

2023 - 2024 Negotiated Agreement



Between the
Wamego USD 320
Board of Education
and the
Wamego Teachers Association

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AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of the 14th day of August 2023 between the **BOARD OF EDUCATION, UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 320**, Wamego, Kansas (hereinafter referred to as the Board), and the **WAMEGO TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**, (hereinafter referred to as the "WTA").

WHEREAS, the WTA has been recognized by the Board for the purpose of professional negotiations as authorized and within the meaning of K.S.A. 72-5413 through 72-5431, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the WTA, by and through their duly authorized representatives, have met, consulted, conferred and discussed with respect to the terms and conditions of professional employees employed by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the WTA have now reached an agreement with respect to certain of such terms and conditions of professional services and wish to reduce the same in writing.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby mutually **AGREED** between the parties as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Definitions

- A. WTA: The Wamego Teachers Association
- B. Board: The Board of Education of Unified School District 320, Wamego, Kansas
- C. District: Unified School District 320
- D. Teacher: All certified employees under contract by the Board except any such person who is an administrative employee as defined in K.S.A. 72-5413, as amended.
- E. Per Diem pay rate: The teacher's contracted salary divided by the number of days in the teacher's contract.
- F. Hourly per diem pay rate: The teacher's contracted salary divided by the number of days in the teacher's contract divided by the number of contracted hours in a school day (8) then multiplied by the number of hours to be worked by the teacher.
- G. Specified hourly pay rate: A per hour dollar amount to be paid to a teacher for specific work. This dollar amount shall be different from a teacher's hourly per diem pay rate.
- H. Non-Probationary Professional Employee: A professional employee who has not previously received tenure from another Kansas school district and been employed with the district for three (3) or more full years and been offered a fourth contract in the school district by which the teacher is currently employed; or a professional employee who has received tenure previously from another Kansas school district and has been employed with the school district for two (2) or more full years and been offered a third contract in the school by which the teacher is currently employed.
- I. Probationary Professional Employee: A teacher who does not meet the definition of a "Non-Probationary Professional Employee."
- J. Fact Finding: The period of time when an investigation into an alleged issue with a teacher occurs.
- K. Formal Disciplinary Action: The period of time when a written reprimand and/or possible suspension occurs.
- L. Plan Day: The period of time provided to teachers for unit planning, curriculum planning, and collaboration. Cannot be used for meetings set by the administration.
- M. Workday: The period of time provided to the teacher to complete contractual duties and cannot be used for meetings set by administrators. Teachers will utilize it for what the teacher needs to accomplish related to their contracted responsibilities.
- N. PLC Day: The period of time that is directed by administration and can be used for building or district related activities.

- O. FLEX TIME: A period of time that can be used on a workday or during a window of time that will be designated by district administration and noted on the board approved district calendar. Flex time usage cannot occur during plan or PLC time.

- P. CONTRACT YEAR: The contract year shall consist of one hundred eighty-five (185) days. Teachers in their first contract year of employment for USD 320 may be required to work additional days. Teachers assigned to districts other than USD 320 will be expected to work the number of contracted days in the district to which they are assigned. Compensation for any additional days will be based upon the individual's professional rate.

ARTICLE 2

Rights of the Board

- A. **Rights of Board:** The Board, for itself and on behalf of the voters and taxpayers of the District, hereby retains and reserves unto itself, without limitations, all powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it by the laws and Constitution of the State of Kansas and the United States. Nothing contained herein shall be considered to deny or restrict the Board of its rights, responsibilities, and authority under the State school or local laws or regulations as they pertain to education. The Board and the WTA agree, except as expressly provided otherwise in this agreement, that the determination and administration of school policy, the operation and management of the schools are vested exclusively in the Board; and that the Board is the legally constituted body for that purpose.
- B. **Strikes:** The WTA affirms that it does not have the right to strike; and the WTA affirms that neither the WTA nor any of its agents or members will authorize, instigate, aid or engage in a strike or any picketing of any facility under the jurisdiction and control of the Board.
- C. **Terms of Agreement:** This agreement is made for a period of one school year, July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. For the purpose of professional negotiations, however, all provisions of this agreement shall be considered as proposed for re-adoption without change for the next ensuing school year unless proposals for amendments, additions or deletions to the agreement are submitted on or before March 31, 2024. Existing items automatically proposed for re-adoption shall not be binding upon either party unless or until subsequent mutual ratification.
- D. **Sunset Clauses:** Throughout this document there are several sunset clauses that define action to be taken by the negotiation teams. However, in the event that negotiations reach an impasse, in order for any or all sunset clauses, and the provisions to which they refer, listed in the negotiated agreement to continue in force during the impasse period, both the WTA and the Board negotiation teams must approve the continuation of said clauses. Should one party not agree to such a continuation, the clauses and the provisions to which they refer will no longer be applicable to the negotiated agreement and will not be subject to continuing contract law.

ARTICLE 3 WTA Rights

- A. **Facilities:** The WTA may use the buildings in the District for Association meetings provided they are held after school contract hours and do not interfere with the routine business of having school. It is further agreed that there will be no charge for the use of the building unless there is damage.
- B. **Equipment:** The WTA may use duplicating equipment for Association business as long as it does not interfere with the normal operation of the school.
- C. **Materials:** The WTA shall pay the District for any duplicating or other materials used.
- D. **Electronic Communications:** During the period in which negotiations are being conducted, the WTA negotiation team will have the use of the district's electronic medium to further the business of negotiations. All other WTA business shall be conducted utilizing personal computers unless approved by the Superintendent.
- E. **Distribution of Negotiated Agreement:** The Board will ensure that a copy of the USD 320 Negotiated Agreement is posted on the district website within 15 days of the ratification of the Agreement annually. The Board will provide the WTA (5) copies for the use at the teacher's ratification meeting. The WTA will provide a summary sheet of any changes in the Negotiated Agreement to all teachers prior to the WTA ratification meeting.
- F. **Payroll Deduction of Dues:** Within thirty (30) days after written authorization from the teachers, the Board shall deduct from the salary of the employee and make appropriate remittance for:
 - (a) **Association Dues.** Such authorization shall continue in effect from year to year. Pursuant to such authorization, the Board shall deduct one-ninth (1/9) of such dues from the regular salary check of the employee for a period of nine (9) months beginning with the September paycheck. Amounts to be deducted shall be supplied to the Board through a schedule established by the WTA. Any balance due upon the employee's termination of employment shall be deducted from such individual's final check. Prior authorizations existing on the effective date of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect into this and successor agreements unless and until revoked in writing by the employee.

The Board shall transmit to the Association the total monthly deduction for the professional dues within ten (10) school days following each regular pay period with a listing of the employees for whom the deduction was made.

ARTICLE 4

Leaves

A. Personal Leaves and Absences:

Twenty-four (24) hours of personal leave which may be taken in 15-minute increments shall be granted to a teacher each year accumulative to forty-eight (48) hours providing the request for such leave is requested from the superintendent by the building principal and a record of the absence placed in the teacher's file. Any personal leave hours above twenty-four (24) at the end of the year will be credited to each individual's sick leave. Whenever possible, teachers shall submit requests for personal leave two (2) weeks in advance. In any event, requests for personal leave submitted two (2) working days in advance shall be granted. In emergency circumstances where twenty-four (24) hour notice is not possible, leave shall be granted at the discretion of the superintendent.

Teachers who have used their available days of personal leave and who need additional personal leave may appeal to the USD 320 Emergency Leave Review Committee for such leave. Any additional personal leave days that are approved by the committee will be deducted from the requesting individual's sick leave account. The committee, by a unanimous opinion, shall determine whether the applicant is eligible for such leave and shall make the final decision to grant the request or a portion of said request. This request shall be made in writing at least five days prior to the taking of such leave and shall state the need for personal leave. The superintendent may waive the five days prior notice in the event of an emergency. The decisions regarding the granting of additional personal leave days and the interpretation for these decisions shall not be the basis for any grievance.

Personal leave may not be used during times established on the calendar for parent/teacher conferences and professional development days. In the event that an emergency exists for the teacher an appeal for leave may be made to the superintendent.

Part-time teachers shall receive the number of personal days and total cumulative days as their assignment is in proportion to that of a full-time teacher. Such days shall be allotted in hours to facilitate record keeping.

Personal leave requests on a day prior to a holiday/vacation or a day following a holiday/vacation will need Wamego USD 320 Superintendent approval.

During a time of war or military conflict, the Superintendent shall have the authority to authorize the conversion of sick leave to personal leave for spouse or parent of military personnel if circumstances warrant such a request.

In the event that a teacher is subpoenaed to appear in court for a case in which they are not a party, the absence will not count against the teacher's personal leave.

B. Illness

The Board extends to all certified employees sick and bereavement leave of fifty-six (56) hours each year cumulative to nine hundred sixty (960) hours. Such leave may be taken in 15-minute increments. Accumulation will begin on the first workday of the individual employee's contract with fifty-six (56) hours accumulated.

Certified employees beginning employment at the beginning of the second semester will accumulate twenty-eight (28) hours on the first day of employment.

Part-time teachers shall receive the number of sick or bereavement leave days and total cumulative days as their assignment is in proportion to that of a full-time teacher. Such days shall be allotted in hours to facilitate record keeping.

No sick or bereavement leave may be transferred to U.S.D. 320 from another school district. After sick and bereavement leave has been used, total salary deduction shall be made. In the event that a salary deduction has occurred due to lack of sick/bereavement days and a teacher is subsequently granted additional sick leave days from the sick leave pool, the teacher shall be reimbursed for the amount of days granted from the sick leave pool.

A sick leave pool is established for use in the case of catastrophic illness or disability by employees who shall become members of such sick leave pool.ⁱ Each teacher who wishes to become a member of the sick leave pool shall contribute one day of his/her accumulated sick leave at the beginning of each contract year. Annually, there shall be a limit of 90 days available for the group to use from the sick leave pool.

