PROPOSED REVISIONS (see page 3)

DEFINITIONS

The term "immediate family" is defined as:

FAMILY

- 1. Spouse.
- 2. Son or daughter, including a biological, adopted, or foster child, a son- or daughter-in-law, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child for whom the employee stands *in loco parentis*.
- 3. Parent, stepparent, parent-in-law, or other individual who stands *in loco parentis* to the employee.
- 4. Sibling, stepsibling, and sibling-in-law.
- 5. Grandparent and grandchild.
- 6. Any person residing in the employee's household at the time of illness or death.

For purposes of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the definitions of spouse, parent, son or daughter, and next of kin are found in DECA(LEGAL).

FAMILY EMERGENCY The term "family emergency" shall be limited to disasters and lifethreatening situations involving the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family.

LEAVE DAY

A "leave day" for purposes of earning, use, or recording of leave shall mean the number of hours per day equivalent to the employee's usual assignment, whether full-time or part-time.

AVAILABILITY

The District shall make state personal leave for the current year available for use at the beginning of the school year.

DEDUCTIONS

LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

The District shall not approve paid leave for more leave days than have been accumulated in prior years plus leave currently available. Any unapproved absences or absences beyond accumulated and available paid leave shall result in deductions from the employee's pay.

LEAVE PRORATION

EMPLOYED FOR LESS THAN FULL YEAR If an employee separates from employment with the District before his or her last duty day of the year, or begins employment after the first duty day, state personal leave shall be prorated based on the actual time employed.

If an employee separates from employment before the last duty day of the school year, the employee's final paycheck shall be reduced for state personal leave the employee used beyond his or her pro rata entitlement for the school year.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS LEAVES AND ABSENCES

DEC (LOCAL)

RECORDING

Leave shall be recorded as follows:

- 1. Leave shall be recorded in half-day increments for all employees.
- 2. If the employee is taking intermittent FMLA leave, leave shall be recorded in one-hour increments.

ORDER OF USE

Earned compensatory time shall be used before any available paid state leave. [See DEA]

Unless an employee requests a different order, available paid state leave shall be used in the following order, as applicable:

- 1. State sick leave accumulated before the 1995–96 school year.
- 2. State personal leave.

CONCURRENT USE OF LEAVE

When an absent employee is eligible for FMLA leave, the District shall designate the absence as FMLA leave.

The District shall require the employee to use temporary disability leave and paid leave, including compensatory time, concurrently with FMLA leave.

An employee receiving workers' compensation income benefits may be eligible for paid or unpaid leave. An absence due to a work-related injury or illness shall be designated as FMLA leave, temporary disability leave, and/or assault leave, as applicable.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

An employee shall submit medical certification of the need for leave if:

- 1. The employee is absent more than five consecutive workdays because of personal illness or illness in the immediate family;
- 2. The District requires medical certification due to a questionable pattern of absences or when deemed necessary by the supervisor or Superintendent;
- 3. The employee requests FMLA leave for the employee's serious health condition or that of a spouse, parent, or child; or
- 4. The employee requests FMLA leave for military caregiver purposes.

In each case, medical certification shall be made by a health-care provider as defined by the FMLA. [See DECA(LEGAL)]

Note:

For District contribution to employee insurance during leave, see CRD(LOCAL).

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS LEAVES AND ABSENCES

DEC (LOCAL)

STATE PERSONAL LEAVE

The Board requires employees to differentiate the manner in which state personal leave is used:

NON-DISCRETIONARY USE 1. Non-discretionary use of leave shall be for the same reasons and in the same manner as state sick leave accumulated before May 30, 1995. [See DEC(LEGAL)]

DISCRETIONARY USE

2. Discretionary use of leave is at the individual employee's discretion, subject to limitations set out below.

LIMITATIONS

REQUEST FOR
LEAVE

The employee shall submit a written request for discretionary use of state personal leave to the immediate supervisor or designee in advance in accordance with administrative regulations. In deciding whether to approve or deny state personal leave, the supervisor or designee shall not seek or consider the reasons for which an employee requests to use leave. The supervisor or designee shall, however, consider the effect of the employee's absence on the educational program or District operations, as well as the availability of substitutes.

DURATION OF LEAVE

Discretionary use of state personal leave shall not exceed three consecutive workdays.

EXTENDED SICK LEAVE

After all available state leave days have been exhausted, an employee shall be granted in a school year a maximum of ten leave days of extended sick leave to be used for the same reasons and in the same manner as state sick leave accumulated before May 30, 1995. [See DEC(LEGAL)]

A written request for extended sick leave must be accompanied by medical certification of the illness or injury.

The average daily rate of pay of a substitute for the employee's position shall be deducted for each day of extended sick leave taken, whether or not a substitute is employed.

BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

An employee shall be granted two days of bereavement leave upon the death of a member of the employee's immediate family. Such leave shall be taken with no loss of pay or other paid leave.

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE

For purposes of an employee's entitlement to FMLA leave, the 12-month period shall be measured backward from the date an employee uses FMLA leave.

TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD

If both spouses are employed by the District, the District shall limit FMLA leave for the birth, adoption, or placement of a child, or to care for a parent with a serious health condition, to a combined total of 12 weeks. The District shall limit military caregiver leave to a combined total of 26 weeks. [See DECA(LEGAL)]

COMBINED LEAVE FOR SPOUSES

INTERMITTENT OR REDUCED SCHEDULE LEAVE The District shall permit use of intermittent or reduced schedule FMLA leave for the care of a newborn child or for the adoption or placement of a child with the employee. [See DECA(LEGAL) for use of intermittent or reduced schedule leave due to a medical necessity.]

CERTIFICATION OF LEAVE

If an employee requests leave, the employee shall provide certification, as required by FMLA regulations, of the need for leave. [See DECA(LEGAL)]

FITNESS-FOR-DUTY CERTIFICATION

If an employee takes FMLA leave due to the employee's own serious health condition, the employee shall provide, before resuming work, a fitness-for-duty certification. If the District will require certification of the employee's ability to perform essential job functions, the District shall provide a list of essential job functions to the employee with the FMLA designation notice.

END OF SEMESTER LEAVE

If a teacher takes leave near the end of the semester, the District may require the teacher to continue leave until the end of the semester. [See DECA(LEGAL), LEAVE AT THE END OF A SEMESTER]

FAILURE TO RETURN

If, at the expiration of FMLA leave, the employee is able to return to work but chooses not to do so, the District may require reimbursement of premiums paid by the District during the leave. [See DECA(LEGAL), RECOVERY OF BENEFIT COST]

TEMPORARY DISABILITY LEAVE Any full-time employee whose position requires educator certification by the State Board for Educator Certification or by the District shall be eligible for temporary disability leave. The maximum length of temporary disability leave shall be 180 calendar days. [See DBB(LOCAL) for temporary disability leave placement and DEC(LEGAL) for return to active duty.]

An employee's notification of need for extended absence due to the employee's own medical condition shall be forwarded to the Superintendent or designee as a request for temporary disability leave.

WORKERS'
COMPENSATION

Note:

Workers' compensation is not a form of leave. The workers' compensation law does not require the continuation of the District's contribution to health insurance. [See CRD(LOCAL) regarding payment of insurance contribution during employee absences.]

An absence due to a work-related injury or illness shall be designated as FMLA leave, temporary disability leave, and/or assault leave, as applicable.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS LEAVES AND ABSENCES

DEC (LOCAL)

An employee eligible for workers' compensation income benefits, and not on assault leave, may elect in writing to use paid leave.

COURT APPEARANCES Absences due to compliance with a valid subpoena or for jury duty shall be fully compensated by the District and shall not be deducted from the employee's pay or leave balance.