

## **SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT**

### **ARTICLE I PURPOSE**

This Contract is entered into between Independent School District No. 2687, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted, Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the School District, and Daniel Edwards hereinafter referred to as the Superintendent, a legally qualified and licensed superintendent who agrees to perform the duties of the Superintendent of the School District.

### **ARTICLE II APPLICABLE STATUTE**

This Contract for Superintendent Services is entered into between the School District and the Superintendent in conformance with and governed by Minnesota Statutes 123B.14

### **ARTICLE III LICENSE**

The Superintendent shall furnish the School Board, throughout the life of this Contract, a valid and appropriate license to act as superintendent in the State of Minnesota as provided by applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

### **ARTICLE IV DURATION, EXPIRATION, TERMINATION DURING THE TERM, MUTUAL CONSENT, AND CONTINGENCY**

Section 1. Duration: This Contract is for a term of 3 years commencing on July 1, 2025, and ending on June 30, 2028. It shall remain in full force and effect unless modified by mutual consent of the School Board and the Superintendent or unless terminated as provided in this Contract.

Section 2. Expiration: This Contract shall expire at the end of the term specified in Section 1 above. At the conclusion of its term, neither party shall have any further claim against the other, and the School District's employment of the Superintendent shall cease, unless a subsequent Contract is entered into in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 123B.143, Subd. 1.

Section 3. Termination During the Term: The Superintendent's employment may be terminated during the term of this Contract only for cause as defined in Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subd. 9 and Subd. 13, but, except for purposes of describing grounds for discharge, the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 122A.40 shall not be applicable. If the School Board proposes to terminate the Superintendent during the term of this Contract for cause as described in Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subd. 9 or Subd. 13, it shall notify the Superintendent in writing of the proposed grounds for termination. The Superintendent shall be entitled to a hearing before an arbitrator provided the Superintendent makes

such a request in writing to the School Board Chair within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the written notice of the proposed termination. In such event, the parties shall jointly petition the Minnesota Bureau of Mediation Services (BMS) for a list of five (5) arbitrators. The arbitrator shall be selected by the parties through the striking process as provided by BMS rules. The arbitrator shall conduct a hearing under arbitration procedure rules and issue a written decision. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties, subject to judicial review of arbitration decisions as provided by law. The Superintendent may be suspended with pay pending final determination by the arbitrator. If the Superintendent fails to request a hearing as provided in this section within the fifteen (15)-day calendar period, the Superintendent shall be deemed to have acquiesced to the School Board's proposed action, and the proposed action shall become final on such date as determined by the School Board, and the Superintendent shall have no further claim or recourse.

Section 4. Notice of Intent: The Superintendent bears the responsibility in this Contract for reasonably notifying the School Board in writing of the notice requirement in order for it to be binding and effective. Failure of the School Board to take action authorizing the negotiation of a subsequent Contract in the first six months of the final year of this Contract, will serve as notice to the Superintendent that the School Board will not enter into a subsequent Contract.

Section 5. Subsequent Contract: If the School Board takes action authorizing the negotiation of a subsequent Contract, the parties will act in good faith to complete negotiations and enter the subsequent Contract before the end of this Contract. This action will include a provision that, in the event that negotiations for a subsequent Contract have not been completed by the end of this Contract's term, the parties will enter into a subsequent Contract for the term set forth in the School Board's action and that the new subsequent Contract's compensation and benefits level in the last year of this Contract is the same as in the current Contract pending final negotiations of compensation and benefit terms for the new Contract.

Section 6. Mutual Consent: This Contract may be terminated at any time by mutual consent of the School Board and the Superintendent.

Section 7. Contingency: If this Contract is a subsequent Contract entered into prior to the completion of an existing Contract, this subsequent Contract is contingent upon the Superintendent completing the terms of the existing Contract.

## **ARTICLE V DUTIES**

The Superintendent shall have charge of the administration of the schools under the direction of the School Board. The Superintendent shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the School District; shall direct and assign teachers and other School District employees under the Superintendent's supervision; shall organize, reorganize, and arrange the administrative and supervisory staff, including instruction and business affairs, as best serves the School District subject to the approval of the School Board; shall select all personnel subject to the approval of the School Board; shall, from time to time, suggest policies, regulations, rules, and procedures deemed necessary for the School District; and, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of the Superintendent and such other duties as may be prescribed by the School Board from time to time. The Superintendent shall abide by the policies,

regulations, rules, and procedures established by the School Board and the State of Minnesota. The Superintendent may attend all School Board meetings and all School Board and citizen committee meetings, serve as an ex-officio member of the School Board and all School Board committees, and provide administrative recommendations on each item of business considered by each of these groups, as directed by the School Board.

