

T R A V E R S E C I T Y
Food Service Employees
Association



Master Agreement
July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028



Traverse City Area Public Schools
Great Community, Great Schools

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AGREEMENT

Section 1

- 1.1 This Agreement is made and entered into this 8th day of September, 2025 by and between the Board of Education of the Traverse City Area Public Schools, hereinafter called the “Employer”, and the Food Service Employees Association of said district, hereinafter called the “Association”.

RECOGNITION

Section 2

- 2.1 The Employer recognizes the Association as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the purpose of establishing wages, working hours, and conditions of employment for all employees of the Traverse City Area Public Schools Food Service Department; excluding the Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations, Director of Food and Nutrition Services, Food Service Manager, Food Service Coordinators, temporary help, Food Service Clerks, substitutes, and all other employees.
- 2.2 A supervisor shall be defined as any person who is charged with responsibility for selection, evaluation, or direction of personnel.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT

Section 3

- 3.1 The Board of Education is vested legally and exclusively with certain powers, duties, and responsibilities, which it may not, by any means, share with or delegate to any other body or organization. Among these powers, duties and responsibilities are, but not limited to:
- 3.2
- a. The executive management and administrative control of the school system and all aspects of the operation of its properties and facilities, and of the activities of its employees while on duty, flagrant off duty violations, as well as the right to subcontract such services.
 - b. The hiring and firing of employees and the determination of qualifications and conditions of employment, including training programs, standards of performance, assignments, promotions, transfers, discharge and discipline of personnel, and of the size, composition and structure of the working force.
 - c. The establishment of policies and procedures which determine the operation of the Food Services program and responsibilities of its personnel, and executive management and administrative control of the properties of the school district.
- 3.3 In establishing policies and procedures to carry out the above responsibilities, the Employer or its designated representative may consult with the employees involved.

- 4.1 The Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee shall assign employees to buildings or equipment as openings occur. The employee may be assigned to another temporary work area when the workload demands.
- 4.2 An employee shall be able to request a transfer to a new position after his/her last placement. Additional transfer requests must be with the approval of the Employer. The Employer will first consider lateral transfers for employees in the same classification before other employees are considered for the vacancy. An employee who is placed through a lateral transfer will complete a five (5) working day transition period. During this transition period, the employee or the Employer shall have the right to return the employee to the previously held position.
- 4.3 A position vacated due to a promotion or change in assignment will be posted as soon as the Employer believes the vacancy needs to be filled. The Association President may request from the Employer reasons why any bargaining unit position has not been posted, but has been filled with a temporary employee for more than thirty (30) days. The Employer will respond, in writing, within ten (10) workdays to the Association President.
- 4.4 Assignments will be made according to qualifications and seniority. The employee's qualifications will be examined and judged with those of other applicants as to skills, proven ability, personality, and general acceptability for the position to be filled. If two or more employees of equal qualifications are applying for the same position, seniority will be the deciding factor. All applicants will be notified in writing, if requested, of the decision and the reasons therefor.
- 4.5 All new employees shall serve up to sixty (60) working days probationary period.
- 4.6 The Employer may have the right to return an employee to his/her former classification if, in the opinion of the Employer, the employee's work is unsatisfactory in the new classification. The Employer may consider the comments of the Kitchen Leader relative to an employee's work performance. In such cases, written notice of the unsatisfactory conditions will be given to the employee with a copy to the Association.
- 4.7 If an employee accepts a promotional opening through this procedure and then reverts to his/her former classification at his/her request, he/she may forfeit his/her right to apply to the same promotional opening for a period of one (1) calendar year.
- 4.8 All job openings shall be posted five (5) workdays prior to filling a vacancy.
- 4.9 The Employer will notify the Association and employee of changes in employee classification and/or when the number of hours posted to an employee changes.

- 4.10 An employee who transfers out of the bargaining unit (but remains employed by the Employer without interruption) and is rehired back into the bargaining unit within one (1) calendar year will be granted seniority when rehired as held at the time of the transfer out of the bargaining unit. During this transfer period, the employee will not accumulate seniority in the bargaining unit.
- 4.11 Upon hire, the Employer may, at its discretion, grant step credit up to step 4 based on relevant previous work experience for all positions with the exception of Kitchen Leaders who may be given step credit beyond step 4 for all relevant previous work experience.