In the event that the sick leave pool has an excess of 90 days at the end of any school year, days donated in the current school year shall be returned to the contributing teachers on a prorated basis at the end of that school year.

Use of the sick leave pool shall be available to members who have contributed to the sick leave pool. Members will only be eligible to use sick leave pool days equal to the number of their accumulated sick leave days at the beginning of their disability.

If an employee desires to apply for leave from the sick leave pool, he/she shall make a formal request to the Emergency Leave Review Committee via the superintendent. The Emergency Leave Review Committee will meet within three (3) school days of receiving the written request.

The committee shall consist of one sick leave pool member from each building faculty, one member of the special educational cooperative, the administrator from the school of the requesting employee, the superintendent and one school board member. Teacher members of the Emergency Leave Review Committee shall be elected by the members of the sick leave pool. The committee, by a unanimous opinion, shall determine whether the applicant is eligible for such leave and shall make the final decision to grant the request or a portion of said request.

The decisions regarding the use of sick leave pool days and the interpretation of these decisions shall not be the basis for any grievance.

The sick leave pool may not be used to cover participants who are receiving pay from Workman's Compensation or KPERS disability while off duty from their professional assignment in USD 320.

ⁱ Parameters changed 08/14/23

Compensation for days granted from the sick leave pool will be as follows:

Employees who are covered by a disability income protection plan will be reimbursed as follows:

100% for claimed days between the end of accumulated sick and personal leave days and the beginning of disability income protection coverage, within the guidelines specified above for eligible days. Plus, the difference between an employee's salary and what their disability policy will pay for any days the employee is still eligible for under the district plan's allowance.

Employees who are not covered by a disability income protection plan will be covered as follows:

30% for claimed days after the end of accumulated sick and personal leave days within the guidelines specified above for eligible days.

Termination of employment automatically cancels all sick leave pool benefits and credits.

The Board will annually review the Article establishing a sick leave pool and the means for distributing that leave. If in a given year the Board determines that it cannot fund the provision, the Board will have the right to delete the Article at the end of the current contract year.

Employees covered by sick and bereavement leave, at the end of each contract period, accumulate to their credit any unused portion of the current nine (9) days of leave, provided such accumulation shall not at any time exceed one hundred twenty (120) working days.

After a teacher's sick and bereavement leave is exhausted, including that made available by the sick leave pool or in the event of a teacher's suspension without pay, a portion of the teacher's applicable salary will be deducted for each day of absence.

- Teacher's working solely in USD 323 – 1/188 of their contracted salary,
- Teacher's working solely in USD 329 – 1/181 of their contracted salary,
- All other teachers – 1/185 of their contracted salary.

Applicable contract salary is defined as pay received for duties for which the teacher was responsible during the period of absence. This may include base salary, contracted supplemental pay, and extended contract pay, whichever is applicable at the time the absence occurs. This provision applies to contracted supplemental pay only when the duties for which the pay is granted occur on a regular, recurring basis and are not performed because of the teacher's absence.

Sick leave will cover the employee and their immediate family to include grandchildren for instances of illness, medical and dental appointments, and hospitalization.

A member of the immediate family shall include mother, father, wife, husband, son, daughter, brother, sister, *daughter-in-law, son-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchildren, and grandparents of the employee and his/her spouse* with a limitation of this section of five days for each cause.

The above shall include the mother, father, wife, husband, son, daughter, brother, sister, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law of the employee and his/her spouse with a limitation of this section of five days for each cause.

A teacher may use bereavement leave to attend the funeral of any person. The bereavement leave is deducted from the employee's cumulated pool of sick and bereavement leave.

Disability or illness caused by pregnancy as well as the required procedures, interviews, and investigations pursuant to the adoption of a child by an employee shall be covered by sick leave provided the employee has cumulated sick leave.

None of these provisions shall take away the rights of the employee under the federal family leave law.

- C. **Discretionary Leave:** The Board extends to all certified employees sixteen (16) hours of discretionary leave. These sixteen (16) hours of leave may be used by certified employees as personal, sick, or bereavement, as stated in Article 4A Personal Leaves and Absences, and 4B Illness. Discretionary days will not accumulate from year to year. Unused discretionary days will be carried over as sick leave days accumulated to nine hundred sixty (960) hours.
- D. **Association Leave:** The WTA shall have at its disposal twelve (12) days of paid leave to assign to its members for purposes directly relating to WTA activities. Application for the use of such leave shall be made to the superintendent at least five (5) working days in advance of the use of such leave. The application form shall bear the signatures of the teacher, the WTA president, and the building principal and shall state the reason for the leave. The WTA agrees to monitor the number of such leave days granted and not to exceed the year's allotment. Leave applied for following these provisions shall be approved by the superintendent.
- E. **Unpaid Leave of Absence:** Teachers in the district for at least three (3) continuous years of service are entitled, subject to the approval of the Board, to unpaid extended leaves for up to one (1) year for advanced study, and professional development activities. Such extended unpaid leave shall not be considered a termination of employment with said teachers having the option of remaining in the District health insurance program by paying the monthly premiums for this purpose. All previously accumulated benefits and salary schedule placement will be retained for the teacher when he/she returns upon completion of the extended leave.

The teacher on extended leave will notify the central office administration in writing on or before April 10th of his/her intentions regarding employment for the school year following the extended leave.
- F. **Teachers shall be allowed a day of professional leave** for the purpose of attending their graduation ceremony for a Masters or Doctoral degree.
- G. **Secondary Employment While on Worker's Compensation Leave:** While a teacher is on worker's compensation leave, secondary employment by the teacher is not permitted. An exception can be made by appealing to the Emergency Leave Committee. Failure to abide by this provision shall result in disciplinary action, up to and possibly including termination of employment.

ARTICLE 5 Employee Benefit Plan

- A. The Board shall establish a fringe benefit program to comply with Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Board shall provide the opportunity for each employee to execute a salary reduction agreement once annually. Once the annual allocation is made for each selected benefit, the only change that will be allowed is for a fluctuation in health care premium and change in family status.

The Board shall pay the cost of the health insurance premium up to a maximum of \$540.00 per month for teachers who are employed half time or more by the district and who elect to enroll in the district sponsored health program. The Board will pay \$540.00 for each employee taking insurance for the 2023-2024 school year. This money is not available as a cash option for those who do not choose to participate.

- F. Each employee designating a salary reduction agreement for benefits shall allocate an annual sum to be used for the purchase of:
- 1) Group Life Insurance (group term insurance is limited to \$50,000 face value)
 - 2) Medical Insurance
 - 3) Disability Income
 - 4) Cancer Insurance
 - 5) Dental Insurance
 - 6) Cash (This option is subject to state and federal income, K.P.E.R.S., and F.I.C.A. taxes. The Board shall pay its share of F.I.C.A. taxes under this option.)
 - 7) Dependent Care
 - 8) Medical Reimbursement

Any unexpended money committed by the employee on a salary reduction plan for items seven or eight remaining at the end of the contract year shall revert to the Board.

- C. The Board shall provide each employee with a description of the benefit coverage provided within ten (10) days of the beginning of the school year or the date of employment, which shall include a description of conditions and limits of coverage as provided above. When requested by the employee, the Board shall provide applications and, when necessary, information about the programs.
- D. Salary Deduction: Employees may request a salary deduction for the purpose of buying the following:
- 1) Medical Insurance
 - 2) Disability Income
 - 3) Group Life Insurance
 - 4) Cancer Insurance
 - 5) Dental Insurance

This deduction is subject to K.P.E.R.S., F.I.C.A., and federal and state income taxes.

- E. Tax-Sheltered Annuities: The Board shall transmit tax-sheltered annuity funds on behalf of its employees pursuant to K.S.A. 72-8602.

Employees may request a separate salary deduction agreement for the purpose of contributing to a tax-sheltered annuity offered by USD 320. There shall be an established enrollment period

each year for employees to make initial contributions to the 403(b) plan. The Board shall allow its employees to adjust their contributions monthly by giving notice to the clerk by the 10th of each month. This deduction is subject to K.P.E.R.S. and F.I.C.A.

- F. Selection Dates: Under IRS Code, Section #125, September 1 shall be designated as the date by which teachers shall declare their selection of items and dollar amounts for items in the fringe benefit pool. The benefits elected, if any, will remain in effect and cannot be revoked and changed during the plan year (October 1 - September 30). Benefit election changes can only be made during the plan year due to a change in family status (e.g. marriage, divorce, death of a spouse or child, birth or adoption of a child, change of employment status of spouse).
- G. The employee, for himself/herself, his/her spouse, heirs, administrators, executors and their representatives, assumes full responsibility for the tax consequences which result from the Salary Reduction Agreement hereby agreed to, and hereby releases the District, the members of the Board, both individually and together acting as a Board, and their employees as well as the WTA from any liability for financial loss resulting from any of the elections referred to in this document. No liability shall be attached to the aforementioned because of the incorrect evaluation of tax reduction status, from discontinuance of present legislation making such benefits possible, or from insolvency or financial inability of any of the carriers to keep their contractual commitments.
- H. A standing committee shall be appointed to consider insurance and other benefit proposals and make recommendations to the USD 320 Board of Education.
 - a. Health insurance;
 - b. District 403(b) and Section 125 benefits proposals.

Membership in each committee shall consist of a minimum of four (4) teachers appointed by the WTA, the superintendent and an additional representative as selected by the Board or superintendent.

