

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE MANCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

and

THE MANCHESTER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

Covering the Period

July 1, 2026 To June 30, 2029

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AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MANCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE MANCHESTER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

THIS AGREEMENT MADE AND ENTERED INTO as of the 1st day of July, 2026 by and between the MANCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION (hereinafter referred to as the Board) and the MANCHESTER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION, LOCAL 97, AFSA, AFL-CIO, (hereinafter referred to as the Association).

ARTICLE I—RECOGNITION

- A. The Association is recognized as the exclusive bargaining representative of those certified professional employees in the Manchester Public Schools who are not excluded from the purview of Connecticut General Statutes, Sec. 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive, and who are employed in positions requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisor certificate or the equivalent thereof, and whose administrative or supervisory duties equal at least 50% of the assigned time of such employees. Unless otherwise indicated, the employees covered by this agreement shall hereinafter be referred to as "administrators."
- B. The Association accepts such recognition, and agrees to represent equally all administrators without regard to membership or participation in, or association with the activities of, the Association or any other employee organization, and to continue to admit administrators to membership without qualification other than payment of dues and employment in the Manchester Public School System.
- C. Despite reference herein to the Board and the Association as such, each reserves the right to act hereunder by officially designated committee member or representative.

D. Definitions:

- 1. As used in this Agreement, the term "elementary" means grades pre-school through 4.
- 2. As used in this Agreement, the term "middle school" means grades 5-8.
- 3. As used in this Agreement, the term "secondary" means grades 5-12.

ARTICLE II—PROFESSIONAL NEGOTIATIONS

A. Matters not Covered by the Terms of this Agreement

This agreement contains the full and complete agreement between the Board of Education and the Association on all negotiable issues and neither party shall be required during the time hereof to negotiate upon any issue covered by this agreement.

B. Negotiations Over Successor Agreement

During direct negotiations, the Board and the Association shall present relevant data, exchange points of view, and make proposals and counterproposals. Any agreement so negotiated shall apply to all members of the bargaining group, and shall be reduced to writing and signed by the Board and the Association. Either party may, if it so desires, utilize the services of outside consultants and may call upon professional and lay representatives to assist in the negotiations.

ARTICLE III—GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A. Definitions

- 1. A "grievance" shall be a complaint by an administrator that there has been a violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of a specific provision of this contract.
- 2. The term "administrator", except as otherwise indicated, is considered to apply to all members of the bargaining group. The term "administrator" may include a group of administrators who are similarly affected by a grievance.
- 3. An "aggrieved person" is the person or persons making the claim.
- 4. A "party in interest" is the person or persons making the claim and any person or persons who might be required to take action or against whom action might be taken in order to resolve the problem.
- 5. The term "business days" when used in this Article shall, except where otherwise indicated, mean days on which the Board's central office is open.

B. Purposes

- 1. The purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible administrative level, equitable solutions to the problems that may arise from time to time affecting the welfare or working conditions of administrators.
- 2. Both parties agree that these proceedings shall be kept as informal as may be appropriate at any level of the procedure. Furthermore, both parties agree that there may be circumstances under which a confidential hearing is essential to protect the welfare of the individual or individuals concerned, subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

- 3. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting the right of any administrator having a problem to discuss the matter informally with any appropriate member of the administration or with any appropriate representative of the Association.
- 4. Any certified professional employee or group of employees shall have the right at any time to present any grievance to such persons and through such channels as are designated for that purpose in this Article.

C. Structure

The Association shall designate a Representative in such manner as may be determined by the Association.

D. Time Limits

- 1. Since it is important that grievances be processed as rapidly as possible, the number of days indicated at each level should be considered as a maximum and every effort should be made to expedite the process. The time limits specified may, however, be extended by mutual agreement in writing.
- 2. In the event a grievance is filed on or after June 1, the time limits set forth herein shall be reduced so that every effort will be made to exhaust the grievance procedure prior to the end of the school term or as soon thereafter as is practicable.
- 3. If an administrator/the Association does not file a grievance in writing as provided herein during the thirty (30) business days in which the act or condition occurred, then the grievance shall be considered as waived.
 - a. Level One—Superintendent
 - (1) If the administrator/the Association is not satisfied with the disposition of the issue through informal procedures, the administrator/the Association may submit the claim as a formal grievance in writing to the Superintendent or designee. The written grievance shall indicate the specific provision(s) of the bargaining agreement that have been allegedly violated.
 - (2) The Superintendent or designee shall within ten (10) business days render a decision and the reasons therefore in writing to the administrator with a copy to the Association president.
 - b. Level Two—Board of Education
 - (1) If the administrator/the Association is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level One, or if no decision has been rendered within ten (10) business days after the administrator/the Association has first met with the Superintendent, the administrator/the Association may submit the grievance to the Association's president, within five (5) business days of disposition, or fifteen (15) business days

(5) The costs for the services of the arbitrator, including per diem expenses if any, and actual and necessary travel and subsistence expenses shall be borne equally by the Board and the Association.

E. Rights of Administrators to Representation

- 1. No reprisals of any kind shall be taken by either party or by any member of the administration against any party in interest, or any other participant in the grievance procedure by reason of such participation.
- 2. The aggrieved person may be represented at Levels One and Two of the formal grievance procedure by a representative of the Association. Regardless of whether the administrator in question requests Association representation, the Association shall have the right to be present and to state its views at all stages of the procedure.

F. Miscellaneous

- 1. Decisions rendered at all levels of the formal grievance procedure shall be in writing, setting forth the decision and the reasons therefore.
- 2. All documents, communications and records dealing with the processing of a grievance shall be filed separately from the personnel files of the participants.
- 3. The sole remedy available to any administrator for any alleged breach of this Agreement or any alleged violation of the administrator's rights hereunder shall be pursuant to the foregoing grievance and arbitration procedure, provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall deprive any administrator of any legal right that the administrator presently has.

