

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

between the

YORK HOUSE SCHOOL SOCIETY

and the

B.C. GENERAL EMPLOYEES' UNION (BCGEU)

Effective from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025

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DEFINITIONS

In this agreement:

- a. "*Continuing Contract*" will mean a contract of employment that is in force from year to year.
- b. "*Head*" will mean the Head of York House School. It is understood that the Head may designate and delegate functions to other administrative staff.
- c. "*Regular*" or "*Continuing*" employee will mean a teacher or support staff employee who holds a continuing contract.
- d. "*Society*" will mean the York House School Society. It is understood that the Society designates and delegates administrative functions to its administrative staff.
- e. "*Teacher On Call*" will mean a teacher who provides day to day teaching that is less than 20 consecutive teaching days in any one teaching position.
- f. "*Temporary Contract*" will mean a contract of employment which is in force for a specific duration or purpose and for a specific percentage of time which will begin and end in the same school year.
- g. "*Temporary Contract Teacher*" will mean a teacher who teaches for a minimum of 20 consecutive school days as a replacement for a teacher who will be returning to the school and will also include filling a vacancy that occurs after the commencement of the school year for the duration of that school year.
- h. "*Union*" will mean the B.C. General Employees' Union. It is understood that the Union designates and delegates functions to the President and other officers and members of the Union.

ARTICLE 1 - PREAMBLE

1.1 Purpose of Agreement

- (a) The purpose of this agreement is to establish and maintain orderly collective bargaining procedures between the Society and the Union. It is recognized by this agreement to be the duty of the Society and of the employees to cooperate fully, both individually and collectively, for the advancement of these purposes.
- (b) The parties to this agreement share a desire to maintain the high level of service being provided to the students of York House School. Accordingly, they are determined to establish an effective working relationship between the employees and the Society.

1.2 Recognition of Objectives and Principles

The Society and the Union acknowledge and recognize the following mutual objectives and principles:

- (a) The guiding principle for York House School as stated in its Statement of Purpose is that the school exists for the benefit of its students.

Statement of Purpose

York House School exists for the benefit of its students. Each girl is encouraged and challenged to pursue personal and academic excellence, to respect and appreciate individual differences and to develop a sense of responsibility to the global community:

- (b) The motto "*Not For Ourselves Alone*" not only guides the students, it also provides guidance for staff, the Head and the Board of Governors.
- (c) In managing and directing the activities of the school, the York House School Board of Governors and administrators strive to further its founding goals and traditions as a Canadian independent school.
- (d) York House School welcomes and requires parent and alumnae involvement in the life of the school.
- (e) As an employer, York House School strives to provide reasonable processes and equitable working conditions for its staff that are consistent with the provision of the highest quality of service for its students and as are provided in this agreement.
- (f) It is the intent that the highest academic standards be maintained through effective and fair evaluation processes and through selection and assignment of teachers.
- (g) It is recognized that the teachers provide a service to the Society in both curricular and extracurricular activities in a manner established by York House School. This is consistent with the responsibility of professional educators.
- (h) It is the strong desire that parents, staff, alumnae and friends of York House School work cooperatively together to further the objectives of the school.

1.3 Future Legislation

In the event that any future legislation renders null and void any provision of this agreement, the remaining provisions will remain in effect for the term of the agreement, and the parties will consult with a view to reaching mutually agreeable provisions to be substituted for the provisions rendered null and void.

In the event any future legislation materially alters the intent of any clause in this agreement, either party may request consultation with a view to seeking an amendment or clarification of the clause.

1.4 Use of Terms

Wherever the singular is used in this agreement, the same will be construed as meaning the plural if the context requires unless otherwise specifically stated.

Whenever the feminine form is used in this agreement it will be construed as if the masculine had also been used.

1.5 Human Rights Code

The parties subscribe to the principles of the *Human Rights Code* of British Columbia.

ARTICLE 2 - SOCIETY'S RIGHTS**2.1 Management Rights**

It is recognized and acknowledged that the management and direction of the employees and activities of York House School are vested exclusively with the Society through the Board of Governors and the Head except as otherwise provided in this agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, it is the function of the Society to:

- (a) maintain order, discipline and efficiency and make, alter and enforce reasonable rules, regulations, policies and practices;
- (b) select, hire, discipline, discharge, assign, reassign, transfer, evaluate, classify, and promote employees;
- (c) establish, modify or eliminate job functions, job content, teaching assignments, and job descriptions;
- (d) determine the services and courses to be provided and to alter, eliminate, establish or change services, courses and objectives;
- (e) determine the size and location of its operation;
- (f) effect changes in methods, operations, organization, facilities, systems and equipment;
- (g) determine the schedule of hours of York House School;

provided; however, the provisions of this article will be exercised consistently with the other provisions of this agreement and not be used for the purpose of discrimination against employees.

2.2 Union Rights

Article 2 will not restrict, limit or nullify those rights and obligations specifically granted to the Union pursuant to this agreement.

ARTICLE 3 - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHERS**3.1 Conduct of Teacher**

Teachers will at all times conduct themselves in accordance with the objectives and principles as set forth in Article 1 of this agreement.

3.2 Standards of Excellence & Professional Competence

Teachers will endeavour to develop in their students an appreciation of standards of excellence and will strive at all times to achieve and maintain the highest degree of professional competence and to uphold the honour, dignity and ethical standards of the teaching profession.

3.3 Student Focus

Teachers are expected to be student focused: that is, to be responsive to the diverse learning styles, needs and abilities of students; to speak to students with respect and dignity; and to regard as their first duty the effective education of the students.

3.4 Confidential Information

Teachers will respect the confidential nature of information concerning students and may give it only to duly authorized persons or agencies directly concerned with their welfare after having taken reasonable steps to satisfy themselves of such authorization in cases other than parents or the Head.

3.5 Student Welfare

Teachers will concern themselves with the welfare of their students including their safety, emotional and physical security, while they are under their care.

3.6 Standards of Performance

Teachers are expected to demonstrate a professional standard of performance in all areas of their daily work such as: knowledge of subject matter, understanding of students' needs, daily and long-range planning, varied teaching methods and strategies, evaluation of students' work, recording and reporting of students' work, and classroom management.

3.7 Participation in School Events

The success of York House School depends on staff involvement in such activities as planning, supervising/chaperoning, attending school functions, and participating in field trips, student events, clubs and activities, fine arts productions, athletic events and curricular programs.

3.8 Professional Responsibilities

Teachers' professional responsibilities in addition to classroom duties include: conferences and meetings with the Head, parents, staff, students and other professionals; in-service training; report cards and government forms.

3.9 Supervision of Students

Teachers will provide such assistance as the Head considers necessary for the supervision of students at York House School and at school functions and events.

ARTICLE 4 - UNION SECURITY**4.1 Membership**

All employees in the bargaining unit who, on July 9, 1996, were members of the Union or thereafter became members of the Union will, as a condition of continued employment, maintain such membership (subject to the provisions of Section 17 of the *Labour Relations Code* of British Columbia).

4.2 New Employees

All employees will, as a condition of continued employment, become members of the Union and maintain such membership, upon completion of 30 days as an employee (subject only to the provisions of Section 17 of the *Labour Relations Code* of British Columbia).

ARTICLE 5 - UNION RECOGNITION RIGHTS**5.1 Bargaining Unit Defined**

- (a) The bargaining unit will consist of all employees covered by the Certificate of Bargaining issued by the Labour Relations Board.

(b) The parties recognize that referral to the legislated authority is the ultimate step to resolve a dispute and that the parties will make every attempt to freely and fully negotiate the matter of exclusions and to resolve the issues as expeditiously as possible.

(c) Where the Society seeks to exclude a position, representation will be made to the Union in writing. Where agreement is not reached within 14 days of receipt of initial representation or such other time as may be agreed, the matter will be submitted to the Labour Relations Board for adjudication.

(d) Where the parties fail to agree and pending a decision by the Labour Relations Board, the position can be filled and worked. The incumbent will not be considered in the unit until determination is made by the Labour Relations Board. Established or upgraded positions in the bargaining unit will not be excluded except by mutual agreement or a decision of the Labour Relations Board.

5.2 Bargaining Agent Recognized

The Society recognizes the B.C. General Employees' Union as the exclusive bargaining agent for all employees to whom the certification issued by the Labour Relations Board on July 9, 1996 applies.

5.3 Union Stewards

The Society recognizes staff representatives and union stewards selected by the Union to represent employees and agrees that staff representatives and union stewards will not be obstructed or interfered with while representing employees.

The Union agrees that its union stewards will conduct union business outside of instructional time except where permitted under the terms of this collective agreement.

Union stewards may request release time from duties from their immediate supervisors in order to attend to emergent situations.

5.4 Bulletin Board

The Society will provide bulletin boards in each staff room for the exclusive use of the Union.

5.5 No Other Agreement

No employee covered by this agreement will be required or permitted to make or maintain a written or oral agreement with the Society or its representatives which may conflict with the terms of this agreement.

5.6 List of Staff Representatives

The Union will provide the Society with a list of the employees designated as staff representatives and indicate the jurisdiction of each staff representative.

Staff representatives will obtain the permission of their immediate supervisor before leaving their work to perform duties as a staff representative. On resuming their normal duties, staff representatives will notify their supervisor.

ARTICLE 6 - CHECK-OFF OF UNION DUES

6.1 Deduction of Union Dues

The Society will, as a condition of employment, deduct from the monthly wages or salary of each employee in the bargaining unit, whether or not the employee is a member of the Union, the amount of the regular dues payable to the Union by a member of the Union.

6.2 Deduction of Assessments

The Society will deduct from any employee who is a member of the Union any assessments levied in accordance with the Union Constitution and/or Bylaws and owing by the employee to the Union.

6.3 Deductions Made on Payroll

Deductions will be made in each payroll period and membership dues or payments in lieu thereof will be considered as owing in the period for which they are so deducted.

6.4 Remittance of Union Dues and Assessments

All deductions will be remitted to the President of the Union not later than 28 days after the date of deduction and the Society will also provide a list of names of those employees from whose salaries such deductions have been made together with the amount deducted from each.

6.5 Union to Notify Society

Before the Society is obliged to deduct any amount under Section 1 of this article, the Union must advise the Society in writing of the amount of its regular dues. The amount so advised will continue to be the amount to be deducted until changed by further written notice to the Society signed by the President of the Union. Upon receipt of such notice, such changed amount will be the amount deducted.

6.6 Authorization for Deductions

An employee will, as a condition of continued employment, complete an authorization form providing for the deduction from an employee's monthly wages or salary the amount of the regular dues payable to the Union by a member of the Union.

ARTICLE 7 - EMPLOYER-UNION RELATIONS**7.1 Staff Orientation**

- (a) Within 30 days of employment, all employees new to York House School will be offered an orientation provided by the Society. The orientation will acquaint employees new to York House School with the basic operation of the school and the Society.
- (b) The Society agrees to provide access to a copy of the collective agreement to each new employee. Staff representatives will be provided with an opportunity to meet with each new employee for the purpose of acquainting the new employee with the provisions of the collective agreement. Such meeting will not interfere with the scheduled duties and responsibilities of the staff representative or the new employee.
- (c) The Union will be notified in writing by the Society of the hiring of new employees who are employed for a minimum of 20 school days within five days of their appointment.

7.2 Union Representatives

The Society agrees that access to the school and temporary use of school space will be granted to external union representatives for the purpose of preparing for contract negotiations and contract administration provided that:

- (a) the excluded designated supervisor is notified in advance; and
- (b) there is no interference with the operation of the school or with the scheduled duties and responsibilities of any employee.

7.3 Use and Access to Facilities

The Union will have access to school facilities and equipment for the purpose of communication with the membership and union business or activities providing the Society bears no additional cost and providing such use will not conflict with regular instructional and related school activities or any other scheduled event or activity at the school.

7.4 Access to Information

The Society agrees to provide to the Union within 20 school days, the following:

- (a) employee information including a list of teachers and a list of teachers on call that are available for callout showing their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and a school staff assignment list;
- (b) notifications of hirings, discipline, resignations, retirements, deaths, employment advertisements for all employees, letters of notification of evaluation, and minutes of the Joint Consultation Committee meetings.

Copies of general mailings from the Society to parents or members of the Society and the audited financial statements will be provided to the union stewards.

ARTICLE 8 - JOINT CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

8.1 Joint Consultation Committee Defined

In accordance with Section 53 of the *Labour Relations Code*, the parties will form a joint consultation committee which will meet at least once every 60 days or at the call of either party at a mutually agreeable time and place to discuss issues at York House School that affect the parties to this collective agreement.

8.2 Composition of Committee

The Joint Consultation Committee will be composed of representatives equal in number. The minimum size of the Consultation Committee will be two representatives from the Society and two representatives from the Union. The Consultation Committee may call upon additional persons for technical information or advice. The Consultation Committee may establish subcommittees or ad hoc committees as it deems necessary and will set guidelines and operating procedures for such committees.

8.3 Purpose of Committee

The purpose of the Consultation Committee is to promote the cooperative resolution of workplace issues, to respond and adapt to changes in the economy, to foster the development of work-related skills and to promote workplace productivity.

8.4 Chair of Committee

The Society and union representatives will alternate in presiding over meetings.

8.5 Limitations of Committee

The Committee will not have jurisdiction over wages or any other matter of collective bargaining, including the administration of this agreement. The Committee will not supersede the activities of any other committee of the Union or of the Society and will not have the power to bind either the Union or its members or the Society to any decisions or conclusions reached in their discussions.

8.6 Authority to Make Recommendations

The Committee will have the power to make recommendations to the Union and the Society on the following general matters:

- (a) reviewing matters, other than grievances, relating to the maintenance of good relations between the parties;
- (b) correcting conditions causing grievances and misunderstanding.

8.7 Meeting Minutes and Agenda

- (a) The agenda for a committee meeting shall be circulated to the Committee members in advance of the meeting.
- (b) Minutes of committee meetings shall be circulated to union members and posted on a shared drive in a timely manner.