## **ARTICLE VI DUTY YEAR AND LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

Section 1. Basic Work Year: The Superintendent’s duty year shall be for the entire twelve (12)-month contract year, and the Superintendent shall perform duties on those legal holidays on which the School Board is authorized to conduct school if the School Board so determines. The Superintendent shall be on duty during any emergency, natural or unnatural, unless otherwise excused in accordance with School Board administrative policy.

Section 2. Vacation: The Superintendent shall earn 25 working days of annual paid vacation each contract year. Unused vacation must be taken within six (6) months after the end of the contract year in which it is earned. Upon voluntary termination of employment or expiration of the Contract, if not offered a subsequent Contract, the Superintendent shall be entitled to payment for any unused vacation days earned and accrued pursuant to the provisions of this section; however, if the Superintendent is involuntarily terminated, the Superintendent shall not be entitled to unused earned and accrued vacation days.

Section 3. Holidays: The Superintendent shall be entitled to 13 paid holidays as designated by the School Board each contract year.

Independence Day	July 3 <sup>rd</sup> or 5 <sup>th</sup>
Labor Day	Thanksgiving Day
Friday after Thanksgiving	Christmas Eve Day
Christmas Day	New Year’s Eve Day
New Year’s Day	MLK or President's Day (district choice)
Good Friday	Memorial Day
Juneteenth	

Section 4. Sick Leave: The Superintendent shall earn paid sick leave at the rate of 15 days each working year, and earned sick leave may accumulate to a maximum of 30 days. Sick leave shall be allowed whenever the Superintendent’s absence is found to have been due to the illness and/or injury of the Superintendent, or the Superintendent’s immediate family. “Immediate Family” is defined as the Superintendent’s child, adult child, spouse or registered domestic partner, sibling, parent, parent-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, and all similar relationships that are preceded with “step” or “foster.” Upon voluntary termination of employment or expiration of the Contract, if not offered a subsequent Contract, the Superintendent shall be entitled to payment for any unused sick leave days earned and accrued pursuant to the provisions of this section; however, if the Superintendent is involuntarily terminated, the Superintendent shall not be entitled to unused earned and accrued sick leave days.

Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST): The Superintendent shall earn, use, and accumulate ESST in conformance with the School District's Employment Policies and Minnesota Statutes 181.9445 – 181.9448.

Section 5. Workers' Compensation: Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 176, the Superintendent injured on the job in the service of the School District and collecting workers' compensation insurance may draw sick leave and receive full salary from the School District, the salary to be reduced by an amount equal to the insurance payments, and only that fraction of the days not covered by insurance will be deducted from accrued sick leave.

Section 6. Bereavement Leave: The Superintendent shall be granted bereavement leave for a death within the Superintendent's immediate family, as defined in Section 4. The time utilized shall be in an amount to be determined after conferring with the School Board Chair. Days utilized will be deducted from the Superintendent's sick leave.

Section 7. Emergency Leave: The Superintendent may be granted paid emergency leave at the discretion of the School Board.

Section 8. Jury Service: The Superintendent who serves on jury duty shall be granted the day or days necessary as stipulated by the court to discharge this responsibility without any salary deduction or loss of basic leave allowance. The compensation received for jury duty service shall be remitted to the School District.

Section 9. Military Leave: Military leave shall be granted pursuant to applicable law.

Section 10. Disability: If the Superintendent is unable to perform their regular duties because of personal illness or disability and has exhausted all accumulated sick leave, the School Board shall provide additional paid sick leave at a salary equal to 90 percent of the Superintendent's regular salary until the expiration of the waiting period for long-term disability insurance.

Section 11. Medical Leave: The Superintendent may be placed on a leave of absence for health reasons pursuant to the procedures outlined in Minnesota Statutes 122A.40, Subd. 12.

Section 12. Insurance Application: A Superintendent on unpaid leave is eligible to continue to participate in group insurance programs if permitted under the insurance policy provisions. The Superintendent shall pay the entire premium for such insurance commencing with the beginning of the leave and shall pay to the School District the monthly premium in advance. In the event the Superintendent is on paid leave from the School District under Section 4 above, or supplemented by sick leave pursuant to Section 5 above, the School District will continue insurance contributions as provided in this Contract until paid leave is exhausted. Thereafter, the Superintendent must pay the entire premium for any insurance retained.

## **ARTICLE VII INSURANCE**

Section 1. Insurance Benefits/Health Reimbursement:

Subd. 1: The Superintendent will be allocated \$10,000 per year for use in purchasing district offered health insurance.

Subd. 2: If the Superintendent elects to purchase health and/or dental insurance under section 1 which results in monthly premium changes greater than the amount allocated to the Superintendent's account pursuant to subd. 1 above; and cost in excess of the Superintendent's monthly allocation shall be borne by the Superintendent and paid by payroll deduction. The monthly deduction shall be annualized and divided evenly over the pay periods in the contract year.

