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OPTIONAL WORKSHEET

PARENTING PLAN

General Instructions: Check as many options as desired and/or add options of your own.

I. Premise and Purpose of Parenting Plan: The following parenting plan was jointly created by _____ for the benefit of their child(ren):

A. Premise of Parenting Plan: This parenting plan is based upon the parties' joint recognition that each will be parenting the above child(ren) for the rest of his or her life and that it is in the best interests of the child(ren)'s psychological, emotional and physical well-being that both parents continue to share parenting responsibilities and privileges.

B. Purpose of Parenting Plan: The purpose of this parenting plan is to:

_____ give the child(ren) the best possible upbringing, assisting them to become healthy and happy adults

_____ minimize the consequences to the child(ren) of the parents' divorce

_____ honor and support the child(ren)'s relationship with each parent

_____ allow each parent to bring his or her particular parenting skills and/or interests to parenting of the child(ren)

_____ assure that all parenting decisions and actions are in the best interests of the child(ren)

_____ other – describe:

II. Exchange of Information: Exchange of Information as outlined in Appendix A shall be incorporated into this parenting plan. In addition to the provisions of Appendix A, each parent shall provide directly to the other parent, as soon as practicable by a means previously agreed to by the parties, any and all of the following information about the child(ren) as soon as such information is received by him or her unless the parent has made separate arrangements with a third party to secure this information:

_____ school report cards and all other written or oral evaluations of the child(ren)'s school performance; and

- _____ school calendars; and
- _____ written or oral notification that the child has been or is being reprimanded or disciplined by his or her school; and
- _____ any written or oral information provided by the child(ren)'s medical, dental, and psychological care providers regarding significant medical, dental or psychological concerns about a child; and
- _____ information that the child is taking a medication and, if the child will be under the care of the other parent while taking the medication, the medication and the schedule for taking it; and
- _____ current membership cards and plan descriptions for all medical and dental insurance coverage on the child(ren); and
- _____ any written or oral communications regarding the child's religious training or participation in the rights of a particular church; and
- _____ schedules for any sports programs, music and other lessons, and other organized activities, and any written or oral evaluations of the child(ren)'s performance in same.
- _____ other—describe:

In the event either parent is uncertain as to whether a third party has provided the information they shall then provide the information.

III. Major Decision Making: Major decisions about the child(ren) shall be made under the following principles and in the following manner:

- A. Education:** Each parent will communicate with his/her child(ren)'s school(s) to remain informed about his/her child(ren)'s needs, progress, and special events including parent-teacher conferences. Each parent agrees to share information about his/her child(ren)'s school progress, behavior, and events with each other. Each parent realizes college or technical training is important and he/she will encourage and support his/her child(ren)'s efforts for further education.

Major decisions regarding the child(ren)'s education shall be made:

- _____ jointly by agreement of both parents; or

_____ by mother; or

_____ by father; or

_____ other – describe:

Major decisions in this area shall be defined as follows:

_____ selection of school(s)

_____ participation in special education programs provided by the school(s)

_____ attendance at summer school

_____ other – describe:

The parents have made the following arrangements for attending parent-teacher conferences:

The parents have the following agreement for attending school or extracurricular events their children participate in:

B. Religion and Cultural Heritage: The parents will discuss major religious and/or cultural events involving their child(ren) and major decisions about such will be made:

_____ jointly by agreement of both parents; or

_____ by mother; or

_____ by father; or

_____ other – describe:

Major decisions in this area shall be defined as follows:

- _____ participation in religious/cultural education
- _____ membership in a particular church or synagogue or cultural venue
- _____ participation in baptism, confirmation, bar/bat mitzvah, or other rites of a particular religion or cultural venue
- _____ attendance at a particular place of worship
- _____ other—describe:

C. Medical/Dental/Mental Health Care: The parents recognize the importance of providing their child(ren) with good health care. This may include dental, physical health and psychological/counseling services for their child(ren)'s guidance and behavioral health. The parents have discussed who will make appointments; attend appointments; receive reports; transport children, and how information will be conveyed to the other parent.