EMPLOYMENT TERMINATION

Section 5

- 5.1 An employee may be discharged for just cause, which shall include, by way of example and not limitation, any of the following:
- Unsatisfactory work
 - Immoral or unlawful conduct
 - Neglect of duty
 - Poor health that creates the inability to perform the essential functions of the job with or without accommodation as determined by a physician.
 - Violation of policies, rules or procedures
- 5.2 The dismissal of an employee may be preceded by a written warning which shall contain a specific statement or statements of work defects, except in the case of immoral or unlawful conduct, the abuse of alcoholic beverages, or a health condition which seriously impairs his/her working ability when, at the discretion of the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee, the discharge may be effective immediately.
- If an employee is to be disciplined for minor offenses, the following disciplinary procedure will be followed:

First offense Verbal warning
Second offense Written reprimand
Third offense Suspension without pay
Fourth offense Termination
 - At the end of a three (3) year period, from the date of discipline for minor offenses, an employee may petition the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee for removal of disciplinary action from the employee's personnel file. The decision for removal will be at the sole discretion of the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee.
 - Major infractions, by way of illustration and not limitation, such as theft, reporting to work under the influence of drugs, narcotics, or alcohol, may subject an employee to discipline up to and including discharge without following the steps as listed above in "5.2.a."

- d. At the discretion of the employee, s/he may choose to have or not have representation by the Association in disciplinary proceedings involving a written reprimand, suspension, or discharge. The employee will be responsible for requesting and contacting the Association for representation.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 6

- 6.1 A grievance is defined as an alleged violation of a specific section of this Agreement. If any such grievance arises, an employee of the Food Service Department shall have the right of presenting his/her grievance as an individual or by a representative committee of the Association in the following order:
- 6.2 Verbal Procedure: An employee with an alleged grievance shall discuss the matter with the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee within ten (10) weekdays from the occurrence of the alleged grievance. If requested by the employee, s/he shall have his/her Association representative present. If the complaint is not satisfactorily settled, it shall be advanced according to the written procedure within five (5) weekdays after meeting with the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee.
- 6.3 Written Procedure: Within five (5) weekdays from the meeting with the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee in the verbal procedure, the complaint shall be reduced to writing, reciting the particular section and paragraphs of the contract which are alleged to have been violated and signed by the employee or the Association and presented to the Associate Superintendent of Labor Relations and Legal Services and or his/her designee. The employee, the Association representative, and the Employer representatives shall arrange to discuss the grievance and the Employer representative shall answer said grievance in writing and return said answer to the grievant and to the Association representative within ten (10) week days after the grievance is first presented to him/her. If the grievance is not satisfactorily settled, it shall be advanced according to Subsection 6.4.
- 6.4 If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved as stated in Subsection 6.3, it shall be sent to the Associate Superintendent of Labor Relations and Legal Services or his/her designated representative in writing. The answer of the Associate Superintendent of Labor Relations and Legal Services or designee shall be given in writing within ten (10) week days after receipt of said grievance.
- 6.5 No member of the Association shall initiate a grievance procedure after thirty (30) calendar days have elapsed since the alleged violation of this Agreement.
- 6.6 A "weekday" as defined in the grievance procedure shall be a weekday (Monday through Friday), excluding legal holidays and any other day District offices are closed.

