



Student Support Services

Each Scholar: A voice. A dream. A **BRIGHT** future.

Purpose: To Provide Information about Special Education Teacher-Paraeducator Collaboration Time

To: Special Education Teachers and Paraeducators

CC: ESPs

Regarding: As part of our new FWEA-FWPS collective bargaining agreement, we are excited that each special education teacher has the opportunity to collaborate with their paraeducators. Teachers, please be sure to share this information with your paraeducators. Here is the new CBA language:

For the 2022-23 school year, paraeducator positions of 6.0 or more hours per day will be offered 2 hours per month to collaborate with the teachers with whom they work, and paraeducators in positions of 3 to 5.9 hours per day will be offered 1 hour per month to collaboration with the teachers with whom they work. For the 2023-24 school year, this collaboration time will become a regularly-scheduled requirement of such positions. Staff may request additional time for paraeducator collaboration through existing channels (i.e., building administrators, program specialists).

During the 2022-2023 school year this is an optional opportunity for paraeducators. The collaboration is scheduled by the teacher and paraeducator team.

Time per Day in Special Education Para position	Collaboration Time Per Month
6 or more hours	2 hours
3 hours to 5.9 hours	1 hour

Since this collaboration time is optional during the 2022-23 school year, para-educators will be compensated by timesheet.

Action steps: Paraeducators should submit timesheets to SSS for each month in which teacher-paraeducator collaboration time takes place. Timesheets should be labeled to identify the activity as "Teacher-Para Collab." and be signed by a building administrator. In order to allow for feasibility in tracking the use of this time, it must be used each month and cannot be banked or flexed to other months (with the exception of Sept time, see next paragraph).

For 2022-2023: Due to the timing of this communication, Teacher-Paraeducator Collaboration time may not have occurred in September. Therefore, the September collaboration hours can be used at another time in the 2022-23 school year. When using those hours, please make sure to label the timesheet as "Teacher-Para Collab. Sept Make-Up".

If you have any questions, please reach out to your program specialist or any other ESC SSS support personnel.

Jennifer

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