

AGREEMENT

Between

KENT COUNTY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

And

INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF AND/OR HARD OF HEARING

September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2024

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AGREEMENT

Section A. Parties

This AGREEMENT is made and entered into on September 1, 2021 between the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE KENT INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT, a school district of general power district hereinafter referred to as the “BOARD” or the “DISTRICT”, and the Kent ISD INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF AND/OR HARD OF HEARING.

Section B. Application

All terms and conditions of employment specified in this contract apply only to those members of the Kent ISD Interpreters for the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing, that are employees of the Board of Education of the Kent Intermediate School District as specified in Article I, Recognition Clause.

The power to decide whether or not to enter into, ratify, or execute a collective bargaining agreement with the Kent ISD Board of Education rests solely with the members of the Kent ISD Interpreters for the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing Association and shall not be delegated to any bargaining representative or any education association or conditioned on approval by any bargaining representative or any education association.

Section C. Headings

The headings used in this Agreement are for reference only and shall not add to nor subtract from the express terms and provisions contained therein.

PURPOSE

Section A. Establish Terms and Conditions

This Agreement is negotiated pursuant to the Public Employment Relations Act No. 336 of the Public Acts of 1947 as amended, to establish the terms and conditions of employment for the members of the bargaining unit herein defined.

Section B. Cooperative Dispute Resolution

The Board and the Association recognize it is the intent and purpose of this Agreement to promote and ensure a spirit of confidence and cooperation between the Board and its Employees as well as establish an orderly and peaceful resolution of labor disputes which may arise during the life of this Agreement; and accordingly, have included herein a grievance procedure for the effective processing and resolution of such disputes.

Section C. Binding Obligation

The provisions of this Agreement shall constitute a binding obligation of the parties for the duration hereof or until changed by written, mutual consent.

ARTICLE I - RECOGNITION

The Board hereby recognizes the Kent ISD Interpreters for the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing, Kent County Education Association, the Michigan Education Association, and the National Education Association, (NESPA/KCEA/MEA/NEA), as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent, for all full-year, school year and regularly scheduled part-time, interpreters for the deaf or hard of hearing, excluding Supervisors of interpreters, substitutes, and all other employees.

ARTICLE II - ASSOCIATION RIGHTS

Section A. School Building Use

The Association and its members may use the district facilities at reasonable hours for meetings as long as the building is covered by the operating staff. Room arrangements shall be made with the principal involved or the Superintendent or designee. The Association may be required to secure an approved Building Use permit before the use of any school facility.

Section B. Posting Notices and School Mail Use

The Association will have the right to place notices, circulars, and other material on Association bulletin boards, with at least one of which shall be provided in each work site, and mail boxes. Authorized representatives of the Association will assume the responsibility for posting or distributing materials of the Association. The school mail system may be utilized by the Association for its official business.

Section C. School Equipment Use

The Association may use office equipment at reasonable times when such equipment is not in use. Administrative notification will be given prior to such use. The Association shall furnish all materials and supplies incidental to its operation.

Section D. Information

The Board will, in accordance with Board Policy No. 8310, dated July 12, 1999, furnish the Association, in response to written request, copies of public records or documents. The Association may be requested to compensate the Board for the cost of reproduction and making the materials available.

Section E. Copies of the Agreement

The Board will furnish a copy of this Agreement to each employee in the bargaining unit and to each new employee and twenty (20) additional copies to the Association without cost.

Section F. Membership Fees and Payroll Deduction

Change of Status. The Board will make available to the treasurer of the Association the names and addresses of each employee separated from the payroll, hired, laid off, recalled, placed on approved leave of absence, or a change of address within fifteen (15) days of such change.

Section G. Association Release Time

1. Grievances/Negotiations. The Association shall not lose time or pay for authorized time

spent investigating complaints and or handling grievances, or negotiations during their regular scheduled working hours. The Board shall not be obligated to grant time during the employee's paid working hours.

2. Association Conferences/Training Sessions. Each school year, the Association shall be allowed up to twenty (20) hours of released time for employees at the trip rate of pay to attend conferences and training sessions endorsed by the Association. The Board in its discretion may approve these hours for other Association related activities upon request from the Association on each occasion.
3. Union Meetings. The Association will make every effort to schedule meetings during non-working times. Release time will be used only when absolutely necessary.

ARTICLE III - EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

Section A. Right to Support Association

Pursuant to applicable Michigan statutes the Board hereby agrees that every employee of the Board of Education shall have the right to freely organize, join, and support the Association for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining. The Board will not directly or indirectly discourage, deprive, or coerce any employees in the enjoyment of any rights conferred by Act 379 of the State of Michigan or of the Constitution of the United States.

Section B. Non-Discrimination

The Board will not discriminate against any employee with respect to hours, wages or any term or condition of employment by reason of membership in the Association, participation in collective bargaining with the Board, nor institution of any grievance, complaint, or proceeding under this Agreement or otherwise with respect to any terms or conditions of employment.

Section C. Discipline

Any employee may be disciplined for misconduct or failure to properly perform duties. No employee shall be reprimanded, disciplined, discharged, reduced in rank or compensation without just cause. All such discipline shall be progressive in nature. The following represents progressive disciplinary action:

1. Oral reprimand
2. Written reprimand
3. Suspension with or without pay, as determined by supervisor
4. Termination

The purpose of progressive discipline is to correct the misconduct or failure to properly perform duties at the lowest effective step. Discipline will be progressive in nature except in cases where there have been violations of the law or extreme violations of the written rules and policies of the district. Written rules and policies of the district will be made available to employees at their work site.

