

4120 - EMPLOYMENT OF CLASSIFIED ~~STAFF~~

The Board of Education recognizes that it is vital to the successful operation of the District that positions created by the Board be filled with qualified and competent personnel.

The Board shall approve the employment, and also, when not covered by the terms of a negotiated, collectively-bargained agreement, fix the compensation and establish the term of employment for each classified staff member employed by the Board.

Individuals employed in the following categories shall be considered members of the classified staff:

- A. custodian
- B. cooks
- C. bus drivers

- D. mechanics
- E. aides
- F. secretaries
- G. maintenance

Such approval shall be given only to those candidates for employment recommended by the Superintendent.

All applications for employment shall be referred to the completed online.

Relatives of Board members may be employed by the Board, provided a member of the Board does not participate in any way in the discussion or vote on the employment when a conflict of interest is involved.

Relatives of staff members may be employed by the Board, provided the staff member being employed is not placed in a position in which s/he is supervised directly by the relative staff member.

Applications for employment will not be accepted from any current Board member. If a Board member wishes to apply for a position, his/her resignation must be accepted by the Board prior to submitting an application, and the Board member must not use or attempt to use his/her official authority or influence to secure the employment position.

Any classified staff member's intentional misstatement of fact material to his/her qualifications for employment or the determination of salary shall be considered by this Board to constitute grounds for dismissal.

The employment of classified staff members prior to approval by the Board is authorized when their employment is required to maintain continuity in District operations. Employment shall be recommended to the Board at the next regular meeting.

When appropriate, no candidate for employment as a classified staff member shall receive recommendation for such employment without having proffered visual evidence of proper certification/licensure or that application for such certification/licensure is in process.

Classified staff members also must pass a background check performed by the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (see Policy 4121).

The Superintendent shall prepare procedures for the recruitment and selection of all classified staff.

REQUIREMENTS FOR TITLE I PARAPROFESSIONAL

Educational aides/paraprofessionals assigned to provide academic support in a core subject area to any student in any program supported by Title I funds must be properly certified as required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended ("ESEA") and State law. A properly certified paraprofessional is defined as an individual who holds a valid educational aide permit and who meets at least one (1) of the following criteria:

- A. has a designation of "ESEA qualified" on the educational aide permit
- B. has successfully completed at least two (2) years of coursework at an accredited institution of higher education
- C. holds an associate degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education
- D. meets a rigorous standard of quality as demonstrated by attainment of a qualifying score on an academic assessment specified by the department of education

"Core subject areas" include Reading, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language, and Fine Arts.

Employment of all paraprofessionals hired for a Title I supported program must have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent and one of the following:

- A. Completed two (2) years study at an institution of higher education; or
- B. Obtained at least an associates degree; or
- C. Met a rigorous standard of quality and demonstrate through formal State or local academic assessments
 1. knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing, reading, writing and mathematics; or
 2. knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing, reading readiness, writing readiness and mathematics readiness, as appropriate.

Exceptions - These requirements do not apply to a paraprofessional:

- A. Who is proficient in English and a second language and serves as a translator primarily to enhance the participation of children in Title I programs; or
- B. Whose duties consist solely of conducting parental involvement activities.

Paraprofessional duties - Paraprofessionals working for a Title I supported program may be assigned to duties not inconsistent with the following:

- A. providing one-on-one tutoring for eligible students during times when the teacher would not otherwise be instructing the student;
- B. assisting with classroom management, such as organizing instructional and other materials;

Comment [WU1]: policy has been revised to replace reference to "highly qualified" as previously required, with current Ohio licensure requirements.

These revisions reflect the current ODE licensure requirements and should be adopted to maintain accurate policies.

- C. providing assistance in a computer laboratory;
- D. providing support in a library or media center;
- E. conducting parental involvement activities;
- F. acting as a translator;
- G. provide instructional services to students, if working under the direct supervision of a teacher; a paraprofessional will be considered to be working under the "direct supervision" of a teacher if the:
 - 1. teacher plans the instructional activities that the paraprofessional carries out;
 - 2. teacher evaluates the achievement of the students with whom the paraprofessional is working;
 - 3. paraprofessional works in close and frequent physical proximity to the teacher;
- H. performing limited duties beyond classroom instruction or that do not benefit program participants, so long as those duties are also assigned to non-Title I paraprofessionals. Title I paraprofessionals may not be assigned to more of these duties, proportional to their total work time, than the amount assigned to similar non-Title I paraprofessionals in the same school.

The Superintendent shall report State certification and licensure status for every paraprofessional at least annually in accordance with State and Federal law. At the start of the school year, the Superintendent shall notify parents/guardians of each student enrolled in the District that they may request information about the professional qualifications of each paraprofessional who provides services to the student. Upon request of the parent/guardian, the District will provide information about each assigned paraprofessional in a timely manner. The information will include the qualifications of the paraprofessional(s) assigned to work with the student.

Confirmation of Licensure

No staff member employed in a position for which licensure is required (e.g. paraprofessional) may be paid until evidence of such appropriate licensure for the subject area, grade level, or position, etc. has been received by the Superintendent and transmitted to the Treasurer.

The provisions as set forth above do not apply to paraprofessionals providing non-instructional service such as providing technical support for computers, providing personal care services, or performing clerical duties.

R.C. ~~2909.34~~, 3319.074, 3319.081, 3319.082, 3319.39

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