

**SECTION 8
CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL POLICIES**

POLICY #	TITLE	DATE ADOPTED
8.1	Classified Personnel Salary Schedule	09-08-2003
8.2	Evaluation for Classified Personnel	08-14-2006
8.3	Evaluation of Classified Personnel By Relatives	09-08-2003
8.4	Classified Employees Drug Testing	03-08-2004
8.5	Classified Employees Sick Leave	10-11-2004
8.7	Classified Employees Personal Leave and Professional Leave	10-11-2004
8.8	Classified Personnel Responsibilities in Dealing With Sex Offenders on Campus	06-11-2007
8.9	Public Office-Classified Personnel	03-08-2004
8.10	Jury Duty-Classified Personnel	03-08-2004
8.11	Overtime, Comp Time, and Complying with FSLA	01-12-2004
8.12	Classified Personnel Outside Employment	03-08-2004
8.13	Classified Personnel Employment	03-08-2004
8.14	Classified Personnel Reimbursement of Travel Expenses	03-08-2004
8.15	Classified Personnel Tobacco Use	03-08-2004
8.16	Dress of Classified Employees	03-08-2004
8.17	Classified Personnel Political Activity	03-08-2004
8.18	Classified Personnel Debts	03-08-2004
8.19	Classified Personnel Grievances	03-08-2004
8.19F	Level Two Grievance Form-Classified	03-08-2004
8.20	Classified Personnel Sexual Harassment	03-08-2004
8.21	Classified Personnel Supervision of Students	03-08-2004
8.22	Classified Staff Acceptable Use Policy	06-16-2008

8.23	Classified Personnel Family Medical Leave	03-08-2004
8.24	School Bus Drivers' Use of Mobile Communication Devices	09-08-2003
8.25	Classified Personnel Cell Phone Use	08-14-2006
8.26	Classified Personnel Responsibilities Governing Bullying	08-14-2006
8.27	Classified Personnel Leave-Injury From Assault	04-10-2006
8.28	Classified Personnel Drug Free Workplace	10-09-2006
8.29	Classified Personnel Video Surveillance	06-16-2008
8.30	Reduction in Classified Staff Work Force	05-17-2004
8.31	Classified Personnel Termination and Non-Renewal	08-14-2006
8.32	Classified Personnel Assignments	08-14-2006
8.33	Classified Personnel School Calendar	08-14-2006
8.34	Classified Personnel Who Are Mandatory Reporters Duty To Report Child Abuse, Maltreatment or Neglect	06-11-2012
8.35	Obtaining and Releasing of Student's Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility Information	04-13-2009
8.36	Worker's Compensation and Sick Leave	08-10-2009
8.37	Classified Personnel Social Networking and Ethics	06-24-2013
8.38	Classified Personnel Vacation	05-17-2004
8.39	Depositing Collected Funds	06-11-2012
8.40	Classified Personnel Weapons on Campus	05-13-2013
8.41	Written Code of Conduct for Employees Involved in Procurement with Federal Funds	05-11-2015
8.42	Classified Personnel Bus Driver End Of Route Review	07-14-2014
4.	Classified Personnel Representation Agreement	09-08-2003
4.1	Classified Employees-Definition & Classification	09-08-2003
4.2	Classified Personnel Policy Committee	09-08-2003

4.3	Contracts	09-08-2003
4.4	Paid Breaks	09-08-2003
4.6	Cost of Living Salary Increase	09-08-2003
4.13	Excessive Leave	03-08-2004
4.33	Classified Personnel Bereavement Leave Policy	05-17-2004
4.34	Classified Personnel Emergency Leave Policy	07-12-2005
4.35	Classified Personnel Retirement Policy	05-17-2004
4.39	Tuition Reimbursement	12-12-2005
4.43	Payment for Unused Sick Leave	07-09-2007
4.44	Classified Sabbatical Leave	09-11-2007
4.45	Classified Leave for Child Rearing	09-11-2007
4.48	Classified Personnel Employment & Orientation	09-11-2008
4.49	Substitute Employees	09-11-2008
4.58	Classified Personnel Accommodation Purchases	07-14-2014

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SALARY SCHEDULE

Enter your District's salary schedule for this policy. State law requires each District to include its non-certified employee's salary schedule in its written personnel policies unless the District recognizes a non-certified employee's union in its policies for, among other things, the negotiation of salaries. Your district is required to have a salary schedule for at least the following five categories of non-certified personnel: 1) Maintenance and Operations; 2) Transportation; 3) Food Service; 4) Secretarial and Clerical; and 5) Aids and Paraprofessionals. The District is required to post the salary schedule on its website by September 15 of each year and should place an obvious hyperlink, button, or menu item on the website's homepage that links directly to the current year classified policies and salary schedule.

For the purposes of this policy, an employee must work two thirds (2/3) of the number of their regularly assigned annual work days to qualify for a step increase.

The superintendent has the authority, when recommending an applicant and his/her placement on the District's salary schedule to the Board for its approval, to consider the applicant's previous work experience with similar duties, responsibilities, and skill sets to those job duties and responsibilities the applicant would assume for the District.

Districts shall distribute funding for health insurance coverage in accordance with state law, the Affordable Care Act, and policy 3430-Health Care Coverage and the Affordable Care Act. The District reserves the right to adjust the monthly distribution as necessary to account for changes in staffing, student population, and the ADE determination of the funding required to be distributed based on the funding matrix. Specifically, the amount distributed to each employee is NOT part of their salary and is NOT guaranteed to be the same from month-to-month or year-to-year.

Cross References: Policy 1.9 - Policy Formulation

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-17-2203
 A.C.A. § 6-17-2301
 A.C.A. § 21-5-405
 ADE Rules Governing School District Requirements for Personnel Policies, Salary Schedules, Minimum Salaries, and Documents Posted to District Websites

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003

Last Revised: 05-13-2013

Last Revised: 07-14-2014

EVALUATION FOR CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

Classified personnel of Fouke School District shall be evaluated on their job performance a minimum of once per year. The immediate supervisor shall be responsible for the job evaluations and preparing a recommendation to the superintendent concerning contract renewal.

The immediate supervisor and the classified personnel shall review the job description for each position annually and revise as needed. The evaluation shall be based on the job description.

Each employee shall be presented a written copy of the evaluation and shall have an opportunity to respond to any part of the evaluation.

Any forms, procedures or other methods of evaluation, including criteria, are to be developed by the Superintendent and or his designee(s), but shall not be a part of the personnel policies of the District.

Cross Reference: 3.2 – LICENSED PERSONNEL EVALUATIONS

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-2301

Date Adopted: 12-13-1993

Last Revised: 09-08-2003

Last Revised: 08-14-2006

Last Revised: 07-10-2017

**EVALUATION FORM
CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL**

Name _____

Building/Dept. _____

Job Title _____

Grading Scale of 1 to 5

- 1. Exceptional
- 2. Exceeds Standards
- 3. Satisfactory
- 4. Need Improvement
- 5. Unsatisfactory

Areas of Observance

Rating (circle number)

Areas of Observance	Rating (circle number)				
1) Job Knowledge and Skills	1	2	3	4	5
2) Job Performance	1	2	3	4	5
3) Dependability	1	2	3	4	5
4) Punctuality	1	2	3	4	5
5) Human Relations	1	2	3	4	5
a. Attitude	1	2	3	4	5
b. Appearance	1	2	3	4	5
c. Communication skills	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

Signature of Supervisor Date

Signature of Employee Date

SIGNATURE DOES NOT NECESSARILY
INDICATE AGREEMENT WITH THE CONTENT
OF THIS EVALUATION.

Employee has the right to comment on this evaluation if not in agreement. Give comments below. Use back if needed.

EVALUATION OF CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL BY RELATIVES

No person shall be employed in, or assigned to, a position which would require that he be evaluated by any relative, by blood or marriage, including spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or first cousin.

Date Adopted: 09-08-03

Date Revised:

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES DRUG TESTING

Scope of Policy

Each person hired for a position that allows or requires the employee operate a school bus shall meet the following requirements:

1. The employee shall possess a current commercial vehicle drivers license for driving a school bus;
2. Have undergone a physical examination, which shall include a drug test, by a licensed physician or advanced practice nurse within the past two years; and
3. A current valid certificate of school bus driver in service training.

Each person's initial employment for a job entailing a safety sensitive function is conditioned upon the district receiving a negative drug test result for that employee. The offer of employment is also conditioned upon the employee's signing an authorization for the request for information by the district from the Commercial Driver Alcohol and Drug Testing Database.

Methods of Testing

The collection, testing methods and standards shall be determined by the agency or other medical organizations chosen by the School Board to conduct the collection and testing of samples. The drug and alcohol testing is to be conducted by a laboratory certified pursuant to the most recent guidelines issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services for such facilities. ("Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs")

Definitions

"Safety sensitive" function includes:

- a. All time spent inspecting, servicing, and/or preparing the vehicle;
- b. All time spent driving the vehicle;
- c. All time spent loading or unloading the vehicle or supervising the loading or unloading of the vehicle; and
- d. All time spent repairing, obtaining assistance, or remaining in attendance upon a disabled vehicle.

"School Bus" is a motorized vehicle that meets the following requirements:

1. Is designed to carry more than ten (10) passengers;
2. Is privately owned and operated for compensation, or which is owned, leased or otherwise operated by, or for the benefit of the District; and
3. Is operated for the transportation of students from home to school, from school to home, or to and from school events.

Requirements

Employees shall be drug and alcohol free from the time the employee is required to be ready to work until the employee is relieved from the responsibility for performing work and/or any time they are performing a safety-sensitive function. In addition to the testing required as an initial condition of employment,

employees shall submit to subsequent drug tests as required by law and/or regulation. Subsequent testing includes, and/or is triggered by, but is not limited to:

1. Random tests;
2. Testing in conjunction with an accident;
3. Receiving a citation for a moving traffic violation; and
4. Reasonable suspicion.

Prohibitions

- A. No driver shall report for duty or remain on duty requiring the performance of safety-sensitive functions while having an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or greater;
- B. No driver shall use alcohol while performing safety-sensitive functions;
- C. No driver shall perform safety-sensitive functions within four (4) hours after using alcohol;
- D. No driver required to take a post-accident alcohol test under #2 above shall use alcohol for eight (8) hours following the accident or until he/she undergoes a post-accident alcohol test, whichever occurs first;
- E. No driver shall refuse to submit to an alcohol or drug test in conjunction with #1, 2, and/or 4 above;
- F. No driver shall report for duty or remain on duty requiring the performance of safety-sensitive functions when using any controlled substance, except when used pursuant to the instructions of a licensed medical practitioner who, with knowledge of the driver's job responsibilities, has advised the driver that the substance will not adversely affect the driver's ability to safely operate his/her vehicle. It is the employee's responsibility to inform his/her supervisor of the employee's use of such medication;
- G. No driver shall report for duty, remain on duty, or perform a safety-sensitive function if the driver tests positive or has adulterated or substituted a test specimen for controlled substance.

Violation of any of these prohibitions may lead to disciplinary action being taken against the employee, which could include termination or non-renewal.

Testing for Cause

Drivers involved in an accident in which there is a loss of another person's life shall be tested for alcohol and controlled substances as soon as practicable following the accident. Drivers shall also be tested for alcohol within eight (8) hours and for controlled substances within thirty two (32) hours following an accident for which they receive a citation for a moving traffic violation if the accident involved: 1) bodily injury to any person who, as a result of the injury, immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident, or 2) one or more motor vehicles incurs disabling damage as a result of the accident requiring the motor vehicle to be transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other motor vehicle.

Refusal to Submit

Refusal to submit to an alcohol or controlled substance test means that the driver

- Failed to appear for any test within a reasonable period of time as determined by the employer consistent with applicable Department of Transportation agency regulation;
- Failed to remain at the testing site until the testing process was completed;
- Failed to provide a urine specimen for any required drug test;
- Failed to provide a sufficient amount of urine without an adequate medical reason for the failure;
- Failed to undergo a medical examination as directed by the Medical Review Officer as part of the verification process for the previous listed reason;

- Failed or declined to submit to a second test that the employer or collector has directed the driver to take;
- Failed to cooperate with any of the testing process; and/or
- Adulterated or substituted a test result as reported by the Medical Review Officer.

School bus drivers should be aware that refusal to submit to a drug test when the test is requested based on a reasonable suspicion can constitute grounds for criminal prosecution.

