# Russell Academy



# Student & Parent Handbook 2013-14

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to a new school year at Russell Academy!

Russell has continued to grow in enrollment to approximately 450 students. With this number of people working together in one building, it becomes the responsibility of each person to follow the guidelines listed in our handbook. Students will be expected to follow school and classroom rules. When these rules are followed, everyone benefits. At Russell we are committed to make sure that your child is safe and receiving an exceptional education.

Two-way communication with families is essential to creating a strong school. At Russell our families are one of our most important assets. We value your support both in school and out of school. We appreciate the many volunteer hours that are put into our school in a variety of ways. Russell families make our school what it is and we appreciate your dedication.

This handbook is designed to give you information that will help you be safe at school and have a very successful year. Please review it together. You will be expected to know and follow these rules and procedures: if you have any questions don't hesitate to ask me. This is going to be a wonderful year.

Sincerely,

Heather Bailey Principal September 2013

> \*Read the *Russell News* twice monthly, and/or check the Russell Website at <u>http://russell.parkrose.k12.or.us</u> for additional events as they are scheduled.



## Russell Academy

2700 N.E. 127<sup>th</sup> Portland, OR 97230 (503) 408-2750 http://russell.parkrose.k12.or.us

# Parkrose School District

10636 N.E. Prescott St. Portland, OR 97220 (503) 408-2100 http://www.parkrose.k12.or.us

> Superintendent Karen Fischer Gray

Board of Directors Ed Grassel, Board Chair Dr. Thuy Tran James Trujillo Erick Flores Mary Lu Baetkey

#### \*\*RUSSELL ACADEMY SCHOOL STAFF \*Main Office: (503) 408-2750 \*Fax (503) 408-2790 Principal: Heather Bailey x2752 Secretary: Susan Cooper x2751

CLASSROOM TEACHERS			
Diane Larson	K/1 Blend	Room 6	x2764
Jacqueline Cadieux	K/1 Blend	Room 5	x2755
Janet Johnson	K/1 Blend	Room 2	x2767
Mary Aschenbrenner	K/1 Blend	Room 3	x2761
Jonelle Phelps	K/1 Blend	Room 4	×2783
Jolin Milberg	K/1/2 Support	Room 7	×2780
Margaret Goff	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Room 8	x2763
Donna Newcomb	2/3 Blend	Room 11	×2771
Susan Landreth	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Room 13	x2773
Ashley Verhulst	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Room 12	x2758
Debi Borman	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Room 14	x2760
Andrew Robinson	4/5 Blend	Room 19	x2772
Rachel Stephens	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Room 18	x2774
Rosalind Curry	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Room 17	×2778
Dayna Curtis	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Room 16	x2770
Jane O'Brien	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Room 20	x2776
SUPPORT STAFF			
Roxanne Davidson	Counselor	Room 10	×2781
Dee Dee McElhaney	ELL	Room 9	x2754
Andrew Smith	Special Ed	Room 1	×2777
Ryan Stuewe	Special Ed	Room 21	×2782
Angie King	Title 1	Room 21	x2775
Shirley DuFresne	Speech School Druckshotst	D	x2765
Jennifer Heikes	School Psychologist	Room 1	x2782
Mike Tolon Alice Cain	District Numar	Stage	x2750
Allce Califi	District Nurse	Health Rm	×2757
CLASSIFIED STAFF			
Megan Bishop	Head Cook	Kitchen	x2756
Vincent Coulter	Lead Custodian	Cust. Off.	x2768
Kim Morey	Library Assistant	Library	x2753
Jill Bartling	Playworks	Office	×2750
Julie Lindsay	Instructional Asst.	Computer	x2794
Londa Sundin	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Katy Hurliman	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Gretchen Simkovic	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Karen Loh	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Jolene Miller	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Kathleen Skans	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Debra McHale	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Linda Sumner	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Rosenda Gavin	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Lynn McPhail	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Michael Soriano	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750
Janel Smith	Instructional Asst.	Office	x2750

Parkrose School District 3

Code: **AA** Adopted: 11/23/92 Revised: 6.24.13

#### **Educational Beliefs and Mission of the Parkrose School District**

The compelling interest and mission of the Parkrose School District is for each student to reach high levels of reading and thinking and to graduate high school prepared for success in college and/or career. Each student has the potential to achieve this mission.

In pursuit of this mission the Parkrose School District Board of Education will value the contribution of all members of our diverse community of students, staff, parents, and community members to our mission and goals. We believe that equity of opportunity and equity of access to our educational programs, services, and resources are critical to the achievement of successful outcomes for all those whom we serve, and for those who serve our school system.

The Board recognizes that certain groups in our society are treated inequitably because of individual and systemic biases related to race, religion, culture, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability and socio economic status. The Board further recognizes that such inequitable treatment leads to educational, social, and career outcomes that do not accurately reflect abilities, experiences and contributions of our students, employees, parents and community partners. This can limit students future success and prevent them from making a full contribution to society. This inequitable treatment has led to a clear achievement gap between groups of Parkrose students.

For the district to meet its compelling interest, the achievement gap must close. Race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, culture and socio economic status should not be the predictor of student achievement and success. To close this achievement gap, students and teachers must work together to support and grow a student's individual determination to reach these high levels of reading and thinking. Encouraging students to use their time, effort, passion and intellect in pursuit of an education that will fulfill their potential. Further, the Parkrose school district will work to remove any barriers to achievement that prevent students from reaching their fullest potential.

The Parkrose School District Board of Education hereby directs the Superintendent to create the Parkrose School District Equity and Data Team to develop Administrative Rules that carry out this policy. In addition, the Board directs the Superintendent to design measures and indicators of successful achievement of this policy and to report to the Board on an annual basis regarding its progress by May of each school year. The newly created "Equity Self Assessment Tool" (Cradle to Career Initiative, 2013) and district-collected historical and current educational data will form the basis of our baseline data and will be collected by January 2014. The Parkrose School District Equity and Data Team will be composed of a broad base of membership including the following: Superintendent, administration, staff, parents and community partners. They will begin meeting in the 2013-2014 school year.

#### END OF POLICY

Legal References: ORS 329.025

#### School Hours

The office of Russell Academy is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m. Susan Cooper, our school secretary, is there to help you in any way possible. If you have a question or a concern, please don't hesitate to ask.

Students are asked to arrive no earlier than <u>8:30 a.m.</u> We ask this in consideration of the children's safety. <u>We have no outside supervision in the morning until students enter the gym</u> <u>at 8:30</u>, all students will wait in the cafeteria until the first bell rings at 8:40 a.m.

At the end of the school all picked up students exit through the front doors of the building where family members <u>wait outside the doors</u>. Students who ride the bus will use the back exit of the school. The students are released at 3:10 with the exception of Wednesday at 12:40. Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade families pick up their child at the gate to the left of the school.

#### Daily Schedule 2013-14

Lunches	
10:55-11:20 AM	2/3 Grade Lunch
11:20-11:35 AM	2/3 Grade Recess
11:20-11:45 AM	4/5 Grade Lunch
11:45-12:00 PM	4/5 Grade Recess
11:55-12:20 PM	K/1 Grade Lunch
12:20-12:35 PM	K/1 Grade Recess
1:50-2:00 PM	2/3 Afternoon Recess
2:05-2:15 PM	K/1 Afternoon Recess

3:10 PM

8:40 AM

8:40 AM

Dismissal

School Begins

School Begins

#### EVERY WEDNESDAY-Early Release 12:40 PM

Lunches	
11:00-11:25 AM	2/3 Grade Lunch
11:25-11:40 AM	2/3 Grade Recess
11:25-11:50 AM	4/5 Grade Lunch
11:50-12:05 PM	4/5 Grade Recess
11:50-12:15 PM	K/1 Grade Lunch
12:15-12:30 PM	K/1 Grade Recess
12:40 PM	All Students Dismissed

## **Russell Code of Dress**

White/Navy/Heather Gray shirts with a collar (Turtlenecks are allowed)

- No Logos
- Russell spirit wear navy/heather gray t-shirts only\*\*

**Navy** or **Heather Gray** cardigans, pullover sweaters, sweatshirts, and vests *(fleece are allowed)* 

**Navy blue** cotton/twill pants, shorts, skorts, skirts, and jumpers (*no jeans or sweats*)

All jackets are acceptable. However, they should be removed in the classroom.

