The medical expense reimbursement account may be used only for those expenses allowable as tax deductions by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Any amount not so used shall revert to the District, as provided for in Federal regulations.

This program is subject to IRS non-discrimination provisions of the Internal Revenue System (IRS) code. Therefore, if at any time the program does not meet these provisions, the amount deducted under the program may become subject to treatment under then-current IRS regulations.

10.2 Dependent Care Assistance Program

The Board of Education shall make a Dependent Care Assistance Program available to teachers. Through this program, teachers may elect to have up to the lesser of \$5,000 (\$2,500 if married and filing separately) or maximum amount permitted under Section 129 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) per year deducted through a salary reduction agreement and exclude this amount from gross income for Medicare and income tax purposes. This money is to be used only to reimburse the teacher for dependent care expenses incurred under the program. Any amount not so used shall revert to the District, as provided for in Federal regulations.

This program is subject to the non-discrimination provisions of the Internal Revenue System (IRS) code. Therefore, if at any time the program does not meet these non-discrimination provisions, the amount deducted under the program may become subject to treatment under then-current IRS regulations.

10.3 Tax-Deferred Savings Plans

The Board shall make individual tax-deferred annuity and deferred compensation plans available to the teachers of School District 68. The Board shall not recommend any specific company's individual annuity plan. At least 5 participating employees are required before a company will be added.

All companies marketing tax-deferred annuity plans to a teacher shall provide plan information to the Business Office by completing forms and agreements to be supplied by the Business Office.

10.4 Tuition Assistance

The Board shall pay fees for tuition and workshops and accredited degree programs taken outside the regular work day which are directly related to the teacher's current assignment and can be expected to enhance and improve the ability of the teacher to serve the educational needs of the District. In order to be eligible for reimbursement, a teacher must have completed three consecutive school years of full time teaching or, if part time, a teacher must have completed a minimum of four consecutive school years in at least a 50% teaching assignment.

The Board shall pay 70% of the tuition for eligible teachers engaged in accredited degree programs or other approved college courses up to an annual maximum of \$2,500 per teacher except that teachers in an approved Masters Degree program may receive up to \$4,500 per year.

The Board will pay 100% tuition reimbursement for undergraduate and graduate courses for teachers who are required by the District to take course work for retraining for full certification.

The Board shall pay registration fees required to receive credit for prescribed courses being pursued by all eligible teachers. Textbook, material, miscellaneous graduation fees, health, library, recreation, parking, transportation and housing fees are not paid.

All requests for tuition reimbursement described above shall be submitted in advance. A Tuition Reimbursement Committee will be formed to review all requests for tuition reimbursement and make recommendations for approval to the Superintendent or designee. The committee will be comprised of two administrative representatives appointed by the Superintendent and two teacher representatives appointed by the Association. Teachers who have received reimbursement shall be required to submit evidence of satisfactory completion of such courses and workshops before any additional tuition reimbursement will be authorized.

When a teacher does not render services for at least 120 working days after completion of a reimbursable workshop or college course, a refund shall be made by the teacher to the District as follows:

- 100% refund for service of less than 60 working days after workshop or course completion
- 50% refund for service of 61 to 120 working days after workshop or course completion

Teachers who become disabled or leave employment at the initiative of the District shall not be required to return tuition payments.

Teachers who are awarded tuition waivers for supervising student teachers may apply those waivers toward payment of their personal tuition costs. In the event that the teacher chooses not to use the waiver, the waiver will be forwarded to the Association representative responsible for administering the dispersal of vouchers.

10.5 Retirement Benefits for Certificated Personnel

1. Introduction.

The following retirement plan (Plan) recognizes the contributions of teachers who have provided extended service to the students of District 68. The Plan is designed to provide such teachers with the opportunity to increase the earnings which the Illinois Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) will use to calculate the teacher's pension up to the limit above which TRS will impose penalties on the Board. Currently the TRS limitation is a 6% increase in creditable earnings over the previous school year.

2. Eligibility and Application.

To be eligible for the benefits of the Plan, a teacher must give timely and irrevocable notice of resignation and retirement effective at the end of the applicable school term and, as of the effective date of resignation and retirement:

- (a) have completed at least the equivalent of fifteen (15) years of full-time active service to the District, of which the last eight (8) must be continuous on either a full or part-time basis. An unpaid extended leave of absence under Section 7.4.2 of this Agreement shall not be deemed to interrupt continuous service for purposes of receipt of the benefits of this section.
- (b) be at least fifty-eight (58) years of age, or have at least thirty-five (35) years of creditable service.
- (c) have filed for participation in the retirement program of the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois (TRS).