Major decisions regarding the child(ren)'s medical, dental and mental health care shall be made:

- _____ jointly by agreement of both parents; or
- _____ by mother; or
- _____ by father; or
- _____ other—describe:

Major decisions in this area shall be defined as follows:

- _____ selection of doctor, dentist, orthodontist, therapist or other health care provider

- _____ whether to proceed with non-emergency, elective surgery
- _____ whether to proceed with other significant medical or dental care
- _____ whether to obtain orthodontic services
- _____ whether to obtain counseling, evaluation or other mental or psychological care for the child(ren)
- _____ other—describe:

C.1 Scheduling appointments: The parents agree that primary responsibility for scheduling appointments shall be as follows: _____

C.2 Emergencies: The parents agree that in cases of medical emergency, their child(ren) will be cared for as soon as possible and the other parent notified immediately. Therefore, each parent can consent to emergency medical treatment for his/her child(ren) as needed without waiting for the consent of the other parent.

_____ other – describe:

C.3 Mental Health Care: Once commenced, the duration of any counseling or other mental or psychological care shall be determined:

_____ jointly by agreement of both parents, after consideration of the recommendations of the mental or psychological care provider; or

_____ by mother; or

_____ by father; or

_____ other – describe:

In addition, each parent shall participate in the child(ren)'s mental or psychological care as recommended by the mental or psychological care provider.

D. Childcare: Major decisions regarding childcare required during one or both parents' regular work schedule shall be made:

_____ jointly by agreement of both parents; or

_____ by the parent who is responsible for the child(ren) at the time when such care is needed.

The parents have talked about childcare, including who chooses the childcare provider, picks up and/or drops off the child(ren), emergency contact information and who is able to visit the children at daycare. The parents have agreed as follows:

The parents recognize that as their child(ren) get older, they will need to review and make changes about alternate care; to agree on the age our children may be left alone and for how long their child(ren) may be left alone without supervision.

The parents have discussed who will be responsible for their child(ren) if the child(ren) are sick or need to stay home from daycare or school. The parents have agreed:

Major decisions in this area shall be defined as follows:

_____ selection of work-related childcare provider(s)

_____ other—describe:

E. Guidelines, Expectations, Consequences and Discipline: Major decisions regarding guidelines and/or expectations for the child(ren) and consequences and/or discipline for major infractions shall be made:

_____ jointly by agreement of both parents; or

_____ by the parent who is responsible for the children at the time when such care is needed.

Major decisions in this area shall be defined as follows:

_____ describe:

_____ describe:

_____ describe:

F. Sports Programs, Music and Other Lessons, and Other Organized Activities: Major decisions regarding the child(ren)'s participation in sports programs, music and other lessons, and other organized activities outside the regular school day shall be made:

_____ jointly by agreement of both parents; or

_____ by mother; or

_____ by father; or

_____ by the parent who will be responsible for the child(ren) when the activity is scheduled to occur.

_____ other – describe:

Major decisions in this area shall be defined as follows:

_____ Whether the child(ren) shall participate or continue to participate in a particular sports program; and

_____ Whether the child(ren) shall take or continue to take music or other lessons or classes; and

_____ Whether the child(ren) shall participate or continue to participate in the following activities:

When making decisions in the above area jointly by agreement of both parents, each parent shall provide to the other parent any and all information, which s/he may have about the activity under consideration. Such information shall include the cost of the activity and any equipment required for the activity, the regular schedule for the activity, any possible additions to the activity and the unexpected cost of same (such as tournaments, competitions and tours), and any possible out of town travel associated with the activity.

G. All Other Decisions: Decisions, which are not included above, shall be made by either parent. However, a parent shall not enroll the child(ren) in any activities, which are scheduled to occur during the time when the other parent is responsible for the children, without the agreement of the other parent.