- 7.1 In the event the Employer finds it necessary to reduce the number of personnel due to declining enrollment, participation, financial or other reasons, it reserves the right to select the job classification, department, or school in which the reduction in personnel shall take place.
- 7.2 The Association shall be informed of the reason(s) for reduction in personnel.
- 7.3 Order of Reduction
 - a. The number of personnel shall be reduced in the following order within the job classification and school selected by the Employer:
 - (1) Probationary employees (new hires).
 - (2) Other employees according to their seniority status.
- 7.4 Order of Recall
 - a. Personnel shall be recalled to work in the following order:
 - (1) Employees holding seniority within the job classification and school in which the reduction took place according to their seniority status.
 - (2) Probationary employees (new hires).
- 7.5 Reduction Procedures
 - a. The Employer will provide employees with fourteen (14) working days notice prior to any layoff.
 - b. The Employer shall call the employee at the last phone number the employee has on file with the Employer and give written notice of recall from layoff by emailing a notification letter to the employee at his/her last known email address seven (7) days prior to the date of return to work.
 - c. The employee shall report to work upon the date specified by the Employer, and failure to report on that date shall terminate his/her employment.
- 7.6 Other Conditions
 - a. Any layoff under this article shall suspend for the duration of the layoff the Employer's obligation to pay salary or fringe benefits under this Master Agreement.
 - b. When an employee is unable to work because of a job-related injury for one (1) school year or less, he/she shall be returned to his/her position, or to an equivalent position with full seniority, upon presentation of a doctor's certificate to the Business Office stating that he/she is capable of returning to work.

- c. In the event the Employer should find it necessary to reduce employees assigned to a given classification and building, that employee will have the right to exercise seniority within that classification and request reassignment to another location. In requesting reassignment, the employee would replace the person with the least amount of seniority in the school district in the classification, where the reduction is taking place. The person bumped may then bump a person with less seniority in a lower classification. The person bumped in the lower classification shall have the least amount of seniority in that classification. The Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee will give consideration to the number of hours the employees have.

SPECIAL ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENTS

Section 8

- 8.1 When kitchen facilities are utilized to prepare or serve meals for school activities, a Food Service employee may be asked to assist and/or supervise kitchen facilities. The presence of Food Service employees may be required when the kitchen or kitchen equipment is used. Food Service employees will not be required when meals are served in the cafeteria and the kitchen or kitchen equipment is not used (such as a potluck). Employees working events when the kitchen or kitchen equipment is used will be paid their regular hourly rate. Management agrees that the facilities must be cleaned up after use or a fee will be assessed to the organization or school group.
- 8.2 When kitchen facilities are utilized for school-related activities (as noted in 8.1), extra work assignment priority shall first be offered to employees of the school in which the activity is scheduled to take place. Selection shall be made on the basis of seniority on a rotating basis.
- 8.3 Positions for summer work opportunities that require a regular and consistent work schedule will be posted and employees who apply will be selected based on their seniority.

ABSENCE FROM DUTY - PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES

Section 9

- 9.1 Newly hired probationary employees will accumulate and be eligible to use and be paid for sick time, paid non-attendance days, and for school closing days consistent with Section 19. The use of bereavement will continue to be available upon completion of the probationary period.
- 9.2 The Employer may consider comments from the Kitchen Leader before changing an employee's probationary status.

SICK LEAVE

Section 10

- 10.1 An employee will earn the equivalent of one (1) sick leave day per month (maximum of eleven days per year), including the summer months when selected for a position that requires regular and consistent work throughout the summer, accumulative to a maximum of twelve hundred (1,200) hours to be used when the employee is absent from duty because of illness, injury or pregnancy-related disability. A day of sick leave will be equal to the regular daily hours assigned to an individual employee.
- 10.2 All sick leave will be computed (earned and used) on an hourly basis (based on an individual's regular workday). Employees may not use sick leave of less than one (1) hour and in increments of fifteen (15) minutes thereafter.
- 10.3 Once an employee has met the conditions of Subsection 9.1, s/he is eligible for the allotted number of sick leave hours.
- 10.4 If absence is due to injury on the job, sick leave benefits are effective as of the first day of injury.
- 10.5 The Kitchen Leader shall email the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee to notify when there are any staff absences.
- 10.6 If an employee is absent due to illness for more than three (3) consecutive days, a doctor's certificate may be required for additional sick days.
- 10.7 In cases of apparent sick leave abuse, a doctor's certificate may be requested for absences less than three (3) days.
- 10.8 An employee who becomes ill during summer vacation and cannot assume his/her duties at the beginning of the school year may be eligible for benefits under his/her accumulated sick leave (consistent with FMLA under Section 15), providing that a doctor's certificate stating the reason and estimated time of return is submitted to the Employer prior to the beginning of that school year.
- 10.9 An employee who works a temporary summer position will not accrue or use personal or family sick leave.