ARTICLE IV—WORK YEAR

A. Except as otherwise provided below, the work year for administrators shall be 220 days. The 220-day work year will include the teacher work year, one week after closing and one week before the opening in the fall, with the remaining days in the 220-day work year to be mutually agreed upon by the Superintendent/designee and the administrator. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent, if an administrator works at Saturday School, each day of that assignment will be substituted for a day of the required work during a school vacation period. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent, beginning on the fourth (4th) Saturday School session in a school year, in lieu of substituting for a required workday, an administrator will be compensated at a rate of \$200 per session of Saturday School.

The work year for the Athletic Director and Arts Administrator shall be 210 days, to be scheduled by mutual agreement of the Superintendent/designee and the Athletic Director and Arts Administrator, respectively.

after the administrator has first met with the Superintendent, whichever is later.

- (2) The Association's president may refer the grievance to the Board of Education, within ten (10) business days of the Level Two disposition.
- (3) At its next regularly scheduled Board meeting which is at least fifteen (15) business days after receipt of the grievance, the Board shall meet with the administrator/the Association and with the representatives of the Association for the purpose of resolving the grievance. The decision of the Board shall be rendered in writing within ten (10) business days.

c. Level Three—Impartial Arbitration

- (1) If the Association determines that the matter should be submitted to arbitration, the Association shall so notify the Board in writing within twenty (20) business days after receipt of the Board's Level Two decision.
- (2) Within ten (10) business days after written notice of submission to arbitration, the Board and the Executive Committee shall agree upon a mutually acceptable arbitrator and shall obtain a commitment from said arbitrator to serve. If the parties are unable to agree upon an arbitrator or to obtain such commitment within the ten-day period, the Executive Committee shall submit the grievance to the American Arbitration Association no later than five (5) business days after the expiration of the ten-day period. The parties shall be bound by the rules and procedures of the American Arbitration Association.
- (3) The parties recognize that the Board is legally charged with the responsibility of operating the school system. The sole power of the arbitrator shall be to determine whether the terms of this Agreement have been misinterpreted or inequitably applied, and the arbitrator shall have no power or authority to make any decision which modifies, alters, or amends any terms of this Agreement or which is violative of the terms of this Agreement. The arbitrator shall not substitute the arbitrator's judgment for that of the Board where the Board's action is not unreasonable except in the following circumstances:
- (a) where an issue to be determined by the arbitrator is an issue of fact;
- (b) where the issue before the arbitrator involves the interpretations of the terms of this Agreement.
- (4) The decision of the arbitrator shall be rendered to the Board and to the Association and shall be final and binding on all parties, subject to the provisions of Section 52-418 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

- B. Personnel required to work beyond the scheduled work year shall receive added compensation on a prorated basis, as established in Article XXI.F. Such additional work must have prior approval in writing from the Superintendent or designee.
- C. On days when schools and Central Office are officially declared closed due to inclement weather, administrators may work from home and such days shall constitute a workday. Administrators shall notify their immediate supervisor or designee when they work from home.

ARTICLE V—ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL

- A. The Board and the Association agree that at least two weeks prior to the submission of any recommendations to the Board of Education for the establishment of any new positions, or the elimination of any existing positions, involving certificated professional personnel within the bargaining group, the administration shall consult with representatives of the Association so that consideration may be given to the Association's views during the formulation of any plans, projects, or proposals.
- B. The Board and the Association agree that prior to any Board action regarding the establishment of any new positions involving the certificated professional personnel within the bargaining group, an opportunity shall be provided for Association representatives to meet with the Board and express their views directly regarding any such proposed action, priorities, or projects.
- C. An administrative position will be filled on an interim basis when, in the opinion of the Superintendent, it best serves the interest of the Manchester Public Schools.
 - 1. The person filling the position shall be paid on the appropriate salary step based on experience.
 - 2. If the position is to be continued and to be filled by permanent certified appointment, the position shall be posted to be filled for the subsequent school year, except in extenuating circumstances.

ARTICLE VI—BOARD RIGHTS

Except as expressly provided otherwise by the terms of this Agreement, the determination and administration of educational policy, the operation of the schools, and the direction of the professional staff are vested exclusively in the Board or in the Superintendent when so delegated by the Board. Such rights include, but are not limited to the following:

A. To determine the care, maintenance and operation of equipment and property used for and in behalf of the purposes of the Board.

- B. To establish or continue policies, practices and procedures for the conduct of Board business and, from time to time, to change or abolish such policies, practices, or procedures, subject to the Association's rights under the Teacher Negotiation Act.
- C. To discontinue processes or operations or to discontinue their performance by employees.
- D. To select and to determine the number and types of employees required to perform the Board's operations, and to create, modify and/or eliminate positions accordingly.
- E. To employ, transfer, or to lay off or otherwise relieve employees from duty for legitimate reasons when it shall be in the best interests of the Board.
- F. To prescribe and enforce reasonable rules and regulations for the maintenance of discipline and for the performance of work in accordance with the requirements of the Board, provided such rules and regulations are made known in a reasonable manner to the employees affected by them. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall be construed to prevent the Board from taking disciplinary action against an employee for conduct not prohibited by a specific rule or regulation if the employee should reasonably have known that such conduct was improper. Disciplinary action shall be subject to the just cause provision set forth in this Agreement.
- G. To create job specifications and revise existing job specifications, subject to the Union's right to negotiate the assigned salary rates.
- H. To determine the work schedules for employees.

