

Collective Agreement

Between OECTA Elementary Teacher's Local (Sudbury Unit)
and
The Sudbury Catholic District School Board

(Includes Extension agreement from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2019)

September 1, 2014 to
August 31, 2019

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Part A: CENTRAL TERMS

1. TERM, NOTICE AND RENEWAL OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

1.1 Term of Agreement

The term of this collective agreement, including central terms and local terms, shall be for a period of three (3) years from September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2017, inclusive.

1.2 Amendment of Terms

The central terms of this agreement, excepting term, may only be amended during the life of the agreement upon mutual consent of the central parties and agreement of the Crown.

1.3 Notice to Bargain

Whereas central bargaining is required under the *School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, 2014*, notice to bargain centrally shall be in accordance with that Act, and with the *Labour Relations Act*. Notice to bargain centrally constitutes notice to bargain locally.

2. SALARY, WAGES, ALLOWANCES

2.1 Boards shall adjust their current salary grids, wage schedules and allowances in accordance with the following schedule:

2.1.1 September 1, 2014: 0%

2.1.2 September 1, 2015

2.1.2.1 Restoration of grid movement

2.1.2.2 Provisions in collective agreements between OECTA and English language separate district school boards which delay movement through and across salary grids in accordance with experience and qualifications until the 97th day of the school year shall be deemed to be null and void and thereafter, shall not form part of those collective agreements.

2.1.2.3 Lump Sum Payments

2.1.2.3.1 Permanent Teachers

Other than occasional teachers and term assignment teachers, all bargaining unit teachers employed by an English-language separate district school board on September 8, 2015, shall be paid a lump sum amount equal to 1% of earned wages in effect September 1, 2015. For clarity, a teacher need not be actively at work on September 8, 2015 as a condition of entitlement to the lump sum. The lump sum is payable within 30 days of the ratification of the Memorandum of Local Terms.

In the event that a teacher in the employ of a board resigns, retires or is terminated prior to the end of the 2015 – 2016 school year, there shall be no recovery of any of the lump sum payment.

2.1.2.3.2 Occasional and Term Assignment Teachers

2.1.2.3.2.1 All Occasional teachers and teachers in a term assignment in the employ of an English-Language separate district school board on September 8, 2015 shall be paid a lump sum amount equal to 1% of earned wages for the period September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 payable not later than July 30, 2016 or thirty days (30) from the date of ratification of the memorandum of settlement of local terms, whichever is later.

2.1.2.3.2.2 For clarity, an occasional teacher or a teacher in a term assignment need not be actively at work on September 8, 2015 as a condition of entitlement to the lump sum.

2.1.2.3.2.3 For purposes of all the foregoing payments and increases, employment commences upon the offer and acceptance of a teaching position.

2.1.3 September 1, 2016

2.1.3.1 The parties agree that a 1% increase shall be applied to salary grids, wage schedules and to position of responsibility allowances.

2.1.4 The parties further agree that on the 98th day of the 2016/2017 school year a further increase of 0.5% shall be applied to salary grids, wage schedules and to position of responsibility allowances.

3. SICK LEAVE/SHORT-TERM LEAVE AND DISABILITY PLAN – PERMANENT TEACHERS

3.1 Sick Leave Benefit Plan

The school board will provide a sick leave/short-term leave and disability plan which will provide sick leave days and short-term leave and disability coverage to permanent full-time and part-time teachers, when the teacher is ill or injured or for purposes of personal medical appointments as described below. Teachers employed in a term position (including but not limited to adult and continuing education assignments) or filling a long-term assignment, shall be eligible to receive sick leave benefits under this plan in accordance with the provisions in the Sick Leave/Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan – Long-Term Occasional Teachers and Teachers

Employed in a Term Position. A teacher is eligible for a full allocation of sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan days regardless of start date of employment. Sick leave/Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan days will be deducted in increments consistent with existing practices.

3.2 Sick Leave Days

Subject to paragraphs **3.4-3.8** below, full-time teachers will be allocated eleven (11) sick days payable at one hundred percent (100%) of salary on the first day of each school year. (Clarification- For permanent full time teachers the rate will be calculated by dividing annual grid salary inclusive of any applicable allowances, by 194.) When a teacher's employment status is less than full time, the teacher's eligibility for sick leave credits shall be prorated by the ratio that the teacher's FTE status is to full time status. Teachers on an unpaid leave of absence are not eligible to access benefits under this article for the portion of the workday for which the teacher is on an unpaid leave of absence. Sick leave days may be used for reasons of personal illness and injury, and personal medical appointments.