ILLNESS IN IMMEDIATE FAMILY

Section 11

- 11.1 Absence without loss of salary shall be allowed each employee for illness in the immediate family as follows:

Six (6) days per year, not accumulative.
- 11.2 Immediate family is defined as spouse, child, immediate step-child, child-in-law, parent, parent-in-law, immediate step-parent, grandparent, grandparent-in-law, grandchild, brother, brother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, and a relative living and making his/her home in the employee's household.

- 11.3 Such absences will be deducted from employee's sick leave, and it becomes the responsibility of the employee to complete a "Record of Absence" form upon return to work.
- 11.4 Upon receipt of a request from the employee, accompanied by a physician's recommendation or extenuating circumstances, up to three (3) additional family illness days may be granted by the Employer. Any additional days shall be subtracted from the employee's sick leave balance.

BEREAVEMENT

Section 12

- 12.1 Each employee shall be allowed up to six (6) days of absence (non-accumulative) per incident without loss of salary in case of the death of individuals described in Subsection 11.2 or 12.2. An employee working during the summer who experiences a death in the family shall also be entitled to receive this benefit.
- 12.2 Death in family is defined as spouse, child, immediate step-child, child-in-law, parent, parent-in-law, immediate step-parent, grandparent, grandparent-in-law, grandchild, brother, brother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, and a relative living and making his/her home in the employee's household, or an employee or employee's spouse who suffers a miscarriage.
- 12.3 Upon receipt of a request from the employee, accompanied by a physician's recommendation or extenuating circumstances, additional days may be granted by the Employer. Any additional days shall be subtracted from the employee's sick leave balance.
- 12.4 When no personal business leave is available, an employee may request a day (or days) off for the death of an individual not included in Subsection 12.2 above. When the approval is granted, the days off will be deducted from the employee's personal sick time, if available.

PERSONAL BUSINESS LEAVE

Section 13

- 13.1 Absence will be granted during the school year without loss of salary for attending to affairs of a personal nature.
- 13.2 Two (2) days shall be allowed per year and is not accumulative. A personal business day may not be used immediately before or after a holiday or vacation. A personal business day may be used on a regular school day or on the fourth, fifth, and sixth school closure day.
- 13.3 Not more than two (2) employees shall be allowed to take a personal business day on the same date, except that more than two (2) employees may be allowed to take a personal business day on the same date in an emergency and/or unusual circumstance after a review on a case-by-case basis, assuming an appropriate substitute is available, and at the sole discretion of the Employer.

- 13.4 An employee shall make a request to their Kitchen Leader for a personal business day in advance. The Kitchen Leader shall email the Food and Nutrition Services Manager notification of the request for approval, except in cases of emergency, when the request must be submitted on return.
- 13.5 At the end of the school year, any unused day will be added to the employee's accumulated sick leave.
- 13.6 If school is canceled and employees are not paid for a workday, employees on personal business day will not be charged or paid for the personal business day.
- 13.7 Employees who apply for and are granted a personal business day, and circumstances change the necessity for taking the personal business day, shall notify the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee immediately of his/her change in plans.

MILITARY LEAVE

Section 14

- 14.1 An employee who is called into the armed services of the United States for a short tour of full time active duty, not to exceed two weeks, will be paid the difference between his/her reserve pay and his/her regular pay.
- 14.2 An employee who is called into the armed services of the United States for a tour of extended full time active duty shall be granted a leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits for the period of duty.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Section 15

15.1 Medical

- a. A leave of absence (up to one full school year) may be granted by the Employer for medical reasons.
- b. The necessity for the leave of absence extending longer than three (3) consecutive work days shall be substantiated by a physician's statement.
- c. The leave shall be granted without salary or other economic benefits if previous sick leave has been used up.
- d. In accordance with the provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act, employees shall be eligible for up to twelve (12) weeks unpaid leave for the purpose of their own illness, or the serious illness of a spouse, child, or parent. During this unpaid FMLA leave, the employer shall continue to provide its share of the group health benefits in accordance with the Act.

