MASTER AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 857
Lewiston, Minnesota

And

LEWISTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Representing

The Teachers Of The
School District

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 1993 Through June 30, 1995
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PREFACE

The School Board and Lewiston Education Association mutually recognize their obligation to the public and that the right of students and residents of the school district to the continuous and uninterrupted operation of the school is of paramount importance.

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE

THIS AGREEMENT, entered into between the school board of Independent School District No. 857, Lewiston, Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the School District, and the Lewiston Education Association hereinafter referred to as the exclusive representative, pursuant to and in compliance with the Public Employment Labor Relations Act of 1971 and its amendments, hereinafter referred to as the P.E.L.R.A. OF 1971, to provide the terms and conditions of employment for teachers during the duration of this Agreement.
ARTICLE II

RECOGNITION OF EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE

Section 1. Recognition: In accordance with the P.E.L.R.A. of 1971, the school district recognizes the Lewiston Education Association as the exclusive representative of all teachers whether under contract, on leave, or a member of the appropriate unit employed by the school board of Independent School District No. 857, as the exclusive representative, the Association shall have those rights and duties as prescribed by the P.E.L.R.A. of 1971 and as described in the provisions of this Agreement.

Section 2. Appropriate Unit: The school district agrees not to negotiate with or recognize any teachers' organization other than the Association, so long as the Association is the duly authorized, exclusive representative of the teachers of School District No. 857.
ARTICLE III

DEFINITIONS

Section 1. Terms and Conditions of Employment: The term "terms and conditions of employment" means the hours of employment, the compensation therefore including fringe benefits except retirement contributions or benefits, and the employer's personnel policies affecting the working conditions of the employees. In the case of professional employees the term does not mean educational policies of a school district. The term in both cases is subject to the provisions of Section 179A.01 of P.E.L.R.A. of 1971, regarding the right of public employers and the scope of negotiations.

Section 2. Teacher: The Lewiston Education Association shall represent all teachers in the appropriate bargaining unit as determined pursuant to the P.E.L.R.A. For the purpose of this section the term "teacher" shall mean any person employed by Independent School District No. 857 in a position for which licensure is required by the Board of Teaching or the State Board of Education, but shall not include superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal and assistant principals who devote more than 50% of time to administrative duties, confidential employees, supervisory employees, essential employees and daily substitute teachers who do not teach for more than 30 working days.

Section 3. "Full-Time Teacher": For the terms and conditions of this contract, the term "full-time teacher" shall mean one recognized on the salary schedule as receiving the total salary for their step and training in whatever teaching capacity they occupy.
Section 4. School District: For the purposes of administering this Agreement, the term "school district" shall mean the school board or its designated representative.

Section 5. Part-Time Teacher: For the terms and conditions of this contract, the term "part-time teacher" shall mean a contracted teacher recognized on the salary schedule as teaching less than full-time.

Section 6. "Shared Teacher": For the terms and conditions of this contract, the term "shared teacher" shall mean any teacher contracted by one School District and assigned duties in another School District.

Section 7. "Other Terms": Terms not defined in this agreement shall have those meanings as defined by the P.E.L.R.A. of 1971.
ARTICLE IV

SCHOOL BOARD RIGHTS

Section 1. Inherent Managerial Rights: The exclusive representative recognizes that the school district has responsibility and authority to manage and direct, on behalf of the public, all operations and activities of the school district to the extent authorized by law, provided that such rights and responsibilities shall be exercised by the school district in conformity with the provisions of this Agreement.

Section 2. Management Responsibilities: The exclusive representative recognizes the right and obligation of the school board to efficiently manage and conduct the operation of the school district within its legal limitations and with its primary obligation to provide educational opportunity for the students of the school district.

Section 3. Effect of Laws, Rules, and Regulations: The exclusive representative recognizes that all employees covered by this agreement shall perform the teaching and non-teaching services prescribed by the school district and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota, and by school district rules, regulations, directives, and orders issued by properly designated officials of the school district. The exclusive representative also recognizes the right, obligation, and duty of the school district and its duly designated officials to promulgate rules, regulations, directives, and orders from time-to-time as deemed necessary by the school board insofar as such rules, regulations, directives, and orders are not inconsistent
with the terms of this Agreement. The exclusive representative also recognizes that the school district, all employees covered by this Agreement, and all provisions of this Agreement are subject to the laws of the State of Minnesota, Federal laws, rules, and regulations of the State Board of Education, and valid rules, regulations, and orders of State and Federal governmental agencies. Any provisions of this Agreement found to be in violation of any such laws, rules, regulations, directives, or orders shall be null and void.

Section 4. Reservation of Managerial Rights: The foregoing enumeration of board rights and duties shall not be deemed to exclude other inherent management rights and management functions not expressly reserved herein, and all management rights and management functions not expressly delegated in this Agreement are reserved to the school district.
ARTICLE V

TEACHERS' RIGHTS

Section 1. Association Security:

Subd. 1. Any teacher who is a member of the Association or who has applied for membership, may sign and deliver to the school district an assignment authorizing deduction of membership dues in the Association, including the Minnesota Education Association and the National Education Association. Such authorization shall continue in effect from year to year unless revoked in writing between June 1 and September 1 of any year.

Pursuant to such authorization, the school district shall deduct one-twentieth of such dues from both regular salary checks of the teacher each month for ten months, beginning in September and ending in June of each year. Deductions for teachers employed after the commencement of the school year shall be appropriately prorated to complete payments by the following June.

