

DAKOTA COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #201

DAKOTA, ILLINOIS

TEACHER CONTRACT BETWEEN  
DAKOTA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION AND  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

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## RECOGNITION

### A. Parties to the Agreement

This agreement is made and entered by and between the Board of Education of Dakota Community Unit District No. 201, Dakota, Illinois, hereinafter referred to as the "Board" and the Dakota Education Association, affiliated with Illinois Education Association and the National Education Association, hereinafter referred to as the "Association".

### B. Recognition

The Board recognizes the Association as the exclusive bargaining representative of all full time and part time teachers regularly required to be certified except for the superintendent, the principals, and the assistant principals, speech therapists, substitutes, temporary employees, teacher aides, confidential employees and any new position hereinafter created whose responsibility includes making meaningful recommendations regarding wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment as well as the impact thereon of District 201 hereinafter referred to as "teachers" with regard to this agreement.

### C. Management Rights

The Board and/or its representative shall negotiate with the Association and/or its representative with regard to matters of employment as identified in the agreement. The Board shall not be required to bargain over matters of inherent managerial policy which shall include such areas of discretion or policy as the functions of the employer, standards of services, its overall budget, the organizational structure and selection of new teachers and direction of teachers.

## CHAPTER I

### NEGOTIATIONS PROCEDURES

#### 1.1 EXCLUSIVE BARGAINING

All collective bargaining shall be conducted between the authorized representatives of the Association and the Board. The Board and/or its representatives shall negotiate with no other individual or group or with any other organization purporting to represent the teachers during the life of this agreement. All provisions of the agreement shall apply to all teachers unless specifically excluded.

#### 1.2 IMPACT BARGAINING

Representatives of the Association and of the Board shall meet for the purpose of discussing and reaching mutually satisfactory agreement on wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment as well as the impact thereon upon request by employee representatives.

#### 1.3 BARGAIN IN GOOD FAITH

It is the mutual responsibility of representatives of both parties to have the power and authority to present facts, opinions, proposals and counter-proposals to be exchanged during the meeting or meetings in an effort to reach mutual understanding and agreement. All parties will act in good faith.

#### 1.4 THE REQUEST TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS

The request to begin negotiations shall be made from the Association with the President of the Board. A meeting will be held by the third Wednesday in January. The first meeting shall include the identification of the Association team and the Board team. The parameters of the negotiations process will be mutually agreed upon during the first meeting.

#### 1.5 NEGOTIATIONS MEETING DATES

Meetings for the purpose of negotiations shall be called upon mutual agreement of both parties and shall be held at times and places agreed to by them. Postponement or cancellation will be by consent of chairman of both teams. All negotiations meetings shall be closed.

#### 1.6 TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS

During negotiations, tentative agreements shall be reduced to writing and initialed prior to the adjournment of that meeting.

#### 1.7 TENTATIVE FINAL AGREEMENT

When the Association and the Board reach tentative final agreement on all matters negotiated the materials shall be reduced to writing and submitted within ten (10) working days to the membership of the Association and to the Board for official approval within ten (10) working days following ratification by the Association.

## 1.8 NEGOTIATIONS TEAMS

Each party shall select its team members not to exceed 4 members.

## 1.9 CAUCUS

Each team may caucus at any time during the negotiating sessions.

## 1.10 MEETINGS

The negotiation teams (Board and DEA) shall meet at least semi-annually (first week of November and the first week of March) to assess the contractual implications and to discuss relevant issues.

## CHAPTER II

### EFFECT OF AGREEMENT

#### 2.1 COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING

The terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement represent the full and complete understanding and commitment between the parties hereto. The terms and conditions may be altered, changed, added to, deleted from, or modified only through the voluntary, mutual consent of the parties in a written amendment.

#### 2.2 VALIDITY/DELETIONS

Should any article, section, or clause of this Agreement be declared illegal by a court of competent jurisdiction, after all appeals have been exhausted, said article, section or clause, as the case may be, shall be automatically deleted from this Agreement to the extent that it violates the law, other sections or clauses shall remain in full force and not be affected by the deleted article, section or clause.

#### 2.3 FULL AND COMPLETE SERVICES

During the term of this Agreement and any extension thereof, no Association member covered by this Agreement, nor the Association, nor any person acting on behalf of the Association, shall ever or at any time engage in, authorize, or instigate any strike, slowdown, or other refusal to render full and complete services to the Board, or any activity whatsoever which would disrupt in any manner in whole or in part the operation of the School District. In the event of any violation or violations of any provision of this Article by the Association, its members or representatives, the Association shall, upon notice from the Board, immediately direct such Association members both orally and in writing to resume normal operations immediately and make every other reasonable effort to end any violation(s).