Consequences for Violations

Drivers who engage in any conduct prohibited by this policy, who refuse to take a required drug or alcohol test, refuse to sign the request for information required by law, or who exceed the acceptable limits for the respective tests shall no longer be allowed to perform safety-sensitive functions. Actions regarding their continued employment shall be taken in relation to their inability to perform these functions and could include termination or non-renewal of their contract of employment.

Drivers who exhibit signs of violating the prohibitions of this policy relating to alcohol, or controlled substances shall not be allowed to perform or continue to perform safety-sensitive functions if they exhibit those signs during, just preceding, or just after the period of the work day that the driver is required to be in compliance with the provisions of this policy. This action shall be based on specific, contemporaneous, articulatable observations concerning the behavior, speech, or body odors of the driver. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall remove the driver from reporting for, or remaining on, duty for a minimum of 24 hours from the time the observation was made triggering the driver's removal from duty.

If the results for an alcohol test administered to a driver is equal to or greater than 0.02, but less than 0.04, the driver shall be prohibited from performing safety-sensitive functions for a period not less than 24 hours from the time the test was administered. Unless the loss of duty time triggers other employment consequence policies, no further other action against the driver is authorized by this policy for test results showing an alcohol concentration of less than 0.04.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-19-108
 A.C.A. § 6-19-119
 49 C.F.R. § 382-101-605
 49 C.F.R. § part 40
 49 C.F.R. § part 390.5
 Arkansas Division of Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing
 Maintenance and Operations of Arkansas Public School Buses and Physical
 Examinations of School Bus Drivers

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004
Last Revised: 06-11-2007
Last Revised: 07-14-2014

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES SICK LEAVE

The Fouke School District shall follow as a minimum the laws of the State of Arkansas regarding sick leave for all classified employees. All employees who work not less than twenty (20) hours a week shall be considered a full-time classified employee.

Definitions

"Employee" is a full-time classified employee of the District.

"Sick leave" is absence from work due to illness, whether by the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family, or due to a death in the family. The principal shall determine whether sick leave will be approved on the basis of a death outside of the immediate family of the employee.

"Immediate family" means an employee's spouse, child, parent, in-laws, or any other relative provided that other relative lives in the same household as the employee.

"Accumulated sick leave" is the total of unused sick leave accrued from previous contract, but not used. Accumulated sick leave also includes the sick leave transferred from an employee's public school employment.

"Current sick leave" means those days of sick leave for the current contract year, which leave is granted at the rate of one day of sick leave per contracted month, or major part thereof.

Sick Leave

Each employee shall receive a minimum of ten (10) sick leave days per contract year and may accumulate a limit of 250 unused sick leave days.

A record of sick leave used and accumulated shall be established and maintained for each employee. Each employee shall be informed annually of the number of sick leave days accumulated at the end of the contract year.

If an employee leaves employment in the school district for any reason, the district may deduct from his/her paycheck full compensation for any days sick leave used in excess of the number of days earned.

Employees who are adopting or seeking to adopt a minor child or minor children may use up to fifteen (15) sick leave days in any school year for absences relating to the adoption, including time needed for travel, time needed for home visits, time needed for document translation, submission or preparation, time spent with legal or adoption agency representatives, time spent in court and bonding time. See also, 8.23—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE, which may also apply. Except for bonding time, documentation shall be provided by the employee upon request.

The principal has the discretion to approve sick leave for an employee to attend the funeral of a person who is not related to the employee, under circumstances deemed appropriate by the principal.

Pay for sick leave shall be at the employee's daily rate of pay, which is that employee's total contracted salary, divided by the number of days employed as reflected in the contract. Absences for illness in excess of the employee's accumulated and current sick leave shall result in a deduction from the employee's pay at the daily rate as defined above unless the employee is approved for excessive leave.

At the discretion of the principal (or Superintendent), and, if FMLA is applicable, subject to the certification or recertification provisions contained in policy 8.23—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE the District may require a written statement from the employee's physician documenting the employee's illness. Failure to provide such documentation of illness may result in sick leave not being paid, or in discipline up to and including termination.

Absenteeism to the extent that the employee is not carrying out his/her assigned duties to an extent that the education of students and/or the daily operation of the district's school plant/site is substantially adversely affected (at the determination of the principal, Supervisor, or Superintendent) may result in dismissal.

Employee to Employee

Any employee of the Fouke School District may transfer his/her own sick leave days to another school employee, under the following circumstances:

1. The receiving employee has exhausted his/her accumulated sick leave days and has a balance of zero days.
2. The transferring employee has an accumulated of more than 10 sick leave days.
3. The transferring employee must leave a balance of 10 days.

Retiring Employees

Retiring classified employees who have been employed by the District five (5) years or longer will receive pay for accumulated sick leave at the substitute teacher rate of pay upon retirement.

Employee Death

If an employee dies during a contract year and meets the following criteria, the employee's estate shall be paid the amount of sick leave pay that the employee would have received had they retired on the day of their death.

1. The employee has been employed by the District five (5) years or longer.
2. The employee is eligible for full retirement (as defined by the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System).

Sick Leave and Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave

When an employee takes sick leave, the District shall determine if the employee is eligible for FMLA leave and if the leave qualifies for FMLA leave. The District may request additional information from the employee to help make the applicability determination. If the employee is eligible for FMLA leave and if the leave qualifies under the FMLA, the District will notify the employee in writing, of the decision within five (5) workdays. If the circumstances for the leave as defined in policy 8.23—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE don't change, the District is only required to notify the employee once of the determination regarding the applicability of sick leave and/or FMLA leave within any applicable twelve (12) month period. To the extent the employee has accumulated paid sick leave, any sick leave taken that qualifies for FMLA leave shall be paid leave and charged against the employee's accrued leave including, once an employee exhausts his/her accumulated sick leave, vacation or personal leave. See 8.23—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE.

Sick Leave and Outside Employment

Sick leave related absence from work (e.g. sick leave for personal or family illness or accident, Workers Comp, and FMLA) inherently means the employee is also incapable of working at any source of outside

employment. Except as provided in policy , if an employee who works a non-district job while taking district sick leave for personal or family illness or accident, Workers Comp, or FMLA shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Cross References: 8.12—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT
 8.23—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE
 8.36—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL WORKPLACE INJURIES AND
 WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-1301 et. seq.
 29 USC §§ 2601 et seq.
 29 CFR 825.100 et seq.

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004
Last Revised: 10-11-2004
Last Revised: 10-09-2006
Last Revised: 06-11-2007
Last Revised: 09-11-2007
Last Revised: 08-11-2008
Last Revised: 06-11-2012
Last Revised: 05-13-2013
Last Revised: 07-14-2014
Last Revised: 05-11-2015

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LEAVE

Personal Leave

For the District to function efficiently and have the necessary personnel present to effect a high achieving learning environment, employee absences need to be kept to a minimum. The District acknowledges that there are times during the school year when employees have personal business that needs to be addressed during the school day. Each full-time employee shall receive three (3) days of personal leave per contract year. The leave may be taken in increments of no less than ½.

Employees shall take personal leave or leave without pay for those absences which are not due to attendance at school functions and do not qualify for other types of leave.

School functions, for the purposes of this policy, means:

1. Extra-curricular or academic events related to the school District; and
2. Meetings and conferences related to education.

For employees other than the superintendent, the determination of what activities meet the definition of a school function shall be made by the employee's immediate supervisor or designee. For the superintendent, the school board of directors shall determine what activities meet the definition of a school function. In no instance shall paid leave in excess of allotted vacation days and/or personal days be granted to an employee who is absent from work while receiving remuneration from another source as compensation for the reason of for their absence.

Any employee desiring to take personal leave may do so by making a written request to his supervisor at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the requested leave. The twenty-four hour requirement may be waived by the supervisor when the supervisor deems it appropriate.

Employees who fail to report when their request for a personal day has been desired or who have exhausted their allotted personal days, shall lose their daily rate of pay for the day(s) missed (leave without pay). While there are instances where personal circumstances necessitate an employee's absence beyond the allotted days of sick and/or personal leave, any employee who requires leave without pay must receive advance permission (except in medical emergencies and/or as permitted by policy 8.23- Classified Personnel Family Medical Leave) from their immediate supervisor. Failure to report to work without having received permission to be absent is ground for discipline, up to and including termination.

Personal leave does not accumulate from one contract year to the next.

Personal leave may not be taken the day before or the day after a holiday.

Professional Leave

"Professional Leave" is leave granted for the purpose of enabling an employee to participate in professional activities (e.g. teacher workshops or serving on professional committees) which can serve to improve the school District's instructional program or enhances the employee's ability to perform his duties. Professional leave will also be granted when a school District employee is subpoenaed for a matter arising out of the employee's employment with the school District. Any employee seeking professional leave must make a written request to his immediate supervisor, setting forth the information necessary for the supervisor to make an informed decision. The supervisor's decision is subject to review

and overruling by the superintendent. Budgeting concerns and the potential benefit for the District's students will be taken into consideration in reviewing a request for professional leave.

Applications for professional leave should be made as soon as possible following the employee's discerning a need for such leave, but, in any case, no less than two (2) weeks before the requested leave is to begin, if possible.

If the employee does not receive or does not accept remuneration for his/her participation in the professional leave activity and a substitute is needed for the employee, the District shall pay the full cost of the substitute. If the employee receives and accepts remuneration for his/her participation in the professional leave activity (e.g. scholastic audits or praxis assessments), the employee shall forfeit his/her daily rate of pay from the District for the time the employee misses. The cost of a substitute, if one is needed, shall be paid by the employee/District.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-211

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised: 10-11-04

Date Revised: 07-09-07

Date Revised: 06-11-12

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES IN DEALING WITH SEX
OFFENDERS ON CAMPUS**

Individuals who have been convicted of certain sex crimes must register with law enforcement as sex offenders. Arkansas law places restrictions on sex offenders with a Level 1 sex offender having the least restrictions (lowest likelihood of committing another sex crime), and Level 4 sex offenders having the most restrictions (highest likelihood of committing another sex crime).

While Levels 1 and 2 place no restrictions prohibiting the individual's presence on a school campus, Levels 3 and 4 have specific prohibitions. These are specified in Policy 1600-MEGAN'S LAW and it is the responsibility of district staff to know and understand the policy and, to the extent requested, aid school administration in enforcing the restrictions placed on campus access to Level 3 and Level 4 sex offenders.

It is the intention of the board of directors that district staff not stigmatize students whose parents or guardians are sex offenders while taking necessary steps to safeguard the school community and comply with state law. Each school's administration should establish procedures so attention is not drawn to the accommodations necessary for registered sex offender parents or guardians.

Cross Reference: **6.10- MEGAN'S LAW**

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 12-12-913(g)(2)
 Arkansas Department of Education Guidelines for "Megan's Law"
 A.C.A. § 5-14-131

Date Adopted: 06-11-07

PUBLIC OFFICE-CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

An employee of the District who is elected to the Arkansas General Assembly or any elective or appointive public office (not legally constitutionally inconsistent with employment by a public school district) shall not be discharged or demoted as a result of such service.

No sick leave will be granted for the employee's participation in such public office. The employee may take personal leave or vacation (if applicable), if approved in advance by the Superintendent, during his absence.

Prior to taking leave, and as soon as possible after the need for such leave is discerned by the employee, he must make written request for leave to the Superintendent, setting out, to the degree possible, the dates such leave is needed.

An employee who fraudulently requests sick leave for the purpose of taking leave to serve in public office may be subject to non-renewal or termination of his employment contract.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-115,116

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised: 06-11-12

JURY DUTY-CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

Employees are not subject to discharge, loss of sick leave, loss of vacation time or any other penalty due to absence from work for jury duty, upon giving reasonable notice to the District through the employee's immediate supervisor.

The employee must present the original (not a copy) summons to jury duty to his supervisor in order to confirm the reason for the requested absence.

Employees shall receive their regular pay from the district while serving jury duty.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 16-31-106

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised: 11-09-2009

OVERTIME, COMP TIME, AND COMPLYING WITH FLSA

The Fouke School District shall comply with those portions of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) that relate to the operation of public schools. The FLSA requires that covered non-exempt employees receive compensation for each hour worked at greater than or equal to the applicable minimum wage for work weeks of less than or equal to forty (40) hours. It also requires that employees be compensated for work weeks of greater than forty (40) hours worked at one and a half (1 1/2) times their regular hourly rate of pay, either monetarily or through compensatory time off.

Definitions

“Covered Employees” (also defined as non-exempt employees) are those employees who are not exempt, generally termed classified, and include bus drivers clerical workers, maintenance personnel, custodians, transportation workers, receptionists, paraprofessionals, food service workers, secretaries, and bookkeepers.