Subd. 2. Upon request of the exclusive representative, the school district shall deduct a fair share fee, as determined by the Association, from the pay of any teacher who is not a member of the Association in good standing, or who does not make application for membership within thirty (30) days from the date of commencement of teaching duties.

The exclusive representative hereby warrants and covenants that it will defend, indemnify and save the school harmless from any and all actions, suits, claims, damages, judgments and executions or other
forms of liability, liquidated or unliquidated, which any person may have or claim to have, now or in the future, arising out of or by reason of the deduction of the fair share fee specified by the exclusive representative as provided herein.

**Subd. 3.** Upon thirty (30) days notice in writing to the payroll officer of the name of the teacher and amount of the fair share fee certified by the exclusive representative, the school district will deduct such fair share fee in the installments from such employee's pay check each month, and will forward such fees to the exclusive representative. The exclusive representative agrees to notify the employer promptly whenever any teacher subject to a fair share fee deduction becomes a member of the exclusive representative, and no further fair share fee deductions for such teacher will thereafter be made. In no instance shall the required contribution exceed a prorata share of the specific expenses incurred for services rendered by the representative in relationship to negotiations and administration of grievance procedures.

**Subd. 4.** With respect to all sums deducted by the school district whether for membership dues or fair share fee, the school district shall remit to the exclusive representative, within ten (10) calendar days, the total amount deducted. The school board shall provide annually a list of teachers for whom such deductions have been made. The exclusive representative agrees to advise the school district of all members of the exclusive representative in good standing and to furnish information needed to the school board to fulfill the provisions of this Article, and not otherwise available to the school district.

**Subd. 5.** The school district agrees to furnish to the exclusive representative upon request, all information concerning Unfair Practices Section 179A.13 of P.E.L.R.A. of 1971.
Section 2. Right to Join: Pursuant to the Minnesota P.E.L.R.A. of 1971, the school district hereby agrees that every teacher employed by the school board shall have the right to freely organize, join, and support the Association for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining or negotiation, and other concerted activities for mutual aid and protection.

As a duly elected body exercising governmental power under the law of the State of Minnesota, the school board undertakes and agrees that it will not directly or indirectly discourage or deprive or coerce any teacher in the enjoyment of any rights conferred by the Act or other laws of Minnesota or the Constitution of Minnesota and the United States; that it will not discriminate against any teacher with respect to hours, wages, or any terms or conditions of employment by reason of their membership in the Association or collective negotiations with the school district, or their institution of any grievance, complaint, or proceeding under this Agreement, or otherwise with respect to any terms or conditions of employment.

Section 3. Credit Union: Upon request of signed authorization from teachers requesting such service, the district agrees to deduct a fixed amount from each check as payment to the Minnesota Education Association Credit Union.

Section 4. Mutual Funds: Upon request of signed authorization, by September 1, and/or January 1, the school district agrees to deduct from teacher's salaries payments to Mutual Fund Investment Companies or Corporations as designated by the teacher or teachers involved.

Section 5. Fair Practices:

Subd. 1. The teachers shall be entitled to full rights of citizenship. The private and personal life of any teacher is not within
the appropriate concern or attention of the school district so long as a teacher does not attempt to subvert the political or moral values of the students of the district nor so long as it does not interfere with performance of teaching duties.

**Subd. 2.** The teachers shall be guaranteed the right to be active politically except during hours of employment. Political rights shall include: registering, voting, political party participation, political issue discussion, campaigning for issues, and/or serving in elected offices which are not incompatible with current employment.

**Subd. 3.** The provisions of the Agreement shall be applied equitably to all members of the unit without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or place of residence.

**Section 6. Personnel Files:**

**Subd. 1.** Each teacher shall have the right, upon written request, to review the contents of their own personnel file. This file will be made available within twenty-four (24) hours, excluding holidays and week-ends, of the request. A representative of the exclusive representative may, at the teacher's request, accompany the teacher in this review.

**Subd. 2.** No material may be placed therein without allowing the teacher an opportunity to file a response thereto, and said response shall become a part of said file in accordance with the procedure of MS. 1965, 125.12, subdivision 14, as amended.

**Subd. 3.** The teacher shall have the right to request a reproduction of any of the contents of the file at the teacher's expense.
Section 7. Teacher Evaluation:

Subd. 1. All monitoring or observation of the work performance of a teacher will be conducted openly. Openly will be defined as the administrator discussing with the teacher the behavior in question. Teachers will be given a copy of any class visit or evaluation report prepared by their superiors at least one (1) day before the conference to discuss it. No such report shall be submitted to central administration, placed in the teacher's files, or otherwise acted upon without a prior conference with the teacher.

Subd. 2. Non-tenured teachers will be observed at least three (3) times each year by an appropriate administrator. Two (2) of these observations should be announced by written notification at least 24 hours prior to the observation.

Subd. 3. Each teacher may have additional observations upon request.

Subd. 4. Any evaluation derogatory to a teacher's conduct, service, character, or personality will not be placed in their personnel file unless the teacher has had an opportunity to review such materials by affixing their signature, and this in no way indicates agreement with the contents thereof. The teacher will also have the right to submit a written answer to such material and their answer shall be reviewed by the superintendent and attached to the file copy.

