ENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS Enfield, Connecticut

Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified

4111

Recruitment and Selection

The Board desires the Superintendent to develop and maintain a recruitment program designed to attract and hold the best possible personnel who are "effective teachers" as defined by federal law in the District's schools. All District teachers must meet applicable state certification and licensure requirements, including any requirements for certification obtained through alternate routes to certification.

The school district recognizes the heterogeneity of the people who live in the school district and believes that this characteristic should have an important bearing on all aspects of the school district's activities.

The Board of Education believes it is especially important that this heterogeneity of population be recognized in the recruitment and assignment of personnel.

To this end, the Board of Education shall develop and implement a written plan for minority staff recruitment. The administration is directed to make a serious effort to see that the recruitment procedures of the district produce a total staff representative of the total population of the district and that the assignment procedures of the district bring to each school staff members representative of the population represented by the student membership in each local school.

The schools shall engage in fair and sound personnel practices in the appointment of all district employees. The administration shall be responsible for establishing recruitment, selection and appointment procedures.

The Superintendent shall insure that the District is in compliance with the provisions of Title I and the Every Student Succeeds Act. Manuals and handbooks shall comply with federal law as to the qualifications for instructional personnel. Parents/guardians of students in Title I schools shall be informed annually, at the beginning of each school year, of their right to request information about whether their child's teacher has met state qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction; is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which state qualifications or licensing criteria have been waived; and is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher. The qualifications of services provided by paraprofessionals shall also be provided. Timely notices shall also be provided to parents/guardians that the student has been assigned or has been taught in a Title I school for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet applicable state certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

Hiring of Retired Teachers

A **retired** teacher receiving benefits from the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) may be reemployed by the Board for up to one full school year in a position (1) designated by the Commissioner of Education as a subject shortage area, or (2) at a school located in a priority

Recruitment and Selection

Hiring of Retired Teachers (continued)

school district for the school year in which the teacher is being employed. Such employment may be for up to one full school year. Such reemployment may be extended for an additional school year, provided the Board (a) submits a written request for approval to the Teachers' Retirement Board, (b) certifies that no qualified candidates are available prior to the reemployment of such teacher and (c) indicates the type of assignment to be performed, the anticipated date of rehire and the expected duration of the assignment.

The salary of such teacher shall be fixed at an amount at least equal to that paid other teachers in the District with similar training and experience for the same type of service.

Except as indicated below, and in the first paragraph in this section, a certified educator receiving retirement benefits from the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) may not be employed in a certified position receiving compensation paid out of public money appropriated for school purposes except that such educator may be employed in such a position and receive no more than forty-five percent of the maximum salary level for the assigned position. Any certified educator who receives in excess of such amount shall reimburse the Board for the amount of such excess.

Commencing July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2018, the exemption from the limitation on the compensation of a reemployed certified educator apply to an educator who (A) is receiving retirement benefits from TRS based on thirty-four or more years of credited service, (B) is reemployed in a district designated as an alliance district (pursuant to C.G.S. 10-262u), and (C) was serving in the district on July 1, 2015.

On and after July 1, 2016, a certified educator receiving retirement benefits from the system may be employed and receive compensation, health insurance benefits, and other employment benefits provided to active teachers employed by such school system provided such teacher does not receive a retirement income during such employment. Payment of such teacher's retirement income shall resume on the first day of the month following the termination of such employment.

<u>Note:</u> TRB has indicated that a six month break in service is required before a retired teacher, who has retired before age 62 or normal retirement (20 years of service and age 60 or 35 years of service) can be reemployed by any Connecticut school district.

The Board wishes to avoid the appearance of cronyism in its hiring practices. "Cronyism" is defined as "the giving of special treatment, preference, jobs, political appointments, or contracts to people who are friends, donors, or political cohorts rather than to people based on their abilities or qualifications."

On the application form, an applicant for any position in the school district shall disclose any previous relationship with the Superintendent or any Board member. Previous relationships will include any business, financial, personal, political or family connections. This will also include school relationships such as knowing the individual in high school, college, or graduate school.

Recruitment and Selection

<u>Hiring of Retired Teachers</u> (continued)

The Superintendent shall provide the Board with full disclosure of any prior knowledge or relationship with any candidate recommended for employment.

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to employ teachers.

(cf. 4115 – Evaluation)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-151 Employment of teachers. Notice and hearing on termination of contract (as amended by P.A. 12-116 An Act Concerning Educational

Reform)

10-153 Discrimination on account of marital status.

10-183v Reemployment of teachers, as amended by P.A. 10-111, An Act Concerning Education Reform in Connecticut, P.A. 16-91, An Act Making Changes to the Teachers' Retirement System, and PA 17-173 An Act Concerning Minor Revisions and Additions to the Education Statutes

10-220 Duties of Boards of Education. 31-126 Unfair Employment Practices.

46a-60 Discriminatory employment practices prohibited.

Title IV Equal Employment Opportunities. 34 C.F.R. 200.55 Federal Regulations.

P.L. 114-95 Every Student Succeeds Act, S.1177-55, 56

Policy Adopted: January 8, 2019