IV. Communication:

A. Regularly Scheduled Communication: In addition to the sharing of information and decision-making described above, the parents shall communicate regularly about the child(ren) and such communication shall include the following:

_____ non-urgent changes to parenting time schedule

_____ updates on the child(ren)'s activities

_____ sharing of new developments in the child(ren)'s life/lives

_____ sharing of new developments in a parent's life which may affect the child(ren)

_____ discussion of any problems with the child(ren)

_____ agreement on any joint discipline

This regular communication shall occur by means of:

- _____ a weekly telephone conversation on _____ day at ___:00 a.m./p.m., which shall be initiated by _____; or
- _____ a biweekly telephone conversation on every other _____ day at ___:00 a.m./p.m., which shall be initiated by _____; or
- _____ a monthly meeting on the first _____ day of the month at ___:00 a.m./p.m., at _____; or
- _____ at least weekly voice mail messages left for Mother on her home/work/cell phone and left for Father on his home/work/cell phone; or
- _____ at least weekly e-mail messages sent by each parent to the other; or
- _____ exchange of a “Co-Parenting Journal”; or
- _____ other—describe:

If either parent will be unavailable for the scheduled telephone conversation or meeting, s/he shall advise the other parent in advance and suggest an alternate time.

B. Urgent Communications: Urgent communications about the parenting time schedule, child(ren)’s illness or accident, or other urgent matters shall be sent by:

C. Guidelines for Communication: The parents desire that all communications between them be respectful and positive. To that end, in their communications:

- _____ the parents trust that their communications will be positive and respectful and do not need any guidelines for communications.
- _____ the parents shall focus on the present matter at hand, or plan for the future, but shall not talk about the past except in a positive manner or in counseling or mediation.

- _____ the parents shall focus on the solutions to a particular problem, rather than the problem, and shall each suggest solutions which s/he believes are in the best interest of the child(ren) and will be acceptable to the other parent.
- _____ the parents shall talk about one problem at a time and not complicate that item by adding other problems or concerns.
- _____ each parent shall refrain from critical, disrespectful or hurtful words, sounds or body language.
- _____ if a particular conversation starts to feel negative, critical or too difficult to either parent, the parents shall immediately move to another subject which can be discussed in a positive, respectful manner, or terminate the conversation.
- _____ if the parents find that they cannot resolve a particular problem, they shall use the Dispute Resolution Process described below.
- _____ the child(ren) shall not be introduced to any persons who are significant others or sexual partners of either parent without agreement of parents.

V. Attendance at and Participation in Child(ren)'s Activities: The parents shall attend, participate in and be responsible for the child(ren)'s sporting events, school open houses and performances, and other activities as follows (check the following options which apply and circle the appropriate words):

_____ **Sports:** both parents/Mother/Father shall be entitled and encouraged to attend games and practices and/or coach for any sports in which the child(ren) participate.

_____ **Music Lessons:** Both parents/Mother/Father shall be entitled and encouraged to attend lessons and rehearsals and recitals for any music lessons' programs in which the child(ren) participate(s).

_____ **Clubs and Other Organizations:** Both parents/Mother/Father shall be entitled and encouraged to attend events related to and to lead or be the regularly participating parent for clubs or other organizations in which the child(ren) participate, including (name clubs or organizations in which the child(ren) currently participate or are expected to participate in the future):

VI. Family Relationships: The parents recognize their child(ren) will benefit from maintaining ties with extended family members and other people important to them. The parents agree that each parent will take primary responsibility for maintaining these relationships and accommodate changes in the parenting schedule for special family occasions.

_____ except the child(ren) shall not have contact with _____.

_____ except the child(ren) shall not be left alone with _____.

VII. Well-Being of Children: Children need both of their parents' love and support to help them through the process of divorce. The parents shall leave their child(ren) out of adult discussions about this parenting plan and all other aspects of the parents' separation/divorce/break-up.

The parents want their child(ren) to feel secure. One way the parents can support that is to establish consistent expectations and routines.

Homework: _____

Curfew: _____

Bedtime: _____

Phone Restrictions: _____

Chores: _____

Other: _____

VIII. Allocation of Child(ren)'s Expenses: The parents agree that each has an obligation to financially support their child(ren), in lieu of one parent paying child support to the other, the parties agree that it is in their child(ren)'s best interests for the issue of child support to be reserved and for the parents to allocate their children's expenses in the following manner:

_____ Necessary expenses such as basic clothing, personal hygiene supplies, co-pays, prescriptions shall be at the expense of the parent who is responsible for the child(ren) at the time the expense is incurred; extraordinary expenses such as winter coats, sports equipment, camp, day care, musical instruments, orthodontics, eyeglasses, and major medical or dental expenses shall be incurred by agreement of the parents and at the shared expense of the parents.

