

MASTER AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

KINGSLEY AREA SCHOOLS

AND

**MICHIGAN EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION**

(Representing Kingsley Area Schools Educational Support Personnel)

2024-2026



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ARTICLE 1 **AGREEMENT**

This Agreement is effective on the date the Agreement has been ratified by both parties and shall continue in effect until the 30th day of June, 2026 by and between the Kingsley Area Schools Board of Education, hereinafter called the "Employer," and the Michigan Education Association (representing Kingsley Area Schools Educational Support Personnel), hereinafter called "MEA" or "Association" through its local affiliate.

ARTICLE 2 **PURPOSE**

- A. This agreement is negotiated pursuant to the Public Employment Relations Act, (PERA), as amended, to establish the terms and conditions of employment for the members of the bargaining unit herein defined.
- B. The Employer and the Association recognize the importance of orderly and peaceful labor relations for the mutual interest and benefit of the Employer, Employees, and the Association.
- C. The provisions of this Agreement shall constitute a binding obligation of the parties for the duration hereof or until changed by written, mutual consent. Any previously adopted policy, rule, or regulation of the parties which is in conflict with a provision of this Agreement shall be superseded and replaced by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 3 **RECOGNITION**

- A. The Employer hereby recognizes the Association as the exclusive and sole bargaining agent for the purposes of collective bargaining pursuant to the Public Employment Relations Act (PERA), as amended. Said organization is the exclusive representative of all the Employees in such unit for the purposes of collective bargaining with respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment, and other conditions of employment for all personnel who are within the bargaining unit, described and defined as:

All full-time and regular part-time Secretaries and Para Professionals of the Kingsley Area Schools, excluding confidential Employees (Central Office Employees), Supervisors, substitutes, non-secretarial or para third-party contracted employees, other part-time Employees, and all other Employees of the Kingsley Area Schools.

- B. Unless otherwise indicated, the term "Employee" when used hereinafter in this Agreement shall refer to all members of the above-defined bargaining unit.

ARTICLE 4
EXTENT OF AGREEMENT

- A. This Agreement shall constitute the full and complete commitment between both parties and may be altered, changed, added to, deleted from or modified only through the voluntary, mutual consent of the parties in written and signed amendment to this Agreement.
- B. Any individual contract between the Employer and an individual Employee heretofore executed shall be subject to and consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. If an individual contract contains any language inconsistent with this Agreement, this Agreement, during its duration, shall be controlling.
- C. This Agreement shall supersede any rules, regulations, or practices of the Employer which shall be contrary to or inconsistent with its terms.

ARTICLE 5
STRIKES-LOCKOUTS

- A. The Association and the Employer subscribe to the principle that differences shall be resolved by peaceful and appropriate means without interruption of the school program. The Association, therefore, agrees that its officers, representatives and members shall not authorize, instigate, cause, aid, encourage, ratify or condone, nor shall any Employee take part in any strike, slowdown or stoppage of work, boycott, picketing or other interruption of activities in the school system for the duration of this Agreement.
- B. Lockout: The Employer agrees that it will not lock out any Employee during the term of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 6
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1 Definition

A grievance shall be defined as a claim or complaint by an Employee or group of Employees or the Association that there has been a violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of any provision of this Agreement.

- A. Written grievances as required herein shall contain the following:
 - a. It shall be signed by the grievant(s) or association.
 - b. it shall contain a synopsis of the facts giving rise to the alleged violation.
 - c. It shall cite the section or subsections of this Agreement alleged to have been violated.
 - d. It shall contain the date of the alleged violation.
 - e. It shall specify the relief requested.
 - f. Any written grievance not in accordance with the above requirements may be rejected as improper. Grievances shall be submitted on the Grievance Form set forth in Appendix A of this Agreement.

- B. The following matter shall not be the basis of a grievance filed under the procedure outlined in this Article:
- a. The termination of services, discipline, evaluation, or failure to reemploy any probationary Employee unless the basis for discharge is due to legal Association activities.
 - b. Any matter for which there is recourse under State or Federal law.
 - c. Any matter that constitutes a prohibited or illegal bargaining subject.

Section 2 Hearing Levels

Informal Level: When a cause for complaint occurs, the affected Employee(s) shall within fifteen (15) business days of the alleged contract violation request a meeting with his/her immediate Supervisor in an effort to resolve the complaint. The Association MUST be notified and a representative thereof present with the Employee at such meeting. If the Employee is not satisfied with the result(s) of the meeting, he/she may formalize the complaint in writing as provided in this Article.

Formal Level 1: If a complaint is not resolved in a conference between the affected Employee(s) and his/her immediate Supervisor, the complaint may be formalized as a grievance. It shall be submitted, in writing, within five (5) days of the meeting with the Supervisor and the Employee. A copy of the grievance shall be sent to the Association and the immediate Supervisor. The immediate Supervisor shall, within five (5) days of the receipt of the grievance, render a written decision. A copy of this decision shall be forwarded to the grievant and the president or designee.

Formal Level 2: If the Association is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level 1, the grievance shall, within five (5) days after the meeting with the immediate Supervisor, be transmitted to the Superintendent or designee. Within seven (7) days after the grievance has been submitted to the Superintendent, the Superintendent or designee shall meet with the Association and the grievant(s) on the grievance. The Superintendent or designee, within five (5) days after the conclusion of the meeting, shall render his/her written decision thereon with copies to the Association and the grievant(s).

Formal Level 3: If the Association is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level 2 by the Superintendent or designee, or if no disposition has been made within the period above provided, the Association may, within five (5) days after the receipt of the written decision at Formal Level 2 (or within five (5) days of the deadline for receiving the written decision), submit the grievance to the Board by filing a written copy thereof with the secretary or other designee of the Board. The Board, not later than its next regular meeting or within ten (10) days, whichever shall be later, will hold a hearing on the grievance. The Board shall allow the Association an opportunity to be heard at the meeting for which the grievance was scheduled. Within ten (10) days from hearing the grievance, the Board shall render its decision in writing. A copy of the written decision of the Board shall be forwarded to the President of the Association.

Formal Level 4: If the Association is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Formal Level 3 by Board of Education, or if no disposition has been made within the period

above provided, the Association may, within ten (10) days after the receipt of the written decision at Formal Level 3 (or within ten (10) days of the deadline for receiving the written decision), submit the grievance to arbitration before an impartial arbitrator, and concurrently provide written notice to the Employer that the matter will be submitted to arbitration. If the Employer is not given notice within these time lines, the Association forfeits the right to arbitration. The Association and the Employer agree to attempt to mutually select an arbitrator. If the Association and the Employer are unable to mutually select an arbitrator, the arbitrator shall be selected by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its rules which shall likewise govern the arbitration proceeding.