ARTICLE VII-TRANSFERS OR REASSIGNMENTS

Although the Board and the Association recognize that some transfer of administrators from one school to another is unavoidable and in fact may be desirable, they also recognize that frequent transfers of administrators is disruptive of the educational process and interferes with optimum administrator performance. Therefore, it is agreed as follows:

- A. An up-to-date listing of new and open positions shall be noticed on the School District's website, published in the Job Posting List and posted in each school during the school year and in the Central Office during the summer.
- B. All openings for positions covered by the Administrator's contract shall be listed in the Job Posting List, on the job line and posted on the Manchester Public Schools website, and a job description and statement of qualifications posted in each school as far in advance of the appointment as possible. Postings will be for ten (10) work days during which Manchester administrators must state in writing their interest in the opening. Following the ten-day internal posting period, outside applicants may be sought. After June 1 of any year and during the summer months, posting will be for five (5) work days.
- C. Changes in assignment which are involuntary shall be to a comparable position, if possible, and shall not be effected or announced without a prior personal conference between the administrator involved and the Superintendent of Schools or designee, at which time the administrator shall be notified of the reasons for the transfer and confirmation shall be in

- writing. If an administrator is involuntarily transferred to a lower paying position for claimed reasons of discipline and/or incompetence, such transfer is subject to the grievance procedure.
- D. Those administrators who desire a change in assignment outside of their own building shall file a written statement with the Office of the Superintendent. After reviewing the qualifications of the various candidates, within reason, it shall be the policy of the Administration to attempt to honor requests for such changes.
- E. For published vacancies any transfer requests shall be directed in writing to the Central Office. Up to June 1st such written requests must be received within 10 calendar days after publication of the existing vacancy.
- F. For vacancies published between June 1st and the opening of school in the fall, requests for transfer must be received within 5 work days after publication of the existing vacancy. However, this procedure does not prevent the filing of applications until such time as the vacancy has been filled. Applications received after 5 work days will go into the general candidate pool.
- G. A transfer shall be subject to the approval of the Central Office.
- H. As soon as possible after a published position has been filled, the Central Office shall inform the other applicants in the Manchester school system to that effect in writing.

ARTICLE VIII—LAYOFFS

- A. In the event it becomes necessary to lay off an administrator because of declining enrollment, budgetary constraints or changes in curriculum, the decision shall be made on the basis of length of service as an administrator in the system, certification and qualifications. An administrator's length of service as an administrator in the system shall be a prime factor, but not a sole factor in making such decisions. Length of service shall be determined from the last date of hire as an administrator.
- B. The following provisions shall apply to an administrator displaced due to a reduction in force:
 - 1. If an administrator is relieved of the administrator's position because of a reduction in staff or abolishment of that position, the administrator will be offered an administrator's opening if one exists in the administrator's classification. If there is no existing administrative opening in the administrator's classification, the displaced administrator shall be offered the position of the least senior administrator in the administrator's present classification.
 - 2. If there is no existing administrative opening in the administrator's classification and the displaced administrator has the least seniority of those within the administrator's classification, the administrator will be offered an administrative opening, if one exists,

- in any other administrative classification for which the administrator is certified and qualified; provided, however, such appointment does not constitute a promotion.
- 3. If there is no such existing administrative opening in any other administrative classification for which the displaced administrator is certified and qualified, the displaced administrator shall be permitted to bump the least senior administrator in another classification for which the administrator is certified and qualified and in which the administrator has had previous experience (in any school district), provided that the displaced administrator has administrative seniority over the least senior administrator in such classification, and provided that such appointment does not constitute a promotion.
- 4. If an administrator is relieved of the administrator's duties because of reduction of staff or elimination of position and another administrative position is not available to the displaced administrator in accordance with this section, the administrator will be offered a teaching position for which the administrator is certified, subject to, and consistent with the reduction in force contract provision or policy then in effect relative to teachers.
- C. Administrators to be laid off after the school year has begun shall receive sixty (60) days' notice.
- D. The name of any administrator who has been laid off shall be placed upon a reappointment list and remain on such list for one (1) year, provided such administrator does not refuse a reappointment and provided such administrator applies in writing for retention of the administrator's name on said list on or before June 1st of each year subsequent to the administrator's layoff. Failure to file such application with the Superintendent of Schools as provided in this subsection shall automatically remove such administrator's name from the reappointment list and the administrator will be considered to have resigned.

 Administrators on the reappointment list who qualify for vacancies shall be given prime consideration.
- E. While on the recall list, and upon the written request to the Superintendent of Schools, a laid off administrator shall have the opportunity to continue participation in the district's health insurance at the laid off administrator's own expense, as provided by COBRA.
- F. The classifications and administrative hierarchy referred to within this article are:
 - 1. High School Principal;
 - 2. Directors of Teaching and Learning; Director of Student Supports and Interventions;
 - 3. Bennet Academy Principal; Illing Middle School Principal;
 - 4. Elementary Principals
 - 5. Director of Manchester Regional Academy; Director of Manchester Middle Academy; Director of Bentley Alternative Program; Adult Education Director; Director of Equity and Adult Education; Supervisor of Alternative Programs
 - 6. Director of Instructional Technology;
 - 7. Secondary Assistant Principals; Attendance, Residency, and Communications Administrator; Director of School Counseling;
 - 8. Elementary Assistant Principals; Pupil Personnel Services Supervisors;

- 9. Director of Operations and Athletics
- 10. Athletic Director; Arts Administrator.

If the Director of Equity and Adult Education is relieved of that position because of the abolishment of that position, the Director of Equity and Adult Education will be placed back in the position of Director of Adult Education.

If the Director of Operations and Athletics is relieved of that position because of the abolishment of that position, the Director of Operations and Athletics will be placed back into the position of Athletic Director.

ARTICLE IX—PROMOTIONS AND SPECIAL POSITIONS

- A. All administrators shall be given adequate opportunity to make application for such positions. If in the determination of the Superintendent the qualifications of applicants are substantially equivalent, preference shall be given to qualified administrators currently employed by the Board.
- B. Appointments shall be made without discrimination in regard to race, creed, color, religion, national origin, genetic information, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, or marital status.

