

**BUCKLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT**

THIS CONTRACT is entered into on June 18, 2024 between the Board of Education of the Buckley Community School District, referred to as the "Board" and Jessica Harrand referred to as "Superintendent" or "Administrator" in this contract.

1. **TERM.** This contract shall take effect on July 1, 2024 and continue in force through June 30, 2027 subject to extension and early termination as provided in paragraphs 4 and 12, respectively.

2. **DUTIES.** The Administrator represents that she possesses, holds and will maintain all certificates, credentials and qualifications required by law, including the provisions of Sections 1246 and 1536 of the Revised School Code, the regulations of the Michigan Department of Education, and those required by the Board of Education to serve in the position assigned. The Administrator agrees, as a condition of her continued employment, to meet all certification and continuing education requirements for the position assigned, as are and may be required by law or by the Michigan Board of Education. If at any time the Administrator fails to maintain all certificates, credentials, continuing education requirements and/or qualifications for the position assigned as required herein, this Contract shall automatically terminate and the Board shall have no further obligation hereunder.

The Administrator agrees to devote her talents, skills, efforts and abilities toward competently and proficiently fulfilling all duties and responsibilities of the position assigned. The Administrator agrees to faithfully perform those duties assigned by the Board of Education and to comply with the directives of the Board of Education with respect thereto. The Administrator further agrees to comply with and fulfill all responsibilities and tasks required by state and federal law and regulations, and by the Board of Education, to carry out the educational programs and policies of the School District during the entire term of this Contract. The Administrator agrees to devote substantially all of her business time, attention and services to the diligent, faithful and competent discharge of her duties on behalf of the School District to enhance the operation of the School District and agrees to use her best efforts to maintain and improve the quality of the programs and services of the School District.

3. **EVALUATION.** The Board will evaluate the Superintendent's performance at least annually and in writing, using an evaluation instrument with multiple rating categories, that takes into account data on student growth as a significant factor and established performance goals, and that is mutually agreeable, provided that the Board will establish the evaluation instrument and criteria in the absence of agreement. The Board will grant a request by the Superintendent to meet to discuss her written evaluation in closed session.

The Superintendent shall be evaluated in accordance with the Revised School Code, Act 451 of 1976, as amended. The Superintendent may appeal the evaluation process and rating received to the Board of Education. The appeal must

be submitted in writing to the Board President within 30 calendar days after the Superintendent is informed of the rating. Within 15 days after the appeal is submitted, the Board of Education shall provide the Superintendent with written notice that a hearing shall be scheduled, in closed or open session at the election of the Superintendent, to consider the appeal and for the Superintendent to present witnesses, information and evidence. The hearing shall be scheduled for a date mutually acceptable to the Board and Superintendent within 45 days after the appeal is submitted, unless extended by mutual agreement. The Superintendent may be represented by counsel at the hearing at their own expense. If the hearing does not resolve the matter, the Superintendent may request binding arbitration by filing a demand for arbitration with the American Arbitration Association within 30 calendar days after the hearing, or within 45 days after the appeal if no hearing is held. The arbitration is subject to the Michigan Uniform Arbitration Act, MCL 691.1681, et seq., as amended. The arbitrator shall be selected through the procedures of the American Arbitration Association, Employment Arbitration Rules. The arbitrator shall have authority to issue any appropriate remedy, and the decision of the arbitrator shall be enforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction.

4. **EXTENSION.** This contract may be extended either by option of the Board of Education or by operation of law, as follows:

- A. **Board Option.** The Board of Education, no later than June 30 of each year during the term of this contract, may extend the contract for an additional one-year period. In exercising this option, the Board of Education also shall establish the annual salary to be paid to the Administrator for the school year included in the extension. All other terms and conditions of this contract shall remain unchanged. The Board of Education in its sole discretion and with or without cause may decline to extend this contract for an additional year.
- B. **Operation of Law.** Unless the Board of Education gives written notice of non-renewal of this contract to the Administrator at least 90 days before the contract's termination date, this contract will, without further action, be automatically renewed for an additional one-year period as provided by Public Act 183 of 1979, now being MCL 380.1229. The Superintendent shall advise the Board of Education of this obligation in January if the contract terminates at the end of that school year and the Board shall conduct the evaluation of the superintendent prior to March 30 of that year.