Subd. 5. Before submission to the school board, the appropriate administrator shall present to each teacher a complete evaluation. The complete evaluation and the evaluation presented to the school board shall include the report of each individual classroom observation. The teacher may answer in writing any part or parts of the evaluation. This statement will be presented to the school board along with the appropriate administrator's evaluation and shall be added to
the teacher's personnel file.

Section 8. Sharing: When a District enters into an agreement to share a teacher with another district, the teacher shall be covered by the provisions of the Master Agreement of the employing district.

Section 9. Placement on Agenda: The board shall place on the agenda of each school board meeting as an item for consideration under "new business" any matters brought to its attention by the exclusive representative so long as those matters are made known to the superintendent's office prior to the printing of the agenda for that subsequent school board meeting.

Section 10. Use of Buildings: The exclusive representative and its representatives shall have the right to use school buildings for meetings provided that when special custodial service is required the school district may make a reasonable charge therefore. No charge shall be made for use of school rooms during the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. during the school day.

Section 11. Other Rights: Nothing contained herein shall be construed to deny or restrict to any teacher, rights they may have under the existing laws and regulations. The rights granted to teachers herewith shall be deemed to be in addition to those provided by such laws and regulations.

Section 12. Agreement Copies: There shall be three (3) signed copies of the final contract for the purpose of record: One retained by the school district, one by the exclusive representative, and one by the superintendent.
ARTICLE VI

BASIC SCHEDULES AND RATES OF PAY

Section 1. 1993-1994 Salary And Extra Duty Schedule: The wages and salaries reflected in Appendix 1, attached hereto, shall be a part of the Agreement for the 1993-1994 school year.


Section 3. Placement on Salary Schedule: The following rules shall be applicable in determining placement of a teacher on the appropriate salary schedule.

Subd. 1. College Credits: College credits used to change lanes on the salary schedule must have been received from an accredited college or university. In order to apply to salary schedule lane changes, credits must meet these criteria:

1. Undergraduate credit must have prior administrative approval.

2. All graduate credit not part of a teacher's Master's degree program must be germane to the teaching assignment or area(s) of certification. Administrative degree credits must be germane to the teaching assignment or area(s) of certification.

(Certified personnel who are employed in ISD 857 by the 1989-91 contract and were enrolled in an administrative degree program prior to September 1, 1989 shall remain under the provisions of the 1987-89 master contract.)
3. Acceptability of credits in question will be determined by a review committee made up of 2 teachers (neither of which is petitioning for acceptance), superintendent, 1 school board member and 1 mutually agreed upon community member.

4. Credits to apply to lanes beyond the Master's lane must be earned subsequent to the earning of the degree.

Subd. 2 Non-college Credit: Non-college credit for teacher training workshops taken outside the normal school day must be germane to the teaching assignment or area(s) of certification. Credits shall be granted at the rate of 1 credit for each 10 hours of workshop participation. Any lane change may not contain more than 6 workshop credits. Teachers who choose to take workshops for credit shall reimburse the School District for all registration fees. (At the expiration of this 1993-95 contract, this section pertaining to non-college credit for training workshops will be removed unless there is mutual agreement to the contrary.)

Subd. 3. Effective Date: Changes in salary due to additional credit will be considered at the next regularly scheduled school board meeting after the required evidence of completion of credit has been received by the superintendent.

Subd. 4. New Teacher Clause: Previous teaching experience, up to a maximum of five years gained during the last six years before contracting with ISD 857 will be recognized. More years of teaching or related experience may be negotiated with the incoming teacher. A newly graduated teacher will be placed on step A of the salary schedule.
Subd. 5. Rules for placement on the salary schedule shall not apply to substitute teachers. Daily substitute teachers shall be paid at a rate to be determined annually by the school board. Long term substitute teachers, (those hired in excess of 20 consecutive days to replace the same instructor) shall be paid, on a prorated basis, on step A of the B.A. lane of the salary schedule.

Section 6. Pay Period: Pay periods shall be twice monthly over ten (10) months. These will be the 15th of the month and the last day of the month except when those days fall on a week-end or holiday, and then the payment will be made on the previous school day.

Subd. 1. Substitute teachers will be paid monthly following the regular school board meeting.

Section 7. Deductions: The school district agrees that all deductions for partial absences will be made on the length of the work day and week. The daily rate, for purposes of calculating deductions shall be 1/186th of the annual salary of the employee.

Section 8. Emergency Duty: In cases when a teacher is asked to substitute, in a study hall or classroom, during their preparation period, they will be compensated at the rate of thirteen dollars per hour.
ARTICLE VII

INSURANCE

Section 1. Health and Hospitalization Insurance: During the 1993-1994 and 1994-1995 school year the school district shall contract with an insurance carrier to provide health insurance to each full-time teacher and others as designated in this Agreement and their eligible dependents. The selection of the insurance carrier and policy shall be made by the school district as provided by law.

Subd. 1. Insurance: During the period noted above, the school district's contribution for family health and hospitalization insurance shall be in an amount not to exceed $273.91 per month and for single health and hospitalization insurance an amount not to exceed $125 per month. In the event both husband and wife are employed by the district, and both are eligible to receive insurance coverage, then the limit paid for family coverage shall be $273.91 per month over both years of this contract.

Subd. 2. It is understood that the school district's only obligation is to purchase an insurance policy and pay such amounts as agreed herein and no claim shall be made against the school district as a result of a denial of insurance benefits by an insurance carrier.

