Personnel

Teacher Placement

The Board of Education considers the appropriate placement of effective teachers as an essential ingredient in promoting student academic growth, in attaining successful educational outcomes for students, and in providing quality educational services.

For purposes of this policy, the term “teacher” shall refer to those employees of the District whose employment is regulated by the Teachers’ Tenure Act, MCL 38.71 et seq. The term “placement” shall include decisions involving the assignment and transfer of teachers, and teachers returning from unpaid leaves of absence, as well as decisions involving the filling of vacant teaching positions with on-staff teachers. These placement decisions are delegated to the Superintendent.

Placement does not include staffing decisions made in the context of recall of a teacher from layoff, which decision is governed by District Policy GCQA. Placement also excludes decisions to initially hire or to dismiss or non-renew a teacher, which determinations are reserved to the Board of Education and are not delegated under this Policy.

Teacher placement decisions shall be guided by the following standards:

1. These decisions will be premised on staffing the established curriculum with the most effective teachers who are certified and qualified to instruct the courses within the established curriculum, grades, and departments.

2. The District requires that “specials” teachers (Art, Music, Physical Education, etc.) be certified and endorsed in their specialized curriculum. Example: An elementary art teacher must be certified at the elementary level and have the art endorsement for that level.

3. All teachers must be properly certified (or otherwise approved or authorized) for all aspects of their assignment. The certification (or authorization/approval status, as applicable) of a teacher shall be determined by provisions of the Revised School Code, the Teacher Certification Code, the Michigan Department of Education’s Rules for Special Education Programs and Services and other applicable statutes or regulatory authority.

4. Teacher placement decisions shall also be made on the basis of a teacher’s qualifications, which shall be determined by the following standards:
a. Compliance with applicable state or federal regulatory standards, including, but not limited to, those standards established as a condition to receipt of foundation, grant or categorical funding.

b. Compliance with applicable accreditation requirements.

c. Assessment of the extent of a teacher’s professional training and academic preparation are relevant to an instructional assignment and are predictive of the teacher’s effectiveness in that assignment.

d. Assessment of the extent to which a teacher’s prior teaching experience is relevant to an instructional assignment and is predictive of the teacher’s effectiveness in that assignment.

5. In addition to certification and qualifications, teacher placement decisions shall be made on the basis of teacher effectiveness, as determined through the teacher effectiveness criteria established in Section 1248 of the Revised School Code and as articulated in Board Policy GCQA Teacher Reduction and Recall.

6. Unless otherwise required by law, teachers returning from an unpaid leave of absence will be placed in a teaching position in accordance with this policy. If a position is not available, the teacher will be laid off and will follow the provisions in Board Policy GCQA - Reduction and Recall. Returning from an unpaid leave of absence will be controlled by the district's overarching commitment to retaining the most effective teacher unless otherwise mandated by law.

MCL 380.11a, MCL 380.1233, MCL 423.215, MCL 388.1763, MCL 38.71 et seq.