ARTICLE 9 - DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

9.1 General

- (a) The Society and the Union agree that all individuals deserve to be treated with respect and dignity.
- (b) The Society and the Union recognize the right of employees to work in an environment free from discrimination and harassment.
- (c) The Society and the Union subscribe to the principles of the *Human Rights Code* and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

9.2 Definitions

(a) *Bullying and Harassment*

- (1) includes any inappropriate conduct or comment by a person towards an employee that the person knew or reasonably ought to have known would cause that employee to be humiliated or intimidated; but
- (2) excludes any reasonable action taken by the Society or supervisory personnel relating to the management and direction of employees or the place of employment;
- (3) examples of behaviour or comments that might constitute bullying and harassment include but are not limited to verbal aggression or insults, calling someone derogatory names, harmful hazing or initiation practices, vandalizing personal belongings, and spreading malicious rumours.

(b) *Discrimination*

- (1) means refusal to employ or to continue to employ a person, or discrimination against a person regarding employment or terms or conditions of employment because of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, criminal or summary conviction offence that is unrelated to the person's employment, or age as defined in the *Human Rights Code*, except where there is bona fide occupational requirement.

- (2) Discrimination relates to any of the prohibited grounds in the *Human Rights Code*. Prohibited conduct may be verbal, non-verbal, physical, deliberate or unintended, unsolicited or unwelcome as determined by a reasonable person.
- (c) *Harassment includes:*
- (1) sexual harassment; or
 - (2) bullying and harassment; or
 - (3) the exercise of power or authority in a manner that serves no legitimate work purpose and which the initiator ought reasonable to know is inappropriate; or
 - (4) misuses of power or authority such as intimidation, threats, coercion and blackmail but excludes reasonable management action relating to job duties, workloads, deadlines, layoffs, transfers, promotions, reorganizations, work instructions or feedback, work evaluations, performance management and/or disciplinary actions; or
 - (5) objectionable conduct, comment, materials or display made on either a one time or continuous basis that would demean, belittle, intimidate, or humiliate any reasonable person.
- (d) *Sexual harassment includes:*
- (1) any comment, look, suggestion, physical contact, or real or implied action of a sexual nature which creates an uncomfortable working environment for the recipient, made by a person who knows or ought reasonably to know such behaviour is unwelcome; or
 - (2) any circulation or display of visual material of a sexual nature that has the effect of creating an uncomfortable working environment; or
 - (3) an implied promise of reward for complying with a request of a sexual nature; or
 - (4) a sexual advance made by a person in authority over the recipient that includes or implies a threat or an expressed or implied denial of an opportunity which would otherwise be granted or available and may include a reprisal or a threat of reprisal made after a sexual advance is rejected; or
 - (5) verbal harassment or abuse, such as sexist jokes told or carried out after having been advised that the conduct is embarrassing or offensive, and sexist jokes that are by their nature embarrassing or offensive; or
 - (6) unwelcome or unnecessary remarks about a person's body, clothing or sexual activities; or
 - (7) displays or distribution of pictures, posters, calendars, objects, literature or other materials that are sexually suggestive, demeaning or pornographic.
- (e) The legitimate study, display, use or distribution of topics, material or art forms of a sexual nature that are within appropriate academic norms is not considered sexual harassment.
- (f) The Society and the Union agree that proven harassment or discrimination is a violation of an employee's rights, dignity and personal well-being. Where complaints of harassment or discrimination are substantiated, appropriate disciplinary action which may include a verbal warning, written warning, suspension or dismissal are supported and endorsed by the parties.

9.3 Complaint Procedure

- (a) An employee with an allegation of harassment is called the complainant and the person who they are making a complaint against is called the respondent.
- (b) A complaint of harassment or discrimination is not a grievance. The complainant must follow this complaint process.
- (c) The complainant and the respondent (if a member of the Union) have the right to union representation.
- (d) Until a harassment complaint is resolved, the Society may take interim measures, including separating the complainant and respondent.

(e) *Informal Resolution*

(1) Before proceeding with a formal complaint, an employee who believes they have a complaint of harassment or discrimination against an employee of the Society may approach their supervisory personnel, union staff representative or other contact person to discuss potential means of resolving a complaint and to request assistance in resolving the matter. If the matter is resolved to the complainant's satisfaction, the matter is deemed to be resolved.

(2) If the matter is not resolved to the complainant's satisfaction, then the complainant will approach either the Director of Human Resources or the Assistant Head of School for assistance in resolving the issue. If the complaint is against both the Director of Human Resources and the Assistant Head of School, the complainant will approach the Head. They will investigate the allegation and take steps to resolve the concern, as appropriate, within 30 days of the issue being raised by the complainant. They will discuss the proposed resolution with the complainant. The complainant may have a staff representative present during these discussions. Where the complaint is against the Head, the complainant and the staff representative will request, in writing, the Chairperson of the Board of Governors to appoint a delegate(s) to assist the staff representative, the complainant and the respondent in resolving the issue.

(f) *Formal Resolution*

Where either the complainant or the respondent in conjunction with the Union is not satisfied with the resolution, the Union will put the complaint within 30 days before a mutually agreed upon independent adjudicator who specializes in cases of harassment and discrimination. The adjudicator will work with the parties to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution and if this is not achieved, then the adjudicator will have the right to:

- (1) dismiss the complaint; or
- (2) determine the appropriate level of discipline to be applied to the respondent; or
- (3) make further recommendations as are necessary to provide a final and conclusive settlement of the complaint.

If the complaint is against the Head, then the Union will submit the complaint to the Board of Governors who will appoint an independent investigator to investigate and report to the Board of Governors.

- (g) Disciplinary action taken against the respondent pursuant to this clause will not form the basis of a grievance.

(h) Where the complaint is determined to be of a frivolous, vindictive or of a vexatious nature, the Society will take appropriate action which may include discipline.

(i) The clause will not preclude an employee from filing a complaint under the British Columbia *Human Rights Code*. However, an employee will not be entitled to duplication of process. An employee making a complaint must choose to direct the complaint to either the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal or the process specified above. In either event, a complaint of harassment or discrimination will not form the basis of a grievance.

(j) An employee in need of assistance may call the WorkSafeBC Critical Incident Response team. The Society will post the current contact information in the workplace.

9.4 Confidentiality

(a) All complaints will be kept confidential by the complainant, the respondent, the Society, the Union and witnesses.

(b) No documentation of the harassment or discrimination, including any materials resulting from mediation or independent adjudication, such as reports from the mediator or independent adjudicator, will be placed on an employee's personnel file.

(c) Where a formal complaint has been filed, the names of the complainant(s) and respondent(s) and the circumstances of the complaint will not be disclosed to any person except where disclosure is necessary for the purpose of investigating and resolving the complaint, or where disclosure is required by law.

(d) All parties who are privy to information or in possession of documentation pertaining to matters/incidents in the course of dealing with a complaint of harassment or discrimination must ensure it is held in strict confidence. This will include refraining from discussion or releasing information in any form, beyond that contained in this article or as required by law.

9.5 Union Activity

The Society or any person acting on its behalf will not seek by intimidation, by threat of dismissal or any other kind of threat or promise or by threat of imposition of a penalty to compel or to induce an employee to refrain from:

- (a) becoming or remaining a member or officer of the BCGEU;
- (b) participation in any lawful activities of the BCGEU;
- (c) exercising any right under this agreement and the *Labour Relations Code*.

9.6 Falsely Accused Employee Assistance

Where a false accusation of child abuse or sexual misconduct, arising from an employee performing their duties and responsibilities results in an employee requiring assistance to deal with the negative effects of the allegation, the employee and a staff representative will meet with two members of administration and together they will establish a plan of assistance for the employee and, where requested by the employee, provision of factual information to parents by the school.

ARTICLE 10 - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

10.1 Grievance Procedure

The Society and the Union recognize that grievances may arise concerning:

- (a) differences between the parties respecting the interpretation, application, operation or any alleged violation of a provision of this agreement, or arbitral award, including a question as to whether or not a matter is subject to arbitration; or
- (b) the dismissal, discipline or suspension of an employee bound by this agreement.

The procedure for resolving a grievance will be the grievance procedure in this article.

10.2 Step 1

In the first step of the grievance procedure, every effort will be made to settle the dispute with the designated excluded supervisor. The aggrieved employee will have the right to have a staff representative present at such a discussion.

The Society will provide the Union with a list of the appropriate designated excluded supervisors and their area of responsibility within the school.

10.3 Time Limit to Present Written Grievance to Step 2

If the dispute is not resolved orally, the aggrieved employee may submit a written grievance, through the staff representative, to Step 2 of the grievance procedure.

An employee who wishes to present a grievance at Step 2 of the grievance procedure, in the manner prescribed in Article 10.4, must do so no later than 30 days after the date:

- (a) on which the employee was notified orally or in writing, of the action or circumstances giving rise to the grievance; or
- (b) on which the employee reasonably became aware of the action or circumstances giving rise to the grievance.

10.4 Step 2

- (a) Subject to the time limits in Article 10.3, the Employee may present a grievance at this level by:
 - (1) recording this grievance on the appropriate grievance form, setting out the nature of the grievance and the circumstances from which it arose; and
 - (2) stating the article or articles of the agreement infringed upon or alleged to have been violated, and the remedy or correction required; and
 - (3) transmitting this grievance to the Head through the staff representative.
- (b) Within 10 school days of receipt of the grievance the Head will meet with the staff representative and the grievor to attempt to resolve the dispute.

10.5 Time Limit to Reply at Step 2

The Head will reply in writing to an employee's grievance within 10 school days of the meeting referred to in Article 10.4(b).

10.6 Step 3

If the grievance is not resolved at Step 2, the Union may present a grievance at Step 3:

- (a) within 10 school days after the decision has been conveyed by the Head; or
- (b) within 10 school days after the Head's reply was due.

10.7 Time Limit to Reply at Step 3

The representative(s) designated by the Society to handle grievances at Step 3 will meet with the Union to attempt to resolve the dispute. The representative(s) of the Society will reply in writing to the grievance within 10 school days of receipt of the grievance at Step 3.

10.8 Failure to Act

If the Union does not present a grievance to the next higher level within the prescribed time limits, or the Society fails to address a grievance at any step within the prescribed time limits, the grievance will be deemed to be abandoned by the Union or conceded by the Society, whichever party is in violation of the time limits. However, any grievance concluded in this manner will not be deemed to have prejudiced the position of either party on any future grievance. Any grievance concluded in this manner will be consistent with the terms of this agreement and if there is a dispute, the settlement will be subject to review by an arbitrator.

10.9 Time Limit to Submit to Arbitration

Failing satisfactory settlement at Step 3, and pursuant to Article 11, the Union may inform the Society of its intention to submit the dispute to arbitration within 30 days after the Society's decision has been received. Alternatively, either party may apply for expedited arbitration pursuant to the *Labour Relations Code*.

10.10 Administrative Provisions

- (a) Grievances and replies at Step 2 and 3 of the grievance procedure, and the notification to arbitrate, may be by fax, email or hand delivered.
- (b) Grievances, replies and notifications will be deemed to be presented and received on the day they were hand delivered, emailed or faxed to the Society or the Union.

10.11 Deviation from Grievance Procedure

The Society agrees that, after a grievance has been initiated by the Union, the Society's representatives will not enter into discussion or negotiation with respect to the grievance, either directly or indirectly, with the aggrieved employee without the consent of the Union.

10.12 Policy Grievance

Where either party to this agreement disputes the general application, interpretation or alleged violation of an article of this agreement, the dispute will be discussed initially with the Society or the Union, as the case may be, within 60 days of the occurrence. Where no satisfactory agreement is reached, either party may submit the dispute to arbitration, as set out in Article 11 of this agreement.

10.13 Amending of Time Limits

The time limits fixed in this grievance procedure may be altered by mutual consent of the parties, but the same must be in writing. Any request for an extension of time limits will not be unreasonably denied by the other party.

10.14 Summer Vacation

During the summer vacation, the periods set forth in this article will read four calendar weeks instead of 10 school days.

ARTICLE 11 - ARBITRATION

11.1 Assignment of Arbitrator

In any case in which an arbitrator will be required under this agreement, a single arbitrator will be selected by mutual agreement of the parties. In the event that the parties are unable to agree on an arbitrator, the Collective Agreement Arbitration Bureau will be requested to select the Arbitrator.

11.2 Arbitration Procedure

The Arbitrator may determine their own procedure in accordance with the *Labour Relations Code* and will give full opportunity to all parties to present evidence and make representations. The Arbitrator will hear and determine the difference or allegation and will make every effort to render a decision within 30 days of the conclusion of the hearing.

11.3 Arbitration Expenses

The expenses of the Arbitrator and of the place of hearing will be borne in equal shares by the Union and the Society.

11.4 Witness Fee and Allowances

Witness fees and allowances will be paid by the party calling or appointing such witnesses.

11.5 Decision of Arbitrator

No costs of arbitration will be awarded to or against either party. The Arbitrator will deliver their award in writing to each of the parties. Such award will be binding on the parties but in no event will the Arbitrator have the power to alter, modify or amend this agreement in any respect.

11.6 Expedited Arbitration

- (a) By mutual agreement, the parties may submit the dispute to an expedited arbitration process as mutually agreed by the parties.

11.7 Alternate Grievance Resolution Procedure

- (a) The parties may mutually agree to the following procedure as an alternative to submitting matters of dispute to the formal arbitration procedure or an expedited arbitration procedure.
- (b) If a difference arises between the parties relating to the dismissal, discipline or suspension of an employee, or to the interpretation, application, operation or alleged violation of this agreement, including any question as to whether a matter is arbitrable, during the term of the collective agreement, a single arbitrator agreed to by the parties, will at the request of either party:
 - (1) investigate the difference;
 - (2) define the issue in the difference; and
 - (3) make written recommendations to resolve the difference.

within 30 days of the date of receipt of the request; and, for that 30 day period, time does not run in respect of the grievance procedure.

