

## TABCO MASTER AGREEMENT

# HOT TOPICS

ISSUE 25

### Master Agreement Language

#### *Physical Property and Materials*

##### *Grade Books*

**10.16** *Each teacher shall be provided with a grade book that shall remain the property of the school system, and a planning book that shall become the property of the teacher.*

##### *Manuals and Workbooks*

**10.17** *A copy of texts and workbooks and, whenever available, the teacher's manual for the texts and workbooks, for the individual use of the teacher will be provided for each subject or course he/she is teaching. Such materials shall be available to the teacher in advance whenever possible.*

##### *Desks, Chairs, Files, etc.*

**10.18** *Each teacher shall be provided with a serviceable desk with keys, an adult chair and, if requested, a filing cabinet. It is the goal of the school system that classroom access to a computer, a network printer, and the internet is made available for each teacher. In addition, the necessary instructional supplies and materials in adequate amounts as needed in the program, shall be furnished.*

##### *Carts*

**10.19** *The Board shall provide an adequate supply of carts in each school, where necessary, to be used by floating teachers to move materials and supplies.*

##### *Copying Materials*

**10.20** *Each school shall be provided with serviceable copying equipment and adequate supplies of proper copying materials in quantities to deliver the curriculum.*

##### *Supplies*

**10.21** *The Board recognizes its responsibility to provide adequate supplies and textbooks and to coordinate the ordering of textbooks and materials with curriculum changes. In the event that supplies are not received when needed, an emergency order procedure will apply. In the event that the use of this procedure will result in a more than two-week delay in instruction, the chief administrator at the place of instruction is empowered, if authorized by the Manager of Purchasing, to obtain the needed supplies, materials, or equipment from immediate sources.*

**10.21.1** *The Board shall continue to implement the plan to bring all libraries up to present state standards.*

**10.21.2** *The Board agrees that all supplies and materials will be equitably distributed among schools and teachers based on the needs of various schools and programs.*

## **So what does this mean for you?**

In many schools, BCPS relies on teachers to purchase classroom supplies, overhead markers, color paper, classroom calendars, magnetic clips, items for science experiments, items for behavior incentives, and the list goes on.

Nationally it is estimated that teachers spend between \$500 and \$1000 a year on classroom materials and even more in the lower grades. **We need to stop!** Not only do many in BCPS expect teachers to pay for items, but this year in particular they did not budget for cost-of-living salary increases. As TABCO and all members continue to work to secure salary increases, we need to now budget for ourselves and place the responsibility to purchase needed classroom supplies back on BCPS.

The above contractual language provides you the right to expect BCPS to pay for items needed to deliver the curriculum. Pay close attention to the last sentence in Article 10.18. We suggest each teacher, grade level, and/or department make a list of items needed to effectively deliver the BCPS curriculum. Then provide that list to your administration either before you leave for the summer or within the first few days back in August. The administration will know in advance in order to plan the purchase of items before you get to those units of study.

Additionally, when designing bulletin boards, behavior incentives, etc, try to use items that won't cost you money and ask your administrators to help supplement the non-instructional items used in your classroom. This is especially true if an administrator makes the expectation of what should be in your classrooms or what should be used as behavior incentives.

**No longer should teachers feel obligated to purchase materials or use household items to supplement BCPS curriculum and school based initiatives.**

**If your rights are being violated or if you have questions regarding any items delineated in the Master Agreement, please contact your TABCO Association Representative at your site or contact your TABCO UniServ Director at 410-828-6403.**

**You are a part of TEAM TABCO and together we are strong!**