

CHAPTER 6.00 - SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

6.291* - Teaching In-Field

POLICY

In accordance with Florida Statute 1012.42, when a teacher in a Levy County District school is assigned teaching duties in a class dealing with subject matter that is outside an area of certification specified on his/her valid Florida Educator's Certificate, the following guidelines shall be used to determine sufficient subject area expertise to designate the teacher in-field and thereby meeting Levy County's definition for qualified instructional personnel. These guidelines are specific to "classroom teachers" and not instructional support personnel such as media specialists, guidance counselors, social workers, occupational therapists or speech language pathologists.

- (1) Holds a valid Florida Educator's Certificate and has a minor in the field in which the instruction is provided as shown on the official transcript or as verified in writing by the institution in which the hours were awarded, or
- (2) Holds a valid Florida Educator's Certificate and has demonstrated sufficient subject area expertise in the subject area in which the instruction is provided by providing an official score report showing a passing score on the subject area exam for the area of instruction, or
- (3) Holds a valid Florida Educator's Certificate and provides official score report showing a passing score (as set by Florida's Department of Education) on the Praxis/NTE subject area exam taken prior to June 30, 2002, or
- (4) Holds a valid Florida Educator's Certificate and has demonstrated past successful experiences in the area of instruction as evidenced by satisfactory teacher evaluations and systematic observations, in the out-of-field assignment. Such evaluations and observations must have been documented in the year(s) preceding the request for in-field designation, or
- (5) Holds a valid Florida Educator's Certificate and is within six hours of completion of specialization requirements for the addition of the subject for which instruction is provided.
- (6) The holder of a valid National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certificate shall be deemed in-field for any subject within the level of the certificate. Example: The Guide to National Board Certification states "Middle Childhood/Generalist certificate is appropriate for teachers who teacher students ages 7-12 and who know the range of the middle grades curriculum: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and history, the arts and health."

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Therefore, the holder of a Middle Childhood/Generalist certificate shall be considered in-field to teach middle grades curriculum.

- (7) A holder of a valid Florida Educator's Certificate who is a native speaker of a foreign language or is fluent in, through other means of acquisition, and has demonstrated competence as evidenced by evaluation and systematic observations in the year(s) preceding the request for in-field designation, or holds a valid Florida Educator's Certificate and has successfully been interviewed in the foreign language for which instruction is to be provided by the ESOL Coordinator (for Spanish) or an instructional staff member appropriately certified in the foreign language for which instruction is to be given, shall be considered in-field for foreign language.
- (8) A holder of a valid Florida Educator's Certificate in an area of Special Education, placed in an area of Special Education requiring a different certification, shall be considered in-field based on past-successful experience and evidenced by satisfactory evaluation and systematic observations in the area of assignment for the year(s) preceding the request for in-field designation.
- (9) A holder of a valid Florida Educator's Certificate in any academic area and the Gifted Endorsement, issued prior to June 30, 2002, shall be grandfathered and determined to be in-field for the purpose of providing Gifted instruction to the students of Levy County.

Instructional staff meeting above criteria shall be considered in-field. Therefore, notification to parents or guardians and the requirements of Section 6A-1.0503, FAC, are not required.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41(2), 1001.42 (17), F.S.

LAWS IMPLEMENTED: 1012.42, 1012.42 (2), 1012.55, F.S.

HISTORY:
Adopted: 06/17/97
Revision Date(s): 10/16/01, 12/03/02
Formerly: