

DLST Benefits Booklet

SHENENDEHOWA CENTRAL SCHOOL
Clifton Park, New York

BENEFITS BOOKLET

FOR

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS
(DLST)

Compiled by the Office of Human Resources

Pending Board of Education approval on 6/24/2025

(Effective for 7/1/2025 until otherwise modified by BOE action)

This is not a collectively bargained contract. It is a delineation of benefits and protections afforded to the below mentioned employees, approved by the Board of Education and remains in effect until a recommendation of change is made by the superintendent and authorized by the Board of Education.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION (DLST)

Interim Superintendent/Deputy Superintendent	Dr. Cecily Wilson-Turner
Asst. Supt. for Finance and Operations	Kathleen Chase
Chief Human Resources Officer	Jennie Gliha
Director of Athletics and Physical Education	Lucas LaBarre
Director for Information Management Services	Raymond Nardelli
Director of Policy and Community Development	Rebecca Carman
Director for Special Education	Brianne Hazelton
Director of Student Learning and Data Accountability	Sara Schneller
Director of Student Growth and Innovation	Matthew Davis
Director of Professional Learning	Victoria Wyld
Public Information Officer/Communications Coordinator	Kelly Barclay

SECTION I PAID ABSENCE BENEFITS

A. VACATION LEAVE

1) Newly hired staff shall receive a vacation entitlement of twenty-one (21) days if employed on July 1. If hired after July 15, employees are entitled to receive vacation time, upon employment, at the rate of one and three-quarter (1.75) days per month for each month remaining in the fiscal year. If the administrator is hired on or before the 15th of the month, credit will be given for that month.

2) Vacation may be accrued up to forty-two (42) days. Accumulated vacation days in excess of forty-two (42) will be lost as of September 16.

3) If, on any September 15, during the period of continuous employment, if the employee has accumulated more than twenty-one (21) days of vacation, said employee may sell back days in excess of the twenty-one (21), up to a maximum of 21 days (Section 2 stipulates a total accrual of 42 days), at the per diem in effect as of that date.

4) Any remaining vacation entitlement will be paid upon departure from employment. Vacation days may not be used in the final year of this Agreement or of any extension hereof, to extend the employee's right to compensation beyond the time that right would otherwise expire, to increase the amount otherwise due during that year, or to shorten the period during which the employee bears the continuing obligation to perform the duties of that position. Accumulated unused vacation days, upon separation from the district, shall be compensated at the existing daily rate (1/240).

B. HOLIDAYS

1) All employees are entitled to the following paid holidays, in accordance with the 12 month holiday schedule, provided school is not in session:

Independence Day
Labor Day
Indigenous People's Day
Veterans' Day
Thanksgiving Day
Friday following Thanksgiving
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day
New Year's Eve
New Year's Day
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
President's Day
Lunar New Year
Good Friday
Monday of Spring Recess

Memorial Day
Juneteenth

- 2) All DLST members shall be entitled to one (1) additional paid holiday to be determined and approved in advance by the superintendent (floating holiday).

C. SICK LEAVE

The District shall provide annual sick leave of twelve (12) days each year. Sick leave accruals for new employees shall be prorated for the number of full months worked during the first year. If the employee is hired on or before the 15th of the month, credit will be given for that month. Sick leave may be accumulated to a maximum of two hundred forty (240) days.

An employee who has worked for the district for seven (7) or more years as a member of the DLST group shall be eligible for pay-out of up to twenty-five percent (25%) and not to exceed 30 days of accumulated sick leave credits, at his/her per diem rate upon effectuating their resignation, not for retirement purposes, to the Board of Education with at least a 30-day notice.

D. PERSONAL BUSINESS LEAVE

The District shall provide annual personal business leave of six and a half (6.5) days, each year for business which cannot be conducted outside of regular school hours. Personal business leave for new employees shall be prorated for the number of full months worked during the first year, and credited on July 1st following his/her date of employment. If the employee is hired on or before the 15th of the month, credit will be given for that month. Such days shall not accumulate year to year if unused. Prior approval from the Superintendent or designee is required prior to the use of personal business leave.