## CHAPTER III

### GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

#### 3.1 DEFINITIONS - A Grievance shall be:

3.1.1 Any claim by the Association or any teacher that there has been a violation, misrepresentation, misapplication of the terms of this agreement.

3.1.2 All time limits consist of school days. Except when a grievance is submitted fewer than ten (10) days before the close of the current school year, then time limits shall consist of all weekdays.

#### 3.2 PROCEDURES - The parties hereto acknowledge that it is usually most desirable for a teacher and the teacher's immediately involved principal/supervisor to resolve problems through free and informal communications. If the informal process fails to satisfy the teacher or the Association, a grievance may be processed as follows:

3.2.1. STEP I - The teacher or the Association shall present the grievance in writing on Schedule I setting forth the nature of the grievance, contract clause violated and the remedy requested to the immediately involved supervisor. If the grievance is not submitted within ten (10) days of the event giving rise to the grievance the grievance shall be void. The principal/supervisor will arrange for a meeting to take place within ten (10) days after receipt of the grievance. The Association's representative, the grievant and the principal/supervisor shall be present for the meeting. Within five (5) days of the meeting the grievant and the Association shall be provided with the principal/supervisor's written response including the reasons for the decision.

3.2.2 STEP II - If the grievance is not resolved at Step I, the Association may refer the grievance to the superintendent or his official designee within ten (10) days after receipt of the Step I answer. The superintendent shall arrange with the Association representative for a meeting to take place within ten (10) days of the superintendent's receipt of the appeal. Each party shall have the right to include in its representation such witnesses and counselors as it deems necessary. Within ten (10) days of the meeting, the Association shall be provided with the superintendent's written response, including the reasons for decision.

3.2.3 STEP III - If the association is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Step II, the Association may submit the grievance to final and binding arbitration through the American Arbitration Association, which shall act as the administrator of the proceedings. If a demand for arbitration is not filed within ten (10) days of the date of the Step II answer, then the grievance shall be deemed waived.

3.2.3.1 Neither the Board nor the Association shall be permitted to assert any grounds or evidence before the arbitrator which was not previously disclosed to the other party.

3.2.3.2 The arbitrator shall have no power to alter the terms of this agreement.

### 3.3 GRIEVANCE

3.3.1 Bypass to Superintendent - If the Association and the Superintendent agree, Step I of the grievance procedure may be bypassed and the grievance brought directly to Step II.

3.3.2 Association Participation - Teacher Not Represented - When a teacher is not a member of the Association, the Association shall reserve the right to have its representative present to state its views at each formal step of the grievance procedure.

3.3.3 Released Time - Should the processing of any grievance require that a teacher or an Association representative be re-leased from his/her regular assignment, the teacher or Association representative shall be released without loss of pay or benefits. The Association shall pay for any substitute cost required.

3.3.4 Filing of Materials - All records related to a grievance shall be filed separately from the personnel files of the employees.

3.3.5 Grievance Withdrawal - A grievance may be withdrawn at any level without establishing a precedent.

3.3.6 No Written Response - If no written decision has been rendered within the time limits indicated by a step, then the grievance may be processed to the next step.

3.3.7 Fees and Expenses of the arbitrator shall be shared equally by the parties.

3.3.8 Board, Administration and Association Cooperation - the parties shall cooperate with one another in the investigation of any grievance. Cooperation shall mean public information, board policy, public financial information and contract information shall be made available upon request.

3.3.9 Class Grievance - A class grievance involving one or more teachers or one or more principals/supervisors at administrative level above building level may be initially filed by the Association at Step I.

3.3.10 No Reprisal Clause - No reprisals shall be taken by the Board or the administration against any teacher because of the teacher's participation in a grievance.

3.3.11 AAA Rules - By mutual agreement of both parties the expedited Arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association may be used instead of the voluntary labor arbitration rules. Briefs may be filed if either party determines it is in its best interests to do so.



CHAPTER IV  
RIGHTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

4.1 DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION TO THE ASSOCIATION

The Board shall furnish the Association President with the following documents following Board approval:

4.1.1 Annual financial reports

4.1.2 Tentative budget and adopted budget

4.1.3 Current board policy manual

4.1.4 Approved board meeting minutes

4.1.5 Board meeting agendas

4.1.6 Within thirty (30) days of ratification of the agreement, the Board shall have copies of the agreement delivered to the Association for its distribution to each teacher in the district.

4.1.7 Names and addresses of newly hired teachers shall be provided within fourteen (14) days after their employment.

4.2 ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.2.1 Bulletin Boards - The Association shall have the right to use one faculty bulletin board in each building. Such bulletin board shall be that in the teachers' workroom. Notices shall reference authorship.

4.2.2 In District Mail - The Association shall have the right to use the district interdistrict mail when it is otherwise in use.