Neither the Employer nor the Association shall be permitted to assert in such arbitration preceding any ground or to rely on any evidence not previously disclosed to the other party. Both parties agree to be bound by the award of the arbitrator, and that judgment thereon may be entered in any court of competent jurisdiction. Powers of the arbitrator are subject to the following limitations:

- A. The arbitrator shall have no power to alter, add to, or subtract from the terms of this Agreement.
- B. The arbitrator shall have no power to change established salary schedules, but may rule on the proper placement of persons on the established salary schedule.
- C. The arbitrator shall have no power to change any practice, policy, or rule of the Employer nor substitute his or her judgment for that of the Employer as to the reasonableness of any such practice, policy, rule or any action taken by the Employer.
- D. The arbitrator shall have no power to decide any questions which, under this Agreement, is within the responsibility of the management and shall so construe the Agreement that there will be no interference with such responsibilities, except as they may be specifically conditioned by this Agreement.
- E. The arbitrator shall have no power to interpret state or federal law.
- F. The arbitrator shall not hear any grievance previously barred from the scope of the grievance procedure.
- G. The arbitrator shall have no power to order punitive damages and, where no wage loss has been caused by the action of the Employer, the Employer shall be under no obligation to make monetary adjustments and the arbitrator shall have no power to order one.
- H. If the arbitrability of any grievance is disputed, the arbitrator shall have no jurisdiction to render a decision on the merits until he or she has first made a ruling on the arbitrability issue, including substantive arbitrability. By stipulation of the parties of the grievance, the arbitrator may concurrently hear both the jurisdictional issues and the merits of the dispute in the same proceeding. In the event that the arbitrator determines that he or she is without jurisdiction to rule, the matter shall be dismissed without decision on the merits.

Section 3 Miscellaneous

- A. The term "days" when used in this Article shall mean weekdays, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and days when central administration and business offices are closed. Time limits provided in this article shall be strictly observed but may be extended by mutual written agreement.

- B. For the purpose of assisting an Employee or the Association in the prosecution or defense of any contractual, administrative, or legal proceeding, including, but not limited to grievances, the Employer shall permit an Employee and/or an Association representative access to and the right to inspect and acquire copies of his/her personnel file and any other files or records of the Employer which pertain to the Employee or any issue in the proceeding in question as required by law, except as excluded by law. Confidential letters of reference secured from sources outside the school system shall be excluded from inspection.
- C. Grievance discussions and hearings will be held at times which will not conflict with paid work time of Employees involved. Therefore, there will be no pay to bargaining unit Employees for time utilized in the grievance procedure. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Employer and the Association may, by mutual agreement, schedule such proceedings during times when Employees would normally be working for the Employer. In such cases, Employees involved in the grievance procedure during those times would do so without loss of regular pay.
- D. Should an Employee fail to institute a grievance within the time limits specified the grievance will not be processed. It is understood that the arbitrator shall have no authority to waive said time limits. In the event the Employer fails to respond to a grievance within the time limits specified, said grievance shall be deemed denied and subject to timely advancement to the next step of the grievance procedure
- E. The cost of the arbitrator shall be borne equally by the parties except each party shall assume its own cost for representation including any expense of witnesses and/or legal fees.
- F. Any matter involving content of Employee evaluation shall not be subject to this grievance procedure. However the affected employee may submit a rebuttal to elements of the evaluation that s/he disputes. The rebuttal shall be included in their personnel file as an attachment to the evaluation.
- G. The settlement of a grievance in any case shall not be made retroactive for any period prior to thirty (30) days before the date the grievance was first presented in writing to the Employer, or thirty (30) days before the date when the grievant(s) knew or should have known of the alleged violation of the contract , whichever is earlier.
- H. The Employer may at any stage of the proceedings provisionally grant in whole or in part the relief requested by the grievant. Neither a provisional grant of relief, nor the failure to grant such relief, shall be considered by a mediator, hearing officer or a court of competent jurisdiction as an admission, it being intended only for the purpose of permitting a party to mitigate damages pending a final determination of the grievance.
- I. The initiation of any grievances or request for advancement to the next hearing Level which is not made within the time limitations prescribed in this procedure shall be deemed to have been withdrawn and shall automatically terminate any further proceedings. Any grievance which is not answered by the Employer within the time specified shall be deemed to have been denied and the grievance shall automatically advance to the next grievance level unless withdrawn. Timelines may be extended at any level by mutual agreement in writing.

ARTICLE 7

ASSOCIATION RIGHTS AND SECURITY

The Association shall have, in addition to other rights expressly set forth or provided by statute, the following rights:

Section 1 Special Conferences

Special conferences for important matters will be mutually arranged between the Association President and the designated representative of the Employer upon the request of either party. Such meetings shall be between at least two (2) representatives of the Association and two (2) representatives of the Employer.

Section 2 Bulletin Boards and School Mails

The Association shall be provided with a bulletin board in the school lounge or appropriate Employee designated area for the purpose of posting Association materials. Materials shall not be slanderous or malicious, or denigrate the Employer, and shall not violate State or Federal laws. The Association shall also have the right to use the school mails to distribute Association materials.

Section 3 Use of Facilities and Equipment

The Association will be allowed to use school facilities for meetings upon reasonable request to and approval of the Superintendent. The Association will be allowed to use school equipment, including computers, other duplicating equipment, calculating machines, and all types of audio-visual equipment when such equipment is not otherwise in use. The Association shall pay the cost of all materials and supplies incidental to such use and shall be responsible for proper operation of all such equipment.

Section 4 State and National Association Representatives

Duly authorized representatives of the Association shall be permitted to transact legal, official Association business on school property before 7:00 a.m. and after 3:30 p.m. provided this shall not interfere with or interrupt the Employees normal work schedule. Any deviation from the above must be approved by the Superintendent.

Section 5 Association Representation

Employees who require or request Association representation shall be represented by Association Stewards, or in the absence of the regular Steward, by an alternate Steward. Both Stewards and Alternate Stewards shall be regular Employees of the bargaining unit. The Association shall furnish, in writing, to the Employer, the names of Stewards and Alternate Stewards upon their election or appointment.

Section 6 Association Leave

The Employer shall allow with pay, one conference per year for 2 people. Prior approval from administration must be obtained prior to release time. The Association shall reimburse the District for the individual employee's retirement costs for an employee who uses release time.

Section 7 Requested Information

The Employer agrees to furnish to the Association, in response to reasonable requests, all available information which may be necessary for the Association to represent its members under the following conditions:

- A. The Employer has such information available or is in possession before the obligation arises.
- B. The Employer retains the right to limit or deny information or to otherwise maintain the privacy of Employees, students, or others that may exist in such documents.
- C. The Employer shall not be obligated to produce requested materials in a format that is different from the format the materials are retained in by the Employer.

Section 8 Official Association Business

The Employer agrees to grant three days per year with pay to Association Employees to participate in official Association business. The cost of the substitutes shall be paid by the Association. Arrangements for Association leave must be made no less than ten days in advance with the Employee's Supervisor. No more than three Employees may be gone at any one time. The Association shall reimburse the District for the individual employee's retirement costs for an employee who uses release time.

ARTICLE 8 PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

- A. Once hired as an employee of Kingsley Area Schools it is the employee's option whether or not to join the union. Payment of union dues shall be the responsibility of the employee/member.
- B. The Employer shall make payroll deductions upon written authorization from Employees for annuities, United Way donations, credit unions, savings bonds, or any other legal plan or programs jointly approved by the Association and the Employer; excepting that no deductions shall be made for the purpose of dues or service fees, no matter the method used.
- C. All credit union deductions (except for credit union annuities) made from Bargaining Unit Member's paychecks shall be mailed to their designated accounts on the same date the Bargaining Unit Member's paycheck is issued. Credit union annuities shall be mailed or transferred pursuant to any agreement between the Employer and the credit union (generally monthly).

- D. Employees agree to use Vendors that have written agreements with Kingsley Area Public School Board of Education for their tax deferred funds.

ARTICLE 9 **BARGAINING UNIT WORK**

The Kingsley Area Schools Board of Education's intent is to use KESPA employees for bargaining unit work when financially feasible, and KESPA staff is qualified, and/or available for said work.