ARTICLE X—RETIREMENTS

A. Persons who expect to retire at the end of a particular school year should notify the Central Office prior to January 1st of that year. If a person does not notify the Central Office by January 1st, the Board has the right to delay compensation for accumulated unused sick leave for 90 days beyond the date set forth in Section B.

Persons who expect to retire at any time other than the end of the school year, should notify the Central Office at least 120 days in advance. If such a person does not give at least 120 days notice, the Board has the right to delay payment of accumulated unused sick leave for 90 days beyond the date set forth in Section B.

All above notice requirements are waived when retirement is due to medical necessity.

B. Upon retirement, retirees shall be compensated for accumulated unused sick leave as follows:

Upon retirement under the Connecticut State Teachers Retirement System, or termination due to reduction in force, a certified professional employee, or the certified professional employee's estate, shall be compensated for one-half of all accumulated unused sick days up to a limit of 120 days of such accumulation, or, if the employee had rendered 15 or more years of teaching and/or administrative service in Manchester, for all unused sick leave accumulated up to a maximum of 60 days. Compensation for each unused sick day

so provided shall be at the employee's per diem rate prior to the date of retirement. New hires as of July 1, 1998 are not eligible for this benefit.

For each eligible retiring administrator who has reached the age of fifty-five (55) during the calendar year in which the administrator retires, the Board shall contribute the applicable compensation amount under the provisions of this section into a 401(a) plan established by the Board. Such contribution into the 401(a) plan shall be mandatory for each such eligible retiring administrator. The Board shall make such contributions within sixty (60) days after the effective date of the administrator's retirement. For any eligible retiree who has not reached the age of fifty-five (55) during the calendar year in which the administrator retires, the Board shall pay directly to the administrator the dollar amount applicable to such administrator for the payment for unused sick leave, with such amount to be determined in accordance with the provisions of this contract section. Such payments shall be made within the same time period applicable to 401(a) contributions under the provisions of this section.

ARTICLE XI—SALARIES

The base salaries of administrators shall be comprised of the following components:

- 1) Cash compensation, in such amounts as are set forth in Appendix A.
- 2) The additional sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500), as to which each administrator will arrange to have an elective deferral deducted from the administrator's salary on a pre-tax basis as permitted under IRC Section 403(b), as amended, and then contributed toward the purchase of a 403(b) annuity with a tax sheltered annuity of the administrator's choice from the accounts offered by the Board.

Effective July 1, 2027, such additional sum shall be increased to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).

Effective July 1, 2028, such additional sum shall be increased to Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500).

Both base salary components shall be payable in installments during the contract year, in accordance with Article XXI.

ARTICLE XII—CONTRACTS

The Board agrees to inform each individual employee in writing of the step, schedule, base salary, longevity pay, and any additional pay to which the individual employee is entitled.

ARTICLE XIII—PROTECTION OF ADMINISTRATORS

A. Administrators shall report immediately in writing to the Central Office all cases of assault suffered by them in connection with their employment.

- B. The Board shall provide protection, indemnification and counsel to each administrator as required by law.
- C. The Board will reimburse an administrator for any personal property damaged or destroyed as a result of documented student negligence or malicious act occurring on school property. The Board's liability in this respect shall not exceed a total of \$5,000 per school year. Claims will be paid each June and if the claims exceed \$5,000, they will be paid on a prorated basis. The administrator must first use personal insurance coverage before submitting a claim to the Board for reimbursement.

ARTICLE XIV—ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS

- A. If an administrator suffers an injury arising out of and in the course of the administrator's employment, such injury being compensable under the Connecticut Workers' Compensation laws, any absence caused by the injury will not be charged against accumulated sick leave or personal leave.
 - The administrator will be paid the difference between the administrator's full salary and the amount of any Workers' Compensation award for the period of absence, with such period not to exceed the shorter of the compensable period for Workers' Compensation or three (3) months. For absences which extend beyond such period, an administrator may use accumulated sick leave. The Board shall have the right to have the administrator examined by a physician designated by the Board for the purpose of establishing the length of time during which the administrator is temporarily disabled from performing the administrator's duties, and, in the event that there is no adjudication in the appropriate Workers' Compensation proceeding for the period of temporary disability, the opinion of the said physician as to the said period shall control.
- B. Upon the discovery of any illness within the school system that may reasonably constitute a danger to the fetus of a pregnant administrator, which danger cannot be eliminated by transfer of the administrator, the administrator shall be placed on leave with full pay and benefits and without loss of accumulated sick leave. Such leave will continue until: (1) medical testing has established that the administrator is immune to the illness, or (2) the illness is no longer present in the school system, whichever occurs first. In no event, however, shall such leave exceed ten (10) working days.

ARTICLE XV—PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

A. Tuition Reimbursement

1. The Board agrees to payment of the cost of tuition for courses taken at the Board's request.

- 2. Full-time administrators who hold a valid administrator's certificate may make application to the Board of Education for reimbursement of 85% tuition cost and lab fees of courses taken to enhance their skills, for up to a maximum reimbursement of \$1000 per year.
- 3. These courses must have prior approval of the Central Office administration.
- 4. It is understood that all other expenses related to this course are to be borne by the administrator, with the exception of reimbursement for those materials that would be used for the benefit of the school system.
- 5. Any application for approval of coursework must be received by Central Office administration at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of the requested course.

B. Attendance at Conferences

The Board of Education annually shall make every attempt to allocate funds, including any and all grant funds, apart from the individual school budgets for the professional development of administrators to the extent described below. Under this provision, the Board shall pay the full costs of administrators' attendance at regional or national professional conferences. The administrator must show that the conference is directly related to the administrator's School Improvement Plan and such attendance must be approved by the Superintendent or designee. The following number of administrators shall benefit on a two-year cycle:

- an average of two elementary principals per year
- an average of two secondary administrators per year
- an average of one supervisor from other classifications per year

This in no way prohibits administrators from building professional development money into their own school/program budgets.