E. PERSONAL FAMILY ILLNESS LEAVE

The District shall provide annual personal family illness leave of five (5) days each year for family illness. Personal family illness leave accruals for new employees shall be prorated for the number of full months worked during the first year, and credited on the July 1st following his/her date of appointment. If the employee is hired on or before the 15th of the month, credit will be given for that month. Any remaining days on June 30th roll to sick leave until the maximum sick leave accumulation of two hundred forty (240) days is reached. Prior approval from the Superintendent or designee is required prior to the use of personal family illness leave.

Should personal family illness leave days be exhausted as a result of serious illness of an immediate family member (as defined in I.F below), an employee may request from the Superintendent to use a specific number of available accumulated sick leave as personal family illness leave. Such a request shall be in writing and provide information that is deemed sufficient by the Superintendent to make a reasoned decision as to the request.

F. BEREAVEMENT

The District shall provide bereavement leave of up to four (4) days for death of a member of the immediate family. Immediate family is defined as spouse, mother/father, mother/father-in-law, sister/brother, sister/ brother-in-law, son/daughter, son/daughter-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, step-parents, or near relative who resides in the same household. If travel time is required to attend

the funeral, and it cannot be done in the allotted time, it may be taken and charged against accumulated personal or family illness leave. These days are available for each such death and are not accumulated.

G. REPORTING OF DAYS USED

Information regarding sick leave, family illness leave, bereavement leave and a singular personal leave day shall be submitted electronically using WinCap Employee self-service portal to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The completed electronic form shall be submitted within three (3) workdays of such absence whenever practicable. Advance notification of the absence to the Superintendent or his/ her designee shall continue to be made by email, phone, or other resource in addition to the Win cap reporting.

Personal leave of two (2) or more consecutive days and professional leave (e.g., attendance at conference) shall be submitted using the WinCap Employee Self Service Portal to the Superintendent at least two (2) days in advance of an intended absence. Time spent at conferences, meetings of professional organizations and other similar or related professional development activities shall be considered working time and shall not be credited against any leave allowances.

H. REQUEST FOR REMOTE WORK

Upon written request and sufficient documentation of need and purpose, the Superintendent may approve remote work on a case by case basis.

**SECTION II
UNPAID ABSENCE BENEFITS**

A. PERSONAL LEAVE

Personal leaves of unpaid absence may be granted at the discretion of the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Upon written request and sufficient documentation by an employee of need and purpose, the Superintendent may approve an additional number of unpaid personal leave days. Such requests will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

B. CHILD-REARING LEAVE

Administrators who desire a leave for purposes of the birth, adoption, or placement of a child in foster care may be eligible for up to twelve (12) weeks of unpaid leave under the Family Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"), as set forth in Article 14(j) below, subject to all applicable FMLA requirements.

An administrator who desires a leave for purposes of child birth, adoption, or foster care placement shall complete all applicable FMLA paperwork, and provide a written request at least ninety (90) days prior to the intended date of commencement of said leave, together with the anticipated return date.

- 1) Administrators are not eligible to take paid sick leave during an FMLA leave for the birth, adoption, or placement of a child unless they have an actual physical disability. Only

administrators who actually suffer physical disability attributable to pregnancy and/or childbirth, shall be permitted to use accumulated sick leave for a period generally for six (6) weeks (or eight (8) weeks if delivered via cesarean section). Such sick leave must be taken concurrently with FMLA leave. The District shall require certification from the administrator's attending physician to determine the commencement and termination period of the administrator's actual physical disability attributable to the pregnancy and/or childbirth.