ARTICLE 6
Salary Credit
General Provisions

- A. One-half of the hours between the B.S. degree and the M.S. or B.S.+36 hours step on the schedule may be undergraduate credit. No one can advance higher than the M.S. or B.S.+36 hour step before receiving an M.S. degree.
- B. All graduate college credit hours may be used to move up on the salary schedule whether earned before or after a graduate degree has been granted if the hours were not applied to the Master's degree. Such hours are subject to approval by the review committee as described in paragraph C. All hours above the M.S. or B.S.+36 hours must be graduate hours. An exception may be granted to these requirements if the teacher can demonstrate that an undergraduate course has direct application to the teacher's need for further study in his/her field of teaching and that a graduate credit-bearing course is not readily available. Such hours are subject to approval by the review committee as described in paragraph C.
- C. A review committee composed of the superintendent and three teachers appointed for this purpose annually by the WTA shall make a decision regarding the application of college credits as described in paragraph B. The decision to award credit must be unanimous by the committee. Any decision of the committee, which a teacher disputes, may be appealed to the Board.
- D. In order to qualify for horizontal movement on the salary schedule, each teacher must have a complete transcript (total hours from all colleges) on file and must deliver his/her individual teaching contract form to the office of the Board for amendment on or before September 15 each year. No salary adjustment or Amendment to a teacher's individual teaching contract form pursuant to this paragraph shall be made after September 15.
- E. For the 2023-2024 school year no teacher shall exceed the maximum step at the level for which he/she qualifies.
- F. A teacher qualified to move from one salary level to a higher salary level shall move from his/her present position on the schedule horizontally and then down one step.

Satisfactory completion of one (1) year's employment shall entitle both full-time and part-time teachers to advance whole vertical steps on the salary schedule.
- G. Teachers who are employed for more than nine (9) months shall receive pay at the rate of 80% of their per diem base pay rate per month (20 seven-hour days) for time over nine (9) months.
- H. Specifically designated newly hired teachers will be contracted for three (3) additional days to be used for new teacher orientation. The additional 3 days requirement for new teachers may be waived at the discretion of the superintendent. Those days not considered actual "teacher" days may be used for in-service training, workshops, school activities and professional meetings at the discretion of the administration.
- I. Salaries for special education cooperative teachers who work solely in USD 323 shall be established by their placement on the USD 320 salary schedule, divided by 185 days (length of USD 320 contract year), and then multiplied by the contract length of the USD 323 contract. Example: A special education teacher who works solely in USD 323 has a beginning salary of

\$43,371 divided by 185 (USD 320's contract length), which equals \$234.44. Then \$234.44 multiplied by 188 (USD 323 contract length) which equals \$44,074.72. This figure, \$44,074.72, will be the contracted salary for the respective employee.

Salaries for special education cooperative employees who work solely in USD 329 shall be established by their placement on the USD 320 salary schedule, divided by 185 days (length of USD 320 contract year). The 185-day contract shall consist of 181 days (USD 329 contract length) plus additional workdays and in-service days equal to the same number of work and in-service days for USD 320 teachers. Any additional days required to fulfill the 185-day contract obligation shall be used as prescribed by the Director of the Special Services Cooperative. This provision will be automatically reviewed during negotiations in any year the length of the USD 329 contract changes. Example: A special education teacher who works solely in USD 329 has a beginning salary of \$43,371 divided by 185 (USD 320's contract length) which equals \$234.44. Then \$234.44 multiplied by 185 days (which includes 181 days in the USD 329 contract, 4 additional days to be used as prescribed by the Director of the Special Services Cooperative) which equals \$43,371. This figure, \$43,371, will be the contracted salary for the respective employee.

- J. Compensation for teachers employed part-time shall be determined by the following computation:

(Salary amount for which qualified) x (total hours worked during the contract day)

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Part-time teachers who are employed half-time or less shall be paid for one-half of one preparation period. Part-time employees who are under contract for more than one-half of a day will be paid for a full preparation period.

Part-time teachers are encouraged, but not required, to attend school meetings if said meeting is not contiguous to their work schedule. They are responsible for working with the building administrator to get necessary information from any meeting they do not attend.

- K. Membership of curriculum study committees shall be established by the administration. Such committees shall, when possible, begin their work in the summer preceding the school year in which the new curriculum will be studied and may also meet during the school year during non-instructional time. All teachers who are members of such a committee shall be compensated at their hourly per diem pay rate. Committee meetings shall be scheduled at mutually agreed upon times. The membership of committees dealing with instructionally related or accreditation issues shall be established by the administration. The meetings of such groups shall be scheduled by the administration. Where possible such committee work shall be carried out in the summer and in the school year during non-instructional time. All teachers who are members of such a committee shall be compensated at their hourly per diem pay rate.
- L. Probation can occur due to a teacher's performance as determined through the district appraisal procedures (see Article 17). Probation will mean that a teacher will be placed, or continue, on a Plan for Improvement with advancement on the salary schedule stopped until being released from the Plan for Improvement.

Ability of the Board to Place a Teacher on Probation: If the teacher is placed on probation, through the appraisal process, the teacher will be given written notice of the decision within three (3) working days. The teacher will have five (5) working days to file an appeal with the Clerk of the Board. If an appeal is filed, the Clerk of the Board will, within three (3) working

days, notify the President of the Board and the President of the WTA that an appeal board must be named.

The appeal board shall consist of:

- a) One representative designated by the Board
- b) One representative designated by the WTA
- c) One representative jointly agreed upon by the designees of the Board and the WTA.

The Board and the WTA will have five (5) working days after receipt of notification of appeal by the teacher to name their representatives to the appeal board. The Board and WTA's representatives will have three (3) working days to name a third person to the appeal board.

The Clerk of the Board will serve as liaison for the appeal board and all other parties involved in the appeal.

The appeal board will designate one of its three members as chairman who is responsible for guiding its workings. From the time the appeal board is fully constituted, it will have ten (10) working days to hear the teacher's appeal and render a decision.

The purpose of the appeal board will be to determine whether there was a reasonable basis for placing the teacher on probation.

The appeal hearing will be open only to the appeal board, the teacher involved, the administrator who made the recommendation for probation and a designated representative for the teacher and the administrator. Both parties will be allowed to have witnesses appear before the appeal board. Students will not participate in any manner, written or oral, in the appeal process. When the decision of the appeal board is reached, the chairman will, within two (2) working days, deliver written notice to the teacher involved, the WTA, and the Board. The appeal board's decision will be binding upon the teacher and the Board.

In the event that the appeal board decides in favor of the teacher, during the following contract year, the teacher will remain on the Plan for Improvement and be evaluated. If at the end of this evaluation, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, it is determined that the teacher's performance is satisfactory, the teacher will be placed on the three-year evaluation cycle. If at the end of the evaluation, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, it is determined that the teacher's performance is unsatisfactory, the administrator may recommend the teacher for continued employment on probation for the next contract year.

If the appeal board decides in favor of the Board, during the contract year the teacher is on probation, the teacher will remain on the Plan for Improvement and be evaluated. If at the end of this evaluation, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, it is determined that the teacher's performance is satisfactory, the teacher will be released from probation, advancement on the salary schedule shall be renewed from the point at which advancement was stopped and the teacher will be placed on the three year evaluation cycle. If at the end of this evaluation, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, it is determined that the teacher's performance is unsatisfactory, the administrator may recommend the teacher for continued employment on probation for the next contract year or dismissal.

Once a teacher has been on probation and subsequently released from probationary status due to improved performance, the Board shall retain the right to place that teacher on probation at any time in the future due to performance related issues. The teacher will not have the opportunity to appeal this action to a hearing committee. The Board's decision shall be final and is not subject to any grievance proceedings.

This does not prohibit the Board from placing a teacher on probation for unethical conduct or insubordination.

- M. District Professional Development team members shall be compensated at an hourly per diem pay rate for meetings held outside the teaching day.

Membership of District Professional Development team will be defined as written in the USD 320 Professional Development Plan. The building/Coop faculty shall elect the teacher representatives for the term described in the District Professional Development Plan. If the building has not elected a representative/s, that position will be appointed by the WTA. If a representative is unable to complete his/her duties, the building shall elect a replacement. If the building has not elected a replacement, WTA will appoint a teacher to fill that position.

- N. Pay for the Extended School Day program shall be as follows:

Extended School Day – Teachers contracted for the 2003-04 school year, to teach for the Extended School Day program will be compensated at a specified hourly rate as calculated by the following formula:

$$\text{Specified hourly rate} = \text{per diem pay rate} / 7 \text{ hours}$$

These teachers must serve annually in this program to be eligible for this pay rate. Once they have not served for a year, they will revert to the regular pay rate schedule. In 2010 the ESD program was eliminated due to budget issues. Should the ESD program be re-instituted, all terms of this provision shall be applied to those teachers selected for the program.

Teachers contracted for 2004-2005 and beyond to teach for the Extended School Day program, will be compensated at the hourly per diem pay rate.

- O. Teachers contracted to teach in the Summer School program will be compensated at the hourly per diem pay rate.
- P. Teachers who continue employment with USD 320 shall be reimbursed \$50.00 per day for each day of unused sick leave in excess of 120 days (960 hrs.). This compensation shall become available to teachers with their June paycheck. Teachers whose employment is part-time shall receive reimbursement for unused sick leave at a rate and accumulative total as their assignment is in proportion to that of a full-time teacher.

ARTICLE 7 **Salary Schedule**

Teachers shall be compensated in accordance with the salary schedule attached hereto and made a part hereof for salary reference.

The Board reserves the right to advance a teacher one (1) vertical step on the salary schedule when the Board determines that an area of scarcity exists in that teacher's assigned subject. If a teacher is advanced one (1) step because of scarcity in that field, all other teachers in that area of scarcity shall also be advanced one (1) step on the salary schedule. The Board reserves the right to determine where areas of scarcity exist and the period of time for which a scarcity exists.

The Board reserves the right to advance teachers one (1) step on the supplemental salary schedule when it determines that doing so meets the needs of the District. This advancement applies only to individuals selected by the Board for such advancement. The Board reserves the sole right to determine when such an advancement meets the needs of the District.

Experience shall be defined as teaching under a certification in a state accredited Pre-K through 12 educational institution or as a regularly employed (not an adjunct) college level instructor in a state accredited educational institution. The superintendent shall have the authority to determine whether to count the time teaching at a college as part-time or full-time in determining placement on the salary schedule.

A. Curricular Contract Extension

Some duties are not considered supplemental or extra duties and are part of a teacher's primary teaching duties. The teacher assigned to the corresponding class activity will perform the duties. The principal, with the assistance of the teacher, will schedule these activities.