_____ The parties shall share equally in all expenses of the child(ren) including but not limited to all clothing, personal hygiene supplies, toys, books, sports equipment, camp, day care, musical instruments, orthodontics, eyeglasses, major medical or dental expenses and on a monthly basis the parents shall exchange receipts for all the children's expenses and reimburse each other accordingly.

_____ Expenses such as food, personal hygiene supplies, entertainment and allowances shall be at the sole expense of the parent who is responsible for the children at the

time the expense is incurred. Expenses such as clothing, toys, books, school supplies, school lunches, school field trips, miscellaneous school expenses; memberships, and subscriptions shall be shared equally by the parties. In addition, extraordinary expenses such as sports equipment, camp, day care, musical instruments, and extracurricular sports shall be incurred by agreement of the parties and shall be shared equally by the parties. The parties shall exchange receipts for all the children's expenses on a monthly basis and reimburse each other accordingly.

_____ Expenses such as babysitting; school lunches; school expenses; memberships, subscriptions, pet expenses, gifts; birthday parties; personal hygiene supplies; entertainment; recreation; allowances; co-pays; and prescriptions shall be at the expense of the parent who is responsible for the children at the time the expense is incurred.

_____ Expenses such as clothing; health insurance premiums; dental insurance premiums; un-reimbursed major medical, dental, ocular, orthodontic, mental health or dermatology expenses; daycare; school pictures; field trips; extracurricular sports; sports equipment; camp; extracurricular activities; musical instruments; music lessons; private lessons; tutoring; cell phone/pager; and transportation expenses such as car payment, gasoline, car insurance and car maintenance shall be incurred by agreement of the parents and shall be shared equally by the parents. Neither parent shall unreasonably withhold consent to purchases for the children.

On March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 of each year, each parent shall submit to the other parent an accounting of the shared expenses that parent has incurred on behalf of the minor children during the last three months including copies of receipts. The shared expenses incurred by both parents for each quarter shall be added together and divided by two (2). The parent who has contributed to most to the children's expenses shall be the obligee party for that quarter and the parent who contributed less shall be the obligor party for that quarter. For example:

If Petitioner's total shared expenses for the minor children for the first quarter of 2004 is \$3,000.00; and Respondent's total shared expenses for the minor children for the first quarter of 2004 is \$5,000.00; total shared expenses equals \$8,000.00 (\$3,000.00 + \$5,000.00) and each parent is responsible for one-half or \$4,000.00 (\$8,000.00 divided by 2 = \$4,000.00). As such, for the first quarter of 2004, Petitioner is the obligor and shall pay Respondent \$1,000.00.

The obligor parent shall reimburse the obligee parent within thirty (30) days for his/her share of the children's expenses. If the obligor party does not reimburse the obligee party within thirty (30) days, said expense will be collected as child support arrears.

_____ other—describe: _____

IX. Clothing and Personal Hygiene Supplies: The parents agree their child(ren) will need clothing and personal hygiene supplies in both parental homes. The agree to provide them in the following way:

X. Child(ren)'s Residence, Parenting Time Schedule and Parenting Responsibilities

___ The parenting schedule indicates the parents' agreement for the scheduling of time that the child(ren) spends with each parent.

___ The parents recognize there will be times the schedule will need to be changed because of changes in their lives and the lives of their child(ren). The parents agree to be open to make adjustments.

___ The parents recognize decision-making is an important part of parenting. The parents agree that the parent their child(ren) are with (the "on-duty" parent) will make decisions about his/her day-to-day care.

___ The parents agree to treat each other as they would like to be treated themselves regarding being notified with as much advance notice as possible of any schedule changes and being on time.

___ The parents agree that if a parent named in this parenting plan is unable to care for the child(ren) for a period of ___ hours, the other parent shall have the option of the residential placement of the child(ren). If unable to exercise that option, the residential parent will make other suitable childcare arrangements as otherwise provided in this agreement.

