# ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

**GBG** 

PERSONNEL
STAFF REDUCTIONS AND RECALLS
STAFFING, LAYOFF, AND RECALL OF TEACHERS

April 15, 2013
Reviewed 4/2021

Length of service or tenure status may only be considered by the administration when all other factors, as listed below, are considered equal amongst the potentially affected teachers.

The effectiveness of teachers shall be measured in accordance with the District's performance evaluation system developed under Section 1249 of the School Code, and the personnel decisions shall be based on the following factors:

- A. Individual performance shall be the majority factor in making the decision, and shall consist of but is not limited to all of the following:
  - 1. Evidence of student growth, which shall be the predominant factor in assessing an employee's individual performance.
  - 2. The teacher's demonstrated pedagogical skills, including at least a special determination concerning the teacher's knowledge of his or her subject area and the ability to impart that knowledge through planning, delivering rigorous content, checking for and building higher-level understanding, differentiating, and managing a classroom; and consistent preparation to maximize instructional time.
  - 3. The teacher's management of the classroom, manner and efficacy of disciplining students, rapport with parents/guardians and other teachers, and ability to withstand the strain of teaching.
  - 4. The teacher's attendance and disciplinary record, if any.
- B. Significant, relevant accomplishments and contributions. This factor shall be based on whether the individual contributes to the overall performance of the school by making clear, significant, relevant contributions above the normal expectations for an individual inhis or her peer group and having demonstrated a record of exceptional performance.
- C. Relevant special training. This factor shall be based on completion of relevant training other than the professional development or continuing education that is required by the employer or by state law, and integration of that training into instruction in a meaningful way.

A teacher who has been rated as "ineffective" under the performance evaluation system shallnot be given any preference that would result in the teacher being retained over a teacher whois evaluated as "minimally effective," "effective" or "highly effective" under the performance evaluation system.

## **Teacher Vacancies**

A teacher vacancy does not exist unless all the following criteria are met:

- The position is subject to Section 1249 of the Revised School Code;
- The vacancy position is posted by the School District in a manner which invites applicants.

A teacher vacancy may be created by the following, subject to approval by the Superintendent or designee:

- Transfer of an internal teaching candidate to a vacant position;
- A leave of absence is extended beyond sixty school days;
- Retirement, resignation, or other departure at the end of a school year or immediately prior to the start of a school year.
- An unplanned mid-year retirement, resignation, or other departure occurs which that will require a long-term substitute for sixty or more school days;
- The addition of a new classroom section.

No vacancy will be created when a position is first unfilled beginning in the second half of the school year, unless approved by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee may close any vacancy in their sole discretion at any time.

### Selection Process to Fill a Vacancy

- The Superintendent's or designee's most highly rated and qualified candidate will be selected for any vacancy.
- The top qualified internal candidate, plus other internal candidates in the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, may will be provided an opportunity to interview for any vacancy.
- In the event that an internal candidate is the most highly rated qualified candidate, before filling the vacancy with the internal candidate, The Superintendent or designee shall consider the likelihood of filling any vacancy created by the selection of the internal candidate and the impact such vacancy will have on the instructional program. If the Superintendent or designee determines the selection of the internal candidate will negatively impact the instructional program, the Superintendent or designee may select the next most highly rated and qualified candidate.

In the absence of a qualified candidate, the Superintendent or designee may select a candidate who best demonstrates the following: is able to obtain temporary or alternative credentialing to be qualified for the position, has demonstrated an exemplary commitment to a school community and its students, and possesses relevant knowledge and skills for the position.

- Ability to obtain temporary or alternative credentialing to be qualified for the position
- Commitment to the profession of teaching
- Commitment to the school community
- Commitment to the student body

# **Staffing Reductions**

A staffing reduction is the decision to eliminate curricular sections or positions that will result in a reduction in the hours worked (FTE) of one or more teachers. The Superintendent or designee has the sole authority to determine and conduct a staffing reduction.