A retiring teacher must provide the Superintendent with an irrevocable, written notice of resignation and retirement by February 1 of the year in which the Retirement Recognition Bonus is to be first paid, but in any event not later than February 1 of the last year of this Agreement. The last year for resignation and retirement under this section and receipt of a pre-retirement creditable earnings increase shall be three years after the expiration of this Agreement.

3. Retirement Incentive Bonus.

The eligible teacher who at the time of retirement is at least age 60 or has at least 35 years of TRS creditable service shall receive a Retirement Recognition Bonus

(Bonus) of 155% of BA step 1. The eligible teacher who at the time of retirement is under age 60 and has less than 35 years of TRS creditable service shall receive a bonus of 155% of BA Step 1, reduced by 15% of BA Step 1 for each one-quarter school year that the teacher is under age 60. The Bonus will be calculated based on BA step 1 as of the year of retirement but not later than the final year of this Agreement. This Bonus will be pro-rated for a part-time teacher based upon his/her highest full-time equivalency during his/her final three years of employment.

The Bonus shall begin to be paid over a period of up to five years prior to retirement upon receipt by the Superintendent of irrevocable written notification of the teacher's resignation and intention to retire. Once a teacher submits this notice, the teacher will remain on the district salary schedule.

The Bonus shall be distributed as follows:

- Starting with the school year in which the notice is given, a portion of the available Bonus will be paid to increase each year's total TRS creditable earnings up to 6% over the previous year, for a maximum of five years. This amount shall be paid in two equal installments each applicable year, the first in December and the second in June. If necessary, the final paycheck will be adjusted to insure that the TRS limitation is not exceeded.
- A lump sum payment will be made to the teacher no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the teacher's retirement and last regular paycheck. The amount of this payment will be the total Bonus amount less the Bonus payments made to increase the teacher's creditable earnings before retirement.

4. Sick Leave.

As part of the Plan, a teacher who gives the irrevocable, written notice of resignation and retirement by February 1 of the fifth year before resignation and retirement shall be credited with an additional 170 days of sick leave.

5. Planning.

Because a teacher may retire as early as age 55 and the teacher's pension is calculated by TRS using the creditable earnings from the best four consecutive years out of the last ten before retirement, planning for retirement begins at age 50. This is also the case from the Board's perspective because in those same years, the Board becomes subject to very expensive penalties from TRS if creditable earnings are paid to a teacher in excess of the TRS limitation. The Board also becomes subject to penalties if sick leave is granted beyond the normal allotment in the last four years before retirement.

The Superintendent will initiate the planning process by January 15 of the school year in which a teacher reaches age 50. The Superintendent will provide the teacher with a retirement planning form (Form) to be completed by the teacher and returned to the Superintendent by March 1 of the same school year. The

information to be provided in the Form will include the number of years of creditable service the teacher has with TRS, the years of creditable service which may be available for purchase from TRS, the number of days of unused sick leave which the teacher has accumulated with other districts and the teacher's projected retirement date if the teacher has identified such a date. By May 1 of the same school year, the teacher and the Superintendent will meet to discuss the Form and questions or concerns the teacher may have about the Plan.

6. Creditable Earnings Limitations and Changes in a Teacher's Retirement Plans.

If a teacher participating in the Plan resigns prior to the date originally approved for his/her retirement for any reason other than death or physical or mental disability which permanently renders the teacher unable to perform his/her duties, the Board shall have no obligation to pay the remaining retirement enhancements which would otherwise have been due under the Plan. Additionally, the teacher shall repay to the Board all amounts of creditable earnings necessary to avoid the Board being subject to TRS penalties. Repayment shall be made by salary withholding to the extent possible, but in any event, the teacher shall make full repayment within thirty (30) days after the date of the teacher's resignation or, if later, after the Board's receipt of notice of penalties from TRS. If the teacher fails to make repayment when due and the Board incurs attorney's fees to collect such repayment, through litigation or other collection efforts, the teacher shall reimburse the Board for its reasonable attorney's fees and other costs and expenses of collection. Upon repayment, an amended creditable earnings report shall be made by the Board to TRS. Finally, the Board shall pay to the teacher before retirement one dollar (\$1.00) for each of the 170 days of sick leave provided for in subparagraph 4 above that was not used, which days will then not be reported to TRS and for which the teacher shall not seek service credit from TRS.