“Exempt Employees” are those employees who are not covered under the FLSA because the employee’s:

- A. Primary job duties are considered to be exempt eligible due to being administrative or professional in nature. Examples include teachers, counselors, registered nurses, and supervisors; and
- B. Salary meets or exceeds a minimum weekly/annual amount.

Any employee who is unsure of their coverage status should consult with the District’s Administration.

“Overtime” is hours worked in excess of forty (40) per workweek. Compensation given for hours **not** worked such as for holidays or sick days do **not** count in determining hours worked per workweek.

“Regular Rate of Pay” includes all forms of remuneration for employment and shall be expressed as an hourly rate. For those employees paid on a salary basis, the salary shall be converted to an hourly equivalent. Employees shall be paid for each and every hour worked.

“Straight time pay” is the amount of hourly compensation an employee receives for each hour worked during that week.

“Workweek” is the seven day consecutive period of time from 12:00 AM on Sunday to midnight on the following Saturday. Each workweek is independent of every other workweek for the purpose of determining the number of hours worked and the remuneration entitled to by the employee of that week.

Employment Relationships

The District does not have an employment relationship in the following instances:

1. Between the District and student teachers;
2. Between the District and its students; and
3. Between the District and individuals who as a public service volunteer or donate their time to the District without expectations or promise of compensation.

The District does not have a joint employment relationship in the following instances:

- a. Between the District and off-duty policemen or deputies who are hired on a part-time basis for security purposes and crowd control. The District is separate from and acts independently of other governmental entities.
- b. Between the District and any agency contracted with to provide transportation services, security services, substitute teachers or other temporary employees, or other services.

Hours Worked

Employees shall be compensated for all the time they are required to be on duty and shall be paid for all hours worked each work week. Employees shall accurately record the hours they work each week and the employer shall ensure records are accurate.

The District shall determine the manner to be used by employees to accurately record the hours they work. Each employee shall record the exact time they commence and cease work including meal breaks. Employees arriving early may socialize with fellow workers who are off the clock, but shall not commence working without first recording their starting time.

Employees shall sign in/clock in where they start work and sign out/clock out at the site where they cease working. Employees who do not start and end their work day at the same site shall carry a time card or sheet with them to accurately record their times. They shall turn in their time sheets or cards to their immediate supervisor no later than the following Monday morning after reviewing them to be sure that they accurately reflect their hours worked for that week.

Each employee is to personally record his or her own times. Any employee who signs in or out (or who punches a time clock) for another employee or who asks another employee to do so for him or her will be dismissed.

Employees whose normal work week is less than forty (40) hours and who work more than their normal number of hours in a given work week may, at the District's option, be given compensatory time for the hours they worked in excess of their normal work week in lieu of their regular rate pay.

Breaks and Meals

Each employee working more than twenty (20) hours per week shall be provided two (2), paid, fifteen (15) minute duty free breaks per work day.

Meal periods **that** are less than thirty (30) minutes in length or in which the employee is not relieved of duty are compensable. Employees with a bona fide meal period shall be completely relieved of their duty to allow them to eat their meal which they may do away from their work site, in the school cafeteria, or in a break area.

The employee shall not engage in any work for the District during meal breaks except in rear and infrequent emergencies. If employee does work during meal breaks the employee will record and pay accordingly.

Overtime

Non-exempt employees shall be compensated at not less than one and a half (1 ½) times his or her regular rate of pay for all hours worked over forty (40) in a work week. Overtime compensation shall be computed on the basis the hours worked in each week and may not be waived by either the employee or the District. Overtime compensation shall be paid on the next regular payday for the period in which the overtime was earned.

The rate of overtime pay for employees who work two (2) or more jobs for the District at different rates of pay shall be determined by creating a weighted average of the different rates (a.k.a. blended rate). The weighted average will be calculated by multiplying the number of hours worked during that week for each position by the position's rate of pay, combining the resulting amounts for each position (straight time pay), and dividing the straight time pay by the total number of hours the employee worked in that week.

The weighted average will then be multiplied by one half (0.5), which will then be multiplied by the number of hours the employee worked that week over forty (40).

Provided the employee and the District have a written agreement or understanding before the work is performed, compensatory time off may be awarded in lieu of overtime pay for hours worked over forty (40) in a work week and shall be awarded on a one and one-half (1 1/2) time basis for each hour of overtime worked. The District reserves the right to determine if it will award compensatory time in lieu of monetary pay for the overtime worked. The district number of compensatory hours an employee may accumulate in a comp time bank is three days (3) and must be approved by the employee's immediate supervisor and the superintendent. The employee must be able to take the compensatory time off within a reasonable period of time that is not unduly disruptive to the District.

An employee whose employment is terminated with the District, whether by the District or the employee shall receive monetary compensation for unused compensatory time. Of the following methods, the one that yields the greatest money for the employee shall be used.

1. The average regular rate received by the employee during the last 3 years of employment or;
2. The final regular rate received by the employee.
3. The employee shall be paid at the next scheduled pay day.

Overtime Authorization

There will be instances where the district's needs necessitate an employee work overtime. It is the Board's desire to keep overtime worked to a minimum. To facilitate this, employees shall receive authorization from their supervisor in advance of working overtime except in the rare instance when it is unforeseen and unavoidable.

All overtime worked will be paid in accordance with the provisions of the FLSA, but unless the overtime was pre-approved or fit into the exceptions noted previously, disciplinary action shall be taken for failure to follow District policy. In extreme and repeated cases, disciplinary action could include the termination of the employee.

Leave Requests

All covered employees shall submit a leave request form prior to taking the leave if possible. If, a request for leave was not possible in advance due to unforeseen or emergency circumstances, the leave form shall be turned in the day the employee returns to work. Unless specifically granted by the Board for special circumstances, the reason necessitating the leave must fall within District policy.

Payment for leave could be delayed or not occur if an employee fails to turn in the required leave form.

Leave may be taken in a minimum of four (4) hour increments.

Record Keeping and Postings

The District shall keep and maintain records as required by the FLSAS for the period of time required by the act.

The District shall display minimum wage posters where employees can readily observe them

Cooperation with Enforcement Officials

All records relating to the FLSA shall be available for inspection by, and District employees shall cooperate fully with, officials from the Department of Labor (DOL) and/or its authorized representatives in the performance of their jobs relating to:

- a. Investigating and gathering data regarding the wages, hours, and other conditions and practices of employment;
- b. Entering, inspecting, and/or transcribing the premises and its records;
- c. Questioning employees and investigating such facts as the inspectors deem necessary to determine whether any person has violated any provision of the FLSA.

Legal References: 29 USC § 206(a), ACA § 6-17-2203
29 USC § 207(a)(1), 29 CFR § 778.100
29 USC § 207(o), 29 CFR § 553.50
29 USC § 213(a), 29 CFR §§ 541 et seq.
29 CFR § 778.218(A)
29 USC § 207(e), 29 CFR § 778.108
29 CFR § 778.105
29 CFR §§ 785.9, 785.16
29 CFR § 516.2(7)
29 CFR §§ 785.1 et seq.
ACA § 6-17-2205
29 CFR §§ 785.19
29 USC § 207(a), 29 CFR § 778.100, 29 USC § 207(o), 29 CFR §§ 553.20 –
553.32
29 CFR § 778.106
29 USC § 207(g)(2), 29 CFR § 778.115
29 USC § 207(o)(2)(A), 29 CFR § 553.23
29 CFR § 553.20
29 USC § 207(o)(4), 29 CFR § 553.27
29 USC § 211(c), 29 CFR §§ 516.2, 516.3, 553.50
29 CFR § 516.4
29 CFR §§ 516.5, 516.6
29 USC § 211(a)(b)

Date Adopted: 01-12-2004
Last Revised: 06-11-2007
Last Revised: 05-11-2015
Last Revised: 06-20-2016
Last Revised: 07-10-2017

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

An employee of the District may not be employed in any other capacity during regular working hours.

An employee may not accept employment outside of his district employment, which will interfere, or otherwise be incompatible with the District employment, including normal duties outside the regular workday; no shall an employee accept other employment, which is inappropriate for an employee of a public school.

The Superintendent, or his designee(s), shall be responsible for determining whether outside employment is incompatible, conflicting, or inappropriate.

When a classified employee is additionally employed by the District by a contract for a second classified position or to perform supplementary duties for a stipend or multiplier, the duties, expectations, and obligations of the primary position employment contract shall prevail over all other employment duties unless the needs of the district dictate otherwise. If there is a conflict between the expectations of the primary position and any other contracted position, the employee shall notify the employee's building principal as far in advance as is practicable. The Building principal shall verify the existence of the conflict by contacting the supervisor of the secondary contracted position. The building principal shall determine the needs of the district on a case-by-case basis and rule accordingly. The principal's decision is final with no appeal to the Superintendent or the School Board. Frequent conflicts or scheduling problems could lead to the non-renewal or termination of the conflicting contract of employment or the contract to perform the supplementary duties.

For employees who work two or more jobs for the District, the superintendent or designee shall specify which is the employee's primary job. If circumstances change, the determination can be changed to reflect the current needs of the District. Furthermore, if on any given day, one of the employee's jobs requires more hours worked than is customary, the District reserves the right to lessen the number of hours the employee may work in his/her other job such that the employee does not exceed forty (40) hours worked in that week.

Sick Leave and Outside Employment

Sick leave related absence from work (e.g. sick leave for personal or family illness or accident, Workers Comp, and FMLA) inherently means the employee is also incapable of working at any source of outside employment. Except as provided in policy 8.26, if an employee who works a non-district job while taking district sick leave for personal or family illness or accident, Workers Comp, or FMLA shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Cross References: 8.5—CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES SICK LEAVE
 8.23—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE
 8.36—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL WORKPLACE INJURIES AND WORKERS'
 COMPENSATION

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-24-106, 107, 111

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004

Last Revised: 07-14-2014

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT

All prospective employees must fill out an application form provided by the District, in addition to any resume provided; all of the information provided is to be placed in the personnel file of those employed.

If the employee provides false or misleading information, or if he withholds information to the same effect, it may be grounds for dismissal. In particular, it will be considered a material misrepresentation and grounds for termination of contract of employment if an employee's application information is discovered to be other than as was represented by the employee, either in writing on application materials or in the form of representations made to the school district.

It is grounds for termination of contract of employment if an employee fails a criminal background check or receives a true report on the Child Maltreatment Central Registry check.

An employee who receives notification of a failure to pass a criminal background check or a true result on the Child Maltreatment Central Registry check shall have thirty (30) days following the notification to submit to the superintendent, or designee, a written request for a hearing before the Board to request a waiver. The written request should include any documentation, such as police reports, or other materials that are related to the event giving rise to the failed background check or true result on the Child Maltreatment Registry as well as information supporting your request for the waiver. Employees requesting a board hearing to request a waiver should be aware that this hearing is subject to the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act and it must be fully open to the public as a result.

An individual with a currently suspended license or whose license has been revoked by the State Board of Education is not eligible to be employed by the District: this prohibition includes employment as a substitute teacher, whether directly employed by the District or providing substitute teaching services under contract with an outside entity.

The District is an equal opportunity employer and shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability or genetic information.

Inquiries on non-discrimination may be directed to the superintendent, who may be reached at 200 North Davis, Fouke, AR 71837 or call 870-653-4311.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination or to file a complaint, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

In accordance with Arkansas law, the District provides a veteran preference to applicants who qualify for one of the following categories:

1. a veteran without a service-connected disability;
2. a veteran with a service-connected disability; and
3. a deceased veteran's spouse who is unmarried throughout the hiring process; or

For purposes of this policy, "veteran" is defined as:

- a. A person honorably discharged from a tour of active duty, other than active duty for training only, with the armed forces of the United States; or

- b. Any person who has served honorably in the National Guard or reserve forces of the United States for a period of at least six (6) years, whether or not the person has retired or been discharged.

In order for an applicant to receive the veterans preference, the applicant must be a citizen and resident of Arkansas, be substantially equally qualified as other applicants and do all of the following:

1. Indicate on the employment application the category the applicant qualifies for;
2. Attach the following documentation, **as applicable**, to the employment application:
 - Form DD-214 indicating honorable discharge;
 - A letter dated within the last six months from the applicant's command indicating years of service in the National Guard or Reserve Forces as well as the applicant's current status;
 - Marriage license;
 - Death certificate;
 - Disability letter from the Veteran's Administration (in the case of an applicant with a service-related disability).