- 2) Length of Leave – Consistent with FMLA requirements, any FMLA leave must be taken within one year after the child's birth, adoption, or placement in foster care. The total length of leave for an administrator's pregnancy and/or childbirth, adoption of a child, or placement of a child in foster care, including FMLA, shall not exceed 1-year. Administrators are not eligible to take paid sick leave during the 1-year period unless they have an actual physical disability.
- 3) Health Benefits During FMLA Leave – Consistent with Article (5) below, all eligible professional staff members on FMLA leave shall be privileged to continue under the District's health insurance plan on the same basis that the eligible employee participates as an active employee. If the eligible employee opts to continue on the District health insurance plan while on unpaid leave after FMLA is exhausted, the employee will be responsible for 100% of the cost of health insurance, unless otherwise required by law.
- 4) Interruption of Probationary Period – For the non-tenured administrator, child-rearing leave shall be an interruption of the probationary period and not in lieu of the requirements for serving a probationary period.
- 5) Purpose of FMLA Leave – Consistent with federal law, the District shall provide up to twelve (12) weeks of unpaid leave to an eligible employee for: (1) the birth of a child or to care for the newborn child within one year of birth; (2) the placement with the employee of a child for adoption or foster care or to care for the newly placed child within one year of placement; (3) to care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a serious health condition; (4) a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the essential functions of his or her job; or (5) any qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the employee's spouse, son, daughter, or parent is a covered military member on "covered active duty."
 - a) Charging FMLA Leave – An eligible employee must charge all available sick leave, personal leave, family illness leave, sick leave bank time, or such other leave during the FMLA period if the use of such leave is otherwise permissible under this Agreement. Following the period of FMLA absence, an eligible employee shall be entitled to return to the same or similar position without any change in status.

SECTION III COMPENSATION

The annual salary for the period July 1 through June 30 in years subsequent to the year of hire shall be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. The existing compensation shall remain in effect, until a change is recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education.

For the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, employees covered herein shall be compensated an amount recommended by the superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. The compensation amount last enacted shall stay in effect until formally changed and approved by the Board of Education. A salary increase of 4.00% was recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. There are circumstances when equity adjustments are warranted. Any such adjustments are reviewed by the BOE in executive session, and consensus reached by the BOE.

SECTION IV PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT, AND TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

A. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

The District shall establish a professional development fund to provide opportunities to DLST members to improve their knowledge, skills, and performance as leaders in the Shenendehowa Central School District. The fund will be calculated annually and will be equal to the total number of DLST members multiplied by one thousand (\$1,000) dollars. The use of said funds should be related to the accomplishment of District goals and objectives, such as conference attendance and joining professional organizations. It is not intended to purchase equipment.

A \$1,500 one-time payment shall be rendered for completion of Doctoral degree from an accredited institution.

B. TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

In recognition of the critical nature of technology in this era of real time and on-demand communications, it is important for district level administrators to have the mobile capacity to effectively do their jobs. Subsequently, the district shall cover the cost of having access to communications, including phone contact, text messaging, data and email access that is connected to the district's email server for administrators who already possess a capable mobile device, at a cost not to exceed five hundred (\$500) dollars per year. Appropriate receipts and billings must be submitted to the Business Office for review and processing.

C. TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Individuals will be eligible to receive reimbursement for tuition for up to two approved courses of study or training per year, if directly related to the person's present position or the person's growth as an employee with the Shenendehowa Central School District. Reimbursement shall be provided for one (1) course per academic term (Fall, Spring, Summer). The course must be shared with the Superintendent or designee in advance for approval for reimbursement, and must

be demonstrably related to the employee's work for the District. The first part of the aforementioned statement, "directly relate to the person's present position" is explicitly clear. The latter portion, "growth as an employee", while not as explicit, refers to progress along a defined promotional line in the service of the current employer.

The reimbursement amount per credit shall be no greater than the rate per credit of comparable courses at SUNY-Albany. Such courses must be approved, in advance, and the individual must complete the course with a satisfactory grade (C or higher) in order to qualify for the reimbursement. The course must meet outside the normal workday of the individual and personal leave may not be charged in regard to meeting the requirements of the course. Accrued vacation leave may be charged in regard to meeting course requirements.

SECTION V GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS

A. BASIC GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

Each employee will be eligible for a fully paid group term life insurance policy equivalent to five (5) times the individual's current annual salary, with a cap of three hundred fifty thousand (\$350,000) dollars.