4.2.3 Mailboxes - The Association shall have the right to use teacher mailboxes when items placed in the mailboxes reference authorship by individual.

4.2.4 District Equipment - The Association shall have the right to use the school audio visual and processing equipment in each school building during non-instructional hours, during regular business hours and when such equipment is not being used for other school related business. Any other usage will be with administrative approval.

#### 4.3 DUES DEDUCTION

The Board shall deduct from the pay of any teacher current membership dues of the Association provided that at the time of such deduction there is in the possession of the Board a written authorization, Schedule 2, for dues deduction executed by the teacher. It is understood that a teacher may, in writing between September 1st and 15th only, withdraw said authorization. The Association shall hold harmless and defend the Board relating to any challenges to the dues withholding procedures. Teachers employed after June 30, 1986, shall have deductions made as per Section 6.14 of this contract.

#### 4.4 MEETINGS

The Association may request dates to the superintendent for Association meetings which would occur before or after the student attendance day. The Association may use unscheduled rooms for the meetings.

#### 4.5 LEAVE FOR ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

With five (5) days prior written notice and prior approval of the principal and superintendent, the Association shall be granted a total of five (5) days paid leave, non-accumulative, to attend to Association business.

The district shall be reimbursed by the Association for all costs of substitute teachers. The leave time granted under this provision does not apply to leave referred to in section 3.3.3.

## CHAPTER V

### LEAVES

#### 5.1 SICKLEAVE

Each teacher shall be entitled to twelve (12) paid sick leave days per school year. After five (5) years of service, a teacher shall be entitled to thirteen (13) paid sick leave days per school year. After ten (10) years of service, a teacher shall be entitled to fourteen (14) paid sick leave days per school year. Sick leave shall be interpreted to mean personal illness, illness or death in the immediate family or household. Immediate family shall include parents, spouse, brothers, sisters, step-siblings, children, grandparents, grandchildren, parents-in-law, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law and legal guardians.

#### 5.2 SICK LEAVE BANK

- 5.2.1 Within thirty (30) days of employment, a newly hired teacher shall elect to or not to participate in the sick leave bank. The teacher's initial decision in regards to participation in the sick leave bank is irrevocable.
- 5.2.2 In the first year of employment a newly hired teacher who elects to be part of the sick leave bank will contribute two (2) sick leave days to the district-wide bank to become vested.
- 5.2.3 In subsequent years, each teacher would be required to contribute days to maintain a balance of at least 181 days in the bank. No more than one day per year per teacher would be contributed without a referendum of the teachers. The donation of one day does not apply to first year, newly hired teachers.
- 5.2.4 In order to benefit from the sick leave bank, a teacher would have to:
  - a. have exhausted all of his/her accumulated sick leave, and
  - b. have suffered from illness or disability causing absence from employment for at least ten (10) consecutive working days or at least twenty (20) total days.
- 5.2.5 A qualified teacher may draw two times the number of his/her own accumulated sick leave days up to a total of ninety (90) days from the bank. Accumulated sick days will be computed from the first contract day of the fiscal year. The plan shall be applicable to the illness or disability of the teacher, his/her spouse, domestic partner, child, or parent as verified by a doctor for the additional days of leave.
- 5.2.6 The sick leave bank will be administered by a committee consisting of the Superintendent and three (3) Association members. Teacher committee members shall be elected by the members in each building. The Administrative Committee may request any reasonable information and documentation to substantiate the teacher's request. The decision of the committee is not grievable.
- 5.2.7 Meetings will be called by the Superintendent when requests are received.
- 5.2.8 Any unused days drawn from the sick leave bank will be deposited back into the sick leave bank

at the end of the school year. These days are available for use only and will not be credited to TRS or towards retirement. Sick leave bank days will be recorded separately from a teacher's annually earned sick leave.

### 5.3 PERSONAL BUSINESS LEAVE

5.3.1 Teachers shall be granted two (2) days of paid personal leave per year. Teachers requesting leave must submit the required form to the Superintendent no later than (3) school days prior to the date of the leave except in case of an emergency. Half day personal leave days will be granted.

Teachers are not required to state the reason for the leave. Personal business leave shall be used for personal business or events which cannot be scheduled other than during work hours.

5.3.2 Personal leave shall not be used the first five (5) contract days, the last five (5) contract days with the exception of the Superintendent's approval for family weddings, family graduations, or legal business. Personal leave shall not be used on days immediately preceding or following a school vacation, holiday, or recess period. This restriction shall not apply to organized religious holidays or for situations approved at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

5.3.3 The number of teachers granted personal leave at any given time may be limited to three (3) per principal. The limitation as listed in this section as to advance notice of three (3) school days and/or to the number of teachers may be waived by the superintendent in an emergency situation, such as death or other compelling reasons.