Subd. 3. Teachers, those working less than full time but 1/2 time or more will be offered single or family health insurance with the district's carrier at a pro-rated amount to be paid by the teacher provided they are accepted by the carrier. Teachers working less than 1/2 time will be allowed to purchase health insurance at the employees
expense provided they are accepted by the carrier. Any teacher considered full time (5/7 or more) prior to and including the 1991-1992 school year will continue to be considered full time for insurance benefits should their position be reduced.

Section 2. Disability Insurance: The school district shall provide to each full-time teacher long term disability insurance. Benefits shall be payable upon the 90th calendar day of disability.

Section 3. Continuation of Benefits: In the event that an employee is absent because of illness or injury and has exhausted sick leave accrual, the above mentioned fringe benefits shall continue throughout the balance of the school year.

Section 4. Policy Copies: The school district shall distribute copies of all insurance policies to each teacher covered by said insurance.
ARTICLE VIII

SEVERANCE PAY AND EARLY RETIREMENT

Section 1. Staff Reduction: Tenured teachers upon termination due to staff reduction because of declining enrollments, budget reductions, and/or discontinuance of programs will be provided severance pay as determined by the amount of unused sick leave with a maximum not to exceed 100 days.

Subd. 1. Severance pay for termination due to staff reduction referred to in Section 1 of this Article will be paid to any tenured teacher not employed by the school district by the opening day of the teachers' work year the following fall.

Subd. 2. Computation: Payment for each unused sick day will be based upon 1/186 of the average salary of the teacher's top five (5) years of teaching.

Subd. 3. Disbursement: Disbursement of the amount referred to in Section 1 is to be in one lump sum or in two to six equal payments as requested by the individual teacher to commence upon termination date.

Subd. 4. Payments: If a teacher dies with a portion of their severance pay unpaid, the balance due shall be paid to the teacher's beneficiary, if any, otherwise to the teacher's estate.

Section 2. Early Retirement: Teachers who are at least 55 years of age before September 1 and have taught a minimum of 15 years in Independent School District No. 857 shall be eligible for early retirement pay pursuant to the provisions of this Article upon submission of a written resignation accepted by the school on or before April 1.
Subd. 1. Beginning July 1, 1989, any teacher who leaves employment based on the terms of Section 2 of this Article will be provided early retirement pay as determined by the following schedule:

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Subd. 2. Disbursement. Disbursement of the amount referred to in Section 2 is to be in one lump sum or in two to six equal payments as requested by the individual teacher to commence upon termination date.

Subd. 3. In addition to Subd. 1, unused sick leave days may be converted into paid group health and hospitalization insurance at the following rate: for each 20 days, or that portion thereof, of unused sick leave, the teacher shall be granted one year of paid group health and hospitalization insurance on the same basis (family or single) as of the time of their retirement. The premiums paid shall be the same as those provided the Association.

Subd. 4. Teachers who apply and are granted early retirement shall be eligible to remain in the existing group health and hospitalization insurance program until age 65. Premiums shall be paid
under the provisions of Section 2, Subd. 3 or at the teacher's own expense when sick leave days expire. Benefits under this provision shall cease upon death of the teacher except when both husband and wife have been employed by Independent School District 857 until retirement (and both have been eligible to receive insurance coverage) in which case the survivor will have continued coverage under the provisions of Article VIII.

This section is contingent upon the approval and acceptance by the insurance carrier.

**Subd. 5.** It is the understanding of the school district and the exclusive representative that the purpose of Section 2, Subd. 3 shall not be to provide duplicate coverage. In the event that a retiring teacher obtains employment, following retirement, that provides health and hospitalization insurance, then the school district shall no longer be required to provide that coverage.

**Subd. 6. Payments:** If a teacher dies with a portion of their early retirement pay unpaid, the balance due shall be paid to the teacher's beneficiary, if any, otherwise to the teacher's estate.
ARTICLE IX

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Section 1. Sick Leave: Sick leave shall be defined as any absence due to an illness and/or debilitating condition.

Subd. 1. All teachers under contract shall earn ten (10) days of sick leave for each year of service in employ of the school district. A day will be interpreted to mean the teacher's work day. One additional day shall be earned for each month employed beyond the regular school year.

Subd. 2. Accumulation of unused sick leave days shall be unlimited. Each teacher shall receive a written notice of the total number of accumulated sick leave days in each school year.

Subd. 3. Sick leave with pay shall be allowed by the school district whenever a teacher's absence is found to have been due to illness or debilitating condition which prevented their attendance at school and performance of duties on that day or days.

Subd. 4. Sick leave allowed shall be deducted from the accrued sick leave days earned by the teacher.

Subd. 5. Sick leave pay shall be approved only upon submission of a signed authorized sick leave pay request card available at the office.

Subd. 6. A teacher who is absent due to an illness of a family member will be allowed to use their personal accumulated sick leave without salary deduction.

Subd. 7. A teacher who is unable to teach because of personal illness or debilitating condition and who has exhausted all
accumulated paid sick leave available, may be granted an additional leave of absence without pay for the duration of such illness or debilitating condition, up to one (1) year. A doctor's statement may be required certifying the teacher's ability to return to work.

**Subd. 8.** The school district may require a teacher to furnish a medical certificate from a qualified physician as evidence of illness, indicating such absence was due to illness, in order to qualify for sick leave pay. In the event that a medical certificate will be required, the teacher will be so advised.

