

1 **Browning Public Schools**

2
3 Policy #5120

4 Policy Name: Recruitment and Selection

5 Regulation: -----

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7 **Goals**

8 The goals of the Board of Trustees of School District No. 9 for its employment policy include the following:

- 9
- 10 1. Secure highly competent staff;
- 11
- 12 2. Provide strategies and procedures that ensure an equitable and efficient employment process, address
- 13 personnel recruitment, screening and selection of candidates; and
- 14
- 15 3. Base selection of candidates on their job-related competencies and qualifications to fulfill the job
- 16 responsibilities and without regard to their race, color, sex, religion, national origin, or any other illegal basis
- 17 for discrimination
- 18

19 **Administration**

20 The superintendent or his or her designee is responsible for recruiting personnel, in compliance with Board
21 policy, but the superintendent will make hiring recommendations to the Board. The District shall hire the most
22 qualified personnel, consistent with budget and staffing requirements, and shall comply with Board policy and
23 state law requiring equal employment opportunities and veterans' preferences.

24
25 All applicants must complete a District application form in order to be considered for employment. Incomplete
26 applications will be rejected. Completed applications will be secured as confidential information by the
27 superintendent or his or her designee.

28
29 Every applicant must complete an authorization for fingerprint background check form authorizing the District to
30 complete a criminal background investigation. The Superintendent will keep any conviction record confidential as
31 required by law and District policy.

32
33 Every newly hired employee must complete an Immigration and Naturalization Service form, as required by
34 federal law.

35
36 Notwithstanding the foregoing, recruitment and selection for the position of District superintendent will be
37 determined by the Board of Trustees and all applications and related information will be kept confidential except
38 to the Board as it determines appropriate.

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40 **Certification**

41 The District requires its' contracted, certified staff to hold a valid Montana teacher or specialist certificates
42 endorsed for the roles and responsibilities for which they are employed. Failure to meet this requirement shall be
43 just cause for termination of employment. No salary warrants may be issued to a staff member, unless a valid
44 certificate for the role to which the teacher has been assigned has been registered with the county superintendent
45 within sixty (60) calendar days after a term of service begins. Every teacher and administrator under contract must
46 bring his or her current, valid certificate to the personnel office at the time of initial employment, as well as at the
47 time of each renewal of certification.

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49 The personnel office will register all certificates, noting class and endorsement of certificates, and will update
50 permanent records as necessary. The personnel office also will retain a copy of each valid certificate of a
51 contracted certified employee in that employee's personnel file.

1 **Preferences**

- 2 1. **Veterans' Preference** - State law requires employers using a scored procedure to add a factor for qualifying
3 veterans who claim the preference in accordance with § 39-29-101 et seq., MCA. These points will be added
4 on both the Application Scoring Worksheet and the Interview Scoring Summary Worksheet.
5
6 2. **Employee Preference** - Scoring may be weighted to allow more points for employees who have completed
7 staff development activities that extend employee competencies and such development training is helpful and
8 relevant to the position advertised.
9
10 3. **Extracurricular** - For those extracurricular positions in which the applicants are similarly qualified, the
11 following preferences apply:
12
13 A. Coaches and sponsors, who were successful in the same extracurricular position with the District in the
14 previous school year, will have preference over all other applicants and, may be recommended by the
15 superintendent for hiring.
16
17 i. Past success in the position will be determined by the superintendent or his or her designee based
18 on performance in the position.
19
20 ii. Such experience must be consecutive from year to year and in the same activity or sport to be a
21 preference.
22
23 4. **Other Preferences** – Scoring may be weighted to allow more points for qualifications exceeding minimums
24 required for the position such as education, experience, working in schools, etc.
25

26 **Career Fairs**

27 The superintendent or his or her designee may organize a career fair team to attend career or job fairs and
28 recommend related travel to the Board of Trustees for approval. The superintendent may designate an
29 administrator as his or her designee for purposes of acting as team leader and extending a letter of intent of
30 recommendation for employment, in writing, to teachers and specialists being recruited. The team will evaluate
31 applications, screen applicants, conduct interviews, check references, and determine those finalists to be offered
32 employment with the District. Immediately upon returning from the career fair, the team leader will submit, in
33 good form, all documents and materials, including completed application forms to the superintendent or his or her
34 designee.
35

