OVERTIME AND COMPENSATORY PAY FOR EMPLOYEES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the Jackson Public School District’s compliance with the minimum wage, overtime pay, compensatory pay, and record keeping requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) of the United States. The FLSA requires that overtime must be paid to non-exempt employees either in the form of monetary compensation or compensatory time at the rate of 1.5 times the regular hourly rate of pay for the number of hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week.

EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

Certain employees are exempt from coverage under the FLSA, and are not subject to compensation for overtime work. Those exempt employees include executive, administrative, and professional employees. Examples include certified professional employees such as teachers, counselors, supervisors, and administrators. Classified administrators are also exempt and include the chief financial officer, director of finance, director of transportation, coordinator of pupil placement, coordinator of instructional TV, director of maintenance, network administrator, coordinator of construction, and security director. Supervisors who are unsure if an employee is exempt from coverage shall consult with the district’s legal counsel for a legal opinion.

COVERED EMPLOYEES

All employees in the job classifications listed below are non-exempt employees and are therefore covered under the FLSA:

- Secretaries
- Custodians
- Bookkeepers
- Receptionists
- Fingerprint Technician
- Transportation Specialists
- Clerks
- Assistant Teachers
- Vehicle Servicemen
- Plumbers
- Bus Drivers
- Security Guards
- Delivery Men
- Food Service Workers
- Maintenance Personnel
- Graphic Arts Specialists
- Carpenters
- Painters
- Procurement Specialists
- Data Entry Operators
EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIPS

An employment relationship is not created between student teachers or students and this school district due to the circumstances surrounding their activities.

An employment relationship is not created between this school district and individuals who volunteer or donate their services to the school district as a public service without contemplation of pay.

The hiring of off-duty policemen or deputies on a part-time basis by the school district for crowd control or for security purposes does not create a joint employment relationship between this school district and the city or county. This school district is separate and distinct and acts entirely independent of other governmental entities.

HOURS WORKED

The workweek for the Jackson Public School District begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday. Each employee subject to the FLSA shall be paid in accordance for all hours worked. Compensable time includes all time that an employee is required to be on duty. Meal periods which are 30 minutes or more should not be interrupted.

Hours worked shall be accurately recorded by each employee on the monthly or weekly time sheet in the form which is provided by the district. Employees using monthly time sheets shall furnish all information requested and shall record the exact time of arrival and departure from work. Employees are expected to arrive and depart at or about the time specified by the district unless requested to work overtime by his or her immediate supervisor. All overtime shall be recorded by each employee on the time sheet or time card.

BREAKS AND MEAL PERIODS

Although not required by the FLSA, employees should be allowed breaks of no more than 15 minutes when appropriate. The time of day for breaks and their length shall be determined by each employee’s immediate supervisor. Generally, full-time employees receive a morning and afternoon break. Part-time employees receive breaks as deemed appropriate by the immediate supervisor who takes into consideration the length of daily employment.

Meal periods in which employees are not relieved of duty are compensable. Those employees with bona fide meal periods shall be completely relieved of duty for the purpose of eating a regular meal and shall be free to leave the worksite during this period. Employees having bona fide meal periods may eat in a school cafeteria or in a break area at a worksite, however, the employee shall not engage in any work for the school district during this period except for a rare and infrequent emergency.

BASIC MONETARY REQUIREMENTS

All employees subject to FLSA shall be paid not less than the current minimum wage.
**OVERTIME PAY**

All employees subject to FLSA shall be paid not less than one and one-half times his or her regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek. Overtime pay due an employee shall be computed on the basis of the hours worked in each workweek and the overtime compensation earned by an employee shall be paid on the next regular payday for the workweek in which the overtime was worked. Overtime or compensatory pay may not be waived by an agreement between employer and employees.

The granting of compensatory time off in lieu of paying proper overtime pay is permitted provided compensatory time is awarded on a one and one half time basis for each hour of overtime worked. The supervisor and employee must have a written agreement or understanding that the employee will receive compensatory time before the work is performed. It shall be the policy and practice of the board of trustees to grant compensatory time instead of overtime whenever possible. The employee may accumulate a maximum of 240 compensatory time hours. The employee must take the comp time when it is agreeable with the supervisor; however, the supervisor's consent should not be unreasonably withheld.

**REGULAR RATE OF PAY**

Any overtime pay will be based on the employee's regular rate which will include all remuneration for employment. For those employees paid a simple hourly rate the overtime will be based on that hourly rate. For those employees paid on a salary basis, the monthly salary will be reduced to its hourly rate equivalent. Employees shall be paid for each and every hour worked.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR OVERTIME WORK REQUIRED**

Each district employee responsible for the supervision of employees subject to the FLSA shall, prior to permitting any overtime work, receive authorization from the superintendent or her designee.

**RECORDKEEPING**

The superintendent shall require all records on wages, hours, and other items listed in the record keeping regulations (29 CFR Part 615) to be kept by the business office for the time specified by the Act.

The superintendent or her designee shall secure a sufficient quantity of the minimum wage posters. One poster shall be displayed in each district work site.

**ENFORCEMENT**

District employees shall, at all times, cooperate with authorized representatives of the Department of Labor who may visit a work site for the following reasons:

1. to investigate and gather data concerning wages, hours, and other employment practices;

2. to enter and inspect any school district premises and records;
3. to question employees to determine whether any person has violated any provision of the FSLA.

Employers who have willfully violated this law may face criminal penalties, including fines and imprisonment. The term “willful” is defined by the U.S. Department of Labor as “knew or should have known”.

District employees responsible for supervising employees subject to the FLSA who willfully violate the terms of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action by the school district. Any disciplinary action taken by the school district will be in addition to any relief granted an employee by the U.S. Department of Labor or a court of law.

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi
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