**Subd. 9.** At the beginning of each school year the exclusive representative will elect a sick leave bank committee. At that time all non-participating teachers who wish to participate in the established sick leave bank will be assessed one day of sick leave. Participating members of the unit who exhaust their personal accumulated sick leave allowance due to an extended illness shall be allowed reasonable and necessary withdrawals from the common bank. The sick leave committee shall have the power to accept or reject any requests for additional sick leave days. Any person requesting aid must wait five (5) days before receiving any days from the bank. If there are insufficient days available in the bank any participating teacher will contribute one (1) more sick leave day at any time during the school year. A participating member of the unit who has utilized sick leave credit from the sick leave bank shall repay those days credited in a one to one ratio. The first year following a withdrawal a member must repay four (4) days. In the following years the indebted member may not accumulate more than ten (10) days until their debt to the bank is paid in full.

A teacher may withdraw from the sick leave bank at the beginning of any school year. In case of withdrawal a teacher's
contribution of days will remain in the bank.

**Subd. 9 (a).** An illness, in order to qualify to use days from the sick leave bank, must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a personal illness - not family illness or bereavement leave.
2. Surgery, in order to qualify, must be of an emergency nature.
3. Repayment of sick leave bank days following voluntary resignations will be determined on a case by case basis by a committee consisting of the sick leave bank chair, the president of the association and the superintendent or their representatives.

**Subd. 10.** Accumulated sick leave may be used by a teacher before and after child birth for those days determined by the attending physician as days the teacher is disabled. The teacher must furnish a written statement from the attending physician.

**Subd. 11.** All absences caused by injury covered by the Workmen’s Compensation Act are a part of the sick leave policy of the district. If the payment to the teacher under the Workmen’s Compensation Act is not equal to the teacher’s salary, the school district will pay the difference between the regular daily salary of the teacher and the amount paid by Workmen's Compensation. The fractional time a teacher is absent from school and not paid by Workmen’s Compensation will be charged against their accumulated sick leave. The fractional amount paid by the school district will be charged to the teacher's accumulated sick leave.

**Section 2. Bereavement Leave:** Bereavement leave shall be granted to all certified employees without salary deduction. The absence, however, shall be deducted from the employee's accrued sick
leave. The exact number of days will be determined by the superintendent.

Section 3. Personal Leave:

Subd. 1. Any certified employee will be granted two days personal leave per year with one half the substitute's salary to be deducted from the teacher's salary for each day of personal leave. This deduction is not dependent upon the hiring of a substitute.

Subd. 2. Requests for personal leave must be made to the superintendent of schools at least one day in advance, except in the event of emergencies. The superintendent shall have the authority to limit the number of those taking personal leave to one person per day.

Subd. 3. If personal leave days are not used by the teacher, one day for each unused personal leave day will be added to the teacher's accumulated sick leave.

Section 4. Organization Office Leave: An unpaid leave of absence of up to one (1) year shall be granted to any full-time teacher upon application for the purpose of serving as an officer of the MEA or NEA or on its staff. Upon return from such leave a teacher shall be placed at the same position on the salary schedule and shall maintain the same fringe benefits as they had prior to the taking of this leave. By April 1 of the year in which the leave is being taken the teacher must notify the school board in writing of their intent to return or not to return. Failure to so notify shall constitute automatic termination; however, the superintendent may extend the April 1 deadline.

Section 5. Public Office Leave: A leave of absence, not to exceed the duration of the office, shall be granted to any full-time teacher, upon application, for the purpose of campaigning for, or serving in, a public office. Upon return from such leave, a teacher shall be placed at the same position on the salary schedule and shall
maintain the same fringe benefits as they had prior to taking this leave.

Section 6. Maternity Leave: The school district shall grant a maternity leave up to one year to any pregnant teacher who makes a written application for such leave. Upon return from such leave, a teacher shall be placed at the same position on the salary schedule and shall maintain the same fringe benefits as she had prior to taking this leave.

Section 7. Child Care Leave:

Subd. 1. An unpaid child care leave may be granted by the school district, subject to the provisions of this section, to one (1) parent of a child, provided such parent is caring for the child on a full-time basis.

Subd. 2. A teacher making application for child care leave shall inform the superintendent in writing of intention to take the leave as soon as possible before commencement of the intended leave.

Subd. 3. If the reason for child care leave is occasioned by pregnancy, a teacher may utilize sick leave pursuant to the sick leave provisions of the Agreement during a period of physical disability. However, a teacher shall not be eligible for sick leave during a period of time covered by a child care leave.

Subd. 4. The school district may adjust the proposed beginning or ending date of a child care leave so that the dates of the leave are coincident with the closest natural break in the school year - i.e., winter vacation, spring vacation, semester break or quarter break, end of a grading period, end of the school year, or the like.

Subd. 5. In making a determination concerning the commencement and duration of a child care leave, the school board shall not, in any event, be required to:
1. Grant any more than (12) months in duration.

2. Permit the teacher to return to employment prior to the date designated in the request for child care leave.

Subd. 6. A teacher returning from child care leave shall be reemployed in a position in which they left if they return during the school year in which the leave was granted. Otherwise, the teacher shall be reemployed in a position for which they are licensed.

Subd. 7. Failure of the teacher to indicate their intent to return pursuant to the date determined under this section shall constitute grounds for termination. The school district and the teacher may mutually agree to an extension in the leave.