ARTICLE 10 **WAIVER**

This Agreement shall constitute a binding obligation of both the Employer and the Union 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 written and signed amendment to this Agreement. If any provisions of the Agreement or any application of the Agreement to any Employee or group of Employees shall be found contrary to law, then such provisions or application shall be deemed null and void, but all other provisions or applications shall continue in full force and effect; furthermore, the provisions of such law shall supersede, to the extent of the conflict, the provisions of this Agreement and govern the relation of the parties hereunder.

ARTICLE 11 **EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND PROTECTION**

A. Non-Discrimination

1. Pursuant to the Michigan Employment Relations Act, the Employer hereby agrees that every Employee shall have the right freely to organize, join, not join, and support or not support the Association for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining or negotiations. As a duly-elected body, exercising governmental power under color of law of the State of Michigan, the Employer undertakes and agrees that it will not directly, or indirectly, discourage or deprive or coerce any Employee in the enjoyment of any rights conferred by the Act or other laws of Michigan, or the constitutions of Michigan and the United States of America; that it will not discriminate against any Employee with respect to hours, wages, or any terms or conditions of employment by reason of his/her membership in or non-membership in the Association; his/her participation in or non-participation in any activities of the Association or collective negotiations with the Employer, his/her institution of or non-institution of any grievance, complaint, or proceeding under this Agreement, or otherwise with respect to any terms or conditions of employment. Further, as the exclusive representative of bargaining unit members, exercising power under color of law of the State of Michigan, the Association undertakes and agrees that it will not directly, or indirectly, discourage or deprive or coerce any Employee in the enjoyment of any rights conferred by any Act or other Laws of Michigan, or the constitutions of Michigan and the United States of America; that it will not discriminate against any Employee with respect to hours, wages, or any terms or conditions of employment by reason of his/her membership or non-membership in

the Association; his/her participation in any or non-participation in the activities of the Association or collective negotiations with the Employer, his/her institution of or non- institution of any grievance, complaint, or proceeding under this Agreement, nor otherwise discriminate against a bargaining unit member with respect to representing bargaining unit members under the terms and conditions of this contract or in representing Employees as the exclusive representative of bargaining unit members covered by this agreement.

2. Nothing contained within this Agreement shall be construed to deny or restrict to any Employee rights he/she may have under the Michigan Revised School Code or the applicable laws and regulations.
3. The Employer agrees that it will in no way discriminate against or between Employees covered by this Agreement because of their race, creed, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, gender, marital status, legal political activities, place of residence, or disability.

B. Arbitrary or Capricious & Discipline

1. No Employee who has completed his/her probationary period will be disciplined or discharged for any reason that is arbitrary or capricious. The specific grounds forming the basis for disciplinary action will be made available to the Employee and the Association in writing.
2. Should it appear that disciplinary action of any nature may occur at a given meeting, the Employee shall be advised immediately. An Employee shall be entitled to have present an Association Representative of his/her choice during any meeting at which disciplinary action occurs. When a request for such representation is made, no action shall be taken with respect to the Employee until such Association Representative is present. When such representation is requested, arrangements for representation shall be arranged and a meeting held as soon as reasonably possible. This does not preclude any Employee from having representation at any meeting he/she so chooses.

C. Files and Records

1. Upon request, and to the extent permitted by law, an Employee will have the right to review the contents of all records (excluding initial references) of the District pertaining to said Employee originating after initial employment and to have a representative of the Association accompany him/her in such review.
2. To the extent permitted by law, no material, including but not limited to, student, parental, or school personnel complaints originating after initial employment will be placed in an Employee's personnel file unless the Employee has been given a copy of the material prior to its insertion into the employee's file.
3. Complaints against the Employee of a serious nature shall be put in writing with names of the complainants (except as by prohibited by law or a court of competent jurisdiction) and administrative action taken. The Employee may submit a written notation regarding any material, including complaints, and the same shall be

attached to the file copy of the material in question. If the Employee is required to sign the material to be placed in his/her file, such signature shall be understood to indicate awareness of the material but in no instance shall said signature be interpreted to mean agreement with the content of the material.

4. In the event that the District receives a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for information in a Bargaining Unit Member's personnel file, the District shall immediately notify the affected Bargaining Unit Member and the Association. The District shall allow the affected Bargaining Unit Member an opportunity to review as well as attach a response to any disputed information being released. The District will cooperate to the fullest extent of the law wherever possible including expunging or withholding material which is not legally disclosable.

D. Assaults

1. Employees are responsible for the control and discipline of students in such places, or at such times that the students may be under the jurisdiction of the Employee. Any assault upon an Employee or against a student shall be promptly reported to the Employee's immediate Supervisor. Provided the employee was acting within the scope of his or her employment, employer will give reasonable support and assistance to the Employee within the limits of its liability coverage with respect to control, discipline and assaults upon the request of the Employee.

ARTICLE 12 **WORK YEAR, WORK WEEK, WORK DAY**

- A. The normal work year, hours and week are stated in Appendix B. These hours are not a guarantee and may be reduced by the Board for good reason. The Employer has the right to set the length of year, week, and day to comply with state and federal mandates. The hours per day may vary with position; however, an Employee's normal work day will be scheduled by the Employer. Daily starting and ending times shall be established by the Employer. Employees shall be notified of the hours, starting and ending time, and location of their tentative assignment no later than two weeks prior to the start of the student school year. The Employer reserves the right to change the work hours during any given day to accommodate the schedule of the students' hours. If the employer installs time clocks for documentation of member's work hours, both parties will meet and mutually agree upon methods of implementation/utilization. If the agreement is not reached prior to the printing of this contract then a letter of agreement shall be drafted and signed.
- B. The normal work week for Employees is Monday through Friday.
- C. The normal work day for all Employees working over five (5) hours shall include a duty-free uninterrupted lunch hour of thirty (30) minutes duration. Said lunch hour shall not count as paid time.
- D. All Employees working seven (7) hours or more per day shall be entitled to two (2) fifteen (15) minute relief periods per day. Employees working three and one-half (3 1/2) hours or more per day but less than seven (7) hours shall be entitled to one (1)

fifteen (15) minute relief period per day. Employees working overtime will be entitled to an additional fifteen (15) minute relief period for each additional three (3) hours worked daily.

E. Overtime:

1. An overtime or extra duty chart will be posted within each department with the affected Employees listed by order of seniority. Overtime or extra duty opportunities will then be offered to each Employee in rotation according to listing on the chart. Each Employee has the responsibility to mark on the chart his/her acceptance or rejection of each overtime or extra duty opportunity as it comes to them. If all Employees within the affected department refuse the overtime or extra duty, the Employer may then schedule an Employee at its discretion.

2. All overtime and extra duty must be authorized in writing by the supervisor. All hours worked, including overtime, must be submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor on a timesheet. Failure to follow these requirements will result in discipline.

F. Employees shall not be required to report to their job assignments when schools are closed to students due to inclement weather, or when otherwise prevented by an Act of God, and shall suffer no loss of salary.

G. If the school day is shortened due to an Act of God, Employees will be allowed to leave the building within thirty (30) minutes of student dismissal and will receive their usual day's pay.

H. Any student instruction days lost due to "Act of God" (snow, ice, fog, epidemic, etc.) will be rescheduled if required by State Statute. In such case, the Employee will receive no additional compensation for working on the rescheduled days.

I. Support staff may be required to work the day before the start and the day after the end of the school year at the discretion of the principal. Additional days may be required at the discretion of the employer.