ARTICLE XVI—SICK LEAVE

- A. All certificated administrators shall be granted annually eighteen (18) days of sick leave with full pay. The accumulation of unused sick leave shall be subject to a maximum accumulation of two hundred twenty-five (225) days. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any administrator who has accrued more than two hundred twenty-five (225) days sick days as of June 30, 2007 shall be permitted to retain such accumulated sick days, but shall not be permitted to accumulate any additional sick days on or after July 1, 2007 unless and until such time as such administrator's total sick leave accumulation falls below two hundred twenty-five (225) days.
- B. In the event of absence of an administrator for illness in excess of five (5) consecutive working days, the Superintendent or designee may request the filing of a doctor's certificate, or the Superintendent or designee may require an examination by an independent physician, such examination to be at the Board's expense.

C. Sick Leave Bank

The Sick Leave Bank shall be established to assist administrators who, as a result of catastrophic or extended illness or injury, have exhausted their accumulated sick leave.

A catastrophic or extended illness or injury is life threatening or very severe and typically will require an inpatient hospital stay or stay in a residential medical care facility or hospice. A catastrophic or extended illness or injury may occur suddenly without warning or after a period of illness that is long term due to the medical condition and can have serious, long-term effects on the individual.

In order to be eligible to participate in withdrawals from the Sick Leave Bank, an administrator must meet the following criteria:

- 1. The administrator or immediate family member must have a catastrophic or extended illness or injury, verified by the Sick Leave Committee. The Sick Leave Committee may require medical or other information to facilitate its ability to verify the administrator's or immediate family member's illness or injury.
- 2. Such illness or injury has caused the administrator to exhaust all accumulated sick leave days.
- 3. The days donated by each administrator will be subtracted from the administrator's accumulated sick leave.
- 4. Administrators may contribute up to five (5) days annually to the Sick Leave Bank.
- 5. Days contributed will not be returned to the administrator in any form.
- 6. To be eligible, new administrators and administrators returning from leave may contribute one (1) to three (3) days immediately upon hiring or returning.
- 7. In order to apply for the benefits in the bank, an administrator must have contributed at least one (1) day by September 30 of each year. Such contribution is timely until the following September 29.

Procedure:

- 1. The eligible administrator, as determined by the above criteria, must submit a letter to the Sick Leave Committee explaining how the administrator or immediate family member meets the eligibility criteria and request permission to draw upon the Sick Leave Bank. The Sick Leave Committee shall consist of two (2) representatives designated by the Association and two (2) representatives designated by the Superintendent.
- 2. The Sick Leave Committee shall, within fifteen (15) school days of receipt of the letter, render a decision as to the use of the Sick Leave Bank days. In the event of a tie vote, the Superintendent shall determine whether Sick Leave Bank days should be granted to the administrator. The decisions of the Sick Leave Committee are final and are not subject to the grievance procedure.
- 3. Sick Leave Bank days may not exceed thirty-five (35) for any one application. If the administrator's illness or injury extends beyond the number of Sick Leave Bank days

- granted, the administrator may apply for additional days. The cumulative grant of Sick Leave Bank days over the course of an administrator's total employment with the Board shall not exceed ninety (90) Sick Leave Bank days.
- 4. Unused granted days will be returned to the Sick Leave Bank at the end of the school year. The Sick Leave Bank shall have a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) days in reserve. If the number of days falls below one hundred fifty (150), the provisions of A-4 shall be reapplied.
- 5. The Sick Leave Committee shall be responsible for keeping records regarding contributions to and withdrawals from the Sick Leave Bank and shall advise the Superintendent or designee of days contributed by individual staff members.
- 6. The Superintendent or designee shall adjust records to reflect transfer of days between individual administrators and the Sick Leave Bank.
- 7. The Association agrees to save the Sick Leave Committee and the Board of Education and all of its members, employees and/or agents harmless from any and all claims, lawsuits, damages, attorneys' fees and/or liability of any kind arising out of the operation of the Sick Leave Bank.

ARTICLE XVII—LEAVES OF ABSENCE

A. Leaves with Pay

Each administrator will receive full pay for:

- 1. A maximum of five days in any school year for absence caused by :
 - a. family business
 - b. illness of a family member
 - c. court appearances
 - d. attendance at a ceremony awarding a degree
 - e. other pressing personal business which cannot reasonably be conducted outside work hours
- 2. A maximum of five days for a death in the immediate family. Immediate family is defined as an employee's spouse (or person considered by the employee to be like a spouse), child, parent, sibling, grandparent, spouse's parent, child, sibling, or grandparent, or any other relative of the employee or employees' spouse who at the time of death was domiciled in the employee's household. Additional days may be granted at the discretion of the Superintendent.

All leaves must be with the approval of the Superintendent or designee.

- B. Leaves without Pay
 - 1. Leaves of absence without pay may be granted for the following reasons:
 - a. For the purpose of further study.
 - b. For health reasons, upon advice of a physician.

- c. For other valid reasons subject to the review and recommendation of the Central Office.
- 2. Application for such leaves of absence must be made in writing and the leave must be approved by the Board of Education.

C. Parenthood

1. Childbearing

Any administrator who becomes pregnant shall be granted childbearing leave in accordance with applicable state and federal law.

2. Childrearing

Any administrator shall be entitled, upon written request, to an extended leave without pay for the purposes of childrearing. Any administrator shall be entitled to such leave for one full year, or reasonable portion thereof, in which the administrator's child is born, adopted or fostered. Upon return, the administrator shall be assigned to the administrator's former position or other administrative position of equivalent pay.

