

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE DEFINED

Support employees are employees who are not administrators or employees in positions which require an Iowa Department of Education teaching license and who are employed to fulfill the duties listed on their job description on a monthly or hourly basis. Support employees shall include, but not be limited to, teacher and classroom aides, custodial and maintenance employees, clerical employees, food service employees, bus drivers, and temporary help for summer or other maintenance. The position may be full-time or part-time.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to establish job specifications and job descriptions for support employee positions. Job descriptions may be approved by the board.

Support employees required to hold a license for their position must present evidence of their current license to the board secretary prior to payment of wages each year.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 405.1 Licensed Employee Defined
411.2 Support Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection
412.3 Support Employee Group Insurance Benefits

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE - QUALIFICATIONS, RECRUITMENT, SELECTION

Persons interested in a support employee position will have an opportunity to apply and qualify for support employee positions in the school district without regard to age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status.. Job applicants for support employee positions will be considered on the basis of the following:

- Training, experience, and skill;
- Nature of the occupation;
- Demonstrated competence; and
- Possession of, or ability to obtain, state or other license or certificate, if required, for the position.

Announcement of the position will be through means the superintendent believes will inform potential applicants about the position. Applications for employment may be obtained from and completed applications will be returned to the central administration office. Whenever possible, the preliminary screening of applicants will be conducted by the administrator who directly supervises and oversees the position.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634 (1994).
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e *et seq.* (1994)
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.* (1994).
Iowa Code §§ 35C; 216; 279.8; 294.1 (2005).

Cross Reference: 401.2 Equal Employment Opportunity
411 Support Employees - General

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS

The board may enter into written contracts with support employees employed on a regular basis. The contract will state the terms of employment.

Each contract will include a 15 day cancellation clause. Either the employee or the board must give notice of the intent to cancel the contract at the end of 15 days. This notice will not be required when the employee is terminated during a probationary period or for cause.

Support employees will receive a job description stating the specific performance responsibilities of their position.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to draw up and process the support employee contracts and present them to the board for approval. The contracts, after being signed by the board president, are filed with the board secretary.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.7A; 285.5(9) (2005).

Cross Reference: 411 Support Employees - General
412.1 Support Employee Compensation
412.2 Support Employee Wage and Overtime Compensation
413 Support Employee Termination of Employment

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE LICENSING/CERTIFICATION

Support employees who require a special license or other certification shall keep them current at their own expense. Licensing requirements needed for a position will be considered met if the employee meets the requirements established by law and by the Iowa Department of Education for the position.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 272.6; 285.5(9) (2005).
281 I.A.C. 12.4(10); 36; 43.12-.24.

Cross Reference: 411.2 Support Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT

Determining the assignment of each support employee is the responsibility of the superintendent and within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments each year the superintendent along with the building principals shall consider the qualifications of each support employee and the needs of the school district.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to assign support employees and report such assignments to the board.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 200.3 Powers of the Board of Directors
411.6 Support Employee Transfers

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE TRANSFERS

Determining the location where a support employee's assignment will be performed is the responsibility of the superintendent and within the sole discretion of the board. In making such assignments each year the superintendent shall consider the qualifications of each support employee and the needs of the school district.

A transfer may be initiated by the employee, the principal or the superintendent.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to transfer support employees and report such transfers to the board.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621-634 (1994).
42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e *et seq.* (1994)
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.* (1994).
Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 35C; 216; 279.8; 294.1 (2005).

Cross Reference: 411.2 Support Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection
411.5 Support Employment Assignment

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE EVALUATION

Evaluation of support employees on their skills, abilities, and competence shall be an ongoing process supervised by the superintendent. The goal of the formal evaluation of support employees shall be to maintain support employees who meet or exceed the board's standards of performance, to clarify each support employee's role, to ascertain the areas in need of improvement, to clarify the immediate priorities of the board, and to develop a working relationship between the administrators and other employees.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure support employees are formally evaluated annually. New and probationary support employees shall be formally evaluated at least twice a year.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Aplington Community School District v. PERB, 392 N.W.2d 495 (Iowa 1986).
 Saydel Education Association v. PERB, 333 N.W.2d 486 (Iowa 1983).
 Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.14 (2005).
 281 I.A.C. 12.3(4).

Cross Reference: 411.2 Support Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection
 411.8 Support Employee Probationary Status

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE PROBATIONARY STATUS

The first 90 days of a newly employed support employee's contract shall be a probationary period. "Day" shall be defined as one work day regardless of full-time or part-time status of the employee. New employees, regardless of experience, shall be subject to this probationary period.

"New" employees includes individuals who are being hired for the first time by the school district and those who may have been employed by the school district in the past, but have not been employed by the board during the school year prior to the one for which contracts are being issued.

Only the board, in its discretion, may waive the probationary period.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20; 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Support Employee Contracts
411.7 Support Employee Evaluation

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION

The board shall negotiate the compensation to be paid for the support employees' positions, keeping in mind the education and experience of the support employee, the educational philosophy of the school district, the financial condition of the school district and any other considerations as deemed relevant by the board.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually regarding the compensation of support employees.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.1, .4, .7, .9; 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Support Employee Contracts
412.2 Support Employee Wage and Overtime Compensation

Approved July 2023

Reviewed June 2023

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE WAGE AND OVERTIME COMPENSATION

Each non-exempt employee compensated on an hour-by-hour basis, whether full-or part-time, permanent or temporary, will be paid no less than the prevailing minimum wage. Whenever a non-exempt employee must work more than forty hours in a given work week, the employee shall be compensated at one and one-half times their regular hourly wage rate. This compensation shall be in the form of overtime pay or compensatory time as defined by the contract. Overtime will not be permitted without prior authorization of the superintendent.

Each non-exempt employee paid on an hour-by-hour basis must complete, sign, and turn in a daily time record showing the actual number of hours worked. Failure of the employee to maintain, or falsification of, a daily time record will be grounds for disciplinary action.