5.3.4 Personal leave days (2) must be used before a request for leave without pay will be considered.

5.3.5 Teachers may contribute unused personal leave days to sick leave. Teachers who use only one personal leave Day will be able to add one day to their Sick Leave Days. Only whole days will be added to Sick Leave.

### 5.4 JURY DUTY LEAVE

5.4.1 Any employee called for jury duty shall be given leave without loss of pay or benefits to serve his/her civic duty.

5.4.2 The employee shall notify his/her immediate supervisor as soon as possible following receipt of the notice.

5.4.3 The employee shall complete a jury duty leave request form, JD-98, and attach a copy of the order to appear, and submit both to his/her immediate supervisor.

5.4.4 The forms will be forwarded to the Office of Superintendent for processing.

## 5.5 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- 5.5.1 Leave of Absence for tenured teachers for study or travel may be granted to a teacher by the Board upon written request and recommendation of the superintendent. Requests are to be filed by March 1st.
- 5.5.2 Leave of Absence - Upon return from a Board approved leave of absence, a teacher shall be restored to a similar position for which the teacher is legally certified.
- 5.5.3 Leave of Absence - Failure to notify the superintendent in writing of intent to return by March 1st constitutes a resignation from employment. At least fifteen (15) days prior to March 1st superintendent shall notify the teacher by certified mail that written notification of intent to return is due March 1st.

## 5.6 FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE (FML)-PARENTAL

Family Medical Leave (FML) is available for teachers to use upon written request for maternity, child rearing, or the placement of a child for adoption or foster care.

### 5.6.1 Applicable Limitations

- 5.6.1.1 A thirty (30) day written request is required when the need is foreseeable, such as in the case of maternity or adoptive leave.
- 5.6.1.2 Leave for maternity, child rearing, or placement for adoption or foster care must conclude within twelve (12) months of the birth or placement. The Superintendent of Schools shall, within his discretion, work out a departure and return schedule with the teacher which shall not interfere with the soundness of the educational program of the district.
- 5.6.1.3 Teachers may or may not choose to use accrued sick leave prior to using unpaid leave for the medically applicable portion of their absence.
- 5.6.1.4 Leave may be taken intermittently when it is medically necessary.
- 5.6.1.5 The district has the right to require medical certification supporting the need for FML due to a serious health condition affecting the teacher or immediate family member under this section.

### 5.6.2 Maintenance of Benefits

- 5.6.2.1 When a teacher expends all sick leave and FML exceeds twelve (12) weeks, the teacher will be responsible for the maintenance of health and life insurance benefits.

5.6.2.2 If a teacher selects unpaid leave, the district will maintain health and life insurance benefits for a period of twelve (12) weeks. Following the twelve (12) week period, the maintenance of health and life insurance benefits shall be the responsibility of the teacher.

5.6.2.3 Upon return from FML, a teacher shall be restored to a similar position for which the teacher is legally certified.

5.6.2.4 Failure to notify the superintendent in writing of intent to return by March 1st constitutes a resignation from employment. At least fifteen (15) days prior to March 1st, the superintendent shall notify the teacher by certified mail that written notification of intent to return is due March 1st.

## 5.7 BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

5.7.1 Up to three (3) days, without deduction from sick leave, may be used for the death of immediate family as defined under sick leave (5.1)

5.7.2 One (1) sick leave day (per occurrence) may be used for the death of a close friend or relative other than immediate family. Notice of leaves should be given as soon as possible

## CHAPTER VI

### WORKING CONDITIONS AND TEACHER RIGHTS

#### 6.1 TEACHERS WORK DAY

Full time teachers shall be required to report at 7:50 a.m. or earlier for faculty meetings scheduled prior to the start of the school day. Whenever possible, faculty meetings should be scheduled one week in advance. Teachers shall be permitted to leave at the end of the day when their responsibilities are complete unless excused by an administrator. Responsibilities include meetings, parent- teacher conferences, back to school nights, and orientation nights.

Whenever practical, teacher meetings shall be announced on week in advance. One scheduled faculty meeting will be held per month. Additional faculty meetings can be scheduled for emergencies. An agenda should precede the meeting. Guidelines for after school meetings should have the meeting begin by 3:30 p.m., and in most cases be limited to approximately one half hour in length.

Each teacher shall attend at least two (2) after-school sanctioned events per school year (not including grade level concerts or high school graduation). Elementary teachers are required to attend their normal annual grade level concert. Junior High and High School teachers are required to attend High School Graduation. Teachers can be excused from these requirements with prior administrative approval.

#### 6.2 MEETINGS BETWEEN BOARD OF EDUCATION AND CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Open lines of communication between all partners in the educational process serve our students in a positive manner and make the Dakota School District a better place to work and learn. A Superintendent Liaison Committee will be formed to consist of district administration, two representatives of each building and two board members. The committee will meet at least two times per year to communicate concerns, suggestions, ideas, updates, improvements, or other areas relating to the education of students or the district as a whole and to continue this open communication process.