- e. The Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee will notify the employee if s/he will be returned to the same position if the medical leave is in excess twelve (12) weeks. If the same position is not available (it has been posted and assigned to another employee), the employee will be reassigned as noted in the recall language contained in Section 7.

15.2 Other

- a. A leave of absence, not to exceed a total of four (4) weeks for the school year may be granted at the discretion of the Employer.
- b. The leave shall be granted without salary or other economic benefits.
- c. Prior to the approval of the leave, a replacement, qualified and acceptable to the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee, shall be known to be available.
- d. An employee returning from a short-term leave (four weeks or less) shall be returned to the same position.

ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE

Section 16

- 16.1 A Food Service employee who has been employed for one full school year will receive a stipend in the amount of two (2) days of pay (based on the employee's "normal" workday) for perfect attendance (going without an absence due to illness or unpaid leave, including no dock days for the entire school year).
- 16.2 A Food Service employee who meets the conditions as outlined in 16.1 in a second, third, etc., consecutive year will be eligible to receive a stipend in the amount of one (1) additional day's pay (based on the employee's "normal" workday) for each additional consecutive year without an absence due to illness or unpaid leave (including dock days).
- 16.3 A Food Service employee who has been employed for one full school year will receive a stipend in the amount of (1) one day pay (based on the employee's "normal" workday) for nearly perfect attendance (only one absence due to illness or unpaid leave, including dock days for the entire school year).

JURY DUTY

Section 17

- 17.1 An employee summoned to jury duty or subpoenaed as a witness on behalf of the school district, where failure to appear would result in punishment under the law, shall be paid his/her full salary, except that:
 - a. Should said duty constitute less than one half day, he/she shall report for his/her assignment upon termination of duty.

- b. Should said duty continue for more than fifteen (15) working days, he/she shall return to the district the earnings received for jury duty for any duty days beyond the aforementioned fifteen (15) days.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Section 18

- 18.1 Any employee, who is absent because of injury or disease compensable under the Michigan Workers' Compensation Law shall receive said benefits stipulated in the Act.
- 18.2 Employees shall not earn sick leave benefits during a compensable workers' compensation injury.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS AND HALF-DAYS

Section 19

- 19.1 Consistent with MCL 388.1701, school may be closed or may cancel the first six (6) days or the equivalent number of hours due to conditions not within the control of school authorities, such as severe storms, fires, epidemics, utility power unavailability, water or sewer failure, or health conditions as defined by the city, county, or state health authorities. The District will follow the terms and conditions of MCL 388.1701 in the event it changes in the future.
- 19.2 Employees shall receive three (3) paid emergency closure days for the first, second, and third day called by the district and may use up to three (3) of their personal business days or personal sick time to receive pay for the fourth, fifth, and sixth cancellation (emergency closure days).
- 19.3 In the event school is canceled within 20 minutes or less after an employee's scheduled report time, the employee may choose to work and be paid for up to two (2) hours.
- 19.4 When school is scheduled for only a half-day, and Food Service employees are required to report to work, such employees will be paid two (2) hours pay if each of the following conditions are met.
 - a. The employee's normal work day is two (2) hours or more, and
 - b. The employee performs work on the half-day for a total of two (2) hours.
- 19.5 In the event that the district is closed for more than six (6) days due to conditions not within the control of school authorities, and such days are not required to be made up, the parties agree to meet to determine if additional professional development opportunities exist to allow staff some options for pay.