36 **Selection**

37 The final candidate for a vacant position will be selected following a competitive selection process, which is free
38 of bias and special interests, and from as large a pool of applicants as may be reasonably obtained. Browning
39 Public Schools does not permit any person related by consanguinity within the fourth degree or by affinity within
40 the second degree to participate in the selection process (screening and interviewing) for any position.
41

42 Testing: Testing may be used to determine the applicant's suitability for a position. Such tests will be
43 relevant to the position and conducted uniformly in a fair and impartial manner with results kept
44 confidential. Testing results will be provided to the interview committee for consideration.
45

46 Scoring: Scoring documents will be reasonably accurate to position requirements and in measuring the
47 applicant's suitability for the position. Such documents shall be reviewed periodically by supervisors and
48 employees in those positions for updating.
49

50 **Selection Committees**

51 Those who screen applicants and interview finalists may be District employees, a community member, a board
52 member selected by the superintendent or designee. In general, the interview committee will be chaired by the
53 supervisor of the position and shall include other staff from the same building or department and at least one
54 administrator or similarly assigned staff member from another building or department.

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2 Those who screen or interview will be as objective as possible, shall have not made any preconceived judgments,
3 and shall not be related to any applicant being considered.
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5 Those who screen applications generally will not serve on interview committees except under unusual
6 circumstances or during periods of staff shortages.
7

8 **Selection Process**

- 9 1. Interview committees are to exercise their best judgment in evaluating and scoring finalists. Scores serve as a
10 guide in determining each interviewer's choice, but final selections are subject to the deliberations and
11 consensus of the committee. Significant disparities between scores and selection are to be documented by the
12 committee at the conclusion of its deliberations.
13
- 14 2. The interview committee is to select one finalist to be recommended to the superintendent for hiring. The
15 interview committee may designate up to two alternates in the order decided. The interview committee may
16 conclude that none of the finalists is acceptable and continue to interview other applicants or postpone
17 interviews in order to recruit a wider pool of applicants.
18
- 19 3. Interviews will be open to the public in compliance with the Montana Open Meeting Law § 2-3-201 et seq.,
20 MCA.
21
- 22 4. All information, written and verbal, is confidential and is not to be divulged to others except the
23 superintendent or his or her designee. An unsuccessful applicant may request results of his or her rating with
24 respect to other applicants. Within five (5) business days of such request, the superintendent or his or her
25 designee will provide the applicant with a list in which (a) all names, excepting his or hers, will be omitted
26 and (b) individual total scores are shown. No list will be produced however if the number of applicants is
27 fewer than three.
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29 Exceptions: The competitive selection process may be unnecessary in the following circumstances:
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- 31 A. Coaches and sponsors having preference as provided under the above section, Preferences, paragraph
32 3(A).
33
- 34 B. Only one applicant is qualified and meets eligibility requirements and further recruiting is impractical.
35
- 36 C. The applicant is part of a general pool of temporary workers including substitutes from which supervisors
37 may select and employ as needed. This exception does not apply to temporary employees or short-term
38 workers to be hired for summer work.
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40 The superintendent is directed to establish and implement procedures to carry out this policy.
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43 **Cross Reference:** 5122 Fingerprints and Criminal Background Investigations
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45 **Legal Reference:** Title VI and VII of Civil Rights Act of 1964
46 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
47 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
48 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
49 Montana Constitution, Article X, Section 1
50 § 49-2-303, MCA Human Rights Act
51 § 49-3-102, MCA Freedom from Discrimination
52 § 49-3-201, MCA Employment of State and Local Government Personnel
53 § 49-3-205, MCA Government Services
54 § 39-3-104, MCA Equal Pay for Women for Equivalent Service

§ 39-29-101 et seq., MCA Veterans' Public Employment Preference

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Policy History:

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