3.3 Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan (STLDP)

Subject to paragraphs **3.4-3.8** below, full-time teachers will be allocated one hundred and twenty (120) STLDP days on the first day of each school year. If a teacher's employment status is less than full time, the teacher's eligibility for short-term disability days shall be prorated by the ratio that the teacher's FTE status is to full time status. Teachers on an unpaid leave of absence are not eligible to access benefits under this article for the portion of the workday for which the teacher is on an unpaid leave of absence. Teachers eligible to access short-term leave and disability coverage shall receive payment equivalent to ninety percent (90%) of annual grid salary (calculated by annual grid salary inclusive of any applicable allowances, multiplied by 90% divided by 194), in accordance with the terms of this central agreement.

3.4 Teacher Pension Plan Implications

- 3.4.1** Contributions will be made by the employee/plan member on the unpaid portion of each sick leave day under the STLDP, unless directed otherwise in writing by the employee/plan member;
- 3.4.2** The government/employer will be obligated to match these contributions;
- 3.4.3** If the plan member/employee exceeds the maximum allowable sick-days and does not qualify for Long-Term Disability (LTD)/Long-Term Income Protection (LTIP), pension contributions will cease and the employee is not eligible to earn pensionable service until the LTD/LTIP claim is re-assessed and approved or if the employee returns to active employment whether on a part time or graduated basis.
 - 3.4.3.1** If the LTD/LTIP claim is re-assessed and approved, then the member will be entitled to earn service by making contributions subject to existing plan provisions for a period of time that does not exceed the difference between the last day of work and the day when LTIP benefits begin and the government/employer will be obligated to match these contributions.

- 3.4.3.2** If not approved for LTD/LTIP, such absence shall be subject to existing plan provisions.

3.5 Eligibility and Allocation

- 3.5.1** The allocations outlined in paragraphs **3.2** and **3.3** above, will be provided on the first day of each school year. In the event that a teacher is absent on the first day of the school year, the allocations outlined in paragraphs **3.2** and **3.3** above will be granted subject to the restrictions outlined in paragraphs **3.5.3** to **3.5.5**. If a teacher is absent on the last day of a school year and the first day of the following school year for unrelated reasons, the allocations outlined in paragraphs **3.2** and **3.3** above will be provided on the first day of the school year.
- 3.5.2** Changes to the teacher's employment status during a school year shall result in an adjustment to allocations, as per **3.2 Sick Leave Days** and **3.3 Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan**.
- 3.5.3** Where a teacher is accessing sick leave and/or the short-term leave and disability plan in a school year and the absence for the same condition continues into the following school year, the teacher will continue to access any unused sick leave days or short-term disability days from the previous school year's allocation. A new allocation in accordance with paragraphs **3.2** and **3.3** will not be provided to the teacher until s/he has submitted medical clearance (consistent with the requirements of paragraph **3.7**) confirming that s/he is able to return to work and a bona fide return to work occurs.
- 3.5.4** A teacher who has utilized 131 days of combined sick leave and short-term leave and disability leave in the immediately preceding school year and continues to be absent for the same condition must provide medical clearance (consistent with the requirements of paragraph **3.7**) confirming s/he is able to return to work and a bona fide return to work occurs, before s/he will be allocated further leave under this Article in the next school year.
- 3.5.5** A teacher returning from a long-term disability leave must provide medical clearance (consistent with the requirements of paragraph **3.7**) confirming s/he is able to return to work and a bona fide return to work occurs for the teacher to receive a new allocation of sick leave/short-term leave and disability leave. If the teacher has a recurrence of the same illness or injury the teacher is required to apply to reopen the previous LTD or WSIB claim.
- 3.5.6** WSIB remains first payor. A teacher who is receiving benefits under the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act*, is not entitled to benefits under a school board's sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan for the same condition. However, where a teacher is receiving partial benefits under WSIB, they may be entitled to receive benefits under the sick leave plan, subject to the circumstances of the specific situation. During the interim period from the date of injury/incident or illness to the date of approval by the WSIB of the claim, the teacher may access sick leave and short-term leave and disability

coverage. A reconciliation of sick leave deductions made and payments provided, will be undertaken by the school board once the WSIB has adjudicated and approved the claim. In the event that the WSIB does not approve the claim, the school board shall deal with the absence consistent with the terms of this sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan.