It is the responsibility of the board secretary to maintain wage records.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transit Authority, 469 U.S. 528 (1985).
29 U.S.C. §§ 206 *et seq.* (1994).
29 C.F.R. Pt. 511-800 (2002).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Support Employee Contracts
412.1 Support Employee Compensation

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS

Support employees may be eligible for group insurance benefits as determined by the board and required by law. The board shall select the group insurance program and the insurance company which will provide the program.

This policy statement does not guarantee a certain level of benefits. The board shall have the authority and right to change or eliminate group insurance programs for its support employees.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 85; 85B; 279.12; 509; 509A; 509B (2005).

Cross Reference: 411.1 Support Employee Defined

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE TAX SHELTER PROGRAMS

The board authorizes the administration to make a payroll deduction for support employees' tax sheltered annuity premiums purchased from any company the employee chooses or through an Iowa-licensed salesperson selected by the employee.

Support employees wishing to have payroll deductions for tax sheltered annuities shall make a written request to the superintendent.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, Section 1450(a), repealing portions of IRS REG § 1.403(b)-1(b)(3).
Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 260C; 273; 294.16 (2005).
1988 Op. Att'y Gen. 38.
1976 Op. Att'y Gen. 462, 602.
1966 Op. Att'y Gen. 211, 220.

Cross Reference: 706 Payroll Procedures

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION

Support employees who wish to resign during the school year shall give the board notice of their intent to resign and final date of employment and cancel their contract 15 days prior to their last working day.

Notice of the intent to resign shall be in writing to the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 91A.2, .3, .5; 279.19A; 285.5(9) (2005).

Cross Reference: 411.3 Support Employee Contracts
413 Support Employee Termination of Employment

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

Support employees who will complete their current contract with the board may apply for retirement. No support employee will be required to retire at any specific age.

Application for retirement will be considered made when the support employee states in writing to the superintendent, no later than the date set by the board for the return of the employee's contract to the board if applicable, the employee's intent to retire. The letter must state the employee's desire to retire and be witnessed by another party other than the principal or the superintendent.

Board action to approve a support employee's application for retirement shall be final, and such action constitutes termination of the employee's contract effective the day of the employee's retirement.

Support employees and their spouse and dependents who have group insurance coverage through the school district may be allowed to continue coverage of the school district's group health insurance program, at their own expense, by meeting the requirements of the insurer.

Legal Reference: 29 U.S.C. §§ 621 *et seq.* (1994).
Iowa Code §§ 91A.2, .3, .5; 97B; 216; 279.19A, .46 (2005).
581 I.A.C. 21.
1978 Op. Att'y Gen. 247.
1974 Op. Att'y Gen. 11, 322.

Cross Reference: 401.14 Recognition for Service of Employees

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT STAFF VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT

The New Hampton Board of Education offers an early retirement plan for support staff. The purpose of an early retirement plan is to provide the opportunity to retire prior to age sixty-five (65). **This benefit is available from 5-11-2010 through 5-28-2010.**

Eligibility for voluntary early retirement is based on the following criteria for support staff who:

- 1) have reached age 55 or will reach age 55 on or before September 1, 2010, and
- 2) have completed at least 15 years of service to the New Hampton Community School District, and
- 3) submit an application for this program, together with a written request for acceptance of resignation (to become effective upon completion of duties for the current school year) on or before May 28 of the current school year, and
- 4) have their request for resignation and participation in this program approved by the Board of Education.

Approval of the accompanying request for resignation will be considered as final action of the employee's voluntary resignation and will constitute termination of his/her continuing contract at the date specified in the request.

An employee who elects to participate in this program will become a retired teacher/administrator and will be entitled to all rights and privileges of such a retiree under applicable law and policies of the New Hampton Board of Education.

Upon retirement support staff will be eligible to continue participation in the district's group health insurance program (subject to carrier contract requirements and all payment of premium requirements of the Board of Education). **The school district will contribute beginning July 1, 2010; \$537 per month for six months toward a health insurance premium or a lump sum of \$3222 (\$537 x 6 months).** All remaining premiums or portions thereof shall be the responsibility of the retiree and payments shall be made in a timely manner to the Board of Education (*This insurance coverage will cease when the licensed employee/retiree reaches age sixty-five, secures other employment in which the employer provides insurance coverage, or dies. If dependent insurance coverage is carried, that coverage may continue beyond the employee's/retiree's sixty-fifth birthday for a period of up to five years or until the dependent reaches age sixty-five.*)

Application materials are to be addressed to the Superintendent of Schools.

Failure of the Board to approve the teacher's/administrator's early retirement application shall make the certified employee's current contract with the Board continue in full force and effect.

Additional Conditions:

NEW HAMPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT – POLICY MANUAL

A. The adoption of this policy shall not vest any rights in any employee whether or not the employee is currently eligible for early retirement. The Board shall have the complete discretion to amend or repeal this policy at any time when in the judgment of the Board the District no longer realizes economic benefits from this policy or otherwise determines that the policy is not in the best interests of the District. Provided the Board will review this procedure at the end of each year to determine whether to amend or repeal. Furthermore, the District shall not be obligated to provide any of the benefits to any employee after the date of such amendment or repeal, except to those employees whose early retirement pursuant to this policy has commenced prior to the amendment or repeal.

B. An employee who elects to participate in the District's early retirement program will become a retired employee and will be entitled to all rights and privileges of an employee under applicable law and policies of the New Hampton Board of Education; however, employees who elect to participate in this program shall not be eligible to be rehired in any capacity with the New Hampton Community School District which includes benefits; nor shall the New Hampton Community School District be required to accept an application for employment from an employee who elects to participate in the District's early retirement program with benefits. With the sole discretion of the Superintendent, the District may employ persons who elected to participate in the District's early retirement program as substitute teachers or other part-time or temporary employees. Each employee who elects to participate in the District's early retirement program must specifically agree to hold the District harmless and indemnify it if the employee attempts to submit an employee application or otherwise attempts to be reemployed with the District.