If a teacher participating in the Plan or a member of the teacher's immediate family becomes ill or injured, resulting in the teacher's use of sick leave which then disqualifies the teacher for non-ERO retirement, the teacher may request, and the Board, in its sole discretion, may grant an extension of the retirement date by a minimum of one school term.

If a teacher participating in the Plan begins to receive the Bonus and a catastrophic life event (such as the death or serious illness of a spouse) causes the teacher to request to continue teaching in the District and the Board, in its sole discretion, accepts such request, the Board shall not be obligated to continue payment of the Bonus. The teacher shall then repay the entire amount of the Bonus paid to date. Such repayment may either be made in one lump sum or through a series of deductions from the teacher's salary, with final repayment to be made by the date which reflects the length of time the teacher received the retirement enhancement (i.e., a teacher who received the Bonus for one year and then was permitted to rescind his/her retirement, must repay the retirement enhancements within one year). The teacher may also include in the request modification of the retirement date.

If a teacher is within four years of eligibility for TRS retirement but is not ready or eligible to participate in the Plan, the teacher may avoid the limitation set forth in the last paragraph of this section 10.5.6 by signing an agreement with the Board. The agreement will provide that if the teacher resigns and the Board becomes subject to penalties from TRS, the teacher must repay to the Board all amounts of creditable earnings necessary to avoid the penalties. Repayment shall be made by salary withholding to the extent possible, but in any event, the teacher shall make full repayment within 30 days after the date of the teacher's resignation or, if later, after the Board's receipt of notice of penalties from TRS. If the teacher fails to make repayment when due and the Board incurs attorney's fees to collect such repayment, through litigation or other collection efforts, the teacher shall reimburse the Board for its reasonable attorney's fees and other costs and expenses of collection. Upon repayment, an amended creditable earnings report shall be made by the Board to TRS. Entry into the agreement does not preclude the teacher from participation in the Plan, so long as the teacher meets the eligibility requirements and makes any repayments necessary for the Board to avoid penalties.

Notwithstanding any provision of this collective bargaining agreement other than as permitted in the paragraph immediately above, a teacher within four years of eligibility for TRS retirement will be limited to a 6% increase in creditable earnings over the previous year if the payment of such creditable earnings could result in the Board being required to make a penalty payment to TRS. Any adjustments necessary to meet this limitation will be made to the teacher's creditable earnings in the teacher's final paychecks for the school year in which the TRS limitation could be exceeded.

7. Changes in TRS Laws or Regulations.

If the TRS law or regulations change to increase or decrease the TRS limitation, negotiations on the retirement benefit will reopen at the request of either the Board or the Association.

10.6 Workers' Compensation

All work related injuries must be reported to the person designated by the Superintendent. A teacher receiving workers' compensation temporary total disability payments shall retain the check from the Board's insurer for such benefits. If the teacher has available sick leave, the Board shall pay the teacher one-third of the teacher's regular salary amount per work day of absence and charge the teacher's sick leave one-third of a day.

ARTICLE XI - EVALUATION

The Board and the Association agree that the teacher evaluation plan is primarily designed to improve teacher performance and, thereby, student achievement. An essential element of the teacher evaluation plan is to promote professional growth and lifelong learning based on a positive, collaborative approach among educational staff members, administrators and other professionals within the School District. To help achieve these goals, the teacher evaluation plan should be revised and updated periodically.

During the term of this Agreement, a joint committee will review and evaluate the existing teacher evaluation plan under Article 24A of the Illinois School Code. The committee shall be composed of twelve members, six members to be appointed by the Superintendent and six members to be appointed by the Association president. The committee shall strive to reach consensus on all issues in a manner similar to that of previous evaluation plan committees. Where a majority of the committee is unable to agree on changes to the teacher evaluation plan, the Board and the Association will negotiate procedural changes. If agreement is not reached on procedural changes after good faith negotiations to impasse, the Board may implement the changes. Substantive changes may be made by the Board after input from the Committee. All changes are subject to final approval by the Board.

ARTICLE XII - EFFECT OF AGREEMENT

12.1 No Strike

During the term of this Agreement, neither the Association nor any teacher will instigate or participate in any strike, sympathy strike, picketing or other concerted activity which interrupts the operations of the District.