3.5.7 LTD remains first payor. A teacher who is receiving benefits under an LTD plan, is not entitled to benefits under a school board's sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan for the same condition. However, where a teacher is receiving partial benefits under an LTD plan, they may be entitled to receive benefits under the sick leave plan, subject to the circumstances of the specific situation. During the interim period from the date of injury/incident or illness to the date of approval by the LTD carrier of the claim, the teacher may access sick leave and short-term leave and disability coverage. A reconciliation of sick leave deductions made and payments provided, will be undertaken by the school board once the LTD carrier has adjudicated and approved the claim. In the event that the LTD carrier does not approve the claim, the school board shall deal with the absence consistent with the terms of this sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan.

3.5.8 Where a teacher is not receiving benefits from another source, and is working less than their full time equivalency in the course of a graduated return to work as the teacher recovers from an illness or injury, the teacher may use any sick/short-term leave and disability allocation remaining, if any, for the portion of the day where the teacher is unable to work due to illness or injury. A partial sick/short-term leave day will be deducted for an absence of a partial day in the same proportion as the duration of the absence is to a full instructional day.

3.6 Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan Top-Up (STLDPT)

For teacher absences that extend beyond the eleven (11) sick leave days provided above, teachers will have access to a sick leave top up for the purpose of topping up salary to one hundred percent (100%) under the Short-term Leave and Disability Plan.

This top up is calculated as follows:

- 3.6.1** Eleven (11) days less the number of sick days used in the prior year. These days constitute the top-up bank.
- 3.6.2** In addition to the top-up bank, compassionate leave top-up may be considered at the discretion of the board. The compassionate leave top-up will not exceed two (2) days and is dependent on having two (2) unused leave days in the current year. These days can be used to top-up salary as described in **3.6.1** above.

- 3.6.3** When teachers use any part of a short-term sick leave day they may access their top-up bank to top up their salary to 100%. For clarity, one day in a top-up bank may be used to top-up ten days of STLDP from 90% to 100% of salary.

3.7 Administration

- 3.7.1** A school board may request medical confirmation of illness or injury confirming the dates of absence, the reason therefore (omitting a diagnosis), the teacher's prognosis and any limitations or restrictions. Medical confirmation will be required to be provided by the teacher as determined by the school board for absences of 5 consecutive days or greater. Boards are entitled to make reasonable follow up requests and seek reasonable periodic updates. Requests shall be sent to the teacher who shall be responsible for authorizing their medical practitioner to respond in a timely fashion. The medical confirmation and follow up requests may be required to be provided in the attached form (**Appendix B**) or on forms as mutually agreed between the school board and the Association, where appropriate. Where a school board requires the completion of the attached form (or other similar form) it shall reimburse the cost up to a maximum of \$45.00, or in accordance with existing practice (i.e. the manner in which it was reimbursed as of August 31, 2014).
- 3.7.2** School boards shall provide to the local unit president(s) a list of all teachers who have been absent for eleven (11) or more consecutive days within a week following the end of each calendar month. This report shall be for the purpose of activating the early intervention program associated with the OECTA LTD plan.
- 3.7.3** Teachers returning to work after an extended medical leave of absence or seeking accommodation will be required to provide medical clearance (consistent with the requirements herein) providing confirmation of fitness to return to work, outlining any limitations or restrictions prior to returning to active employment. A return to work meeting shall occur prior to the teacher returning to active employment. The returning teacher, the unit president (or designate) and Human Resource Supervisory Officer (or designate) shall be notified of and entitled to attend the return to work meeting. The parties agree that return to work meetings are to be scheduled in a timely manner but not more than ten (10) weekdays after receiving medical clearance and any reasonably required follow up to return to active employment. Requests for follow up information shall be made in a timely manner. The timelines may be extended if there are extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement.
- 3.7.4** In cases where a teacher refuses to reasonably cooperate in the administration of the sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan, access to compensation may be suspended or denied. Before access to compensation is denied, discussion will occur between OECTA and the school board. Compensation will not be denied for the sole reason that the medical

practitioner refuses to provide the required medical information. In such cases, a school board may require an independent medical examination to be completed by a medical practitioner qualified in respect of the illness or injury at issue of the school board's choice at the school board's sole expense.

