

**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date:** January 24, 2019

**To:** School Principals, Division and Department Heads, Child Development Center Administrators, and San Diego Education Association Representatives

**Subject:** REDUCED WORKLOAD PROGRAM

**Department and/or Persons Concerned:** Certificated Staff

**Due Date:** March 1, 2019

**Reference:** Education Code Sections 44922 and 22713; Article 31 of Collective Negotiations Contract between the San Diego Unified School District and the San Diego Education Association (SDEA)

**Action Requested:** Please disseminate information regarding the Reduced Workload Program. Interested certificated employees should submit enrollment packet as described below.

**Brief Explanation:**

The Reduced Workload Program specified in Education Code Sections 44922 and 22713 and Article 31 of the Collective Negotiations Contract allows eligible unit members the right to reduce their workload to no less than half-time upon request and purchase the same credit toward retirement under the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CALSTRS) that a unit member would have received if he/she had been employed on a full-time basis. Although earnings are reduced when participating in this program, unit members and the district contribute an amount which is based upon a full-time salary. Unit members who enter this program may continue to participate for a maximum of ten (10) school years at which time the unit member is required to resign.

**MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION**

In accordance with state law, the number of unit members participating in this program is unlimited.

**ELIGIBILITY**

A participating unit member must have reached the age of 55 prior to July 1 of the school year in which the employee proposes to commence the reduced workload. The CALSTRS service credit calendar begins July 1 and ends June 30 of each year.

A participating unit member must have been employed as a full-time certificated employee in California for at least ten years, of which the last five years were in full-time certificated employment in the San Diego Unified School District. An approved leave of absence shall not constitute a break in service; however, time spent on leave(s) of absence will not be counted toward the five (5) year requirement.

Unit members participating in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) are not eligible to participate in the CALSTRS Reduced Workload Program.

A participating unit member must have received an effective evaluation during his/her most recent evaluation period in order to be considered for the program. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted by mutual agreement between the District and the Association.

#### CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Unit members participating in the Reduced Workload Program who are assigned to self-contained classrooms will be required to work an equal amount of time in both semesters of a school year. The amount of time is dependent upon the percentage of the unit member's reduced workload assignment. This time may be served in full or partial day increments.

All other unit members participating in the Reduced Workload Program will be required to be on duty an amount of time not less than the percentage of the unit member's reduced workload assignment.

The provisions of Article 12, Transfer Policies, shall not apply to unit members participating in the Reduced Workload Program. Reduced Workload Unit members may participate in the post and bid and transfer process by mutual agreement between the Association and the District.

Participating unit members shall be evaluated in the same manner provided for all other unit members under Article 14, Performance Evaluation Provisions, except that the evaluation process for unit members who are assigned for one complete semester of full-time service and one semester off per school year, shall be condensed to provide for a final summary evaluation to be provided to the unit member no later than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the final day of service for the semester in which the unit member is assigned to be on duty.

#### HEALTH / EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Unit members participating in the Reduced Workload Program will earn sick leave on a pro-rata basis.

District and certificated employee contributions to CALSTRS shall be equal to the amount required for a full-time employee. (Employment taxes such as Medicare, federal and state income taxes will be based on the employee's actual earnings).

Participating unit members shall maintain their district-paid health and welfare benefits for the full school year as provided under Article 9 of the SDEA contract. Health and welfare benefits are not transferable from a reduced workload participant to a job share partner, Section 31.4.6.

Participating unit members are eligible for advancement on the salary schedule in the same manner provided for other part-time employees (SDEA Contract, July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017, Salary Rules, Appendix A, Section 4.02).

#### FORFEITURE OF RETIREMENT CREDIT

If a unit member participating in the Reduced Workload Program performs service that is less than half-time, he/she shall lose eligibility for the program for that particular school year. In addition, if it is found by the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) that a participating unit member failed to meet the minimum eligibility criteria set forth by the Education Code, his/her participation in the program shall be considered a break in service, resulting in a loss of retirement credit and permanently disqualifying the unit member from future participation in the Reduced Workload Program.

#### ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE

Unit members desiring to participate in the Reduced Workload Program must submit an enrollment