Section D. Association Representation

Any bargaining unit member who is to be reprimanded, warned or disciplined for any infraction of school policy or delinquency in their performance, will, upon the bargaining unit member's request, have an Association representative of her/his choice at the reprimand, warning or discipline. When a request for such representation is made, either by the Board or the Association, no action will be taken until a representative can be present. However within twenty-four (24) hours a date will be set for the meeting to take place. In extreme cases of misconduct, the Board reserves the right to place an employee on unpaid leave pending the meeting with the Association representative. The Association will provide the Board with a known representative for the **employee.**

Section E. Personnel File

Each employee has the right to review the complete contents of her/his personnel file. A representative of the Association may accompany the employee if so requested. No evaluative material may be placed in the personnel file to which the employee has not been allowed to respond in writing. All written responses by the employee will be included in the personnel file. Reprimands will be removed from the employee's personnel file at the written request of the employee after two (2) years if there has been no further disciplinary action, letter(s) or warning and/or suspension(s) related to the problem. However, if other unrelated disciplinary action, letter(s) of warning and/or suspension(s) should occur within the two (2)-year period, the original reprimand will only be removed at the written request of the employee and the approval of the Superintendent or designee. The Central Office file is the official personnel file. The employee shall be notified of any external request to review or copy their personnel file. Before any documents are released, the employee will have the opportunity to review the request and all documents subject to the request. An Association representative may be present.

Section F. Complaints

No material, including student, parental, or school personnel complaints, will be placed in the employee's personnel file unless the employee has had an opportunity to review the material. Complaints against the employee shall be reduced to writing with the complaints, administrative action taken, and remedy clearly stated. The employee may submit a written notation regarding any material, and the same shall be attached to the file copy of the material in question. If the employee is requested to sign any material, such signature shall be understood to indicate awareness of the material, but in no instance shall said signature be interpreted to mean agreement with the content of the material.

Section G. Evaluations

Each employee shall be evaluated:

1. Twice during the first year of employment (February 1 and on/before June 1).
2. At least once during each succeeding year (on or before June 1).

If an employee receives an unsatisfactory evaluation for the school year she/he must be evaluated at least twice during the succeeding school year.

The Supervisor will conduct on-site observations of interpreters. There will be at least one period of observation at a time agreed upon by the Supervisor, mainstream teacher and interpreter for evaluation purposes. There may be unannounced observations, if needed. If deemed necessary by the Supervisor or interpreter, written comments will be given to the interpreter within seven (7) working days after the formal observation and a meeting to discuss the comments will be promptly scheduled. Depending on availability, an interpreter may request an observation by a Deaf/Hard of Hearing staff member and/or another staff interpreter upon informing the Supervisor. However, the Supervisor's final evaluation will be the official evaluation. An evaluation of total job performance will be discussed at a conference by June 1. Areas addressed include interpreter's skills, attendance, punctuality, dependability, relationship with others, flexibility and professional development.

The evaluation shall be performed by the Supervisor.

- If an evaluation conference has not been held or scheduled by June 1 of each year, the interpreter's performance is deemed to be satisfactory for the preceding school year.

The evaluation shall be reviewed with the employee with a counter signature indicating having reviewed the evaluation. Each employee may attach her/his comments to the evaluation before transmittal to the Administration office.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD RIGHTS

1. Nothing contained herein shall be considered to deny or restrict the Board of its rights, responsibilities, and authority under the Laws of the State of Michigan and of the Federal Government of the United States. Except as stated by the Agreement, all the rights, powers, and authority the Board had prior to this Agreement are retained by the Board.
2. It is expressly agreed that all rights which ordinarily vest in and have been exercised by the Board, except those which are relinquished herein by the Board, shall continue to vest exclusively in and be exercised exclusively by the Board without prior negotiations with the Association either as to the taking of action under such rights or with respect to the consequence of such action during the term of this Agreement. Such rights shall include, by the way of illustration and not by way of limitation, the right to:
 - a. Manage and control the school's business, the equipment, the operations and to direct the working forces and affairs of the Employer.
 - b. Continue its rights and past practice of assignment and direction of work of all of its personnel, determine the number of shifts and hours of work, starting and ending times, length of the work year, and scheduling of all the foregoing, but not in conflict with the specific provision of this Agreement, and the right to establish, modify or change any work or business of hours or days.
 - c. The right to direct the working forces, including the right to hire, promote, suspend and discharge employees, transfer employees both voluntarily and involuntarily, assign and reassign employees, effectuate an employee evaluation system, assign work or extra

- duties to employees, determine the size of the work force and to lay off employees.
- d. Determine the services, supplies and equipment necessary to continue its operations and to determine the methods, schedules and standards of operation, the means, methods, and processes of carrying on the work including automation thereof or changes therein, the instruction of new and/or improved methods or changes therein.
 - e. Adopt reasonable rules and regulations.
 - f. To hire all employees, to determine their qualifications, and conditions of continued employment, or their dismissal, demotion; and promote and transfer all such employees.
 - g. Determine the number and location or relocation of its facilities, including the establishment or relocations of new schools, buildings, departments, divisions or subdivisions thereof and the relocation or closing of offices, departments, divisions or subdivisions, buildings or other facilities.
 - h. Determine the placement of operations, production, services, maintenance or distribution of work, and the source of materials and supplies.
 - i. Determine the financial policies, including all accounting procedures, and all matters pertaining to public relations.
 - J. Determine the size of the management organization, its functions, authority, amount of supervision and table of organization provided that the Employer shall not abridge any rights from employees as specifically provided for in this Agreement
 - k. Determine the policy affecting the selection, testing or training of employees providing such selection shall be based upon lawful criteria.
 - I. The Board shall continue to have exclusive right to establish, modify, or change any condition except those covered by provisions of the Agreement.