Legal Reference: 26 U.S.C. §162.
29 U.S.C. §621, et seq.
42 U.S.C. §2000e-11.
Iowa Code §§97B, 279.46, 601A (1991).
370 Iowa Admin. Code 8.
1974 Op. Att'y Gen. 11, 322.
1978 Op. Att'y Gen. 247.

Cross Reference: Certified Personnel Retirement

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised April 2010

NEW HAMPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

AGREEMENT/WAIVER AND RELEASE

In consideration for the benefits that are being provided under the New Hampton Community School District's Early Retirement Policy the undersigned releases and waives all claims, whether known or unknown, arising out of or in the course of the employment relationship between the undersigned and the New Hampton Community School District; and specifically releases and waives any and all claims whether known or unknown with regard to breach of contract, Title VII, Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) claims, Older Workers Benefit Protection Act (OWBPA) claims, or any other claim of discrimination whether based on age or otherwise that the employee could claim against the District at the time of signing.

The New Hampton Community School District makes no representations regarding the legality or regulatory compliance of its plan. This release and waiver will apply to the New Hampton Community School District, its agents, and others including its officers, directors, representatives, administrators, staff, and employees.

The undersigned agrees that this release and waiver in no way can be used against the New Hampton Community School District as an admission of liability of any kind. Furthermore, the undersigned agrees to indemnify and hold the district harmless for any breach of this agreement to release and waive claims whether known or unknown against the New Hampton Community School District.

The parties agree that if any clause of this agreement is found to be invalid it shall not affect the validity of other provisions. This document contains the entire agreement between the parties and can only be modified by a subsequent written agreement. The undersigned acknowledges that his/her signature is given voluntarily and without threat or promise of additional benefit in consideration for the signature other than the consideration listed in this agreement. The undersigned acknowledges that he/she was advised of the right to consult an attorney regarding the terms and conditions and the benefits that will be provided through the Early Retirement Policy and this Release and Waiver. Furthermore, the parties acknowledge that the undersigned has a right to revoke this agreement/waiver and release without recourse for a period of 7 days following the execution of this release and waiver. Any payments or benefits provided for in this agreement/waiver and release will not commence prior to the expiration of the seven (7) day waiting period.

IN WITNESSETH WHEREOF, the parties have set their respective hand this _____ day
of _____ 2010.

Employee

Board President

NEW HAMPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Early Retirement Program

AGREEMENT AND COVENANT TO NOT APPLY

I, the undersigned, agree by this covenant to not apply for employment in the New Hampton Community School District at any time in the future. Consideration for this covenant and agreement is the payment by the New Hampton Community School District of the early retirement benefits at the level of benefit elected by the undersigned. The effect of this agreement and covenant is to prevent the undersigned from making an application in the future for employment and when denied that employment, making a claim that the District discriminated by virtue of age, race, religion, creed, color, national origin, sex, or disability, by not rehiring the undersigned.

The undersigned further acknowledges and understands that this covenant is part of the early retirement program in the New Hampton Community School District.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Signature _____
(Retiring Employee)

NEW HAMPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NEW HAMPTON, IOWA

TO: Superintendent of Schools
New Hampton Community School District

FROM: _____

RE: Application for participation in the voluntary early retirement program

I hereby submit my formal application for participation in the voluntary early retirement program. This action is taken in accordance with all requirements of Board of Education Policy (Voluntary Early Retirement).

My request for approval of release from my continuing contract with the district is attached and is made a part of this application. It is my understanding that my application and request for approval of resignation will be acted upon simultaneously by the Board of Education.

(Signature)

(Date)

Board of Education Action

_____ Approved

_____ Not Approved

Signature

Date

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION

Support employees shall perform their assigned job, respect and follow board policy and obey the law. The superintendent is authorized to suspend a support employee with or without pay pending board action on a discharge or during investigation of charges against the employee or for disciplinary purposes. It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to suspend a support employee with or without pay.

In the event of a suspension, due process will be followed.

Legal Reference: Northeast Community Education Association v. Northeast Community School District, 402 N.W.2d 765 (Iowa 1987).
McFarland v. Board of Education of Norwalk Community School District, 277 N.W.2d 901 (Iowa 1979).
Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24 (2005).

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance
413 Support Employee Termination of Employment

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE DISMISSAL

The board believes support employees should perform their jobs, respect board policy and obey the law. A support employee may be dismissed upon thirty days notice or immediately for cause. Due process procedures shall be followed.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation for dismissal to the board. A support employee may be dismissed for any reason, including, but not limited to, incompetence, willful neglect of duty, reduction in force, willful violation of board policy or administrative regulations, or a violation of the law.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24 (2005).

Cross Reference: 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance
413.3 Support Employee Suspension
413.5 Support Employee Reduction in Force

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE REDUCTION IN FORCE

It is the exclusive power of the board to determine when a reduction in support employees is necessary. Employees who are terminated due to a reduction in force shall be given thirty days notice. Due process will be followed for terminations due to a reduction in force.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation for termination to the board. The superintendent will consider the relative qualifications, skills, ability and demonstrated performance through evaluation procedures in making the recommendations.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.7, .24 (2005).

Cross Reference: 407.6 Licensed Employee Reduction in Force
413.3 Support Employee Suspension
413.4 Support Employee Dismissal
703 Budget

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE VACATIONS - HOLIDAYS - PERSONAL LEAVE

The board will determine the amount of vacation, holidays and personal leave that will be allowed on an annual basis for support employees.

Support employees who work twelve months a year will be allowed six paid holidays, if the holidays fall on a regular working day. The six holidays are New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Support employees, whether full-time or part-time, shall have time off in concert with the school calendar.

Support employees will be paid only for the hours they would have been scheduled for the day. Vacation will not be accrued from year to year without a prior arrangement with the superintendent.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually on vacation and personal leave for support employees.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 1C.1-.2; 4.1(34); 20.9 (2005).

Cross Reference: 409.1 Licensed Employee Vacations - Holidays - Personal Leave
601.1 School Calendar

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE PERSONAL ILLNESS LEAVE

Support employees shall be granted ten days of sick leave in their first year of employment. Each year thereafter, one additional day of sick leave will be granted to the employees up to a maximum of fifteen days. "Day" is defined as one work day regardless of full-time or part-time status of the employee. A new employee shall report for work at least one full work day prior to receiving sick leave benefits. A returning employee will be granted the appropriate number of days at the beginning of each fiscal year. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 120 days for support employees.