In cases where the teacher's failure to cooperate is the result of a medical condition, the board shall consider those extenuating circumstances in arriving at a decision.

- 3.7.5** Medical information collected under this article will not be subject to unreasonable review by boards. Boards will accommodate limitations and restrictions consistent with their duty to accommodate.

3.8 Long Term Disability (LTD)

- 3.8.1** The school board shall cooperate in the administration of the LTD Plan. It is understood that administration means that the school board will co-operate with the enrolment and deduction of premiums and provide available necessary data to the insurer, upon request. The school board will remit premiums collected to the carrier on behalf of the teachers.
- 3.8.2** Where the plan administrator implements changes in the terms and conditions of the LTD Plan or the selection of an insurance carrier, the school board shall, for administrative purposes, be advised of changes at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the changes are to be implemented.
- 3.8.3** The Association is the policyholder of the Long-Term Disability Plans effective January 1, 2013, except as determined by **3.8.9** below. School boards shall promptly provide all data, related to the Long-Term Disability Plans, as requested by the Association's carrier.
- 3.8.4** All teachers shall participate in the Long-Term Disability Plan as a condition of their employment subject to the terms of the respective plan.
- 3.8.5** The Association will work with school boards and/or OCSTA to consider including non-teaching staff in a separate plan(s) where the viability of a current LTD plan remains in question after the teachers are withdrawn from the existing plan. The Association will decide upon any request by a school board whether or not to accept other employee groups into a long term disability plan(s), subject to plan provisions as determined by the Association.
- 3.8.6** The school boards shall enroll all teachers, identified in paragraph **3.8.4** above, in the Long-Term Disability Plan in the manner prescribed by the Association.
- 3.8.7** The school boards shall complete the Plan Administrator Statement as required by the plan provisions. The plan provider shall provide teachers identified in paragraph **3.8.4** above represented by the Association with LTD Claim kits.

- 3.8.8** The school boards shall be responsible for the deduction and remittance of LTD premium contributions within fifteen (15) days in the manner prescribed by the Association. Boards shall be responsible for collecting premiums from teachers who are on a leave of absence from the board.
- 3.8.9** The Association shall consider requests by the Dufferin-Peel, Huron-Superior and London District Catholic School Boards to be a part of the Association Long-Term Disability Plan. The school boards shall continue to pay the LTD premiums for teachers and remit said premiums in accordance with paragraph **3.8.8** above unless otherwise agreed to by those school boards and the respective local units of the Association.
- 3.8.10** The Association shall assume all other administrative functions of the Long-Term Disability Plans for the Teachers.
- 3.8.11** The Association shall determine the design of the Long-Term Disability Plans, the terms and conditions of the plans and the selection of carrier(s), except for those boards listed in **3.8.9** above.
- 3.8.12** The school board shall provide the local unit notice regarding all individuals who begin to access the short-term leave and disability plan.
- 3.8.13** School boards shall participate in early intervention programs initiated on behalf of disabled teachers.
- 3.8.14** School boards shall participate in return to work programs initiated on behalf of disabled teachers.
- 3.8.15** School boards will not draw down on reserves, surpluses and/or deposits out of the teachers' share of the LTD plan without the express written consent of the Association. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. This clause does not apply where the school board pays 100% of the LTD premiums (Dufferin-Peel CDSB and Huron-Superior CDSB).
- 3.8.16** LTD is separate and distinct from STLDP and sick leave. An unsuccessful LTD claim does not preclude a teacher from receiving STLDP and sick leave.

4. SICK LEAVE/SHORT-TERM DISABILITY PLAN – LONG-TERM OCCASIONAL TEACHERS AND TEACHERS EMPLOYED IN A TERM POSITION

4.1 Sick Leave Benefit Plan

The school board will provide a sick leave/short-term leave and disability plan which will provide sick leave days and short-term leave and disability coverage to teachers employed in a term position (including but not limited to adult and continuing education assignments) or filling a long-term assignment, when the

teacher is ill or injured or for purposes of personal medical appointments as described below. Sick leave/Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan days will be deducted in increments consistent with existing practices.