Formula for figuring curricular contract extension pay: The indicated percentage on the schedule below shall be applied to each individual's years of experience according to the attached supplemental salary schedule.

E.S. Instrumental Music 3.5%
E.S. Vocal Music 3%
W.H.S. Debate 6%
W.H.S. Debate Assistant 6%
W.H.S. Forensics 9%
W.H.S. Forensics Assistant 6%
W.H.S. M.S. Instrumental Music 9%
W.H.S. Instrumental Music (Asst.) 2%
W.H.S. Vocal Music 7%
W.M.S. Vocal Music 3.5%
W.H.S. Journalism 2%
W.H.S. Senior Interview Day 2%
W.H.S. Yearbook 5%
W.H.S. Television Broadcasting 2%

B. Compensation for hours worked beyond the contract day:

Teachers shall receive one hour of compensation for every hour worked beyond the contract day in the following activities:

1. Site council representative – The limit to the number of teachers who will be compensated per building, is as follows: 1 classroom teacher per grade level, 1 special education teacher per building.
2. Site council presentations – Only presentations that have been scheduled in advance by the principal will be awarded compensation time. Voluntary presentations will not be awarded compensation time.
3. Content area and assessment meetings – Only content meetings that have been established and scheduled by the building principal, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, or the Director of Special Services and subsequently approved by the Superintendent of Schools will be awarded compensation time. Content area is meant to cover any work pertaining to the subject taught by the teacher. In the case of special education, meetings scheduled by the director to cover changes in special education regulations or items specific to instruction of students who are in the special services program. Assessment meetings pertain to special meetings called to cover the administration of state or required district testing.
4. Supervision of music programs – This pertains to the supervision of music programs when teachers, other than the music teachers themselves, have been directed by their building administrator to be present to supervise students waiting to perform in the program.
5. Presentation at PTO - Only presentations that have been scheduled in advance by the principal will be awarded compensation time. Voluntary presentations will not be awarded compensation time.
6. Spring Kindergarten Parent Meeting
7. Back-to-School Night
8. Ad hoc district level committees – These committees will be approved by the Superintendent of Schools.
9. Building leadership committees – Established by the building principal and approved by the Superintendent of Schools.
10. Judging at Forensics or Scholar's Bowl Tournaments.
11. West Carnival and Central Spring Festival work on that evening.
12. Supply Night
13. Grade level move-up/transition night. ¹

The teacher may redeem this compensation for:

1. Comp time – Comp time shall be defined as release time approved by the building administrator to attend to personal matters during the contract day. During the time that students are in school, comp time can only be used during the teacher's scheduled planning period. Comp time cannot be used during scheduled meetings, on in-service days*, or during plan days.
2. Comp time may be used during parent teacher-conferences based upon the format of the conference. If a scheduled meeting between parents and teachers is in the format then the principal shall have the right to allow time to be used when no meeting is scheduled. Every effort must be made by the teacher to allow parents to come at the time that is convenient for them and not the teacher. The building principal will monitor this provision and has the authority to intervene if parent requests are not being honored. If the drop-in conference format is used, as per WMS and WHS, then comp time cannot be used during parent teacher conferences. This pertains to teachers at the elementary level who do not schedule

¹ Added 8/14/23

- meetings with parents but are present in the event a parent may want to meet with them.
3. Teachers cannot alter the daily schedule for students in order to create a schedule that allows the teacher to use comp time at a time they might need it. An example of this is as follows: A teacher wants to leave school early but has students scheduled for services from 2:50 pm to 3:05 pm. A teacher reschedules this student's service time to earlier in the day in order to "free" the 2:50 pm slot in order to leave early using comp time.
 4. Comp time must be used during the current school year. At the end of the school year all unused comp time will be forfeited.

*Comp time can be used at the end of an in-service day when scheduled work for that day has been completed.

All compensation time shall be portable. This means that for teachers who work in more than one building, time earned at one building shall be honored at the other building. It will be the responsibility of the administrators to share time used sheets with the other building so accurate comp time records may be kept.

The negotiating team will review this provision annually. To continue in effect, both parties must agree to this provision or the provision will be automatically eliminated from the negotiated agreement.

- C. National Board Certification – Teachers who receive National Board certification shall earn a \$2,000 per year stipend, in addition to any money paid by the State of Kansas, for a period not to exceed 10 years or the length of the certificate. The payment for earning a National Board certificate shall not begin until the contract year following the notification of certification under the National Board program. Upon recertification for the National Boards, teachers will continue to receive the \$2,000 stipend for the length of the new certificate.
- D. In the event that a teacher is asked by administration to attend a summer professional training event, the school district shall pay the teacher an hourly rate of 10.5% of the teacher's per diem pay rate for up to eight hours per day for the actual time spent in training. If a teacher requests to attend a summer professional training event, the district will not pay the teacher for any part of the time for which they attend the event.
- E. Teachers who submit an early resignation from USD 320, effective the end of June, shall receive the following incentive:
 - Resignation submitted between September 1 and January 31 shall receive \$500.
 - Resignation submitted between February 1 and March 31 shall receive \$100. This incentive program will be reviewed annually by the negotiation team.

To continue in effect, this provision must be agreed to by both parties, or the provision will be automatically eliminated from the Agreement.

- F. Social Workers employed by the District on August 1, 2017, are placed on the salary schedule by counting the entire number of hours he/she needed to complete the master's program in which they were enrolled. This placed some certified staff in the Master's Plus 15 column or Master's Plus 30 column for obtaining his/her masters. The employees who are currently placed in these columns will remain in these columns; however, they can move vertically based on years of service if these are approved through the negotiation process. In the future, employees in Social Worker positions will not be credited with extra hours for obtaining a Master's degree; however if they are in the Master's Plus 15 column, they can move across horizontally based on additional qualifying hours earned. All Master's degrees

earned by certified staff, regardless of the number of required hours to obtain the Master's Degree, will be counted equally for purposes of movement on the salary schedule for all staff.

- G. Teachers with more than one classroom who teach in more than one building within the school district, will be granted one additional day to the beginning of their contract and one additional day to the end of their contract, for the purposes of beginning of the year preparations as well as closeout purposes for the end of the school year. This time will be paid at the individual's per diem rate of pay. Since workdays are flexible at the beginning and end of the school year, the time may be flexed and logged accordingly. It will be the responsibility of the educator to log their time and provide the evidence, if requested by their administrators. ²
- H. 2023-2024 School Year Language for Salary Movement:
 - a. All returning teachers for the 2023-2024 school year will receive a full step increase.
 - b. All eligible teachers will receive horizontal movement.

² Revised in 2021-2022

**Salary Schedule based on 185-day contract
Base \$43,371**

The Board shall pay for the cost of the premium for a single policy, up to a maximum of \$540.00 per month toward medical insurance for each teacher who is enrolled in the district sponsored health insurance program. This money is not available as a cash option for those who do not choose to participate.

12-13: \$500 was added to base; **13-14:** \$500 was added to base; **14-15:** \$750 was added to base; **16-17:** \$250 added to base; **17-18:** \$1000 added to the base; **18-19:** \$650 added to the base; **19-20:** \$900 was added to the base, longevity was increased by a half percent in all eligible columns, and BS and BS+15 each added one additional step. **20-21:** \$1200 added to the base. **21-22** \$1500 was added to the base. **22-23** \$1472 was added to the base. **23-24** \$1,371 was added to the base.

step	BS	BS+15	BS+36 / MS	MS+15	MS+30
0	\$43,371	\$44,457	\$45,543	\$46,633	\$47,724
1	\$43,712	\$44,798	\$45,884	\$46,974	\$48,065
2	\$44,053	\$45,139	\$46,225	\$47,315	\$48,406
3	\$44,394	\$45,480	\$46,566	\$47,656	\$48,747
4	\$44,735	\$45,821	\$46,907	\$47,997	\$49,088
5	\$45,076	\$46,162	\$47,248	\$48,338	\$49,429
6	\$45,565	\$46,651	\$47,737	\$48,827	\$49,918
7	\$46,054	\$47,140	\$48,226	\$49,316	\$50,407
8	\$46,543	\$47,629	\$48,715	\$49,805	\$50,896
8.5	\$46,788	\$47,874	\$48,960	\$50,050	\$51,141
9	\$47,032	\$48,118	\$49,204	\$50,294	\$51,385
10	\$47,521	\$48,607	\$49,693	\$50,783	\$51,874
11	\$48,126	\$49,212	\$50,298	\$51,388	\$52,479
12	\$48,731	\$49,817	\$50,903	\$51,993	\$53,084
13	\$49,336	\$50,422	\$51,508	\$52,598	\$53,689
14		\$51,027	\$52,113	\$53,203	\$54,294
15		\$51,632	\$52,718	\$53,808	\$54,899
16		\$52,345	\$53,431	\$54,521	\$55,612
17		\$53,058	\$54,144	\$55,234	\$56,325
18			\$54,857	\$55,947	\$57,038
19			\$55,570	\$56,660	\$57,751
20				\$57,373	\$58,464
21				\$58,198	\$59,289
22					\$60,114
23					\$60,939
24					\$61,764
25					\$62,589
Longevity			\$1,301	\$1,518	\$1,735

Longevity:

Employees who reach the bottom of the BS+36/MS column will receive longevity pay in the amount of 3% of the base salary.

Employees who reach the bottom of the MS+15 column will receive longevity pay in the amount of 3.50% of the base salary.

Employees who reach the bottom of the MS+30 column will receive longevity pay in the amount of 4% of the base salary.

ADDITIONAL PAY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

This additional pay began at the start of the 2014-2015 school year. School Psychologists and Speech and Language Pathologists requested to be removed from the Negotiated Agreement beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

Special education professional employees who possess the following fields of certification and are employed to serve in the capacity requiring said certificate shall receive an additional:

\$1,000.00	Special Education Teachers ³
\$1,000.00	Social Workers ⁴
\$2,500.00	Occupational Therapists
\$3,000.00	Physical Therapists

For compensation purposes, all degrees mentioned shall be from a properly accredited institution (accredited by a major regional accrediting agency such as AdvancEd).