20.1

- a. Employees scheduled to work thirty (30) hours or more per week, are eligible to enroll in the health care programs approved by the Board of Education and made available through payroll deduction. Additional information, such as plan summaries and current deductible amounts can be found on the TCAPS Cloud.
- b. The following benefits are provided to employees enrolled in health care insurance coverage. Employees eligible for, but not selecting, health care insurance coverage shall be provided the following benefits:

Life Insurance	Life volume requested \$10,000.00
Accidental Death & Dismemberment	Life volume requested \$10,000.00
Vision	VSP-3 Plus P-250CL plan 100% subsidy for employee & eligible dependents
Dental	100/100/100, \$1,500 annual max per person 50% orthodontics, \$1,000 lifetime max per person 100% subsidy for employee & eligible dependents

Employees also have additional optional ancillary benefits that are available, including life, short-term, and long term disability insurance. Premium payments for optional insurance will be made by payroll deduction through a Section 125 plan.

- 20.2 Health care insurance coverage shall be limited to single, two-person or family coverage, but dual family coverage for spouses employed with the District shall not be permitted.
- 20.3 Employees shall notify the Business Office of any dependent status changes. All dependents on an active employee's medical, dental and/or vision plans through TCAPS will be allowed to maintain coverage through the end of the calendar year they turn twenty-six (26). If an employee fails to notify the Business Office, and as a result of the employee's negligence when the number of dependents are reduced (if no longer eligible for coverage), the employee shall assume the responsibility of repaying the Employer for any overpayment made on a policy in excess of what the employee is entitled to receive.
- 20.4 Health care benefits, for eligible employees, will become effective the first of the month following the employee's date of hire.
- 20.5 Eligibility of health care insurance is based on the acceptance of the written application by the insurance carrier.

- 20.6 Enrollment or changes for medical, vision, dental, disability, and /or life insurance benefits will only be accepted by the insurance companies during the established open enrollment period of each year; for new employees within thirty (30) days from the date of hire; or for employees with family status changes within thirty (30) days from the date of the event.
- 20.7 It is understood that the contract year for insurance coverage currently is January 1 through December 31, which may be changed by the provider or the District.
- 20.8 Responsibility for enrollment in the medical, vision, dental, disability, and/ or life insurance benefits rests with the employee.
- 20.9 The Board will provide a contribution amount equal to the single subscriber maximum amount allowed by law (hard cap) permitted in Section 3 of the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act. Subsidy dollars exceeding the chosen medical plan premium will only be refunded if a High Deductible Health Plan is selected, and the overage amount must be deposited to the employee via their Health Savings Account (HSA). Eligible employees may apply the above described amount towards single, two person, or full family coverage.

The parties will convene to discuss cost containment if insurance premium costs go up to equal or greater than ten percent (10%).

RETIREMENT PAY

Section 21

- 21.1 To qualify for retirement pay, the individual retiring must have been employed by the District for a minimum of ten (10) consecutive years. In addition, the employee must be qualified for retirement (including disability retirement) under the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPERS) unless the employee has been employed for a minimum of ten (10) consecutive years by the District and has reached the age of sixty (60) years. Evidence of application for retirement is required. The employee must be eligible to begin drawing within thirty (30) days of the time of terminating employment with the District.

Additionally, an employee may qualify for retirement pay if an employee is not eligible for retirement or disability retirement under MPERS, but the employee has been employed for a minimum of ten (10) consecutive years by the District and qualifies and is eligible to draw within thirty (30) days of retirement through another Michigan state employee retirement system which allows the individual to transfer retirement credit earned while working for the District from MPERS to the Michigan state retirement system under which the employee is eligible to draw benefits. The employee will be required to submit evidence of such eligibility and transfer of retirement credit.

21.2 An employee qualifying for retirement pay under this section of the contract shall receive \$1,000 if the employee has had perfect attendance as defined in Section 16.1 during the 12 months prior to the employee's retirement. In addition, as retirement pay, an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of the employee's regular hourly rate of pay at retirement for each hour of accumulated sick leave time, but not to exceed the following tiered pay of sick leave time:

Amount of Accumulated Sick Hours	Maximum Retirement Pay
0-200 hours	\$1,750
201-400 hours	\$2,000
401-600 hours	\$2,250
601-800 hours	\$2,500
801-1000 hours	\$2,750
1001+ hours	\$3,000

21.3 In case of the death of the employee, the beneficiary shall receive \$1,000 if the employee has had perfect attendance as defined in Section 16.1 during the 12 months prior to the employee's retirement. In addition, as retirement pay, an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of the employee's regular hourly rate of pay for each hour of accumulated sick leave time shall be paid to the employee's beneficiary, but not to exceed the tiered pay of sick leave time described in 21.2.