- (c) The parties agree that these hearings will be conducted on a without prejudice basis and that the written recommendations of the third party will be of no precedential value and will not thereafter be referred to by the parties in respect of any other matter.

Should a dispute not be resolved through the above procedure, either party may submit the matter to arbitration.

ARTICLE 12 - DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION AND DISMISSAL

12.1 Discipline, Suspension or Dismissal

The Society will not discipline, suspend or dismiss an employee except for just and reasonable cause.

12.2 Burden of Proof

In all cases of discipline, the burden of proof of just cause will rest with the Society.

12.3 Notice of Suspension or Dismissal

Notice of suspension or dismissal will be in writing and will set forth the reasons. A copy of the written notice of dismissal or suspension shall be forwarded to the Union within five days of the action being taken.

12.4 Right to Union Representation

- (a) An employee will have the right to have a union steward present at any discussion with supervisory personnel when the purpose of the meeting is disciplinary. The employee may choose the union steward they wish to be represented by, unless that would result in an unreasonable delay. Where the Society intends to interview an employee for disciplinary purposes, the Society will ensure that the employee is provided with reasonable notice in advance of the purpose of the interview in order that the employee may contact their union steward. Where the safety or welfare of students is at risk the requirement for advance notice may be waived.
- (b) Any employee who is interviewed during an investigation will have the right to have a union steward at the interview.
- (c) An employee who is a union steward or local union officer will have the right to have a union staff representative present at any discussion with supervisory personnel, which might be the basis of disciplinary action against that employee.

12.5 Employee Investigations

The parties agree that it may be in the best interests of both students and employees that employees be reassigned or removed from York House School during an investigation of conduct. In the event that it is necessary to remove an employee during an investigation of conduct:

- (a) the employee will be considered to be on a leave of absence without loss of pay until the Society has determined there is a prima facie case for imposing discipline;
- (b) the Society agrees to consult with the staff representative or a union steward before an employee is placed on a leave of absence with loss of pay during an investigation;
- (c) the Society will make every effort to complete its investigation in a timely manner;
- (d) the employee who is being investigated will have the right to union representation at any interviews.

12.6 Right to Grieve Disciplinary Action

In the event of any disciplinary measure being taken against an employee, the employee may follow the grievance procedure set forth in Article 10 of this agreement.

12.7 Probationary Employees

This article does not apply to employees on probation.

ARTICLE 13 - EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/WORKLOAD REVIEW COMMITTEE**13.1 Extracurricular Activities**

It is acknowledged by the parties that the success of the school depends on staff involvement in extracurricular activities which are an integral part of each student's educational experience.

13.2 Distribution of Responsibilities

The Society will establish an equitable and reasonable distribution of responsibilities after having assessed the individual circumstances and requests of each teacher and the needs of the school.

13.3 Review of Duties and Responsibilities

Where a teacher considers the duties and responsibilities expected of them require review, the teacher may address the Workload Review Committee and a review will be conducted.

13.4 Composition of Workload Review Committee

A Workload Review Committee will be composed of two representatives of the Society and two representatives of the Union.

13.5 Role of Workload Review Committee

The Workload Review Committee will conduct a review of the workload of the teacher taking into consideration the teacher's concerns and instructional workload. The Committee will have the authority to remedy the situation.

13.6 Decision of Workload Review Committee

If the Committee agrees by consensus or majority vote on an appropriate remedy, their decision will be final. In the event that the Committee cannot agree on an appropriate remedy, the matter may be referred to a person mutually agreed to by the parties whose decision will be final. Any costs associated with such referral will be borne equally by the Society and the Union.

13.7 Limitations on Review

Every effort will be made to deal with requests submitted pursuant to this article in an expeditious manner. Teachers may not request more than one review every 12 months unless their workload and/or extracurricular assignments have been altered.

13.8 Leave with Pay

Employees appointed by the Union as union representatives to the Workload Review Committee as specified in this agreement to attend meetings of the Committee will not suffer any loss of regular earnings while attending such meetings.

ARTICLE 14 - TEACHER EVALUATION**14.1 Purpose of Evaluation**

Evaluation of the performance of teachers is conducted in order to achieve the following goals:

- (a) to promote and maintain the highest professional standards and to commend strong teaching performance;
- (b) to foster professional growth, share expertise, and assess teacher effectiveness;

- (c) to provide suggestions and strategies for improving teaching skills and promoting professional growth and, when needed, to assist and support the teacher in meeting the Society's standards of performance as identified in Article 14.4;
- (d) to assist in assessing teaching competency.

14.2 Methods of Evaluation

The Society recognizes that where employment decisions may be affected by the outcome of an evaluation process, a fair and formal process as set out in Article 14.5 must be followed. It further recognizes that the process to assist and encourage professional growth by teachers as referred to in Article 15.1 does not form part of such formal process.

14.3 Frequency of Formal Evaluations

After completion of the probationary period, a continuing contract teacher will be evaluated:

- (a) during the sixth year following successful completion of the probationary period;
- (b) during every sixth year thereafter except when the teacher is participating in the Professional Growth and Development Program ("PGDP");
- (c) at the request of the teacher;
- (d) at the request of the Head.

An evaluation may be delayed or cancelled by mutual agreement of the teacher and the evaluator.

14.4 Criteria

Criteria for evaluation shall be based on the BC Curriculum and York House School strategic priorities and includes:

- (a) *Knowledge of Content and Pedagogy*
 - (1) demonstrates an appropriate depth of knowledge for the level being taught;
 - (2) is aware of appropriate developments, research and trends in content and pedagogy including the development of 21st century skills, attributes and competencies;
 - (3) works at keeping knowledge and recent developments current in their field and girls education;
 - (4) works at developing global citizenship skills and competencies;
 - (5) demonstrates a willingness to integrate the use of technology to advance student learning.
- (b) *Understanding of Student Needs*
 - (1) seeks knowledge of the social, emotional, intellectual, cultural and physical characteristics of students with the objective of furthering their educational growth;
 - (2) works to develop skills and stimulate thought through student centred experiences and activities, with due consideration for individual differences;
 - (3) fosters a climate of inclusiveness and mutual respect between the teacher and students;
 - (4) encourages healthy, active living for students.

(c) *Preparation and Planning*

- (1) plans for meaningful instruction with relevant and clear learning standards in mind;
- (2) designs coherent instruction with clear short and long-term goals which provide a variety of learning experiences;
- (3) plans for individual differences and unique student needs;
- (4) utilizes appropriate instructional materials and technology;
- (5) accesses support from appropriate personnel resources;
- (6) creates a physical setting that contributes to learning;
- (7) provides plans and clear direction for teachers on call;
- (8) cooperates with other personnel and parents to plan and implement Individual Education Plans ("IEP") as required;
- (9) plans in collaboration with colleagues.

(d) *Instructional Skills*

- (1) uses a variety of instructional techniques suitable to the age, needs, readiness, abilities of students and focuses on the development of new skills attributes and core competencies including: creativity, communication, critical thinking skills, collaboration and social and personal development;
- (2) motivates students to self-regulate and achieve their full potential;
- (3) uses various resources to promote thinking dispositions such as questioning, reflection, speculation, and creativity;
- (4) uses relevant classroom displays and displays of student work to promote learning;
- (5) presents skills and content clearly and coherently;
- (6) asks questions which promote a higher order of thinking skills;
- (7) monitors individual understanding effectively;
- (8) creates assignments which utilize, reinforce or expand upon the content of the learning experience;
- (9) communicates lesson goals and objectives to the students effectively;
- (10) provide students with skills to participate in a knowledge-based society best suited for personalized learning;
- (11) empowers the transformative use of technology to advance learning;
- (12) acts as a choreographer of learning experiences that engages students in authentic learning experiences both in and out of the classroom setting.

(e) *Classroom Management*

- (1) implements age appropriate classroom management and procedures;

- (2) encourages students to assume responsibility for their own actions, find their voice and practice self-regulation, and to develop a positive self-concept;
 - (3) establishes consistent routines and clear expectations for student involvement appropriate to the activity;
 - (4) maintains and nurtures a positive learning environment.
- (f) *Student Achievement and Evaluation*
- (1) facilitates and monitors student self and peer assessment and goal setting;
 - (2) provides ongoing feedback of student learning;
 - (3) establishes and communicates clear success criteria;
 - (4) establishes appropriate procedures for assessing, recording and reporting demonstrations of student learning to parents;
 - (5) interprets and utilizes the results of student performance assessments to plan for future instruction;
 - (6) maintains appropriate, accurate records of student achievement, attendance and other necessary data.
- (g) *Professional Responsibilities*
- (1) participates as a collaborative staff member to implement the mission, vision, values and strategic priorities of the school to promote a healthy and vibrant learning environment for all;
 - (2) participates in the establishment and maintenance of an atmosphere of collegial support;
 - (3) models and encourages honest and open communication in and out of the classroom in a constructive manner;
 - (4) participates actively with colleagues and the school's leadership to work toward solutions in the design and implementation of curriculum within the context of the school's overall program;
 - (5) seeks to communicate with and involve parents in their daughter's educational learning experiences;
 - (6) cooperates with colleagues and associated personnel in utilizing existing educational services, partnerships and resources for the benefit of the students;
 - (7) actively contributes to the school community by participating in activities outside the classroom in a manner consistent with the responsibilities of a professional educator.

14.5 Procedure/Process

- (a) Evaluation reports will be prepared by the Head with input, as appropriate, from the Director of the Junior and Senior School. Staff members including Department Heads should not be involved in evaluation reports unless agreed to by the teacher being evaluated subject to Article 14.9(c).
- (b) Where an evaluator does not possess necessary qualifications in a particular discipline that is relevant to the subject matter of the evaluation, the evaluator with the agreement of the teacher may seek additional input into the evaluation process from a person agreed to by both parties who possesses the necessary qualifications.

- (c) A teacher will be notified at least 10 school days prior to the commencing of classroom observations that an evaluation is to be conducted.
- (d) The observation period may not commence prior to September 30 in any one school year. Formal observations must be completed no later than May 31. In extenuating circumstances, it is agreed that an evaluation that has been commenced in a previous school year may be continued and concluded at any time in the next school year, provided that any remaining formal observations may not commence prior to September 30 of the next year and must be completed no later than May 31. For the purposes of Article 14.3(b), the reference to six years will be a reference to six years from the school year in which the evaluation is completed.
- (e) The teacher will meet with the evaluator in a pre-observation conference before classroom observations begin to collaborate on the following:
- (1) the criteria of evaluation;
 - (2) the classroom observation process;
 - (3) the data gathering sharing process; and
 - (4) the expected time line of the process.
- (f) Subsequent pre-observation conferences will be held prior to each formal classroom observation if requested by the teacher. These conferences may be combined with the post-observation conferences.
- (g) A post-observation conference will be held at an appropriate time as soon as practicable after each formal classroom observation. During this conference the observations from the classroom visit will be reviewed and discussed with the objective of identifying specific strengths to be maintained and/or areas that need improvement.
- (h) Data related to the stated criteria will be gathered and analyzed by the evaluator through a number of formal and informal classroom observations.
- (i) Each report will be based on not less than three formal classroom observations.
- (j) Data will be collected over a reasonable period of time allowing an opportunity for the teacher to incorporate suggestions for improvement.
- (k) At least one of the formal classroom visits will be at a time mutually agreed upon between the teacher and the evaluator.
- (l) Where applicable, formal classroom observations should cover a representative sample of subjects, classes and grade levels.

14.6 Evaluation Report

- (a) A draft report will be written, presented and discussed with the teacher at least three school days prior to the preparation of the final report. The teacher will have the opportunity to suggest amendments to the report.
- (b) Evaluation reports will be prepared by the evaluator based on all relevant information that relates to the criteria outlined in Article 14.4.
- (c) Specific strengths, weaknesses and recommendations for improvement will be included in the report. Where an evaluation reflects needs for improvement the evaluator will prepare a statement for the teacher which suggests specific remedial steps, actions or changes that address the problem(s)

identified by the evaluator. The teacher must indicate in writing a response to the statement from the evaluator.

(d) The teacher upon receiving an evaluation report is required to sign the evaluation report to acknowledge receipt of the report. The teacher, by signing, is not agreeing to its contents. If the teacher believes that the evaluation report does not accurately or fully reflect their performance, the teacher may provide a response within 30 days of receipt of the report which will be attached to the report. Acknowledging receipt of the report and providing a response that is attached to the report will not preclude the teacher from initiating a grievance pursuant to Article 10.

(e) One copy of the final report will be given to the teacher at the time of filing, one copy will be retained by the evaluator, and one copy placed in the teacher's personnel file.

14.7 Supervision

It is recognized that the Administration of the school will, except as limited by this agreement, continue to exercise their normal discretion in supervising and advising regarding instruction in the school.

14.8 Procedures When a Report is Less Than Satisfactory

(a) When an evaluation report concludes that performance is less than satisfactory, at the request of the teacher, the Union will have the right to meet with the evaluator and to recommend remedial action in a peer collaboration or other growth process. Individuals used in a peer collaboration process will not be called upon by either party as witnesses in any resulting arbitration.

(b) Where a teacher receives a less than satisfactory report, the teacher may request one-year unpaid leave of absence for the purpose of taking a program of professional or academic instruction aimed at correcting the identified deficiencies. Such request will not be unreasonably denied.

14.9 Dismissal for Less Than Satisfactory Performance

(a) The test of just and reasonable cause for dismissal will be a test of suitability of the teacher for continued employment to the position appointed.

(b) If the Society intends to dismiss a teacher pursuant to this article, the teacher and the appropriate union representative will be provided with written notification prior to such action.

(c) The decision to dismiss a teacher for less than satisfactory performance will be based on a minimum of three less than satisfactory reports prepared in accordance with this article. The reports will be prepared by at least two different evaluators.

(d) Where a teacher is dismissed pursuant to this article, any salary that has accrued and is scheduled to be paid during the following summer vacation period will be paid to the teacher.