Failure of the applicant to comply with the above requirements shall result in the applicant not receiving the veteran preference; in addition, meeting the qualifications of a veteran or spousal category does not guarantee either an interview or being hired.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-17-414
 A.C.A. § 6-17-429
 A.C.A. § 21-3-302
 A.C.A. § 21-3-303
 A.C.A. § 25-19-101 et seq.
 28 C.F.R § 35.106
 29 C.F.R. part 1635
 34 C.F.R.§ 100.6
 34 C.F.R.§ 104.8
 34 C.F.R.§ 106.9
 34 C.F.R.§ 108.9
 34 C.F.R.§ 110.25

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004
Last Revised: 06-11-2012
Last Revised: 07-14-2014
Last Revised: 05-11-2015
Last Revised: 06-20-2016
Last Revised: 07-10-2017

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

Employees shall be reimbursed for personal and/or travel expenses incurred while performing duties or attending workshops or other employment-related functions, provided that prior written approval for the activity for which the employee seeks reimbursement has been received from the Superintendent, principal (or other immediate supervision with the authority to make school approvals), or the appropriate designee of the Superintendent and that the teacher's attendance/travel was at the request of the district.

It is the responsibility of the employee to determine the appropriate supervisor from which he/she must obtain approval.

Employees shall request the use of a district owned vehicle and be denied the use of an appropriate school vehicle before reimbursement for travel expenses associated with a personal vehicle will be considered.

Reimbursement claims must be made on forms provided by the District and must be supported by appropriate, ITEMIZED original receipts. Copies of receipts or other documentation are not acceptable, except in extraordinary circumstances.

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004

Last Revised: 08-11-2008

Last Revised: 05-13-2013

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL TOBACCO USE

Smoking or use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and snuff) in or on any real property owned or leased by a District school, including school buses owned or leased by the District, or other school vehicles is prohibited.

With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pips, or under any other name or descriptor.

Violation of this policy by employees shall be grounds for disciplinary action up to, and including, dismissal.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-21-609

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004

Last Revised: 06-24-2013

DRESS FOR CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

Employees shall ensure that their dress and appearance are professional and appropriate to their positions.

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Employees are free to engage in political activity outside of work hours and to the extent that it does not affect the performance of their duties or adversely affect important working relationships.

It is specifically forbidden for employees to engage in political activities on the school grounds or during work hours. The following activities are forbidden on school property:

1. Using student for preparation or dissemination of campaign materials;
2. Distributing political materials;
3. Distributing or otherwise seeking signatures on petitions of any kind;
4. Posting political materials; and
5. Discussing political matters with students, in or out of the classroom, in other than circumstances appropriate to the employee's responsibilities to the students and where a legitimate pedagogical reason exists.

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL DEBTS

For the purposes of this policy, “garnishment” of a district employee is when the employee has lost a lawsuit to a judgment creditor who brought suit against a school district employee for an unpaid debt, has been awarded money damages as a result, and these damages are recoverable by filing a garnishment action against the employee’s wages. For the purposes of this policy, the word “garnishment” excludes such things as child support, student loan or IRS liens or deductions levied against and employee’s wages.

All employees are expected to meet their financial obligations. If an employee writes "hot" checks or has his income garnished by a judgment creditor, dismissal may result.

An employee may not be dismissed for having been the subject of one (1) garnishment. However, a second or third garnishment may result in dismissal.

At the discretion of the Superintendent, he or his designee may meet with an employee who has received a second garnishment for the purpose of warning the employee that a third garnishment will result in a recommendation of dismissal to the School Board.

At the discretion of the Superintendent, a second garnishment may be used as a basis for a recommended dismissal. The Superintendent may take into consideration other factors in deciding whether to recommend dismissal based on a second garnishment. Those factors may include, but are not limited to, the amount of the debt, the time between the first and the second garnishment, and other financial problems, which come to the attention of the District.

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004

Last Revised: 05-13-2013

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL GRIEVANCES

The purpose of this policy is to provide an orderly process for employees to resolve, at the lowest possible level, their concerns related to the personnel policies or salary payments of this district.

Definitions:

Grievance: A claim or concern related to the interpretation, application, or claimed violation of the personnel policies, including salary schedules, federal or state laws and regulations, or terms or conditions of employment, raised by an individual employee of this school district. Other matters for which the means of resolution are provided or foreclosed by statute or administrative procedures shall not be considered grievances. Specifically, no grievance may be entertained against a supervisor for directing, instructing, reprimanding, or "writing up" an employee under his/her supervision. A group of employees who have the same grievance may file a group grievance.

Group Grievance: A grievance may be filed as a group grievance if it meets the following criteria: (meeting the criteria does not ensure that the subject of the grievance, is in fact, grievable)

1. More than one individual has interest in the matter; and
2. The group has a well-defined common interest in the facts and/or circumstances of the grievance; and
3. The group has designated an employee spokesperson to meet with administration and/or the board; and
4. All individuals within the group are requesting the same relief.

Employee: Any person employed under a written contract by this school district.

Immediate Supervisor: The person immediately superior to an employee who directs and supervises the work of that employee.

Working Day: A day in which a majority of the employees of the same job classification as the employee with a grievance is scheduled to work.

Process

Level One: An employee who believes that he/she has a grievance shall inform that employee's immediate supervisor that the employee has a potential grievance and discuss the matter with the supervisor within five working days of the occurrence of the grievance. The supervisor shall offer the employee an opportunity to have a witness or representative who is not a member of the employee's immediate family present at their conference. (The five-day requirement does not apply to grievances concerning back pay.) If the grievance is not advanced to Level Two within five working days following the conference, the matter will be considered resolved and the employee shall have no further right with respect to said grievance.

If the immediate supervisor cannot resolve the grievance, the employee can advance the grievance to Level Two. To do this, the employee must complete the top half of the Level Two Grievance Form within five working days of the discussion with the immediate supervisor, citing the manner in which the specific personnel policy was violated that has given rise to the grievance, and submit the Grievance Form to his/her immediate supervisor. The supervisor will have ten working days to respond to the grievance using the bottom half of the Level Two Grievance Form which he/she will submit to the building principal or, in the event that the employee's immediate supervisor is the building principal, the superintendent.

Level Two (when appeal is to the building principal): Upon receipt of a Level Two Grievance Form, the building principal will have ten working days to schedule a conference with the employee filing the grievance. The principal shall offer the employee an opportunity to have a witness or representative who is not a member of the employee's immediate family present at their conference. After the conference, the principal will have ten working days in which to deliver a written response to the grievance to the employee. If the grievance is not advanced to Level Three within five working days the matter will be considered resolved and the employee shall have no further right with respect to said grievance.

Level Two (when appeal is to the superintendent): Upon receipt of a Level Two Grievance Form, the superintendent will have ten working days to schedule a conference with the employee filing the grievance. The superintendent shall offer the employee an opportunity to have a witness or representative who is not a member of the employee's immediate family present at the conference. After the conference, the superintendent will have ten working days in which to deliver a written response to the grievance to the employee.

Level Three: If the proper recipient of the Level Two Grievance was the building principal, and the employee remains unsatisfied with the written response to the grievance, the employee may advance the grievance to the superintendent by submitting a copy of the Level Two Grievance Form and the principal's reply to the superintendent within five working days of his/her receipt of the principal's reply. The superintendent will have ten working days of his/her receipt of the principal's reply. The superintendent will have ten working days to schedule a conference with the employee filing the grievance. The superintendent shall offer the employee an opportunity to have a witness or representative who is not a member of the employee's immediate family present at their conference. After the conference, the superintendent will have ten working days in which to deliver a written response to the grievance to the employee.

Appeal to the Board of Directors: An employee who remains unsatisfied by the written response of the superintendent may appeal the superintendent's decision to the Board of Education within five working days of his/her receipt of the Superintendent's written response by submitting a written request for a board hearing to the superintendent. If the grievance is not appealed to the Board of Directors within five working days of his/her receipt of the superintendent's response, the matter will be considered resolved and the employee shall have no further right with respect to said grievance.

The school board will address the grievance at the next regular meeting of the school board, unless the employee agrees in writing to an alternate date for the hearing. After reviewing the Level Two Grievance Form and the superintendent's reply, the board will decide if the grievance, on its face, is grievable under district policy. If the grievance is presented as a "group grievance", the Board shall first determine if the composition of the group meets the definition of a "group grievance":. If the Board determines that it is a group grievance, the Board shall then determine whether the matter raised is grievable. If the Board rules the composition of the group does not meet the definition of a group grievance, or the grievance, whether group or individual, is not grievable, the matter shall be considered closed. (Individuals within the disallowed group may choose to subsequently refile their grievance as an individual grievance beginning with Level One of the process.) If the Board rules the grievance not to be grievable, the matter shall be considered closed. If the Board rules the grievance to be grievable, they shall immediately commence a hearing on the grievance. All parties have the right to representation by a person of their own choosing who is not a member of the employee's immediate family at the appeal hearing before the Board of Directors. The employee shall have no less than 90 minutes to present his/her grievance, unless a shorter period is agreed to by the employee, and both parties shall have the opportunity to present and question witnesses. The hearing shall be open to the public unless the employee requests a private hearing. If the hearing is open, the parent or guardian of any student under the age of eighteen years who gives

testimony may elect to have the student's testimony given in closed session. At the conclusion of the hearing, if the hearing was closed, the Board of Directors may excuse all parties except board members and deliberate, by them, on the hearing. At the conclusion of an open hearing, board deliberations shall also be in open session unless the board is deliberating the employment, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining, or resignation of the employee. A decision on the grievance shall be announced no later than the next regular board meeting.

Records

Records related to grievances will be filed separately and will not be kept in, or made part of, the personnel file of any employee.

Reprisals

No reprisals of any kind will be taken or tolerated against any employee because he/she has filed or advanced a grievance under this policy.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. §6-17-208.210

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised: 06-11-07

LEVEL TWO GRIEVANCE FORM-CLASSIFIED

Name: _____

Date submitted to supervisor: _____

Classified Personnel Policy grievance is based upon:

Grievance (be specific): _____

What would resolve your grievance: _____

Supervisor's Response

Date submitted to recipient: _____

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Fouke School District is committed to having an academic and work environment in which all students and employees are treated with respect and dignity. Student achievement and amicable working relationships are best attained in an atmosphere of equal educational and employment opportunity that is free of discrimination. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational environment and will not be tolerated.

Believing that prevention is the best policy, the district will periodically inform students and employees about the nature of sexual harassment, the procedures for registering a complaint, and the possible redress that is available. The information will stress that the district does not tolerate sexual harassment and that students and employees can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student or employee to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment as defined in this policy. Any employee found, after an investigation, to have engaged in sexual harassment would be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, termination.

Sexual harassment refers to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other personally offensive verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone under any of the following conditions:

1. Submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's education or employment.
2. Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic or employment decisions affecting that individual; and/or
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic or work environment.

The terms "intimidating", "hostile", and "offensive" include conduct of a sexual nature which has the effect of humiliation or embarrassment and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it limits the student's or employee's ability to participate in, or benefit from, an educational program or activity or their employment environment.

Within the educational or work environment, sexual harassment is prohibited between any of the following: students, employees, and students; non-employees and students; employees, employees, and non-employees.

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances. Depending upon such circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to: unwelcome touching; crude jokes or pictures; discussions of sexual experiences; pressure for sexual activity; intimidation by words, actions, insults, or name calling; teasing related to sexual characteristics; and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities.

Employees who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment are encouraged to file a complaint by contacting their immediate supervisor, administrator, or Title IX coordinator who will assist them in the complaint process. Under no circumstances shall an employee be required to first report allegations of sexual harassment to a school contact person if that person is the individual who is accused of the harassment. To the extent possible, complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Limited disclosure may be necessary in order to complete a thorough investigation.

Employees who file a complaint of sexual harassment will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Employees who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Individuals who withhold information, purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Legal References: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 1681, ET seq.
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000-e, and ET seq.
A.C.A. §6-15-1006 (b) (1)

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

All District personnel are expected to conscientiously execute their responsibilities to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the District's students under their care. The Superintendent shall direct all principals to establish regulations ensuring adequate supervision of students throughout the school day and at extracurricular activities

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL COMPUTERS & OTHER **ELECTRONIC DEVICES USE POLICY**

The Fouke School District provides computers/electronic devices and/or computer/electronic devices Internet access for many employees/substitutes to assist employees in performing work related tasks. Employees are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their computer or electronic use, including email, and that under Arkansas law both email and computer/electronic device use records maintained by the district are subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Consequently, no employee or student-related reprimands or other disciplinary communications should be made through email.