Childrearing leave shall be subject to the following provisions:

- a. While on leave, the employee may continue participation in the district's health insurance coverage at the employee's expense, except as otherwise required by the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- b. Upon return to work at the termination of childrearing leave, an administrator will be placed in the salary step effective at the time of the commencement of the childrearing leave, provided the administrator returns during the same school year in which childrearing leave commenced. If the administrator returns to full-time duties in a subsequent year, and has served more than one-half of the school year, or through January 31 of the year in which the leave occurred, the administrator shall be placed on the next step on the salary schedule when returning, provided a new school year has commenced. Benefits accumulated at the commencement of the leave, and not used during the childrearing leave period, shall be credited to the administrator when the administrator returns from childrearing leave.

D. Professional Leave

- 1. The Board shall pay, within the limits of appropriations, the reasonable expenses (including fees, meals, lodging and/or transportation) incurred by administrators who attend workshops, seminars, conferences, or other professional improvement sessions at the request and with the advance approval of the Superintendent for particular purposes of special benefit to the school system and the individual participating.
- 2. With advance approval of the Superintendent, any administrator holding office in a professional organization or invited to participate in a program of that organization may be excused from duty because of such obligations. Absences for other professional obligations of a similar nature may also be approved

3. Attendance at professional meetings and visitations to other schools, for professional reasons.

E. Academic Leave

The Board may, but need not, grant a leave of absence for academic pursuit. The grant, denial or imposition of terms and conditions by the Board in respect to such leave shall be conclusive.

F. Return After Leave of Absence

- 1. Administrators who have been granted leaves of absence shall notify the Superintendent of Schools in writing on or before the first day of February of their intention to resume work at the beginning of the ensuing year.
- 2. Whenever possible, administrators returning from leaves of absence granted under this article shall be restored to the same or similar position that they held at the time the leave was granted unless mutually agreed otherwise. Similar is defined as a position in the same salary classification.

G. Deductions for Non-Allowable Absences

Deductions for non-allowable absences shall be made at the administrator's applicable per diem rate for each day deducted.

H. Jury Duty

- 1. An administrator who is absent from work in order to report for jury duty or appear as a witness under a legally enforceable subpoena shall receive a leave of absence with full pay. An administrator shall remit per diem jury pay, but not traveling expenses, to the Board when the administrator receives jury duty pay from the state.
- 2. Any administrator or supervisor ordered to report for jury duty shall notify the Superintendent of such fact within 48 hours of receipt of such information.

ARTICLE XVIII—HEALTH INSURANCE

A. All administrators employed .6 or greater, their spouses and their dependents may participate in the insurance plan set forth below.

High deductible/HSA health insurance plan

The HSA plan will include the following components:

3	In-Network	Out-of-Network	
Annual Deductible (individual/aggregate family)	\$2,000/4,000		
Co-insurance	N/A	20% after deductible up to co-insurance maximum	
Co-insurance Maximum (individual/aggregate family)	N/A	\$3,000/\$6,000	
Cost Share Maximum (individual/aggregate family)	\$5,000/10,000		
Lifetime Maximum	Unlimited		
Preventive Care	Deductible not applicable	20% co-insurance after deductible, subject to co-insurance limits	
Prescription Drug Coverage	Treated as any other medical expense, subject to post-deductible drug co-payments as set forth below.		

Following exhaustion of the deductible, prescription drugs shall be subject to post-deductible co-payments of \$10/25/40 (retail), and a two times co-payment for mail order.

The Board will contribute the following amounts into each eligible administrator's HSA, as applicable:

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Individual Coverage	\$900	\$800	\$700
Family Coverage	\$1,800	\$1,600	\$1,400

One-half of the Board's contribution toward the HSA plan deductible will be deposited into the HSA accounts in September, and the remaining one-half of the Board's contribution will be deposited into the HSA accounts in January. The parties acknowledge that the Board's contribution toward the funding of the HSA plan is not an element of the underlying insurance plan, but rather relates to the manner in which the deductible shall be funded for actively employed administrators. The Board shall have no obligation to fund any portion of the HSA deductible for retirees or other individuals upon their separation from employment. In the event that the HSA plan is implemented after the calendar year has begun, the Board's contribution toward the deductible shall be pro-rated for that year.

Health Reimbursement Account: A Health Reimbursement Account ("HRA") shall be made available for any administrator who is precluded from participating in a Health Savings Account ("HSA") because the administrator receives Medicare and/or veterans' benefits. The annual maximum reimbursement by the Board for administrators participating in the HRA shall not exceed the dollar amount of the Board's annual HSA contribution for administrators enrolled in the HSA. The Board shall have no

responsibility for any administrative and/or monthly costs associated with the set-up and/or administration of the HRA.

Administrators shall pay the following percentages of the costs for such insurance:

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Employee Contribution	23%	23 %	23%

The Board shall have the right to self-insure for any of the insurance benefits described in this Article and/or to change administrators/carriers/plans for any of the insurance benefits, provided that the overall level of benefits remains substantially comparable to the overall level of benefits in effect immediately preceding any such change.