A. Residence: The child(ren)'s residence shall be:

___ primarily at Mother's home; or

___ primarily at Father's home; or

___ at both parent's homes

(Complete the next section if residence is **primarily** at one parent's home.)

B. Parenting Time Schedule: The child(ren) shall be with _____
(the parent who's home is not the primary residence) and that parent shall be responsible for the child(ren):

_____ according to a schedule agreed upon by the parents from time to time; or

_____ according to the schedule described as follows:

B.1 Weekend time: (check one option, fill in the blanks and circle the appropriate words)

_____ alternate weekends from __:00 a.m./p.m. on ___ day (before/after dinner) to __:00 a.m./p.m. on ___ day (after/before dinner), commencing on the weekend of _____, 200_.

_____ every weekend from __:00 a.m./p.m. on ___ day (before/after dinner) to __:00 a.m./p.m. on ___ day (before/after dinner), commencing on the weekend of _____, 200_.

B.2 Weekday time: (check one option, fill in the blanks and circle the correct words)

_____ every M/T/W/TH/F from __:00 a.m./p.m. to __:00 a.m./p.m. on the same day, which shall/shall not include dinner.

_____ every M/T/W/TH/F from __:00 a.m./p.m. to __:00 a.m./p.m. on the following day.

_____ alternate M/T/W/TH/F from __:00 a.m./p.m. to __:00 a.m./p.m. on the same day, which shall/shall not include dinner.

_____ alternate M/T/W/TH/F from __:00 a.m./p.m. to __:00 a.m./p.m. on the following day.

_____ other—describe:

B.3 Summers: (check one of the following options)

_____ the summer parenting time schedule shall be the same as the school year schedule; or

_____ the summer parenting time schedule shall be as follows:

_____ every M/T/W/Th/F from __:00 a.m./p.m. to __:00 a.m./p.m. on M/T/W/Th/F; or

_____ alternate M/T/W/Th/F from __:00 a.m./p.m. to __:00 a.m./p.m. on the same day

_____ other—describe:

B.4 Parenting Time with and Responsibility of Parent with Whom Children Primarily Reside: The parent with whom the child(ren) primarily reside shall be responsible for the child(ren) at all times when the other parent is not scheduled to be with the child(ren).

(Complete the next section if residence is at **both** parents' homes.)

C. Parenting Time Schedule: The parenting time and responsibility shall be:

_____ as scheduled by mutual agreement of the parents from time to time, considering the child(ren)'s schedule and needs; or

_____ according to the following schedule (use the following as examples of possible schedules and check the appropriate option, also selecting the correct words, or describe your own schedule); or

_____ as scheduled by mutual agreement of the parents from time to time, considering the child(ren)'s schedule and needs, with the initial schedule being the following schedule (use the following as examples of possible schedules and check the appropriate option, also selecting the correct words, or describe your own schedule); or

C.1 _____ Split Week Schedule: The child(ren) shall be with Mother and Mother shall be responsible for his/her/their care every week from M/T/W/Th/F/S/Su at __ a.m./p.m. (or _____) until __ day at __ a.m./p.m. (or _____). The child(ren) shall be with Father and Father shall be responsible for his/her/their care every week from M/T/W/Th/F/S/Su at __ a.m./p.m. (or _____) until M/T/W/Th/F/S/Su at __ a.m./p.m. (or _____).

(If desired, choose the correct words and insert, in the parentheses above, "before school/daycare" and/or "after school/daycare" as alternate starting and ending times above.)

C.2 **“5-5-2-2” Schedule:** The child(ren) shall be with Mother/Father every week from Monday at ___ a.m./p.m. until Wednesday at ___ a.m./p.m. and the child(ren) shall be with _____ (the other parent) every week from Wednesday at ___ a.m./p.m. until Friday at ___ a.m./p.m. (check one of the following two options).

C.3 **Weekend ends on Monday morning:** Mother shall have the children on alternate weekends from Friday at ___ a.m./p.m. until Monday at ___ a.m./p.m., commencing _____. Father shall have the children on alternate weekends from Friday at ___ a.m./p.m. until Monday at ___ a.m./p.m., commencing _____.

C.4 **Weekend ends on Sunday evening:** Mother shall have the children on alternate weekends from Friday at ___ a.m./p.m. until Sunday at ___ a.m./p.m., commencing _____. Father shall have the children on alternate weekends from Friday at ___ a.m./p.m. until Sunday at ___ a.m./p.m., commencing _____.

C.5 **Alternating Week Schedule:** The children shall be with Mother and Mother shall be responsible for his/her/their care every other week from M/T/W/Th/F/S/Su at ___ a.m./p.m. (or _____) until M/T/W/Th/F/S/Su at ___ a.m./p.m. (or _____), commencing _____. The child(ren) shall be with Father and Father shall be responsible for his/her/their care every other week on the same schedule as set forth above, commencing _____.

C.6 **Other**—describe:

D. Telephone and E-Mail Contact: Each parent may have telephone contact with the child(ren) when she/he/they are with the other parent (check as many options as desired and fill in the blanks):

_____ at any time

_____ at any time between the hours of ___ a.m./p.m. and ___ a.m./p.m.

_____ up to _____ times per day/week

_____ up to _____ times per day/week between the hours of _____ a.m./p.m. and _____ a.m./p.m.

If the child(ren) are out of town with one parent, the other parent may telephone the child(ren) as agreed between the parents.

In addition, each parent may send e-mails to the child(ren) if the child(ren) have his/her/their own e-mail accounts.

E. Holiday Parenting Time Schedule: The holiday parenting time schedule shall be:

_____ the same as the parenting time schedule set forth above.

_____ as set forth in Section **XVII, Holiday and School Vacation Days Schedule**. Holidays not included on the attached list shall either be agreed upon by the parties or according to the parenting time schedule set forth above. Holidays included on the attached list shall supercede the parenting time schedule set forth above; or

_____ as agreed between the parents from time to time with the agreement regarding each holiday to be made _____ days in advance of the holiday; or

_____ other—describe:

F. Parenting Time Schedule for Child(ren)'s School Vacation Days: The parenting time schedule for school vacation days (other than summer) shall be:

_____ the same as the parenting time schedule set forth above; or

_____ as set forth in Section **XVII, Holiday and School Vacation Days Schedule**. School vacation days not included on the attached list shall either be agreed upon by the parties or according to the parenting time schedule set forth above. School vacation days included on the attached list shall supercede the parenting time schedule set forth above; or

_____ other—describe:

G. Travel and Vacation Schedule: The parents agree that their child(ren) is/are entitled to spend enjoyable vacation time with each parent. The parents have discussed the following ways that they will support their child(ren)'s vacation

planning (check one or more of the following options, fill in the blanks and circle the correct words):

G.1 Notice: The parents agree to give the other parent the following advance notice before the anticipated vacation date, if the vacation affects the usual parenting schedule or holiday schedule:

G.2 Agreement: The parents agree to the following process of determining vacation time with their children:

_____ each parent/Mother/Father shall be entitled to take the child(ren) out of town as often as desired on his or her scheduled parenting time or at other times agreed upon between the parents; or

_____ each parent/Mother/Father shall be entitled to take the child(ren) out of town for up to a total of ___ days/weeks per year, and this out of town time shall supercede the above parenting time schedule; or

_____ each parent/Mother/Father shall be entitled to take vacation time without the child(ren) (out of town or at home) during his/her scheduled parenting time and the other parent shall be responsible for the child(ren) for up to ___ days/weeks per year. Such vacation time shall be at times agreed upon between the parents.

Neither parent shall tell the child(ren) about a proposed vacation for the child(ren) without first discussing the dates and destination with the other parent.

G.3 Transportation: The parents agree to the following vacation transportation plan:

G.4 Emergency Contact During Vacation: Each parent will supply the other with emergency contact information for vacation periods as follows:

G.5 Non-Emergency Vacation Telephone Contact Between Children and Other Parent: The child(ren) shall contact the other parent during vacation time as follows:

H. Additional Parenting Time: In addition to the above parenting and responsible time and above participation in child(ren)'s activities, _____ (the non-residential parent) shall have additional parenting and responsible time as agreed between the parents considering the child(ren)'s schedule and needs.

