

STUDENT TEACHER POLICY

Goals of Student Teaching Experience

- A. To provide for a concentrated period of growth in professional and personal attributes, understandings, and skills of the teacher;
- B. To assist a student to discover if teaching is what he/she really wants to do and actually can do; and
- C. To permit a student to demonstrate whether his/her ability and potential warrant recommendation for a teaching certificate.

General Characteristics

The potential cooperating teacher:

- A. Must desire to cooperate with a student teacher.
- B. The supervising staff member shall have had no less than three (3) years of successful experience in the area of assignment.
- C. Should not have more than one (1) student teacher during any one (1) academic school year. (All exceptions must be approved by the building principal and the Director of Human Resources.)
- D. Should feel secure while sharing authority for the class with the student teacher.
- E. Should demonstrate enthusiasm for teaching.
- F. Should be able to organize the classroom routine and activities so the transition to the student teacher is facilitated without interruption to the learning process.
- G. Should demonstrate a professional attitude and practice ethical principles of teaching and scholarship.

Cognitive Characteristics

The identified cooperating teacher should demonstrate strong cognitive abilities and professional growth in their:

- A. Academic discipline(s);

- B. Currentness in the discipline(s);
- C. Currentness of teaching methods in the academic field(s); and
- D. Willingness to innovate and experiment in the discipline(s) and methods.

Affective Characteristics

The identified cooperating teacher should possess strong affective qualities. This teacher should:

- A. Be able to establish good rapport with students, parents, and professionals in teaching.
- B. Display a flexible personality.
- C. Be willing to accept others as they are.
- D. Be able to accept criticism and criticize constructively.
- E. Be willing to permit the student teacher to innovate and experiment with new and/or different procedures.

Student Teacher Placement Procedure

- A. Application for student teaching must be sent to the Superintendent or designee from state-approved colleges or universities.
- B. Prospective student teachers will be notified when their application for student teaching is received in the office of the Superintendent or designee. Each prospective student teacher will be asked to arrange for an interview with the building principal where the assignment is requested. It is the responsibility of the applicant to call the building principal and arrange for the interview.
- C. After the interview the college or university will be notified of the acceptance/rejection of the assignment.
- D. The Superintendent or designee shall make the final placement of student teachers or administrative interns. The institution making the assignment shall provide ongoing supervision in a manner acceptable to the Superintendent.
- E. If at any time the quality of teaching or administrative internship is judged to be inferior or he/she is disruptive to the on-going program, the Superintendent may request withdrawal of that person from the program.

- F. Student teachers and administrative interns also must pass a background check performed by the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Compensation

No district employee shall accept compensation from a public or private college or university for (1) serving as a classroom mentor for a student teacher; (2) hosting a college or university student who is doing required field experience; or (3) administering the district's student teacher program. Compensation for such services may be paid by the district to district employees if agreed to by the parties.