- B. The Board will continue to provide the Internal Revenue Service Section 125 provision, which allows administrators to pay insurance contributions with pre-tax dollars.
- C. The Board of Education will provide each administrator with \$300,000 group life and accident insurance at no cost to the administrator. All administrators have the option to increase coverage by an amount of \$25,000 at the group rate. The cost of the additional insurance will be paid by the administrator who opts to increase the administrator's insurance coverage.
- D. \$100,000 accident policy covering all business-connected travel, for each administrator, total cost to be paid by the Board of Education.
- E. Enhanced Full Service Dental Plan Individual and family plan including dependent coverage to age 26. Administrators will pay the premium cost share for dental that they pay for their medical insurance.
- F. All administrators and their dependents retiring under the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement System will have the benefits set forth below. Administrators hired by the Board as teachers or as administrators between July 1, 1995 and July 1, 1998 must have ten (10) years of service in Manchester in order to be eligible for the benefits set forth in Section 1 below. However, any such administrator may transfer five (5) years of other Connecticut service.
 - 1. Administrators hired by the Board as teachers or as administrators prior to July 1, 1998 who retire under the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement System (Charter 167a of the General Statutes) will be permitted to participate in the health insurance plan(s) offered to actively employed administrators in accordance with the provisions of Section 10-183t of the Connecticut General Statutes. Upon retirement, the retiree shall pay two (2) times the percentage contribution paid by actively employed administrators (as may be amended from time to time) for individual coverage for the retiree. The retiree shall pay one hundred percent (100%) of the additional costs of coverage for the retiree's spouse, if applicable.
 - 2. Administrators hired by the Board as teachers or as administrators on or after July 1, 1998, who retire under the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement System shall be permitted to participate in the health insurance plan(s) offered to actively employed administrators

- in accordance with the provisions of Section 10-183t of the Connecticut General Statutes. Such retired administrators shall pay the full costs for such health insurance, less the subsidy provided by the State Teachers' Retirement Board.
- 3. When administrators hired by the Board as teachers or as administrators prior to July 1, 1998 become eligible for Medicare, they may acquire their health benefits through the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement System, or participate in the Medicare Advantage plan provided by the Board by paying a percentage equal to two (2) times the highest premium contribution percentage paid by actively employed administrators for individual coverage for the retiree. The retiree shall pay one hundred percent (100%) of the additional costs of coverage for the retiree's spouse, if applicable.
- 4. When administrators hired by the Board as teachers or as administrators on or after July 1, 1998 become eligible for Medicare, they may acquire their health benefits through the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement System, or participate in the Medicare Advantage plan provided by the Board by paying the full cost of such plan.
- 5. For employees hired into the administrators unit prior to July 1, 2026, a \$12,000 group life insurance policy will be provided by the Board at no cost to the administrator upon retirement from employment with the Board under the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement System.
- G. Upon the death of an administrator or a retired administrator, the Board shall afford the surviving spouse the opportunity to purchase health benefits through the Board group plan for the period of time required by applicable law. Dependent children may also be included until the age of 26 years.

ARTICLE XIX—PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

- A. The Board agrees to deduct from the salaries of its employees dues for professional organization memberships in accordance with procedures established in cooperation with the Central Office.
- B. Other payroll deductions may be provided for as agreed to in cooperation with the Central Office.

ARTICLE XX—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- A. It is understood that this Agreement is subject to, and shall operate within the framework of, the Statutes of the State of Connecticut.
- B. It is understood that administrators shall continue to serve under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools and in accordance with Board and Administrative policies, rules, and regulations.

- C. There shall be no reprisals of any kind taken against any administrator by reason of an administrator's membership in a professional education organization or participation in its activities.
- D. Administrators shall have the opportunity to review and discuss any evaluation reports with their supervisors, and to review the contents of any reports originated in this system which are contained in their personal files as maintained by supervisors, or the Superintendent.
- E. When it is necessary for official representatives of the Association to engage in Association activities directly relating to the Association's duties as representative of the administrators, during the school day, they may be given such free time, without loss of pay, as is necessary to perform any such activities provided such activities and free time have been approved by the Superintendent or designated representative in accordance with established administrative regulations. The Association and its officers recognize and agree that this privilege should not be abused.
- F. If any portion of this Agreement is ruled invalid for any reason; the remainder of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- G. This Agreement may not be modified in whole or in part by the parties except by an instrument in writing duly executed by both parties.

ARTICLE XXI—GENERAL CONDITIONS AFFECTING SALARIES

- A. Salary payments to administrators for the school years during which this Agreement is in effect will be made by direct deposit (except for the final paycheck for an administrator leaving the district). Payments will be as nearly equal in size as possible. All administrators will be paid in 26 installments, calculated as follows: total annual salary divided by 26. In the event that an administrator leaves the district during the course of a contract year, the administrator or the Board, as applicable, shall be required to make up any difference between: a) the total salary paid to the administrator up to the date of departure; and b) the salary amount actually earned by the administrator up to such date (based on the number of days worked by the administrator prior to departure, multiplied by the administrator's per diem pay).
- B. Whenever an administrator receives a doctoral degree and qualifies for the doctoral stipend, receipt of that stipend shall be made for the next school year following completion of the requirement.
- C. The Longevity Service Recognition Plan shall be implemented as follows:
 - 1. a. When an administrator has completed five (5) years of service under contract in Manchester beyond the maximum salary increment of the salary schedule appropriate to the administrator's level of the professional training, the administrator will receive the first longevity service increment applied to the next year's salary.
 - b. The second longevity service increment will be earned after completing ten (10) years beyond the maximum increment.

- c. The third longevity service increment will be earned after completing fifteen (15) years beyond maximum increment.
- 2. The rate of pay shall be defined as follows:

Longevity service recognition is granted after an administrator reaches maximum salary step.

6 years through 10 years after maximum	\$ 300
11 years through 15 years after maximum	\$ 600
16 years or more after maximum	\$1,000

Administrators hired after July 1, 1993 will not be eligible for the longevity service recognition.

- D. The following policies shall apply to the placement of administrative and supervisory personnel on the Administrative Salary Schedules:
 - 1. New administrative appointees shall be placed on schedule according to their level of training.
 - 2. Administrative appointees who have had previous comparable administrative experience in Manchester will be given full credit for the experience.
 - 3. All administrators will be on the step of the Administrative Salary Schedule that corresponds with the number of years of administrative experience granted and will advance regularly year by year on the Administrative Salary Schedule from the point at which they start.
- E. It is agreed that in the event that any new position is established for the employment of certificated professional personnel, the Superintendent will discuss with the Association the establishment of the salary schedule for such position and the Association shall be given the opportunity to negotiate with regard to such salary schedule with the Board.