J. Secretarial staff will be scheduled with sufficient time prior to the commencement of the school year for them to check in and distribute classroom and office supplies that arrive in the District over the summer recess. It is understood and agreed to by the parties that all secretaries do not necessarily have to have the same number of scheduled work days and that the current schedule may work very well in some offices. Additional days may be scheduled at the discretion of the Employer. Bargaining Unit Members shall be paid for these days.

K. The Employer and the Association agree that in the interest of maintaining student safety that it is necessary to adequately staff elementary and middle school recess periods. If two employees are not scheduled for a recess period, a reliable method of contacting the office will be provided the Employee by the Employer.

ARTICLE 13
WORKING CONDITIONS

- A. The Employer shall reimburse the Employee up to twenty dollars (\$20.00) for the loss, damage, or destruction of personal property covered by the Employer's Liability Insurance Policy when the loss, damage, or destruction can be proven not to be the result of Employee's negligence.
- B. If an Employee is required to provide a non-emergency related medical service, the Employer will be responsible to provide the Employee with proper training (and supplies) in the procedure.
- C. Provided the employee was working within the scope of his or her employment and was following applicable law, the Employer shall provide liability coverage for the Bargaining Unit Member for any liability incurred in the transportation of Special Education Students to and from school and school related activities.
- D. The Employer shall continue to maintain adequate rest areas, lounges, and restrooms for Employee use.
- E. An Employee shall be responsible to the Supervisor designated by the Employer. Work directions may be given by administrators other than the immediate Supervisor. Employees working in more than one building or department shall have designated supervisor(s).
- F. The Employer shall provide liability coverage for any-Employee who administers medication to pupils in accordance with Board policy and applicable law, except for an act or omission that amounts to gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

ARTICLE 14
VACANCIES, TRANSFERS, AND PROMOTIONS

A. Definitions:

- 1. A vacancy shall be defined as any bargaining unit position either newly created or a present position that is open (not a temporary vacancy), and must be filled.
- 2. A temporary vacancy is defined as a bargaining unit position which is being held open for the return of a particular Bargaining Unit Member, or a position created for a specific purpose, which position is not expected to exceed one year in duration. After one (1) year, such position will be eliminated or made into a regular position (and if made into a regular position, it will be posted as a new position).

It is not considered a temporary vacancy when a position is open as the result of utilization of the Family Medical Leave Act or for absences that are of less than twelve-week duration.

A position meeting the criteria listed above shall be posted publicly in an effort to create a list of qualified applicants to fill the position. This posting need not be

limited to current Kingsley Educational Support Personnel Association members. The posting will indicate that the position is temporary and the duration of anticipated employment shall be listed in the posting.

An individual hired to fill a temporary vacancy shall be a member of the Association, subject to assessment of union dues, and is entitled to full protection and rights included but not limited to Health Insurance in the collective bargaining agreement between the Employer and the Association - with the noted exceptions:

- a. An individual hired to fill a temporary vacancy shall receive one (1) sick leave day per month to a maximum of nine (9) per year and an additional two (2) personal days.
 - b. If the Temporary Employee is released at the completion of his/her scheduled term of employment and then rehired by the employer within 90 days of said termination, then he/she will receive full credit and entitlement to use of all accruals cited in (a.) above.
 - c. If the temporary vacancy is filled by a current association member, then the employer shall have the ability to fill that individual's position with a temporary employee, subject to the conditions listed in this agreement regarding employees filling temporary vacancies.
 - d. The Employer may make as many such placements for each temporary vacancy (subject to the above limitations) as is deemed necessary and/or in the best interest of the Employer. When the original position is discontinued, or filled by a returning employee, then all employees who changed positions as a result of the filling of the temporary vacancy shall return to their positions held prior to the filling of the original temporary vacancy.
 - e. An Association member selected to fill a temporary vacancy shall retain their seniority rights as they relate to bidding on any permanent openings in Association positions that become available during the term of the temporary vacancy.
- B. All vacancies shall be posted in accordance to the procedure included herein:
1. Administration shall post vacancies via email and by providing a copy to the Association President or designee for a minimum of five (5) workdays before the application deadline.
 2. When school is not in session, the Employer shall mail/email vacancy postings to the Association President or designee at the individual's last known address within a minimum of ten (10) calendar days before the application deadline.
 3. Posting Shall Contain the Following Information:

- a. Type of Work
- b. Location of Work
- c. Starting Date
- d. Rate of Pay
- e. Hours to be Worked
- f. Classification(s)
- g. Qualifications
- h. Supervisor
- i. Deadline for Application
- j. Ending Date for Position if Temporary

4. All summer and/or break period positions financed by the Employer shall be posted to Bargaining Unit Members prior to being posted outside the Bargaining Unit. The rate of pay for these positions shall be as established by the Employer. First priority in filling these positions shall be given to the most qualified senior member of the classification where the work exists. "Qualified" as used in this Agreement shall mean ability to perform the duties, meet physical requirements of the job, holding required certifications and/or licenses, as well as having satisfactory evaluations, attendance, and discipline records. Second priority shall be given to the most qualified senior Bargaining Unit Member outside the classification. If the position is not filled in this manner, persons outside the Bargaining Unit will be sought.

- C. Vacancies may be withdrawn at any time prior to the listed deadline for application.
- D. Vacancies shall be filled at the discretion of the Employer from within or outside of the Bargaining Unit. The Employer has the right to set the qualifications in the job description. Should it become necessary to change the job description for a classification the Employer shall solicit input from the Association before making the changes.
- E. The following departments and classifications shall exist:

Departments

Classifications

Secretarial

Secretary

Paraprofessional

Non-Instructional Para Pro
 Instructional Para Pro
 Certified Instructional Para Pro
 Media Center Para Pro
 Bus Para Pro

- F. Within ten (10) workdays after the deadline for application, the Employer shall make known its decision as to which applicant has been selected to fill a posted position. Each applicant and the Association President shall be so notified in writing.

- G. In the event of promotion in the department or transfer from one department to another or recall from layoff, the Employee shall be given up to a ninety (90) work day trial period in which to demonstrate his/her ability to perform on the new job. If the promotion or transfer is within the same department, the Employee shall not suffer any loss in step on the salary schedule. During this trial period the Employer has the right to return the Employee to his/her previous position. A performance conference between the Supervisor and the Employee will be held within forty-five (45) work days. If the Employee does exercise his/her right to return to the previous position, he/she cannot apply for a different position within the same classification for a period of one (1) year unless on layoff at the time of application.
- H. An Employee may be required by a Supervisor to temporarily assume the duties of another Employee. Any Employee's pay rate shall not be reduced by any temporary change in duties.
- I. The Employer may require an Employee to substitute for another Employee as necessary in addition to, or in place of, their regular work schedule. Substitutes for positions may be considered from the bargaining unit for each opening providing the Unit Member meets qualifications for the substitute vacancy, and the extra time would not require the Employee to work more than forty hours in a week unless authorized in writing by the Supervisor. A Bargaining Unit Member may not substitute if the job interferes with his or her regular employment responsibilities unless given permission to do so by his or her Supervisor.