Passwords or security procedures are to be used as assigned, and confidentiality of student records is to be maintained at all times. Employees must not disable or bypass security procedures, compromise, attempt to compromise, or defeat the district's technology network security, alter data without authorization, disclose passwords to other staff members or students, or grant students access to any computer not designated for student use. It is the policy of this school district to equip each computer with Internet filtering software designed to prevent users from accessing material that is harmful to minors. The District Information Technology Security Officer or designee may authorize the disabling of the filter to enable access by an adult for a bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

Employees who misuse district-owned computers/electronic devices in any way, including excessive personal use, using computers for personal use during instructional time, using computers to violate any other policy, knowingly or negligently allowing unauthorized access, or using the computers to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics, will face disciplinary action, up to and including termination or non-renewal of the employment contract.

Legal References: Children's Internet Protection Act; PL 106-554
 20 USC 6777
 47 USC 254(h)
 A.C.A. § 6-21-107
 A.C.A. § 6-21-111

Date Adopted: 06-16-2008
Last Revised: 11-14-2011
Last Revised: 07-10-2017

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL EMPLOYEE/SUBSTITUTE
COMPUTER/ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE AGREEMENT**

Name (Please Print) _____

School _____ Date _____

The Fouke School District agrees to allow the employee identified above (“Employee/**Substitute**”) to use the district’s technology to access the Internet under the following terms and conditions:

1. Conditional Privilege: The Employee’s use of the district’s access to the Internet is a privilege conditioned on the Employee’s abiding by this agreement.
2. Acceptable Use: The Employee agrees that in using the District’s Internet access he/she will obey all federal and state laws and regulations. Internet access is provided as an aid to employees to enable them to better perform their job responsibilities. Under no circumstances shall an Employee’s use of the District’s Internet access interfere with, or detract from, the performance of his/her job-related duties.
3. Penalties for Improper Use: If the Employee violates this agreement and misuses the Internet, the Employee shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.
4. “Misuse of the District’s access to the Internet” includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. using the Internet for any activities deemed lewd, obscene, vulgar, or pornographic as defined by prevailing community standards;
 - b. using abusive or profane language in private messages on the system; or using the system to harass, insult, or verbally attack others;
 - c. posting anonymous messages on the system;
 - d. using encryption software **other than when required by the employee’s job duties**;
 - e. wasteful use of limited resources provided by the school including paper;
 - f. causing congestion of the network through lengthy downloads of files **other than when required by the employee’s job duties**;
 - g. vandalizing data of another user;
 - h. obtaining or sending information **that** could be used to make destructive devices such as guns, weapons, bombs, explosives, or fireworks;
 - i. gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to resources or files;
 - j. identifying oneself with another person’s name or password or using an account or password of another user without proper authorization;
 - k. using the network for financial or commercial gain without district permission;
 - l. theft or vandalism of data, equipment, or intellectual property;
 - m. invading the privacy of individuals **other than when required by the employee’s job duties**;

- n. using the Internet for any illegal activity, including computer hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
- o. introducing a virus to, or otherwise improperly tampering with, the system;
- p. degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance;
- q. creating a web page or associating a web page with the school or school district without proper authorization;
- r. attempting to gain access or gaining access to student records, grades, or files of students not under their jurisdiction;
- s. providing access to the District's Internet Access to unauthorized individuals;
- t. taking part in any activity related to Internet use **that** creates a clear and present danger of the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the district or any of its schools;
- u. making unauthorized copies of computer software;
- v. personal use of computers/**electronic devices** during instructional time; or
- w. Installing software **or network devices** on district computers/**electronic devices** without prior approval of **the Information Technology Security Officer** or his/her designee **except for District technology personnel as part of their job duties.**

5. Liability for debts: Staff shall be liable for any and all costs (debts) incurred through their use of the District's computers or the Internet including penalties for copyright violations.

6. No Expectation of Privacy: The Employee signing below agrees that in using the Internet through the District's access, he/she waives any right to privacy the Employee may have for such use. The Employee agrees that the district may monitor the Employee's use of the District's Internet Access and may also examine all system activities the Employee participates in, including but not limited to e-mail, voice, and video transmissions, to ensure proper use of the system.

7. Support: **Fouke School District does not provide technical support for personal equipment or software.**

8. Signature: The Employee, who has signed below, has read this agreement and agrees to be bound by its terms and conditions.

Employee's Signature: _____ Date _____

Date Adopted: 06-16-2008

Last Revised: 11-14-2011

Last Revised: 07-10-2017

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

The Family and medical Leave Act (FMLA) offers job protection for leave that might otherwise be considered excessive absences. Employees need to carefully comply with this policy to ensure they do not lose FMLA protection due to inaction or failure to provide the District with needed information. The FMLA provides up to twelve (12) work weeks (or in some cases twenty-six (26) weeks) of job-protected leave to eligible employees with absences that qualify under the FMLA. While an employee can request FMLA leave and has a duty to inform the District as provided in this policy, of foreseeable absences that may qualify for FMLA leave, it is the District's ultimate responsibility to identify qualifying absences as FMLA or non-FMLA. FMLA leave is unpaid, except to the extent that paid leave applies to any given absence as governed by the FMLA and this policy.

SECTION ONE-FMLA LEAVE GENERALLY

Definitions:

“Eligible Employee” is an employee who has:

1. Been employed by the District for at least twelve (12) months, which are not required to be consecutive; and
2. Performed at least 1250 hours of service during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the commencement of the leave.

FMLA: is the Family and Medical Leave Act

“Health Care Provider” means:

- a. A doctor of medicine or osteopathy who is authorized to practice medicine or surgery (as appropriate) by the State in which the doctor practices;
- b. Podiatrists, dentists, clinical psychologists, optometrists, and chiropractors (limited to treatment consisting of manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation as demonstrated by X-ray to exist) authorized to practice in the State and performing within the scope of their practice as defined under State law;
- c. Nurse practitioners, nurse-midwives, clinical social workers and physician assistants who are authorized to practice under State law and who are performing within the scope of their practice as defined under State law;
- d. Christian Science Practitioners listed with the First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts. Where an employee or family member is receiving treatment from a Christian Science practitioner, an employee may not object to any requirement from an employer that the employee or family member submit to examination (though not treatment) to obtain a second or third certification from a health care provider other than a Christian Science practitioner except as otherwise provided under applicable State or local law or collective bargaining agreement; or
- e. Any other person determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor to be capable of providing health care services.

Instructional Employee: is an employee whose principal function is to teach and instruct students in a class, a small group, or an individual setting and includes athletic coaches, driving instructors, preschool teachers, and special education assistants such as signers for the hearing impaired. The term does not include, and the special rules related to the taking of leave near the end of a semester do not apply to, teacher assistants or aides who do not have as their principal job actual teaching or instructing, administrators, counselors, librarians, psychologists, and curriculum specialists.

Intermittent leave: is FMLA leave taken in separate blocks of time due to a single qualifying reason. A reduced leave schedule is a leave schedule that reduces an employee's usual number of working hours per workweek, or hours per workday. A reduced leave schedule is a change in the employee's schedule for a period of time, normally from full-time to part-time.

Next of Kin: used in respect to an individual, means the nearest blood relative of that individual.

Parent: is the biological parent of an employee or an individual who stood in loco parentis to an employee when the employee was a son or a daughter. This term does not include parents "in-law."

Serious Health Condition: is an injury, illness, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical facility or continuing treatment by a health care provider.

Son or daughter, for numbers 1, 2, or 3 below: is a biological, adopted, or foster child, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis, who is either under age eighteen (18), or age eighteen (18) or older and "incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability" at the time that FMLA leave is to commence.

Year: the twelve (12) month period of eligibility shall begin on July first of each school-year.

Policy

The provisions of this policy are intended to be in line with the provisions of the FMLA. If any conflict(s) exist, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended, shall govern.

Leave Eligibility

The District will grant up to twelve (12) weeks of leave in a year in accordance with the FMLA, as amended, to its eligible employees for one or more of the following reasons:

1. Because of the birth of a son or daughter of the employee and in order to care for such son or daughter;
2. Because of the placement of a son or daughter with the employee for adoption or foster care;
3. To care for the spouse, son, daughter, or parent, of the employee, if such spouse, son, daughter, or parent has a serious health condition;
4. Because of a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the functions of the position of such employee; and
5. Because of any qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee is on covered active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty) in the Armed Forces. (See Section Two)
6. To care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered service member with a serious illness or injury. (See Section Two)

The entitlement to leave for reasons 1 and 2 listed above shall expire at the end of the twelve (12) month period beginning on the date of such birth or placement.

A legally married couple who are both eligible employees employed by the District may not take more than a combined total of twelve (12) weeks of FMLA leave for reasons 1, 2, or to care for a parent under number 3.

Provisions Applicable to both Sections One and Two

District Notice to Employees

The District shall post, in conspicuous places in each school within the District where notices to employees and applicants for employment are customarily posted, a notice explaining the FMLA's provisions and providing information about the procedure for filing complaints with the Department of Labor.

Designation Notice to Employee

When an employee requests FMLA leave or the District determines that an employee's absence may be covered under the FMLA, the District shall provide written notice within five (5) business days (absent extenuating circumstances) to the employee of the District's determination of his/her eligibility for FMLA leave. If the employee is eligible, the District may request additional information from the employee and/or certification from a health care provider to help make the applicability⁵ determination. After receiving sufficient information as requested, the District shall provide a written notice within five (5) business days (absent extenuating circumstances) to the employee of whether the leave qualifies as FMLA leave and will be so designated.

If the circumstances for the leave don't change, the District is only required to notify the employee once of the determination regarding the designation of FMLA leave within any applicable twelve (12) month period.

Employees who receive notification that the leave request does not qualify under the FMLA are expected to return to work; further absences that are not otherwise excused could lead to discipline for excessive absences, or termination for job abandonment.

Concurrent Leave Under the FMLA

All FMLA leave is unpaid unless substituted by applicable accrued leave. The District requires employees to substitute any applicable accrued leave (in the order of sick, personal, or vacation leave as may be applicable) for any period of FMLA leave.

An employee who does not have enough accrued leave to cover the number of days FMLA leave taken shall not have his/her number of contract days altered because some of the FMLA leave taken was unpaid.

Working at another Job while Taking FMLA for Personal or Family Serious Medical Condition

No employee on FMLA leave for their own serious medical condition may perform work at another, non-district job while on FMLA leave. Except as provided in policy 8.36, employees who do perform work at another, non-district job while on FMLA leave for their own serious medical condition will be subject to discipline, which could include termination or nonrenewal of their contract of employment.

No employee on FMLA leave for the serious medical condition of a family member may perform work at another, non-district job while on FMLA leave. Employees who do perform work at another, non-district job while on FMLA leave for the serious medical condition of a family member will be subject to discipline, which could include termination or nonrenewal of their contract of employment.

Health Insurance Coverage

The District shall maintain coverage under any group health plan for the duration of FMLA leave the employee takes at the level and under the conditions coverage would have been provided if the employee had continued in active employment with the District. Additionally, if the District makes a change to its health insurance benefits or plans that apply to other employees, the employee on FMLA leave must be afforded the opportunity to access additional benefits and/or the same responsibility for changes to premiums. Any changes made to a group health plan that apply to other District employees, must also

apply to the employee on FMLA leave. The District will notify the employee on FMLA leave of any opportunities to change plans or benefits. The employee remains responsible for any portion of premium payments customarily paid by the employee. When on unpaid FMLA leave, it is the employee's responsibility to submit his/her portion of the cost of the group health plan coverage to the district's business office on or before it would be made by payroll deduction.

The District has the right to pay an employee's unpaid insurance premiums during the employee's unpaid FMLA leave to maintain the employee's coverage during his/her leave. The District may recover the employee's share of any premium payments missed by the employee for any FMLA leave period that the District maintains health coverage for the employee by paying his/her share. Such recovery shall be made by offsetting the employee's debt through payroll deductions or by other means against any monies owed the employee by the District.

An employee who chooses to not continue group health plan coverage while on FMLA leave, is entitled to be reinstated on the same terms as prior to taking the leave, including family or dependent coverages, without any qualifying period, physical examination, exclusion of pre-existing conditions, etc.