The Superintendent or designee will conduct any staffing reduction based on the department and location, using following criteria:

- The District shall reduce staff starting with the teacher with the lowest Effectiveness
  Rating and proceeding toward the teacher with the highest Effectiveness Rating in the
  department, unless such reduction will result in a classroom section not having a
  certified teacher.
  - Evaluators of performance, as measured using the performance evaluation system required by law, will consider factors including, but not limited to, the following as prescribed by the evaluation tool: demonstrated pedagogical skills and content area knowledge, evidence of ability to successfully plan and deliver rigorous lessons, implementation of effective strategies for building higher-level thinking and differentiated instruction, classroom management, collaboration with colleagues, and other attributes/skills relevant to their teaching assignment.
- Teacher certification. In the absence of a teacher with appropriate certification, the School District may consider the ability to obtain an appropriate permit.
- The teacher's disciplinary record;
- The teacher's attendance record;
- Relevant special training, including completion of relevant training other than
  professional development or continued education that is required by the District or by
  state law, including the integration of that training into instruction in a meaningful way;
- The teacher's length of service in a grade level or subject area. The School District will
  only consider a teacher's continuous and current length of service in a grade level or
  subject area.

Teachers with no relevant special training, or service time with a particular teaching assignment are not qualified candidates for purposes of a staffing reduction and will only be considered for such placement if there are no other qualified candidates.

# **Program Reductions**

A program reduction is the decision to eliminate curricular courses or courses of study. The Superintendent or designee has the sole authority to determine and conduct a program reduction.

Upon the decision to implement a program reduction, the Superintendent or designee will review impacted staff and evaluate whether they are qualified, as defined by the Teacher Placement Procedure. Teachers with an effectiveness rating of effective or highly effective will displace others in another School District program with a rating other than effective or highly effective. ("Highly Effective" will remain a legal rating until July 1, 2024.)

#### **Recall Process**

A recall is when teachers that are placed on layoff become eligible to return to work at the School District.

The right to recall expires three years after the layoff becomes effective. Only teachers on layoff that are qualified for a vacancy are eligible for recall.

The right to recall is different based on the teacher's most recent evaluation rating:

- Effective or Highly Effective: Teacher will be offered the opportunity to return to a vacancy for which they are qualified. ("Highly Effective" will remain the legal rating until July 1, 2024.)
- Developing or Minimally Effective: Teacher will be offered the opportunity to interview for a vacancy for which they are qualified. ("Minimally Effective" will remain the legal rating until July 1, 2024.)
- Needing Support or Ineffective: Teacher will be notified of a vacancy for which they are qualified and the teacher may submit application materials for consideration by the Superintendent or designee. ("Ineffective" will remain the legal rating until July 1, 2024.)

Eligibility for recall will be determined based on the following criteria:

- The teacher with the highest evaluation rating will be eligible first, proceeding to the lowest evaluation rating;
  - Evaluators of performance, as measured using the performance evaluation system required by law, will consider factors including, but not limited to, the following as prescribed by the evaluation tool: demonstrated pedagogical skills and content area knowledge, evidence of ability to successfully plan and deliver rigorous lessons, implementation of effective strategies for building higher-level thinking and differentiated instruction, classroom management, collaboration with colleagues, and other attributes/skills relevant to their teaching assignment.
- If two teachers are being considered and share the same evaluation Effectiveness
  Rating, then the Superintendent or designee must compare the potential individuals
  using each of the elements of the standards as set out below, subject to Section 1248 of

the Revised School Code. Only when all elements within one level are equal and the candidates cannot be differentiated should the Superintendent or designee move to the next level.

- The teacher's disciplinary record;
- The teacher's attendance record;
- Relevant special training, including completion of relevant training other than
  professional development or continued education that is required by the District
  or by state law, including the integration of that training into instruction in a
  meaningful way;
- The teacher's length of service in the grade level or subject area where the vacancy exists.