

**LEWISTON-ALTURA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AT-WILL EMPLOYEE LETTER OF ASSIGNMENT  
2025-2027**

Employee At-Will: The person referenced herein is an employee-at-will and serves at the discretion of the **Lewiston - Altura School District 857 Board**.

The purpose of this document is to set forth the wages and benefits for the position held.

Employee: Vickie Speltz

Position: Food Service Director

State Job Match: #342

**PAYROLL INFORMATION**

**Salary:** The 2025-2026 base salary will be \$29.58 per hour which is equivalent to \$49,694.00 on an annual basis. Additional compensation of \$6500.00 [\$15.00/hour x estimated 400 hours/year, and mileage] will be provided for additional responsibilities associated with providing Food Service Director services to Hiawatha Valley Education District and St. John's School for a total annual salary of \$56,194.00.

The 2026-2027 base salary will be \$30.17 per hour which is equivalent to \$50,686.00. Additional compensation of \$6500.00 will be provided for additional responsibilities associated with providing Food Service Director services to Hiawatha Valley Education District and St. John's School for a total annual salary of \$57,186.00. If the 2026-2027 Food Service Director Contracts with HVED or St. John's are modified or terminated, the additional stipend will be mutually negotiated between the employee and ISD #857.

These wages are subject to deductions for taxes and other withholdings as required by law or the policies of the Lewiston – Altura School District.

**Hours of Service and Duty Year:** The hours worked by the Employee will be 210.0 days, 8 hours per day. The employee will work 210 days with 6.6 paid holidays. Employees who work four consecutive hours will be provided with a paid break, not to exceed 15 minutes.

**Annualized Pay:** Employee will have his/her compensation divided into 24 pay periods. Paydays will be the 15<sup>th</sup> and the last business day of the month unless payday falls on a weekend or holiday. Payday will then be the last business day prior to the scheduled payday.

**Pay Deductions:** Any absence other than those allotted in this Agreement shall result in pay deductions based on the hourly wage of the absent Employee.

**Additional Compensation:**

**Overtime:** As a general rule, overtime will not be allowed. The supervisor, prior to the work, must grant approval for overtime. In the case of an emergency, and the supervisor cannot be contacted, the overtime necessary to clear the emergency will be allowed. Overtime will be paid at a rate which is one, and one-half times the employee's regular hourly rate. In the event an emergency occurs on one of the following holidays: July 4<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, after 12:00 PM on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, after 12:00 PM on New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, after 12:00 PM on Good Friday, Easter

Sunday, or Memorial Day, the employee will be paid two times the employee's regular hourly rate. Payment for overtime may be denied if not pre-approved.

Compensatory Time: Use of compensatory time must be approved in advance by the Direct Supervisor and shall not, in any case, exceed three consecutive working days. Accrual of compensatory time shall be agreed to and approved by the supervising administrator.

## **BENEFITS**

### GROUP INSURANCE

**Selection of Carrier:** The selection of the insurance carrier and policy shall be made by the School District as provided by law. It is understood that the School District's only obligation is to purchase an insurance policy and pay such amounts as agreed to herein and no claim shall be made against the School District as a result of a denial of insurance benefits by an insurance carrier.

**Health and Hospitalization Insurance:** If the employee chooses to participate in the district's group health and hospitalization plan, s/he will be eligible for a contribution of up to \$600.00 per month for single coverage, and up to \$850.00 per month for family coverage toward the premium of the insurance option through the District's plan that the employee chooses. In the event a married couple is employed by the School District, and one or both are eligible to receive coverage, the married couple may combine and apply the two School District contributions to one non-single policy. The dollar amount applies to health and hospitalization insurance only.

**Vision and Dental Insurance:** The employee may choose to participate in the district's group dental and/or vision insurance plans at the employee's expense.

**Tax Sheltered Annuities:** Employee is eligible for a \$100.00 annual match contribution from the District toward a Tax Sheltered 403b annuity if this amount is matched or exceeded by a contribution from the employee. The district's contribution will be paid to the employee's account, divided equally over 24 pay periods, \$4.17/check.

**Workplace Injury:** Any and all injuries, regardless of their severity, shall be reported to the Supervisor as soon after the injury occurs as possible. For a claim to Workmen's Compensation to be considered valid, a "First Report of Injury" must be made within 24 hours of the incident.