WORK ATTIRE

Section 22

22.1 Work attire shall be consistent with Food Service Department procedures. The Director of Food and Nutrition Service or designee shall provide new employees with copies of the Food Service Department Work Attire and Personal Grooming Policy.

22.2 Each December, those employees (excluding probationary employees) who are actively working shall receive the following uniform allowance.

- Kitchen Leader and Training Facilitator
and/or Alternate Kitchen Leader

\$120.00
- B Cook

\$100.00
- Cook's Assistants

\$100.00

This allowance will be paid as part of the employee's regular paycheck.

- 22.3 Employees will be paid the clothing allowance amount based on the classification they are paid for at the time the clothing allowance is to be distributed.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Section 23

- 23.1 The employee shall satisfactorily pass a physical examination by a physician selected by the Employer if requested after a conditional offer of employment has been granted.
- 23.2 If the Employer requests an employee to undergo a medical examination, the Employer will pay for the cost of the examination.

MEALS AND BREAKS

Section 24

- 24.1 Regularly assigned employees will be furnished lunch at no cost to the employee during the employee's fifteen-minute break.
- 24.2 Employees who are assigned and work fewer than four (4) hours daily will not be provided a paid lunch period.
- 24.3 Employees will receive one (1) 15-minute break for each four (4) hours of employment.
- 24.4 Breaks will be at times as designated by the Supervisor.

WAGE SCHEDULE

Section 25

The 2025/26, 2026/27, and 2027/28 salary schedules are listed below. Employees will be credited with one step increase up to the maximums outlined in the salary schedule for 2025/26, 2026/27, and 2027/28.

The parties agree to meet and confer in Spring 2027 to review the District's financial status regarding the 2027/28 contract year.

25.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

- a. IX Secondary Kitchen Leader (WSH, CSH, EMS, WMS)*
 - I Kitchen Leader (Elementary, MO, and TCHS)
 - Ia District Training Facilitator and/or Alternate Kitchen Leader
 - II B Cook/B Cook/Lead Cashier
 - III Cook's Assistant

2025/26 Wage Schedule - 1.5% increase from 2024/25 + 2% longevity on step 20+					
Step	IX Secondary Kitchen Leader*	I Kitchen Leader	Ia District Training Facilitator and/or Alternate Kitchen Leader	II B Cook	III Cook's Assistant
1	\$18.79	\$18.21	\$19.98	\$16.40	\$15.87
2	\$19.64	\$19.06	\$20.85	\$17.27	\$16.68
3	\$20.51	\$19.94	\$21.71	\$18.13	\$17.48
4-9	\$21.35	\$20.78	\$22.54	\$18.94	\$18.33
10-14	\$21.53	\$20.95	\$22.73	\$19.12	\$18.51
15-19	\$21.64	\$21.06	\$22.84	\$19.25	\$18.62
20+	\$21.86	\$21.28	\$23.07	\$19.47	\$18.83
Longevity	\$22.30	\$21.71	\$23.53	\$19.86	\$19.21

2026/27 Wage Schedule - 2.0% increase from 2025/26 + 2% longevity on step 20+ Off-schedule payment of \$500 for employees (paid in December 2026)					
Step	IX Secondary Kitchen Leader*	I Kitchen Leader	Ia District Training Facilitator and/or Alternate Kitchen Leader	II B Cook	III Cook's Assistant
1	\$19.17	\$18.57	\$20.38	\$16.73	\$16.19
2	\$20.03	\$19.44	\$21.27	\$17.62	\$17.01
3	\$20.92	\$20.34	\$22.14	\$18.49	\$17.83
4-9	\$21.78	\$21.20	\$22.99	\$19.32	\$18.70
10-14	\$21.96	\$21.37	\$23.18	\$19.50	\$18.88
15-19	\$22.07	\$21.48	\$23.30	\$19.64	\$18.99
20+	\$22.30	\$21.71	\$23.53	\$19.86	\$19.21
Longevity	\$22.75	\$22.14	\$24.00	\$20.26	\$19.59