The above policy may be continued for the amount of his/her basic group life insurance which is in effect at the time of resignation/retirement. Upon resignation, said policy may be converted to an individual life insurance policy for the full amount of the monthly premium rate published by the insurance company at the time of the employee's resignation. Upon retirement, the employee may continue said policy for the full cost of the District's monthly premium costs. The amount of life insurance that may be continued after retirement is as follows:

Under age 67	100%
Age 67 and over	50%

B. SHORT-TERM DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE

Under this plan, Short-term Disability (SD) provides eligible employees with short-term benefits (maximum 52 weeks) when an employee gets injured or becomes disabled from work due to a non-work related illness or injury.

The employee must exhaust all sick time prior to receiving any disability payments. There is a 7 day waiting period after the first day of disability before disability payments would begin. Said plan shall not provide any benefits after such time as the employee would be eligible for long-term disability benefits. The disability benefit is 50% of the first \$1500 of the employees pre-disability earnings, reduced by deductible income. Short-term Disability (SD) certificate available from the Benefits office.

C. LONG-TERM DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE

The District will provide a long-term disability income plan on a non-contributory basis. This will become effective after one hundred eighty (180) calendar days of disability and use of sick days.

The district shall pay benefits equal to sixty-six and two-thirds (66 2/3%) percent of salary, up to age sixty-five (65), if disabled from performing the duties of his/her occupation. Sick days shall not be accumulated while out on disability.

D. HEALTH INSURANCE

The District shall provide each full-time employee with health insurance, prescription drug coverage and dental insurance.

The District will pay eighty (80%) percent of the cost of the health insurance premium (individual and family) and prescription drug plan for all employees who participate in any health insurance program.

The following benefits apply:

- I. All CDPHP co-pays for services shall be \$20 for each occurrence.
- II. Co-payment for CDPHP shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00) for each occurrence for Urgent Care, forty dollars (\$40.00) for Specialists, and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each occurrence for Emergency Room Care.
- III. All prescription drug co-pays shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) for generic/brand name prescriptions, twenty dollars (\$20.00) for preferred brand name, thirty dollars (\$30.00) for non-preferred brand name.
- IV. Mail order shall be \$0/\$40 (90 day supply) for generic and all other prescriptions, respectively.
- V. The major medical deductibles for the Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield program shall be two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars/five hundred (\$500) dollars. The lifetime maximum coverage under the Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield program shall be an unlimited amount.
- VI. CANARX on a voluntary basis by employees made available as soon as practicable.
- VII. A mental health rider is included with Capital District Physicians' Health Plan (CDPHP).

DENTAL

The District will pay forty-eight (48%) percent of the cost of the premium for the dental insurance for employees who participate in the dental insurance program. The District will provide individual voluntary vision coverage under the EyeMed PPO.

VISION

The District will pay the applicable individual rate for the provision of Eyemed vision care.

E. HEALTH INSURANCE BUYOUT

An employee who has proof of alternate health insurance coverage, shall have the option of withdrawing from the District's health insurance plan or electing different coverage. The term "health insurance" in this instance shall refer to health and prescription coverage for purposes of the health insurance buyout. Health insurance buyouts shall be paid only in cases when an employee has switched from coverage with the district to a lesser coverage or no coverage. Such employees shall execute any and all documents necessary to affect such withdrawal or change in coverage.

In the event of such withdrawal or change in coverage, the District shall pay to such employee, annually, within thirty (30) days following the next December 31st, the following sums:

<u>Coverage Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Family or two person coverage to no coverage	\$2,000
Family or two person coverage to individual coverage	\$1,500
Individual coverage to no coverage	\$1,250

In the event an employee who has elected withdrawal or selected a different coverage option leaves District employment or re-enters the plan following a qualifying event before the end of the year, the District will pay, within thirty (30) days following December 31st, a pro rata portion of the amount specified above.

In case of such withdrawal, the District shall no longer be required to contribute toward the cost of such insurance for the balance of the year, or in the case of a change in coverage, to pay the amount required for the original coverage the employee had selected.

An employee having withdrawn may re-enroll in one of the health insurance plans offered by the District if he/she is no longer covered by such alternative health insurance in accordance with the rules, regulations and procedures of the District's insurance carriers. Such conditions now include the death of a spouse or other qualifying event.