## **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

**Sick Leave:** The Employee shall earn sick leave at the rate of one (1) day for each month of service in the employ of the School District, up to 11 days per year. Sick leave earned shall be credited to the individual employee's sick leave bank at the start of the following month. Employee may accumulate an unlimited amount of sick leave. Sick leave must be taken in increments no less than 1/4 day. Sick leave days may be used for personal or family illnesses. Sick leave may be used for reasons as allowed by MN Statute 181.9447.

The School District may require the Employee to furnish a medical certificate from a qualified physician as evidence of illness indicating such absence was due to illness in order to qualify for sick leave pay. In the event that a medical certificate will be required, the Employee will be so advised. Sick leave pay shall be approved only upon submission of a sick leave pay request form.

Two sick leave days may be used each year for personal business that cannot be taken care of outside of the normal workday.

## **Emergency Leave**

An emergency is a situation, often dangerous, which arises suddenly and calls for prompt action. An immediate need cannot be planned out days in advance. Employees may be granted a leave of no more than two (2) days per year for situations that require an employee's immediate personal attention and which cannot be addressed outside of the employee's workday. The days will be deducted from the employee's sick leave. An emergency leave is granted by the immediate supervisor subject to review by the Superintendent. The Superintendent reserves the right to make the final decision to grant or deny the request for leave. If denied, pay for that time will be deducted at the next pay period.

**Emergency School Cancellation Days:** Employee is expected to work when school is not in session due to an emergency closing. Employees, unable to report to work, may request the use of vacation, compensatory time, or may use up to two sick (personal) days to avoid a pay deduct.

**Jury Service:** An Employee who serves on jury duty shall be granted the day or days as necessary as stipulated by the court to discharge this responsibility without any loss of basic leave. The compensation received for jury duty service, minus mileage, and meal allowance, shall be deducted from the Employee's payroll check and the Employee shall keep the check for jury duty services.

**Bereavement:** Up to three days leave per occurrence taken in ¼ day increments shall be allowed, the first three days not to be deducted from sick leave, for death in the Employee's immediate family which is defined as children, spouse, parents of Employee or spouse, grandparents of Employee or spouse, brothers and sisters of Employee or spouse. These days shall be deducted from sick leave. The Superintendent may grant up to three additional days in the case of the death of someone in the employee's or employee spouse's immediate family. These days shall be deducted from sick leave.

**Unpaid Leave:** Employee is hired to work specific schedule as designated by the Superintendent. The Superintendent reserves the right to grant or deny any request for unpaid leave.

## **HOLIDAYS**

**Paid Holidays:** Employee shall be paid for the following 6.5 paid holidays: Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, ½ day Good Friday, Memorial Day and 1 floating holiday.

**Weekends:** Holidays that fall on weekends will be observed on a day established by the School District.

**Eligibility:** In order to be eligible for holiday pay, an Employee must have worked a regular work day before and after the holiday unless an excused illness, leave, or on vacation under these provisions.

## **SEVERANCE COMPENSATION**

Employee is eligible for severance compensation upon reaching age 55 and after 15 years of continuous service to ISD #857. The compensation will be based on the number of accumulated sick leave days at the rate of \$30.00 per day. If the employee dies before severance is paid out, it shall be paid to the employee's beneficiary (if any) otherwise to the employee's estate. Employee will not be entitled to severance compensation if s/he is terminated from employment due to poor performance, not meeting expectations, misconduct or for any other reason per District Policy 403 Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of School District Employees.

## **RETIREMENT**

The employee upon reaching age 55 with at least 15 years of continuous service to the district and the employee choose to begin receiving PERA retirement benefits, may be eligible to continue to participate in the district's group health and hospitalization plan. This benefit is contingent upon the approval and acceptance of the insurance carrier. If the employee retires before the age of eligibility for Medicare, s/he shall be eligible to remain in the existing group and health and hospitalization insurance program until reaching the age of eligibility for Medicare.

The annual district contribution will be specified as the maximum amount found in the health and hospitalization section of this Agreement. The maximum contribution of \$300 per month will be paid by accumulated sick leave at a rate of 200 hours of sick leave (25 days/ 8 hours per day of accumulated sick leave) for each year of extended health and hospitalization coverage. Employee will be responsible for any additional premium expenses if an insufficient amount of sick leave has been accrued.

Benefits under this provision shall cease upon the death of the employee except when both husband and wife have been employed by ISD #857 until retirement (and both have been eligible to receive insurance coverage) in which case the survivor will be eligible for continued coverage.

## **DURATION**

This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for a period commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027.

This Agreement with the Lewiston -Altura Employee Handbook constitutes the full and complete Agreement between the School District and the Employee.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement as follows:

Employee's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lewiston – Altura School District 857**

Superintendent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_