ARTICLE V - SENIORITY, LAYOFF, RECALL AND VACANCIES

Section A. Status Definition

Full Time and Part-time Employees

1. Full Time - Employees working six (6) hours or more per day and at least a school year or more, but less than 48 weeks.
2. Part Time - Year round or school year employees working on a regular basis but less than thirty hours per week.

Section B. Seniority

Seniority shall be defined as length of continuous service in the employ of the School Board commencing with the date of last hire. All new employees shall be considered probationary until they have worked for one hundred eighty (180) work days. At the discretion of the Administration, the probationary period may be extended for up to an additional 180 work days. During this probationary period, employees will have no seniority status. At the end of the probationary period each employee will be entered on the seniority list as of the date of last hire. Probationary employees may be terminated with or without cause.

Section C. Layoff and Recall

In all promotions to positions covered by this Agreement as well as in all layoffs and recalls, the seniority of employees within the group shall be considered along with skill and ability of the employees concerned. Provided the skill, State qualification/National certification, ability, job performance, and work history of employees are relatively equal, as determined by the Administration, seniority shall govern.

In the event a layoff is necessary, the employee will be provided with a minimum of twenty business days (20) notice prior to the layoff going into effect.

- a) The Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Legal Services will meet with the Association President to discuss the proposed layoff.
- b) The Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Legal Services and the Association President will attempt to reduce staff through attrition and/or voluntary layoff in the appropriate area.
- c) If further reductions are necessary, probationary employees will be laid off.
- d) If further reductions are necessary, the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Legal Services and the Association President will meet to discuss the layoff procedure.
- e) The employee shall remain on the layoff list for up to 24 months from the effective date of the layoff.

In the event of recall, the employee shall respond in writing within five (5) business days. If the employee declines recall, they shall be removed from the recall list and all seniority rights shall be terminated.

Seniority of an employee shall automatically terminate if she/he voluntarily quits, is discharged for just cause, declines recall, fails to timely respond to recall, she/he fails to report after a leave of absence, or upon expiration of the 24-month recall period.

Section D. Insurance

Insurance will be carried to the end of the month in which a layoff occurs or to the end of the fiscal year if the layoff occurs at the end of a school year. Insurance at the COBRA rates will be offered to all laid off employees.

Section E. Vacancies

Notices of vacancies shall be posted online. No vacancy shall be filled until it has been posted for at least five (5) business days.

ARTICLE VI - CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Section A. Certification

All interpreters are required to meet the state Certification requirements unless a waiver is granted due to the availability of certified interpreters. Proof of certification level and test scores must be filed with the Superintendent or designee no later than September 1 of the current school year. Placement on the salary schedule will be based on having all appropriate certification materials on file at the Central Office.

- The District will reimburse the employee on an annual basis up to eight hundred dollars (\$800) for costs associated with maintaining or increasing their certification level or for tuition in a related educational field. Proof of completion for reimbursement must be submitted no later than June 15 of the year in which the course(s) were completed. To receive reimbursement for costs associated with maintaining or increasing certification, evidence of successful completion of the approved courses must be presented to the Supervisor.

Section B. Work Year

The normal work year will be all student instruction days plus the regular teacher work days in accordance with Northview's District calendar.

Section C. Working Hours

All full-time, regular employees shall be scheduled to work a 7.5 hour day. The normal working hours shall be assigned by the immediate Supervisor. Additional daily hours may be granted at the discretion of the Supervisor. All employees shall receive a 30 minute duty free lunch as scheduled. An employee may at his/her option work through his/her duty free lunch if requested by the building principal or Supervisor.

Section E. Staff Meetings

Each regular employee is required to attend staff meetings as part of their regular assignment, unless excused in advance by their Supervisor.

Section F. Reporting Pay

An employee scheduled to report to work, and who reports to work, but no work is available, shall cover any unfilled assignments. If there are no unfilled assignments, the employee shall make themselves available for the purposes of teamwork, collaboration, or mentorship.

Section G. Extended Day Provisions

Interpreters who are required to return or make a separate trip in order to provide services will be guaranteed pay for two (2) hours, or the actual hours worked if greater than two hours. Those individuals who assume an activity assignment which is a continuation of the day will be paid for actual hours worked.

An interpreter, as deemed necessary by the Supervisor with consideration based on IEP, coach, teacher, and interpreter may be required to accompany a student to an off-campus school event and will be paid from the time the school transportation leaves the campus until transportation returns.

An interpreter scheduled to report for an extended day activity who discovers that the event has been cancelled, rescheduled, or the student/parent involved failed to attend the event shall be entitled to a minimum of two (2) hours pay or up to one half of the scheduled event time, whichever is greater, provided he /she has not been previously notified by noon of the day of the event or by 6:00 p.m. the evening before a weekend or an all-day event.

Section H. Preparation Time

Each K-6 employee who has a continuous schedule of four (4) hours or more is entitled to a total of forty five (45) minutes of paid preparation time during his/her work day (including one 30 minute segment and one 15 minute segment). Each 7-12 employee with a continuous schedule of four (4) hours or more is entitled to one paid preparation period equal to one full class period. An interpreter will receive pay at the rate of double time at his/her per diem rate if required to interpret during this preparation period.