If an employee gives unequivocal notice of an intent not to return to work, or if the employment relationship would have terminated if the employee had not taken FMLA leave, the District's obligation to maintain health benefits ceases.

If the employee fails to return from leave after the period of leave to which the employee was entitled has expired, the District may recover the premiums it paid to maintain health care coverage unless:

1. The employee fails to return to work due to the continuation, reoccurrence, or onset of a serious health condition that entitles the employee to leave under reasons 3 or 4 listed above; and/or
2. Other circumstances exist beyond the employee's control.

Circumstances under "a" listed above shall be certified by a licensed, practicing health care provider verifying the employee's inability to return to work.

Reporting Requirements During Leave

Unless circumstances exist beyond the employee's control, the employee shall inform the district every two weeks during FMLA leave of his/her current status and intent to return to work.

Return to Previous Position

An employee returning from FMLA leave is entitled to be returned to the same position the employee held when leave commenced, or to an equivalent position with equivalent benefits, pay, and other terms and conditions of employment. An equivalent position must involve the same or substantially similar duties and responsibilities, which must entail substantially equivalent skill, effort, and authority.

The employee's right to return to work and/or to the same or an equivalent position does not supersede any actions taken by the District, such as conducting a RIF, that the employee would have been subject to had the employee not been on FMLA leave at the time of the District's actions.

Provisions Applicable to Section One

Employee Notice to District

Foreseeable Leave:

When the need for leave is foreseeable for reasons 1 through 4 listed above, the employee shall provide the District with at least thirty (30) days' notice, before the date the leave is to begin, of the employee's intention to take leave for the specified reason. An eligible employee who has no reasonable excuse for his/her failure to provide the District with timely advance notice of the need for FMLA leave may have his/her FMLA coverage of such leave delayed until thirty (30) days after the date the employee provides notice.

If there is a lack of knowledge of approximately when the leave will be required to begin, a change in circumstances, or an emergency, notice must be given as soon as practicable. As soon as practicable means as soon as both possible and practical, taking into account all of the facts and circumstances in the individual case.

When the need for leave is for reasons 3 or 4 listed above, the eligible employee shall make a reasonable effort to schedule the treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the District subject to the approval of the health care provider of the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee.

If the need for FMLA leave is foreseeable less than thirty (30) days in advance, the employee shall notify the District as soon as practicable. If the employee fails to notify as soon as practicable, the District may delay granting FMLA leave for the number of days equal to the difference between the number of days in advance that the employee should have provided notice and when the employee actually gave notice.

Unforeseeable Leave:

When the approximate timing of the need for leave is not foreseeable, an employee shall provide the District notice of the need for leave as soon as practicable given the facts and circumstances of the particular case. Ordinarily, the employee shall notify the District within two (2) working days of learning of the need for leave, except in extraordinary circumstances where such notice is not feasible. Notice may be provided in person, by telephone, fax, email, or other electronic means. If the eligible employee fails to notify the District as required, unless the failure to comply is justified by unusual circumstances, the FMLA leave may be delayed or denied.

Medical Certification

Second and Third Opinions: In any case where the District has reason to doubt the validity of the initial certification provided, the District may require, at its expense, the employee to obtain the opinion of a second health care provider designated or approved by the employer. If the second opinion differs from the first, the District may require, at its expense, the employee to obtain a third opinion from a health care provider agreed upon by both the District and the employee. The opinion of the third health care provider shall be considered final and be binding upon both the District and the employee.

Recertification: The District may request, either orally or in writing, the employee obtain a recertification in connection with the employee's absence, at the employee's expense, no more often than every thirty (30) days unless one or more of the following circumstances apply;

- a. The original certification is for a period greater than thirty (30) days. In this situation, the District may require a recertification after the time of the original certification expires, but in any case, the District may require a recertification every six (6) months.
- b. The employee requests an extension of leave;
- c. Circumstances described by the previous certification have changed significantly; and/or
- d. The district receives information that casts doubt upon the continuing validity of the certification.

The employee must provide the recertification within fifteen (15) calendar days after the District's request.

No second or third opinion on a recertification may be required.

The District may deny FMLA leave if an eligible employee fails to provide a requested certification.

Substitution of Paid Leave

When an employee's leave has been designated as FMLA leave for reasons 1 (as applicable), 2, 3, or 4 above, the District requires employees to substitute accrued sick, vacation, or personal leave for the period of FMLA leave.

To the extent the employee has accrued paid vacation or personal leave, any leave taken that qualifies for FMLA leave for reasons 1 or 2 above shall be paid leave and charged against the employee's accrued leave.

Workers Compensation: FMLA leave may run concurrently with a workers' compensation absence when the injury is one that meets the criteria for a serious health condition. To the extent that workers compensation benefits and FMLA leave run concurrently, the employee will be charged for any paid leave accrued by the employee at the rate necessary to bring the total amount of combined income up to 100% of usual contracted daily rate of pay. If the health care provider treating the employee for the workers compensation injury certifies the employee is able to return to a "light duty job," but is unable to return to the employee's same or equivalent job, the employee may decline the District's offer of a "light duty job." As a result, the employee may lose his/her workers' compensation payments, but for the duration of the employee's FMLA leave, the employee will be paid for the leave to the extent that the employee has accrued applicable leave.

Return to Work

If the District's written designation determination that the eligible employee's leave qualified as FMLA leave under reason 4 above stated that the employee would have to provide a "fitness-for-duty" certification from a health care provider for the employee to resume work, the employee must provide such certification prior to returning to work. The employee's failure to do so voids the District's obligation to reinstate the employee under the FMLA and the employee shall be terminated.

If the District's written designation determination that the eligible employee's leave qualified as FMLA leave under reason 4 above stated that the employee would have to provide a "fitness-for-duty" certification from a health care provider for the employee to resume work **and** the designation determination listed the employee's essential job functions, the employee must provide certification that the employee is able to perform those functions prior to returning to work. The employee's failure to do so or his/her inability to perform his/her job's essential functions voids the District's obligation to reinstate the employee under the FMLA and the employee shall be terminated.

Failure to Return to Work

In the event that an employee is unable or fails to return to work within FMLA's leave timelines, the superintendent will make a determination at that time regarding the documented need for a severance of the employee's contract due to the inability of the employee to fulfill the responsibilities and requirements of his/her contract.

Intermittent or Reduced Schedule Leave

To the extent practicable, employees requesting intermittent or reduced schedule leave shall provide the District with not less than thirty (30) days' notice, before the date the leave is to begin, of the employee's intention to take leave.

Eligible employees may only take intermittent or reduced schedule leave for reasons 1 and 2 listed above if the District agrees to permit such leave upon the request of the employee. If the District agrees to permit an employee to take intermittent or reduced schedule leave for such reasons, the agreement shall be consistent with this policy's requirements governing intermittent or reduced schedule leave. The employee may be transferred temporarily during the period of scheduled intermittent or reduced leave to an alternative position that the employee is qualified for and that better accommodates recurring periods of leave than does the employee's regular position. The alternative position shall have equivalent pay and benefits but does not have to have equivalent duties.

Eligible employees may take intermittent or reduced schedule FMLA leave due to reasons 3 or 4 listed above when the medical need is best accommodated by such a schedule. The eligible employee shall make a reasonable effort to schedule the treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the employer, subject to the approval of the health care provider.

When granting leave on an intermittent or reduced schedule for reasons 3 or 4 above that is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the District may temporarily transfer eligible employees for the period of scheduled intermittent or reduced leave to an alternative position that the employee is qualified for and that better accommodates recurring periods of leave than does the employee's regular position. The alternative position shall have equivalent pay and benefits but does not have to have equivalent duties. When the employee is able to return to full-time work, the employee shall be placed in the same or equivalent job as he/she had when the leave began. The employee will not be required to take more FMLA leave than necessary to address the circumstances requiring the need for the leave.

Special Provisions relating to Instructional Employees as Defined in This Policy

The FMLA definition of "instructional employees" covers a small number of classified employees. Any classified employee covered under the FMLA definition of an "instructional employee" and whose FMLA leave falls under the FMLA's special leave provisions relating to "instructional employees" shall be governed by the applicable portions of policy 3.32—LICENSED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE.

SECTION TWO

FMLA LEAVE CONNECTED TO MILITARY SERVICE

Leave Eligibility

The FMLA provision of military associated leave is in two categories. Each one has some of its own definitions and stipulations. Therefore, they are dealt with separately in this Section of the policy. Definitions different than those in Section One are included under the respective reason for leave. Definitions that are the same as in Section One are NOT repeated in this Section.

Qualifying Exigency

An eligible employee may take FMLA leave for any qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee is on covered active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty) in the Armed Forces. Examples include issues involved with short-notice deployment, military events and related activities, childcare and school activities, the need for financial and legal arrangements, counseling, rest and recuperation, post-deployment activities, and other activities as defined by federal regulations.

Definitions:

“Covered active duty” means

- in the case of a member of a **regular** component of the Armed Forces, duty during deployment of the member with the armed forces to a foreign country; and
- in the case of a member of a **reserve** component of the Armed Forces, duty during deployment of the member with the armed forces to a foreign country under a call to active duty under a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code.

“Son or daughter on active duty or call to active duty status” means the employee's biological, adopted, or foster child, stepchild, legal ward, or a child for whom the employee stood in loco parentis, who is on active duty or call to active duty status, and who is of any age.

Certification

The District may require the eligible employee to obtain certification to help the district determine if the requested leave qualifies for FMLA leave for the purposes of a qualifying exigency. The District may deny FMLA leave if an eligible employee fails to provide the requested certification.

Employee Notice to District

Foreseeable Leave

When the necessity for leave for any qualifying exigency is foreseeable, whether because the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee is on covered active duty, or because of notification of an impending call or order to covered active duty, the employee shall provide such notice to the District as is reasonable and practicable regardless of how far in advance the leave is foreseeable. As soon as practicable means as soon as both possible and practical, taking into account all of the facts and circumstances in the individual case.

Unforeseeable Leave

When the approximate timing of the need for leave is not foreseeable, an employee shall provide the District notice of the need for leave as soon as practicable given the facts and circumstances of the particular case. Ordinarily, the employee shall notify the District within two (2) working days of learning of the need for leave, except in extraordinary circumstances where such notice is not feasible. Notice may be provided in person, by telephone, fax, email, or other electronic means. If the eligible employee fails to notify the District as required unless the failure to comply is justified by unusual circumstances, the FMLA leave may be delayed or denied.

Substitution of Paid Leave

When an employee's leave has been designated as FMLA leave for any qualifying exigency, the District requires employees to substitute accrued vacation, or personal leave for the period of FMLA leave.

Intermittent or Reduced Schedule Leave

Eligible employees may take intermittent or reduced schedule leave for any qualifying exigency. The employee shall provide the district with as much notice as is practicable.

Special Provisions relating to Instructional Employees as Defined in This Policy

The FMLA definition of "instructional employees" covers a small number of classified employees. Any classified employee covered under the FMLA definition of an "instructional employee" and who's FMLA leave falls under the FMLA's special leave provisions relating to "instructional employees" shall be governed by the applicable portions of policy 3.32—LICENSED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE.

Serious Illness

An eligible employee is eligible for leave to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered service member with a serious illness or injury under the following conditions and definitions.

Definitions

“Covered Service Member” is

1. a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness; or
2. a veteran who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, for a serious injury or illness and who was a member of the Armed Forces (including a member of the National Guard or Reserves) at any time during the period of five (5) years preceding the date on which the veteran undergoes that medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy.

“Outpatient Status”, used in respect to a covered service member, means the status of a member of the Armed Forces assigned to

- A) A military medical treatment facility as an outpatient; or
- B) A unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients.

“Parent of a covered servicemember” is a covered servicemember’s biological, adoptive, step or foster father or mother, or any other individual who stood in loco parentis to the covered servicemember. This term does not include parents “in law.”

Serious Injury or Illness:

- (A) In the case of a member of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard or Reserves, it means an injury or illness incurred by the member in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces (or existed before the beginning of the member’s active duty and was aggravated by service in line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces) and that may render the member medically unfit to perform the duties of the member’s office, grade, rank, or rating and
- (B) In the case of a veteran who was a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, at any time during a period as a covered service member defined in this policy, it means a qualifying (as defined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor) injury or illness that was incurred by the member in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces (or existed before the beginning of the member’s active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces) and that manifested itself before or after the member became a veteran.

“Son or daughter of a covered servicemember” means a covered servicemember's biological, adopted, or foster child, stepchild, legal ward, or a child for whom the covered servicemember stood in loco parentis, and who is of any age.