F. PREMIUM CONVERSION PLAN

The district shall establish and offer to all members a voluntary premium conversion plan meeting the requirements of applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRS) and related regulations in order that contributions made by DLST members toward medical insurance (including health, prescription drug, and dental) premiums may be made through such a plan.

For those individuals choosing to participate in the voluntary premium conversion plan, the premium will be deducted from pre-tax earnings, and, therefore, the employees net contributions to the plan, in effect, will be less than the eighteen percent for health and prescription drug insurance and less than fifty-two (52%) percent for dental insurance indicated in Article 14, 1(a), 1(b), 1(d).

In the event Federal law is changed to no longer allow a premium conversion plan, the provision of this agreement related to this program shall cease to have any force or effect, and the District will provide eighty (80%) percent for all employees who participate in any health insurance program, as well as forty-eight (48%) percent of dental coverage for all participating members.

G. PHYSICALS

The District will assume the cost of a biennial physical examination if not covered by the employee's insurance, which will be provided upon employee's request, with documentation that the physical was conducted forwarded to the Office of Human Resources.

H. WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Each employee is insured against loss as a result of compensable accidents on the job. All approved medical bills will be paid by the District. Days of work lost beyond those paid from sick leave will be compensated according to the State Workers' Compensation formula.

I. EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The District shall provide help or assistance to employees or their family members with personal problems such as substance abuse, stress, depression, anxiety, phobias, marriage, children, aged parents, gambling, financial, legal [one (1) per year], or other problems. The services are free and completely confidential. Further information can be obtained from the Office of Human Resources.

J. LIABILITY INSURANCE

The District will assume the cost of:

- general liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage claims
- school professional legal liability coverage for alleged wrongful acts

The coverage shall protect the District and all employees for at least one million (\$1,000,000) dollars. Such policies will be approved by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

K. FLEXIBLE BENEFIT PLAN

Shenendehowa Central Schools, (the "Employer") sponsors the Shenendehowa Central Schools Section 125 Plan (with Premium Payment, Health FSA, and DCAP Components) (the "Cafeteria Plan") that allows Eligible Employees to choose from a menu of different benefits to suit their needs and to pay for those benefits with pre-tax dollars. Alternatively, Eligible Employees may choose to pay for any of the benefits with after-tax contributions on a payroll-reduction basis.

**SECTION VI
RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

A. NEW YORK STATE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (NYSTRS)

1. All certified staff are covered for membership in the NYSTRS. There are six (6) retirement tiers in effect under the NYSTRS. Please contact the Office of Human Resources for more information.

a. Tier I - Career Plan: for members who last joined on or before June 30, 1973. The District pays for all mandatory contributions.

b. Tier II - New Plan: for members who joined after June 30, 1973 and before July 1, 1976. The District pays all mandatory contributions.

c. Tier III - CO-ESC Plan: for members who joined between July 1, 1976 and August 31, 1983 (CO-ESC stands for "Coordinated-Escalator.") Members must contribute three (3%) percent of their annual salary toward retirement benefits.

d. Tier IV - Coordinated Retirement Plan: for members who joined on or after September 1, 1983. Members must contribute three (3%) percent of their annual salary toward their retirement benefits.

e. Tier V – for members who joined on or after January 1, 2010. Members must contribute three and one-half (3 ½%) percent of their annual salary toward their retirement benefits.

f. Tier VI- For members who join on or after April 1, 2012, members are required to contribute 5.75- 6 % of their annual salary toward their retirement benefit. Retirement benefits calculated on a 5 year final average salary.

2. In addition to normal retirement benefits, all plans provide disability retirement benefits and death benefits. However, it is critical that questions regarding specific coverage be directed to the NYSTRS or the Office of Human Resources.

