

**TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR
STUDENT TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND OTHER INTERNS**

The Board, recognizing both the opportunity to participate in improving the quality of teacher, paraprofessional, or internship (ex. school counselors, school psychological examiners, school psychologist, school nurse) training and the contribution that these trainees can make to the school system, encourages the administration to cooperate with post-secondary institutions in the placement of such trainees in the public schools.

The importance of the training function to the future of education and the need to ensure high quality performance in the schools requires that the trainees be placed with experienced personnel of demonstrated competence. While no professional staff member will be required to supervise trainees, the Board encourages interested personnel to volunteer from time to time.

Teachers and other professionals new to the district and those having less than three years of professional experience will not be asked to undertake such responsibilities. Teachers and other professionals will not supervise more than two trainees over the course of the school year, nor supervise two at the same time.

The Superintendent and/or the building principal (as assigned by the Superintendent) may interview and screen candidates for training experiences. The assignment of a student accepted for a training experience will be made by the Superintendent and/or building principal in cooperation with the post-secondary institution in which the student is enrolled.

While assigned to MSAD #68 schools, the student trainees will maintain responsibilities in the classroom and other professional venues to the students and the school system that parallel those of the resident staff. A supervising teacher remains responsible for all areas of instruction, grades and communications, as well as classroom instruction and management. Student teachers and interns are expected to maintain the same standards of professionalism required of professional staff. Paraprofessional trainees are also expected to maintain applicable standards of professionalism required of paraprofessional staff. The Superintendent will have the authority to discontinue any student trainee who violates this policy.

Criminal Background Check – Applicants for long-term placements will be required to have gone through the State-mandated fingerprinting process and produce the results prior to placement. Post-secondary students doing short-term observations will not be required to be fingerprinted so long as there is no professional interaction with district students. All observers are expected to be supervised by district personnel.

The Superintendent/designee will be responsible for developing procedures for evaluating student trainees' performance that provide meaningful feedback to students and meet the reasonable requirements of the training instruction.

A student trainee will not be used as a substitute teacher for the duration of the student teaching experience.

Short-term observations must be scheduled through the principal's office.

The Board encourages the Superintendent to consider the demonstrated skills and abilities of individual student trainees when recruiting to fill appropriate positions.

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