2027/28 Wage Schedule - 2.0% increase from 2026/27 + 2% longevity on step 20+					
Step	IX Secondary Kitchen Leader*	I Kitchen Leader	Ia District Training Facilitator and/or Alternate Kitchen Leader	II B Cook	III Cook's Assistant
1	\$19.55	\$18.94	\$20.79	\$17.06	\$16.51
2	\$20.43	\$19.83	\$21.70	\$17.97	\$17.35
3	\$21.34	\$20.75	\$22.58	\$18.86	\$18.19
4-9	\$22.22	\$21.62	\$23.45	\$19.71	\$19.07
10-14	\$22.40	\$21.80	\$23.64	\$19.89	\$19.26
15-19	\$22.51	\$21.91	\$23.77	\$20.03	\$19.37
20+	\$22.75	\$22.14	\$24.00	\$20.26	\$19.59
Longevity	\$23.21	\$22.58	\$24.48	\$20.67	\$19.98

- b. Summer and supervisory work performed will be paid based on the employee's regular rate of pay.
- c. Employees who are temporarily assigned to work in a different classification will be paid the rate of pay of the different classification.

25.2 HOLIDAYS

- a. Employees will receive up to nine (9) paid holidays as determined by the district on an annual basis. An employee who applies and is selected for a FSEA position that requires regular and consistent work during the summer months will be paid for the fourth of July holiday if the employee works before and after the day of the holiday observance. Full year employees will receive up to ten (10) paid holidays. The District reserves the right to to reschedule a holiday observance day if it should fall on a day that students are in session.

In order to receive pay for any holiday, employees must work the day before and the day after the holiday and may not use a sick, personal business, or a dock day the day before or the day after the holiday, unless a doctor's note is provided to the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee verifying the absence.

- 25.3 The Employer may make corrections in an employee's pay when bona fide errors are discovered. In such cases an explanation of the error will accompany the pay adjustment.

- 25.4 An employee required by the Director of Food and Nutrition Services or designee to attend a meeting outside of the regular workday shall receive pay for attendance at the meeting based on the regular hourly rate of pay.

NO STRIKE CLAUSE

Section 26

- 26.1 The Association and its members recognize that the cessation or interruption of their services is contrary to law and public policy. Therefore, the Employer and the Association agree that all differences between them shall be resolved by the orderly procedures provided herein, without interruption of the school program. Accordingly, the Association and its members agree that during the term of this agreement, they will not authorize, instigate, participate in, encourage or support any strike or any other form of work cessation or interruption of services and pledge themselves to the purpose of ensuring continuation of the established educational program of the school district.

TERM OF AGREEMENT

Section 27

- 27.1 The provisions of this agreement shall become effective as of September 8, 2025 and shall continue in full force and effect until June 30, 2028.
- 27.2 In witness whereof, the parties have executed this agreement by their duly authorized representatives on this 8th day of September, 2025.
- 27.3 The parties will meet and confer on any other issues of concern as needed during the term of this agreement. Any agreement, which changes conditions, as outlined in this contract will be binding only if in writing and signed by both parties.
- 27.4 In accordance with the Public Employment Relations Act (PERA), an emergency manager appointed under local government and school district fiscal accountability act shall be allowed to reject, modify, or terminate the collective bargaining agreement as provided in the local government and school district fiscal accountability act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives for this purpose.

FOOD SERVICE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

BY: _____

President

DATE: _____

9/2/25

BY: _____

Vice-President

DATE: _____

TRAVERSE CITY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

BY: _____

President

DATE: _____

9/8/25

BY: _____

Superintendent

DATE: _____

9/12/25

BY: _____

Chief Spokesperson

DATE: _____

9/8/25

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