4.2 Sick Leave Days

Subject to paragraphs **4.4 - 4.6** below, teachers employed by a board to fill a term or long-term teaching assignment that is a full year will be allocated eleven (11) sick days payable at one hundred percent (100% - calculated by dividing annual grid salary, inclusive of any applicable allowances, by 194 OR their daily rate, as applicable) allocated at the commencement of the assignment. A teacher who is employed by a board to fill a term or long-term teaching assignment that is less than a full year will be allocated eleven (11) sick days, reduced to reflect the proportion the assignment bears to the length of the regular work year (194 days), and allocated at the start of the assignment. If a teacher's employment status is less than full-time, the teacher's allocation of sick leave credits shall be prorated by the ratio that the teacher's FTE status is to full-time status. Sick leave days may be used for reasons of personal illness and injury, and personal medical appointments.

4.3 Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan (STLDP)

4.3.1 Subject to paragraphs **4.4 - 4.6** below, a teacher employed by a board to fill a term or long-term teaching assignment that is a full year will be allocated one hundred and twenty (120) STLDP days on the first day of the teacher's assignment. A teacher who is employed by a board to fill a term or long-term teaching assignment that is less than a full year will be allocated one hundred and twenty (120) STLDP days, reduced to reflect the proportion the assignment bears to the length of the regular work year (194 days), and allocated at the start of the assignment. If a teacher's employment status is less than full time, the teacher's eligibility for short-term leave and disability days shall be prorated by the ratio that the teacher's FTE status is to full time status. Teachers eligible to access short-term leave and disability coverage shall receive payment equivalent to ninety percent (90%) of their applicable salary or daily rate.

4.3.2 A teacher employed by a board to fill a term or long-term teaching assignment may carry over unused sick leave from one term or long-term teaching assignment to another term or long-term teaching assignment within the same school year.

4.4 Teacher Pension Plan Implications

4.4.1 Contributions will be made by the employee/plan member on the unpaid portion of each sick leave day under the STLDP, unless directed otherwise in writing by the employee/plan member;

4.4.2 The government/employer will be obligated to match these contributions;

4.4.3 If the plan member/employee exceeds the maximum allowable sick-days and does not qualify for Long-Term Disability (LTD)/Long-Term Income Protection (LTIP), pension contributions will cease and the employee is not eligible to earn

pensionable service until the LTD/LTIP claim is re-assessed and approved or if the employee returns to active employment whether on a part time or graduated basis.

- 4.4.3.1** If the LTD/LTIP claim is re-assessed and approved, then the member will be entitled to earn service by making contributions subject to existing plan provisions for a period of time that does not exceed the difference between the last day of work and the day when LTD/LTIP benefits begin and the government/employer will be obligated to match these contributions.
- 4.4.3.2** If not approved for LTD/LTIP, such absence shall be subject to existing plan provisions.

4.5 Eligibility and Allocation

- 4.5.1** The allocations outlined in paragraphs **4.2** - **4.3** above, will be provided on the first day of the term or long-term assignment.
- 4.5.2** Sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan leave may only be accessed by teachers in the school year in which the allocation was provided. A teacher may use any remaining allocation of sick leave or short-term leave and disability leave in a subsequent term or long-term assignment, provided the assignments occur in the same school year.
- 4.5.3** Changes to the teacher's assignment during a school year shall result in an adjustment to allocations, as per **4.2 Sick Leave Days** and **4.3 Short-Term Leave and Disability Plan**.
- 4.5.4** WSIB remains first payor. A teacher who is receiving benefits under the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act*, is not entitled to benefits under a school board's sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan for the same condition. However, where a teacher is receiving partial benefits under WSIB, they may be entitled to receive benefits under the sick leave plan, subject to the circumstances of the specific situation. During the interim period from the date of injury/incident or illness to the date of approval by the WSIB of the claim, the teacher may access sick leave and short-term leave and disability coverage. A reconciliation of sick leave deductions made and payments provided, will be undertaken by the school board once the WSIB has adjudicated and approved the claim. In the event that the WSIB does not approve the claim, the school board shall deal with the absence consistent with the terms of this sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan.
- 4.5.5** LTD remains first payor. A teacher who is receiving benefits under an LTD plan, is not entitled to benefits under a school board's sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan for the same condition. However, where a teacher is receiving partial benefits under an LTD plan, they may be entitled to receive benefits under the sick leave plan, subject to the circumstances of the specific situation. During the interim period from the date of injury/incident or illness to the date of approval by the LTD carrier of the claim, the teacher may access

sick leave and short-term leave and disability coverage. A reconciliation of sick leave deductions made and payments provided, will be undertaken by the school board once the LTD carrier has adjudicated and approved the claim. In the event that the LTD carrier does not approve the claim, the school board shall deal with the absence consistent with the terms of this sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan.

- 4.5.6** Where a teacher is not receiving benefits from another source, and is working less than their full time equivalency in the course of a graduated return to work as the teacher recovers from an illness or injury, the teacher may use any sick leave/short-term disability leave allocation remaining, if any, for the portion of the day where the teacher is unable to work due to illness or injury. A partial sick leave/short-term disability leave day will be deducted for an absence of a partial day in the same proportion as the duration of the absence is to a full instructional day.

4.6 Administration

- 4.6.1** A school board may request medical confirmation of illness or injury confirming the dates of absence, the reason therefore (omitting a diagnosis), the teacher's prognosis and any limitations or restrictions. Medical confirmation will be required to be provided by the teacher as determined by the school board for absences of 5 consecutive days or greater. Boards are entitled to make reasonable follow up requests and seek reasonable periodic updates. Requests shall be sent to the teacher who shall be responsible for authorizing their medical practitioner to respond in a timely fashion. The medical confirmation and follow up requests may be required to be provided in the attached form (**Appendix B**) or on forms as mutually agreed between the school board and the Association, where appropriate. Where a school board requires the completion of the attached form (or other similar form) it shall reimburse the cost up to a maximum of \$45.00, or in accordance with existing practice (i.e. the manner in which it was reimbursed as of August 31, 2014).
- 4.6.2** Teachers returning to work after an extended medical leave of absence or seeking accommodation will be required to provide medical clearance (consistent with the requirements herein) providing confirmation of fitness to return to work, outlining any limitations or restrictions prior to returning to active employment. A return to work meeting shall occur prior to the teacher returning to active employment. The returning teacher, the unit president (or designate) and Human Resource Supervisory Officer (or designate) shall be notified of and entitled to attend the return to work meeting. The parties agree that return to work meetings are to be scheduled in a timely manner but not more than ten (10) weekdays after receiving medical clearance and any reasonably required follow up to return to active employment. Requests for follow up information shall be made in a timely manner. The timelines may be extended if there are extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement.
- 4.6.3** In cases where a teacher refuses to reasonably cooperate in the administration of the sick leave and short-term leave and disability plan, access to

compensation may be suspended or denied. Before access to compensation is denied, discussion will occur between OECTA and the school board.

Compensation will not be denied for the sole reason that the medical practitioner refuses to provide the required medical information. In such cases, a school board may require an independent medical examination to be completed by a medical practitioner qualified in respect of the illness or injury at issue of the school board's choice at the school board's sole expense.

In cases where the teacher's failure to cooperate is the result of a medical condition, the board shall consider those extenuating circumstances in arriving at a decision.

- 4.6.4** Medical information collected under this article will not be subject to unreasonable review by boards. Boards will accommodate limitations and restrictions consistent with their duty to accommodate.

4.7 Long Term Disability (LTD)

- 4.7.1** The school board shall cooperate in the administration of the LTD Plan. It is understood that administration means that the school board will co-operate with the enrolment and deduction of premiums and provide available necessary data to the insurer, upon request. The school board will remit premiums collected to the carrier on behalf of the teachers.
- 4.7.2** Where the plan administrator implements changes in the terms and conditions of the LTD Plan or the selection of an insurance carrier, the school board shall, for administrative purposes, be advised of changes at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the changes are to be implemented.
- 4.7.3** The Association is the policyholder of the Long-Term Disability Plans effective January 1, 2013, except as determined by **4.7.9** below. School boards shall promptly provide all data, related to the Long-Term Disability Plans, as requested by the Association's carrier.
- 4.7.4** All teachers shall participate in the Long-Term Disability Plan as a condition of their employment subject to the terms of the respective plan.
- 4.7.5** The Association will work with school boards and/or OCSTA to consider including non-teaching staff in a separate plan(s) where the viability of a current LTD plan remains in question after the teachers are withdrawn from the existing plan. The Association will decide upon any request by a school board whether or not to accept other employee groups into a long term disability plan(s), subject to plan provisions as determined by the Association.
- 4.7.6** The school boards shall enroll all teachers, identified in paragraph **4.7.4** above, in the Long-Term Disability Plan in the manner prescribed by the Association.

- 4.7.7** The school boards shall complete the Plan Administrator Statement as required by the plan provisions. The plan provider shall provide teachers identified in paragraph **4.7.4** above represented by the Association with LTD Claim kits.
- 4.7.8** The school boards shall be responsible for the deduction and remittance of LTD premium contributions within fifteen (15) days in the manner prescribed by the Association. Boards shall be responsible for collecting premiums from teachers who are on a leave of absence from the board.
- 4.7.9** The Association shall consider requests by the Dufferin-Peel, Huron-Superior, and London District Catholic School Boards to be a part of the Association Long-Term Disability Plan. The school boards shall continue to pay the LTD premiums for teachers and remit said premiums in accordance with paragraph **4.7.8** above, unless otherwise agreed to by those school boards and the respective local units of the Association.
- 4.7.10** The Association shall assume all other administrative functions of the Long-Term Disability Plans for the Teachers.
- 4.7.11** The Association shall determine the design of the Long-Term Disability Plans, the terms and conditions of the plans and the selection of carrier(s), except for those boards listed in **4.7.9** above.
- 4.7.12** The school board shall provide the local unit notice regarding all individuals who begin to access the short term leave and disability plan.
- 4.7.13** School boards shall participate in early intervention programs initiated on behalf of disabled teachers.
- 4.7.14** School boards shall participate in return to work programs initiated on behalf of disabled teachers.
- 4.7.15** School boards will not draw down on reserves, surpluses and/or deposits out of the teachers' share of the LTD plan without the express written consent of the Association. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. This clause does not apply where the school board pays one hundred percent (100%) of the LTD premiums (Dufferin-Peel CDSB and Huron-Superior CDSB).

4.7.16 LTD is separate and distinct from STLDP and sick leave. An unsuccessful LTD claim does not preclude a teacher from receiving STLDP and sick leave.

5. RETIREMENT GRATUITIES AND VOLUNTARY EARLY PAYOUT PLAN

- 5.1** Effective August 31, 2012, employees eligible for a retirement gratuity (as set out in the **Letter of Agreement #2**) shall have accumulated sick days vested, up to the maximum eligible under the retirement gratuity plan.
- 5.2** A Teacher eligible for a Sick Leave Credit retirement gratuity in accordance with **5.1** above, may request a payout of his/her gratuity by no later than May 31, 2016. The payout shall be made by August 31, 2016.
- 5.3** The payout for teachers under the age of fifty-eight (58) as of June 30, 2016 shall be equivalent to the present discounted value of **5.1** above based on a discount rate of 7.87% and on the average retirement age of fifty-eight (58) less the teacher's age as at June 30, 2016.
- 5.4** The payout for teachers who have reached the age of fifty-eight (58) as of June 30, 2016 shall be equivalent to the present discounted value of **5.1** above based on a discount rate of two percent (2%).

6. PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT

- 6.1** Should an existing local collective agreement provision provide a greater benefit to a teacher than the benefit provided by this provision, the existing provision shall prevail.
- 6.2** "Teachers' professional judgments are at the heart of effective assessment, evaluation, and reporting of student achievement." *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in Ontario Schools*, First Edition, 2010.

A teacher's professional judgment is the cornerstone of assessment and evaluation. Diagnostic assessment is used to identify a student's needs and abilities and the student's readiness to acquire the knowledge and skills outlined in the curriculum expectations. Information from diagnostic assessments helps teachers determine where individual students are in their acquisition of knowledge and skills so that instruction is personalized and tailored to the appropriate next steps for learning. The ability to choose the appropriate assessment tool(s), as well as the frequency and timing of their administration, allows the teacher to gather data that is relevant, sufficient and valid in order to make judgments on student learning during the learning cycle.