#### 6.3 TEACHER EVALUATION

Teacher evaluations shall be conducted in accordance with the Illinois School Code. The Board and the Association will work collaboratively through a Joint Committee to develop a Teacher Appraisal Plan. The Committee will be made up of an equal number of teachers and administrators. The teachers shall be appointed by the Association President, and administration by the School Board. Teachers shall not receive any additional compensation for service on the Committee. The Committee shall annually review the Educational Appraisal Plan. Recommend changes to the Plan must be approved by the Board of Education.

#### 6.4 REEMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

By March 1st of each school year the building principal or the immediate supervisor shall complete a written evaluation report indicating a recommendation to the superintendent relating

to continued employment. The teacher shall be provided with a copy of the recommendation. The recommendation shall contain information made known to and discussed with the teacher.



## 6.5 PLACEMENT OF MATERIAL IN FILE

- 6.5.1 The unit office will maintain a central personnel file for each teacher. Each teacher shall have the right, upon request, to review the contents of his own personnel file. A representative of the Association may, at the teacher's request, accompany the teacher in this review. Such review may be by appointment during normal office business hours (but not including the times when teachers have instructional responsibility) and in the presence of a designated employee of the Board. No teacher shall remove any material from a personnel file; however, a teacher shall have the right to copy any material available to the teacher under this section, or to have such copies made by district office personnel at the usual cost per copy. Confidential material such as college placement credentials shall not be subject to review. Material other than evaluations and job targets will be followed by written notice within five (5) days, identifying any material placed in the teacher's personnel file. Should any material derogatory to an employee's conduct, service, character or personality be placed in his/her personnel file, the employee shall acknowledge that he/she has read such material by affixing his/her signature to the actual copy to be filed, with the understanding that such signature merely signifies that he/she has been shown the material and does not necessarily indicate agreement with its contents. A teacher may attach a written statement to any material placed in his/her file within thirty (30) calendar days of that teacher's notification of the placement of these materials in the file.
- 6.5.2 In the event any file materials are determined to be inaccurate by legal or grievance proceedings, such portion of materials will be removed from the teacher's file. Documents relating to evaluation and job targets are not grievable.

## 6.6 PREPARATION TIME

Each full time teacher shall have preparation time totaling at least 150 minutes per week. Part time teachers who are teaching full days receive time proportionate to their teaching contract.

## 6.7 JUST CAUSE AND DUE PROCESS

- 6.7.1 The Board has a duty to manage its teachers pursuant to the provisions of the School Code. In accordance with this duty, the Association agrees that the Board may suspend teachers, both with and without pay, in accordance with policies adopted by the Board. This authority is supplemental to all other powers of the Board to discipline its teachers and does not limit its powers to dismiss, withhold step increases or otherwise discipline its teachers.
- 6.7.2 No action will be taken against a teacher without just cause.
- 6.7.3 Except when deemed an emergency by the superintendent or his designee, no action shall be taken against a teacher without first informing the teacher of the reasons for the action in writing. Personal delivery or certified mail shall satisfy this clause. A teacher may attach a written response within thirty days of receipt of the letter, which will be placed in the teacher's file
- 6.7.4 Disciplinary Action - (except emergency) shall be preceded by:

- a. detailed, dated documentation of reasons for discipline or dismissal
- b. conference with appropriate administrator or supervisor
- c. a prior written notice including reasons for the meeting the teacher may have an association member and/or representative present at the conference
- d. written records shall be kept of the conference which shall include (c) above, description of proceeding and action taken.

6.7.5 Suspension Without Pay - shall be limited to five (5) (per disciplinary action) and may be appealed to the Board. The teacher retains the right to secure counsel, call witnesses and cross examine during the appeal hearing.

## 6.8 VACANCIES

Whenever vacancies occur or new positions are to be established, notice of such vacancies or openings shall be posted. If such openings occur during the summer, notice of such vacancies shall be mailed only to those teachers requesting, in writing, that they be contacted. Within ten (10) calendar days from posting, contacted teachers may request, in writing, and thus be granted the opportunity to discuss the opening and their qualifications for it with the appropriate administrator.

If such openings occur within thirty (30) days of the opening of school (teacher institute) and if the resigning teacher is granted a release from his/her contract, then the above paragraph of this article (6.10) shall not apply.

## 6.9 TRANSFERS

6.9.1 Definition - A transfer is the movement of an teacher to a building, grade level, or curricular area other than that to which he/she is currently assigned.

6.9.2 Notification of Transfer - A transfer may be necessitated at any time as a result of a change in programming, a change in numbers of pupils in an attendance area or class, as a result of a Board approved program modification, or as the administration deems necessary. The transferee will be notified of any transfers as soon as possible.