(e) Disputes resulting from dismissal under this article will be subject to Step 3 of the grievance procedure.

(f) If the matter is not resolved at Step 3, the dispute may be referred to arbitration under Article 11 of this agreement. In the event that the Arbitrator determines that the evaluation was not conducted honestly and in good faith, the Arbitrator may grant as a remedy in substitution for reinstatement to the teacher a severance amount based on applicable judicial guidelines.

ARTICLE 15 - PROFESSIONAL GROWTH**15.1 Professional Growth**

(a) Faculty and administration are committed to continuous professional growth and a vibrant learning culture that promotes personal reflection and a collaborative approach to professional development, while placing greater emphasis on individual responsibility for professional growth. Recognizing that a commitment to lifelong learning is a major goal of the school, teachers with five or more years of teaching experience at YHS and on a continuing contract are eligible to participate in the Professional Growth and Development Program (PGDP) subject to approval by the Head of School. This program incorporates a year-long participation in the process of reflection, goal setting and self-assessment in a selected area of inquiry connected to the development of teacher competencies for the purpose of improving student achievement. This program is intended to be developmental, providing for professional growth within a cooperative, supportive environment.

The Professional Growth and Development Program supports teachers on a continuing contract to engage in:

- (1) action research that allows them to embark on an inquiry related to a selected teacher competency;
 - (2) development of a professional growth plan in consultation with the Head or designate;
 - (3) development and implementation of goals, objectives and instructional strategies related to the area of inquiry for the duration of the PGDP;
 - (4) where necessary, subject to the sole discretion of the Head, each participating teacher on an annual basis, will be provided release time to engage in professional growth activities in support of their area of inquiry.
- (b) Upon successful completion of the PGDP, teachers will receive a letter documenting their learning and related professional growth.

15.2 Professional Growth

Where necessary, subject to the sole discretion of the Head, each teacher on an annual basis, will be provided with release time to participate in professional growth activities.

ARTICLE 16 - PERSONNEL FILES**16.1 Personnel File**

There will be only one personnel file for each employee maintained in the school office.

16.2 Access to Personnel File

After receiving a request from an employee, the Head will grant access to that employee's file by appointment.

16.3 Viewing of Personnel File

A member of the Administration will be present when an employee views their file and the employee may be accompanied by an individual of their choosing.

16.4 Right to Grieve

The Society agrees that only material relevant to the employment and performance of the employee or substantiated critical material will be maintained in personnel files. In the event that the employee believes that any material in the files does not meet these criteria and the appropriate administration official does not agree to the removal of the specified material, the employee may file a grievance pursuant to Article 10 of this agreement.

16.5 Adverse Reports or Reprimands

Where material critical of the employee, or in the nature of a reprimand, is placed in the file:

- (a) the employee will be informed and receive a copy;
- (b) the employee may elect to attach an addendum to the material;
- (c) provided there is no further documentation of discipline, upon the request of an employee, material critical of the employee or in the nature of a reprimand will be removed from the file four years after the filing unless the documentation is related to performance evaluation, a criminal offence, or gross misconduct.

16.6 Use of Personnel Files at Arbitration

No material from an employee's file will be used as evidence in cases of discipline unless the employee was notified of the material at the time that it was placed in the file.

ARTICLE 17 - SENIORITY

17.1 Definition

- (a) In this agreement, "*seniority*" will mean the length of continuous service as a regular or continuing employee of the Society. For the purposes of calculating length of service, part-time service will be reduced to its full-time equivalent (FTE).

Upon successful completion of probation, an employee's seniority will be established from the date upon which probation commenced.

- (b) Seniority will continue to accrue in the following circumstances:
 - (1) approved exchange program;
 - (2) approved educational leave;
 - (3) jury duty;
 - (4) union leave;
 - (5) pregnancy and parental leave;
 - (6) secondment;
 - (7) other leaves prescribed by the *BC Employment Standards Act*.

17.2 Seniority List

- (a) The Society will maintain two seniority lists, one for teaching staff and one for support staff. The seniority lists will show the date each regular or continuing employee commenced employment with the Society. Up-to-date seniority lists will be sent to the Union by November 30th in each school year.
- (b) Errors in the seniority lists must be brought to the attention of the Head of School within 30 calendar days of receipt of the list by the Union.

(c) Corrections will be effective as of the date of notification and will be included in the next publication of the seniority lists.

17.3 Loss of Seniority

(a) A regular or continuing employee on leave of absence without pay will not accrue seniority for leave periods over 30 calendar days except as otherwise indicated in this agreement or prescribed by the *BC Employment Standards Act*.

(b) Seniority will be lost in the following situations:

- (1) dismissal for just cause;
- (2) voluntary termination of employment or abandonment of position by the employee.

17.4 Re-Employment

An employee who is re-employed by the Society as a regular or continuing employee within 12 months of resignation will retain any seniority previously accrued.

17.5 Seniority Tie Breaker

The Society and the Union agree that where there is a tie in seniority between two or more employees, a determination of seniority will be made in the following manner:

- (a) where two or more employees have the same date of commencement of employment, their order of seniority will be determined by the time and date of receipt of their acceptance of an appointment;
- (b) where a seniority tie is not resolved by (a) above, a game of chance will be administered jointly by the staff representative and the Head.

17.6 Administration

An employee who currently holds an existing position outside the bargaining unit will retain and continue to accrue seniority as a bargaining unit member in the event the employee returns to the bargaining unit. Effective the date of ratification of this agreement, no seniority will accrue for employees who accept a position outside the bargaining unit for periods in excess of two years. It is understood that these employees, whilst in a position that is outside the bargaining unit, may continue to be credited with years of experience for the purpose of establishing their position on the salary scale.

ARTICLE 18 - STAFF CHANGES AND POSTINGS

18.1 Postings

(a) When a regular vacancy occurs which the Society intends to fill, or a new position is created within the bargaining unit the Society will email the posting to the Union and to the employees. The posting will be active for a minimum of five days including the closing date. External advertisements may occur at the same time.

(b) Such notice will contain the following information: nature of position, qualifications, experience, required knowledge, education and skills. Wage or salary rate or range will be included in internal not external postings.

18.2 Selection Procedure

The parties agree that it is in the best interest of York House School that appointments will be based on merit as set out in Article 18.3. For teaching positions, the Head will provide for an opportunity for the Department Head or for a Division Teacher to participate in part of the selection process.

18.3 Appointment

- (a) All appointments will be based on merit. The factors used to determine merit will be education, skills, knowledge, experience, and any other matters that are necessary or desirable, having regard to the nature of the duties to be performed and consistent with the position description requirements.
- (b) In the event that the merits of two or more applicants for a given position are relatively equal, priority in appointment shall be given to the internal applicant with the greatest length of continuous employment at York House School.

18.4 Notification

Unsuccessful applicants from the bargaining unit to posted positions will be notified prior to any Society announcement of the successful applicant. Upon request, the unsuccessful applicants will be advised verbally of the reasons they were unsuccessful and, upon further request, the reasons will be given in writing.

18.5 Promotions

A teacher who is promoted to, or currently holds an existing supervisory position outside the bargaining unit will retain the right to return to a teaching position within the bargaining unit notwithstanding any provision of this article.

ARTICLE 19 - PROBATION

19.1 Probation Period: Teachers

(a) *Probation Period Defined*

Teachers other than a temporary or teacher on call will be on probation during the first two full school years of employment at York House School.

(b) *Feedback on Performance and Suitability*

The Society will meet with a probationary teacher during their probation period, to provide feedback on their performance and suitability. The probationary teacher will be informed in writing of any areas requiring improvement.

(c) *Notice of Unsuitability*

If it is observed and recorded that any aspect of the probationary teacher's conduct is inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities set out in Article 3, or that any aspect of the learning situation in any of the classes is less than satisfactory, or that the probationary teacher is in any way unsuitable for continued employment at York House School, the probationary teacher will be informed in writing on or before the commencement of Spring Break of the second year of the probationary period.

(d) *Appointment to a Continuing Contract*

The Head may, at their discretion, conclude a probationary period at any point during the probation period and appoint the probationary teacher to a continuing contract.

(e) *Completion of Probationary Period*

- (1) Probationary teachers who are retained following probation are considered to be on a continuing contract.

(2) A Senior School teacher employed on two or more consecutive full-time full school year temporary contracts, who is hired on a probationary contract for the next school year in a comparable position will have the probationary period reduced from two full school years to one full school year.

(3) A Senior School teacher employed on two or more consecutive full-time full school year temporary contracts who is hired for the same position for the next school year that is not a temporary contract or position and who has received a successful evaluation at York House School will be deemed to have successfully completed their probationary period. A Little or Junior School teacher employed on two or more consecutive full-time full school year temporary contracts who is hired in the same division for the next school year that is not a temporary contract or position and who has received a successful evaluation at York House School will be deemed to have successfully completed their probationary period. For the purposes of this clause, division means JK/SK; grades 1 to 3 primary; and grades 4 to 7 intermediate.

19.2 Probation Period: Teacher Assistants and Support Staff

(a) *Probation Period Defined*

All Teacher Assistants and Support Staff will be on probation during the first full school year of employment at York House School.

(b) *Feedback on Performance and Suitability*

The Society will meet with a probationary employee during their probation period, to provide feedback on their performance and suitability. The probationary employee will be informed in writing of any areas requiring improvement.

(c) *Notice of Unsuitability*

If it is observed and recorded that any aspect of the employee's conduct is inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities of the applicable position, or that any aspect of the learning situation in any of the classes is less than satisfactory, or that the probationary employee is in any way unsuitable for continued employment at York House School, the probationary employee will be informed in writing.

(d) *Appointment to a Continuing Contract*

The Head may, at their discretion, conclude a probationary period at any point during the probation period and appoint the employee to a continuing contract.

(e) *Completion of Probationary Period*

Employees who are retained following probation are considered to be on a continuing contract.

19.3 Extension of Probationary Period

The probationary term will be extended by any periods of approved leave including but not restricted to maternity and parental leave.

19.4 Rejection on Probation

The Society may reject any probationary employee for just cause. The test of just cause for rejection will be a test of suitability of the probationary employee for continued employment in the position to which the employee has been appointed. A rejection during probation will not be considered a dismissal for the purpose of Article 12.

19.5 Right to Grieve

Where an employee feels that they have been aggrieved by the decision of the Society to reject the employee during the probationary period, the employee may appeal the decision through the grievance procedure in Article 10 of this agreement.

ARTICLE 20 - LAYOFF

20.1 Cause

In the event of the need to lay off employee(s) as a result of a decrease in the amount of work to be done for reasons including decreased student enrolment; program redundancy or program elimination, reduction or change, a change in the organisational structure of the school, or the amount of available operating funds, the Society will give the employee(s) affected written notice, including the reason and the specialization in which the layoff is to take place, and will advise the Union in writing of the employee(s), number of employee(s), reason, and specialization(s) in which the layoff is to take place.

20.2 Pre-Layoff Canvass

(a) Where the Society identifies to the Union a need to proceed with a layoff of employees pursuant to Article 20.1, the Society will, prior to issuing a layoff notice to any employee under Article 20.4, canvass any employee or group of employees within the area identified for reduction in order to invite on a voluntary basis:

- (1) placement of an employee(s) into a vacant position(s); or
- (2) resignation of an employee(s) with severance and other benefits as provided for in the *Employment Standards Act*.

(b) Where an employee(s) selects an option or accepts an offer of placement, which will be confirmed in writing by the Society, such acceptance is final and binding on the employee.

(c) Responses from employees to the Pre-Layoff Canvass will only be received by the Society for consideration if submitted within 10 days of issuance of a written notice of the Pre-Layoff Canvass to the Union and to the employee or group of employees within the area identified for reduction.

(d) Where the number of employees choosing to exercise their options under this provision exceeds the number of positions to be reduced, the determination will be by the Society based on the needs of the school and the merit of the employees.

20.3 Determination of Layoff

The order of layoff will be in the reverse order of seniority provided that the remaining employees have the necessary specialization or merit as referred to in Article 18.2 to fill the remaining positions.

20.4 Notice of Layoff

The Society will give each employee it intends to lay off pursuant to this article 60 days' notice in writing prior to the effective date of the layoff or make a payment equivalent to the employee's salary for the number of days the actual notice is less than 60 days in lieu of the full 60 days' notice. Such notice will state the reason for the layoff. The Society will concurrently forward a copy of such notice to the Union.

20.5 Recall

An employee's right to recall under this article is lost if the employee refuses to accept two positions, for which the employee possesses the necessary merit as defined in Article 18.2 to perform the work, offered in writing by the Society or 24 months elapse from the date of layoff notice and the employee has not been re-engaged.

When a position becomes available, the Society will send out a notice of the vacancy to all employees on the recall list. The employee who possesses the necessary merit and who is senior on the recall list will be offered the position.

An employee who is offered recall will inform the Society whether or not the offer is accepted within three working days of the receipt of such offer. If the employee declines the offer, the position will be offered to the employee who has the next greatest seniority and who possesses the necessary merit.

ARTICLE 21 - SUPPORT STAFF ANNUAL LEAVE AND HOURS OF WORK**21.1 Support Staff Vacation Entitlement**

- (a) A regular full-time employee who has earned at least 10 days' pay for each calendar month will have an annual vacation entitlement for the vacation year of:
- (1) pro rata of 10 working days in the employee's first four years of employment;
 - (2) 15 working days per annum during the employee's fifth complete year of continuous service and thereafter;
 - (3) 20 working days during the employee's 15th complete year of continuous service and thereafter.

A part-time employee will have a prorated vacation entitlement.

- (b) In addition, regular full-time employees will be provided with one-week vacation during the Christmas break and one-week vacation during spring break when students are not in attendance.
- (c) Notwithstanding (b), in the case of the Facilities Department, one additional week of vacation will be provided instead of vacation during the spring break.
- (d) The calendar year in which an employee's first anniversary falls will be their first vacation year. For the purpose of additional leave entitlement, the calendar year in which the employee's second anniversary falls will be their second vacation year, etc.
- (e) Any unused vacation earned during the first partial year will be accumulated or alternatively paid out at the end of the fiscal year.
- (f) Employees who are subject to layoff for the summer break will be paid 6% of salary during each pay period in lieu of vacation.