12.2 Understanding

The terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement represent the full and complete understanding and commitment between the parties. This Agreement shall constitute a binding obligation of both the Board and the Association and for the duration hereof may be altered, changed, added to, deleted from, or modified only through the voluntary, mutual consent of these parties in a written and signed amendment to this agreement. The Board shall not change any express term or condition contained in this Agreement without negotiating the change with the Association.

ARTICLE XIII - DURATION OF AGREEMENT

This agreement shall commence August 27, 2007 and terminate at the close of the day before the start of the 2010-11 school term.

Board of Education

Education Association

John Frendreis
Board of Education President

Curtis House
Education Association President

Attest:

Beth Millard
Board Secretary

Date

Date

APPENDIX 1 - TEACHERS' SALARY SCHEDULE 2007-08

	BA	BA+16	MA	MA+8	MA+16	MA+24	MA+32
Steps	Amount						
1	42,417	44,538	47,507	48,355	49,204	50,052	50,900
2	43,690	45,810	49,204	50,052	50,900	51,749	52,597
3	45,810	47,507	51,325	52,173	53,021	53,870	54,718
4	47,931	49,628	53,445	54,294	55,142	55,990	56,839
5	50,052	51,749	55,566	56,415	57,263	58,111	58,960
6	51,749	53,870	58,111	58,960	59,808	60,656	61,505
7	53,870	55,566	60,656	61,505	62,353	63,201	64,050
8	55,566	57,263	63,201	64,050	64,898	65,746	66,595
9	56,839	58,960	65,746	66,595	67,443	68,291	69,140
10	58,111	60,232	68,291	69,140	69,988	70,836	71,685
11	59,384	61,505	70,836	71,685	72,533	73,381	74,230
12	60,656	62,777	73,381	74,230	75,078	75,926	76,775
13	61,505	64,050	75,926	76,775	77,623	78,471	79,320
14	62,353	65,322	78,471	79,320	80,168	81,016	81,865
15	62,777	66,595	81,441	82,289	83,137	83,986	84,834
16	63,201	67,231	82,289	83,137	83,986	84,834	85,682
17	63,626	67,867	83,137	83,986	84,834	85,682	86,531
18	64,050	68,503	83,986	84,834	85,682	86,531	87,379
19	64,474	69,140	84,834	85,682	86,531	87,379	88,227
20	64,898	69,776	85,682	86,531	87,379	88,227	89,076
21	65,322	70,412	86,531	87,379	88,227	89,076	89,924
22	65,746	71,048	87,379	88,227	89,076	89,924	90,772
23	66,171	71,685	88,227	89,076	89,924	90,772	91,621
24	66,595	72,321	89,076	89,924	90,772	91,621	92,469
25	67,019	72,957	89,924	90,772	91,621	92,469	93,317
26	67,443	73,593	90,772	91,621	92,469	93,317	94,166
27	67,867	74,230	91,621	92,469	93,317	94,166	95,014
28	68,291	74,866	92,469	93,317	94,166	95,014	95,862
29	68,716	75,502	93,317	94,166	95,014	95,862	96,711
30	69,140	76,139	94,166	95,014	95,862	96,711	97,559