B. NEW YORK STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (NYSERS)

All non-certified staff classified by the Civil Service are eligible for membership in the NYSERS. There are four (4) retirement tiers in effect under the present NYSERS. Please contact the Office of Human Resources for more information.

a. Tier I – New Career Plan (Section 75-i): For employees who joined prior to July 1, 1973. Minimum retirement age is fifty-five (55) and members are not required to contribute.

b. Tier II – New Career Plan (Section 75-i): For employees who joined after July 1, 1973 and prior to July 1, 1976. Members are not required to contribute.

c. Tier III (Articles 14 and 15): For employees who joined between July 1, 1976 and August 31, 1983. Effective October 1, 2000, until you either accrue ten (10) years of service credit or have been a member of the Retirement System for ten (10) years after your date of membership, you are required to contribute three (3%) percent of your gross earnings toward your retirement benefits.

d. Tier IV (Article 15): For employees who joined on or after September 1, 1983 and prior to January 1, 2010. Effective October 1, 2000, until you either accrue ten (10) years of service credit or have been a member of the Retirement System for ten (10) years after your date of membership, you are required to contribute three (3%) percent of your gross earnings toward your retirement benefits.

e. Tier V (Article 15): For employees who joined on or after January 1, 2010 and prior to April 1, 2012. Members are required to contribute three (3%) percent of your gross earnings toward your retirement benefits for all your years of public service.

f. Tier VI : For employees who join on or after April 1, 2012. From April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013, Tier 6 members contribute three (3%) percent of their gross salary toward their retirement benefits. Beginning April 1, 2013, the contribution rate will be based on your annual wage. Future salary changes may affect your contribution rate.

Wages	Contribution Rate
\$45,000- or less	3%
\$45,000.01-\$55,000	3.5%

\$55,000.01-\$75,000	4.5%
\$75,000.01-100,000	5.75%
\$100,000 and more	6%

Accumulated sick leave, up to one hundred sixty-five (165) days, may be applied as additional service credit to retirement on a calendar day basis for members of Tiers I through IV. For members of Tier V, if your employer has chosen to offer this benefit, you may receive service credit for your unused, unpaid sick leave days at retirement. The additional credit may not exceed one hundred sixty-five (165) days.

In addition to normal retirement benefits, all plans provide disability retirement benefits and death benefits. However, it is essential that specific questions regarding coverage be directed to the NYSERS or the District Office of Human Resources. **NOTE:** The Office of Human Resources has beneficiary change forms for the NYSERS.

C. SOCIAL SECURITY

The employee and the District are taxed an equal percentage of the employee's gross pay (to a maximum taxable amount) to pay Social Security. Your portion is deducted from your pay.

Social Security pays benefits upon retirement, becomes disabled or dies. It also pays Medicare benefits. Other members of the employee's family may also be eligible for benefits when the employee becomes entitled, though the employee must meet eligibility requirements for each benefit.

D. RETIREMENT INCENTIVE

The employee will be reimbursed up to seventy (70) days of accumulated sick leave credits upon effectuating their resignation for purposes of retirement to the Board of Education, at the existing daily rate (1/240). The employee shall work a minimum of five (5) years as a member of the DLST group in order to qualify for this incentive. Notice must be provided at least three (3) months in advance of the effective date of retirement. This incentive is inclusive of the payout referenced in Section 1.C. It is **not** in addition to said payout.

Payments made upon retirement for unused sick leave identified in this benefit booklet shall be directed by the District into a Section 403(b) account for each individual employee. Said account will comply with all relevant statutes and IRS regulations.

A retiring DLST member may, at his or her option, have authorized payments made into such a 403(b) plan in more than one installment, starting in the calendar year in which the member retires and in the following years, if permissible by IRS regulations.

E. MEDICAL COVERAGE FOR RETIREES

The District will pay the applicable percentage of the premium cost of individual coverage for health and prescription drug insurance in effect at the date of retirement.

If coverage is for more than individual coverage, the employee will pay the additional premium for 2-person coverage beyond the amount the district pays for individual coverage of the employee. Should the retired employee predecease his/her spouse, the survivor would be entitled to the same percentage of coverage enjoyed by the employee at time of death, unless the surviving spouse is already covered under other employment at equal or better coverage. The surviving spouse is entitled to single coverage only. The retiree may defer participation in the health plan until such time that there is no longer coverage under their other plan; however, the level of coverage and contribution share will be determined by the date of retirement.