**Safe shoes** must be worn at all times. (*no high heels, open toe, platform shoes or flip flops*)



## **The Russell Pledge**

I believe I can achieve and succeed. I know today will influence what I become tomorrow. I will be a good listener. I will be respectful of my classmates, because we are here to learn. It's my decision. I will be safe. I will be safe. I will be kind. I will be a learner. I am smart. I have potential. I am unique. I am a Russell Rocket!



## Be Safe, Be Kind, Be A Learner

Mascot: Rocketship

### Russell Academy-Title I School

Russell Academy is a federally funded school-wide Title I school. We receive federal funds to help reach all students in our school. The Title I program is a federally funded program offering supplemental academic instruction for our students. Funds are utilized to support all Russell students by increasing our academic support systems and by providing extra educational opportunities.

#### Parent Involvement Policy Title I Program

At Russell Academy the policies and activities related to the Title I Parent Involvement Policy are included in the oversight duties and responsibilities of the Site Council. Our process is collaborative, involving the students, teachers, and the parents who work together to achieve high student performance.

- In accordance with the Site Council bylaws, parents will be sent an invitation to become a member of the Site Council. The names of interested parents may fill out an application and be selected by parents of students attending the school.
- The Site Council will meet monthly and will receive a Title I report. This report will include budget, spending, program progress and/or changes. The Site Council will assist in planning and/or reviewing the Title I program and will make recommendations for improvement. An Ad Hoc Committee with members at large will be created for the purpose of input, review, and evaluation of the Parent Involvement Policy.
- Each year an informational meeting for parents will be held by October 30<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Back to School Night, to inform parents of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and of their right to be involved. Additional meetings will be held throughout the year to solicit feedback regarding parent involvement activities and to discuss implications for future changes.
- Parents will be notified of their children's academic progress by the following: progress reports, parent/teacher conferences, report cards and teacher contacts. Parents will receive and have access to their student's assessment results throughout the year via direct contact with their child's classroom teacher.
- In the fall of each year a Home/School Compact will be discussed and signed by the parents for each student. The compact will outline the responsibilities of the school, the staff, the parent and the student for achieving improved student academic performance. The Compact will be translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and other languages as requested.
- A description of grade-level expectations and curriculum standards will be presented to parents during Back-to-School Night. Also a brochure/pamphlet is available upon request.
- The Site Council will survey parents annually for the purpose of exploring ways to increase effective parental practices for improving their child's academic achievement. The results of the survey will be shared with the parents at the beginning of the following school year. This information will be used to plan further family learning activities.
- Parent resources will be made available throughout the year. Books, periodicals, teaching materials, videotapes and audiotapes are among the resources for parents to check out.

### Russell Academy Positive Behavior & Instructional Support

## PBIS is a school wide system that sets ALL kids up to be successful and prevent problem behavior by:

- Explicitly define and teach expected behavior, routines and rules
- Consistently acknowledge desired and expected behavior
- Encouraging consistency across all staff members

#### Logic for PBIS:

- Students have multiple expectations at school (academic accomplishments, social competence, safety)
- Students come to school with widely differing understanding of what is socially acceptable
- Traditional "get tough" and "zero tolerance" approaches are insufficient

#### PBIS Initiatives at Russell:

- 1. Promote positive behavior at recess
- 2. Playworks recess program
- 3. Office vs. Staff Managed Problem Behaviors definitions and examples document for staff and parents
- 4. Referral process for Office Managed Problem Behaviors Referrals help us document when and where problems are occurring. We can identify trends and also help our students turn around their behavior. It's also a way for us to communicate with parents when problem behaviors have occurred. An example of our office referral follows this page.

#### What does Russell have in place to encourage Positive Behavior?

School Standards, school pledge, A+ & other stickers, indoor recess options, structured recess options, awards assemblies, recess buddies, goal setting, problem solving wall, 4 square tournament, student council, talent show, life skill teaching, recess cart, our Playworks Coach and much much more!