21.2 Support Staff Vacation Scheduling

Annual vacation will normally be taken during the summer months (July and August). The Society will make its best efforts to accommodate an employee's request for vacation scheduling.

21.3 Leaves

An employee will not accumulate vacation entitlement while absent on sick leave, WCB or any other leave whether paid or unpaid exceeding 30 calendar days, except as prescribed by the BC *Employment Standards Act*.

21.4 Hours of Work

Full-time support staff will work a 37½ hour week.

21.5 Rest Periods

All support staff will have one 15-minute rest period in each work period in excess of six hours. Rest periods will not begin until one hour after the commencement of work or not later than one hour before the end of the shift. Rest periods will be taken without loss of pay to the employees.

21.6 Meal Periods

- (a) Support staff who work more than five consecutive hours in a workday will be provided with an unpaid meal break of 30 minutes duration.
- (b) When directed by the employee's immediate supervisor to work through the meal period and where no alternate time is provided for a meal period, the meal period will be considered time worked, and included in the work schedule or compensated for at the applicable overtime rate.

ARTICLE 22 - DESIGNATED HOLIDAYS**22.1 Application**

This article will apply to support staff employees only.

22.2 Designated Holidays Defined

The following have been designated as holidays:

New Year's Day	British Columbia Day
Family Day	Labour Day
Good Friday	Thanksgiving Day
Easter Monday	Remembrance Day
Victoria Day	Christmas Day
Canada Day	Boxing Day

22.3 Holiday Falling on a Normal Working Day

Employees will be granted designated holidays with pay for designated holidays that fall on normal working days within the period of their employment.

22.4 Holiday Falling on a Day of Rest

When a designated holiday falls on a non-working day for an employee, the Society will give the employee a working day off with pay.

22.5 Other Designated Holidays

Designated holidays are the designated holidays as provided for in Article 22.2 and any other statutory holiday as may be declared by the municipal, provincial or federal government and which results in the closure of the school.

22.6 Holiday Coinciding with a Day of Vacation

When an employee is on vacation and a designated holiday falls within that period, the designated holiday will not count as a day of vacation.

ARTICLE 23 - OVERTIME**23.1 Application**

This article will apply to support staff employees only.

23.2 Overtime Defined

Work done in excess of the regular hours of the employee will be paid as:

- (a) time and one-half the regular rate for hours worked on a regular workday up to 11 hours or hours worked in excess of 37½ in a workweek;
- (b) double-time the regular rate for hours worked on a regular workday over 11 hours or hours worked in excess of 45 hours in a workweek.

23.3 Overtime Bank

At the employee's option, the overtime worked may be credited to an overtime bank. At a mutually agreed time the Society will grant time off at the appropriate overtime rate in lieu of overtime pay within 12 months after the overtime was earned.

23.4 Authorization of Overtime

Any overtime worked must be authorized in advance in writing by the Society.

23.5 Recording of Overtime

Overtime worked will be recorded by the employee as required by the Society.

23.6 Meal Allowance on Overtime

When an employee is required to work a minimum of two and one-half hours overtime immediately before or after completion of the employee's scheduled daily hours, the employee will be provided with a meal. In the event that the Society does not provide a meal, the employee will be reimbursed in the amount as set out in Article 32.6, and a meal break of 20 minutes with pay will be given.

23.7 Right to Refuse Overtime

Employees will have the right to refuse to work overtime except when required to do so in emergency situations, without being subject to disciplinary action for so refusing.

ARTICLE 24 - MATERNITY AND PARENTAL LEAVE**24.1 Maternity Leave**

Employees are eligible for unpaid maternity leave subject to the conditions in this article.

- (a) Every employee who intends to take maternity leave will give at least four weeks' notice in writing to the Society unless there is a valid reason why such notice cannot be given, and will inform the Society in writing of the expected birth date and the length of leave intended to be taken.

- (b) Each employee who wishes to change the effective date of approved maternity leave will give the Society four weeks' written notice of such change unless there is a valid reason why such notice cannot be given.
- (c) The employee will be granted maternity leave for a period not longer than 17 consecutive weeks.
- (d) The period of maternity leave will commence no earlier than 13 weeks before the expected birth date and no later than the actual birth date. The maternity leave will end no later than 17 weeks after the leave begins.
- (e) A request for maternity leave shorter than 17 weeks must be given in writing to the Society at least 21 days before the date that the employee indicates they intend to return to work, and the employee must furnish the Society with a certificate of a qualified medical practitioner stating that the employee is able to resume work on that date.
- (f) The Society will, upon the request of the employee, modify the commencement of maternity leave for any period approved in writing by a qualified medical practitioner.
- (g) Maternity leave will be extended for up to an additional six consecutive weeks or such longer period that ends at a natural break in the school year, for illness of the new-born child(ren) where a doctor's certificate is presented or if, for reasons related to the birth or the termination of the pregnancy, the employee is unable to return to work sooner.

24.2 Maternity Leave Allowance

- (a) A regular employee who has passed their probation and who qualifies for maternity leave pursuant to Clause 24.1 shall be paid a maternity leave allowance in accordance with the Supplementary Unemployment Benefit ("SUB") Plan agreement between the Society and Service Canada.
- (b) In order to receive this maternity leave allowance, the employee must provide to the Society, proof that they have applied for and are in receipt of employment insurance benefits pursuant to the Employment Insurance Act. An employee disentitled or disqualified from receiving employment insurance benefits is not eligible for a maternity leave allowance.
- (c) Pursuant to the SUB Plan agreement, the maternity leave allowance will consist of payments for a period of 15 weeks, equivalent to the difference between the employment insurance gross benefits plus any other gross earnings received by the employee, and 85% of the employee's basic pay.
- (d) The above payments will occur between the Tuesday after Labour Day and the last school day in each school year for teachers.

24.3 Parental Leave

Employees are eligible for unpaid parental leave subject to the conditions in this article.

- (a) Upon application, an employee will be granted parental leave following the birth or adoption of the employee's child. The employee will have to furnish a medical certificate or other evidence stating the date of birth of the child or, where applicable, proof of adoption.
- (b) For the purpose of this article a "*parent*" means a birth parent or an adopting parent.
- (c) Upon application, employees will be granted parental leave as follows:
 - (1) for an employee who takes maternity leave in accordance with Clause 24.1, a parental leave of up to 35 consecutive weeks or 61 consecutive weeks, depending on their choice of either

standard parental leave or extended parental leave, commencing immediately after the end of the leave taken under Clause 24.1; or

(2) for an employee who does not take maternity leave in accordance with Clause 24.1, a parental leave of up to 37 consecutive weeks or 63 consecutive weeks, depending on their choice of either standard parental leave or extended parental leave, commencing within 78 weeks after the birth of the child or children, or 78 weeks after the adoptive child or children are placed with the parent.

- (d) An employee's election of either standard or extended parental leave is irrevocable.
- (e) If the child has a physical, psychological, or emotional condition requiring an additional period of parental care, the employee is entitled to an additional period of parental leave of up to five consecutive weeks. The employee's qualified medical practitioner or the agency that placed the child must certify that such an additional period of parental leave is required.
- (f) Where both parents are employees of the Society, the employees will determine the apportionment of parental leave between them subject to the agreement of the Society. The total parental leave when shared between both parents will not exceed 78 weeks, except as provided under 24.3(e) (Parental Leave).

24.4 Parental Leave Allowance

- (a) A regular employee who has passed their probation and who qualifies for parental leave pursuant to Clause 24.3 shall be paid a parental leave allowance in accordance with the SUB Plan agreement.
- (b) In order to receive this allowance, the employee must provide the Society with proof that the employee has applied for and is in receipt of employment insurance benefits pursuant to the Employment Insurance Act. An employee disentitled or disqualified from receiving employment insurance benefits is not eligible for parental leave allowance.
- (c) Pursuant to the SUB Plan agreement, the parental leave allowance will consist of the following:
- (1) if the employee has opted for standard parental leave and employment insurance benefits, the employee shall receive a parental leave allowance for the first 6 weeks of parental leave equal to the difference between the employment insurance gross benefits plus any other gross earnings received by the employee, and 85% of the employee's basic pay; or
- (2) if the employee has opted for extended parental leave and employment insurance benefits, the employee shall receive a parental leave allowance for the first 6 weeks of parental leave equal to the difference between the employment insurance gross benefits they would have received if they had opted for standard parental leave plus any other gross earnings received by the employee, and 85% of the employee's basic pay.
- (d) The above payments will occur between the Tuesday after Labour Day and the last school day in each school year for teachers.

24.5 Benefit Waiting Period Allowance

- (a) An employee who qualifies for a maternity leave allowance pursuant to 24.2 or a parental leave allowance pursuant to 24.4 and is required by Employment Insurance to serve a one-week waiting period for Employment Insurance Maternity/Parental benefits, shall be paid a leave allowance during the waiting period equivalent to one week at 85% of the employee's basic pay.

- (b) An employee who qualifies a maternity leave allowance pursuant to 24.2 and takes the maximum maternity leave entitlement, shall be paid a leave allowance equivalent to one week at 85% of the employee's basic pay for the last week of the maternity leave entitlement.
- (c) The weekly payments will occur between the Tuesday after Labour Day and the last school day in each school year for teachers.

24.6 Early Return and Emergency Situations

- (a) In the case of an incomplete pregnancy, death of a child or other special situations, an employee may return to duty earlier than provided in the agreed-upon leave provided that a minimum of two weeks written notice is given to the Society.
- (b) The employee intending to make an early return to duty under Article 24.6(a) will submit a written application together with a medical certificate stating that the employee is fit to return to work.

24.7 Leave without Pay

All leave taken under Article 24 (Maternity and Parental Leave) is leave without pay.

24.8 Aggregate Leave

The aggregate amount of combined leave of absence from employment that may be taken by an employee under Article 24.1 (Maternity Leave) and 24.3 (Parental Leave) in respect of the birth of any one child will not exceed 52 consecutive weeks for employees who opt for standard parental leave, and 78 consecutive weeks for employees who opt for extended parental leave, except as provided under Article 24.1(g) (Maternity Leave) and/or 24.3(e) (Parental Leave).

24.9 Benefit Premiums

If an employee maintains coverage for benefit plans while on maternity or parental leave, the Society agrees to pay the employer's share of these premiums.

24.10 Return from Leave

- (a) On return from leave, an employee will be placed either in the position the employee held before taking the leave or in a comparable position.
- (b) The services of an employee who is on leave pursuant to Article 24.1 (Maternity Leave) or 24.3 (Parental Leave) are deemed continuous for the purposes of calculating annual vacation entitlement and any pension, medical or other plan beneficial to the employee.
- (c) To be entitled to the maternity leave allowance and/or parental leave allowance described in Articles 24.2 and/or 24.4, an employee must sign an agreement that they will return to work and remain in the Society's employment for a period of at least three months after their return to work. Should the employee fail to comply with this agreement, the employee shall reimburse the Society for the maternity leave allowance and/or parental leave allowance received by them, on a pro-rata basis.

24.11 Seniority Rights on Return to Work

- (a) An employee will continue to accrue seniority for the period covered by the approved leave.
- (b) The employee will notify the Society a minimum of five months' prior to the expiration of the aggregate leave taken pursuant to Articles 24.1 (Maternity Leave) and 24.3 (Parental Leave) of their intent to return to their position unless notice is provided pursuant to Article 24.14 (Extended Child Care Leave).

- (c) The employee will be deemed to have resigned on the date upon which their leave commenced if notice is not given or they do not return to work.

24.12 Sick Leave

Prior to the commencement of maternity leave, illness arising due to pregnancy may be covered by normal sick leave.

24.13 Leave for Birth, Adoption or Legal Guardianship

Leave of up to three days with no deduction from pay will be granted to an employee when they adopt or assume legal guardianship of a child or when a child is born to an employee's spouse or common-law partner. Up to 15 additional days will be granted with deduction at the pay rate of a Teacher on Call whether a Teacher on Call is required or not, or deduction of the employee's daily rate, whichever is less. With the approval of the Head, these 15 days need not be taken consecutively or immediately following the initial three days leave.

24.14 Extended Child Care Leave

- (a) Upon written notification, no later than five months prior to the expiration of the aggregate leave taken pursuant to Articles 24.1 (Maternity Leave) and 24.3 (Parental Leave), an employee will be granted a further unpaid leave of absence to care for the child.
- (b) An employee shall be entitled to take additional leave of up to 12 months under this clause. The employee must choose either the last day of the subsequent summer or winter break as the end date for such additional leave.
- (c) An employee wishing continued coverage under any applicable benefit plans will pay the total premium costs while on extended child care leave.
- (d) An employee on extended child care leave will provide the Society with at least five months' written notice of return from such leave.
- (e) Upon return from extended child care leave, an employee will be placed either in the position the employee held before taking the leave or in a comparable position.

ARTICLE 25 - LEAVES**25.1 Requests for Leave**

All requests for leave will be made in writing except where it is not possible to do so. Leaves will be made available to employees as provided for in this article.

25.2 Job Share

A job share arrangement may be approved by the Society in consultation with the Union on such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon in writing.

25.3 Bereavement Leave

- (a) In the event that an employee suffers bereavement in their immediate family, they will be granted up to three consecutive days' leave of absence with pay which may include teaching and non-teaching days to make preparations for and/or attend the funeral. An employee may request up to an additional two consecutive days of leave with pay, normally based on travel consideration, with the approval of

the Head. Immediate family is defined as spouse or equivalent, child, parents, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild and siblings.

(b) In the event that an employee suffers bereavement in their immediate relatives (grandparents-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, aunt and uncle) they will be granted leave of absence up to a maximum of three consecutive days which may include teaching and non-teaching days inclusive of travel time. The first day of the leave will be with pay and subsequent days of the leave will be granted at the cost of a substitute.

