



BELLMORE-MERRICK
UNITED SECONDARY TEACHERS

Know your CONTRACT

Understanding the contract language that protects your wages, benefits, job security and working conditions is important. Throughout the year, the Grievance Committee will work to put together these “Know Your Contract” bulletins in an effort to help members become more familiar with the contract. You can find the full contract in a searchable PDF online at BMUST.org- see your Head Building Rep. for the password to the members only section.



COVERAGES

FOUND IN ARTICLE XX

- Teachers can be assigned **six*** uncompensated class coverage periods during the 2023-24 school year- two on “your time” (prep or unassigned period, but not lunch) and four on “their time” (duty or professional period).
- If no one is available to cover for “free”, a teacher within the same certification area must be asked to cover for pay first. If no one within the certification area is available or wants to cover for pay, any teacher can be asked to cover for pay.
- Teachers may only be pulled from a professional or duty period for a free coverage if there is no one able or willing to take a paid coverage. In this instance, the coverage would be conducted as a study hall- no teaching.

**-This number will decrease over the life of the contract: six coverages in 2024-2025 and five coverages in 2025-2026.*



DUTIES

FOUND IN ARTICLE IX

Every teacher can be assigned a daily duty and either a professional period or a team planning period (every other day- 3 times per 6 day cycle). You are exempt from a daily duty if you:

- have over 140 students
- teach 4+ preps
- are split- receive travel time in lieu of a daily duty
- have a paid duty such as being a tech mentor or have cafeteria duty
- hold certain union positions



EXTRA HELP

FOUND IN ARTICLE VII

Flexible extra help- establish your own days and times, and change as needed, within the following parameters:

- a total of 70 minutes per week
- no session less than 20 minutes
- can include morning sessions, starting no earlier than 30 minutes before the start of the teacher day, lasting no longer than 30 minutes.
- Must include one afternoon session not to exceed 40 minutes
- May include a virtual session between 6:30pm-9:30pm, not to exceed 40 minutes.

Teachers must keep a log of extra help attendance.

Questions? →

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