#### **Absences**

When returning to school after an absence, a student must bring a note signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. Absence from school or class will be excused under the following circumstances:

- 1. Illness of the student;
- 2. Illness of an immediate family member when the student's presence at home is necessary;
- 3. Emergency situations that require the student's absence;
- 4. Medical or dental appointments.

Absence from school or class will be unexcused under the following circumstances:

- 1. Truancy (skipping all or any portion of the school day)
- 2. Missed bus or ride
- 3. Car problems
- 4. Oversleeping
- 5. Shopping, non-medical appointments
- 6. Family vacations during school days (on case by case basis)

Students may be excused on a limited basis from a preplanned classroom activity or from selected portions of the established curriculum on the basis of a disability or for personal, religious or ethnic considerations.

A student who becomes ill during the school day should, with the teacher's permission, report to the school nurse or office staff. The school nurse or office staff will decide whether or not the student should be sent home and will notify the student's parent as appropriate.

A student who has been absent for any reason is encouraged to make up any homework missed. Parents should contact the teacher to arrange for homework assignments for a student who will be absent several days.

#### Bicycles

Bicycles ridden to school by students must be parked in the designated area on school grounds and should be locked. Students under the age of 16 must wear a helmet as required by law. The district assumes no responsibility or liability for loss or damage to bicycles.

#### **Code of Dress**

Students attending Russell Academy will follow the school code of dress. Please refer to the code of dress page at the front of this handbook. Hats are not worn in school except on special hat days.

#### **Conferences**

Regular conferences are scheduled annually in the fall and spring to review student progress. Students and parents may also expect teachers to request a conference 1) if the student is not maintaining passing grades or achieving the expected level of performance, 2) if the student is not maintaining behavior expectations or 3) in any other case the teacher considers necessary.

The district encourages a student or parent in need of additional information or with questions or concerns to confer with the appropriate teacher, counselor or principal. A parent who wishes to confer with a teacher may call the office for an appointment or request that the teacher call the parent to arrange a mutually convenient time.

#### Counseling

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A counselor is available to assist students with a wide range of personal concerns, including such areas as social, family, emotional and academic. The counselor may also make available information about community resources to address personal concerns.

#### **Dogs:**

Dogs will not be allowed on school grounds. Board Policy KGB

#### **Electronic Devices**

Students are encouraged not to bring Cellular Phones, Pagers, and CD players, Radios, Walkmans and other amplified sound systems to school. These items are not to be used during school hours. Before entering the building, all electronic devices are to be turned off and put away. During the school day these items must be kept in backpacks. The school or district assumes no responsibility or liability for these items should they be brought to school. Staff time will not be spent to investigate their theft.

#### **Emergency Drills:**

Instruction will be given on fire and earthquake dangers and drills for students.

- At least one fire drill will be conducted each month.
- At least two drills on earthquakes for students will be conducted each year.
- At least one lock in and one lock out will be conducted each school year.

A map/diagram of the fire escape route to be followed is posted near all classroom doorways and reviewed with students. When the fire alarm is sounded, students must follow the direction of staff quickly, quietly and in an orderly fashion.

#### **Emergency Closure Information**

In case of hazardous or emergency conditions, the superintendent may alter district and transportation schedules, as are appropriate to the particular condition. Such alterations include closure of all schools, closure of selected schools or grade levels, delayed openings of schools and early dismissal of students.

#### **Field Trips**

Field trips may be scheduled for educational, cultural or other extracurricular purposes. All students are considered to be "in school" while participating in district-sponsored field trips. This means students are subject to the school's student conduct rules, applicable Board policy and such other rules as may be deemed appropriate by the field trip supervisor.

#### **Homework Policy**

The Russell Academy staff believes that homework should be a daily part of our students' lives. Positive homework habits develop work ethic and prepare our students for future commitments in middle school, high school, and college. Research shows that homework in grades kindergarten through fifth grade should mostly consist of reading. Reading every night for an amount of time, keeping a reading log, and discussing their reading are the best ways to support the learning in the classroom. Strong reading habits are the building blocks for success as a student.