APPENDIX 2 - TEACHERS' SALARY SCHEDULE 2008-09

	BA	BA+16	MA	MA+8	MA+16	MA+24	MA+32
Steps	Amount						
1	43,690	45,875	48,933	49,807	50,680	51,554	52,428
2	45,001	47,185	50,680	51,554	52,428	53,302	54,176
3	47,185	48,933	52,865	53,739	54,613	55,486	56,360
4	49,370	51,117	55,049	55,923	56,797	57,671	58,545
5	51,554	53,302	57,234	58,108	58,982	59,855	60,729
6	53,302	55,486	59,855	60,729	61,603	62,477	63,351
7	55,486	57,234	62,477	63,351	64,224	65,098	65,972
8	57,234	58,982	65,098	65,972	66,846	67,720	68,593
9	58,545	60,729	67,720	68,593	69,467	70,341	71,215
10	59,855	62,040	70,341	71,215	72,089	72,962	73,836
11	61,166	63,351	72,962	73,836	74,710	75,584	76,458
12	62,477	64,661	75,584	76,458	77,331	78,205	79,079
13	63,351	65,972	78,205	79,079	79,953	80,827	81,700
14	64,224	67,283	80,827	81,700	82,574	83,448	84,322
15	64,661	68,593	83,885	84,759	85,632	86,506	87,380
16	65,098	69,249	84,759	85,632	86,506	87,380	88,254
17	65,535	69,904	85,632	86,506	87,380	88,254	89,128
18	65,972	70,559	86,506	87,380	88,254	89,128	90,001
19	66,409	71,215	87,380	88,254	89,128	90,001	90,875
20	66,846	71,870	88,254	89,128	90,001	90,875	91,749
21	67,283	72,525	89,128	90,001	90,875	91,749	92,623
22	67,720	73,181	90,001	90,875	91,749	92,623	93,497
23	68,156	73,836	90,875	91,749	92,623	93,497	94,370
24	68,593	74,491	91,749	92,623	93,497	94,370	95,244
25	69,030	75,147	92,623	93,497	94,370	95,244	96,118
26	69,467	75,802	93,497	94,370	95,244	96,118	96,992
27	69,904	76,458	94,370	95,244	96,118	96,992	97,866
28	70,341	77,113	95,244	96,118	96,992	97,866	98,739
29	70,778	77,768	96,118	96,992	97,866	98,739	99,613
30	71,215	78,424	96,992	97,866	98,739	99,613	100,487

APPENDIX 3 - TEACHERS' SALARY SCHEDULE 2009-10

	BA	BA+16	MA	MA+8	MA+16	MA+24	MA+32
Steps	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
1	45,001	47,251	50,401	51,301	52,201	53,101	54,001
2	46,351	48,601	52,201	53,101	54,001	54,901	55,801
3	48,601	50,401	54,451	55,351	56,251	57,151	58,051
4	50,851	52,651	56,701	57,601	58,501	59,401	60,301
5	53,101	54,901	58,951	59,851	60,751	61,651	62,551
6	54,901	57,151	61,651	62,551	63,451	64,351	65,251
7	57,151	58,951	64,351	65,251	66,151	67,051	67,952
8	58,951	60,751	67,051	67,952	68,852	69,752	70,652
9	60,301	62,551	69,752	70,652	71,552	72,452	73,352
10	61,651	63,901	72,452	73,352	74,252	75,152	76,052
11	63,001	65,251	75,152	76,052	76,952	77,852	78,752
12	64,351	66,601	77,852	78,752	79,652	80,552	81,452
13	65,251	67,952	80,552	81,452	82,352	83,252	84,152
14	66,151	69,302	83,252	84,152	85,052	85,952	86,852
15	66,601	70,652	86,402	87,302	88,202	89,102	90,002
16	67,051	71,327	87,302	88,202	89,102	90,002	90,902
17	67,502	72,002	88,202	89,102	90,002	90,902	91,802
18	67,952	72,677	89,102	90,002	90,902	91,802	92,702
19	68,402	73,352	90,002	90,902	91,802	92,702	93,602
20	68,852	74,027	90,902	91,802	92,702	93,602	94,502
21	69,302	74,702	91,802	92,702	93,602	94,502	95,402
22	69,752	75,377	92,702	93,602	94,502	95,402	96,302
23	70,202	76,052	93,602	94,502	95,402	96,302	97,202
24	70,652	76,727	94,502	95,402	96,302	97,202	98,102
25	71,102	77,402	95,402	96,302	97,202	98,102	99,002
26	71,552	78,077	96,302	97,202	98,102	99,002	99,902
27	72,002	78,752	97,202	98,102	99,002	99,902	100,802
28	72,452	79,427	98,102	99,002	99,902	100,802	101,702
29	72,902	80,102	99,002	99,902	100,802	101,702	102,602
30	73,352	80,777	99,902	100,802	101,702	102,602	103,502