Section I. Professional Development

All professional development days shall be in alignment with teacher professional development dates per Northview's calendar. The Supervisor shall plan programming for the professional development days that focuses on interpreter enhancement. The Supervisor shall make an effort to provide CEU opportunities. At least one day shall be a planned program delivered by an outside presenter.

All scheduled professional development days or half days will be required workdays unless the employee is excused in advance by the Supervisor.

Section J. Travel Reimbursement

An interpreter who is requested to provide services off-campus after hours and provides her/his own transportation will be paid in accordance with the IRS allowable rate, an interpreter who is requested to provide services between work sites during the workday and provides his/her own transportation will be paid in accordance with the current IRS allowable rate. For events during the school year starting after the end of the normal school day, an interpreter will be paid in accordance with the current IRS allowable rate for mileage, to and from the event. Requests shall be submitted at the end of each month.

Section K. Holiday Vacation Pay

If required to work during holidays or Holiday Break / Mid-winter break / Spring Break vacation, an interpreter will receive 1½ times their normal per diem rate.

Section L. Summer Work

If required to work during the summer weeks, an interpreter will be paid at 1.25 times their normal per diem rate.

Section M. Extra Assignments

When filling extra assignments such as interpreting for after school activities, the Supervisor shall consider qualifications, experience, and the best interest of the student. When these factors are relatively equal, seniority shall govern on a rotating basis.

ARTICLE VII - RETIREMENT

Section A. General Conditions

The Board of Education may require retirement of any employee whose physical or mental health, as determined by a qualified physician, makes it impossible for the employee to meet the normal obligations of her/his regular assignments. The expense of this medical examination shall be assumed by the Board of Education.

Section B. MPERS Eligibility

After ten (10) years of continuous employment a school year employee who immediately qualifies to receive a pension from the Michigan Public School Retirement System (within six (6) months of leaving the district) and who severs employment with the Kent Intermediate School District, shall be paid by the Board for each day of accumulated unused ETO at the following rate \$40 per day for school year employees, and regular part-time employees working at least 16 hours per week shall receive \$20 per day for accumulated ETO, limited to a total of 140 accumulated days.

- Interpreters having completed fifteen (15) years of service as a district employee shall upon severance/retirement receive a one-time One Thousand Dollar (\$1,000) payment in the form of a non-elective employer contribution to a 403(b) plan. The payment will be made within sixty (60) days following the final compensation payment. Regular part-time employees will receive this payment at the prorated levels.

ARTICLE VIII-LEAVES WITH PAY

Section A. Paid Sick Leave

1. Each bargaining unit member shall accumulate sick absence at the rate of one (1) day for each full month of service without limitation as to accumulation.
2. Absence on "sick leave" shall be allowed for either personal illness or immediate family illness. Immediate family shall include only the spouse, child, grandchild, father, mother, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister in-law, grandfather, grandmother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandfather-in-law, grandmother-in-law of the professional staff member.
3. If there is probably cause to suspect the misuse of sick absence, a bargaining unit member, upon the request of the Superintendent, shall promptly substantiate such sick absence by a written physician's statement or by such other evidence as the Superintendent may require.

Attendance Incentive: Prompt, reliable and regular attendance is expected of all employees. In appreciation for those interpreters who meet this standard for an entire school year, the Board will pay the following amounts no later than the last pay period in June.

WORK DAYS ABSENT	ATTENDANCE BONUS
2 Days	\$325
3 Days	\$300
4 Days	\$275

Section B. Bereavement Leave

An interpreter shall be allowed up to five (5) days of bereavement leave with pay per year. These first five (5) days will not be charged to paid sick leave. Up to five (5) additional days may be granted with pay that shall be charged against the interpreter's paid sick leave, if accumulated paid sick leave is available. Each occurrence is limited to a maximum of five (5) days. In the rare event additional days are required, approval must be obtained from the Superintendent.

Section C. Jury Duty

Employees who are summoned for jury duty examination and investigation must notify the Business Office within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of such notice.

If such employee then reports for jury duty, that individual shall continue to receive the regular daily wage for each day on which the individual reports for or performs jury duty and on which the employee would otherwise have been scheduled to work. Such time spent on jury duty shall not be charged against leave days.

To be eligible for jury duty pay differential, the employee must furnish the Business Office with a written statement from the appropriate public official listing amounts of pay received, the days on jury duty, and a check for the full amount of the jury fee paid, excluding any travel allowance paid to the employee by the court. This payment by the employee shall be made to the Business office no later than two (2) weeks after the return from jury duty. Any employee found abusing this privilege shall not be entitled to the pay differential.

Section D. Snow Days

Employees will be paid when school is canceled for snow day(s) or other "Acts of God" unless the day(s) are required to be rescheduled to meet the State requirement for hours and days of instruction. If school is closed, no interpreter will be docked for a previously scheduled sick or personal day.

Section E. Other

Any absence for reasons other than the above must be discussed in advance with the Superintendent or designee. Cases not specifically defined in these policies will be handled on an individual basis.

All leaves are considered as time off for the reasons necessary for the protection of the employee. Any employee who willfully violates or misuses this policy or who misrepresents any statements or conditions under this policy shall forfeit all pay for this stated period and any further rights under this policy unless reinstated in good standing by the Superintendent or designee. The offense may constitute grounds for dismissal.

Section F. Sick Leave Bank

1. Intent and Purpose: A sick leave bank shall be administered for circumstances using the FMLA guidelines.

The intent of the sick leave bank (slb) is to bridge the time/days between a bargaining unit member's accumulated sick days and long term disability or in the cases of prolonged illness in which absences are frequent but long-term disability is not available.