#### Lost & Found

Any articles found in the school or on district grounds should be turned displayed in to the gym. Unclaimed articles will be disposed of twice a year, at the middle and the end of the school year. Loss or suspected theft of personal or district property should be reported to the school office.

#### Lunch/Breakfast Program

The district participates in the National School Lunch, School Breakfast and Milk Programs and offers free and reduced-price meals based on a student's financial need. Information regarding these programs will be distributed the first day of school. Additional information can be obtained in the school office.

#### **Medical Policies**

Medication includes any prescription or over-the-counter medication, but is not limited to: vitamins and food supplements, eye, ear and nose drops, inhalants, medicated ointments or lotions, aspirins, cough drops, and antacids." A student who must take a prescription and/or over-the-counter medication during the school day must bring the medicine and a signed parental request to administer the medication to the office. For all prescription and over-the-counter medication, the written request must include:

- Student's Name
- Physician's written instructions
- Name of medication
- Dosage
- Time interval and method of administration

Prescription medication must be in the original prescription bottle with the label clearly showing the student's name, physician's name and instructions. Over-the-counter medication must be in the original container, accompanied by the parent and physician's written instructions. If a parent wants a student to carry an inhaler, an administrator must approve a request. The inhaler must be registered in the office with a signed, parental request and a prescription from the physician.

#### **Medical Treatment**

A student who becomes ill or is injured at school must notify his/her teacher or another staff member as soon as possible. In the case of a serious illness or injury, the school shall attempt to notify parents according to information provided on emergency forms submitted by parents to the school. If the student is too ill to remain in school, the student will be released to the student's parents or to a person as directed by parents on the student's emergency form. School staff may administer emergency or minor first aid if possible. The school will contact emergency medical personnel, if necessary, and will attempt to notify the student's parents whenever the student has been transported for treatment. Please help keep all contact phone numbers, and those with permission to act on your behalf, current. Call 503-408-2750 with all updates.

#### **Parental Involvement**

Education succeeds best when there is a strong partnership between home and school. As a partnership thrives on communication, the district asks parents to:

- 1. Encourage your child to put a high priority on their education and to commit themselves to making the most of the educational opportunities the district provides;
- 2. Keep informed on district activities and issues. The school newsletter, "Back to School" night, AVID family night, and parent club meetings provide opportunities for learning more about the district;
- 3. Become a district volunteer. For further information contact the school office;
- 4. Participate in district parent organizations.

Parents and other visitors are encouraged to visit the school. To ensure the safety and welfare of students, that schoolwork is not disrupted and that visitors are properly directed to the areas in which they are interested, **Between the hours of 8:40-3:10 any adults and children who are not Russell students or staff members will** check in at the office and sign in for a "Visitors Badge". The badge will need to remain clearly visible while on school property. The principal will approve requests to visit, as appropriate. Students will not be permitted to bring visitors to school without prior approval of the principal. If a parent wants to observe their child's classroom, please contact the teacher prior to the day of the desired visitation.

#### **Release of Students from School**

A student shall not be released from school at times other than an adult who is approved on the child's emergency contact list.

#### Student Code of Conduct

The staff at Russell Academy work hard to maintain a safe, appropriate environment for student learning. Students are responsible for conducting themselves properly, in accordance with the policies of the district and the lawful direction of staff. Students are expected to follow school rules.

Our School is a safe community for students of all races, ethnic backgrounds, males and females, and students with disabilities. <u>Any behavior that challenges or threatens the safety of our school will not be tolerated</u>. Students and staff treat each other with mutual respect in this building.

#### **Supervision of Students**

Adult supervision is provided to students during regular school hours 8:15 am - 3:15 pm, including while traveling on district-provided vehicles to and from school and while engaged in district-sponsored activities.

#### **Transportation of Students**

It is a privilege, **not a right** to ride a Parkrose School District bus. Students must observe the following rules while riding School Busses.