(c) The bereavement period outlined above may be taken on days that are non-consecutive to accommodate, established ethno-cultural or religious practices.

25.4 Leave at Cost of an On Call Employee

(a) Leave may be granted at the cost of a teacher on call, or with deduction of the employee's daily rate, whichever is less, to a maximum of five workdays in any one school year for any of the following purposes:

- (1) critical illness or hospitalization of an immediate family member as defined in Article 25.3(a);
- (2) family illness when no one at the employee's home other than the employee can provide for the needs of the ill child;
- (3) writing examinations for courses approved by the Society;
- (4) award or certification ceremony when employee, spouse or child is to be honoured;
- (5) attend their formal hearing to become a Canadian citizen;
- (6) one day for moving to a new residence.

25.5 Jury Duty

An employee who is subpoenaed for jury duty will continue to receive full pay but will sign over to the Society any funds received for the jury duty.

25.6 Family Responsibility Leave

Leave will be granted to a maximum of five workdays in any one school year for the purposes of meeting responsibilities related to the care, or health or education of a child in the employee's care or the care or health of any other member of the employee's immediate family. These leave days will be deducted from the employee's sick leave.

25.7 Leave without Pay

Leave may be granted without pay for good and sufficient reason.

25.8 Deferred Salary Leave

Deferred salary leave will be administered under Memorandum of Agreement 1.

25.9 Workers' Compensation Board Leave

An employee who qualifies for Workers' Compensation Board payments will not be entitled to claim sick leave for such period of qualification.

During the period of absence the Society will continue to pay its share of dental, medical services plan, extended health benefit, and group life insurance premiums.

25.10 Time Off for Negotiations

Leave will be granted, subject to operational requirements of the school, for three employees who are appointed members of the Union's Bargaining Committee to carry on negotiations with the Society. To facilitate the administration of this article when leave is granted, the leave will be given with basic pay and the Union will reimburse the Society for substitute costs.

The Union will provide the Society with reasonable notice prior to the commencement of leave under this article. The Society will grant a request for union leave provided that the needs of the students in the school are not adversely affected by the leave.

25.11 Full-Time Union-Leave

The Society will grant, on written request, leave of absence without pay for employees selected for, or elected to, a full-time position with the Union or any body to which the Union is affiliated for a period of three years.

On return to work from union leave, an employee will be placed either in the position the employee held before taking the leave or in a comparable position.

25.12 Educational Leave

The Society supports the concept of leave for the purposes of advanced or special training which will be of benefit to the employee and the Society, and in certain cases for programs of independent study and/or research where criteria for evaluating the employee's performance on such leave can be established. Such leave will be without pay.

Educational leave granted by the Society to regular employees requesting such leave will be in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) (1) The duration of educational leave granted to regular employees to take advanced or special training which will be of benefit to the employee and the Society may be for varying periods from two weeks up to one year, which may be renewed by mutual agreement.
- (2) In certain cases, educational leave may be approved for programs of independent study and/or research when the criteria for evaluating the employee's performance on such leave can be clearly established and can be shown to be of significant benefit to the employee and the Society.
- (3) Applications for educational leave of three weeks or more in duration will be submitted by the employee at least five months prior to the starting date requested for the leave (except in emergency situations).
- (4) The applicant will be advised of the Society's decision within two months from the date of the original application. If the application is denied, the applicant will be given the reasons in writing.
- (5) If an employee wishes to grieve the Society's decision, the grievance will commence at Step 3 of the grievance procedure.
- (6) On return to work from educational leave, an employee will be placed either in the position the employee held before taking the leave or in a comparable position.

25.13 Leave for Detached Duty

The Society may grant leave with pay provided the needs of the school are not adversely affected by the leave, not normally to exceed 20 days per school year, to teachers for services requested by the Ministry of Education, Faculties of Education or other organizations provided that all costs to the Society are borne by the requesting organization.

25.14 Leave for Exchange Programs

Teachers wishing to participate in teacher exchange programs will advise the Head in writing by January 15 in the year of the commencement of the program. The details of the exchange will be discussed and mutually agreed between the parties prior to the exchange occurring.

On return to work from teacher exchange program, an employee will be placed either in the position the employee held before taking the leave or in a comparable position.

25.15 Joint Consultation Committee

Employees appointed by the Union as union representatives to the Joint Consultation Committee as specified in this agreement to attend meetings of the Committee will not suffer any loss of regular earnings while attending such meetings.

25.16 Religious Leave

The Society will grant an employee leave with pay to a maximum of three days each school year for religious observance.

25.17 Personal Need Leave

The Society will grant each full-time regular or continuing employee one-day leave without loss of pay each school year non-cumulative to meet a personal need requirement subject to administrative guidelines for the implementation of the article. Part-time employees will be entitled to this leave in proportion to the percentage of time that they work. Should this provision result in the part-time employee having insufficient time to cover their day off, the remainder of the time will be at the cost of a substitute.

25.18 Compassionate Care Leave

- (a) For the purposes of this article, "*family member*" means individuals referred to in Section 52.1 of the *BC Employment Standards Act*.
- (b) Upon request, the Society will grant an employee compassionate care leave pursuant to the *British Columbia Employment Standards Act* for a period up to 27 weeks of unpaid leave to provide care or support to a family member if a medical practitioner issues a certificate stating that the family member has a serious medical condition with a significant risk of death within 26 weeks or such other period as may be prescribed after the date the certificate is issued or, if the leave began before the date the certificate was issued, the date the leave began.
- (c) The employee must give the Society a copy of the certificate as soon as practicable.
- (d) An employee may begin the compassionate care leave no earlier than the first day of the week in which the period under 25.18(b) begins.
- (e) A compassionate care leave ends on the last day of the week in which the earlier of the following occurs:

- (1) the family member dies;
 - (2) the expiration of 52 weeks or other prescribed period from the date the leave began.
- (f) A compassionate leave must be taken in units of one or more weeks.
- (g) If an employee takes a compassionate care leave and the family member to whom the leave applies does not die within the period referred to in the medical certificate, the employee may take a further leave after obtaining a new medical certificate in accordance with 25.18(b) and Sections 25.18(c) to (f) apply to further leave.

25.19 Leave to Seek Public Office

The Society shall grant, on written request, leave of absence without pay and without loss of seniority, for a maximum period of 90 days, for employees to seek election in a municipal, provincial, federal, or Indigenous election.

25.20 Statutory Leave Entitlements

The Society recognizes that the *Employment Standards Act* and other legislation may provide further statutory leave entitlements for eligible employees for reasons not set out in this Article. Eligible employees are entitled to such leaves pursuant to the terms of the *Employment Standards Act* or other applicable legislation.

ARTICLE 26 - SICK LEAVE AND LONG-TERM DISABILITY

26.1 Sick Leave

- (a) Sick leave is earned at the rate of one day for each month of employment (excluding July and August for teachers). In their first year of employment, staff will be credited in advance with four sick leave days at the beginning of their employment beginning their fifth month, they will start to earn one day for each month of employment (excluding July and August for teachers). In the event that the teacher leaves the employ of the Society prior to earning the four days advanced at the commencement of the school year, the Society may deduct from the teacher's salary payments an amount equivalent to the used and unearned sick leave for that teacher.
- (b) Part-time employees will be entitled to earn sick leave in proportion to the percentage of time that they work.
- (c) Unused sick leave may be accumulated to a maximum of 85 working days.
- (d) Sick leave means the period of time that an employee is permitted to be absent from work while ill, disabled or quarantined or because of a non-work related accident except an absence for which compensation is payable under the *Workers Compensation Act*.
- (e) Any days during which the employee has been absent with full pay for reasons of illness, disability, quarantine, or non-work related accident will be charged against any sick leave accumulated by the employee.
- (f) In accordance with Article 26.4, employees may be required to provide an acceptable medical certificate in relation to any absence due to illness. Employees will be required to provide an acceptable medical certificate in relation to any absence due to illness in excess of five consecutive workdays.
- (g) Where it is not possible for an employee to schedule necessary medical and dental appointments outside school hours, time for such appointments will be charged against any sick leave accumulated by the employee.

(h) Where an employee is on full-time sick leave, the Society will endeavour to accommodate the employee and may grant a return to duty on partial sick leave where the employee produces a certificate from a medical practitioner stating that the employee while medically unable to work full-time is capable of working part-time.

(i) An employee on partial sick leave will earn sick leave proportionately for the portion of time worked. Deduction of sick leave will be made proportionately for the time not worked.

(j) A record of all unused sick leave will be kept by the Society. The Society will advise each employee by September 30 of each year of the amount of their accumulated sick leave as of June 30 of the same year. Any employee will be advised upon application of the amount of their sick leave accumulation.

26.2 Short-Term Indemnity

(a) In the event that an employee is unable to work because of illness or injury who does not have sufficient sick leave accumulated to cover the absence prior to eligibility for long-term disability, the employee will be entitled to access EI benefits for sickness.

26.3 Long-Term Disability Plan

(a) Regular or continuing employees will be covered by a Long-Term Disability Plan upon completion of three months of active continuous employment.

(b) Premiums for the Long-Term Disability Plan will be paid in full by employees through deductions from salary payments. No changes to the Long-Term Disability Plan will be made without the express agreement of the designated union representative.

(c) Coverage in the Plan is a condition of employment.

(d) Notwithstanding the above, employees over age 65 are not eligible for coverage under the Long-Term Disability Plan and are therefore not required to pay premiums for the Plan.

(e) In the event an employee while covered by the Plan becomes disabled for 120 calendar days, the employee will be eligible to receive monthly benefits in accordance with the terms of the Plan and will not be eligible to receive sick leave benefits.

26.4 Doctor's Certificate of Inability to Work

(a) The Society may require an employee who is unable to work because of illness or injury to provide a statement from:

- (1) a medical practitioner qualified to practise in the Province of British Columbia; or
- (2) the consulting physician to whom the employee is referred by the medical practitioner in (a) above, providing medical evidence of the employee's inability to work in any of the following circumstances:

(i) where it appears that a pattern of consistent or frequent absence from work is developing;

(ii) where the employee has been absent in excess of five consecutive scheduled days of work;

(iii) where at least 30 days have elapsed since the last statement was obtained and the Employee has been in receipt of plan benefits throughout that period;

(iv) where an employee claims sick leave immediately following or immediately before a major vacation period (summer vacation, winter break and spring break).

(b) Benefits will cease to be paid when an employee fails to provide satisfactory evidence of medical disability during the benefit period.

26.5 Employee to Inform Employer

The employee will inform the Society as soon as possible of their inability to report to work because of illness or injury. The employee will inform the Society of the date of return to duty, in advance of that date, in order that teacher on call teachers scheduled for that employee can be notified.

ARTICLE 27 - HEALTH AND WELFARE

27.1 Entitlement to Health and Welfare Benefits

Health and welfare benefits will apply to all regular probationary, continuing and temporary employees who work a minimum of 50% teaching load or 19 hours or more, covered by this agreement. The Society will provide the necessary enrolment forms. If an employee receives benefit coverage through their spouse, the employee may opt out of any of the plans detailed below. The Society will assist the employees in claiming benefits under any of the plans by providing application forms and the names and addresses of the carriers. It is understood by both parties that any participation by the Society in cost of the premiums for any of the plans will not be compounded by any compulsory provincial or federal plans either in existence or introduced at a later date.

27.2 Commencement of Coverage

After three months of employment, benefit coverage will commence for all regular, continuing or temporary employees, including probationary.

27.3 Basic Medical (MSP)

If the provincial government reinstates premiums for the Medical Services Plan (MSP) or an equivalent basic medical plan the Society will pay 75% of the cost of such premiums.

27.4 Extended Health Benefits

The Society will pay 100% of the cost of premiums of an extended health plan which will include:

- (a) hospital co-insurance coverage;
- (b) international travel assistance;
- (c) speech therapy up to \$500;
- (d) clinical psychology (certified psychologists, certified counsellors, etc.) up to \$1600;
- (e) podiatrist up to \$500;
- (f) acupuncture up to \$600;
- (g) audiocare (\$500 in 3 years);
- (h) physiotherapy up to \$750;
- (i) massage therapy up to \$750;
- (j) chiropractor (\$600 combined maximum and \$50/year for x-rays);
- (k) orthopaedic shoes (\$400 adults, \$200 child);
- (l) vision care (\$350 for eyeglasses plus \$90 eye exam in 24-month period);
- (m) eligible prescription drug expenses (100%).

27.5 Dental Plan

The Society will pay 50% of the cost of premiums of a dental plan which will include reimbursement of expenses at:

- Basic Services (Plan A) 100%
- Major Restorative Services (Plan B) 75%
- Orthodontia (Plan C)..... 60%

The maximum lifetime payment for orthodontia will be \$3,500 per member, spouse or dependent child.

27.6 Life Insurance

The Society will pay 100% of the premium payable on behalf of each employee covered by the life insurance plan. Participation in the plan is a condition of employment. The following coverage will be provided:

- (a) two times annual earnings to a maximum of \$200,000;
- (b) dependant life insurance of \$5,000 (spouse) and \$2,500 (child);

All amounts of coverage will be rounded to the next one thousand of coverage.

27.7 Employment Insurance

Employment insurance coverage will be provided during the term of this agreement for regular and temporary employees who are eligible for such coverage under the provisions of the *Employment Insurance Act*.

27.8 Benefits During Pregnancy, Parental or Adoption Leave

Where an employee is on pregnancy, parental or adoption leave of absence, the Society will continue to pay its share of the appropriate premiums for medical services plan, extended health, dental and group life insurance if the employee wishes to maintain coverage and pays their normal share of the appropriate premiums.

27.9 Medical Examinations

Where the Society requires an employee to submit to a medical examination or medical interview, it will be at the Society's expense and on the Society's time.

27.10 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan

The Society will pay 100% of the cost of the premium of an Accidental Death & Dismemberment Plan.