The additional compensation is in addition to the base and degree payments provided for within this Agreement.

Existing market supplements shall be reduced by an amount not to exceed the increase realized by this article.

Market supplements will not be granted for these professional employees beyond this article.

Additional extra contract days will be determined from year to year, however there will not be a set amount of extra contract days for providers.

³ Revised 8/14/23

⁴ Revised 8/14/23

ARTICLE 8
Schedule For Supplemental Pay

FORMULA FOR FIGURING SUPPLEMENTAL PAY: The indicated percentage on the schedule below shall be applied to each individual's years' experience according to the attached Supplemental salary schedule. The number of individuals required for each position shall be based on need and determined by the USD 320 administration.

EXAMPLE: Head boys football coach with three years of football coaching experience would receive: .15 x \$44,394 = \$6,659

WAMEGO HIGH SCHOOL SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS

WHS SPORTS

WHS FB Head Coach	15%	WHS Boys Baseball Head Coach	15%
WHS FB Asst. Coach (5)	9%	WHS Boys Baseball Asst. Coach (2)	9%
WHS Boys BB Head Coach	15%	WHS Girls Softball Head Coach	15%
WHS Boys BB Asst. Coach (2)	9%	WHS Girls Softball Asst. Coach	9%
WHS Wrestling Head Coach	15%	WHS Girls Tennis Head Coach	10%
WHS Wrestling Asst. Coach (2)	9%	WHS Girls Tennis Asst. Coach	5%
WHS Track Head Coach	15%	WHS Boys Tennis Head Coach	10%
WHS Track Asst. Coach	9%	WHS Golf Head Boys Coach ⁵	15%
WHS Cross Country Head Coach	15%	WHS Golf Asst. Boys Coach	9%
WHS Cross Country Asst. Coach (2)	9%	WHS Golf Head Girls Coach	15%
WHS Girls BB Head Coach	15%	WHS Golf Asst. Girls Coach (if needed) ...	9%
WHS Girls BB Asst. Coach (2)	9%	WHS Summer Health & Perf. Head	12%
WHS Girls VB Head Coach	15%	WHS Summer Health & Perf. Asst.	10%
WHS Girls VB Asst. Coach (2)	9%		

WHS ACTIVITY & CLUB SPONSORS

WHS Musical Director - Head	12%	WHS FCCLA Sponsor**	8%
WHS Musical Director – Asst.	8%	WHS FFA Sponsor	10%
WHS Play Director - Head	10%	WHS FFA Asst. Sponsor	4%
WHS Play Director - Asst	6%	WHS Kays/Kayettes Sponsor	1%
WHS Theatre Technical Asst.	4%	WHS National Honor Society Sponsor (2) ..	4%
WHS Cheerleading Coach - Head	8%	WHS SADD Sponsor	2%
WHS Cheerleading Coach - Asst	4%	WHS Scholars Bowl Sponsor	4%
WHS Dazzlers Head Coach	4%	WHS Science Fair Coordinator	6%
WHS Dazzlers Asst. Coach	2%	WHS Student Council Sponsor (2 split)	6%
WHS Color Guard Coach	4%	WHS Freshman Class Sponsor (2)	1%
WHS FBLA Sponsor	8%	WHS Sophomore Class Sponsor (2)	1%
WHS FBLA Asst. Sponsor	4%	WHS Junior Class Sponsor (2)	2%

⁵ Updated 8/14/23

WHS ACTIVITY & CLUB SPONSORS (continued):

WHS Senior Class Sponsor (2)	2%	WHS Science Club	3%
District PDC Chairperson (2).....	4%	WHS Weights Club	4%
WHS Peer Chamber Sponsor (2 Split)	4%	WHS Link Crew (2).....	4%
WHS Sr. Interview Day Coord. (2 Split)....	2%*	WHS Culinary Arts	4%
WHS Jr/Sr Prom Coordinator.....	3%*	WHS SkillsUSA Sponsor	8%
WHS Art Club Sponsor	½ %	WHS CTE Sponsor.....	8%
WHS Foreign Language Club	½ %	WHS Unified Bowling	\$1,500/yr
WHS National Forensics League.....	4%		

WAMEGO MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPLEMENTAL POSITIONS

WMS SPORTS

WMS FB Head 8 th Grade Coach (1)	9%	WMS Girls BB Asst. Coach (2)	6%
WMS FB Head 7 th Grade Coach (1)	8%	WMS Track Head Coach (1)	9%
WMS FB Asst. Coach (2)	6%	WMS Boys Track Asst. Coach (1).....	8%
WMS Boys BB Head 8 th Gr. Coach (1).....	9%	WMS Girls Track Asst. Coach (1)	8%
WMS Boys BB Head 7 th Gr. Coach (2)....	8%	WMS Track Asst. Coach (2)	6%
WMS Boys BB Asst. Coach (2)	6%	WMS Girls VB Head 8 th Gr. Coach (1).....	9%
WMS Wrestling Head Coach (1).....	9%	WMS Girls VB Head 7 th Gr. Coach (1).....	8%
WMS Wrestling Asst. Coach (1)	6%	WMS Girls VB Asst. Coach (2)	6%
WMS Girls Wrestling Head Coach (1)	9% ⁶	WMS Cross Country Head Coach (1).....	9%
WMS Girls Wrestling Asst Coach (1).....	6%	WMS Cross Country Asst. Coach (1).....	6%
WMS Girls BB Head 8 th Gr. Coach (1).....	9%	WMS Golf Head Coach (1).....	8%
WMS Girls BB Head 7 th Gr. Coach (1).....	8%	WMS Golf Asst. Coach (1)	6%

WMS ACTIVITY/CLUB SPONSORS

WMS RSVP Sponsor	3%	WMS Science Club	3%
WMS Yearbook	2%	WMS FFA Advisor	2%
WMS Student Council Sponsor	4%	WMS Scholar's Bowl	4%

WEST ELEMENTARY CLUB SPONSORS

WE STEM Club**	3%	WE StuCo.....	3%
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CENTRAL ELEMENTARY CLUB SPONSORS

CE Rock Star	3%
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⁶ Added 8/14/23

Aides serving as Head Coaches 1% less than Head Coach position until 2nd year.

Aides serving as assistant coaches 1% less than assistant coaches in that sport until 2nd year.

* In the event that this position cannot be filled by district staff, administration may hire an individual outside of district staff.

** Division of the pay percentage is to be determined by the sponsors and reported to the activities director. Once the percentage is determined, the pay shall be applied in accordance with the formula for figuring supplemental pay as listed above.

Positions With Set Rates

Dance Sponsor..... \$15 per hour

Activity Bus Sponsor: (under 50 miles)..... \$20
(over 50 miles)..... \$30

This applies only to additional bus sponsors not listed on the extra duty salary schedule.

Ticket takers and Supervision of Co-curricular Events, Timers and Score Keepers will be paid a flat \$12.00 per hour wage.

Teachers who have been assigned supervisory duties during the duration of the lunch period shall receive a free lunch and shall receive a specified hourly pay rate of \$7.15.

Building Leadership team members, High School Flight Team, and the High School GAIT Chair people shall receive \$30 per hour, not to exceed 10 hours, when they meet outside of the contract day.

District Leadership Team members (two from each building) will receive a stipend of \$1,500 per year paid over 12 months.⁷

USD 320 will follow state Statute 72-2217 pertaining to Supplemental Contracts.

2023-2024 SUPPLEMENTAL SALARY SCHEDULE

Extra Duty Salary Schedule																	
Yrs	Amount		15.0%	12.0%	10.0%	9.0%	8.0%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%	4.0%	3.5%	3.0%	2.0%	1.5%	1.0%	0.5%
0	\$43,371	0	\$6,506	\$5,205	\$4,337	\$3,903	\$3,470	\$3,036	\$2,602	\$2,169	\$1,735	\$1,518	\$1,301	\$867	\$651	\$434	\$217
1	\$43,712	1	\$6,557	\$5,245	\$4,371	\$3,934	\$3,497	\$3,060	\$2,623	\$2,186	\$1,748	\$1,530	\$1,311	\$874	\$656	\$437	\$219
2	\$44,053	2	\$6,608	\$5,286	\$4,405	\$3,965	\$3,524	\$3,084	\$2,643	\$2,203	\$1,762	\$1,542	\$1,322	\$881	\$661	\$441	\$220
3	\$44,394	3	\$6,659	\$5,327	\$4,439	\$3,995	\$3,552	\$3,108	\$2,664	\$2,220	\$1,776	\$1,554	\$1,332	\$888	\$666	\$444	\$222
4	\$44,735	4	\$6,710	\$5,368	\$4,474	\$4,026	\$3,579	\$3,131	\$2,684	\$2,237	\$1,789	\$1,566	\$1,342	\$895	\$671	\$447	\$224
5	\$45,076	5	\$6,761	\$5,409	\$4,508	\$4,057	\$3,606	\$3,155	\$2,705	\$2,254	\$1,803	\$1,578	\$1,352	\$902	\$676	\$451	\$225
6	\$45,565	6	\$6,835	\$5,468	\$4,557	\$4,101	\$3,645	\$3,190	\$2,734	\$2,278	\$1,823	\$1,595	\$1,367	\$911	\$683	\$456	\$228
7	\$46,054	7	\$6,908	\$5,526	\$4,605	\$4,145	\$3,684	\$3,224	\$2,763	\$2,303	\$1,842	\$1,612	\$1,382	\$921	\$691	\$461	\$230
8	\$46,543	8	\$6,981	\$5,585	\$4,654	\$4,189	\$3,723	\$3,258	\$2,793	\$2,327	\$1,862	\$1,629	\$1,396	\$931	\$698	\$465	\$233
9	\$47,032	9	\$7,055	\$5,644	\$4,703	\$4,233	\$3,763	\$3,292	\$2,822	\$2,352	\$1,881	\$1,646	\$1,411	\$941	\$705	\$470	\$235
10	\$47,521	10	\$7,128	\$5,703	\$4,752	\$4,277	\$3,802	\$3,326	\$2,851	\$2,376	\$1,901	\$1,663	\$1,426	\$950	\$713	\$475	\$238
11	\$48,126	11	\$7,219	\$5,775	\$4,813	\$4,331	\$3,850	\$3,369	\$2,888	\$2,406	\$1,925	\$1,684	\$1,444	\$963	\$722	\$481	\$241
12	\$48,731	12	\$7,310	\$5,848	\$4,873	\$4,386	\$3,898	\$3,411	\$2,924	\$2,437	\$1,949	\$1,706	\$1,462	\$975	\$731	\$487	\$244
13	\$49,336	13	\$7,400	\$5,920	\$4,934	\$4,440	\$3,947	\$3,454	\$2,960	\$2,467	\$1,973	\$1,727	\$1,480	\$987	\$740	\$493	\$247
14	\$49,941	14	\$7,491	\$5,993	\$4,994	\$4,495	\$3,995	\$3,496	\$2,996	\$2,497	\$1,998	\$1,748	\$1,498	\$999	\$749	\$499	\$250
15	\$50,546	15	\$7,582	\$6,066	\$5,055	\$4,549	\$4,044	\$3,538	\$3,033	\$2,527	\$2,022	\$1,769	\$1,516	\$1,011	\$758	\$505	\$253