Subd. 8. A teacher who returns from child care leave within the provisions of this section shall retain all previous experience credit for pay purposes and any unused leave time accumulated under the provisions of this agreement at the commencement of the leave. The teacher shall not accrue additional experience credit for pay purposes or leave time during the period of absence for child care leave.

Subd. 9. A teacher who takes leave under this section for the reason of caring for a newborn child, and that leave exceeds six weeks, shall reimburse ISD 857 for the insurance premiums retroactive to the beginning of the child care leave.

Section 8. Adoption Leave: The school district shall grant an adoption leave up to one year to any teacher who makes a written application for such leave. Upon return from such leave, a teacher shall be placed at the same position on the salary schedule and shall maintain the same fringe benefits as they had prior to taking this leave.

Section 9. Military Leave: Military leave shall be granted
pursuant to applicable law.

Section 10. Sabbatical Leave: A sabbatical leave of absence for a year or part of a year may be granted, subject to board approval, to members of professional staff who are presently teaching full time for the purpose of professional advancement or travel, subject to the following conditions:

Subd. 1. In order to be eligible for sabbatical leave, an individual must have taught in Independent School District No. 857 for at least six (6) full years.

Subd. 2. If sabbatical leave is granted for the purpose of study at the master's degree level the teacher must complete twelve (12) credit hours of work during each semester or quarter for which the leave is granted. Work beyond the master's degree requires nine (9) credit hours each semester or quarter. The institution and courses must be approved as a part of the advanced program.

Subd. 3. If the sabbatical leave is granted for purpose of travel the itinerary must be approved by the school district before the leave is granted.

Subd. 4. Application for sabbatical leave must be submitted on or before February 1 for leave taking effect during the next school year. The board will render a decision concerning the request for sabbatical leave on or before the regularly scheduled March board meeting. The applicant will receive written confirmation of the board's decision within three (3) working days of that decision.

Subd. 5. The number of teachers on sabbatical leave shall be limited to one of the total instructional force.

Subd. 6. The allowance granted to a teacher on sabbatical leave shall be one half the rate of pay received by the individual had they remained in their position.
**Subd. 7.** In order that all applicants be given equal consideration and in case the number of requests exceeds the limitations, the school district agrees to use the following criteria in selecting the candidates for sabbatical leave:

A. The merit of the objectives as they relate to improving the instructional program.

B. Years of teaching experience in the district.

C. Previous leaves.

D. Reasonable distribution of applicants by schools.

E. Evidence of acceptance of the teacher's program or project by the institution offering the advance study, research, or itinerary.

**Subd. 8.** A teacher who is granted sabbatical leave must pledge to return to their former position with Independent School District No. 857 for a period of two years following termination of the leave. If the teacher's service is discontinued for any reason other than the individual's incapacity to teach before the expiration of the two years, they shall pay back to Independent School District No. 857 a pro-rata of the allowance.

**Subd. 9.** A teacher, upon return from a sabbatical leave, shall be restored to their former position of like nature and status, and shall be continued at the same position on the salary schedule as if they had taught in the district during such period. They shall maintain tenure, and insurance benefits, accumulated sick leave and all other accrued benefits provided in this Agreement. Sick leave shall be restored to the position it was prior to taking the leave.

**Section 11. Association Leave:** The exclusive representative shall be credited with six (6) days during the 2-year contract term, with no more than five (5) days to be used in any one year. The number
of days shall not accumulate from one 2-year contract term to another. These days, with pay, may be used by the teachers who are officers or agents of the exclusive representative. Request for such leave days shall be made through the president of the exclusive representative. The exclusive representative agrees to notify the superintendent no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the date of intended use of such days.

Section 12. Study Leaves: An unpaid leave of absence of up to one (1) year shall be granted to any full-time teacher who has at least 5 years service in the district, upon application for the purpose of engaging in study at an accredited college or university reasonably related to their professional responsibilities. Upon return from such leave, a teacher shall be placed at the same position on the salary schedule and shall maintain the same fringe benefits as they had prior to taking this leave.

Section 13. Jury Duty: Any teacher who is called to serve jury duty for a municipal, county, state, or federal court shall be provided leave with pay for each day of required jury duty service. The teacher shall notify the District of the dates of pending absence as soon as possible following notice of jury duty, but in no event later than one week prior to commencing jury duty service. The teacher shall reimburse to the district any per diem paid to a juror by the court for jury duty service during days of actual employment, except that the teacher shall retain any mileage and meal allowance paid by the court.
ARTICLE X

HOURS OF SERVICE

Section 1. Building Hours: Teachers shall be required to be in their designated workplace 30 minutes before the opening of the pupil's school day and shall be permitted to leave 15 minutes after the close of the pupil's school day except on days when faculty meetings are called. On Fridays or on days preceding holidays or vacations, the teacher's day shall close at the end of the pupil's day. The basic teacher's day, exclusive of lunch, shall not exceed 8 hours. Teachers will be available to students during these hours.

Section 2. Lunch Period: All teachers shall be entitled to a duty free lunch period of 30 minutes.

Section 3. Overtime: Part-time teachers whose required attendance exceeds their contracted employment shall be compensated for the extra time at their contracted rate of pay.

Section 4. Additional Activities: In addition to the basic school day, teachers shall be required to participate, to a reasonable degree, in school activities beyond the basic teacher's day, as is required by the school district or its designated representative. The normal duties for teachers include a reasonable share of extra-curricular, co-curricular, and supervisory activities, as determined by the principal, superintendent or school board.

Section 5. Preparation Time: Preparation time will be provided in fifty minute blocks of time at the Secondary School and reasonable effort shall be made to provide Elementary School preparation time in two usable blocks of twenty-five minutes in length.
ARTICLE XI

LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Section 1. The school district and exclusive representative agree that the school term for the 1993-1994 year and the 1994-1995 year shall be 186 days.

The one additional day shall be a day to be used by the teachers to work in their classrooms and may be used anytime other than the regularly scheduled 185 days.

Subd. 1. A committee representing the association will be included in formulating of the school calendar each school year. This group will be selected by the local association. Prior to the March school board meeting the superintendent, principals, and teachers will discuss the school calendar for the following year and present their findings to the school board.

Subd. 2. If it is necessary to alter the calendar during the school year the same committee will meet to discuss the changes. If an emergency requires that a decision be made immediately board action may be taken prior to the committee meeting.
ARTICLE XII

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1. Grievance Definition: Any allegation by the exclusive representative or a teacher that there has been a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of the terms and conditions of employment insofar as such matters are contained in the Agreement.

Section 2. Representation: The teacher, administrator, or school board may be represented during any step of the procedure by any person or agent designated by such party to act in their behalf.

Section 3. Definitions and Interpretations:

Subd. 1. Time limits specified in this agreement may be extended by mutual agreement.

Subd. 2. Reference to days regarding time periods in this procedure shall refer to working days. A working day is defined as all week days not designated as holidays by state law. Once a grievance is initiated it shall be continued until resolved. No grievance shall be initiated after the last day of school.

Subd. 3. In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by procedures herein, the date of the act, event, or default for which the designated period of time begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be counted, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal holiday.

Section 4. Time Limitation and Waiver: Grievances shall not be valid for consideration unless the grievance is submitted in writing to the school district's designee, setting forth the facts and the specific provision of the Agreement allegedly violated and the
particular relief sought within twenty days after the date the event
giving rise to the grievance occurred. Failure to file any grievance
within such period shall be deemed a waiver thereof. Failure to appeal
a grievance from one level to another within the time periods hereafter
provided shall constitute a waiver of the grievance. An effort shall
first be made to adjust an alleged grievance informally between the
teacher and the school district designee.

Section 5. Procedure: The school board and exclusive
representative acknowledge that it is usually most desirable for an
employee and their supervisor to resolve problems through free and
informal communications. When requested by either party, the building
grievance representative may intervene to assist in this resolution.
However, should such informal processes fail to satisfy the supervisor
and the teacher, then a grievance may be processed as follows:

Subd. 1. Level 1. If the complaint is not resolved in
the informal meeting, the employee or the exclusive representative must
present the grievance in writing, within five (5) days to the building
principal who will arrange a meeting within five (5) days. The
exclusive representative or teacher and the building principal shall be
present for the meeting. The principal must provide the aggrieved
teacher or the exclusive representative with a written answer on the
grievance within five (5) days.

Subd. 2. Level 2. If the grievance is not resolved in
Level 1 the employee or the exclusive representative must present the
grievance in writing, within five (5) days to the superintendent who
will arrange a meeting within five (5) days. The teacher and the
superintendent shall be present at the meeting, along with the exclusive
representative, if the teacher wishes. The superintendent must provide
the aggrieved teacher with a written answer on the grievance within five (5) days.

Subd. 3. Level 3. If the grievance is not resolved in Level 2, then the exclusive representative or employee shall refer the grievance to the school board within five (5) days. A meeting shall be arranged, by the superintendent, for a meeting between the exclusive representative or employee and the School Board, or its representative to take place within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of the appeal. Each party shall have the right to include in its representation appropriate witnesses and counselors to develop facts pertinent to the grievance. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the school board will have five (5) days in which to provide its written decision to the aggrieved.

Subd. 4. Level 4. If either party is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Level 3, or Level 3 time limits expire without the issuance of the school board's written answer then the exclusive representative or employee may submit the grievance to final and binding arbitration under the rules of the P.E.L.R.A. of 1971 which shall act as the administrator of the proceedings. If a demand for arbitration is not filed within thirty (30) days of the date for the school board's Level 3 reply, then the grievance will be deemed withdrawn. Neither the school board nor the exclusive representative will be permitted to assert any grounds or evidence before the arbitrator which was not previously disclosed to the other party. Both parties agree to be bound by the award of the arbitrator and agree that the judgment there on may be entered in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Subd. 5. Each party shall bear its own expenses in connection with arbitration including expenses relating to the party's representatives, witnesses, and any other expenses which the party
incurs in connection with presenting its case in arbitration. A transcript or recording shall be made of the hearing at the request of either party. The parties shall share equally fees and expenses of the arbitrator, the cost of the transcript or recording if requested by either or both parties, and any other expenses which the parties mutually agree are necessary for the conduct of the arbitration.

**Subd. 6.** The time limits provided in this Article shall be strictly observed but may be extended by written mutual agreement of the School Board and the exclusive representative.

**Subd. 7.** No reprisals of any kind will be taken by the school administration against any teacher because of this participation in the Grievance Procedure. Neither shall any reprisals be taken by the School Board.

**Subd. 8.** All documents, communication and records dealing with the processing of a grievance will be filed separately from the personnel files of the participants.