- a. A professional or educational support personnel wishing to withdraw days from the SLB must submit the following information in writing or electronically to the union president or the president's designee for communication to the members:

Type of illness with a doctor's verification that the member is unfit to return to work. This verification must include the length of time the bargaining unit member may be off work.

- b. Sick days requested are to be used for long term, extended serious medical conditions which must require a doctor's verification statement (see FMLA guidelines).
- c. A bargaining unit member requesting sick days from the bank must have exhausted his/her sick leave day balance at the time of the request.
- d. Re-evaluation of the bargaining unit member's circumstances may occur after 15-20 days per the union or the administration request. At this time there may be one more request for days. After there are two requests, no more will be made unless there are extenuating circumstances.

2. Donation of Sick Days by Bargaining Unit Members

- a. Up to 2 sick days per year/per bargaining unit member may be donated.
- b. Members must have accumulated a minimum of twenty (20) sick days in order to donate to the Sick Bank.

3. Administration of Sick Leave Bank

- a. The donation and usage of sick leave donations will be monitored and maintained by The District.

It is understood by the parties to the agreement that it is the intent of Kent Intermediate School District that the provisions of the FMLA be followed and adhered to with regard to those parties covered by the Master Agreement. Current ETO days will be converted to Sick Leave.

Section G. Personal Leave

1. Each bargaining unit member will be allowed three (3) days of absence during each school year without loss of salary for personal use.
2. Personal days may not be taken the first two (2) weeks of the school year except in extenuating circumstances. Personal days may be used immediately after a holiday or vacation period at the discretion of the supervisor.
3. Two (2) personal days may be used together if approved by the supervisor.
4. There will be no carry-over of Personal Days.
5. At the end of the school year, any unused personal time will be compensated at the bargaining unit member's discretion using one of the following methods:
 - a. Two hundred dollars (\$200) per individual per day,
 - b. Day for day transfer into the bargaining unit member's accumulated paid sick leave.

ARTICLE IX- LEAVES WITHOUT PAY

Section A. General Conditions

Employees may, at the discretion of the Board be granted a leave of absence without pay. An employee on an approved leave of absence will continue to accrue seniority while on leave. Experience credit does not accrue while on leave; however, step placement will be maintained. An employee on an approved leave can accept substitute or extra-curricular assignments. An employee on leave may continue their insurance coverage by paying the required premiums in advance each month. An employee will be returned from leave if an opening exists or will be assigned to the next vacant position.

Section B. Request Procedure

The request for leave without pay shall be in writing and shall be signed by the employee and given to the immediate Supervisor or Director.

Section C. Absence without Approval

Absence without leave approval, except in emergency situations, shall be cause for termination of employment.

Section D. Other

Leaves of absences will not normally be granted for vacation periods and purposes for the extension of school vacation periods or holidays.

ARTICLE X- WORKERS COMPENSATION

An employee who is absent due to an injury and is eligible for Workers' Compensation benefits will receive benefits according to State rules and regulations of the Workers' Compensation law. An employee injured on the job shall report such injury at once to the Central Office and the building principal. All reports must be filed at the Central Office no later than seven (7) days after the incident occurred.

An employee who qualifies for Workers' Compensation will be afforded medical care premium payments as specified in Article XV, Insurance, through the end of the fiscal year in which the injury occurs.

ARTICLE XI - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section A. Definition

A grievance shall be defined as an alleged violation or misapplication of any specific provision of this Agreement. If any such grievance arises, there shall be no stoppage or suspension of work because of such grievance, but such grievance shall be submitted to the following grievance procedure. Any individual may present a grievance to the Board or its representatives, as long as any adjustment is not inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement.

Section B.

Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent any individual employee from presenting a grievance and having the grievance adjusted without intervention of the Association if the adjustment is not inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement, provided that the Association has been given opportunity to be present at such adjustment and the Association has been given the opportunity to review the agreement.

Section C.

The following matters shall not be the basis of any grievance filed under the procedure outlined in this Article:

1. Adverse evaluation shall not be subject to the grievance procedure.
2. The termination of services or failure to re-employ any probationary employee.
3. Any claim or complaint for which there is another remedial procedure or form established by law or board policy (e.g. Policy 4122).
4. Any claim or complaint regarding the retirement plan or any insurance plans or the amount of payment by the insurance companies.

Section D. Procedure

1. **Time Limits** - Since it is important that grievances be processed as rapidly as possible, the number of days indicated at each step should be considered a maximum and every effort should be made to expedite the process. If appropriate action is not taken by the aggrieved within the time limit specified, the grievance will be deemed settled on the basis of the disposition at the preceding level. If the time limits of Step One (1) are violated no grievance can be processed. In the event the written answer is not submitted in the time specified, the aggrieved may proceed to the next step. The time limits specified may, however, be extended by mutual agreement, in writing, between the Association President and the Superintendent or designee.
 - a. For the purpose of the time limits in the grievance procedure, holidays observed under this agreement, Saturdays, Sundays, Winter and Spring Breaks and unscheduled school closings shall not be counted.
 - b. All other days that are normal school year work days will be counted in the time limits. It is understood that the time limits are maximums and can be extended with the written mutual consent of both parties.

2. **Grievance Forms** - A supply of the grievance forms shall be on file with the Association, Supervisor of Interpreters, and the Central Office. Only the approved grievance form will be used.

3. **Steps-**

Step One - An employee shall within fifteen (15) working days of the discovery of the occurrence of the grievance orally discuss the matter with his/her immediate Supervisor with the objective of resolving the matter informally. The employee shall inform the Supervisor that the particular discussion is the step-one discussion of the Grievance Procedure.

