Leave Sharing

The district will establish and administer a leave sharing plan in which eligible employees may donate excess leave for use by an eligible recipient who is suffering from, or has a relative or household member suffering from, an extraordinary or severe illness, injury, impairment or physical or mental condition, or who has been called to service in the uniform services.

Such a program is intended to extend leave benefits to an eligible recipient who otherwise would have to take leave without pay or terminate his or her employment.

The superintendent will establish procedures to donate leave for staff members who: (1) earn personal holiday leave and (2) accrue annual leave and sick leave for use by other staff in case of illness, injuries or emergencies. The superintendent is directed to administer the leave sharing plan in a manner consistent with state law and applicable collective bargaining agreements.

Cross Reference: Board Policy 5021

Applicability of Personnel Policies

Legal References:

RCW 28A.400.380 Leave sharing program
RCW 41.04.650-665 Leave sharing program
WAC 392-126-004 -104 Finance — Shared Leave

Management Resources:

Policy News, October 2010 Leave Sharing
Policy News, October 2004 Revisions to the State Leave Sharing Program
Policy News, August 1999 Staff may share personal holiday

Adoption Date: 05.13.08
Washougal School District
Revised: 05.28.13
Leave Sharing

A. A district employee is eligible to receive donated leave if:
   1. The staff member suffers from, or has a relative or household member suffering from, an extraordinary or severe illness, injury, impairment or physical or mental condition or who has been called to service in the uniform services which has caused, or is likely to cause, the staff member to:
      a. Go on leave-without-pay status; or
      b. Terminate his/her employment;
   2. The staff member’s absence and the use of shared leave are justified by documentation;
   3. The staff member has depleted, or will shortly deplete, his/her annual leave and sick leave reserves;
   4. The staff member has abided by district rules regarding sick leave use; and
   5. The staff member has diligently pursued and been found to be ineligible to receive industrial insurance benefits.

The superintendent shall determine the amount of leave, if any, which a staff member may receive under this policy. However, a staff member shall not receive more leave than the number of contracted days remaining in the current school year. In the event that the condition requiring the employee’s absence continues beyond the current school year, the employee shall not receive a total of more than 522 days of donated leave during total district employment.

B. District employees may donate leave as follows:
   1. A staff member who has an accrued annual leave balance of more than ten (10) days may request that the superintendent transfer a specified number of days to another person authorized to receive shared leave, or to the district’s annual leave pool. A staff member may not request leave to be transferred that would result in an accrued annual leave balance of fewer than ten (10) days;
   2. A staff member who accrues annual leave and sick leave may request that the superintendent transfer sick leave to a person authorized to receive shared leave, or to the district’s shared leave pool. A donating staff member must retain a minimum of 176 hours of sick leave after the transfer;
   3. A staff member who does not accrue annual leave but who has an accrued sick leave balance of more than twenty-two (22) days may request that the superintendent transfer a specified amount of sick leave to another person authorized to receive such leave, or to the district’s shared leave pool. A staff member may not request a transfer that would result in an accrued sick leave balance of fewer than twenty-two (22) days. Sick leave as defined in RCW 28A.400.300 means leaves for illness, injury and emergencies;
   4. A staff member who receives personal holiday leave may request that the superintendent transfer a specified amount of personal holiday leave to another person authorized to receive shared leave, or to the district’s shared leave pool. A staff member may request to transfer no more than eight (8) hours of personal holiday leave during any calendar year;
   5. The number of leave days transferred will not exceed the amount authorized by the donating staff member; and
   6. Any leave donated by a staff member which remains unused will be returned to the donor. To the extent administratively feasible, leave transferred by more than one staff member will be returned on pro-rata basis.

C. Leave will be calculated on a day-donated and day-received basis.

Date: 05.28.13
Washougal School District