ARTICLE 15

SENIORITY

- A. Bargaining Unit Members shall have District-wide and departmental seniority. District-wide seniority shall be from the last date of hire with the Employer as a member of the bargaining unit. Departmental seniority shall reflect all days worked in any department within the bargaining unit. In the event that more than one (1) individual has the same starting date of work either within the District or within a department, position on the seniority list shall be determined by casting lots. Casting of lots shall take place for Employees so affected upon ratification of this contract, and thereafter as Employees are hired.
- B. New Employees hired in the unit shall be considered as probationary Employees for the first ninety (90) working days of their employment. Probationary Employees shall have no seniority until the completion of the probationary period at which time their seniority shall revert to their first day of work. Probationary employees shall be considered "at-will" employees. The Employer shall have the right to discharge probationary Employees and the action is not subject to appeal or grievance as long as the discharge was not for legal Association activities.
- C. For the purpose of seniority, Employees shall be placed in one (1) of the following departments based on their current assignments but reflecting Section A above (i.e., first working day in the District). Employees who hold positions in more than one (1) department shall have their seniority computed per department.

1. Secretarial
 2. Para Professional
- D. The Employer shall prepare the seniority list and provide two (2) copies to the Association President or designee upon ratification of this agreement and whenever a new Employee is added to the seniority list. Any objections to the list must be filed within 30 days of posting. Thereafter, the list shall be final and conclusive.
- E. Any Employee who has been incapacitated at his/her regular work by injury or compensable occupational disease while employed by the Employer may, at the option of the Employer, be employed at other work on a job he/she can do without regard to any seniority provisions of this Agreement provided said person's placement does not result in job loss or pay / hours reduction for another association member.
- F. Seniority shall be lost due to the following reasons:
1. Termination
 2. Resignation
 3. Retirement
 4. Failure to return to work within three (3) work days of the expiration of a leave of absence unless given an acceptable reason as determined by the Superintendent.
 5. Absence from work for three (3) consecutive working days without notification (unless unusual circumstances prevent such notification).
 6. Failure to return to work within five (5) working days of receiving a recall notice unless giving an acceptable reason as determined by the Superintendent.
 7. Continuous lay-off in excess of eighteen (18) months.

ARTICLE 16
REDUCTION IN PERSONNEL, LAYOFF, AND RECALL

- A. Layoff shall be defined as a reduction in the work force and/or a reduction in hours of thirty (30) minutes or more.
- B. No Employee shall be laid-off pursuant to a reduction in work force unless said Employee shall have been notified of said layoff at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the effective date of the layoff.
- C. In the event of a reduction in work force, the Employer shall first lay off probationary Employees, then the least senior Employees. A less senior Employee qualified for the position in question, may be retained over an unqualified more senior Employee. Qualification standards for any given position shall be at the sole discretion of the Employer.
- D. In the event of a reduction in the work hours for any Employee, that Employee may claim seniority over another Employee within his/her classification for the purpose of maintaining his/her normal work schedule, provided he/she has greater district seniority and is qualified. In no case shall a reduction of any Employee's work hours take effect until the Employer gives five (5) work days' notice to the affected Employee(s) and the

Association President. An employee who, as a result of the elimination of a position finds no position remaining on the list for bumping within his / her classification, s/he has the right to displace a less senior employee that maintains his or her hours, based on district seniority in another job classification covered by this agreement, providing the employee is more qualified.

- E. Employees shall be recalled in inverse order of seniority to any position for which they are qualified, and shall be granted a trial period per Article 14, Section G - Vacancies, Transfers, Promotions.
- F. Notices of recall shall be sent by certified or registered mail to the last known address as shown on the Employer's records. The recall notice shall state the time and date on which the Employee is to report back to work. It shall be the Employee's responsibility to keep the Employer notified as to his/her current mailing address. A recalled Employee shall be given at least fifteen (15) calendar days from proof of mailing notice, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, to report to work. The Employer may fill the position on a temporary basis until the recalled Employee can report for work providing the Employee reports within the fifteen (15) day period. Employees recalled to work for which they are qualified are obligated to take said work. An Employee who declines recall to perform work for which he/she is qualified shall forfeit his/her seniority and employment rights.
- G. Employees on layoff shall retain their seniority for purpose of recall for a period of eighteen (18) months, but shall have their seniority frozen while on layoff.

ARTICLE 17

WORK DUTIES AND COMPENSATION

- A. Time and one-half will be paid for all hours worked on Sundays or a holiday.
- B. Time and one-half (1 1/2) will be paid for all hours worked over forty (40) hours in one (1) week. For calculating the number of hours in a week, a "week" is defined as Sunday 12:01 A.M. through Saturday midnight. When calculating the forty (40) hours, sick or other compensated time shall not be included.
- C. The wages or salary shall be paid biweekly on such calendar dates as are established by the Employer.
- D. The increment or step shall be an increase in salary applicable on July 1st of each year, with ALL employees beginning this change on July 1, 2011. This shall in no way affect seniority nor make the employees hire date July 1st and the Employer will not use July 1st as the date for calculating seniority if it is not the actual start date of employment.
- E. The Employer will pay the cost of registration in workshops, seminars, or classes required or authorized by supervision. Employees will be paid at their regular hourly

rate for the time spent in an administrative-authorized class, seminar or training session.

- F. Educational reimbursement is available for programs approved by the principal. Preapproval is necessary.
- G. Testing fees for becoming a certified paraprofessional may be reimbursed a reasonable number of times (2-3 attempts).
- H. Administering Medication.

Employees may be required to administer medication to students only when the following conditions are met:

1. The parents or legal guardians have given prior written approval for the administration of medication by school personnel.
2. The aforementioned permission is accompanied by written instructions from the attending physician or pharmacist if applicable.
3. Medication is given in the presence of an adult witness.
4. All necessary equipment and supplies are provided.

The district will provide up to two (2) trained staff members, per building, for the dispensing of all student medications, including oral, rectal, or injectable. One (1) trained staff member will administer the medication and one (1) trained staff member will serve as a witness. These duties will be compensated at a rate of \$5/day for each support staff member. Administrators may be used to serve as one of the trained personnel.

The employer shall indemnify and save harmless from any liability the employees who administer medication in good faith and within their training, to students when directed to do so by school supervisory personnel.

Any support staff member required to give an injection to a student will be:

- Trained appropriately before ever giving an injection.
- Asked to volunteer to provide the injection (staff member may be required to give an injection in a “**life threatening**” emergency situation if no other staff member who volunteers or is trained is available).

It is further agreed that Kingsley Area schools is not required to use support staff personnel to provide injections and thereby additional compensation. The provisions of this agreement only apply to situations when a support staff member is required by the district to give an injection.

I. Special Duties

Para educators performing special duty as defined below will receive additional pay in the form of a Special Duty Stipend (SDS) of \$1.00 per hour for all hours assigned the special duty.

“Special Duty” will be defined as specialized duty in the course of a job assignment that requires assisting a student with one or more of the following:

1. Special toileting (such as catheterization, diaper changing, or use of a bedpan).
2. Special feeding (such as feeding a student unable to feed himself or herself).

ARTICLE 18

HEALTH INSURANCE

- A. Upon proper application and acceptance for enrollment by the appropriate insurance underwriter, policyholder and/or carrier, the Board shall make premium payments for health insurance coverage for all eligible Employees and their eligible dependents toward the Association’s preferred insurance plan(s) in a combined monthly amount not to exceed the following amounts paid per eligible Employee:

Single Employees: Maximum amount allowed as specified in Public Act 152

2-Person Employees: Maximum amount allowed as specified in Public Act 152

Full Family Employees: Maximum amount allowed as specified in Public Act 152

The Insurance coverage plan shall be selected by the Association.

For those employees whose regularly assigned daily work hours are seven (7) or more per day, the employer shall provide up to full family coverage health insurance and pay the maximum amount as specified in Public Act 152.