A full step increase for any certified staff that received supplemental duties for the 2023-2024 school year.

⁷ Added 8/14/23

Application of Prior Experience On Positions Paid as Percentages

Prior Experience Within USD 320 - A teacher with prior experience as an assistant or head coach/sponsor within USD 320 in a given sport/activity at the Middle School or Senior High School level will be granted full credit for his/her total prior service in that sport/activity.

Prior Experience in Program Level Within Another School District - A teacher with prior coaching/sponsoring experience in another school district will be granted credit for that experience when the position he/she assumes within USD 320 is within the same program level and the same sport/activity.

Prior middle level experience will apply when the coach/sponsor assumes a position at the Middle School in that sport/activity.

Prior experience in Grades 9-12 will apply when the coach/sponsor assumes a position at Wamego High School in that activity/sport.

Prior Experience at a Different Program Level in Another School District - A teacher who assumes a position within USD 320 with prior experience as a coach/sponsor in another district at a program level different than that within USD 320 may request the superintendent to evaluate his/her experience at that program level and its application to service in USD 320. The superintendent shall make a decision of how much credit, if any, for prior experience may be granted.

Compensation for Mandatory Transfers – A teacher who is subject to a mandatory transfer, or for whom a new class offering has been approved by the Board, shall receive monetary compensation for time spent in planning and for time spent moving to another classroom. A mandatory transfer is one in which a teacher is asked by the administration to take another teaching position in the school district, or to change rooms within a building or between buildings. This would include those circumstances where, due to declining enrollment, a teacher is transferred to another grade level.

The school district will assist the teacher with the costs of training when the teacher and/or the administration determine training is necessary to help him/her to prepare for a class to which he/she has been assigned to teach if different from classes he/she is presently teaching.

MONETARY COMPENSATION SHALL BE:

Moving Classrooms:

\$10 per hour (for up to sixteen hours) for grade Pre-K-12 teachers when the Administration changes the teacher's assigned room.

Supplemental Salary Committee⁸ - A district committee shall be established every⁹ year, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, to undertake the task of reviewing the supplemental salary assignments to reflect the district's expectations of those who hold supplemental contracts.

The Supplemental Salary Committee shall have the responsibility of reviewing the present salary schedule, assigning weighting factors to supplemental positions, and hearing appeals by staff members in regard to the weighting factors. Any recommendations for negotiations shall be provided by March 1 of each year.

⁸ Revised in 2021-2022

⁹ Revised 2023-2024

The committee will consist of nine (9) members selected from the following guidelines:

High School - 2 teachers
Middle School - 2 teachers
Central Elementary - 1 teacher
West Elementary - 1 teacher
High School Athletic Director
Middle School Athletic Director
District Administrator designated by the Superintendent

One member will serve as the voting chairperson.

The High School Athletic Director will call the first meeting. Teacher members shall be selected to the committee by the WTA President and shall serve a staggered longevity so as to ensure continuity of the committee's policies. One teacher from the high school shall serve two (2) terms and one shall serve three (3). One teacher from the Middle School shall serve two (2) terms and one shall serve three (3). The teacher from West Elementary shall serve three (3) terms and the teacher from Central Elementary shall serve two (2) terms. When the term of service has expired the teacher shall have the option of being replaced or of continuing to serve.

Employees who wish adjustments in their supplemental salaries must give written notification to the committee no later than October 15 every year beginning with the 2023-2024¹⁰ school year. The committee will meet no later than Thanksgiving, and, if needed, a second time no later than January 15. A report will be given to the president of the WTA on or before March 1.

¹⁰ Revised 2023-2024

ARTICLE 9
Reimbursement for Unused Sick Leave

Teachers who end employment in USD 320 shall be reimbursed for unused sick leave in the following manner:

A teacher who has accumulated sick leave that is greater than one-half the number of days which that teacher can accumulate in the years he/she has served in this district shall receive with the final check the following:

- 1) 3-6 years of service..... \$200
- 2) 7-10 years of service..... \$300
- 3) 11 or more years of service \$500

ARTICLE 10
Teachers Contract Day Obligation

A teacher's contract day obligation shall ordinarily be an eight (8) hour day. The starting and ending times of said eight (8) hour day will be established by the principal of each school in the district. The number of class periods to be taught shall be determined by the Board but shall not exceed seven (7) class periods.

The principal may establish one scheduled faculty meeting a month that lasts beyond the contract day but has the authority to call unscheduled faculty meetings in an emergency or as needed for the efficient operation of the school. The principal will work to keep the length of such meetings to no more than 45 minutes before or after the end of the contract day. A meeting which extends beyond the 45-minute time limit shall not be the basis for any grievance.

ARTICLE 11 **Planning Time**

Each full-time teacher will be provided the following amounts of lesson preparation and planning time per week within the duty day.

Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, planning time for Prek-12 will be 210 minute per week, taken in increments of no less than 20 minutes.^{11,12}

Such stipulated time periods may be subject to an occasional adjustment in the event that other class periods are shortened to facilitate assemblies, activities, emergencies, shortened school days, or in the event of a shortened school week.

Planning and lesson preparation shall be within the assigned building.

Teachers who are assigned by their building principal to use their planning/preparation period to substitute shall be compensated at an hourly per diem pay rate.

¹¹ Revised 2021-2022

¹² Revised 2023-2024

ARTICLE 12

Grievance Procedure

A. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to provide for the orderly and expeditious adjustment of grievances of individual employees of Unified School District 320, at the lowest level.

B. Definitions

1) Grievance shall mean any alleged violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

2) "Grievant" means an employee of Unified School District 320, having a grievance.

3) Words denoting gender shall include both masculine and feminine and words denoting number shall include both singular and plural.

C. Procedures

In General - The adjustment of grievances shall be accomplished as rapidly as possible. To that end, the number of days within which each step is prescribed to be accomplished shall be considered as maximum and every effort shall be made to expedite the process. Under unusual circumstances, the time limits prescribed in this statement may be extended or reduced by mutual consent of the grievant and the person or persons by whom his/her grievance is being considered.

Level 1 - A grievant shall first take up his/her grievance with his/her immediate administrative superior in private informal conference(s) within fifteen (15) school days after the occurrence of the event upon which a grievance is based or after the grievant becomes aware of such event. If the employee is dissatisfied with the outcome of the initial private conference(s), she/he may request a formal conference in writing with his/her immediate supervisor. Every effort should be made to develop an understanding of the facts and the issues in order to create a climate, which will lead to a solution. The formal conference shall occur within ten (10) school days of the last informal conference.

- **Exception – Grievance with an Immediate Administrative Superior**

If a grievance is with an immediate administrative superior, the grievant will begin the process with a request for a formal conference with the immediate administrative superior within 15 school days of the occurrence of the event upon which the grievance is based. The grievant may request the presence of a witness (of their choosing) as shall the immediate administrative superior for this formal conference. If the grievant is not satisfied after this formal conference, they may move to the level two protocol within ten (10) days.

Level 2 - In the event that the grievant is not satisfied with the disposition of his/her grievance at Level 1, or in the event that no decision is reached within ten (10) school days after a formal presentation, she/he may appeal the matter in writing to the superintendent. The superintendent or his/her designated representative shall confer with the grievant in an effort to arrive at a satisfactory solution within ten (10) school days after the appeal has been received by the superintendent.

If the grievant does not appeal the grievance to the superintendent within thirty (30) school days after the formal conference at level 1, the appeal of the grievance shall automatically be waived.

Level 3 - If the grievance is not adjusted to the satisfaction of the grievant, or if no decision is made thereon within twenty (20) school days after the date the grievance was filed with the superintendent or his/her designated representative under Level 2, then the grievant may appeal the grievance to the Board for the purpose of final adjustment of the grievance. This is done by submitting a written request to the clerk of the Board within ten (10) school days after the superintendent or his/her designated representative has rendered a decision or after the expiration of said twenty (20) days. The Board of Education shall, within thirty (30) school days after receipt of the written request, meet and confer with the grievant and render a decision to be submitted to the grievant in writing which will be the final disposition of the grievance. As an alternative, the Board, upon receipt of a complaint or grievance, may assign a hearing officer to hear such complaint or grievance and make findings and recommendations to the Board. Such findings and recommendations shall be made to the Board within ten (10) school days after the complaint or grievance has been assigned to the hearing officer. The Board shall rule upon such complaint or grievance within thirty (30) school days after receipt of the findings and recommendations of the hearing officer.