5. **TENURE EXCLUSION.** This contract does not confer tenure upon the Administrator in the position of Superintendent or any other administrative position in the district.

6. **Annual Salary.** In consideration of her performance of the duties and responsibilities in conformance with the Board's requirements and expectations, Administrator shall be paid at an annual salary rate of not less than that reflected in the below salary schedule for the Administrator position for the corresponding Contract years: July 1, 2024 – June 30,

2025; July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026; and July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. The annual salary shall be paid in twenty-six (26) biweekly installments beginning with the commencement of the Contract year. Biweekly payment shall not begin until Administrator begins work for the Contract year. This sum shall be prorated based upon actual time worked if Administrator does not work the entire Contract year.

Administrator Salary Schedule

Year	Base Salary
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025	\$119,305
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	\$124,077
July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027	\$129,040

MERIT COMPENSATION. Consistent with the requirements of applicable legislation, the Superintendent shall be eligible for an annual merit pay bonus based upon her performance of up to \$2000 which shall be paid following the annual evaluation. The Superintendent shall receive the full amount of such bonus if she is rated Highly Effective on her annual evaluation; one half of this amount if she is rated Effective on her annual evaluation and shall not receive any bonus if she is rated Minimally Effective or Ineffective on her annual evaluation.

LONGEVITY. In recognition of longevity in position, beginning the fifth year of employment, in addition to base salary, the superintendent will receive a Two Thousand Dollar (\$2,000) stipend annually to be paid half in December and half in June of that year.

7. INSURANCE BENEFITS. During the term of this contract, the Administrator shall receive the current Health, Dental, Vision, Prescription Drug and LTD insurance plans in place that are offered to full-time, professional administrative staff along with the opportunity to participate in Flexible Spending Accounts if offered by the District. The board retains the right to change carriers and levels of insurance benefits on the same basis as changed for other administrative staff. The administrator's contribution shall be subject to payroll deduction. If the administrator opts out of health insurance she shall receive \$600 per month unless the spouse works for the district in which case she and spouse are eligible for one health insurance package and no cash in lieu.

8. OTHER BENEFITS. Other benefits afforded to the Superintendent shall be as follows:

a. **Mileage Reimbursement.** The Superintendent shall be reimbursed at the school policy rate for miles driven required in the performance of her official duties (not commuting) during her employment under this Contract to a maximum of \$300 per month.

b. **Sick Days.** If the Superintendent is absent from duty on account of personal illness or disability, she shall be allowed full pay for a total of twelve (12) days per contract year. Unused paid leave hereunder shall be cumulative to a maximum of 90 days. Sick leave may be used in accordance with policies established by the Board. There will be no compensation for unused sick days at contract expiration or termination.

c. **Life Insurance.** The District will also pay the premium for a term life insurance policy on the Superintendent's life with a death benefit of \$200,000.00. The Superintendent is responsible for completion of all forms and requirements needed to receive the above-described insurance coverage. The District, by payment of the premiums required to provide this benefit described in this sub-paragraph, will be relieved from all liabilities with respect to the benefits provided. The failure of an insurance company to provide a benefit or benefits, for any reason, will not result in any liability to the District and will not be considered a breach by the District of this or any other agreement.

d. **Vacation and Holidays.** The Superintendent shall be provided with twenty (20) vacation days on an annual basis (July 1-June 30). Vacation days shall be used by December 31 of the following fiscal year granted. Vacation days shall be granted at the beginning of the fiscal year, but accrue at the rate of 1/12th of the allotment of vacation days per month. In the event that the Superintendent resigns or the contract is otherwise terminated prior to the end of the fiscal year, vacation shall be prorated. The Superintendent shall schedule use of vacation days in a manner to minimize interference with the orderly operation and conduct of business of the school district and shall notify the Board President. The Superintendent is also entitled to eleven (11) paid holidays for which no service to the School District is required including New Year's Day and New Year's Eve, Good Friday (if school calendar allows), Memorial Day, Independence Day, Friday before Labor Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and day after, Christmas and Christmas Eve.

e. **Bereavement Leave.** The Superintendent shall be entitled to three (3) bereavement days with pay for time lost from work due to the death of her mother, father, spouse, child, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, or her current mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, or any person who is a regular member of the Administrator's household. These days are not deducted from sick leave days.

f. **Liability Coverage.** The Superintendent shall be covered under the District's Comprehensive General Liability Policy.

g. **Payment of Professional Dues.** The District will pay annual membership dues for professional associations such as MASA, and others as approved by the Board.