For employees who work between 6 & 7 hours per day, the calculated dollar amount for Single Subscriber coverage shall be applied to the cost of which ever coverage the employee selects (Single, 2-Person, Full Family); any balance beyond the dollar amount calculated for Single Subscriber coverage shall be paid by the employee.

For employees who work 30 hours or more per week, the employer shall provide at no cost to the employee a Dental and Vision plan commensurate with current contract language.

The employer shall pay the full cost and provide \$10,000 Life Insurance, plus AD&D, per employee for employees that work 30 hours or more per week.

The employer will provide LTD (2/3 pay after 120 days) for all employees who work 30 hours or more per week.

- B. A committee comprised of the Superintendent, a representative of KESPA, a representative of KFT, and an Employer Representative shall meet each year to evaluate the insurance program. This committee shall have no power to change coverage, but can investigate offering equal or better coverage at a better rate. This

committee shall reach consensus and then make a recommendation to the Employer. Any change in coverage must go through the regular negotiation process including ratification by the membership of both the Board and the KESPA.

Any health premium amounts beyond the Employer's contribution, as specified above, which are required to maintain the selected coverage(s) are the responsibility of the Employee and shall be payroll deducted to the extent allowable by law. The Employee may sign an agreement authorizing that any such premium amounts be payroll deducted through the Employer's Section 125 Plan. Where an Employee is paid through less than 26 pays, the Employee shall have prorated deductions removed from their pay sufficient to cover the Employee's health insurance premium contributions for the summer period. Where an Employee is paid through less than 26 pays and becomes responsible for premium payments under this provision during the summer, the member shall be responsible for paying the difference directly to the District.

In order to be eligible for Employer provided insurance, Employees must work a minimum of thirty (30) or more hours per week on a regular basis.

Employees who have access to another District Employee's District funded insurance shall not be eligible for Employer provided insurance, but must instead accept cash-in-lieu. Exceptions shall be made for employees who are less than 26 years of age and who are covered by a parent's District funded insurance, but have dependents of their own. Those individuals may take the District funded insurance. During open enrollment, Employees electing health care coverage will sign a statement that they are complying with this paragraph.

Employees opting to take insurance must sign-up for this option during the enrollment period of May 1st thru June 15th unless another period is specified by law. Employees hired during the school year have 30 days from date of hire to enroll in insurance. Those who experience a qualifying event may sign-up for insurance in accordance with insurance plan and IRS rules. Failure to enroll during the designated time shall mean loss of this benefit for that school year.

- C. Eligible Employees electing not to receive health insurance benefits, or when both husband and wife are employed by the Employer and full coverage for the family is provided through only one spouse, shall receive \$3,000 dollars per year as "cash in lieu of insurance" if employed thirty (30) or more hours per week. "Cash in lieu of insurance" is not available to Employees electing to receive full family health care insurance benefits. Those employees not receiving cash-in-lieu will continue to receive Dental/Vision/LTD paid by the employer if those options are chosen by the Association. To obtain any or all of the available insurances, it is the Employee's responsibility to complete the required paperwork at the school business office. In order to ensure that eligible employees receive cash-in lieu in compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the following conditions must be met: (1) the employee voluntarily and in writing opts out of the available medical health care plan; and (2) provides documentation to the Superintendent's designee that the employee has other medical health care coverage that meets the minimum value and coverage requirements of the Affordable Care Act.

- D. To the extent permitted by law and/or insurer's policies, Employer-paid insurance premium contributions shall continue as long as the Association Member is in a pay status, but terminate at the end of the month during which the Association Member ceases to be in a pay status, except as is otherwise provided herein or by law. Association Members may continue the coverage at their own expense to the extent permitted by law.
- E. The terms of any insurance contract or policy issued by an insurance underwriter, carrier, policyholder or third-party administrator shall be controlling as to all matters concerning benefits, eligibility, coverage, termination of coverage, and other related matters. The Association Member is responsible for assuring completion of all forms and documents required for his/her participation in the above-described insurance programs.
- F. Changes in family status shall be reported by the Association Member to the Employer within thirty (30) days of such change. The Association Member shall be responsible for any overpayment of premium made by the Employer on his/her behalf for failure to comply with this paragraph.
- G. A physical may be required of all full-time Employees once in every two (2) year period; or as required by law. Full-time shall be defined as Employees who are scheduled to work seven (7) or more hours per day. The cost of this physical will be paid by the Employer through its insurance plan, or, for those who are required by the Board to take a physical (and who are not covered by the insurance plan), the Employer shall pay up to eighty-nine dollars (\$89.00) for each physical. The Employer reserves the right to name the place where physicals are to be obtained. The location for such physicals will not be more than twenty-five (25) miles from Kingsley, or the mileage shall be paid to the employee at the board approved rate. Evidence of this physical will be provided by the Employees for their segregated files.
- H. Dental: Employer shall provide eligible employees at some or at no cost to the Employee the Ultra Dent 80-80-50 Dental Plan with incentives with a cap on orthodontic care to be \$2,000.
- I. Vision: The Employer will provide eligible employees SET Ultra-Vision Plan II with a one hundred twenty seven dollar (\$127) allowance for frames every 12 months.

ARTICLE 19

VACATIONS

- A. School Secretaries shall be credited vacation according to the following schedule:
- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1-10 years of service | Two (2) vacation days |
| 11-20 years of service | Three (3) vacation days |
| 21 years of service | Five (5) vacation days |

- B. Vacation may be taken all at once or scheduled throughout the calendar year, but vacation may not be used for less than a one (1) day period. Vacation schedules must be approved by the Supervisor who will give consideration to the Employee's request and the need to maintain service. In no case shall an Employee forfeit paid vacation leave eligibility due to a lack of approval by supervision. Seniority shall prevail in the event of schedule conflicts between Employees.
- C. In case of layoff, death or retirement, or a quit with two (2) weeks' notice, the Employee will be paid for all unused vacation.
- D. Vacation time will not accumulate from year to year. Should an Employee be unable to schedule his/her vacation time, he or she shall be paid for all unused vacation time.
- E. Employees who have exhausted their vacation time and do not remain employed during the complete school year shall repay prorated vacation time based on time worked through a payroll deduction.

ARTICLE 20 HOLIDAYS

A. Holiday Benefits

1. The following holidays are paid holidays for all bargaining unit members if the day occurs within their regularly scheduled work year:
 - a. Labor Day
 - b. Thanksgiving
 - c. Day after Thanksgiving
 - d. Christmas
 - e. Christmas Break - up to 5 additional paid days not to exceed actual length of holiday break
 - f. New Year's Day
 - g. Spring Break – 5 paid days total, not to exceed actual length of holiday break
 - h. Good Friday
 - i. Memorial Day

ARTICLE 21 PAID LEAVES

A. Procedure for the use of leaves:

1. Any Employee upon using leave must, when possible, file a Prearranged Absence Form (except for sick leave) with his/her Supervisor and notify the person in charge

of getting substitutes. Upon using such leave the Employee must file a Verification of Leave form with the main office no later than two (2) working days following use of leave. Said Employee must be notified within five (5) working days when leave is denied.