- Students being transported are under the authority of the bus driver.
- Fighting, wrestling, or boisterous activity is prohibited on the bus.
- Students shall use the emergency door only in the case of an emergency.
- Students shall be on time for the bus both in the morning and afternoon.
- Students shall not bring animals, firearms, weapons, skateboards or other potentially hazardous material or items on the bus.
- Students will remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- The bus driver may assign students to a seat.
- When necessary to cross the road, students shall cross in front of the bus or as instructed by the driver.
- Students shall not extend their hands, arms, or heads through the bus windows.
- Students shall have written permission to leave the bus other than at home or school.
- Students shall converse in normal tones, loud or vulgar language is prohibited.
- Students shall not open or close windows without permission of the driver.
- Students shall keep the bus clean and must refrain from damaging it.
- Students shall be courteous to the driver, to fellow students, and passengers.
- Students who refuse to obey promptly the directions of the driver or refuse to obey regulations may forfeit their privilege to ride on the bus.
- Students shall respect all private property rights while waiting for school bus transportation.

Consequences include but are not limited to:

First Referral- 1-3 day suspension

Second Referral- 3-5 day suspension

Third Referral- Loss of bus riding privileges for up to a year

#### <u>Visitors</u>

Parents and other visitors are encouraged to visit Russell Academy. In an effort to maximize the safety of our students and to ensure that schoolwork is not disrupted, we ask that <u>between the hours of 8:40-3:10 any adults</u> and children who are not Russell students or staff members check in at the office and sign in for a "Visitors Badge". The badge will need to remain clearly visible while on school property. The principal will approve requests to visit as appropriate. Students will not be permitted to bring visitors to school without prior approval of the principal. If a parent wants to observe their child's classroom, please contact the teacher prior to the day of the desired visitation.

Anyone without a visitors pass during school hours will be questioned by staff and asked to report to the office.

#### Volunteer Policy at Russell

At Russell Academy we welcome volunteers in our school. Without them, much of what we do would not be possible. Our PTV (parent group) offers many opportunities for parent involvement throughout the school year. Please refer to their information to decide what events would be a good fit for you. For the safety of our students background checks are required prior to volunteering at Russell.

Within the school day, we count on many adults, both parents and other family members that come to volunteer their time in classrooms and throughout our school. If you are interested in volunteering in your child's classroom or for the teacher, we ask that you follow these guidelines.

- 1. Ask and prearrange with the classroom teacher when and where you can help. Many of our teachers appreciate extra adults in the classroom during certain periods of the day. Let the teacher know what you are most comfortable with. There are often a variety of ways to help the teacher.
- 2. When you arrive at our school, sign in at the office and clearly wear a visitor pass while you are in the building.
- 3. Please remember that student information is confidential and we are legally responsible for their privacy. If you have a question or a comment about a student, please refer only to the classroom teacher or the principal.
- 4. When you are ready to leave the building, check out in the office.
- 5. If you work for a company that offers some type of matching program for volunteering, please make sure you record your time at Russell.

Besides the classroom, we have opportunities for other types of volunteering at our school. Special projects, library and office help are just a few examples. Check with our office staff if you are interested.

#### <u>Weapons</u>

No student will knowingly possess, handle, carry, or transmit any knife (including a pocket knife), razor, ice pick, explosive smoke bomb, incendiary device, gun (including pellet and BB guns), ammunition, parts of any weapon, or any other object that is used as or can reasonably be considered a weapon or dangerous instrument. These items are prohibited on any school grounds, vehicles, or property on school grounds, or vehicles or property on which a school activity occurs before, during, or after regular school hours. Students will be expelled for up to one year for any of the above infractions. It must be emphasized that any item used in a dangerous manner can be considered a threat to a safe environment. Cap guns, water guns, handmade wooden weapons, or physical simulations of guns or shooting actions will be considered as weapons. **Board Code: JFCJ** 

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	G Grading Day-no students	
	<i>i</i> Statewide In-service day-no students H Holidayno students	
	K First Day for Kindergarten	
	Ø     Non-Contract day-no students       May 30 <sup>th</sup> Last Day for Students	
	P Planning Day-no students	
		port-no students

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Last contract day for teachers