## 6.10 REDUCTION IN FORCE

The reduction in force of teachers and the recall of teachers subject to RIF will be conducted in accordance with the Illinois School Code.

6.10.1 Upon request by the Association, the Board president, board secretary and administration shall meet and discuss the proposed reductions in force with the DEA executive committee prior to final recommendations on reductions in force due to economic conditions within the district.

## 6.11 INSTITUTE DAYS

The first Institute Day of each new school year shall be used for training and/or professional development, as directed by the District. The second Institute Day of each new school year shall

be used for a maximum of one-hundred and twenty (120) minutes of meetings, training, and/or professional development, as directed by each individual building's administration, with any time remaining throughout the day dedicated to teacher collaboration and/or room preparation.

CHAPTER VII  
COMPENSATION

7.1 SALARY COMPENSATION

7.1.1 Salary of Teachers - The base salary for the 2023-2024 school year for first year teachers shall be 36,153

All currently employed teachers shall receive the following increases on their previous year's base salary, unless an additional increase is necessary to comply with Illinois minimum salary requirements for teachers:

2023-2024: 5.00%

7.1.2 Teachers Retirement System (TRS): The Board shall contribute the employee's portion to TRS on behalf of the teacher for the duration of this agreement capped at the TRS percentage rate applicable to the 2020–2021 school year.

7.1.3 Teachers Health Insurance Security (T.H.I.S.) -Teachers will be responsible for the full contribution to the T.H.I.S. Fund.

7.1.4 Supplemental Salary of Teachers

7.1.4.1 Extra Duty Assignments - The salary shall be computed by multiplying the percent for the duty times the base salary for each position listed below: (effective 7/ 1/14)

Title IX Hearing Officer/Guidance Service Coordinator	0.5%
Combined Grades	5%
Special Education Coordinator (K-6 and 7-12)	ea. @ 4%
K-12 PE/Health Coordinator (K-6 and 7-12)	ea. @ 4%
Testing Coordinator	4%
Library Coordinator	4%
7-12 Vo-Tech Coordinator	4%
K- 12 Fine Arts Coordinator	4%
Grade Level/Unit Leader SIP Coordinator	ea. @ 4%
(K-6 and 7-12)	ea. @ 4%
Technology Committee Chair (as needed)	4%

Mentor (designated by Building Principal) @ \$15/hr up to 36 hours

DPDC representative (3) @ \$15/hr up to \$900

Extended time assignments - prorated per day based on teaching salary received

during the regular school year.

Summer School Teacher Salary Rate (effective w/ the Summer of 2014)- the hourly rate for a summer school teacher shall be equal to the hourly rate of the base salary for the current school year and shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Current year base salary}/180 /7 \text{ hours per day} = \text{Hourly rate}$$

Hourly rate for professional work completed outside the school day or year (ex., subbing, Saturday School, administrator-approved curriculum work) (effective 7/1/14) - \$20 /hour

7.1.4.2 Extra Curricular Assignments - The salary shall be determined as indicated on the schedule attached as Appendix A.

7.1.4.3 Extra Curricular and Extra Duty

Assignment - Assignments are those assignments in addition to the normal teaching schedule. Teachers who have extra curricular duty assignments as part of their first year assignment may be required to assume the same assignments. Other extra curricular duty assignments shall be with the consent of the teacher.

Should a teacher refuse to consent to an extra curricular duty assignment, he/she may be assigned by the Superintendent only after all other teachers have refused the assignment. Each teacher will be sent a notice indicating the extra curricular duty assignment to which they shall reply within ten (10) days. The ten-day final date shall be stated in the notice.

7.1.4.4 Substitute Cover - All assignments for a teacher to cover another teacher's class shall be completed by the building administrator, with the substitute rotation list being maintained and facilitated by the school secretary. Any teacher assigned through an administrator to take another class during his/her preparation period shall be paid as follows: for each 42 minute class period assigned is \$25 and for any teacher that is forced to take more than nine (9) assignments, each subsequent instance after nine (9) within one (1) school year is paid at \$35 per class period. Required paper work shall be the responsibility of the administration, (i.e. the teacher does not have to request the pay). Any teacher is allowed to leave at 2:30 p.m. without using sick or personal leave with prior approval by the building administrator or Superintendent.

7.1.4.5 Salary Payments and Extra Curricular Salary Payment - shall be paid in 26 equal payments on alternating Wednesdays.

7.1.4.6 Dual Credit/AP Stipend- A teacher shall receive a two hundred-dollar (\$200) stipend each year he/she teaches a Dual Credit/AP Course.

7.1.4.7 Transitional Math and English Stipend – A Teacher shall receive a one-time, two hundred-dollar (\$200) stipend upon creating a Transitional Math and

English curriculum.