APPENDIX 4 - TEACHERS' SALARY SCHEDULE 2010-11

	BA	BA+16	MA	MA+8	MA+16	MA+24	MA+32
Steps	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
1	46,351	48,669	51,913	52,840	53,767	54,694	55,621
2	47,742	50,059	53,767	54,694	55,621	56,548	57,475
3	50,059	51,913	56,085	57,012	57,939	58,866	59,793
4	52,377	54,231	58,402	59,329	60,256	61,183	62,110
5	54,694	56,548	60,720	61,647	62,574	63,501	64,428
6	56,548	58,866	63,501	64,428	65,355	66,282	67,209
7	58,866	60,720	66,282	67,209	68,136	69,063	69,990
8	60,720	62,574	69,063	69,990	70,917	71,844	72,771
9	62,110	64,428	71,844	72,771	73,698	74,625	75,552
10	63,501	65,818	74,625	75,552	76,479	77,406	78,333
11	64,891	67,209	77,406	78,333	79,260	80,187	81,114
12	66,282	68,599	80,187	81,114	82,041	82,968	83,895
13	67,209	69,990	82,968	83,895	84,822	85,749	86,676
14	68,136	71,381	85,749	86,676	87,603	88,530	89,457
15	68,599	72,771	88,994	89,921	90,848	91,775	92,702
16	69,063	73,466	89,921	90,848	91,775	92,702	93,629
17	69,527	74,162	90,848	91,775	92,702	93,629	94,556
18	69,990	74,857	91,775	92,702	93,629	94,556	95,483
19	70,454	75,552	92,702	93,629	94,556	95,483	96,410
20	70,917	76,247	93,629	94,556	95,483	96,410	97,337
21	71,381	76,943	94,556	95,483	96,410	97,337	98,264
22	71,844	77,638	95,483	96,410	97,337	98,264	99,191
23	72,308	78,333	96,410	97,337	98,264	99,191	100,118
24	72,771	79,028	97,337	98,264	99,191	100,118	101,045
25	73,235	79,724	98,264	99,191	100,118	101,045	101,972
26	73,698	80,419	99,191	100,118	101,045	101,972	102,899
27	74,162	81,114	100,118	101,045	101,972	102,899	103,826
28	74,625	81,810	101,045	101,972	102,899	103,826	104,753
29	75,089	82,505	101,972	102,899	103,826	104,753	105,680
30	75,552	83,200	102,899	103,826	104,753	105,680	106,607

APPENDIX 5 - EXTRA DUTY STIPENDS

Leadership Stipends	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Elementary Leadership and Assessment Team	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Curriculum Implementation Teacher Leaders	2,148	2,212	2,278	2,346
Junior High Team Leaders	4,669	4,809	4,953	5,102
Department Chairs - Academic Core	3,464	3,568	3,675	3,785
Department Chairs - Other	1,733	1,785	1,839	1,894
District Specials Coordinators (a)	2,072	2,134	2,198	2,264
Activity Stipends				
Sports				
Volleyball	1,562	1,609	1,657	1,707
Basketball	2,203	2,269	2,337	2,407
Soccer	1,562	1,609	1,657	1,707
Track & Field	465	479	493	508
Cheerleading	1,103	1,136	1,170	1,205
Intramurals - OOJH	3,476	3,580	3,687	3,798
K-5 After School Sports	3,476	3,580	3,687	3,798
Elementary Activities				
Outdoor Education Teacher	580	597	615	633
After School Academic Program (b)	1,999	2,059	2,121	2,185
Other Activities - per unit (c)	228	235	242	249
OOJH Activities				
6th Grade Play (split by teachers)	1,505	1,550	1,597	1,645
All School Play (split by teachers)	3,907	4,024	4,145	4,269
Student Publication	1,618	1,667	1,717	1,769
Science Olympiad (per event)	341	351	362	373
Snowflake Coordinator	2,271	2,339	2,409	2,481
Snowflake Teacher	233	240	247	254
Student Leaders	1,391	1,433	1,476	1,520
Yearbook Editor	1,738	1,790	1,844	1,899
After School Academic Program (b)	2,999	3,089	3,182	3,277
Other Activities - per unit (c)	228	235	242	249
Hourly Work				
Curriculum development, staff development meetings	29.40	30.30	31.20	32.10
Supervision, other (d)	25.80	26.60	27.40	28.20

- (a) District Specials Coordinators include the K-8 Art Coordinator, K-8 Physical Education Coordinator, K-8 General Music Coordinator, Gifted Education Program Coordinator and Instrumental Music Coordinator.
- (b) Stipend to be paid on time sheet at the curriculum development hourly rate
- (c) A unit is an activity or club that meets once per week for one quarter (minimum 8 times)
- (d) The category "Supervision, other" includes lunch/recess supervision (except for indoor recess), morning supervision at OOJH, computer lab supervision, bus supervision at OOJH, all-school detention supervision and any required evening supervision beyond the one (1) included in Section 8.2 of this Agreement.

8/20/07a