D. Supplemental Conditions

1) All individuals involved, and all others who might possibly contribute to the acceptable adjustment of a grievance, are authorized and urged to testify with full assurance that no reprisal will follow by reason of such participation.

2) At each step of the procedure for adjusting grievances after the initial private conference(s) with his/her immediate administrative superior, the grievant shall be entitled to be accompanied by others who might contribute to the acceptable adjustment of the grievance and/or to be represented by legal counsel.

3) All grievance hearings shall be confidential.

4) All discussions and hearings shall be conducted at times other than when school is in session.

5) Excluded from the grievance procedure shall be matters for which law mandates another method of review.

6) Only the employee affected may file a grievance or an appeal from Level 1 and Level 2.

7) The filing of a grievance at all levels beyond the informal conference in Level 1 shall be in writing and shall be reasonably specific as to the nature of the complaint. The grievance shall, to the extent possible, describe the alleged event or act giving rise to the grievance including the time, date and place of the event or act and the names and addresses of any witnesses thereto.

ARTICLE 13 **Bullying Prevention**

The district will take appropriate action in accordance with K.S.A. 72-8256 to eliminate the abusive acts and/or threats and provide remedy to the abused.

Bullying is any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act or threat by any person that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for a staff member that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of:

1. Harming a staff member, whether physically or mentally;
2. Damaging a staff member's property;
3. Placing a staff member in reasonable fear or harm to the staff member; or
4. Placing a staff member in reasonable fear or damage to the staff member's property.

Cyberbullying means bullying by use of any electronic communication device through means including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, mobile phones, pagers, social networking, online games and websites.

Bullying is prohibited on or while utilizing school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity.

ARTICLE 14 **Mileage Reimbursement**

Teachers whose assignments require that they travel from building to building in the District shall be reimbursed for such travel at the rate established by the State of Kansas for its employees. Computation of such mileage shall be from the teacher's base attendance center to and from the outlying school buildings. All other mileage authorized for teachers' use of private vehicles shall be paid at the same rate.

ARTICLE 15 **Student Teacher Stipend**

Teachers who supervise student teachers shall receive the university stipend paid to the District for that purpose.

ARTICLE 16

In-Service Provider Stipend

Teachers who provide training for USD 320 shall be compensated for their preparation at the rate of \$37.50 per two hours of presentation time. Planning for subsequent presentations of the same material shall be compensated at a rate of \$18.75 per two hours of presentation time. The District shall pay for all materials used in the training program.

Teachers who provide training for USD 320 employees outside of the contract day shall be compensated at an hourly rate of 10.5% of the teacher's per diem pay rate. This provision does not include training that is expected to be part of the teacher's regular and expected responsibilities and must be approved by the superintendent. This provision will be reviewed annually by both negotiation teams. To continue in effect, this must be agreed to by both parties, or the provision will be automatically eliminated from the agreement.

Teachers who present in-service out of district shall be allowed to keep any stipend they are paid. The contracting organization shall reimburse the District for the cost of a substitute teacher if one is needed. The District will not pay, in any manner, for any presentation materials used by the presenter. The District will allow for no more than four (4) days of leave to be used for presentation purposes. Should a teacher need additional leave days due to an emergency situation, an appeal can be made to the superintendent. In the event that a teacher is not compensated for presenting at a conference/in-service and it is agreed to by the superintendent, the teacher shall be granted professional leave.

ARTICLE 17

Teacher Appraisal Procedure

The teacher appraisal procedure shall incorporate the following components:

A. **Self-Appraisal**

A person shall conduct a self-evaluation on a yearly basis, regardless if on the evaluation cycle.

- 1) Teachers shall conduct self-appraisal on forms as provided by the McRel evaluation system.
- 2) The self-appraisal will become part of the appraisal records. The self-appraisal will serve as a point of discussion as the teacher and the administrator cooperatively evaluate the teacher's performance and competency.

B. **Appraisal Guidelines**

An orientation session shall be held prior to September 15 of each year during which the building administrator shall discuss the teacher appraisal objectives, procedures, and instruments with staff.

- 1) Non-Veteran Teacher: One (1) formal and one (1) informal observation each semester by the 60th day. Informal would be unannounced and would be at least 20 minutes in length.
- 2) Veteran Teachers: One (1) formal and one (1) informal observation by February 15 (as well as the completed evaluation for the year).
- 3) Each classroom visit will be preceded by a pre-evaluation conference. The purpose of the conference will be for the teacher to inform the evaluator of:
 - a. The objectives which will be covered in class,
 - b. The methods which will be used to achieve the outcomes,
 - c. The specific characteristics of the class to be observed; and
 - d. The activities in the class which the teacher would like the evaluator to watch specifically.
- 4) All classroom visits will be followed by a post-observation conference. The purpose of this conference will be for the evaluator to provide systematic feedback to the teacher. At this time or at a later date as agreed upon, the teacher or evaluator may submit documentation to support unobserved areas of the evaluation.

Any informal observation used for evaluative purposes will be documented by the evaluator and shared with the teacher.

- 5) All first and second year teachers must be evaluated twice each year. Each evaluation must be completed before the 60th day of each semester. There must be one evaluation per semester.
- 6) All third year, non-tenured teachers will be evaluated twice during the school year. All third and fourth year tenured teachers must be evaluated once each year before February 15.
- 7) All teachers, after their fourth year of employment by the district, must be evaluated once every three years.

- 8) Administrators may evaluate teachers outside the normal evaluation cycle with notification. Such notification shall include the specific reasons for the evaluation coming at that time.
- 9) Teachers may request evaluations at any time.
- 10) The evaluator shall rate each criteria area according to the standard that best describes the teacher's performance. The evaluator shall provide narrative comments to support each rating. "Not Observed" may be used by the administrator for those persons to whom the area does not apply.
- 11) When the final evaluation for the school year is written, the administrator will provide a written explanation for all criteria rated "not demonstrated" on the teacher's evaluation. If a teacher has a "not demonstrated" rating for any criteria, the administrator will provide written recommendations for teacher improvement in these areas. The administrator has the discretion, based on the totality of the evaluation, to place the teacher on a Plan for Improvement.

The teacher will be informed of the administrator's decision to place him/her on a Plan for Improvement at the time of the final evaluation for the school year. The decision to place the teacher on a Plan for Improvement will serve as notification to the teacher that an unsatisfactory evaluation within the next 3 years may result in the teacher being placed on probation. If the teacher and administrator disagree with the provisions of the Plan for Improvement, the two can meet with the Superintendent who will mediate the disagreement.

- 12) The teacher and the administrator will work in collaboration toward meeting the professional development and/or improvement goals.
- 13) Improvement goals will be reviewed in the fall of each contract year. Progress toward the goals will be documented throughout the year and evaluated each spring at a conference between the administrator and the teacher. Those teachers who have a Plan for Improvement will be evaluated according to all of the timelines established by the State of Kansas. At the final evaluation conference, the administrator will provide to the teacher written documentation of improvements made and/or corrective actions expected for all recommendations.
- 14) During the contract year for which a teacher is on a Plan for Improvement, the teacher will be evaluated. Through the evaluation process, if the teacher's performance, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, is satisfactory, the teacher will be released from the Plan for Improvement. If the teacher's performance, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, is unsatisfactory, the administrator may recommend to the Board to place the teacher on probation. The teacher will be notified of the administrator's decision when the final evaluation for the school year is written.
- 15) Probation will mean that the teacher will remain on a Plan for Improvement with advancement on the salary schedule stopped until being released from the Plan for Improvement. Any teacher placed on probation shall not be eligible for the \$2,000 stipend for holding a National Board Certificate. Once the teacher has been removed from probation, the payment of stipend shall resume in the year following removal from probation. The teacher shall not be entitled to recover any lost stipend due to having been placed on probation.

- 16) In the event that the Board decides to place the teacher on probation, the teacher has those rights stipulated in Article 6, Section L of this Agreement.
- 17) During the contract year the teacher is on probation, the teacher will be evaluated. Through the evaluation process if, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, the teacher's performance is satisfactory, the teacher will be released from probation and entitled to renewed advancement on the salary schedule from the point at which advancement was stopped. If, in the judgment of the administrator based on the totality of the evaluation, the teacher's performance is determined to be unsatisfactory, the administrator may recommend the teacher for continued employment on probation for the next contract year or dismissal. The teacher will be notified of the administrator's decision when the final evaluation for the school year is written.

C. Teacher Appraisal Committee

- 1) A teacher appraisal committee shall be established and shall be composed of five (5) teachers selected by the Association and the four (4) administrators representing each of the buildings in the District and special education director. The committee shall meet at the request of either a majority vote of the Board or a majority vote of the membership of the WTA to discuss possible changes and improvements in the area of appraisal criteria. The committee may make recommendations to the Board regarding appraisal criteria.
- 2) Nothing in this Agreement shall prohibit or limit the right of the Board to change, alter, amend or delete the appraisal criteria as the Board may deem necessary.

ARTICLE 18

Reduction of Staff

As a result of authority granted to the Board by the Kansas Constitution and Kansas statutes, the Board has the responsibility of determining composition of the professional staff necessary to implement and maintain educational programs of the District. From time to time, as the result of decreasing enrollment, limited financial resources, changes in educational programs, or other circumstances, it may be necessary to reduce the number of professional employees employed by the District. A decision to reduce professional staff will, in all cases, remain within the sole discretion and judgment of the Board. The Board may retain any professional employee whom it deems necessary to staff all the programs of the District, including curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programs of the District. It is the policy of this District to use normal attrition of the staff; i.e., resignations, retirement, leaves of absence, as the first means of achieving a reduction in professional staff. In the event that further reduction of professional staff is necessary, it shall be accomplished in a fair and orderly manner as provided in this policy.