## 7.2 EDUCATIONAL HORIZONTAL SALARY SCHEDULE MOVEMENT

- 7.2.1 Salary Credit for Graduate Courses - Teachers are eligible to receive a \$2,400 increase applied to their base salary upon attaining the following educational levels based on graduate coursework at an accredited college or university.

BS15; BS24; MA; MA18; MA36; MA54/PHD

To receive the increase, the teacher shall make a written request and receive written approval/disapproval prior to the official start of a class to be used for salary advancement. Requests are to be submitted to the Superintendent's Office on forms available from each Principal's Office. The course must be graduate level, unless the administration requires or requests a teacher take an undergraduate class. Work shall be in a program leading to a degree or in the teaching area of a proposed additional teaching area or of a significant value to the district of professional advancement of significance to the district. Compensation for advancement shall be limited to one level annually. Teachers shall not receive any additional compensation for any of the above educational levels previously attained prior to July 1, 2014.

- 7.2.2 Other Educational Credit: Teachers may earn credit toward attaining the educational levels stated in section 7.2.1 for attending workshops or participating in courses that are paid for by the teacher. Each such workshop/course must be preapproved under the same process for course approval as set forth in section 7.2.1. Under this section, one hour of credit will be awarded for every 12 hours of attending workshops or participating in courses successfully completed.

7.2.2.1 Method of applying other credit to educational column moves

- a. 2/3 of the hours per column must be all college credit
- b. 1/3 of the hours per column may be by other credit

- 7.2.3 Application of the Educational Salary Credit: The educational salary increase will be applied to a teacher's salary upon presentation of a certified transcript from the educational or teaching institution of other suitable evidence satisfactory to the Superintendent. Such evidence must be presented to the Superintendent on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>. The salary increase will be in effect no later than the second October paycheck.

## 7.3 TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

- 7.3.1 (**Applies to courses held July 1, 2014 or later**) **Beginning July 1, 2023**, tuition for graduate-level coursework will be reimbursed for actual costs incurred up to 90% of the Northern Illinois University's (NIU) current tuition rate (not including fees) as of July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Teachers may be reimbursed for actual costs incurred, which may include tuition, registration fees, participation fees, and/or lab fees. Teachers will be reimbursed up to nine (9) graduate credit hours within a 3 year period beginning on July 1, 2023. The next three year period shall begin on July 1, 2026, unless this benefit is modified in any way through negotiations for the successor contract beginning July 1, 2024.

## 7.4 INSURANCE BENEFITS

- 7.4.1 Health - The health benefit plan will continue as defined in the plan booklet as agreed upon by the Association and the Board. The health plan will continue until a new contract commences. The health plan is not in effect during a strike, or if a complete or partial work stoppage occurs. For the duration of this contract, the deductibles shall be:

For single coverage-\$750 annually. \*  
For family coverage-\$) 1000 annually. \*

Maximum out of pocket for single coverage: \$4,000 on 80%/60% co-insurance  
Maximum out of pocket for family coverage: \$6,000 on 80%/60% co-insurance

The district will make a contribution of 95% of the premium for single coverage per month to provide health insurance for each full time teacher. The Board's contribution for teachers working at least four sevenths time but less than full time will be prorated.

The Board and the Association shall form a committee consisting of three Association representatives, two board members, two administrators and one educational support personnel to meet at least annually to review and establish the health benefit portion and plan administrator(s) of the insurance program(s) in the school district.

- 7.4.1.1 The Board shall offer group hearing, group vision, and group dental insurance plans. The group vision and group hearing plans will be a part of the self-funded health insurance plan at the employee's expense. The group dental plan will be a fully insured plan at the employee's expense. The premium amounts may be a part of the Section 125 flexible spending plan.

- 7.4.2 Life Insurance - The district will provide group term life insurance coverage for all full time teachers according to the following schedule:

Year 1 through year 5 of local experience:	Year 6	\$5,000.00 coverage
through year 10 of local experience:	Year 11 or	\$10,000.00 coverage
more years of local experience:		\$25,000.00 coverage

The Board's contribution for teachers working at least four-sevenths time but less than full time will be prorated.

- 7.4.3 Section 125 - The Board will administer a Section 125 Custom Benefit Plan for teachers. The "Plan" will include areas of premium conversion, medical reimbursement and dependent care assistance. The cost of participation will be assessed to the enrolled teacher through a payroll deduction.