Should the personal illness occur after or extend beyond the accumulated sick leave, the employee may apply for disability benefits under the group insurance plan. If the employee does not qualify for disability benefits, the employee may request a leave of absence without pay.

Evidence may be required regarding the mental or physical health of the employee including, but not limited to, confirmation of the following: the employee's illness, the need for the illness leave, the employee's ability to return to work, and the employee's capability to perform the duties of the employee's position. It shall be within the discretion of the board and the superintendent to determine the type and amount of evidence necessary. When an illness leave will be greater than three consecutive days, the employee shall comply with board policy regarding family and medical leave.

If an employee is eligible to receive workers' compensation benefits, the employee shall contact the board secretary to implement these benefits.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Whitney v. Rural Ind. School District, 232 Iowa 61, 4 N.W.2d 394 (1942).
26 U.S.C. §§ 2601 *et seq.* (1994)
29 C.F.R. Pt. 825 (2002).
Iowa Code §§ 20; 85.33, .34, .38(3); 279.40 (2005).
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 605.
1972 Op. Att'y Gen. 177, 353.
1952 Op. Att'y Gen. 91.

Cross Reference: 403.2 Employee Injury on the Job
414.3 Support Employee Family and Medical Leave
414.8 Support Employee Unpaid Leave

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

Unpaid family and medical leave will be granted up to 12 weeks per year to assist employees in balancing family and work life. For purposes of this policy, year is defined as “fiscal year”. Requests for family and medical leave shall be made to the superintendent.

Employees may be allowed to substitute paid leave for unpaid family and medical leave by meeting the requirements set out in the family and medical leave administrative rules. Employees eligible for family and medical leave must comply with the family and medical leave administrative rules prior to starting family and medical leave. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative rules to implement this policy.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Whitney v. Rural Ind. School. District, 232 Iowa 61, 4 N.W.2d 394 (1942).
26 U.S.C. §§ 2601 *et seq.* (1994)
29 C.F.R. Pt. 825 (2002).
Iowa Code §§ 20; 85.33, .34, .38(3); 216; 279.40 (2005).
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 605.
1972 Op. Att'y Gen. 177, 353.
1952 Op. Att'y Gen. 91.

Cross Reference: 409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave
409.9 Licensed Employee Unpaid Leave
414.3 Support Employee Family and Medical Leave

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

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YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT OF 1993

FMLA requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to "eligible" employees for certain family and medical reasons. Employees are eligible if they have worked for a covered employer for at least one year, and for 1,250

hours over the previous 12 months, and if there are at least 50 employees within 75 miles. The FMLA permits employees to take leave on an intermittent basis or to work a reduced schedule under certain circumstances.

REASONS FOR TAKING LEAVE:

Unpaid leave must be granted for *any* of the following reasons:

- to care for the employee's child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care;
- to care for the employee's spouse, son or daughter, or parent, who has a serious health condition; or
- for a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job.

At the employee's or employer's option, certain kinds of *paid* leave may be substituted for unpaid leave.

ADVANCE NOTICE AND MEDICAL CERTIFICATION:

The employee may be required to provide advance leave notice and medical certification. Taking of leave may be denied, if requirements are not met.

- The employee ordinarily must provide 30 days advance notice when the leave is "foreseeable."
- An employer may require medical certification to support a request for leave because of a serious health condition, and may require second or third opinions (at the employer's expense) and fitness for duty report to return to work.

JOB BENEFITS AND PROTECTION:

- For the duration of FMLA leave, the employer must maintain the employee's health coverage under any "group health plan."
- Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to their original or equivalent positions with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms.

- The use of FMLA leave cannot result in the loss of any employment benefit that accrued prior to the start of an employee's leave.

UNLAWFUL ACTS BY EMPLOYERS:

FMLA makes it unlawful for any employer to:

- interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of any right provided under FMLA;
- discharge or discriminate against any person for opposing any practice made unlawful by FMLA or for involvement in any proceeding under or relating to FMLA.

ENFORCEMENT:

- The U.S. Department of Labor is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of violations.
- An eligible employee may bring a civil action against an employer for violations.

FMLA does not affect any Federal or State law prohibiting discrimination, or supersede any State or local law or collective bargaining agreement which provides greater family or medical leave rights.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

If you have access to the Internet visit FLMA's website: <http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/flma>. Or contact the nearest office of Wage and Hour Division, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor. For a listing of records that must be kept by employers to comply with FMLA visit the U.S. Dept. of Labor's website: http://www.dol.gov/dol/allcfr/ESA/Title_29/Part_825/29CFR825.500.htm

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REQUEST FORM

Date: _____

I, _____, request family and medical leave for the following reason: (check all that apply)

- for the birth of my child;
- for the placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- to care for my child who has a serious health condition;
- to care for my parent who has a serious health condition;
- to care for my spouse who has a serious health condition; or
- because I am seriously ill and unable to perform the essential functions of my position.

I acknowledge my obligation to provide medical certification of my serious health condition or that of a family member in order to be eligible for family and medical leave within 15 days of the request for certification.

I acknowledge receipt of information regarding my obligations under the family and medical leave policy of the school district.

I request that my family and medical leave begin on _____ and I request leave as follows: (check one)

continuous

I anticipate that I will be able to return to work on _____.

intermittent leave for the:

birth of my child or adoption or foster care placement subject to agreement by the district

serious health condition of myself, parent, or child when medically necessary

Details of the needed intermittent leave:

I anticipate returning to work at my regular schedule on _____.

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REQUEST FORM

- _____ reduced work schedule for the:
- _____ birth of my child or adoption or foster care placement subject to agreement by the school district
- _____ serious health condition of myself, parent, or child when medically necessary

Details of needed reduction in work schedule as follows:

I anticipate returning to work at my regular schedule on _____.

