

## **24.0 STAFF MILITARY LEAVE**

24.1 An employee who as a member of a reserve or national guard unit or any other branch of the military organized under state or federal law who is required to take annual active duty during the school year shall be granted military leave with a right of reinstatement in accordance with state and federal law.

24.1.1 The employee shall receive full salary and benefits during such leave up to a maximum of fifteen (15) calendar days annually. All remaining leave to fulfill the annual military obligation shall be unpaid leave.

24.1.2 An employee who is required by the state or federal government to continue military service beyond the time for which leave with pay is allowed, shall be granted a leave of absence without pay for all such additional service.

24.2 Military leave of absence without pay shall be granted to any regular, full-time employee who enlists for military duty with any branch of the United States armed forces or who is called into active military service in time of war or other emergency declared by the proper authority of the state of United States. The employee shall be considered on a leave of absence during military service.

24.3 An employee taking leave under this policy shall provide written or oral notice, as far in advance as possible, of pending military service. Employees on military leave resulting in absence of more than thirty (30) days shall forward a copy of their military orders to the Superintendent of Schools or designee.

24.4 An employee taking leave under this policy may at his/her discretion, but is not required to, use accrued vacation or other paid leave during time of military service.

24.5 Where necessary to protect the public interest, a substitute employee may be hired by the School District to perform the duties of the employee on military leave until such time as the employee returns to work.

24.6 Upon completion of military service, the employee shall be reinstated in the same or a similar position of like seniority, status and pay if such is available at the same salary and benefits which he/she would have received had leave not been taken, subject to the following conditions:

24.6.1 The School District's circumstances have not changed to such a degree that reinstatement would cause an undue hardship on the District or make reinstatement impossible or unreasonable, including that position has been abolished.

24.6.2 The employee is not physically or mentally disabled from performing the duties of the position except that the School District shall make reasonable accommodation required under federal and state law, including for any disability incurred or aggravated during military service.

24.6.3 The employee submits an honorable discharge or other form of release indicating that military service was satisfactory.

24.6.4 The employee notifies the School District of intent to return to work and returns to work within the time period set out in law.

24.7 Upon reinstatement, the employee shall have the same rights with respect to accrued and future vacation, sick leave, public retirement benefits and other benefits as if he/she had actually been employed during the time of such leave. Because non-probationary status for teachers is not attained merely through continuous employment, a probationary teacher shall be reinstated at the actual year of service (year one, year two or year three) as when he/she began military leave.

24.8 The Board of Education reserves the right to suspend or cancel any and all leave policies when it determines that it is necessary to do so as a result of emergency or other similar conditions.

Adopted: January 9, 2002