“Year” for leave to care for the serious injury or illness of a covered service member, the twelve (12) month period begins on the first day the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember and ends twelve (12) months after that date.

An eligible employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered service member shall be entitled to a total of twenty-six (26) weeks of leave during one twelve (12)-month period to care for the service member who has a serious injury or illness as defined in this policy. An eligible employee who cares for such a covered service member continues to be limited for reasons 1 through 4 in Section One and for any qualifying exigency to a total of twelve (12) weeks of leave during a year as defined in this policy. For example, an eligible employee who cares for such a covered service member for sixteen

(16) weeks during a twelve (12) month period could only take a total of (ten) (10) weeks for reasons 1 through 4 in Section One and for any qualifying exigency. An eligible employee may not take more than twelve (12) weeks of FMLA leave for reasons 1 through 4 in Section One and for any qualifying exigency regardless of how little leave the eligible employee may take to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury.

If a legally married couple are both eligible employees employed by the District, the legally married couple are entitled to a combined total of twenty-six (26) weeks of leave during one twelve (12) month period to care for their spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin who is a covered service member with a serious injury or illness, as defined in this policy. The leave taken by a legally married couple who care for such a covered service member continues to be limited to a total of twelve (12) weeks of FMLA leave for reasons 1 through 4 in Section One and for any qualifying exigency during a year, as defined in this policy, regardless of whether or not the legally married couple uses less than a combined total of fourteen (14) weeks to care for a covered service member with a serious injury or illness; moreover, the legally married couple's twelve (12) weeks are combined when taken for reasons 1, 2, or to care for a parent under reason 3 in Section One.

For example, a legally married couple who are both eligible employees and who care for such a covered service member for sixteen (16) weeks during a twelve (12) month period could:

1. Each take up to ten (10) weeks for reason 4 in section 1 or a qualifying exigency;
2. Take a combined total of ten (10) weeks for reasons 1, 2, or to care for a parent under reason 3 in Section One; or
3. Take a combination of numbers 1 and 2 that totals ten (10) weeks of leave.

Medical Certification

The District may require the eligible employee to obtain certification of the covered service member's serious health condition to help the District determine if the requested leave qualifies for FMLA leave. The District may deny FMLA leave if an eligible employee fails to provide the requested certification.

Employee Notice to District

Foreseeable Leave

When the need for leave to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury is clearly foreseeable at least thirty (30) days in advance, the employee shall provide the District with not less than thirty (30) days' notice before the date the employee intends for the leave to begin for the specified reason. An eligible employee who has no reasonable excuse for his/her failure to provide the District with timely advance notice of the need for FMLA leave have his/her the FMLA coverage of such leave delayed until thirty (30) days after the date the employee provides notice.

If the need for FMLA leave is foreseeable less than thirty (30) days in advance, the employee shall notify the District as soon as practicable. If the employee fails to notify as soon as practicable, the District may delay granting FMLA leave for an amount of time equal to the difference between the length of time that the employee should have provided notice and when the employee actually gave notice.

When the need for leave is to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury, the employee shall make a reasonable effort to schedule the treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the district subject to the approval of the health care provider of the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee.

Unforeseeable Leave

When the approximate timing of the need for leave is not foreseeable, an employee shall provide the District notice of the need for leave as soon as practicable given the facts and circumstances of the particular case. Ordinarily, the employee shall notify the District within two (2) working days of learning of the need for leave, except in extraordinary circumstances where such notice is not feasible. Notice may be provided in person, by telephone, fax, email, or other electronic means. If the eligible employee fails to notify the District as required, unless the failure to comply is justified by unusual circumstances, the FMLA leave may be delayed or denied.

Substitution of Paid Leave

When an employee's leave has been designated as FMLA leave to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury, the District requires employees to substitute accrued sick, vacation, or personal leave for the period of FMLA leave.

Intermittent or Reduced Schedule Leave

To the extent practicable, employees requesting intermittent or reduced schedule leave to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury shall provide the District with at least thirty (30) days' notice, before the date the leave is to begin, of the employee's intention to take leave.

Eligible employees may take intermittent or reduced schedule FMLA leave to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury when the medical need is best accommodated by such a schedule. The eligible employee shall make a reasonable effort to schedule the treatment so as not to disrupt unduly the operations of the employer, subject to the approval of the health care provider.

When granting leave on an intermittent or reduced schedule to care for a spouse, child, parent or next of kin who is a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury that is foreseeable based on planned medical treatment, the District may temporarily transfer eligible employees for the period of scheduled intermittent or reduced leave to an alternative position that the employee is qualified for and that better accommodates recurring periods of leave than does the employee's regular position. The alternative position shall have equivalent pay and benefits but does not have to have equivalent duties. When the employee is able to return to full-time work, the employee shall be placed in the same or equivalent job as he/she had when the leave began.

Special Provisions relating to Instructional Employees (as defined in this policy)

The FMLA definition of "instructional employees" covers a small number of classified employees. Any classified employee covered under the FMLA definition of an "instructional employee" and whose FMLA leave falls under the FMLA's special leave provisions relating to "instructional employees" shall be governed by the applicable portions of policy 3.32—LICENSED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE.

Cross References: 8.5—CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES SICK LEAVE
 8.12—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT
 8.36—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL WORKPLACE INJURIES AND
 WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Legal References: 29 USC §§ 2601 et seq.
 29 CFR part 825

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004
Last Revised: 07-19-2010
Last Revised: 06-11-2012
Last Revised: 05-13-2013
Last Revised: 07-14-2014
Last Revised: 06-20-2016

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER'S USE OF MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

“School Bus” is a motorized vehicle that meets the following requirements:

1. Is privately owned and operated for compensation, or which is owned, leased or otherwise operated by, or for the benefit of the District; and
2. Is operated for the transportation of students from home to school, from school to home, or to and from school events.

Any driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus while using a device to browse the internet, make or receive phone calls or compose or read emails or text messages. If the school bus is safely off the road with the parking brake engaged, exceptions are allowed to call for assistance due to a mechanical problem with the bus, or to communicate with any of the following during an emergency:

- An emergency system response operator or 911 public safety communications dispatcher;
- A hospital or emergency room;
- A physician's office or health clinic;
- An ambulance or fire department rescue service;
- A fire department, fire protection district, or volunteer fire department; or
- A police department.

In addition to statutorily permitted fines, violations of this policy shall be grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-19-120
 A.C.A. § 27-51-1504
 A.C.A. § 27-51-1609

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003
Last Revised: 06-11-2012
Last Revised: 07-14-2014
Last Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL CELL PHONE USE

Use of or other electronic communication devices by employees during their designated work for other than District approved purposed time is strictly forbidden unless specifically approved in advance by the superintendent, building principal, or their designees.

District staff shall not be given cell phones or computers for any purpose other than their specific use associated with school business. School employees who use a school issued cell phones and/or computers for non-school purposes, except as permitted by District policy, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination. School employees who are issued District cell phones due to the requirements of their position may use the phone for personal use on an “as needed” basis provided it is not during designated work time.

All Employees are forbidden from using school issued cell phones while driving any vehicle at any time. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

No employee shall use any device for the purposes of browsing the internet; composing or reading emails and text messages; or making or answering phone calls while driving a motor vehicle which is in motion and on school property. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Cross References: 8.22 – POSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES & OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES
 7.14 – USE OF DISTRICT CELL PHONES AND COMPUTERS

Legal Reference: IRS Publication 15B
 A.C.A. § 27-51-1602
 A.C.A. § 27-51-1609

Date Adopted: 03-08-2004
Last Revised: 08-14-2006
Last Revised: 06-11-2007
Last Revised: 04-13-2009
Last Revised: 06-11-2012
Last Revised: 07-14-2014
Last Revised:

NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES GOVERNING BULLYING

School employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of bullying as defined in this policy, including a single action, which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the principal. The principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for investigating the incident(s) to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

District staff are required to help enforce implementation of the district's anti-bullying policy and shall receive the training necessary to comply with this policy. The district's definition of bullying is included below. Students who bully another person are held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or school approved function, activity, or event; or going to or from school or a school activity. Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be anonymously.

A school principal or his or her designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

District employees are held to a high standard of professionalism, especially when it comes to employee-student interactions. Actions by a District employee towards a student that would constitute bullying if the act had been performed by a student shall result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination. This policy governs bullying directed towards students and is not applicable to adult on adult interactions. Therefore, this policy does not apply to interactions between employees. Employees may report workplace conflicts to their supervisor.

Definition:

Attribute means an actual or perceived personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender identity, physical appearance, health condition, or sexual orientation;

Bullying means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that causes a clear and present danger of:

- Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;
- Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education;
- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

Harassment means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment ; and

Substantial disruption means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or
- Exhibition of other behaviors by student or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Examples of "Bullying" may include but are not limited to a pattern of behavior involving one or more of the following:

1. Sarcastic "compliments" about another student's personal appearance;
2. Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate;
3. Mocking, taunting or belittling;
4. Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as "fronting" or "chesting" a person;
5. Demeaning humor relating to a student's race, gender, ethnicity or personal characteristics;
6. Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans;
7. Blocking access to school property facilities;
8. Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property;
9. Stealing or hiding books or belongings, and/or
10. Threats of harm to students(s), possessions, or others.
11. Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 8.20, is also a form of bullying, and/or
12. Teasing or name-calling based on the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles (Example: "Slut") or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether the student self-identifies as homosexual (Examples: "You are so gay." "Queer).

Legal Reference: A.C.A. §6-18-514

Date Adopted: 04-12-2004

Last Revised: 08-14-2006
Last Revised: 06-11-2007
Last Revised: 05-13-2013
Last Revised: 05-11-2015
Last Revised: 06-20-2016

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL LEAVE-INJURY FROM ASSAULT

Any staff member, while in the course of their employment, is injured by an assault or other violent act; while intervening in a student fight; while restraining a student; or while protecting a student from harm, shall be granted a leave of absence for up to one (1) year from the date of the injury, with full pay.

A leave of absence granted under this policy shall not be charged to the staff member's sick leave.

In order to obtain leave under this policy, the staff member must present documentation of the injury from a physician, with an estimate for time of recovery sufficient to enable the staff member to return to work, and written statements from witnesses (or other documentation as appropriate to a given incident) to prove that the incident occurred in the course of the staff member's employment.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-1308

Date Adopted: 04-10-06

Date Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

The conduct of district staff plays a vital role in the social and behavioral development of our students. It is equally important that the staff have a safe, healthful, and professional environment in which to work. To help promote both interests, the Fouke School District shall have a drug free workplace. It is, therefore, the district's policy that district employees are prohibited from the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of controlled substances, illegal drugs, inhalants, alcohol, as well as inappropriate or illegal use of prescription drugs. Such actions are prohibited both while at work or in the performance of official duties while off district property; violations of this policy will subject the employee to discipline, up to and including termination.

To help promote a drug free workplace, the district shall establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the district's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance abuse programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations. Refer to policy 8.4.

Should any employee be found to have been under the influence of, or in illegal possession of, any illegal drug, or controlled substance, whether or not engaged in any school or school-related activity, and the behavior of the employee, if under the influence, is such that it is inappropriate for a school employee in the opinion of the superintendent, the employee may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination. This policy also applies to those employees who are under the influence of alcohol while on campus or at school-sponsored functions, including athletic events.

Possession, use or distribution of drug paraphernalia by any employee, whether or not engaged in school or school-related activities, may subject the employee to discipline, up to and including termination. Possession in one's vehicle or in an area subject to the employee's control will be considered to be possession as though the substance were on the employee's person.

It shall not be necessary for an employee to test at a level demonstrating intoxication by any substance in order to be subject to the terms of this policy. Any physical manifestation of being under the influence of substance may subject an employee to the terms of this policy.

Should an employee desire to provide the District with the results of a blood, breath, or urine analysis, such results will be taken into account by the District only if the sample is provided within a time range that could provide meaningful results and only by a testing agency chosen or approved by the District. The District shall not request that the employee be tested, and the expenses for such voluntary testing shall be borne by the employee.

At the discretion of the supervisor or superintendent, any incident at work resulting in injury to the employees requiring medical attention shall require the employee to submit to a drug test, which shall be paid at the District's worker's compensation carrier's expense. Failure for the employee to submit to the drug test or a confirmed positive drug test indicating the use of illegal substances or the misuse of prescription medications shall be grounds for the denial or worker's compensation benefits in accordance with policy 8.36 – CLASSIFIED WORKPLACE INJURIES AND WORKER'S COMPENSATION.