9. **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.** The Board expects the Superintendent to continue her professional development and expects her to attend appropriate professional meetings at the local and state level and the expenses of said attendance to be incurred by the School District. The Superintendent shall request prior Board approval for any national event attendance and travel.

10. **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION.** As a condition precedent to the duties and obligations under this contract, the Superintendent agrees to have a comprehensive medical examination and to provide the Board of Education with a doctor's verification indicating the physical competency of the individual to perform the duties of the position. Thereafter, the Superintendent agrees to have a comprehensive medical examination at any point wherein there is a legitimate basis to question her fitness for duty. The Superintendent agrees to supply the Board of Education with a doctor's verification of such, as previously

specified. It is agreed that the doctor's verification shall be treated as confidential information by the Board of Education.

11. DISABILITY. Should the Superintendent be unable to perform any or all of the duties outlined herein by reason of illness, accident, or other causes beyond the individual's control for period in excess of their accumulated sick leave and unused vacation time, the Board of Education may in its discretion make a proportionate deduction from the salary hereinbefore stipulated. If such a disability continues for more than one year or if said disability is considered permanent, irreparable, or of such a nature as to make performance of their duties impossible, the Board of Education may, at its option, terminate this agreement whereupon the respective duties, rights, and obligation hereunder shall terminate. Death of the superintendent terminates this contract.

12. TERMINATION. The Board shall be entitled to terminate the Superintendent's contract at any time during the term of this contract for any reason which is not arbitrary and capricious including but not limited to moral turpitude, incompetency, inefficiency, or insubordination. The Superintendent will be entitled to written notice of charges and an opportunity for a hearing before the Board if the Board undertakes dismissal of the Superintendent. In the event of termination of employment during the term of this Agreement, this contract shall automatically terminate and the Board shall have no further obligation hereunder.

13. RESIGNATION. The Superintendent agrees to give ninety (90) days written notice to the Board of intention to terminate this agreement.

14. RESIDENCE. The Superintendent agrees to maintain her residence within twenty (20) miles of the district borders for the term of this agreement and any extensions.

15. ARBITRATION. The parties agree that any dispute or controversy involving the provisions, obligations or rights of this Agreement shall be submitted to binding arbitration. Such arbitration shall be conducted according to the rules of the American Arbitration Association. The arbitrator's fee and the cost of the American Arbitration Association shall be shared equally between the parties. All parties may have representation but shall be responsible for the cost of same. Arbitration shall be filed within 180 days of the alleged breach of contract. The Superintendent and Board waive any longer limitations period. The Superintendent and the Board also agree that a judgment on the award of the arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court of competent jurisdiction. The Superintendent and the Board acknowledge and agree this paragraph of this Agreement precludes either from filing covered claims in court and, therefore, waive any otherwise available right to trial by jury.

16. ENTIRE CONTRACT. This Contract constitutes the sole and entire existing agreement between the parties. It supersedes and cancels all prior contracts, all prior practices, whether oral or written, and expresses all obligations and restrictions imposed upon the Board and the School District. Provided, that this contract is voidable pursuant to the provision of the Revised School Code pertaining to criminal history background checks and unprofessional conduct checks. In order to be valid and binding, all changes and

modifications to the Agreement shall be in writing, approved by the Board of Education and signed by the Administrator and the Board of Education.

17. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the state of Michigan.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto set their hand on this date.

BY THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Jessica Harrand, Superintendent

Date

FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Sara Snider, Board President

Date

Christina Matthews Board Secretary

Date