

ARTICLE XI - WAGES

A. SALARY SCHEDULE:

Effective July 1, of the current fiscal year, the salary schedule shall be that contained in Appendix B. except as otherwise provided for in this Agreement.

1. New employees shall be placed on the salary schedule based upon one (1) step for each year of previous teaching experience up to a total of seven (7) years.
2. Teachers initially employed for the 1968-69 school year or thereafter, and placed on Column One (I) or Column Two (II) of the salary schedule may not advance beyond the dotted line therein.
3. New employees may be granted one (1) year of credit on the salary schedule for military services, provided the months of military service number eighteen (18) or more. Credit for military service may be used as part of the seven (7) years of credit allowed for teaching experience, but not in addition thereto.
4. Recognition of units earned, degrees awarded, or degree equivalent shall be granted when such units, degrees, or degree equivalents are earned from an accredited college or university, or such units, degrees or degree equivalents are evaluated and accepted by an accredited college or university. Recognition of units earned, degrees awarded, or degree equivalents may be granted, upon approval, by the Board if such units, degrees, or degree equivalents are earned from an institution which has been granted approval status under Section 94310., sub-paragraph B., of the Education Code, or such units, degrees, or degree equivalents are evaluated and accepted by an institution which has acquired approval status as set forth in Section 94310., Sub-paragraph B. of the Education Code. Recognition of units earned, degrees awarded, or degree equivalents shall under no other circumstances be granted if awarded by an institution defined as exempted under Section 94303, Sub-paragraph B, of the Education Code. Further, no other recognition of units earned, degrees awarded, or degrees equivalent are awarded by an institution granted authorized status under Section 94310, Sub-paragraph C. of the Education Code.

5. In determining units beyond a given degree for the purpose of placement on the salary schedule, the date of completion of academic requirements for said degree as certified by the issuing institution shall be used. However, the District may grant postgraduate credit for units taken during the last quarter or semester of the baccalaureate program, provided:
 - a. An accredited college grants graduate credit, or
 - b. The Commission for Teacher Credentialing accepts the units as post-graduate (effective July 1, 1966, not retroactive).
6. Except as otherwise provided by criteria established for academic equivalency placement, employees who hold a valid California teaching credential, but do not have a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent, shall be limited to Column One (I).
7. Criteria for placement on the salary schedule under academic equivalency provisions as adopted May 23, 1968 are available in the Human Resources Office.
8. New employees to be placed on the salary schedule in accordance with the criteria for academic equivalency shall be granted one (1) step for each five (5) years of verified employment directly relating to the prospective assignment, up to a maximum of five (5) steps.
9. Units earned for consideration of advanced placement on the salary schedule shall fall within: 1. the major or minor teaching field of the employee, or; 2. the employee's current teaching area, or; 3. a new teaching major or minor approved by the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, or; 4. classes which apply directly to the educational climate in the employee's classroom. All units earned for consideration of advanced placement on the salary schedule shall have the approval of the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. Employees should acquire prior approval to avoid possible disapproval of credits for advance placement. Requests for approval after completion of units earned shall not be considered after October 1 for salary schedule placement for each school year. Transcripts or other evidence acceptable to the District verifying units

earned must be filed in the Human Resources Office no later than October 1 of each school year.

10. No salary payments to new employees will be made until the official transcripts of record and verifications of teaching experience are filed in the Human Resources Office.
11. All unit members with an earned doctorate shall receive an additional two and fifty-four/one-hundredths percent (2.54%) of base pay.
12. No change in salary status shall be made by reason of change in salary classification unless such notice of intention to be considered for salary classification change has been filed in the Human Resources Office by May 15 of the previous school year.
13. The vertical placement of continuing employees on the salary schedule shall be limited to advancing one (1) step each year regardless of the number of years accrued at the previous step, except as provided below.

Employees will receive an annual salary increment (vertical placement) as provided by the salary schedule (See Appendix B) provided they have not been placed on a Plan of Assistance as authorized by Article IX., Sections G. and I., for not less than sixty (60) school days and have failed to make substantial improvement in each of the specified areas of deficiency as determined by the evaluator or his/her successor. The determination to withhold the salary increment shall be made no later than June 1 of the school year and shall be effective as to the salary increment otherwise available to the employee in the successive school year.

Money withheld as a salary increment may be made available to the affected employee for necessary documented expenses incurred in seeking to upgrade his/her skills as prescribed in a Plan of Assistance. The District's intent is that the withheld increment will be used for expenses incurred in improvement if the person's attitude is open to improvement. Details on the reimbursable expenses will be worked out in each case with the Federation.