Subd. 3: The parties agree that the School District shall provide the Superintendent with a health benefit to pay the cost of insurance or other medical expenses incurred by the Superintendent and his dependents, the value of which shall not exceed \$10,000. The parties agree to meet and negotiate specific terms of this arrangement for the purpose of ensuring that such terms are compliant with all applicable law and do not cause penalties, fees, or fines to be assessed against the School District. The parties agreement shall be reduced to writing and shall be included as an addendum to this contract.

Subd. 4: The School District shall also provide the Superintendent and the Superintendent's dependents with dental insurance coverage under the School District's group dental insurance plan. The School District shall contribute the sum of \$1,700 per year toward the premium for such insurance. The balance of the premium shall be paid by the Superintendent through payroll deduction.

Section 2. Life Insurance: The School District shall provide, at its own expense, term life insurance for the Superintendent under the School District's group term life insurance plan in the amount of \$200,000 payable to the Superintendent's named beneficiary(ies).

Section 3. Long-Term Disability Insurance: The School District shall provide, at its own expense, long term disability insurance for the Superintendent under the School District's group long-term disability insurance plan.

Section 4. Eligibility: The eligibility of the Superintendent and the Superintendent's dependent(s) and beneficiary(ies) for insurance benefits shall be governed by the terms of the insurance policies purchased by the School District pursuant to this article.

Section 5. Claims Against the School District: The School District's only obligation is to purchase the insurance policies described in this article, and no claim shall be made against the School District as a result of denial of insurance benefits by an insurer if the School District has purchased the policies and paid the premiums described in this article.

## **ARTICLE VIII OTHER BENEFITS**

Section 1. Tax-Sheltered Annuities: The Superintendent is eligible to participate in a tax-sheltered annuity plan through payroll deduction established pursuant to Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Minnesota Statutes 123B.02, Subd. 15., School District policy, and as otherwise provided by law. The matching contribution from the School District shall be up to \$10,000 per year.

Section 2. Vehicle: The School District shall compensate the Superintendent for business use of his private vehicle at the Federal mileage reimbursement rate pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 471.665, Subd. 1 as allowed by Internal Revenue Service guidelines

Section 3. Conferences and Meetings: The School District shall pay all legally valid expenses and fees for the Superintendent's attendance at professional conferences and meetings with other educational agencies when such attendance is required, directed, or permitted by the School Board. The Superintendent shall periodically report to the School Board relative to all meetings and conferences attended. The Superintendent shall file itemized expense statements to be processed and approved as provided by School Board policy and law.

## **ARTICLE IX SALARY**

The Superintendent shall be paid an annual salary of \$165,000 for the 2025-2026 contract year, \$169,125 for the 2026-2027 contract year, and \$173,353 for the 2027-2028 contract year. During the term of this Contract, the annual salary may be modified but shall not be reduced. The annual salary shall be paid in 24 equal installments during the contract year.

## **ARTICLE X EVALUATE PERFORMANCE**

The School Board shall oversee, direct, and evaluate the Superintendent's performance as the School Board sees fit.

## **ARTICLE XI OTHER PROVISIONS**

Section 1. Outside Activities: While the Superintendent shall devote full time and due diligence to the affairs and the activities of the School District, the Superintendent may also serve as a consultant to other school districts or educational agencies, lecture, engage in writing and speaking activities, and engage in other activities if, as solely determined by the School Board, such activities do not impede the Superintendent's ability to perform the duties of the superintendency. However, the Superintendent may not engage in other employment, consultant service, or other activity for which a salary, fee, or honorarium is paid without the prior approval of the School Board.

Section 2. Indemnification and Provision of Counsel: In the event that an action is brought, or a claim is made against the Superintendent arising out of or in connection with his/her employment and the Superintendent is acting within the scope of employment or official duties, the School District shall defend and indemnify the Superintendent to the extent provided by law. Indemnification, as provided in this section, shall not apply in the case of malfeasance in office or willful or wanton neglect of duty, and the obligation of the School District in this regard shall be subject to the limitations as provided in M.S. Chapter 466.

Section 3. Dues: The Superintendent is encouraged to belong to and participate in appropriate professional, educational, economic development, community, and civic organizations when such membership will serve the best interests of the School District. Accordingly, the School District will

pay the membership dues for such organizations as are required, directed, or permitted by the School Board. The Superintendent shall present appropriate statements for approval as provided by law.

Section 4. Other Applicable Provisions: In this section, other terms and conditions of employment as agreed on between the parties should be included.

**ARTICLE XII SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this Contract shall be severable, and if any such provision or the application of any such provision under any circumstances is held invalid, it shall not affect any other provisions of this Contract or the application of any provision thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Board Chair

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Board Clerk