27.11 Insurance Policies

A copy of the insurance policies with the carriers for the extended health care, dental, long-term disability, and group life plans will be sent to the Union. The Society will consult with the Union before developing or distributing any pamphlet explaining the highlights of the Plans for distribution to employees. The cost of such a pamphlet will be borne by the Society. In the event that the Society initiates a change in the master contract carriers during the life of this agreement, it will advise the Union. Extended health and dental plan provisions will be made available to a partner of an employee as long as the relationship between these two individuals meets the definition of "*spouse*" in the Plan.

27.12 Coverage for Dependent Children

Coverage of dependent children terminates upon their reaching age 21 or 25 if they are in full-time attendance at a recognized educational institute.

27.13 Reinstatement Upon Return from Leave of Absence

An employee who has discontinued coverage during a leave of absence will be automatically reinstated under the plan during the month following return to active service in the school if the leave of absence was less than one year.

27.14 Post-Retirement Health Benefits

- (a) The Society shall make a voluntary post-retirement benefit plan available to eligible employees and their spouses and dependent children, that provides the employee with the ability to purchase dental and extended health care benefit coverage upon retirement. If the employee is of an eligible age, group life insurance may be converted to an individual policy within 30 days of terminating group coverage.
- (b) Employees who purchase post-retirement benefit coverage must pay 100% of the premiums for such coverage, directly to the retiree benefit provider.
- (c) Employees who intend to purchase post-retirement benefit coverage under this Article must provide written notice to the Society no less than 15 calendar days after terminating group coverage.
- (d) All decisions under the post-retirement benefit plan will be made by the retiree benefit provider. The Society has no obligation in respect of any such decisions, including but not limited to decisions regarding eligibility, coverage, claim adjudication and premiums.
- (e) Post-retirement benefit coverage is subject to modification from time to time by the retiree benefit provider.
- (f) Employees must contact the retiree benefit provider directly in writing by email to request enrolment within 30 days of terminating employment.

ARTICLE 28 - PENSION PLAN**28.1 Group RRSP Plan**

The Society and the employees will continue the existing group RRSP Pension Plan. The contribution to the RRSP Plan for the employee and the Society will be as follows:

- (a) the employee and the Society will each contribute 8.5% of gross salary, effective September 1, 2021;
- (b) the employee and the Society will each contribute 9.0% of gross salary, effective September 1, 2022;
- (c) the employee and the Society will each contribute 9.0% of gross salary, effective September 1, 2023;
- (d) the employee will contribute 8.75% of gross salary, and the Society will contribute 9.25% of gross salary, effective September 1, 2024.

ARTICLE 29 - TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE/ADJUSTMENT PLAN**29.1 Notice to Union**

If the Society introduces or intends to introduce a measure, policy, practice or change that affects the terms, conditions or security of employment of a significant number of its employees covered by this collective agreement:

- (a) the Society will give notice to the Union at least 60 days before the date on which the measure, policy, practice or change is to be effected; and
- (b) after notice has been given, the Society and Union will meet, in good faith, and endeavour to develop an adjustment plan, which may include provisions respecting any of the following:
 - (1) consideration of alternatives to the proposed measure, policy, practice or change, including amendment of provisions in the collective agreement;
 - (2) human resource planning and employee counselling and retraining;
 - (3) notice of termination;
 - (4) severance pay;
 - (5) entitlement to pension and other benefits including early retirement benefits; and
 - (6) a bipartite process for overseeing the implementation of the adjustment plan.

29.2 Adjustment Plan

If, after meeting in accordance with Article 29.1, the Society and the Union have agreed to an adjustment plan, the adjustment plan will form part of this collective agreement.

29.3 Training

The Society agrees to provide employees with training to qualify employees to perform their regular duties whenever the Society introduces new technology at the school.

ARTICLE 30 - GENERAL CONDITIONS**30.1 Copies of Agreements**

The Society and the Union will share equally in the cost of printing the agreement for members of the bargaining unit.

ARTICLE 31 - HEALTH AND SAFETY**31.1 Conditions**

The Society and the Union agree that regulations made pursuant to the *Workers Compensation Act* or any other statute of the Province of British Columbia pertaining to the working environment will be fully complied with. First Aid kits will be supplied in accordance with this section.

31.2 Safety Committee

The Society and the Union agree to establish a joint occupational health and safety committee. The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee will be comprised of personnel employed at the school. The

composition will be determined through management and union representatives employed at the school. Union representatives will be appointed by the Union. The Committee will meet pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Board Industrial Health and Safety Regulations at regular intervals to be determined by the Committee to make recommendations on unsafe, hazardous or dangerous conditions with the aim of preventing and reducing risk of occupational injury and illness. A copy of all minutes of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee will be sent to the Union and the Society. Employees who are representatives of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee will continue to receive the rate of pay they would have been receiving had they not been attending an occupational health and safety committee meeting.

31.3 Unsafe Work Conditions

- (a) The Society recognizes that employees have the right to a safe workplace and that an employee has the right to refuse work when the employee has reasonable cause to believe that such work would create an undue hazard to the health and safety of any person.
- (b) Investigation of the condition which resulted in an employee refusing to work will be carried out in accordance with the regulations of the Workers' Compensation Board.

31.4 Work Environment

The Society agrees to meet health and safety statutory standards for temperature, ventilation, lighting, humidity, sound level, and other physical conditions at the school.

31.5 Investigation of Accidents

The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee, as provided in Article 31.2, will be notified of each accident or injury involving an employee represented by the Union and the nature and cause of the accident or injury. In the event of a fatality, the Society will immediately notify the Union of the nature and circumstances of the accident.

31.6 Procedure in Case of an Emergency in a Worksite

Where an employee considers that there is an immediate danger in the school to employee(s) or student(s), the employee will immediately report the situation to the Head.

31.7 Unsafe Workplace Closure

In the event that the Society closes the school or a portion of the school because the school is deemed to be unsafe or potentially unsafe to occupy, employees will not be required to enter into or occupy the sections of the school which have been deemed to be unsafe or potentially unsafe.

31.8 Occupational First Aid Requirements

Where the Society requires an employee to perform first aid duties in addition to normal requirements of the employee's position, the cost of obtaining and renewing the Occupational First Aid Certificate will be borne by the Society.

The employee designated to perform first aid duties will receive an additional payment of \$50 per pay period (September through June inclusive).

31.9 Earthquake Preparedness

The Society will ensure that all employees receive appropriate earthquake preparedness training within six months of the ratification of this agreement.

31.10 Student Medication

Employees covered by this agreement will not be called upon to administer medication or administer other medical procedures on a regular basis unless:

- (a) the employee volunteers to administer the medication procedure;
- (b) written authorization and instructions for administration of medication has been received from the student's attending physician confirming that medication is required while the student is attending school;
- (c) the student's parent or guardian has made a written request for the school's assistance and has discussed the situation with School Administration; and, if necessary;
- (d) adequate instruction and training has been received from a qualified health care professional.

The Society will indemnify and save harmless any employee against claims arising from the administration of medication, supervision of self-administration, or performance of medical or physical procedures that are carried out pursuant to the instructions and requests received as referred to in this article.

ARTICLE 32 - PAYMENT OF SALARY**32.1 Pay Periods**

- (a) Employees will be paid on or before the 15th day of each month and on or before the last business day of each month.
- (b) Payments will be electronically deposited by the Society to any chartered bank or credit union in the Province of British Columbia chosen and authorized by the employee.
- (c) No employee will suffer a reduction in salary as a result of implementation of this agreement.

32.2 Part-Month Payments and Deductions

- (a) The rate of deduction for a day without pay will be defined as $\frac{1}{180}$ of the current annual salary of the teacher.
- (b) A teacher who is employed full-time for less than a complete school year will be paid on the basis of $\frac{1}{180}$ of the applicable annual salary for each instructional day taught by the teacher.
- (c) Part-time teachers will be paid according to their placement on the basic salary schedule, prorated according to their percentage of the FTE assignment.

32.3 Initial Placement on Salary Grid

- (a) Initial placement on the salary grid is determined by the category assigned by the Teacher Qualification Service (TQS) and years of previous teaching experience. Where a teacher is not able or not eligible to access the TQS, the Society, based on the evidence provided by the teacher, will determine the appropriate placement on the salary grid in accordance with the TQS criteria and requirements for each category. The rationale for the placement will be made available to the teacher.
- (b) Salary Category 5 certified employees who have 15 units or equivalent of approved credits will be paid on salary category 6/PA. All employees will be eligible to apply provided the following conditions have been met:

- (c) *Criteria for Approval of Credits*
- (1) Credits must be equivalent to standards in British Columbia's public universities.
 - (2) The academic standing in all courses must be equivalent to second class or better save and except one course in which a pass mark will be acceptable.
 - (3) Courses taken must be in no more than two areas of study relevant to the school system, although it is agreed that some courses are applicable to many areas of study. Fifteen units or equivalent of credit completed on a Master's degree program relevant to the school system will be acceptable, irrespective of the number of areas of study.
 - (4) Credits which have not been used to obtain salary category 5/PB will be acceptable, provided that these credits comply with the other regulations contained herein.
 - (5) Credits must be in senior courses, i.e., courses numbered 300 or above. In exceptional cases, where it is required and used as a prerequisite, one other course may be considered.
- (d) At the time of appointment, the Society will advise each teacher in writing of the documentation required to establish initial scale placement.
- (e) Pending receipt of the necessary documentation, the teacher will be placed at Step 0 (experience) and Category 4 (professional training).
- (f) Each teacher will submit all documentation required by the Society to establish salary placement within two months of commencement of employment.
- (g) In the event that the necessary documentation is provided within the specified period of time, salary adjustment will be made retroactive to commencement of employment.
- (h) The teacher will be responsible for advising the Society in writing of delays which occur in obtaining the documentation necessitating an extension of the time limits. The Society will not refuse a reasonable written request for an extension of time limits.
- (i) In the event that an extension is not granted, salary adjustment will occur the month following receipt of the documentation.
- (j) The Society will notify the teacher in writing of the category and experience placement that has been assigned.
- (k) In the event that a teacher wishes to appeal their placement on the salary grid, the teacher must apply in writing to the Head giving reasons as for the application for review. In the event that the matter is not satisfactorily resolved, the teacher may refer the matter immediately to Step 3 of the Grievance Procedure in Article 10.

32.4 Increment Credit

- (a) *For initial placement:*
- (1) Full increment credit will be granted for approved exchange teaching and appropriately certified full-time teaching experience acquired while employed in a public school system as defined in the appropriate legislation in Canada, the Commonwealth, and the United States, in any Canadian, Commonwealth or United States faculty of education or federal, provincial, or state ministry of education, in private schools in Canada which receive public funding under legislation similar to the *Independent Schools Support Act* of British Columbia.

- (2) One increment will be recognized for every 10 FTE school months of teaching experience in schools described in Subsection (a)(1).
- (3) The Society may recognize experience in addition to the teaching experience provided for in Subsection (a)(1) for the granting of increments.
- (b) After initial appointment to the school, an increment will be granted for each 10 FTE school months of teaching at the school.
- (c) The anniversary date on which an increment for teaching experience will be credited for all teachers is the first day of September.

32.5 Professional Improvement

Teachers who are entitled to reclassification to a higher category will receive the higher salary upon receipt of the TQS statement. For independent school teachers who are not eligible for Teacher Qualification Service, the Society will grant requests for reclassification to a higher category upon receipt of necessary documentation based on the Society's published criteria. The salary adjustment will be paid retroactively to September 1 providing the revised TQS card, latest university transcripts, or required documentation have been submitted to the Society no later than November 30th of that school year. Independent school teachers who are not eligible for Teacher Qualification Service and who are denied reclassification by the Society may appeal the decision through the grievance procedure.

32.6 Meal Allowance

- (a) Employees will be entitled to a meal allowance while on authorized Society business where meal(s) are not provided. Meal allowances will be:

Breakfast	\$15.00
Lunch.....	\$20.00
Dinner	\$30.00

- (b) Reasonable receipted meal costs in excess of the stipulated amounts in this article will, when incurred outside British Columbia, be reimbursed up to the maximum current per diem rates posted by the Canada Revenue Agency.

32.7 Kilometre Allowance

Kilometre allowance for all kilometres travelled on the Society's business will be paid to employees required by the Society to use their own vehicles in the performance of their duties. The kilometre allowance shall be:

55¢ effective September 1, 2021
57¢ effective September 1, 2022
59¢ effective September 1, 2023

32.8 Personal Property Loss

- (a) *Private Vehicle*

Where an employee's vehicle is damaged by a student or is damaged through no fault of the employee during the performance of their duties, the Society will reimburse the employee the lesser of actual vehicle damage repair costs, or the cost of any deductible portion of insurance coverage on that vehicle up to a maximum of \$600.

(b) *Personally Owned Professional Material*

The Society will reimburse an employee to a maximum of \$150 for loss, damage or personal insurance deductible to personally owned professional material brought to the employee's workplace to assist in the execution of the employee's duties, provided that:

- (1) the loss or damage is not the result of negligence on the part of the employee claiming compensation;
- (2) the claim for loss or damage exceeds \$10;
- (3) if applicable, a copy of the claim approval from their insurance carrier will be provided to the Society;
- (4) the appropriate "*Head or Designate*" reports that the loss was sustained while on assignment for the Society.

ARTICLE 33 - TEACHERS ON CALL**33.1 Rate of Pay**

- (a) A Teacher On Call who has a valid BC Teaching Certificate will be paid a daily rate \$280 inclusive of holiday pay.
- (b) Placement on the salary grid will occur after 20 continuous teaching days based on $\frac{1}{189\text{th}}$ of the teacher's grid placement for each day taught.
- (c) The minimum assignment for a teacher on call will be one-half day.
- (d) A Teacher On Call who is called in to an assignment in excess of one-half day and a period shorter than one full day will be paid the daily rate for the assignment.
- (e) Callout for two blocks in the senior school or four blocks in the junior school will constitute one-half day assignment.
- (f) Teachers On Call will receive \$300 inclusive of holiday pay when required to participate in a school event overnight.

33.2 Application of Collective Agreement

The following articles of the collective agreement will apply to Teachers On Call:

- Article 2 - Society's Rights
- Article 3 - Duties and Responsibilities of Teachers
- Article 4 - Union Security
- Article 5 - Union Recognition Rights
- Article 6 - Check-off of Union Dues
- Article 7 - Employer-Union Relations
- Article 8 - Joint Consultation Committee
- Article 9 - Discrimination and Harassment
- Article 10 - Grievance Procedure
- Article 11 - Arbitration
- Article 12 - Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal

ARTICLE 34 - TEACHER ASSISTANTS**34.1 Application of the Collective Agreement**

For the purposes of the collective agreement, Teacher Assistants are not "*support staff*". Articles 21 and 23 do not apply to Teacher Assistants.

34.2 Hours of Work

The days of work for a full-time Teacher Assistant are the days students are in attendance during the school year. The daily hours of work for a full-time Teacher Assistant are a minimum six hours and 30 minutes and maximum seven hours and 30 minutes, inclusive of 30 minutes for lunch and a 15 minute break during the day.

34.3 Rate of Pay

The hourly rate for a full-time Teacher Assistant is:

September 1, 2020	September 1, 2021 +2.5%
\$33.65	\$34.49

- (a) Part-time Teacher Assistants will be paid for all hours worked.
- (b) The rate of pay for Teacher Assistants is inclusive of vacation entitlement and pay.
- (c) Any percent increases to the VSB salary grid for the period September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025 will apply, provided that the effective date of each increase will be applied on either September 1 or January 1, whichever date immediately follows the effective date of the applicable VSB salary grid increase, inclusive of retroactivity. The following increases will also apply:

September 1, 2021	0.5%
September 1, 2022	0.25%
September 1, 2023	0.25%
September 1, 2024	0.5%

ARTICLE 35 - TEACHER INTERN PROGRAM

- (a) Teacher Interns shall refer to recently graduated certified teachers, who will work closely with experienced York House teachers, gaining mentorship and classroom experience.
- (b) Up to three teacher interns may be hired each school year on a 10 month, school year basis contract (September 1 to June 30).
- (c) The salary for the teacher intern will equal \$32,000 over a 10 month contract and will not be subject to the teacher salary grid increases during the term of the collective agreement.
- (d) All terms of the collective agreement will apply.
- (e) The days of work for teacher interns will be the days students are in attendance and will also include teacher Professional Development days.
- (f) Teacher interns will not replace Teachers On Call, except in an urgent situation.
- (g) Extra-curricular involvement is not an expectation for teacher interns, though teacher interns may volunteer in areas of interest.

- (h) The Director of Junior School will oversee the teacher intern program.

ARTICLE 36 - DURATION AND TERM OF AGREEMENT

36.1 Term of Agreement

The term of the contract will be from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025.

36.2 Notice to Bargain

- (a) This agreement may be opened for collective bargaining by either party giving written notice to the other party on or after March 1, 2025.
- (b) Where no notice is given by either party prior to March 31, 2025, both parties will be deemed to have been given notice under this article on March 31, 2025.
- (c) All notices on behalf of the Union will be given by the President of the Union and similar notices on behalf of the Employer will be given by the Head.

36.3 Labour Relations Code

The parties agree that the operation of Sections 50(2) and 50(3) of the *Labour Relations Code* is excluded from the agreement.

36.4 Commencement of Bargaining

Where a party to this agreement has given notice under Article 36.2, the parties will within 14 days after the notice was given commence collective bargaining.

36.5 Change in Agreement

Any change deemed necessary in this agreement may be made by mutual agreement at any time during the life of the agreement.

36.6 Agreement to Continue in Force

Both parties will adhere fully to the terms of this agreement during the term of bona fide collective bargaining.

**SIGNED ON BEHALF OF
THE UNION:**

DocuSigned by:
Stephanie Smith
6B01B367B8FE46D

Stephanie Smith
President

DocuSigned by:
Alison Waterhouse
47382642FA19409...

Alison Waterhouse
Bargaining Committee

DocuSigned by:
Alexis Lum
6F8BF11870B3439...

Alexis Lum
Bargaining Committee

DocuSigned by:
Danika Murray
75CF938EABA644B...

Danika Murray
Bargaining Committee

DocuSigned by:
Clint Robertson
93B231746E5F456...

Clint Robertson
Bargaining Committee

DocuSigned by:
Philip Coates
07F0EC0E734D4E0...

Philip Coates
Bargaining Committee

DocuSigned by:
Larisa Mills
9C714FA0CD8A48B...

Larisa Mills
Staff Representative

**SIGNED ON BEHALF OF
THE EMPLOYER:**

DocuSigned by:
Julie Rousseau
5BCDB5ACB78441E...

Julie Rousseau
Head of School

DocuSigned by:
Mong Xuan Ha
A165CEB8FA0847E...

Mong Xuan Ha
Director of Finance

DocuSigned by:
Heather Kuzsel
EAAF1CF447A44B2...

Heather Kuzsel
Director of Human Resources

DocuSigned by:
Carolyn Green
F81034E06F02487...

Carolyn Green
Director of Junior School

DocuSigned by:
John Gjervan
C0E84CB916614EA...

John Gjervan
Board Representative

Date: July 12, 2022

**APPENDIX 1-A
Teacher Annual Salaries**

It is agreed that any percentage increases to the salary grid applicable to School District 39 (Vancouver) and the Vancouver Teachers' Federation (the "VSB" salary grid) for the period September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025 will apply including any changes to the grid structure, staff placement grid, provided that the effective date of each increase will be applied on either September 1 or January 1, whichever date immediately follows the effective date of the applicable VSB salary grid increase, inclusive of retroactivity.

Where there is an additional increase as a result of the Economic Stability Dividend (ESD), those increases will also apply.

The following increases will also apply to the Teacher's grid:

September 1, 2021	0.5%
September 1, 2022	0.25%
September 1, 2023	0.25%
September 1, 2024	0.5%

In addition, Teacher salaries at Category 4 Step 9, and in all Categories at Step 10, on the Teachers' grid will increase by the following amounts:

September 1, 2021	0.5%
September 1, 2022	an additional amount that will bring those salaries to the same percentage above the VSB salary grid as the other salaries on the Teachers' grid.

Effective September 1, 2021 the salary grid shall be:

Step	Cat 4	Cat 5	Cate 6/PA	Cat 6/M
0	55,878.90	61,357.53	66,380.03	67,406.05
1	58,674.08	64,432.53	69,753.30	70,779.33
2	61,471.30	67,508.55	73,126.58	74,152.60
3	64,266.48	70,584.58	76,499.85	77,525.88
4	67,061.65	73,661.63	79,873.13	80,899.15
5	69,856.83	76,736.63	83,246.40	84,272.43
6	72,654.05	79,812.65	86,619.68	87,645.70
7	75,449.23	82,888.68	89,993.98	91,020.00
8	78,244.40	85,963.68	93,367.25	94,393.28
9	83,879.08	89,039.70	96,740.53	97,766.55
10	83,879.08	95,341.95	103,117.42	104,491.44

Teachers On Call are paid at the rates as set out in Article 33.

Teacher Assistants are paid at the rates as set out in Article 34.

Teacher Interns are paid at the rates as set out in Article 35.

**APPENDIX 1-B
Support Staff Hourly Rates**

Position	Effective September 1, 2020	Effective September 1, 2021 +2.5%
School Receptionist*	25.44/hour	26.08
Administrative Assistant	25.87/hour	26.52
Admissions Associate	32.50/hour	33.31
Supervision Aide	26.20/hour	26.86
Library Technician	28.52/hour	29.23
General Maintenance & Bus Driver (Facilities)	27.50/hour	28.19
Technology & Audio Visual Support Specialist	31.46/hour	32.25
Building & Maintenance Specialist (Facilities)	36.85/hour	37.77
Website & Communications Manager	78,711/year	80,678.78/year

**Based on Letter of Understanding 1*

1. It is agreed that any percentage increases to the VSB salary grid for the period from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025 will apply provided that the effective date of each increase will be applied on either September 1 or January 1, whichever date immediately follows the effective date of the applicable VSB salary grid increase, inclusive of retroactivity.

Where there is an additional increase as a result of the Economic Stability Dividend (ESD), those increases will also apply.

2. In addition, the Support staff wages will be increased as follows:

September 1, 2021	0.5%
September 1, 2022	0.25%
September 1, 2023	0.25%
September 1, 2024	0.5%

**APPENDIX 2
Allowances for Positions of Special Responsibility**

A Position of Special Responsibility is a position created by the Society and offered to an existing teacher to take on the responsibility for, in addition to their teaching duties. An allowance for the performance of this additional responsibility is paid on an annual basis as follows:

Position	September 1, 2020	September 1, 2021 +2.5%
Senior School Department Head	5,468	5604.70
Senior School Athletic Director	5,468	5604.70
Junior School Athletic Coordinator	2,734	2802.35
Outdoor Education Coordinator	6,324	6482.10
Little School Coordinator	5,468	5604.70
Music Coordinator	5,468	5604.70

1. The parties agree that the allowances for positions of special responsibility will be increased by any percentage equivalent to the percentage increase to the VSB salary grid for the period September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025 provided that the effective date of each increase will be applied

on either September 1 or January 1, whichever date immediately follows the effective date of the applicable VSB salary grid increase, inclusive of retroactivity. The following increases will also apply:

September 1, 2021	0.5%
September 1, 2022	0.25%
September 1, 2023	0.25%
September 1, 2024	0.5%

2. The Society may at any time establish or discontinue any positions of special responsibility after consultation with the Workload Review Committee.
3. Department Heads will be selected by the Society from time to time as required and are recognized as being bargaining unit positions.
4. The Society may at its discretion for any of the positions of special responsibility provide for a reduced workload in addition to the allowance.

APPENDIX 3 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Teachers who teach Advanced Placement courses will be paid the following in addition to their teacher salary:

	September 1, 2020	September 1, 2021 2.5%
Advanced Placement (4 credit course)	2,474	2535.85
Advanced Placement (2 credit course)	1,237	1267.93

The Advanced Placement allowances will be increased by any percentage equivalent to the percentage increase to the VSB salary grid for the period September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025 provided that the effective date of each increase will be applied on either September 1 or January 1, whichever date immediately follows the effective date of the applicable VSB salary grid increase, inclusive of retroactivity.

The following increases will also apply:

September 1, 2021	0.5%
September 1, 2022	0.25%
September 1, 2023	0.25%
September 1, 2024	0.5

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING 1

Legacy Entitlements

The parties have agreed that any support staff hired prior to 1984 will maintain the following provisions:

- (a) daily hours of work will be seven hours;
- (b) in addition to the entitlement in Article 21.1, the support staff will receive one week at spring break leave with pay, and two weeks at winter break without pay. The support staff will work on the first 4 working days after July 1, and on 5 working days before Labour Day. The remainder of the time between July 1 and Labour Day will be leave without pay.

During the term of the collective agreement, the Support Staff will be paid the applicable hourly rate in equal monthly installments.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT 1
York House School Deferred Salary Leave Program

- (a) Teachers with a minimum of three years' service are eligible to apply under the leave program.
- (b) Teachers may not re-apply for a subsequent leave until at least five years after the expiration of the preceding Leave Period or Contract Period whichever is later.
- (c) Applications for leave must be made four years before the anticipated date of commencement of the leave. Teachers whose applications are approved must enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the School.
- (d) A maximum of three Senior School Teachers may be on leave in any one academic year; only one member of a department may be on leave at any time. A maximum of two Junior School teachers, not both from the same grade, may be on leave in any one academic year. Only one French teacher from Junior School may be on leave at any one time.
- (e) Leaves are for a period of one year, and can be taken only over the period from September 1 to August 31.
- (f) In the four years preceding the leave period, (the "*Contract Period*") salary will be paid at 80% of normal earnings in each year. During the year of leave, salary will be paid at such a rate, that the total salary equals the 20% salary which has been withheld for the four preceding years plus the accrued interest on this amount. (The school having invested these monies.)
- (g) During the four years preceding a leave, benefits plans' coverage (including that relating to pensions), will be continued at levels determined with reference to 100% of normal earnings in these years. (Note that this requires members' and school contributions in amounts greater than those normally required for earnings actually received and paid.)
- (h) During the year from September 1 to August 31 (the "*Leave Period*"), the Teacher will be entitled to a leave of absence and will be paid by the School, in the normal way and on the usual pay dates, to which the Teacher normally would be entitled in this year if engaged in normal teaching and other duties at the School.
- (i) The Leave Period may be postponed for one year if, prior to January 1 of the year in which the Leave Period would have commenced, either:
 - (j) The School gives the teacher written notice that postponement is necessary because the Head, at their sole discretion, has determined that the Teacher to be indispensable to the program needs of the school, or
 - (k) The Teacher makes a written request to the School stating personal or other reasons which make postponement necessary, and the Head determines postponement is not detrimental to the School.
- (l) This agreement may be terminated by the Teacher giving written notice to the Head prior to January 1 of the year in which the Leave Period would be commenced.
- (m) This agreement will be deemed terminated at the time a Teacher's employment contract is not renewed. On termination under this section, 20% of the salary not otherwise paid to the Teacher by

reason of participation of the Program, up to the date of termination, will be paid to the Teacher, with interest, in six equal monthly installments commencing the month following receipt of written notice of termination.

(n) If prior to the Leave Period the Teacher dies, or becomes permanently disabled under the terms of the School's long-term liability group insurance, 20% of the salary not otherwise paid to the Teacher by reason of participation in the Program, up to the date of death or commencement of payments under the long-term disability plan, will be paid to the Teacher's estate or designated beneficiary with interest in one payment not later than three months after death or commencement of disability payments.

(o) The Leave Period will constitute teaching experience for purposes of determining the Teacher's salary and seniority at the School.