The board of trustees of the Jackson Public School District is particularly desirous of recruiting and retaining qualified middle school teachers who are certified in the subject area in which they teach. The board of trustees, upon the recommendation of the administrative staff, places special emphasis on the delivery of instruction in the mathematics and science areas. Hence, the board of trustees requires all middle school teachers, including new hires, to obtain math or science certification as a prerequisite for teaching math or science courses. For those teachers who already work in the district, this certification must be obtained within three years from the effective date of this policy. New hires must obtain the certification within three years from their hire date. Teachers who fail to obtain the requisite certification will be reassigned to an area for which they are certified.

To the extent allowed by law and in an effort to further its goal, the board will contract with a local university for the provision of coursework to its middle school teachers who wish to obtain math and science certification. Those teachers who obtain certification under this arrangement shall be entitled to a stipend. Teachers who do not complete the certification process will not receive the stipend.

It is the board’s desire that these teachers who take advantage of this program remain with the district for a minimum of three years beyond receipt of content certification. In the event a teacher gives a three-year commitment under this program and leaves before the expiration of the commitment, the teacher will be expected to reimburse the district a pro rata portion of the tuition costs relative to the amount of time remaining in the three-year commitment.

This policy shall be effective on and after July 1, 2002.

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi
DATE: January 22, 2002
REVIEWED: May 12, 2006
December 6, 2016