

ARTICLE XXIII

EARLY EDUCATION CENTERS

To support the learning and development of students served within an Early Education Center, the District will engage in ongoing efforts to provide families with information pertaining to available centers, including location, hours and the process for student enrollment.

1.0 General: The District and UTLA have agreed to the provisions of this Article in recognition of certain special conditions involved in Early Education Center operations.

2.0 Informal Leaves: Employees who desire to apply for informal permissive (unpaid) leaves of absence should refer to Article XII, Section 5.0.

3.0 Mileage: Mileage reimbursement shall be paid for miles driven between locations when a Early Education Center teacher is assigned to two locations per day.

4.0 Transfers Involving 8-Hour Assignments: See Article XI, Section 10.0.

5.0 Additional Hours of Work:

a. All known and anticipated 4-hour openings not filled by an employee returning from leave, a displaced employee, or an employee already assigned to the site where the vacancy occurs, shall be posted at all Centers on or before the first day of each month. Four-hour employees who seek additional hours and who have on file a Statement of Availability requesting additional hours, may apply for any posted position by submitting an appropriate application to the Early Education Center Assignment Office within five work days of the posting. The most senior qualified applicant may be appointed to fill the position or selection may be made after interviewing the three most senior qualified applicants.

b. Postings of positions shall include: The name and address of the work site, the proposed hours of the assignment (either morning or afternoon), any special skills and/or qualifications required, and a statement as to whether the position will be filled by the most senior qualified applicant or by the interview process.

5.1 In the event no current 4-hour employee applies for a posted opening, the District may, in its discretion, fill the position with a new employee or declare that a compelling circumstance exists and fill the position with a 4-hour

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employee assigned within the geographic region of the opening whose annual Statement of Availability Form shows a desire to work additional hours. Two refusals of an assignment under compelling circumstances (as provided above) may result in removal of an employee's name from the Availability List for the remainder of the school year.

5.2 Refusal of a substitute teaching assignment by a 4-hour employee, who has on file a Statement of Availability requesting additional hours, shall not prejudice the employee's eligibility for additional 4-hour openings.

6.0 Seniority List: The District shall maintain a seniority list for Early Education Centers and shall forward a copy to UTLA by July 1 and January 1 of each year.

7.0 Vacation Scheduling: See Article XVII Holidays and Vacation.

8.0 Late Hours: When teachers are required to remain on site beyond their assigned time due to parents' failure to pick up their children at the close of school, the extra time involved is to be recorded and when accumulated to a total of four hours shall be compensated either by straight-time salary or by released time to be scheduled at times agreed to by the District and the teacher. At the request of the teacher, this released time shall be scheduled in conjunction with vacation time. If the District and the employee have not agreed on the scheduling of the accrued released time prior to the close of the school year (June 30), the District may either schedule the time or compensate the employee at the regular rate of pay. General hours provisions are set forth in Article IX, Sections 3.2 and 7.1.

9.0 Excused Time: Pursuant to past practice, after noon on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, Early Education Center will operate on a reduced "minimum crew" basis, with most employees released on a paid "excused time" basis. Those who must remain at work shall subsequently receive compensatory time off equal to the time worked after noon on said days. For this purpose, such compensatory time off shall be taken within two pay periods.

10.0 Additional Compensation: An Early Education Center teacher shall receive additional compensation in the following circumstances:

a. Another regularly assigned teacher is absent; and no substitute is assigned for the absent Early Education Center teacher; and as a result the teacher is assigned children from the absent teacher's class; and the teacher's class size exceeds the state-prescribed adult-to-child ratio; or

b. When a minimum or shortened day at the local elementary school causes the Early Education Center teacher's class to exceed the state-prescribed adult-to-child ratio.

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c. Additional compensation shall not be provided under a or b above when the prescribed ratio is exceeded during transition from one activity to another for periods of up to 20 minutes.

d. When compensation is payable pursuant to a or b above, the teacher shall receive one hour's pay for each 24 pupil hours of additional service rendered to students not normally assigned to that teacher. The rate to be paid for such service shall be the teacher's regular hourly rate but not to exceed the maximum rate which would otherwise have been paid to a day-to-day substitute.

e. The additional students and time shall be recorded to the nearest (.1) of an hour upon conclusion of each affected work shift and such time accumulated during any given pay period shall be reported to the Payroll Services Branch for payment during the next pay period. Additional compensation representing less than .1 of a full hour of compensation will not be reported to the Payroll Services Branch.

11.0 Participation in Chapter Chair Meetings: On days when UTLA hosts a meeting for chapter chairs, the chapter chair at each EEC upon 5 prior working days notice will be assigned a shift other than the closing shift in order to accommodate the UTLA Chapter Chair's attendance. With less than five prior working days notice, the District shall permit the UTLA Chapter Chair to trade shifts with another willing Early Education Center teacher for that day and inform the site administrator.

12.0 Substitutes: Various substitute assignment procedures and priorities are made applicable to Early Education Centers as indicated in Article XIX. Absent Early Education Center employees must report their absence and/or substitute request directly to their site administrator or designee rather than to the Early Education Center Substitute Assignment Desk.

13.0 Early Education Center head teachers shall be permanent teachers if practicable.

14.0 Professional Development: The district shall develop and provide Professional Development suited for Early Educators.

14.1 All voluntary trainings and professional development outside of the regular work hours shall be-compensated at the professional development rate.

14.2 If an Early Education Center teacher is assigned during the students' rest period, such period shall be treated the same as the elementary preparation period. The District shall make a reasonable effort to schedule aides to supervise the children in order to allow an uninterrupted preparation period. In situations where an aide is not available to supervise the students during their rest periods and the Early Education teacher(s) is required to supervise students during their District-scheduled preparation time, the affected Early Education Center teacher(s) may

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perform the preparation duties after their regular work hours and be compensated at their hourly rate of pay.

15.0 Staffing ratios for Early Education programs shall be in accordance with applicable laws.