No employee shall be placed on a Plan of Assistance unless first warned in writing by an evaluator serving under Article IX., Section F. and/or G., or by an evaluator exercising the authority of Article IX., Section I., that improvement or correction is necessary in a specified area of deficiency. Insofar as is possible, the same administrator whom the employee has previously picked as an evaluator will implement a Plan of Assistance. Nothing contained herein would prevent another administrator who has personal and direct knowledge and/or experience with the unsatisfactory performance of the staff person from doing a Plan of Assistance when the chosen evaluator does not have such personal knowledge and experience. Exceptions to this warning requirement will apply however, in instances of gross misbehavior or conduct including, but not limited to, assault on a pupil or another employee, or criminal conduct on school premises affecting students and employees.

The evaluator must review the Plan of Assistance upon the employee's request approximately every twenty (20) school days for the duration of the Plan of Assistance. Written progress reports will be given to the employee at such conference(s). At any conference, if substantial improvement has taken place in all areas, the employee shall be taken off the Plan of Assistance. The evaluator has the right to confer with the employee at any time during the Plan of Assistance.

The employee may appeal the withholding of the salary increment to a three (3)-person panel within five (5) working days of the receipt by the employee of the evaluator's determination. The panel shall have up to ten (10) working days to review the determination. After reaching a decision, the panel shall make a recommendation for approval or rejection of that determination to the Board no later than its next regularly scheduled meeting. After receiving the recommendation from the panel, the Board shall make a final decision within twenty (20) calendar days.

The three (3) person panel shall be composed of an employee selected by the District, an employee selected by the Federation in consultation with the affected employee concerned, and a "neutral" person agreed upon by the Federation and the District from a list of persons

previously selected by the District and the Federation for this purpose. The panel's written recommendations to approve or reject the evaluator's determination shall be advisory and submitted orally to the Board by the "neutral" member of the panel. The Board shall hear the matter in closed session unless the employee requests an open session.

Where an employee has had a salary increment withheld and is subsequently removed from the Plan of Assistance, the employee shall receive the salary and increment for which the employee is otherwise eligible had s/he not been placed on the Plan of Assistance. No retroactive payment of the lost increment shall be made, however.

14. Longevity increment steps on the salary schedule shall be awarded to employees at the sixteenth (16th), nineteenth (19th), twenty-second (22nd), twenty-fifth (25th), twenty-eighth (28th), and thirty-first (31st) year of service credit in the District. The amount of the longevity increment will be increased by the salary adjustment applied to the total salary schedule each year.
15. New teachers hired by the District beginning with the 2002-03 academic year must obtain CLAD, BLAD or SB1969 certification prior to advancing beyond their Probationary II salary placement. In the event that a teacher fails to obtain such certification by June 30th of his/her second probationary year, the teacher will not advance to the next step of the salary schedule until evidence of completion of such requirements has been presented to the District. Tenured teachers in their third year of service in the District who supply the District with evidence of completion before February 1st of their third year of service may advance to the next step retroactive to July 1st of that year.

B. **Extra-Duty Compensation:**

Except as otherwise provided for in this Agreement, employees employed in extra-pay activities listed in Appendix C. shall be compensated in accordance with the schedule set forth in Appendix C.

C. **Miscellaneous Compensation:**

The District shall pay for any damage to personal property suffered by the employee in the performance of his/her duty according to Appendix G.

D. **Mileage Reimbursement:**

Employees required by the District to travel between schools as part of their regular assignment or use their automobile in the performance of their regularly assigned duties within the District shall receive a mileage allowance in accordance with the Internal Revenue Service rate.

A. **34TH Step:**

A 34th Step will be added to the regular certificated employee salary schedule. To be eligible for placement on the 34th Step, the employee must have completed since the last step movement 150 clock hours of participation in activities that are aligned with the California Standards for the Teaching Profession that contribute to competence, performance, or effectiveness in the profession of education and the teacher's classroom assignments. Acceptable activities shall be defined by the commission on teacher credentialing to include, among other acceptable activities, the completion of courses offered by regionally accredited college and universities, including instructor-led interactive courses delivered through online technologies; participation in professional conferences, workshops, teacher center programs, staff development programs; service as a mentor teacher pursuant to Education Code section 44496; participation in school curriculum development projects; participation in systematic programs of observation and analysis teaching; service in a leadership role in a professional organization; and participation in education research or innovation efforts.

Employees who are on Step 31 during the 2001-2003 school year shall not be required to demonstrate completion of the 150 clock hours on Column's VI, V, and VI.