6.3 Diagnostic Assessment

- 6.3.1** Boards shall provide a list of pre-approved assessment tools consistent with their Board improvement plan for student achievement and which is compliant with Ministry of Education PPM (PPM 155: Diagnostic Assessment in Support of Student Learning, date of issue January 7, 2013).
- 6.3.2** Teachers shall use their professional judgment to determine which assessment and/or evaluation tool(s) from the Board list of preapproved assessment tools is applicable, for which student(s), as well as the frequency and timing of the tool. In order to inform their instruction, teachers must utilize diagnostic assessment during the school year.

7. BENEFITS

- 7.1** The Parties have agreed to participate in the OECTA ELHT, as set out in the appended **Letter of Agreement #5**. The date on which the board and the bargaining unit commence participation in the Trust shall be referred to herein as the "Participation Date".
- 7.2** In accordance with section 4.1.4 i) of Letter of Agreement #5 the Board will continue to provide benefits in accordance with the existing terms and conditions of the collective agreement related to life, health and dental benefit plans in effect as of August 31, 2014 until the Participation Date. Subsequent to the Participation Date, the board will cease to provide such benefits and the related collective agreement language shall cease to have effect. Notwithstanding the above, the board's obligation to provide pay in lieu for benefits to daily occasional teachers as per the local collective agreement shall continue.

8. EARNED LEAVE PLAN

- 8.1** The following program is applicable to all permanent teachers.
- 8.2** OECTA bargaining units must elect between the following provision and the pre-existing attendance-related earned leave program, but shall not receive benefit under both. Such election shall be resolved prior to ratification of local collective agreements at these boards. If an OECTA bargaining unit elects a pre-existing attendance-related earned leave program, the program shall not be bargained or otherwise changed.
- 8.3** This program shall not diminish any right or entitlement under any other unpaid leave provision or practice in effect as of August 31, 2014.
- 8.4** The board will communicate no later than October 15, 2015, the 2014/2015 board average annual rate of permanent teachers' absenteeism by bargaining unit consisting of the use of paid sick leave, short-term disability, and other paid leave days excluding bereavement, jury duty, quarantine, association leave, long-term disability, and WSIB.
- 8.5** For the 2015-16 school year, each permanent teacher with a rate of absenteeism less than or equal to the greater of: the 2014-15 board average (as calculated in **8.4** above) minus one (1) day; or seven (7) days, shall be provided with one partially-

paid day (PPD) off reimbursed at the occasional teacher rate of pay and access to one voluntary unpaid day leave of absence.

- 8.6** For each subsequent year, the process outlined in **8.4** and **8.5** above continues with the appropriate adjustment in the school year dates.
- 8.7** The targets in **8.5** above shall be pro-rated for permanent teachers teaching less than 1.0 FTE.
- 8.8** PPDs and unpaid days earned under **8.5** or **8.6** can be accumulated to a maximum of six (6) days.
- 8.9** Two (2) PPDs under **8.5** or **8.6** can be combined for a paid day (PD) off at full salary.
- 8.10** Part-time teachers, teachers who were hired after the commencement of the school year, and teachers that returned from WSIB and LTD, must have worked for at least ninety-seven (97) days in the school year to be eligible. In this case, the calculation per **8.5** and **8.6** above shall be pro-rated based on the number of days worked compared to the number of school days in the year.
- 8.11** By October 15 of the applicable year, the local unit shall be advised of the average rate of absenteeism by bargaining unit. All permanent teachers shall be advised of their own rate of absenteeism, and whether the teacher is entitled under **8.5** through **8.9**.
- 8.12** Teachers requesting to schedule the leave day(s) shall provide at least twenty (20) calendar days' written notice of the requested days.
- 8.13** Access to leave days is available at any time during the school year.
- 8.14** Leave day(s) requests shall not be denied subject to reasonable system and school requirements.
- 8.15** It is understood that teachers taking a leave day(s) shall be required to provide appropriate work for each of their classes and other regular teaching and assessment responsibilities shall be completed including but not limited to preparation of report cards.
- 8.16** The following clause is subject to either Teacher Pension Plan amendment or legislation:

Within the purview of the Teachers' Pension Act (TPA), the Minister of Education will seek an agreement from the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) to amend the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (OTPP) to allow for adjusting pension contributions to reflect the Earned Paid Leave Plan with the following principles:

- 8.16.1** Contributions will be made by the employee/plan member on the unpaid portion of each partially-paid day (PPD) or unpaid day, unless directed otherwise in writing by the employee/plan member;