2. If the Employee terminates his/her service before the end of the contract term, for any reasons other than illness, a deduction will be made at the time the service terminates for all sick leave used in excess of leave earned.
- B. The parties jointly acknowledge that abuse of any type of leave has a deleterious effect on the education of children and therefore mutually pledge to dissuade the Employees from improper use of any type of leave. Should the Administration become aware of circumstances which it believes is an abuse of any type of leave, the Employee(s) in question may be called on by the Administration to satisfactorily explain the circumstances.
- C. The Association will be notified of such hearing and will send a representative to the hearing to reaffirm the first sentence of this paragraph. Should the Administrator determine that discipline is in order, the Association representative shall be notified of same. It is expected that the Association will face up to its responsibility and not pursue grievances which are unmeritorious or based on political expediency.
- D. The Association affirms that it is the right of the Administration and School Board to adopt policy and procedure to insure a correct usage of sick leave; however, this shall not deprive the Association of their normal grievance rights as to the application of policy and procedure pertaining to sick leave. The Association agrees that if the Administration has reasonable cause to believe that an Employee has a pattern of sick leave abuse that the Administration may conduct an investigative meeting with the Employee with an Association representative present. If the investigative meeting does not result in a reasonable explanation of any pattern of sick leave abuse on the part of the Employee, the Association agrees that for future uses of sick leave by the Employee the Administration has the option to request a doctor's slip indicating that the Employee's need for sick leave was valid. Such an option by the Employer shall expire after one (1) year if no future alleged abuses occur. The Employer and Association agree that if the Employee does not have insurance coverage to cover the cost of doctor's office visits that the Employer will pay the cost.
- E. The parties agree that the Employer may request a doctor's release when an Employee is returning to work from extended sick leave (more than three (3) consecutive work days).
- F. Sick Leave
1. Sick leave will be granted upon the commencement of the contract school year with no limit on the accumulation. Secretaries will receive ten (10) days of sick leave. All other Support Staff shall receive nine (9) days of sick leave. Up to 40 hours can be used for immediate family but may not be used in hourly increments.
 2. Sick leave is intended for the employee's use when the employee is unavailable for work due to illness or as otherwise provided herein. Sick leave is basically an

insurance and covers illness, disability procedures, injury, or unavoidable quarantine of Employee. Routine health examinations, dental appointments, or surgical procedures which might appropriately be scheduled during vacation periods shall not be covered.

3. Bargaining Unit Members who work for the Employer as summer help shall be entitled to use up to three (3) of their accumulated sick leave days for personal illness, but are not required to do so.
4. Illness in the Family:
 - a. Each Employee shall be entitled to use up to 40 hours of his/her sick leave days per year for sickness in the immediate family but cannot be taken in hourly increments. For this use immediate family is defined as spouse, children or any other person the Employee is unavoidably responsible for. An Employee may not use his business time for this purpose.
 - b. An Employee may use additional sick leave days for sickness in the immediate family only with specific approval of his supervisor.
5. A statement will be presented to each employee at the beginning of the school year showing accumulated leave.
6. Rights Saving Clause: Any Employee whose personal illness extends beyond the period compensated for shall be granted a leave of absence without pay as is necessary for complete recovery from such illness for a period of up to one (1) year with an additional one (1) year extension available subject to the Employee providing medical certification of the need for the leave and approval from the Board of Education. Verification by the personal physician shall be required in determination of an Employee's recovery from such illness before returning to his/her position. Seniority shall be frozen during this unpaid leave time.

G. Personal Leave

1. Three (3) days personal leave shall be granted each year at full pay to all Employees in the paraprofessional, departments. Four (4) days personal leave shall be granted each year at full pay to all Employees in the secretarial department. These shall be independent of all other leave days and non-cumulative. Approval of the Administration is not required for usage of this leave unless immediately prior to or after holiday breaks. However, the employee must provide the employer with at least 48 hours' notice before taking a personal day unless approved by a supervisor. One of these days may be taken in hourly increments if the employee has their supervisor's approval. The definition of a "day" for this purpose will be the number of hours the employee works daily as part of their regular schedule. One of these personal leave days will carry forward as a sick day if not used by the employee.
2. The intent of this leave is to make it possible for Employees to be absent for personal reasons off from school. They may not be used on the day immediately preceding or following a vacation unless prior approval is given by the administration.

- H. Jury and Witness Duty: An Employee called for jury duty or to give testimony before any judicial or administrative tribunal during work hours on, shall turn over the pay received for the performance of such obligations to the administration, excluding travel fees and mileage, and shall be paid the contract wage for said days, not to exceed fifteen (15) days. If, however, he/she is a witness in a suit in which he/she or the Association is personally involved, he/she will receive no pay other than that provided for under Personal Leave.
- I. Bereavement Leave: For purposes of bereavement leave, family shall be defined as: spouse, child, mother, father, father-in-law, mother-in-law, sister, brother, grandmother, grandfather, grandchildren and any other person living within the employee's household for whom the employee is responsible for . The employee will be granted leave without loss of pay for not more than five (5) days in a contractual year. If the requested leave goes beyond the five (5) bereavement days, sick days could be used for bereavement, at the superintendent's discretion.
- J. Employees who, after ten (10) consecutive years of employment with the Employer, terminate their employment shall be paid according to the following schedule for each leave day accumulated during their employment with the system:
1. Employees shall receive 50% of his or her daily rate per sick day.
 2. A death benefit equal to that outlined above (J. 1.) shall be paid to the estate of an Employee within thirty (30) days of his/her death. This amount shall be calculated on the hourly rate of the most recent (last paycheck) wages earned.
 3. The daily rate shall be based on the hours worked per day during the year in which they retire.
- K. In the case of absence due to injury or illness incurred in the course of an Employee's employment, he/she shall provide a written, signed statement selecting one of these two (2) options:
1. Receive benefits under Michigan Worker's Compensation Act.
 2. Receive benefits under Michigan Worker's Compensation Act supplemented by the use of sick leave in twenty percent (20%) increments so as to bring the combined amount of Worker's Compensation and sick leave pay up to the full pay he/she would have received if working.

ARTICLE 22 **UNPAID LEAVES**

A. General Leaves

1. Leaves of absence without pay or benefits may be granted upon written request from the employee, if the request meets the following criteria:
 - a. Employee requests an entire year's leave.

- b. Employee's leave does not exceed fifteen (15) working days within the school year, with (a.) being the exception.
 - c. Requests are made no less than ten (10) days before needed except in cases of emergency.
2. Requests for leaves of absence shall include the reason for the leave along with notification of the beginning and ending dates of said leave. Maternity/child care leave requests shall also include a statement from the attending physician indicating the anticipated date of birth of the child. Maternity leave requests will follow Family Medical Leave Act guidelines.
3. An Employee returning from a leave of absence shall be reinstated to a similar position in the classification he/she held when the leave began. At least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date a leave is scheduled to expire, an Employee shall notify the Employer of his/her intent to return to work.
4. The Board shall have the prerogative to grant additional leave or other leaves not covered in the Master Agreement when such leaves would be in the best interest of the school system, Employee, or both.
5. The employer may request employees use personal time before granting unpaid leaves.

B. Military Leave

1. Employees shall be granted temporary leave with pay for absence necessitated by required physical examination for military induction.
2. A leave of absence shall be granted an Employee who is recalled, inducted, enlists, or volunteers in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or enlists, volunteers, is called up for active duty in the National Guard or Reserve. The duration of the leave shall be for the duration of the induction, enlistment, call-up or other period of active-duty service.
3. Reinstatement upon completion of such service shall be in accordance with the requirements of the applicable law of the United States. Regular salary increments shall accrue.

C. An Employee returning from a leave of absence shall be reinstated to a similar position in the classification he/she held when the leave began. At least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date a leave is scheduled to expire, an Employee shall notify the Employer, in writing, of his/her intent to return to work.

D. The Employer shall have the prerogative to grant additional leave or other leaves not covered in the Master Agreement when such leaves would be in the best interest of the school system, Employee, or both.

- E. Family Medical Leave shall be pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended. An Employee shall use all paid and unpaid leaves available to the employee concurrently with Family and Medical Act leave to the extent allowable by law. Such leaves are subject to the guidelines of the Act.
- F. Except for military leaves, individuals on approved unpaid leaves of absence of more than fifteen (15) days shall not accrue additional seniority, but shall have their seniority frozen while on such unpaid leave. Seniority shall accrue for unpaid leaves which are fifteen (15) days or less.
- G. When the Employer has reason to believe that an employee is unable to perform the essential functions of their job due to illness or disability, or when the employee is seeking an accommodation for a disability, the employee shall comply with requests to provide appropriate medical documentation. An employee may be required to undergo examination by an Employer-selected medical professional for purposes of evaluating fitness for duty or the necessity for an accommodation.

ARTICLE 23 **MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

- A. The Michigan Educational Support Personnel Association recognizes that the Employer has total and complete responsibility and authority to manage and direct on behalf of the public, all the operations and activities of the school district to the full extent authorized by (or not specifically withheld by) the laws and Constitutions of Michigan and the United States of America, provided that such rights and responsibilities shall be exercised by the Employer in conformity with the provisions of this Agreement.
- B. The Employer retains unto itself all authority not specifically restricted by this Agreement. Rights reserved exclusively herein by the Employer shall include by way of illustration and not by way of limitation, the right to:
 - 1. Manage and control the school's business, the equipment, the operations and to direct the working forces and affairs of the Employer.
 - 2. Continue its rights of assignments and direction of work of all of its personnel, determine the number of shifts and hours of work and starting times and scheduling of all the foregoing.
 - 3. Direct the working forces, including the right to hire, promote, suspend, discipline, demote, discharge Employees, transfer Employees, assign work or extra duties to Employees, determine the size of the work force and to lay off and recall Employees.
 - 4. Determine the services, supplies and equipment necessary to continue its operation and to determine the methods, schedules, means, methods and processes of carrying on the work including the institution of new and/or improve methods or changes therein.
 - 5. Adopt reasonable rules and regulations.

6. Establish the qualifications for various positions and job classifications, including job descriptions and the conditions of continued employment.
 7. Determine the location or relocation of its facilities, including the establishment or relocation of new schools, buildings, departments, divisions or subdivisions, thereof and the relocation or closing of offices, departments, divisions, subdivisions, buildings or other facilities.
 8. Determine the size of the management organization, its functions, authority, amount of supervision and table or organization provided that the Employer shall not abridge any rights from Employees or the Association.
 9. Determine the policy affecting the selection, testing or training of Employees provided such selection shall be based upon lawful criteria. The Employer agrees to furnish information on and allow input toward all testing procedures used by the Employer when requested by the Association.
 10. Determine the use of volunteers in providing services.
 11. Make reasonable provisions for the health, safety, and first aid of its employees during hours of operation.
- C. The exercises of all the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities by the Employer, and the adoption of policies, rules, regulations and practices in furtherance thereof, and the use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith shall be limited only by the specific and express terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 24
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

- A. Recognizing KESPA Members as an integral part of the district's educational team, at least one member shall be asked to serve on each committee working on school improvement in the school system.
- B. In the event that any provision(s) of school improvement or application thereof violate, contradict, or is inconsistent with the collective bargaining agreement, the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail.

ARTICLE 25
WORK DUTIES AND COMPENSATION

2024-2025 Salary Schedule

Years	1	2	3	4	5	6-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25+
Secretary	17.89	18.42	18.94	19.44	19.99	20.73	21.25	21.72	22.10	23.04
Inst Para	14.40	14.81	15.24	15.66	15.93	16.24	16.75	17.23	17.68	18.79
Cert Para	15.09	15.56	15.94	16.36	16.64	16.98	17.48	17.97	18.46	19.57

2025-2026 Salary Schedule

Years	1	2	3	4	5	6-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25+
Secretary	18.26	18.79	19.31	19.81	20.36	21.10	21.62	22.09	22.47	23.41
Inst Para	14.77	15.18	15.61	16.03	16.30	16.61	17.12	17.60	18.05	19.16
Cert Para	15.46	15.93	16.31	16.73	17.01	17.35	17.85	18.34	18.83	19.94

Certified Instructional Para pros must be trained, qualified according to the job description, and hired in that position to be placed at that wage. The school district also must have requested employees be trained to be placed at that wage.

For the 2024 – 2025 school year, each employee will receive a \$250 off schedule stipend each year included with first paycheck*

For the 2025 – 2026 school year, each employee will receive a \$250 off schedule stipend each year included with first paycheck*

*All probationary support staff will receive \$250 after their 90-day probationary period.

APPENDIX A
GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM

Grievance No. _____ Kingsley School District

Distribution of Form:

- 1. Superintendent
 - 2. Supervisor
 - 3. Association
 - 4. Bargaining Unit Member
- (Submit to Supervisor in Duplicate)

Building _____

Assignment _____

Name of Grievant _____

Date Filed _____

STEP I

A. Date cause of grievance occurred: _____

B. 1. Statement of grievance:

2. Relief sought:

Signature

Date

C. Disposition of Supervisor:

Signature

Date

D. Position of grievant and/or Association:

Signature

Date

If additional space is needed in reporting Section B 1 and 2, Step 1, attach an additional sheet.

STEP II

A. Date received by Superintendent or designee:_____

J. Disposition of Superintendent or designee_____

Signature

Date

K. Position of grievant and/or Association:

Signature

Date

STEP III

A. Date received by Board of Education or designee: _____

B. Disposition by Board:

Signature

Date

C. Position of grievant and/or Association:

Signature

Date

STEP IV

A. Date submitted to arbitration _____

B. Disposition and Award of arbitrator:

If additional space is needed in reporting any section, attach an additional sheet or sheets.

APPENDIX B**Departments**

The Employer will schedule employees annually within the number of days and hours listed below. It is understood that the number of days and hours for individual employees may vary within classifications and departments. Special events may require scheduling of work outside listed hours and/or days as mutually agreed by the Employer and employee(s).

Paraprofessional	7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	176-182 days
Secretaries	6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	200-215 days

Bargaining unit representatives shall be invited to participate in discussions regarding the school calendar and give input.

ARTICLE 28
DURATION OF AGREEMENT

- A. This Agreement shall become effective on the date the Agreement has been ratified by both parties and be in effect until June 30, 2024 unless mutually agreed upon. Negotiations between the parties shall begin at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to the contract expiration date. If, pursuant to such negotiations, an agreement on the renewal or modification is not reached prior to the expiration date, this Agreement shall expire at such expiration date unless it is extended for a specific period or periods by mutual written agreement of the parties.
- B. A proof copy of the tentative Agreement shall be printed at the expense of the Employer and delivered to the Association for proofing and for the ratification vote.
- C. After ratification by both parties (and after both parties have proofed and signed the duration page of the new contract), copies of the new contract will be posted to the District’s website within 30 days.
- D. An emergency manager appointed under the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act is authorized to reject, modify, or terminate this Agreement as provided in the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act, 2012 Public Act 436.

ASSOCIATION

EMPLOYER

President

President

Secretary

Secretary

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee

Trustee