

STUDENT TEACHING AND INTERNSHIPS

The School Board shall cooperate with approved colleges and universities in providing laboratory opportunities for student teaching. The conditions and policies that shall pertain in governing the administration of the student teaching program in the Waynesboro Schools are as follows:

1. Teachers who serve as supervising teachers shall have a minimum of at least three years of teaching experience, one of these in the school to which the student teacher is assigned.
2. All teachers who serve as supervising teachers shall be recommended by the principal of the school to the superintendent or designee.
3. All supervising teachers shall participate in training for the supervision of student teaching as soon as possible to improve their competence as supervisors.
4. No supervising teacher shall have a student teacher assigned to him/her for more than one semester during the regular school session. Any exception to this limitation must be approved by the superintendent or designee.
5. All administrative personnel and supervising teachers shall make certain that student teachers acquire the required number of teaching hours necessary for state certification.
6. The first responsibility of the supervising teacher shall be the educational welfare of the students for whom he/she is responsible.
7. Participation in teaching, planning of lessons as units, and involvement in school activities by the student teacher shall be under the supervision and administrative supervision of the principal and the supervising teachers.
8. Student teachers shall not be used as substitute teachers during the time of their placement.
9. As a condition for student teaching placement requiring direct contact with students, the Waynesboro School Board shall require verification (i) that the candidate has not been convicted of a felony or any offense involving the sexual molestation, physical or sexual abuse or rape of a child; and (ii) whether the candidate has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude.
 - a. Candidates for student teaching placement, must submit to fingerprinting and provide personal descriptive information. The information and fingerprints shall be forwarded through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the Federal Bureau of Investigations for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information. The candidate shall be responsible for the costs of the fingerprinting or criminal records check as provided by statute.

- b. The School Board requires, that any student teaching candidate having direct contact with students, provide written consent and the necessary personal information for the School Board to obtain a search of the registry of founded complaints of child abuse and neglect. The registry is maintained by the Department of Social Services. In addition, where the candidate has resided in another state within the last five years, the School Board shall take reasonable steps to determine whether the candidate was the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse and neglect in the relevant state. Candidates for student teaching placements are required to pay the cost of any search conducted pursuant to this subsection.
 - c. To conserve the costs to student teaching candidates of conducting criminal history record checks and Child Registry searches, with the written request of the candidate, the Waynesboro School Board shall receive and provide another school board with which reciprocity has been established, the results of the criminal history record information conducted for the current school year. Criminal history record and registry search information pertaining to a candidate shall be exchanged only between school boards in the Commonwealth in which a current agreement of reciprocity for the exchange of such information has been established and is in effect.
10. The administrative and supervisory officers in the school division shall have complete authority to reject or to terminate any student teacher whose professional or ethical behavior has a negative effect on the ongoing instructional program or welfare of students.
11. Information concerning students may be available to student teachers at the discretion of the supervising teacher and/or principal. In all cases, the student teachers shall respect the confidential nature of information provided.
12. The structure and administration of the student teaching program in the school division shall be that of the superintendent or his/her designee.

Adopted: December 13, 1994

Revised: January 10, 2012

Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-78

Cross Refs.: JO Student Records
LE Relations with Colleges and Universities
GCDA Effect of Criminal Conviction or Founded Complaint of Child Abuse or Neglect