1) Definition

As used in this policy, the following terms will have the following meanings:

- (a) "Professional employee" shall mean any employee of the District who is regularly assigned, on a part-time or full-time basis, to the teaching staff of the District in a position which requires a certificate issued by the State Department of Education; but shall not include administrators or classified employees;
- (b) "Days" shall mean calendar days;
- (c) "Temporary professional employee" shall mean a professional employee who is employed on a non-continuing contract;
- (d) "Part-time professional employee" shall mean a professional employee who is assigned less than a full school day or fewer than five (5) full school days per week;
- (e) "Lay-off" shall mean the status of a professional employee who is placed on involuntary leave of absence as the result of a reduction of professional staff;
- (f) "Seniority" shall mean the period of most recent continuous and uninterrupted employment with the District, as determined from the effective date of employment; provided, however, an approved leave of absence shall not be construed as an interruption of continuous employment; and
- (g) "Subject area or areas" shall mean general curricular areas such as mathematics, English, foreign languages, social studies, etc.

2) Procedure

- (a) Whenever the Board determines that a necessary reduction of professional staff will not be accomplished through normal attrition of staff, all professional employees of the District will be advised of the reasons for the reduction of professional staff and will be informed of the procedures and considerations to be used in determining which professional employees will be placed on involuntary leave of absence. Notice of the possibility of a reduction in force will be given to the WTA at the time that such consideration is placed on the Board agenda or no later than May 1 of

the current contract year. This does not prevent emergency reductions in force due to an unforeseen change in enrollment after the May 1 date. The superintendent will review all relevant facts and circumstances and will recommend to the Board those professional employees who should be placed on involuntary leave of absence. Any reduction of professional staff will occur on a District-wide basis.

(b) The superintendent will then consider professional employees for lay-off in the following sequence:

1. Temporary professional employees;
2. Non-tenured part-time professional employees; and
3. Tenured part-time professional employees who decline an offer of full-time employment;
4. Non-tenured full-time professional employees; and
5. Tenured full-time professional employees.

(c) In determining which professional employees shall be recommended for placement on involuntary leave of absence, the superintendent shall give consideration to all of the following factors not listed in priority order:

1. Seniority,
2. Teaching experience in specific subject-matter areas,
3. Areas of certification,
4. Advanced degrees and additional credit hours as reflected by the professional employee's placement on the salary schedule, and
5. Professional educational performance as determined from professional employee evaluations.

After considering the above-mentioned factors, the superintendent shall make his/her recommendation for reduction of professional staff based upon what he/she considers to be the best interests of the District and the students of the District.

(d) At the time recommendations are made to the Board for placement of designated professional employees on involuntary leave of absence, the superintendent will present data to the Board in support of his/her recommendations. The superintendent will provide the Board and WTA in writing the reasons for recommendations.

3) Recall Procedure

(a) A professional employee who has been placed on involuntary leave of absence as the result of a reduction in professional staff shall be offered re-employment with the District for a period of three (3) years following the date the professional employee was placed on involuntary leave of absence. Such re-employment shall be offered when a vacancy occurs for which the professional employee is certified and qualified. Any professional employee who is on involuntary leave of absence shall be given preference for substitute teaching positions with the District.

(b) A professional employee's seniority with the District and placement on the salary schedule shall not be adversely affected by an involuntary leave of absence. However, the period of time the employee is on involuntary leave of absence shall not be counted toward placement on the salary schedule. If a professional employee on lay-off is re-employed by the District, such professional employee shall be entitled to placement on the salary schedule according to his/her experience and training. Upon re-employment, a professional employee shall be entitled to all accumulated leave and other benefits accrued during his/her period of employment with the District prior to lay-off. If the number of days that a laid off employee serves as a substitute in the District in his/her area of assignment and certification equals ninety (90) or more in one (1) school year, such days shall be applied to existing steps and movement on the salary schedule.

(c) Professional employees on involuntary leave of absence will be offered re-employment with the District in the inverse order of lay-off. The last laid off will be the first recalled. If two (2) or more professional employees being considered for recall have the same lay-off date, the superintendent will determine priority for recall after considering all of the factors contained in Section (2), paragraph (c) of this policy. A determination of priority for recall will be supported by the superintendent with appropriate data. A copy of this shall be supplied to the WTA. An attempt to notify the professional employee, if possible, will be made by telephone. If this is unsuccessful, notification will be sent by restricted certified mail at the professional employee's permanent address on file with the USD office. The employee shall have five (5) working days after the receipt of the recall notice to notify the District of their intent to accept or reject re-employment. It shall be the responsibility of the professional employee to ensure that the District has a record of his/her current address and telephone number.

(d) If a professional employee rejects re-employment or fails to report as directed within the time specified in (3,C) after receiving a recall notice, such action or failure to act by the professional employee shall be construed as a resignation. Acceptance of an employment contract with another school district will be construed as a resignation, unless the USD 320 office is notified of the employee's desire to remain on recall in either of these cases. If a laid-off employee forgoes recall, the employee shall retain his/her position on the list for further recall placements.

4) Miscellaneous

(a) No action may be taken under this policy if it will result in a violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

(b) No professional employee on involuntary leave of absence will be entitled to receive compensation from the District, except for the performance of specific employment duties. In the event that the laid-off professional employee has not been recalled by the District during the interim, such employee will receive any reimbursement for unused sick leave, which is due him/her when the three (3) year recall period has expired.

(c) Professional employees on involuntary leave of absence shall be given the first opportunity for re-employment with the District when vacancies occur for which they are qualified and certified. No person new to the district shall be employed to fill a vacancy if there is a professional employee on involuntary leave of absence who is qualified and certified to fill that position.

(d) A professional employee on involuntary leave shall have the option of continuing all fringe benefits if said employee pays the costs.

(e) The Board shall make available to the WTA a current list of employees available for recall.

ARTICLE 19

Teacher Discipline

In the situation when an investigation into an alleged issue involving a teacher occurs, the teacher shall have the following opportunities:

- During the period when an administrator is conducting the actual fact finding regarding any alleged issue, the teacher or the administrator shall be able to use a recording device to record any discussions held between the administrator and the teacher.
- At the completion of fact finding, if the administrator determines that formal disciplinary action is warranted, then the following guidelines are to be followed by the administrator:
 - The administrator will notify the teacher for the need of a meeting to address a disciplinary action.
 - The teacher shall be provided a minimum of 4 hours to arrange for a representative of the teacher's choice to be present at this meeting.
 - The meeting will be scheduled to take place after school has been released for the day.

In the event of a conduct issue that is of such a nature as to require the immediate suspension or removal of a teacher, the building and/or district administration shall have the authority to remove a teacher without having to follow the provisions listed in this Article. This Article will be reviewed annually by the negotiation teams. To continue in effect, this provision must be agreed to by both parties, or the provision will be automatically eliminated from the Agreement.

All teachers will have ready access to their official personnel file at the district office as well as the right to reproduce its contents. Whenever an item is added to an individual's personnel file, the teacher will be provided with notice and a copy of said item. Official records include – Contracts, Evaluations, Letters of Reprimand.

ARTICLE 20

Due Process For Non-Renewal of Non-Probationary Teachers

1. The Board and Association agree to the mutual benefit of a Due Process procedure for non-renewal of non-probationary teachers. This provision balances the relative security earned through an extended and successful probationary period with employer expectations of continued quality professional performance.
2. If a teacher is non-renewed, he/she shall be afforded the rights to this procedure to appeal that decision.
3. For the first three years of professional employment with the district, teachers are considered probationary and may be non-renewed prior to the statutory deadline for any reason except as protected by Constitutional or other nondiscrimination protections.
4. Starting in Year Four of teaching with the district, teachers shall have earned non probationary status. At its' discretion, the Board may formally grant non-probationary status to any teacher earlier.
5. Non probationary teachers may be non-renewed for just cause, including ineffective performance, provided the procedural process is closely observed. While timelines are expected to be followed, extenuating circumstances may be considered for minor procedural errors. If the proposed nonrenewal is to be based on ineffective performance, the district evaluation procedure shall be followed. The non-probationary teacher will be informed his/her performance is substandard and the full evaluation process will be utilized, including a measurable Plan for Improvement. The Plan for Improvement shall be developed by the teacher's administrator(s).
6. If the non-renewal is based on other reasons, including disciplinary factors or reduction in force, those separate procedures as outlined in the Agreement shall be followed prior to the termination or non-renewal.
7. If the non-probationary teacher is non-renewed, he/she shall be notified by certified and regular mail prior to the statutory continuing contract date. The notification shall include the reasons for the nonrenewal. The non-renewed teacher will have fourteen (14) calendar days from the receipt of the letter to file a written request with the Board Clerk for a hearing.
8. Within seven (7) calendar days, the parties shall meet and select a mutually agreeable party to be the hearing officer. If that is not possible, the hearing officer shall be an arbitrator selected from a list provided by an outside group(s).
9. During the hearing, the entire basis for the nonrenewal shall be proffered by the district and the teacher may present his/her response. If, in the opinion of the hearing officer, more time and/or information are needed for an appropriate decision, it shall be allowed. Otherwise, the hearing shall be closed at the end of the presentations. The decision by the hearing officer shall solely determine whether to sustain or reverse the nonrenewal and shall be rendered in writing to both parties within seven (7) calendar days.

10. It is the intention of the parties that the decision is rendered prior to August 1 and all reasonable efforts should be made to accomplish that goal.
11. If the teacher prevails, he/she is reinstated in full. If the Board prevails, the nonrenewal is final. The decision is binding on both parties provided that either party may appeal a decision it believes arbitrary or capricious.
12. The teacher shall pay for his/her expenses, including any witnesses and/or representation. All other expenses of the hearing shall be paid by the district.

RATIFICATION

The preceding negotiated agreement for the 2023-2024 school year has been fully considered and duly ratified by the Wamego Teachers Association and the Board of Education of Unified School District 320 on August 14, 2023.

Wamego Teachers Association

Board of Education USD #320

By /s/ Jody Havice _____
President

By /s/ Mike Billings _____
President

By /s/ Cathy Wilber _____
Secretary

By /s/ Kathryn Mayfield _____
Clerk of Board