**Section 6. School Board Review:** The School Board reserves the right to review any decision issued under the informal process of Level 1 and Level 2 of this procedure provided the School Board or its representative notify the parties of its intention to review within ten days after the decision has been rendered. In the event the School Board reviews a grievance under this section, the School Board reserves the right to reverse or modify such decision.
ARTICLE XIII

UNIFICATION, LAYOFFS, AND ASSIGNABILITY

Staff Reduction and Annexation, Consolidation or
Other Reorganization of the District

Section 1. Unification: This Agreement shall be binding upon
the school district and its successor personnel and upon any school
district into which or with which this district shall be merged or
combined.

Section 2. Layoffs: Termination of tenured professional
personnel required by reduction in student enrollment, merger,
financial condition, discontinuance of position, consolidation, or
annexation shall take place only in accordance with the applicable
provisions of the Minnesota Continuing Contract Law (Minnesota Statutes
125.12).

Section 3. Assignability: In the event a teacher's
assignment or responsibilities are to be changed or eliminated, every
effort will be made to place that teacher in another position for which
they are qualified, within the school system. Reduction in certified
staff will be made on the basis of seniority in the school district,
provided the teacher is certified for the position. Rehiring will be
based on a reversal of the above procedure; i.e., the last dismissed
will be the first rehired.

Section 4. Seniority List: The school board will furnish a
seniority list of all tenured staff to the exclusive representative on
or before the first of January of each school year. This list will then
be the order in which lay-offs of tenured staff will be handled.

1. Number of years teaching in School District 857.
2. Full time senior over part time.
3. Number of areas certified.
4. Total continuous teaching time.
5. Number of extra duties.
6. Administrative evaluation.
ARTICLE XIV

CURRICULUM WRITING

The school district and exclusive representative agree that curriculum changes are often needed and necessary for the education of all children. When these changes are of a minor nature they can be effectively handled within the school day. However, there should be compensation for major changes that require many hours of preparation outside the classroom and add to the professional responsibility of the teacher. The compensation for affecting such curriculum changes shall be reimbursed at the rate of twelve dollars ($12.00) per hour.
ARTICLE XV

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

Section 1. Compensation: Any teacher designated or elected as department chair shall be assigned one less hour of class per day or shall be compensated at the rate of two hundred fifty dollars per year.

Section 2. Classification: The department chair shall not be considered a supervisory employee as defined in the P.E.L.R.A. of 1971.

Section 3. Designated Departments: The following areas should function as departments for the 1993-1994 and 1994-1995 school year:

Subd. 1. Special Education to include Elementary and Secondary. This will involve MDMI, MSMI, LD, EBD and Speech Therapy.

Section 4. Selection of Department Chairs:

Subd. 1. Chairs should have a major in the area in which they are to be department chair.

Subd. 2. Chairs should have teaching experience in their field.

Subd. 3. Members of the department may nominate two candidates. If the department members do not wish to do so, or fail to nominate them, the choice will be left to the administration. The final selection in any case will be made by the administration.

Subd. 4. Renomination will occur each year, keeping in mind that frequent changes would produce discontinuity of policies and procedures.
ARTICLE XVI

PROFESSIONAL VISITATION

The school district and exclusive representative agree that upon request and approval by the administration, teachers shall be allowed up to two days of release time for classroom visitation and school observation. This policy is directed toward the examination of special types of programs in operation. Upon request, teachers shall be reimbursed for expenses. Substitutes, when necessary, shall be provided by the school district.
ARTICLE XVII

DURATION

Section 1. Term and Reopening Negotiations: This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for a period commencing July 1, 1993 through June 30, 1995 and thereafter until modifications are made pursuant to the P.E.L.R.A. of 1971. If either party desires to modify or amend conditions of the Agreement commencing on July 1, 1995 it shall give written notice of such intent no later than May 1, 1995. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the parties shall not commence negotiations more than 90 days prior to the expiration of this Agreement.

Section 2. Effect: This Agreement constitutes the full and complete Agreement between the school district and the exclusive representative representing the teachers of the district. The provisions herein relating to terms and conditions of employment supersede any and all prior Agreements, resolutions, practices, school district policies, rules, or regulations concerning terms and conditions of employment inconsistent with these provisions.

Section 3. Finality: Any matter relating to the current contract term, whether or not referred to in this Agreement, shall not be open for negotiations during the term of this Agreement unless both parties mutually agree to such a reopening.

Section 4. Severability: The provisions of this Agreement shall be severable and if any provision thereof or the application of any such provision under any circumstances is held invalid, it shall not affect any other provisions of this Agreement or the application of any provision thereof.
## APPENDIX 1

### SALARY SCHEDULE: 1993-94

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APPENDIX 2

SALARY SCHEDULE: 1994-95

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<td>Athletic Director</td>
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<td>Head Co (CC, BB, BG, GG, BT, GT, SB)</td>
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<td>Junior High Coach</td>
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<td>Summer School Instruction</td>
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<td>Adult Evening Instruction</td>
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<td>Home Bound Instruction</td>
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<td>Ticket Selling</td>
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<td>Timekeeping/Supervision</td>
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<td>Bus Chaperones</td>
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</table>
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The parties have executed this Agreement as follows:

For LEWISTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION For INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 857

President

Secretary

Chief Teacher Negotiator

Chairperson

Clerk

Chief Board Negotiator

Dated this 14th day of March, 1994

Dated this 14th day of March, 1994