For DLST members who retire during the period of this agreement and who select CDPHP health insurance for two-person or family coverage, the District will contribute sixty-five (65%) of the two person premium coverage. If a DLST member chooses another available insurance option the equivalent dollar value will be provided.

F. PRESCRIPTION COVERAGE

The District will pay the applicable percentage of the premium cost of individual coverage for health and prescription drug insurance in effect at the date of retirement.

Should the retired employee predecease his/her spouse, the survivor would be entitled to the same percentage of coverage enjoyed by the employee at time of death, unless the surviving spouse is already covered under other employment at equal or better coverage. The surviving spouse is entitled to single coverage only. The retiree may defer participation in the prescription plan until such time that there is no longer coverage under their other plan; however, the level of coverage and contribution share will be determined by the date of retirement.

G. DENTAL COVERAGE

The retiree may continue to participate in the current plan if he/she pays one hundred (100%) percent of the monthly premium. The retiree may defer participation in the plan until such time that there is no longer coverage under their other plan.

H. RESIGNATION NOTICE

A DLST member, who resigns other than for purposes of retirement, shall submit a letter of resignation from the district at least 30-work days in advance, unless mutually agreed upon otherwise.

An individual resigning for the purpose of retirement and expecting to qualify for the aforementioned retirement incentive benefits must submit a letter of intention at least three (3) months in advance.

SECTION VII OTHER BENEFITS

A. DIRECT DEPOSIT

You may have your entire paycheck automatically deposited into checking or savings accounts of participating institutions. Payroll Direct Deposit Authorization forms are available on Inside Shen or through the Payroll office.

B. TAX SHELTERED ANNUITIES (T.S.A.)/(403 B)

The primary objective of a T.S.A. is to induce you to save money for retirement purposes by granting current income tax exemptions.

Payroll will deduct contributions, each payday, to the T.S.A. program from your earnings prior to the computation of your taxes. The amount of your contribution will be exempt from Federal and State income taxes, but subject to F.I.C.A. (Social Security) tax. Your contribution will then be sent to the company with which you have your program.

It is your responsibility to select a company from the District's approved list and to make the initial contacts and arrangements for your T.S.A. Once you choose a company, you will also have to determine the amount that you wish deducted from your paychecks and for how long according to a formula determined by the Federal tax laws.

C. TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Individuals will be eligible to receive reimbursement for tuition for up to two approved courses of study or training per year, if directly related to the person's present position or the person's growth as an employee with the Shenendehowa Central School District. The course must be shared with the Superintendent or designee in advance for approval for reimbursement, and must be demonstrably related to the employee's work for the District. The first part of the aforementioned statement, "directly relate to the person's present position" is explicitly clear. The latter portion, "growth as an employee", while not as explicit, refers to progress along a defined promotional line in the service of the current employer.

Reimbursement shall be provided for one (1) course per academic term (Fall, Spring, Summer). The reimbursement amount per credit shall be no greater than the rate per credit of comparable courses at SUNY-Albany. Such courses must be approved, in advance, and the individual must complete the course with a satisfactory grade (C or higher) in order to qualify for the reimbursement. The course must meet outside the normal workday of the individual and personal leave may not be charged in regard to meeting the requirements of the course. Accrued vacation leave may be charged in regard to meeting course requirements.


D. PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONFERENCES

Expenses for membership in professional organizations and attendance at conferences, beyond the allocated Professional Development amounts, may be covered by the district with prior approval of Superintendent or designee.

E. BUSINESS RELATED TRAVEL

With pre-approval, the District will reimburse the employee for mileage reimbursement, based upon Federal Internal Revenue Service rates. All attempts shall be made to travel in the most cost-effective manner.

The DLST benefits booklet has been reviewed annually by the Superintendent of Schools and approved by the Board of Education.



Dr. L . Oliver Robinson, Superintendent of Schools

Date: June 25, 2025

Spreadsheet with individual compensation provided to the Business Office per BOE approval of this Benefit Booklet.

End of Benefit Stipulations