## 7.5 RETIREMENT INCENTIVE

- 7.5.1 Eligibility: To be eligible for a retirement incentive the teacher must have fifteen years of continuous service in the District and must notify the Superintendent in writing no later than November 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year at the end of which the teacher intends to retire (ex. by November 1, 2017 for retirement on June 30, 2018).
- 7.5.2 Benefit An eligible teacher will receive a salary increase in their final year of service of up to 6% of total creditable earnings (reported to TRS) relative to the teacher's prior year's total creditable earnings. If the said total creditable earnings for the next to last year included compensation for extra duties performed during the year, prior to the final year of service, then it is understood and agreed that the teacher will accept the same duties or other extra duties of equitable compensation of the teacher's choice, during the final year of service. In the event that the teacher does not perform such duties due to resignation from said duties, the salary will be reduced by the amount paid in creditable earnings for such extra duty, including TRS, during the previous year. If extra duties cannot be performed due to program termination or loss of funding, then the district will assign a replacement duty of equitable compensation.

In no event will the District pay to the teacher more than a 6% increase in total creditable earnings during the final year of service. The District reserves the right to adjust compensation during the final year of service to prevent paying more than a 6% increase on total creditable earnings.

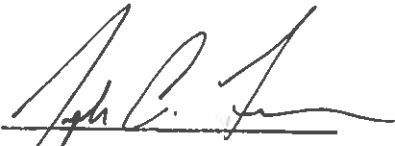
- 7.5.3 To any teacher with fifteen (15) years of continuous service to the District. This monetary incentive will be offered in the following fiscal year.



**CHAPTER VIII  
CONTRACT PERIOD**

- 8.1 This agreement shall commence effective July 1, 2023. (Original contract)
- 8.2 This agreement shall terminate June 30, 2024. (Original contract)
- 8.3 This contract shall be extended for sixty (60) days if no new contract has been agreed upon by June 30, 2024.
- 8.4 This agreement may be extended for a specific period by mutual agreement of both parties.
- 8.5 This agreement may be Terminated by mutual agreement of both parties.

Dated: 4/17/2023



President, Dakota Ed. Assoc.  
District No. 201  
Stephenson County, IL



Secretary, Dakota Ed. Assoc.  
District No. 201  
Stephenson County, IL

Dated: 4-17-23



President, Board of Education  
District No. 201 Stephenson  
County, IL



Secretary, Board of Education  
District No. 201  
Stephenson County, IL

SCHEDULE 1 (1)

GRIEVANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FORMAL GRIEVANCE PRESENTATION (LEVEL ONE)

AGGRIEVED  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF FORMAL  
PRESENTATION \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

ADMINISTRATOR \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

I. Article and Section Violated:

II. Brief Statement of Grievance:

III. Action Requested:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dakota Education Association

\_\_\_\_\_  
Received By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SCHEDULE 1 (2)

GRCEVANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DECISION OF ADMINISTRATOR (LEVEL ONE)

(To be completed by principal, or other appropriate administrator and presented to the Association within five (5) days of formal grievance presentation.)

AGGRIEVED NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF FORMAL PRESENTATION

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

PRINCIPAL \_\_\_\_\_

Decision of Principal (or other Administrator) and Reasons Therefore:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dakota Education Association

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Respondent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Receipt

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Decision

SCHEDULE 1 (3)

GRIEVANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DECISION BY THE NEXT ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL (LEVEL TWO)

(To be completed by this Administrator and presented to the Association within five (5) days.)

AGGRIEVED  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF FORMAL  
PRESENTATION \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date appeal Received by this Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Administrator  
Acknowledging Receipt

Decision of this Administrator and Reasons Therefore:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Aggrieved, Acknowledging  
Receipt of Response

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of This Administrator

SCHEDULE 1(4)

GRIEVANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEW BY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (LEVEL THREE)

The Superintendent or his appointee shall meet with the representatives of the Association within five (5) days of the submission of the matter to him.

The Superintendent shall upon conclusion of the hearing submit this decision to the Association within five (5) days.

Date Appeal Received By  
Supt of Schools \_\_\_\_\_

Date Hearing Held by  
Supt. of Schools \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature, Acknowledging Receipt

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature, Acknowledging Hearing

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature, Aggrieved, Acknowledging  
Hearing

Decision of Superintendent of Schools and Reasons Therefore

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Aggrieved, Acknowledging

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Superintendent of Schools Receipt

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Receipt

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Decision

SCHEDULE 2

DAKOTA COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT NO. 201  
DUES DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION FORM

Authorization for payroll deduction for Education Association dues.

\_\_\_\_\_

First Name	Initial	Last Name	Employee Payroll #
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I hereby request and authorize the Board of Education of Dakota Community Unit District 201, as my remitting agent, to deduct from my earnings each month a sufficient amount to provide for the monthly payment of the prevailing rate of dues, which amount is to be remitted each month for me and on my behalf to the Treasurer of Dakota Education Association.

It is understood that this authorization shall begin on the October payroll period following this date and shall continue through July from the date hereof.

The Board incurs no liability concerning this authorized action.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

## **Appendix A- Stipend Schedule**