

**Classified Personnel**

BP 4222(a)

**TEACHER AIDES/PARAPROFESSIONALS**

The School Board favors the use of paid and volunteer teacher aides/paraprofessionals and considers them to be members of a professional team dedicated to the best interests of students. By relieving teachers of duties that do not require professional training, noncertificated persons allow teachers to dedicate their skills, knowledge and efforts primarily to teaching. Paraprofessionals also can help teachers to provide individualized student instruction and an enriched educational program.

*(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)*

The district shall use paraprofessionals in those classes where they will provide the greatest benefit to students, taking into consideration such factors as large class size, student age group and teacher workload.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all paraprofessionals have appropriate training and supervision.

Paraprofessionals are expected to be courteous, discrete, cooperative and dependable, to employ high ethical standards as they work with students, and to respect school rules, district policies and administrative regulations.

The Board recognizes the need for qualified teaching staff and encourages paraprofessionals to seek opportunities leading to a teaching credential. The district shall support these efforts to the extent possible, particularly as they relate to obtaining bilingual or special education credentials.

*Paraprofessionals Working In Title I Programs*

Paraprofessionals working in a program supported with Title I funds will meet the qualifications as established by federal law. In compliance with applicable legal requirements, all teacher aides/paraprofessionals with instructional duties that are newly hired in a Title I school program must have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent and: (1) completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education; (2) obtained an Associate's or higher degree; or (3) met a rigorous standard of quality through a formal state or local academic assessment.

Exception to these requirements may be made with regard to paraprofessionals who act as translators or who coordinate parent involvement activities.

The Superintendent or his/her designee and/or the staff development committee shall develop an appropriate in service program for paraprofessionals.

**TEACHER AIDES/PARAPROFESSIONALS (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

*4 AAC 05.080 School curriculum and personnel*

*4 AAC 52.250 Special education aides*

*4 AAC 52.255 Interpreters*

*Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 6319, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-110)*

*34 C.F.R. 200.58-.59 (2002)*

*Revised 11/2016*

*Revised 9/2021*