Step Two- If the aggrieved is not satisfied with the disposition from the oral discussion and wishes to further pursue the matter, s/he shall file the grievance in writing with the Supervisor within five (5) working days of the oral discussion of the grievance with the Supervisor for Interpreters, whichever is applicable.

Within five (5) working days of the filing of the written grievance, the Supervisor of Interpreters or his representative will meet with the aggrieved employee, or the aggrieved employee and her/his Association Representative if the employee requests the Association Representative to be present, in an effort to resolve the grievance. The Supervisor of Hearing Interpreters will have five (5) work days from the date of this meeting to respond in writing as to her/his disposition.

An Association grievance commencing at this step shall be filed within ten (10) work days of the alleged occurrence of such a grievance.

Step Three-

- a. If the aggrieved is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Step Two, she/he shall within five (5) working days thereafter transmit the grievance to the Superintendent or designee indicating a desire to pursue the grievance to Step Three. At this step, the grievance must be signed by the aggrieved and the Association.
- b. Within ten (10) working days of receipt of such grievance, the Superintendent or designee may meet with the aggrieved and the Association Representative(s) to discuss the issues. A written answer shall be given to the aggrieved and the Association representative within ten (10) working days after receipt of such grievance if the Administration elects not to hold a conference to discuss the grievance, or within five (5) work days after the conference if a conference is held.

Step Four - If the decision of the Superintendent or designee is not satisfactory to the Association, the grievance may be submitted for arbitration by written notice from the Association within fifteen (15) workings days after receipt of the Superintendent or designee's decision. If the grievance is submitted to Arbitration, the arbitrator shall be selected by the American Arbitration Association in accord with its rules which shall likewise govern the arbitration hearing. The Arbitrator shall have no power to alter, add or to subtract from the terms of this Agreement. Both parties agree to be bound by the award of the arbitrator.

4. Limits of Arbitrator and Fees of Arbitration - The arbitrator's authority is limited to deciding whether a specific provision of this Agreement has been violated. The decision of the arbitrator, if within his scope of authority, is final and binding. The Arbitrator's fee and other arbitrator expenses will be divided equally between the parties. Each party must bear his own personal expenses in connection with the grievance.

The arbitrator shall have no power to rule on the termination of service of a probationary employee or the failure to reemploy any probationary employee, or any matter involving the content of an employee's evaluation.

5. Grievance Form - Grievances will be filed only on the form specifically designed for such a purpose and referred to as "Grievance Report Forms - for Kent Intermediate School District." (See Appendix C) Copies of this form will be available from the Administration Office and Offices of the Association.

ARTICLE XIV - LONGEVITY

Longevity

School year employees having successfully completed five (5) years of employment shall receive longevity pay per the following schedule:

Five (5) years	\$600.00
Ten (10) years	\$700.00
Fifteen (15) years	\$800.00
Twenty (20) years	\$1,000.00

Longevity eligibility shall be determined by counting total years of continuous service for the school as of June 30 of each year. Longevity pay will be paid to the employee in a lump sum in June beginning with the completion of the fifth year.

A regular part time employee, who works 16 hours or more, shall receive the above benefits pro-rated, based on actual hours worked. Service credit will be based on continuous years of employment with the school district.

ARTICLE XV - . DEGREE STIPEND - INTERPRETERS

Degree Stipend

Each interpreter providing proof of successful completion of a planned program at a college/university resulting in the granting of a degree will have additional compensation added to the based salary as follows:

Associates Degree	\$550.00
Bachelor's Degree	\$600.00
Master's Degree	\$850.00

This stipend will be paid, in two equal installments, on the first pay period of December and the first pay period of June.

ARTICLE XVI - INSURANCE

The Board will provide, if elected, insurance benefits according to the following schedule. The specific terms and conditions of these coverages are set forth in the group policies provided.

Section A. Health

The Board will provide a comprehensive, semi-private, health insurance program for the school year employee and their dependents, limited to the state legislated cap levels. Any amount exceeding the cap will be covered by the employee. The district will explore alternative plan designs in an effort to reduce out of pocket costs for employees.

Section B. Dental & Vision

The Board will provide vision and dental insurance for employees and their eligible dependents.

Section C.

Employees opting out of health insurance will receive \$250 per month in lieu of insurance.

Section D. Life

The Board agrees to provide \$25,000 Term Life and \$25,000 Accidental Death Insurance coverage for all school year employees. The Board will not be liable for claims beyond what its' carrier(s) will provide.

Section E. Long-Term Disability

The Board of Education will make available to each school year employee a Salary Protection (Long Term Disability) insurance program to enhance the present paid sick leave provisions with the

following conditions:

- a. There will be a limit of 66 - 2/3 of income not to exceed \$3,000 per month prorated over a twelve (12) month period to age 65.
- b. The Board of Education will consider any financial offset such as Workers' Compensation, Social Security, other insurance income, etc., to determine its obligation to the employee. (freeze on offsets)
- c. Alcoholism/drug addictions - 2 year limit. Mental/nervous - 2 year limit.
- d. The coverage shall become effective at the beginning of the insurance month immediately following date of employment.
- e. All other benefits are severed with the exception of medical care at the point in time where the employee can no longer provide services as an interpreter employee.

All coverages shall begin, in the case of new employees, at the beginning of the insurance month immediately following the time they begin employment and notify the Board of their desire to have such insurance. No change can be made after October 1 unless a qualifying event occurs as defined by the policy. Coverage will terminate at the end of the month in which the employee leaves the School District.