I. Transportation and Locations: Responsibility for transporting the child(ren) between parents shall be:

_____ as agreed between the parents from time to time; or

_____ the sole responsibility of Mother/Father, unless otherwise agreed; or

_____ other—describe:

The child(ren) shall be picked up and dropped off at the other parent's home or at school or daycare, whichever is appropriate unless otherwise agreed.

XI. Temporary Changes to Parenting Time Schedule:

A. Responsible Parent Unable to Care for the Child(ren): If the parent who is scheduled to be responsible for the child(ren) is not able to be with and care for the child(ren), (check one of the following options and fill in the blank):

_____ for more than ___ hours, s/he shall be responsible for arranging alternate care for the child(ren).

_____ for more than ___ hours, s/he shall first ask the other parent to care for the child(ren). If the other parent is not able to care for the child(ren), the parent who is scheduled to be responsible for the child(ren) shall be responsible for arranging alternate care for the child(ren); or

_____ the other parent shall be responsible for the child(ren); or

_____ other—describe:

B. Notice Requirements: If a parent cannot be with and care for the child(ren) at a time when s/he is scheduled to be responsible for the child(ren), s/he shall notify the other parent as soon as s/he knows of this situation, but – absent emergency – no later than (fill in the blank) ___ hours/days in advance of the scheduled time. (Check one of the following options if desired:)

___ After notifying the other parent, s/he shall also notify the child(ren); or

___ The parent unable to be with and care for the child(ren) is responsible for making suitable childcare arrangements and their costs.

C. Occasional Changes to Parenting Time Schedule: If a parent desires to make a one time or short-term temporary change in the above parenting time schedule, the other parent shall cooperate to the extent possible, considering the child(ren)'s needs. The parent desiring the change shall not inform the child(ren) about the change until the parents have agreed to the change.

D. Provision of Work Schedule: (optional—check following option if desired, fill in the blanks and circle the correct words)

___ Mother/Father/both parents shall provide the other parent with his/her/their work schedule(s) for the following ___ weeks/months (check one of the following options):

___ by the ___ day of the previous week/month

___ as soon as the schedule is available.

XII. Permanent Modification of Schedule: The parents shall consider permanent or long-term temporary modifications to the parenting time schedule (option can be different for different children):

___ when one parent or a child requests such consideration; or

___ every ___ year(s) on or before _____ of that year; of

___ when _____ (name of child) reaches the age of ___; or

___ other—describe:

If the parents agree on a permanent or long-term temporary modification to the parenting time schedule, they shall:

- _____ record the change in writing, signed and dated by each parent; or
- _____ execute a Stipulation for Modification to the Decree of Dissolution prepared by one of their attorneys.

If one parent desires a permanent or long-term temporary modification to the parenting time schedule and the parents cannot agree, they shall use the Dispute Resolution Process set forth below.

XIII. Moving: If either parent desires to move outside the child(ren)'s School District/the Twin Cities Metropolitan area/the State of Minnesota/ _____, and either parent believes that such move will require a change in the parenting schedule, the parents shall use the following process:

XIV. Relationships and Contact with Significant Others:

- _____ The child(ren) shall not be introduced to any persons who are significant others or sexual partners of either parent without agreement of parents; or
- _____ The child(ren) shall not be introduced to any persons who are significant others or sexual partners of either parent until the following date: _____; or
- _____ The child(ren) shall not be introduced to any persons who are significant others or sexual partners until the neutral parenting expert recommends that it is appropriate to do so; or
- _____ The child(ren) may be introduced to any persons who are significant others or sexual partners. However, the parents shall follow the recommendations of the neutral parenting expert as to how to do so; or
- _____ Both parents understand that it is in the best interest of the child(ren) to support the child(ren)'s relationship with any new spouse or partner or long-term significant other of the other parent and shall make all reasonable efforts to do so.