I realize I may be moved to an alternative position during the period of the family and medical intermittent or reduced work schedule leave. I also realize that with foreseeable intermittent or reduced work schedule leave, subject to the requirements of my health care provider, I may be required to schedule the leave to minimize interruptions to school district operations.

While on family and medical leave, I agree to pay my regular contributions to employer sponsored benefit plans. My contributions shall be deducted from moneys owed me during the leave period. If no monies are owed me, I shall reimburse the school district by personal check or cash for my contributions. I understand that I may be dropped from the employer-sponsored benefit plans for failure to pay my contribution.

I agree to reimburse the school district for any payment of my contributions with deductions from future monies owed to me or the school district may seek reimbursement of payments of my contributions in court.

I acknowledge that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signed _____

Date _____

Approved May 2018

Reviewed April 2018

Revised May 2008

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE CERTIFICATION FORM

1. Employee's Name _____

2. Patient's Name (if different from employee) _____

3. The attached sheet describes what is meant by a "serious health condition" under the Family and Medical Leave Act. Does the patient's condition, for which the employee is taking FMLA leave, qualify under any of the categories described? If so, please check the applicable category.

(1) ____ (2) ____ (3) ____ (4) ____ (5) ____ (6) ____

or ____None of the above

4. Describe the medical facts which support your certification, including a brief statement as to how the medical facts meet the criteria of one of these categories:

5. a. State the approximate date the condition commenced, and the probable duration of the condition (and also the probable duration of the patient's present incapacity, i.e. inability to work, attend school or perform other regular activities due to the serious health condition, treatment therefore, or recovery therefrom, if different):

b. Will it be necessary for the employee to take work only intermittently or to work on a less than full schedule as a result of the condition (including for treatment described in Item 6 below)?

If yes, give the probable duration:

c. If the condition is a chronic condition (condition #4) or pregnancy, state whether the patient is presently incapacitated and the likely duration and frequency of episodes of incapacity:

6. a. If additional treatments will be required for the condition, provide an estimate of the probable number of such treatments:

If the patient will be absent from work or other daily activities because of treatment on an intermittent or part-time basis, also provide an estimate of the probable number of and interval between such treatments, actual or estimated dates of treatment if known, and period required for recovery if any:

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE CERTIFICATION FORM

- b. If any of these treatments will be provided by another provider of health services (e.g., physical therapist), please state the nature of the treatments:
- c. If a regimen of continuing treatment by the patient is required under your supervision, provide a general description of such regimen (e.g. prescription drugs, physical therapy requiring special equipment):

- 7.
 - a. If medical leave is required for the employee's absence from work because of the employee's own condition (including absences due to pregnancy or a chronic condition), is the employee unable to perform work of any kind?
 - b. If able to perform some work, is the employee unable to perform any one or more of the essential functions of the employee's job (the employee or the employer should supply you with information about the essential job functions)?

If yes, please list the essential functions the employee is unable to perform.

- c. If neither a. nor b. applies, is it necessary for the employee to be absent from work for treatment?
- 8.
 - a. If leave is required to care for a family member of the employee with a serious health condition, does the patient require assistance for basic medical or personal needs or safety, or for transportation?
 - b. If no, would the employee's presence to provide psychological comfort be beneficial to the patient or assist in the patient's recovery?
 - c. If the patient will need care only intermittently or on a part-time basis, please indicate the probable duration of this need:

(Signature of Health Care Provider)

(Type of Practice)

(Address)

(Telephone Number)

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE CERTIFICATION FORM

To be completed by the employee needing family leave to care for a family member.

State the care you will provide and an estimate of the period during which care will be provided, including a schedule if leave is to be taken intermittently or if it will be necessary for you to work less than a full schedule:

(Employee Signature)

(Date)

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE CERTIFICATION FORM

A serious health condition means an illness, injury impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves one of the following:

1. Hospital Care - In patient care (i.e. an overnight stay) in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility, including any period of incapacity or subsequent treatment in connection with or consequent to such inpatient care.
2. Absence Plus Treatment - A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days (including any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition), that also involves:
 - a. treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider or by a provider of health care services (e.g. physical therapist) under the orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider; or
 - b. treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider.
3. Pregnancy - Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.
4. Chronic Conditions Requiring Treatments - A chronic condition which:
 - a. requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider, or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;
 - b. continues over an extended period of time (including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition); and
 - c. may cause episodic rather than a period of incapacity (e.g. asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.).
5. Permanent/Long-term Conditions Requiring Supervision - A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by a health care provider. Examples include Alzheimer's, a severe stroke, or the terminal stages of a disease.
6. Multiple Treatments (Non-chronic Conditions) - Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery therefrom) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment such as cancer (chemotherapy), radiation, etc.), severe arthritis (physical therapy) and kidney disease (dialysis).

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

A. School district notice.

1. The school district will post the notice in Exhibit 414.3E1 regarding family and medical leave.
2. Information on the Family and Medical Leave Act and the board policy on family and medical leave, including leave provisions and employee obligations will be provided annually. The information will be in the employee handbook.
3. When an employee requests family and medical leave, the school district will provide the employee with information listing the employee's obligations and requirements. Such information will include:
 - a. a statement clarifying whether the leave qualifies as family and medical leave and will, therefore, be credited to the employee's annual 12-week entitlement;
 - b. a reminder that employees requesting family and medical leave for their serious health condition or for that of an immediate family member must furnish medical certification of the serious health condition and the consequences for failing to do so;
 - c. an explanation of the employee's right to substitute paid leave for family and medical leave including a description of when the school district requires substitution of paid leave and the conditions related to the substitution; and
 - d. a statement notifying employees that they must pay and must make arrangements for paying any premium or other payments to maintain health or other benefits.

B. Eligible employees. Employees are eligible for family and medical leave if three criteria are met.

1. The school district has more than 50 employees on the payroll at the time leave is requested;
2. The employee has worked for the school district for at least twelve months or 52 weeks (the months and weeks need not be consecutive); and
3. The employee has worked at least 1,250 hours within the previous year. Full-time professional employees who are exempt from the wage and hour law may be presumed to have worked the minimum hour requirement.

C. Employee requesting leave -- two types of leave.

1. Foreseeable family and medical leave.
 - a. Definition - leave is foreseeable for the birth or placement of an adopted or foster child with the employee or for planned medical treatment.
 - b. Employee must give at least thirty days notice for foreseeable leave. Failure to give the notice may result in the leave beginning thirty days after notice was received.
 - c. Employees must consult with the school district prior to scheduling planned medical treatment leave to minimize disruption to the school district. The scheduling is subject to the approval of the health care provider.
2. Unforeseeable family and medical leave.
 - a. Definition - leave is unforeseeable in such situations as emergency medical treatment or premature birth.
 - b. Employee must give notice as soon as possible but no later than one to two work days after learning that leave will be necessary.

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

- c. A spouse or family member may give the notice if the employee is unable to personally give notice.
- D. Eligible family and medical leave determination. The school district may require the employee giving notice of the need for leave to provide reasonable documentation or a statement of family relationship.
- 1. Four purposes.
 - a. The birth of a son or daughter of the employee and in order to care for that son or daughter prior to the first anniversary of the child's birth;
 - b. The placement of a son or daughter with the employee for adoption or foster care and in order to care for that son or daughter prior to the first anniversary of the child's placement;
 - c. To care for the spouse, son, daughter or parent of the employee if the spouse, son, daughter or parent has a serious health condition; or
 - d. Employee's serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the essential functions of the employee's position.
 - 2. Medical certification.
 - a. When required:
 - (1) Employees shall be required to present medical certification of the employee's serious health condition and inability to perform the essential functions of the job.
 - (2) Employees shall be required to present medical certification of the family member's serious health condition and that it is medically necessary for the employee to take leave to care for the family member.
 - b. Employee's medical certification responsibilities:
 - (1) The employee must obtain the certification from the health care provider who is treating the individual with the serious health condition.
 - (2) The school district may require the employee to obtain a second certification by a health care provider chosen by and paid for by the school district if the school district has reason to doubt the validity of the certification an employee submits. The second health care provider cannot, however, be employed by the school district on a regular basis.
 - (3) If the second health care provider disagrees with the first health care provider, then the school district may require a third health care provider to certify the serious health condition. This health care provider must be mutually agreed upon by the employee and the school district and paid for by the school district. This certification or lack of certification is binding upon both the employee and the school district.
 - c. Medical certification will be required fifteen days after family and medical leave begins unless it is impracticable to do so. The school district may request recertification every thirty days. Recertification must be submitted within fifteen days of the school district's request.

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

Family and medical leave requested for the serious health condition of the employee or to care for a family member with a serious health condition which is not supported by medical certification shall be denied until such certification is provided.

E. Entitlement.

1. Employees are entitled to twelve weeks unpaid family and medical leave per year.
2. Year is defined as fiscal year.
3. If insufficient leave is available, the school district may:
 - a. Deny the leave if entitlement is exhausted
 - b. Award leave available

F. Type of Leave Requested.

1. Continuous - employee will not report to work for set number of days or weeks.
2. Intermittent - employee requests family and medical leave for separate periods of time.
 - a. Intermittent leave is available for:
 - (1) Birth, adoption or foster care placement of child only with the school district's agreement.
 - (2) Serious health condition of the employee, spouse, parent, or child when medically necessary without the school district's agreement.
 - b. In the case of foreseeable intermittent leave, the employee must schedule the leave to minimize disruption to the school district operation.
 - c. During the period of foreseeable intermittent leave, the school district may move the employee to an alternative position with equivalent pay and benefits.
3. Reduced work schedule - employee requests a reduction in the employee's regular work schedule.
 - a. Reduced work schedule family and medical leave is available for:
 - (1) Birth, adoption or foster care placement and subject to the school district's agreement.
 - (2) Serious health condition of the employee, spouse, parent, or child when medically necessary without the school district's agreement.
 - b. In the case of foreseeable reduced work schedule leave, the employee must schedule the leave to minimize disruption to the school district operation.
 - c. During the period of foreseeable reduced work schedule leave, the school district may move the employee to an alternative position with equivalent pay and benefits.
4. The entire period of leave taken under the special rules is credited as family and medical leave. The school district will continue to fulfill the school district's family and medical leave responsibilities and obligations, including the obligation to continue the employee's health insurance and other benefits, if an instructional employee's family and medical leave entitlement ends before the involuntary leave period expires.

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE REGULATION

G. Employee responsibilities while on family and medical leave.

1. Employee must continue to pay health care benefit contributions or other benefit contributions regularly paid by the employee unless employee elects not to continue the benefits.
2. The employee contribution payments will be deducted from any money owed to the employee or the employee shall reimburse the school district at a time set by the superintendent.
3. An employee who fails to make the health care contribution payments within thirty days after they are due will be notified that their coverage may be canceled if payment is not received within an additional 15 days.
4. An employee may be asked to re-certify the medical necessity of family and medical leave for the serious medical condition of an employee or family member once every thirty days and return the certification within fifteen days of the request.
5. The employee must notify the school district of the employee's intent to return to work at least once each month during their leave and at least two weeks prior to the conclusion of the family and medical leave.
6. If an employee intends not to return to work, the employee must immediately notify the school district, in writing, of the employee's intent not to return. The school district will cease benefits upon receipt of this notification.

H. Use of paid leave for family and medical leave. An employee may substitute unpaid family and medical leave with appropriate paid leave available to the employee under board policy, individual contracts or the collective bargaining agreement. Paid leave includes, but is not limited to, sick leave, family illness leave, vacation, personal leave, bereavement leave and professional leave. When the school district determines that paid leave is being taken for an FMLA reason, the school district will notify the employee within two business days that the paid leave will be counted as FMLA leave.

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

Common law marriage-according to Iowa law, common law marriages exist when there is a present intent by the two parties to be married, continuous cohabitation, and a public declaration that the parties are husband and wife. There is no time factor that needs to be met in order for there to be a common law marriage.