ARTICLE XVII - SALARY SCHEDULE QUALIFICATIONS

Placement on the salary schedule will be based on having all appropriate certification materials on file at the Central Office.

New employees will be placed on the salary schedule by the Superintendent or designee based on certification level and prior experience and/or educational preparation.

Advancement on the salary schedule to the next experience step or certification level will be based upon the following criteria:

- a. Receipt of a satisfactory evaluation for the immediately preceding school year.
- b. Working at least eight hundred (800) hours during the preceding school year. Hours worked will be evaluated at the beginning of each semester and part-time employees **will** be advanced to the next salary step at the beginning of the semester if they have worked a total of 800 hours, or more, since being placed on their current salary step.
- c. An employee who successfully completes the requirements for another certification level will be placed on the new salary schedule at the next regular pay period after furnishing evidence of completion.

In the event that an interpreter fails to keep his/her current certification level, the interpreter will have the remainder of the pay year to retake the test. If after retaking the test, and again failing to earn the previous certification level then the pay will be adjusted accordingly effective with the second test date.

ARTICLE XVII - NO STRIKE

No Strike

The Association nor any person acting in its behalf nor any individual employee will cause, authorize, support or take part in any strike (i.e. the concerted failure to report for duty, or willful absence of an employee from her/his work position, or stoppage of work or abstinence, in whole or in part from the full faithful and proper performance of the employee's duties or employment) for any purpose whatsoever.

ARTICLE XVIII - DURATION

Section A. Contract in Force

This contract shall become effective September 1, 2021 and remain in full force and effective until August 31, 2024.

Section 8. Timelines for Future Negotiations

On or before June 1, 2024, the Board of Education agrees to meet with representatives of the Interpreters for the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing Association and discuss proposals that each may make for incorporation into the contract to cover the period following the termination of this Agreement. Such discussions shall be scheduled from time to time until all suggestions have been heard and a substitute contract, agreeable to a majority of the interpreters in the unit covered, has been proposed by the Board of Education.

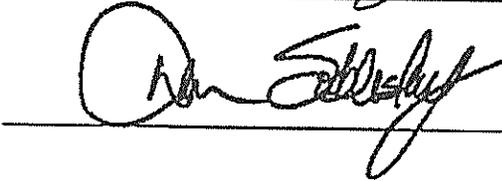
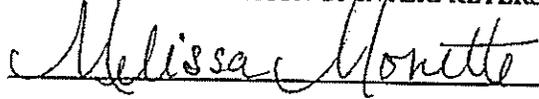
IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have caused this Agreement to be extended on their behalf by their duly authorized representatives.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE KENT
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Coni Taylor, Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources
& Legal Services

INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF AND/OR HARD OF
HEARING ASSOCIATION OF INTERPRETERS



DHH Interpreter Salary Schedule

2021-22

New Salary Schedule

	A	B	C	D	E
Step	Under Qualified 1	EIPA 4.0 + OR BEi II	EIPA 4.0 + AND BEi1	EIPA4.0+ AND BEi 2 OR 2 EIPA OR NIC	2EIPA4.0+ AND NIC 4+ yrs OR BEi3
1	\$30,421.00	\$32,577.00	\$33,883.00	\$34,567.00	\$35,250.00
2	\$30,421.00	\$33,367.00	\$34,688.00	\$35,387.00	\$36,086.00
3	\$30,421.00	\$34,142.00	\$35,493.00	\$36,207.00	\$36,906.00
4	\$30,421.00	\$34,901.00	\$36,268.00	\$37,027.00	\$37,741.00
5	\$30,421.00	\$35,645.00	\$37,103.00	\$37,832.00	\$38,576.00
6	\$30,421.00	\$36,435.00	\$37,908.00	\$38,667.00	\$39,427.00
7	\$30,421.00	\$37,179.00	\$38,637.00	\$39,412.00	\$40,186.00
8	\$30,421.00	\$37,923.00	\$39,412.00	\$40,217.00	\$41,006.00
9	\$30,421.00	\$38,652.00	\$40,201.00	\$41,006.00	\$41,811.00
10	\$30,421.00	\$39,427.00	\$41,021.00	\$41,842.00	\$42,662.00
11	\$30,421.00	\$40,232.00	\$41,826.00	\$42,677.00	\$43,497.00
12	\$30,421.00	\$41,037.00	\$42,677.00	\$43,543.00	\$44,393.00
13	\$30,421.00	\$41,659.00	\$43,315.00	\$44,180.00	\$45,046.00
14	\$30,421.00	\$42,054.00	\$43,755.00	\$44,636.00	\$45,502.00
15	\$30,421.00	\$42,692.00	\$44,408.00	\$45,304.00	\$46,185.00
16	\$30,421.00	\$43,330.00	\$45,077.00	\$45,988.00	\$46,884.00
17	n/a	\$45,496.00	\$47,330.00	\$48,287.00	\$49,228.00
18	n/a	\$47,771.00	\$49,697.00	\$50,701.00	\$51,689.00

Salary Schedule Qualification

An employee who successfully completes the requirements for another certification level will be placed on the new salary schedule which will be effective at the beginning of the next regular pay period following the presentation of the certificate to Human Resources.

APPENDIX B - GRIEVANCE REPORT FORM

Grievance# _____

Date Filed _____

Name of Grievant

Assignment

STEP ONE

A. Date Cause of Grievance Occurred

B. Date of Awareness of Cause of Grievance _____

C. Date of Informal Discussion with Supervisor _____

STEP TWO

A. Date of Written Grievance

B. Statement of Grievance

C. Relief Sought

Signature of Grievant

Date

D. Date of Step Two meeting

E. Disposition of Director of Interpreter

Signature of Director of Interpreter

Date

STEP THREE

A. Position of Grievant and Association _____

Signature of Grievant

Signature of Association
Officer/Representative

Date

B. Date of Receipt of Grievance

C. Date of Step Three Meeting, if held _____

D. Disposition of Superintendent or
Designee _____

Signature of Superintendent or Designee

Date

E. Position of Association: _____

Signature of Grievant

Signature of Association
Officer/Representative

Date

STEP FOUR

A. Date Submitted to Arbitration

B. Disposition of Arbitrator _____

Date

APPENDIX C - FOR REFERENCE ONLY

Section F. Membership Fees and Payroll Deduction

1. Membership /Representation Fee. Each bargaining unit member shall, as a condition of employment, after completion of their probationary period or on the effective date of this Agreement, whichever is later, (1) join the Association, or (2) pay a Service Fee to the Association, pursuant to the Association's "Policy Regarding Objections to Political-Ideological Expenditures" and the Administrative Procedures adopted pursuant to the policy. The Service Fee shall not exceed the amount of association dues collected from association members. The bargaining unit member may authorize payroll deduction for such fee. In the event that the bargaining unit member shall not pay such Service Fee directly to the Association, or authorize payment through payroll deduction, the Board shall, pursuant to MCLA 408.477; MSA 17.277 (7) and at the request of the Association, deduct the Service Fee from the bargaining unit member's wages and remit same to the Association. Payroll deductions made pursuant to this provision shall be made in equal amounts, as nearly as may be, from the paychecks of each bargaining unit member. Monies so deducted shall be remitted to the Association, or its designee, no later than twenty (20) days following deduction.
2. Policy regarding Objections. Pursuant to Chicago Teachers Union v Hudson, 106 S Ct. 1066 (1986), the Association has established a "Policy Regarding Objections to Political-Ideological Expenditures". That policy, and the administrative procedures (including the timetable for payment) pursuant thereto, applies only to non-union bargaining unit members. The remedies set forth in the policy shall be exclusive, and unless and until such procedures, including administrative or judicial review have been availed of and exhausted, no dispute, claim or complaint by an objecting bargaining unit member concerning the application and interpretation of this Article shall be subject to the grievance procedure set forth in this Agreement, or any other administrative or judicial procedure.
3. Indemnification Clause. In the event of any legal action against the Board brought in a court of administrative agency because of its compliance with Section I of this Article, the Association agrees to defend such action, at its own expense and through its own counsel, provided:
 - a. The Board gives timely notice of such action to the Association and permits the Association intervention as a party if it so desires, and
 - b. The Board gives full and complete cooperation to the Association and its counsel in securing and giving evidence, obtaining witnesses, and making relevant information available at both trial and appellate levels.
 - c. The Association shall have complete authority to compromise and settle all claims, which it defends, under this section.

The Association agrees that in any action so defended, it will indemnify and hold harmless the Board from any liability for damages and costs imposed by a final judgment of a court or administrative agency as a direct consequence of the Board's compliance of this Section F of

Article II.

4. Dues Deduction. Any bargaining unit member who is a member of the Association, or who has applied for membership, may sign and deliver to the Board an assignment authorizing deduction of dues, assessments and contributions in the Association as established by the Association. Such authorization shall continue in effect from year-to-year unless revoked according to the procedures outlined in the MEA Constitution, Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. Pursuant to such authorization, the Board shall deduct one-twentieth of such dues, assessments and contributions from the regular salary check of the bargaining unit member bi-weekly for ten (10) months beginning in September and ending in June of each year.
5. Payroll Deduction. Upon appropriate written authorization from the bargaining unit member, the Board shall deduct from the salary of any such bargaining unit member and make appropriate remittance for insurance programs not fully Board paid, credit union, savings bonds, charitable donations, MEA-PAC/NEA-PAC contributions or any other plans or programs jointly approved by the Association and the Board.
6. Payment of Representation Fees. Due to certain requirements established in recent court decisions, the parties acknowledge that the amount of the fee charged to nonmembers along with other required information may not be available and transmitted to non-members until mid-school year (December, January, or February). Consequently, the parties agree that the procedures in this Section F of this article relating to the payment or non-payment of the representation fee by non-members shall be activated thirty (30) days following the Association's notification to non-members of the fee for that given school year.

Letter of Agreement

The Kent Intermediate School District Board of Education and the ESP/MEA/NEA jointly agree that during the current life of this contract, a voluntary sick leave bank process will be established as follows:

1. Employees will be notified of the opportunity to voluntarily submit their names to be drawn in the event that another employee is in need of additional sick time leave related to a critical illness.
2. Human Resources and the Office of the superintendent will review each request for the need for additional sick time from the respective employee.
3. Each employee who has indicated they will participate would be notified that a random drawing of names will be conducted until the amount of need sick time is reach.
4. The employee will submit an electronic notice (email) that notifies payroll that one sick day may be deducted from their sick leave bank.
5. Employee may rescind their intent to participate at any time.

Date January 19, 2021 Melissa Monette
President, Kent County Education Support Personnel

Coni Taylor
Representative, Kent Intermediate School District

Notice of Non-Discrimination

Kent Intermediate School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national heritage, age, height, weight, marital status, handicap, disability or limited English proficiency in any of its programs or activities.

Any questions or complaints concerning non-discrimination policies, Title II, the Age Discrimination Act, Title VI or IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, or inquiries related to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to:

Kent Intermediate
School District
2930 Knapp St NE
Grand Rapids MI 49525
616-364-1333