

Leaves of Absence

The Board believes that the provision of leaves in addition to the contractual leaves provided by the Master Agreement helps to attract and retain staff members who will continue to grow professionally, maintain their physical health, and have a feeling of security.

The Board has the authority to grant any employee's request for a leave of absence. The Board may also delegate this authority to a designee. If the Board delegates this authority it shall ratify or nullify the action regarding the request for a leave of absence at the next regularly scheduled meeting, or at a special meeting should the next regularly scheduled Board meeting not be within a period of 21 days from the date of such action.

Sick Leave

Classified employees who regularly work 20 hours or more per week and certificated employees who work half time or more per week shall be granted sick leave and other leaves in accordance with State law. Each such employee shall be granted sick leave with full pay of one day as projected for the employment year for each month of service in which he or she works a majority portion of that month. Sick leave for classified employees shall be calculated proportionate to the average hours worked per day. Sick leave for certificated employees shall be calculated by the day, or percentage thereof, as defined in his or her individual employment contract. The District, may in its discretion, require proof of illness when deemed appropriate, including but not limited to abuse of sick leave or false claims of illness.

Compensation shall not be provided for unused sick leave.

“Sick leave” means a leave of absence, with pay, for a sickness suffered by an employee or his or her immediate family. “Immediate family” for purposes of sick leave shall mean the employee’s spouse and children residing in the employee’s household. Nothing in this policy guarantees approval of the granting of such leave in any instance. Each request will be judged by the District in accordance with this policy and the needs of the District.

It is understood that seniority shall accumulate while a teacher or employee is utilizing accumulated sick leave credits. Seniority will not accumulate unless an employee is in a paid status. Abuse of sick leave is cause for discipline up to and including termination.

Accrual of Unused Sick Leave

Employees may accrue unused sick leave. Upon retirement, an employee’s accumulated unused sick leave must be reported by the District to the public employee retirement system.

Bereavement Leave

An employee who has a death in the immediate family shall be eligible for bereavement leave. The Superintendent shall have the authority to give bereavement leave for up to five days. Bereavement leave of greater than five days must be approved by the Board. Such leave shall not exceed ten days.

### Personal and Emergency Leave

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, and in accordance with law and District policy, classified staff may be granted personal leave pursuant to the following conditions:

1. Leave will be without pay unless otherwise stated. If leaves are to include expenses payable by the District, the leave approval will so state;
2. Leave will only be granted in units of half or full days;
3. Notice of at least one week is required for any personal leave of less than one week. Notice of one month is required for any personal leave exceeding one week;
4. The Superintendent, with approval of the Board, shall have the flexibility, in unusual or exceptional circumstances, to grant personal leave to employees not covered by sick or any other District recognized leave. During any personal leave of greater than 15 days, the employee will not receive fringe benefits. During the leave, the employee may pay the District's share of any insurance benefit program in order to maintain those benefits, provided that such is acceptable to the insurance carrier. Staff using personal leave shall not earn any sick leave or annual leave credit or any other benefits during the approved leave of absence.

Legal Reference: 42 USC 2000(e)	Equal Employment Opportunities
I.C. § 33-513	Professional Personnel
I.C. § 33-1216 <i>et seq.</i>	Sick and Other Leave
I.C. § 33-1228	Severance Allowance at Retirement

### Policy History:

Adopted on: August 10, 2009

Revised on: December 12, 2016