

FREEPORT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Use your contract to answer the questions below.

1. What rights do members have under ARTICLE V of the contract?
They can see their personnel files; can write rebuttals; and nothing can go in the file unless the member is aware.

2. What rights do members have in regards to involuntary transfers?
They have the right to know why they have been chosen for the transfer with 60 days notice

3. On what date must members be notified of their assignments for the following school year?
June 10

4. Under Article VIII, what are the maximum number of students a teacher may have at all grade levels?
Pre-K: 20. 1-6: 30 (+2 with an additional stipend per student)
K- 24. (+2 with an additional stipend per student) **7-12:141** total. **ESL: 25** (with a TA)

5. Are lesson plans required?
Yes, must be provided upon request.

6. How long is the elementary school day? How long is the secondary school day?
K-6: 6 hours, 55 minutes; 7-12: 7 hours

7. What is the extra help period for high school teachers?
Two days per week for 25 minutes, three days per week for 5 minutes

8. How many additional hours are members required to complete?
20; 10 must be approved by an administrator, 10 do not require approval. ALL must be entered into MLP.

9. What are the stated uses for additional hours?
Staff development, grade level/department meetings, admin meetings, interdisciplinary planning, and others agreed upon by FTA and District

10. What is the consequence for not completing the additional hours?
Member must make up hours; any steps are withheld until the hours are completed

11. How many work days are in our calendar? How many are teaching days?
184/181

12. What are high school professional periods for?
AIS; professional duties; HW extra help; parent meetings; curriculum development (except if it is to be stipended); subject meetings; exam writing; staff development; ; etc.

13. How many sick and personal days do members receive each year?
10/5; can carry 10 personal. Unused personal days roll over to sick days

14. What is the deadline for filing for salary advancement across the schedule?
November 1, with retro-active pay from September

15. What are the current conditions for a member to use online courses for salary advancement?
Courses must be a part of a graduate degree program; the college/university must be approved by NYSED;

16. Can I use In-Service Credits to advance my salary?
Yes with a maximum of 20 used for advancement. 5 in-service credits may be used per lane change at MA/MS15 and MA/MS30. Up to 9 in-service credits may be used for MA/MS45 and MA/MS60

17. Can I be mandated to complete an administrative task/duty during my prep or lunch period?
Generally, no. However, in some buildings there are written agreements that allow for meetings to occur during prep periods. In other buildings, there are past practices that have allowed for meetings with the principals.

18. What is the current employee contribution for health insurance?
20% for single and family

19. If a member feels their contractual rights have been violated, how long do they, or the FTA, have to file a grievance?
30 days

20. Can a member be reprimanded for wearing jeans or flip flops to school?
Depends. Baggy jeans may not be acceptable. Plastic flip fops are not acceptable.

Other info:

Grievance: an obvious violation of the contract, or an agreed to practice

Past practice: doesn't exist if there is language in the contract or law that speaks to an issue