COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The Board of Education (the Board) of the Bethlehem Central School District (the District) believes that the District’s employees should receive fair compensation and benefits for the work they provide in serving the children of our community. To this end, the superintendent shall be responsible for establishing and administering the compensation and benefits to the District’s employees.

The Board and the District will comply with all applicable federal and state laws that require minimum compensation, overtime, and benefits be provided to certain employees.

Determinant of Employment Status

Before enrolling an individual in the District’s compensation and benefits program, the District will determine the individual’s employment status. In accordance with regulations issued by the state comptroller and as set forth by the Internal Revenue Service, the Director of Human Resources will determine if the person is an employee and thus entitled to benefits. If the individual is not an employee based on the specified criteria, they will not be enrolled in any of the benefit programs offered by the District or the state. When the District hires an attorney, physician, engineer, architect, accountant, or auditor as an employee and not an independent contractor, the Board president must certify to the applicable New York State retirement system the factors supporting that determination using the form prescribed by the state comptroller. The Board president shall be responsible for reporting to the appropriate retirement system those individuals eligible for membership. This reporting shall take place at the time of an individual’s employment, and at the intervals required by the appropriate retirement system.

Employees Covered by Collectively Negotiated Agreements

The compensation and benefits (except for state retirement system benefits) for employees who are represented by recognized or certified employee organizations are established by collectively negotiated agreements between the employee organizations and the District. The District will negotiate in good faith over these issues, as required by law, and fully comply with the requirements of the Taylor Law and the applicable collectively negotiated agreements.

The Board reserves its right to approve all additional funding required by the provisions of a tentatively collectively negotiated agreement, in addition to any right of ratification that is secured by the District’s negotiation representative(s).

Employees Not Covered by Collectively Negotiated Agreements

The compensation and benefits for employees who are not represented by recognized or certified employee organizations shall be determined by the Board upon recommendation of the superintendent.

Ref: Consolidated Omnibus Budget and Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA), 42 USC §§ 300bb-1 et seq. (federal law that requires the continuation of health insurance
benefits under certain circumstances)
Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), 29 USC §§ 200 et seq. (federal law that requires a
minimum wage and overtime for non-exempt employees)
Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA). 29 USC §§ 2610 et seq. (federal law that
requires an unpaid leave of absence for certain family and medical situations)
Civil Service Law §§ 200 et seq. (‘‘Taylor Law’’, requires school districts to negotiate with
unions)
Education Law § 3005-b (requires a minimum sick leave allotment and accumulation for
teachers)
Local Finance Law § 2.00(5)(e) (designates Board of Education President as Chief Fiscal
Officers)
2 NYCRR Part 315.2 and 315.3 (criteria for determining employment status)

Adoption date: July 9, 2008
Revised date: September 23, 2019
Re-Adopted: October 16, 2019