XV. Dispute Resolution: In the event of a dispute regarding any aspects of this parenting plan, preference shall be given to carrying out this parenting plan. Except in the case of an emergency, the parents shall attempt to resolve all disputes on their own, considering the Guidelines for Communication set forth above. If they are unable to do so, they shall use the following process:

_____ They shall mediate the dispute with _____ or another mutually agreed upon mediator before either party schedules a motion before the Court or retains an adverse (as opposed to neutral) parenting expert; or

_____ If the parents are unable to resolve the dispute in one (or more, if mutually agreed upon) sessions with the mediator, the parents shall jointly consult with a neutral parenting expert who shall be selected by mutual agreement of the parents. If the parents are unable to agree on the parenting expert, the mediator shall provide a list of 5 neutral parenting experts, each parent may strike 2 experts and the remaining individual shall be the neutral parenting expert to be used in this particular matter; or

_____ If the parents are still unable to resolve the dispute, they shall retain a mutually agreed upon parenting expert and ask the expert to evaluate the child(ren)'s needs and recommend to the parents the solution which would be in the best interests of the child(ren).

XVI. Designation of Custodian: A final judgment and decree that includes a parenting plan using alternate terms to designate decision-making responsibilities or allocation of residential time between the parents must designate whether the parents have joint legal custody or joint physical custody or which parent has sole legal or sole physical custody, or both. This designation is solely for the enforcement of the final judgment and decree where this designation is required for that enforcement and has no effect under the laws of this state, any other state, or another country that do not require this designation. Minn. Stat. § 518.1705, Subd. 4.

Designation of custodian pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 518.1705, Subd. 4 is as follows:
Legal custody of the child(ren) shall be _____. Physical custody of the child(ren) shall be _____.

XVII. Holidays:

A. Definitions:

New Years Day: Observed on January 1st.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day: Observed on the third Monday in January

Valentines Day: Observed on February 14th.

President's Day: Observed on the third Monday in February.

Ash Wednesday: Falls forty-six days prior to Easter Sunday.

St. Patrick's Day: March 17th of each year.

Palm Sunday: The Sunday immediately before Easter Sunday.

Passover: Date varies and is determined based upon the Jewish Calendar.

Good Friday: The Friday immediately before Easter Sunday.

Easter: Easter is the Sunday after the Pascal Full Moon. The Pascal Full Moon may occur from March 21 through April 18th inclusive. Therefore, the date of Easter is from March 22nd through April 25th, inclusive.

Mother's Day: Observed on the second Sunday in May.

Memorial Day: Observed on the last Monday in May.

Father's Day: Observed on the third Sunday in June.

Independence Day: July 4th of each year.

Labor Day: Observed on the first Monday in September.

Rosh Hashanah: Date varies and is determined based upon the Jewish Calendar.

Yom Kippur: Date varies and is determined based upon the Jewish Calendar.

Columbus Day: Observed on the second Monday in October.

Veteran's Day: November 11th of each year.

Thanksgiving Day: Observed on the fourth Thursday in November.

Hanukkah: Date varies and is determined based upon the Jewish Calendar.

Christmas: December 25th of each year.

B. Holiday and School Visitation Days Schedule:

The following holiday schedule supercedes the usual ongoing parenting schedule.

	Time Period	Odd Numbered Years	Even Numbered Years
Child's _____	Birthday – Date:		
Child's _____	Birthday – Date:		
Child's _____	Birthday – Date:		
Child's _____	Birthday – Date:		
Mom's Birthday – Date:			
Dad's Birthday – Date:			
New Year's Eve and Day			
Martin Luther King Day			
Valentine's Day			
President's Day			
Ash Wednesday			
St. Patrick's Day			
Energy Break/Spring Break			
Palm Sunday			
Passover			
Good Friday			
Easter Sunday			
Mother's Day			
Memorial Day *			
Father's Day			
July 4 th			
Labor Day *			
Rosh Hashanah			
Columbus Day			
MEA Weekend			
Halloween			
Veteran's Day			
Thanksgiving *			
Hanukkah			
Christmas Eve			
Christmas Day			
Winter Break			

* indicate if all weekend

OPTIONAL WORKSHEET

We agree that physical placement of our children shall be: _____

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday