

Dickson County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in February	Descriptor Term: Staff Positions	Descriptor Code: 5.116	Issued Date: 07/26/12
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 **Creation of Positions**

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3 All staff positions shall be approved through the budgetary process in accordance with an organizational
4 plan submitted by the director of schools.¹ Before an additional position is established, the director of
5 schools will present to the Board a job description, qualifications, performance responsibilities and the
6 method by which the performance of these responsibilities will be evaluated.

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8 The director of schools may revise the organizational plan as long as budgetary amounts are not exceeded
9 and board policy is not violated. In the event of reorganization, the director of schools will adhere to
10 all applicable reduction in force guidelines and will inform, in a timely manner, each member of the
11 board of the change and include the change in the director's report at the next board meeting. If change
12 in personnel creates additional encumbrance on a future budget, prior approval of the Board is required.

13 **Reduction in Force**

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16 When it becomes necessary to reduce the number of positions in the system because of a decrease in
17 enrollment or for other good reasons, the Board shall abolish the positions. The Board or the director of
18 schools, as appropriate, shall dismiss such employees as may be necessary.²

19 **Licensed Personnel**

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22 Reductions in staff will be made according to which have the least detrimental effect on children. In
23 general, this objective dictates a staff reduction policy which:

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- 26 1. Retains the most effective teachers;
 - 27 2. Avoids undue increases in class size; and
 - 28 3. Provides consideration for the exceptional teacher without exclusive emphasis on seniority.
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30 The elimination of a position does not necessarily mean the person occupying the position will be dis-
31 missed. When an employee is released, it is the responsibility of the director to make a recommendation
32 to the Board about which employee shall be released and to justify the recommendation based upon a
33 composite of the following criteria:

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- 36 1. Effectiveness in teaching and in related professional responsibilities evidenced by
37 teacher evaluation;
 - 38 2. Adaptability to other assignments (academic and extracurricular);
 - 39 3. Evidence of professional growth as well as specialized or advanced training;
 - 40 4. Previous history of grade levels and subject areas taught; and
 - 41 5. Type, length and quality of service made to the teaching profession and the school system.

1 When a teacher is released because of reduction in staff, the teacher shall be given written notice of
2 release explaining the circumstances or conditions making dismissal necessary.

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4 **Non-Licensed Personnel**

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6 When a non-licensed employee is released because of a reduction in the number of support positions,
7 the director of schools/designee shall give the employee written notice of dismissal explaining the cir-
8 cumstances or conditions making termination of employment necessary. ³

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10 **Recall**

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12 The director of schools shall maintain a preferred re-employment list for tenured teachers whose posi-
13 tion is abolished.³ The fitness of any teacher for re-employment shall be determined on the basis of
14 the teacher's competence, compatibility and suitability to properly discharge the duties required by the
15 position with consideration for the best interests of the students in the school where the vacancy exists.²

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17 It shall be the responsibility of the separated teacher to notify the director of schools/designee in writing
18 of his/her availability and current address. A professional employee who is placed on the preferred re-
19 employment list and subsequently refuses the offer of a comparable position will be removed from the
20 preferred list.⁴ Any teacher who has been on the preferred list for re-employment for two (2) consecu-
21 tive years shall, by April 1 of the second consecutive year, receive notice that the teacher's name shall
22 be removed from the list. The director/designee shall send the notice to the last known address of the
23 teacher. A teacher who wishes to remain on the preferred list for re-employment after the second year
24 shall notify the director/designee in writing by April 15 of the second year and each subsequent year of
25 his or her desire to remain on the preferred list for re-employment.⁴ Employees returning from lay-off
26 shall have all previously accrued sick leave and seniority reinstated, but shall not receive benefits for
27 the period of the layoff.

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33 Legal References:

- 34 1. OP Tenn. Atty. Gen. 93-66 (November 29, 1993)
35 2. TCA 49-5-409(d); TCA 49-2-301 (b)(1)(EE)
36 3. TCA 49-5-511(b)(1)
37 4. TCA 49-5-511(b)(4)
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