F. Prorated Compensation

- 1. Daily rate of all administrators shall be calculated based on the number of days in the individual's work year, for that particular school year, and on the salary, inclusive of longevity.
- 2. Administrators voluntarily involved in curriculum development or voluntarily attending inservice shall be paid at the rate of \$300 per week or \$15.00 per hour (or at the prevailing rate) when employed beyond their regular contracted work-year obligation.
- 3. When an administrator conducts a staff development workshop which benefits Manchester personnel, the administrator shall be compensated for the preparation time spent outside the normal work day; if such time clearly is beyond what the Board can reasonably expect in terms of administrative services, the administrator shall be paid at the rate of \$35.00 per hour. Prior to the commitment of time, application for compensation shall be made by the administrator to the Superintendent/designee for and both parties shall mutually agree to the extent of compensation prior to the rendering of service. This mutual agreement shall be in writing.

ARTICLE XXII—JUST CAUSE

No material originating after original employment shall be placed in an administrator's personnel file unless the administrator has received a copy of said material. The Administrator may submit a written notation regarding any material, and the same shall be attached to the file copy of the material in question. If the administrator is asked to sign material placed in the administrator's file, such signature shall be understood to indicate the administrator's awareness of the material, but in no instance shall said signature be interpreted to mean agreement with the content of the material.

Any substantive complaint made against the administrator shall promptly be called to the attention of the administrator. In no case shall any anonymous and/or unsubstantiated complaint be placed in any administrator's file.

No administrator shall be disciplined, reprimanded, reduced in rank or compensation, denied an increment, or suspended without reasonable and just cause. If an administrator is to be formally disciplined, reprimanded or otherwise deprived of any professional advantage by the Board or its agents, the administrator shall receive at least 24 hours notice and shall be entitled to receive a statement of reasons in writing and to have a representative of the Association present.

ARTICLE XXIII—DUES DEDUCTIONS

Upon the Association's certification that the Association has obtained and will maintain an employee's signed authorization to deduct membership dues, the Board agrees to deduct from the administrator an amount equal to the Association membership dues, by means of payroll deductions. Such Association dues shall be deducted in equal amounts over the course of twenty (20) pay periods during the contract year.

The Association shall indemnify and save the Board harmless against all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability, including attorney's fees, which may arise by reason of any action taken in applying or enforcing the provisions of this Article, including the making of deductions and remitting of the same to the Association.

ARTICLE XXIV—SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The following terms and conditions shall apply to the district's summer school programs:

- 1. The Middle School Principal shall appoint one or more Middle School Assistant Principals to develop, coordinate and supervise the Middle School summer program as part of their regular administrative responsibilities;
- 2. The High School Principal shall appoint one or more High School Assistant

Principals to be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the High School Summer School program as part of their regular administrative responsibilities;

3. In the event that a Middle School Assistant Principal and/or High School Assistant Principal receive approval from the Superintendent/designee to extend the regular work year in carrying out the responsibilities set forth in Sections 2 and 3 above, the administrator will be compensated at the administrator's per diem rate of pay for each additional work day.

ARTICLE XXV—DURATION

The provisions of this Agreement shall be effective as of July 1, 2026 and shall continue and remain in full force and effect until June 30, 2029.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties haveday of, 2025	hereunto set their hands and seals this
MANCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION	MANCHESTER SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION
halted	Diane, Muhan-Burns
Tracy Patterson, Chair	Diane Sheehan-Burns, President

APPENDIX A ADMINISTRATORS' SALARY SCHEDULE

	Step	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
High School Principal	1			
	2	168,728	172,946	177,270
	3	171,797	176,092	180,494
	4	175,730	180,123	184,626
	5	179,663	184,155	188,759
	6	185,433	190,069	194,821
Directors of Teaching and Learning; Director of	1			
Student Supports and Interventions; Director of	2	156,337	160,245	164,251
Equity & Adult Education; Director of Operations &	33	159,325	163,308	167,391
Athletics; Director of Instructional Technology;	4	163,392	167,477	171,664
Bennet Academy Principal; Illing Middle School Principal	5	167,459	171,645	175,936
Timeipai	6	173,240	177,571	182,010
Elementary Principals; Director of Manchester	l			
Regional Academy: Director of Manchester Middle	2	150,590	154,355	158,214
School Academy; Director of Bentley Alternative	3	152,725	156,543	160,457
Program; Adult Education Director; Supervisor of Alternative Programs	4	156,550	160,464	164,476
Atternative Frograms	5	160,374	164,383	168,493
	6	165,839	169,985	174,235
Secondary Assistant Principals; Attendance,	1			
Residency, & Communications Administrator;	2	145,999	149,649	153,390
Director of School Counseling	3	149,002	152,727	156,545
	4	152,579	156,393	160,303
	5	156,154	160,058	164,059
	6	161,326	165,359	169,493
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Elementary Assistant Principals; Pupil Personnel	1			
Services Supervisors	2	142,299	145,856	149,502
	3	145,167	148,796	152,516
	4	148,588	152,303	156,111
	5	152,011	155,811	159,706
	6	156,985	160,910	164,933

	Step	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Athletic Director; Arts Administrator (210 Days);	1			
	2	130,665	133,932	137,280
	3	132,892	136,214	139,619
	4	135,891	139,288	142,770
	5	138,891	142,363	145,922
	6	143,308	146,891	150,563

A doctoral stipend of \$3,000 will be paid to all other administrators with an earned doctorate effective the school year following the receipt of the doctoral degree.

^{*}Stipend for New Horizons Program: \$15,000 per year for each administrator (based on two administrators sharing such responsibilities).

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