Continuing treatment-a serious health condition involving continuing treatment by a health care provider includes any one or more of the following:

- A period of incapacity (i.e., inability to work, attend school or perform other regular daily activities due to the serious health condition, treatment for or recovery from) of more than three consecutive calendar days and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition that also involves:
 - treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider, or by a provider of health care services (e.g., physical therapist) under orders of, or in referral by, a health care provider; or
 - treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of a the health care provider.
- Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.
- Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition. A chronic serious health condition is one which:
 - requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;
 - Continues over an extended period of time (including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition); and
 - May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity (e.g., asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.).
- Any period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider. Examples include Alzheimer's, a severe stroke or the terminal stages of a disease.
- Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery from) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.), severe arthritis (physical therapy), kidney disease (dialysis).

Eligible Employee-the district has more than 50 employees on the payroll at the time leave is requested. The employee has worked for the district for at least twelve months and has worked at least 1250 hours within the previous year.

Essential Functions of the Job-those functions which are fundamental to the performance of the job. It does not include marginal functions.

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

Employment benefits-all benefits provided or made available to employees by an employer, including group life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance, sick leave, annual leave, educational benefits, and pensions, regardless of whether such benefits are provided by a practice or written policy of an employer or through an "employee benefit plan."

Family Member-individuals who meet the definition of son, daughter, spouse or parent.

Group health plan-any plan of, or contributed to by, an employer (including a self-insured plan) to provide health care (directly or otherwise) to the employer's employees, former employees, or the families of such employees or former employees.

Health care provider-

- A doctor of medicine or osteopathy who is authorized to practice medicine or surgery by the state in which the doctor practices; or
- Podiatrists, dentists, clinical psychologists, optometrists, and chiropractors (limited to treatment consisting of manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation as demonstrated by X ray to exist) authorized to practice in the state and performing within the scope of their practice as defined under state law; and
- Nurse practitioners and nurse-midwives, and clinical social workers who are authorized to practice under state law and who are performing within the scope of their practice as defined under state law; and
- Christian Science practitioners listed with the First Church of Christ Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts;
- Any health care provider from whom an employer or a group health plan's benefits manager will accept certification of the existence of a serious health condition to substantiate a claim for benefits;
- A health care provider as defined above who practices in a country other than the United States who is licensed to practice in accordance with the laws and regulations of that country.

In loco parentis-individuals who had or have day-to-day responsibilities for the care and financial support of a child not their biological child or who had the responsibility for an employee when the employee was a child.

Incapable of self-care-that the individual requires active assistance or supervision to provide daily self-care in several of the "activities of daily living" or "ADLs." Activities of daily living include adaptive activities such as caring appropriately for one's grooming and hygiene, bathing, dressing, eating, cooking, cleaning, shopping, taking public transportation, paying bills, maintaining a residence, using telephones and directories, using a post office, etc.

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

Instructional employee-an employee employed principally in an instructional capacity by an educational agency or school whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, a small group, or an individual setting, and includes athletic coaches, driving instructors, and special education assistants such as signers for the hearing impaired. The term does not include teacher assistants or aides who do not have as their principal function actual teaching or instructing, nor auxiliary personnel such as counselors, psychologists, curriculum specialists, cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, bus drivers, or other primarily noninstructional employees.

Intermittent leave-leave taken in separate periods of time due to a single illness or injury, rather than for one continuous period of time, and may include leave or periods from an hour or more to several weeks.

Medically Necessary-certification for medical necessity is the same as certification for serious health condition.

"Needed to Care For"-the medical certification that an employee is "needed to care for" a family member encompasses both physical and psychological care. For example, where, because of a serious health condition, the family member is unable to care for his or her own basic medical, hygienic or nutritional needs or safety or is unable to transport himself or herself to medical treatment. It also includes situations where the employee may be needed to fill in for others who are caring for the family member or to make arrangements for changes in care.

Parent-a biological parent or an individual who stands in loco parentis to a child or stood in loco parentis to an employee when the employee was a child. Parent does not include parent-in-law.

Physical or mental disability-a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual.

Reduced leave schedule-a leave schedule that reduces the usual number of hours per workweek, or hours per workday, of an employee.

Serious health condition

- An illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves:
- Inpatient care (i.e. an overnight stay) in a hospital, hospice or residential medical care facility including any period of incapacity (for purposes of this section, defined to mean inability to work, attend school or perform other regular daily activities due to the serious health condition, treatment for or recovery from), or any subsequent treatment in connection with such inpatient care; or
- Continuing treatment by a health care provider. A serious health condition involving continuing treatment by a health care provider includes:
 - A period of incapacity (i.e., inability to work, attend school or perform other regular daily activities due to the serious health condition, treatment for or recovery from) of more than three consecutive calendar days, including any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves:

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

- Treatment two or more times by a health care provider, by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider, or by a provider of health care services (e.g., physical therapist) under orders or, or on referral by, a health care provider; or
- Treatment by a health care provider on at least one occasion which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider.
- Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.
- Any period of incapacity or treatment for such incapacity due to a chronic serious health condition. A chronic serious health condition is one which:
 - Requires periodic visits for treatment by a health care provider or by a nurse or physician's assistant under direct supervision of a health care provider;
 - Continues over an extended period of time (including recurring episodes of a single underlying condition); and
 - May cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity (e.g., asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.).
 - A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective. The employee or family member must be under the continuing supervision of, but need not be receiving active treatment by, a health care provider. Examples include Alzheimer's a severe stroke or the terminal stages of a disease.
 - Any period of absence to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery from) by a health care provider or by a provider of health care services under orders of, or on referral by, a health care provider, either for restorative surgery after an accident or other injury, or for a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive calendar days in the absence of medical intervention or treatment, such as cancer (chemotherapy, radiation, etc.), severe arthritis (physical therapy), kidney disease (dialysis).
- Treatment for purposes of this definition includes, but is not limited to, examinations to determine if a serious health condition exists and evaluation of the condition. Treatment does not include routine physical examinations, eye examinations or dental examinations. Under this definition, a regimen of continuing treatment includes, for example, a course of prescription medication (e.g., an antibiotic) or therapy requiring special equipment to resolve or alleviate the health condition (e.g., oxygen). A regimen of continuing treatment that includes the taking of over-the-counter medications such as aspirin, antihistamines, or salves; or bed rest, drinking fluids, exercise and other similar activities that can be initiated without a visit to a health care provider, is not, by itself, sufficient to constitute a regimen of continuing treatment for purposes of FMLA leave.
- Conditions for which cosmetic treatments are administered (such as most treatments for acne or plastic surgery) are not "serious health conditions" unless inpatient hospital care is required or unless complications develop. Ordinarily, unless complications arise, the common cold, the flu, ear aches, upset stomach, ulcers, headaches other than migraine, routine dental or orthodontia problems, periodontal disease, etc., are examples of conditions that do not meet the definition of a serious health condition and do not qualify for FMLA leave. Restorative dental or plastic surgery after an injury or removal of cancerous growths are serious health conditions provided all the other conditions of this regulation are met. Mental illness resulting from stress or allergies may be serious health conditions, but only if all the conditions of this section are met.

SUPPORT EMPLOYEE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE DEFINITIONS

- Substance abuse may be a serious health condition if the conditions of this section are met. However, FMLA leave may only be taken for treatment for substance abuse by a health care provider or by a provider of health care on referral by a health care provider. On the other hand, absence because of the employee's use of the substance, rather than for treatment, does not qualify for FMLA leave.
- Absence attributable to incapacity under this definition qualify for FMLA leave even though the employee or the immediate family member does not receive treatment from a health care provider during the absence, and even if the absence does not last more than three days. For example, an employee with asthma may be unable to report for work due to the onset of an asthma attack or because the employee's health care provider has advised the employee to stay home when the pollen count exceeds a certain level. An employee who is pregnant may be unable to report to work because of severe morning sickness.

Son or daughter-a biological child, adopted child, foster child, stepchild, legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis. The child must be under age 18 or, if over 18, incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability.

Spouse-a husband or wife recognized by Iowa law including common law marriages.

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE DISCRETIONARY LEAVE

The board realizes an emergency may arise which would necessitate a support employee's absence from work which is not covered by another form of leave of absence. Such leave shall be called emergency leave.

Emergency leave must be unforeseen and beyond the control of the employee. The superintendent shall have the discretion to grant emergency leave. The superintendent shall determine whether such leave shall be paid leave or unpaid leave.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 409.4 Support Employee Emergency Leave
414 Support Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE POLITICAL LEAVE

The board will provide a leave of absence to support employees to run for elective public office. The superintendent shall grant a support employee a leave of absence to campaign as a candidate for an elective public office as unpaid leave.

The support employee will be entitled to one period of leave to run for the elective public office, and the leave may commence any time within thirty days of a contested primary, special, or general election and continue until the day following the election.

The request for leave must be in writing to the superintendent at least thirty days prior to the starting date of the requested leave.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code ch. 55 (2005).

Cross Reference: 401.15 Employee Political Activity
414 Support Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE JURY DUTY LEAVE

The board will allow support employees to be excused for jury duty unless extraordinary circumstances exist. The superintendent has the discretion to determine when extraordinary circumstances exist.

Employees who are called for jury service shall notify the direct supervisor within twenty-four hours after notice of call to jury duty and suitable proof of jury service pay must be presented to the school district. The employee will report to work within one hour on any day when the employee is excused from jury duty during regular working hours.

Support employees will receive their regular salary. Any payment for jury duty shall be turned over to the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 607A (2005).

Cross Reference: 414 Support Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE MILITARY SERVICE LEAVE

The board recognizes support employees may be called to participate in the armed forces, including the national guard. If a support employee is called to serve in the armed forces, the employee shall have a leave of absence for military service until the military service is completed.

The leave shall be without loss of status or efficiency rating, and without loss of pay during the first thirty calendar days of the leave.

Legal Reference: Bewley v. Villisca Community School District, 299 N.W. 2d 904 (Iowa 1980).
Iowa Code §§ 20; 29A.28 (2005).

Cross Reference: 414 Support Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE UNPAID LEAVE

Unpaid leave may be used to excuse an involuntary absence not provided for in other leave policies. Unpaid leave for support employees must be authorized by the superintendent. Whenever possible, support employees shall make a written request for unpaid leave ten days prior to the beginning date of the requested leave. If the leave is granted, the deductions in salary shall be made unless they are waived specifically by the superintendent.

The superintendent shall have complete discretion to grant or deny the requested unpaid leave. In making this determination, the superintendent shall consider the effect of the employee's absence on the education program and school district operations, the financial condition of the school district, length of service, previous record of absence, the reason for the requested absence and other factors the superintendent believes are relevant in making this determination.

If unpaid leave is granted, the duration of the leave period shall be coordinated with the scheduling of the education program whenever possible, to minimize the disruption of the education program and school district operations.

The requirements stated in the Master Contract between employees in that support bargaining unit and the board regarding of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 414 Support Employee Vacations and Leaves of Absence

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES LEAVE

Professional purposes leave may be granted to support employees for the purpose of attending meetings and conferences directly related to their assignments. Application for the leave must be presented to the superintendent five days prior to the meeting or conference.

It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to grant professional purposes leave. The leave may be denied on the day before or after a vacation or holiday, on special days when services are needed, when it would cause undue interruption of the education program and school district operations, or for other reasons deemed relevant by the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2005).
281 I.A.C. 12.7.

Cross Reference: 411 Support Employees - General
408.1 Support Employee Professional Development

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SUPPORT EMPLOYEE SUBSTITUTES

The superintendent shall employ substitute and temporary support employees. Such employment shall be subject to the board's approval at its next meeting, when the superintendent shall present the names and salaries of the substitute or temporary employees to the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 20.9; 279.8 (2005).

Cross Reference: 411 Support Employees - General

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