Any employee who is charged with a violation of any state or federal law relating to the possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs, other controlled substances or alcohol, or of drug paraphernalia, must notify his immediate supervisor within five (5) week days (i.e., Monday through Friday, inclusive,

excluding holidays) of being so charged. The supervisor who is notified of such a charge shall notify the Superintendent immediately. If the supervisor is not available to the employee, employee shall notify Superintendent within the five (5) day period. Any employee so charged is subject to discipline, up to and including termination. However, the failure of an employee to notify his supervisor or the Superintendent of having been charged shall result in that employee being recommended for termination by the Superintendent.

Any employee convicted of any criminal drug statute violation for an offense that occurred while at work or in the performance of official duties while off district property shall report the conviction within five (5) calendar days to the superintendent. Within ten (10) days of receiving such notification, whether from the employee or any other source, the district shall notify federal granting agencies from which it receives funds of the conviction. Compliance with these requirements and prohibitions is mandatory and is a condition of employment.

Any employee convicted of any state or federal law relating to the possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs, other controlled substances, or of drug paraphernalia, shall be recommended for termination.

Any employee who must take prescription medication at the direction of the employee's physician, and who is impaired by the prescription medication such that he/she cannot properly perform his duties shall not report for duty. Any employee who reports for duty and is so impaired, as determined by his supervisor, will be sent home. The employee shall be given sick leave, if owed any. The District or employee will provide transportation for the employee, and the employee may not leave campus while operating any vehicle. It is the responsibility of the employee to contact his physician in order to adjust the medication, if possible, so that the employee may return to his job unimpaired. Should the employee attempt to return to work while impaired by prescription medication, for which the employee has a prescription, he/she will again, be sent home and given sick leave, if owed any. Should the employee attempt to return to work while impaired by prescription medication a third time, the employee may be subject to discipline, up to and including a recommendation of termination.

Any employee who possesses, uses, distributes or is under the influence of a prescription medication obtained by a means other than his own current prescription shall be treated as though he was in possession, possession with intent to deliver, or under the influence, etc. of an illegal substance. An illegal drug or other substance is one which is (a) not legally obtainable; or (b) one which is legally obtainable, but which has been obtained illegally. The District may require an employee to provide proof from his physician and/or pharmacist that the employee is lawfully able to receive such medication. Failure to provide such proof, to the satisfaction of the Superintendent, may result in discipline, up to and including a recommendation of termination.

A report to the appropriate licensing agency shall be filed within seven (7) days of:

- 1) A final disciplinary action taken against an employee resulting from the diversion, misuse, or abuse of illicit drugs or controlled substances; or
- 2) The voluntary resignation of an employee who is facing a pending disciplinary action resulting from the diversion, misuse, or abuse of illicit drugs or controlled substances.

The report filed with the licensing authority shall include, but not be limited to:

- The name, address, and telephone number of the person who is subject of the report: and
- A description of the facts giving rise to the issuance of the report.

When the employee is not a healthcare professional, law enforcement will be contacted regarding any final disciplinary action taken against an employee for the diversion of controlled substances to one (1) or more third parties.

Legal References: 41 USC § 8101, 8103, and 8104
A.C.A § 11-9-102
A.C.A. § 17-80-117

Date Adopted: 10-09-2006
Last Revised: 06-11-2007
Last Revised: 05-11-2015
Last Revised: 06-20-2016

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

The board has a responsibility to maintain discipline, protect the safety, security, and welfare of its students, staff, and visitors while at the same time safeguarding district facilities, vehicles, and equipment. As part of fulfilling this responsibility, the board authorizes the use of video/audio surveillance cameras. The placement of video/audio surveillance cameras shall be based on the presumption and belief that students, staff and visitors have no reasonable expectation of privacy anywhere on or near school property, facilities, vehicles, or equipment, with the exception of places such as rest rooms or dressing areas where an expectation of privacy is reasonable and customary.

Signs shall be posted on district property and in or on district vehicles to notify students, staff, and visitors that video cameras may be in use. Violations of school personnel policies or laws caught by the cameras may result in disciplinary action.

The district shall retain copies of video recordings until they are erased which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording.

Videos containing evidence of a violation of district personnel policies and/or state or federal law shall be retained until the issue of the misconduct is no longer subject to review or appeal as determined by board policy or staff handbook; any release or viewing of such records shall be in accordance with current law.

Staff who vandalize, damage, defeat, disable, or render inoperable (temporarily or permanently) surveillance cameras and equipment shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Video recordings may become a part of a staff member's personnel record.

Date Adopted: 06-16-08

Date Revised:

REDUCTION IN CLASSIFIED STAFF WORK FORCE

The School Board acknowledges its authority to conduct a reduction in force (RIF) when a decrease in enrollment or other reason(s) make such a reduction necessary or desirable. A RIF will be conducted when the need for a reduction in the work force exceeds the normal rate of attrition for that portion of the staff that is in excess of the needs of the district as determined by the superintendent.

In effecting a reduction in force, the primary goals of the school district shall be: what is in the best interests of the students; to maintain accreditation in compliance with the Standards of Accreditation for Arkansas Public Schools and/or the North Central Association; and the needs of the district. A reduction in force will be implemented when the superintendent determines it is advisable to do so and shall be effected through non-renewal, termination, or both. Any reduction in force will be conducted by evaluating the needs and long- and short-term goals of the school district in relation to the staffing of the district.

Definitions

Normal Attrition: This phase is defined for the purpose of this policy as severance from employment by the district due to the retirement or resignation, but not including discharge for cause of an employee.

Layoff: This word shall be defined as any necessary reduction in workforce occurring beyond normal attrition.

Seniority: As used in the policy, this work is defined as the length of continuous, full or part-time service within the district, not including periods of leave of absence as granted by the Board.

Procedures

1. All classified of the Fouke School District shall be covered by the provisions of this policy.
2. Prior to the implementation of a reduction in force, an evaluation of all instructional and support services shall be conducted in order to minimize the potential impact upon the quality of the district's basic educational program(s).
3. If possible, a reduction in force shall be accomplished through normal attrition. Having exhausted these possibilities, layoff of personnel shall occur as outlined in this policy.
4. The superintendent shall give notice, by certified mail, of the pending layoff no later than the last day of March, with official action by the Board occurring at the regular April meeting.
5. Seniority is lost when employment is severed by resignation, retirement or discharge for cause; however, seniority is retained if severance is due to layoff and personnel so affected shall retain all seniority rights accumulated as of the effective date of layoff.
6. The board shall not layoff personnel during the term of any valid contract.
7. The displaced employee shall retain position on the salary schedule according to experience and education and shall retain all accrued benefits.
8. Personnel who have been laid off, and who are qualified to fill an existing vacancy, shall be recalled in accordance with point ranking. No new personnel shall be employed by the school district unless no laid off personnel are qualified to fill the position, or those qualified have refused the position in question.
9. Notice of recall shall be sent by certified mail to the last address furnished to the school district. Notification of a change in address is the responsibility of the employee. Failure to

respond to notice of recall within ten (10) calendar days following receipt of notice shall be deemed a refusal of the position offered.

10. An employee who is laid off shall remain on recall for a period of two years after the effective day of layoff unless recall rights are waived in writing.
11. A full time employee on layoff may accept a part-time position with the district without jeopardizing recall status for any full time position which may become available. Part-time positions shall be offered to both full and part-time qualified personnel by point ranking.
12. Building principals shall give first priority to laid off personnel for use as substitute workers.
13. Upon returning to active employment, personnel shall have restored all benefits in effect at the time of layoff including placement on the proper step of the salary schedule.
14. A laid off employee may file a grievance under the provisions of the district policy concerning such matters.

If a reduction in force becomes necessary, the RIF shall be conducted separately for each occupational category of classified personnel identified within the district on the basis of each employee's years of service. The employee within each occupational category with the least years of experience will be non-renewed first. The employee with the most years of employment in the district as compared to other employees in the same category shall be non-renewed last. In the event that employees within a given occupational category have the same length of service to the district the one with the earlier hire date, based on date of board action, will prevail.

In the event that two employees subject to a RIF have the same length of service, the employee with the highest number of points as determined by the schedule contained in this policy shall be retained. The employee with the fewest number of points will be laid off first. In the event two or more employees have the same number of points, the employee shall be retained whose name(s) appear first in the board's minutes of the date of hire. There is no right or implied right for any employee to "bump" or displace any other employee.

Points

1 point-per year of service in the district

All years in the district count including non-continuous years. Working fewer than 120 days in a school year shall not constitute a year.

Other

1 point-Sixty (60) hours of any professional development beginning June 1, 2006, and thereafter. Hours will be cumulative and will be accepted if appropriately documented. It will be the employee's responsibility to submit all Professional Development documentation to be retained in his/her file.

1 point-12 credit hours of college

1 point-Each job related certification

All points awarded must be verified by documents on file with the District by October 1 of the current school year. Each employee's points shall be totaled with employees ranked by the total points from highest to lowest. Upon request all classified employees shall receive a listing of classified personnel with corresponding point totals. Upon receipt of the list, each employee has ten (10) working days within which to appeal his/her assignment of points with the superintendent whose decision shall be final.

Date Adopted: 05-17-2004

Date Revised: 11-13-2006

Date Revised: 06-11-2012
Date Revised: 05-13-2013

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL TERMINATION AND NON-RENEWAL

For procedures relating to the termination and non-renewal of classified employees, please refer to the Public School Employee Fair Hearing Act A.C.A. § 6-17-1701 through 1705. The Act specifically is not made a part of this policy by this reference.

A copy of the code is available in the office in the office of the principal of each school building.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-2301

Date Adopted: 08-14-06

Date Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS

The superintendent shall be responsible for assigning and reassigning classified personnel.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-2301

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003

Date Revised: 08-14-2006

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SCHOOL CALENDAR

The superintendent shall present to the personnel policies committee (PPC) a school calendar which the board has adopted as a proposal. The Superintendent, in developing the calendar, shall accept and consider recommendations from any staff member or group wishing to make calendar proposals. The PPC shall have the time prescribed by law and/or policy in which to make any suggested changes before the board may vote to adopt the calendar.

The District shall not establish a school calendar that interferes with any scheduled **statewide assessment** that might jeopardize or limit the valid **assessment** and comparison of student learning gains.

The Fouke School District shall operate by the following calendar.

Legal References:

A.C.A. § 6-15-2907(f)

A.C.A. § 6-17-2301

ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act

Date Adopted: 08-14-2006

Last Revised: 05-13-2013

Last Revised: 07-10-2017

**CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL WHO ARE MANDATORY REPORTERS DUTY TO
REPORT CHILD ABUSE, MALTREATMENT OR NEGLECT**

It is the statutory duty of classified school district employees **who are mandatory reporters** and who have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or maltreatment to directly and personally report these suspicions to the Arkansas Child Abuse Hotline, by calling 1-800-482-5964. Failure to report suspected child abuse, maltreatment or neglect by calling the Hotline can lead to criminal prosecution and individual civil liability of the person who has this duty. Notification of local or state law enforcement does not satisfy the duty to report; only notification by means of the Child Abuse Hotline discharges this duty.

The duty to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment is a direct and personal duty for statutory mandatory reporters, and cannot be assigned or delegated to another person. There is no duty to investigate, confirm or substantiate statements a student may have made which form the basis of the reasonable cause to believe that the student may have been abused or subjected to maltreatment by another person; however, a person with a duty to report may find it helpful to make a limited inquiry to assist in the formation of a belief that child abuse, maltreatment or neglect has occurred, or to rule out such a belief. Employees and volunteers who call the Child Abuse Hotline in good faith are immune from civil liability and criminal prosecution.

By law, no school district or school district employee may prohibit or restrict an employee or volunteer **who is a mandatory reporter** from directly reporting suspected child abuse or maltreatment, or require that any person notify or seek permission from any person before making a report to the Child Abuse Hotline.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 12-18-107
 A.C.A. § 12-18-201 et seq.
 A.C.A. § 12-18-402

Date Adopted: 06-11-2012
Last Revised:

Obtaining and Releasing of Student's Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility Information

Obtaining Eligibility Information

A fundamental underpinning of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs (Programs) is that in their implementation, there will be no physical segregation of, discrimination against, or overt identification of children who are eligible for the Program's benefits. While the requirements of the Programs are defined in much greater detail in federal statutes and pertinent Code of Federal Regulations, this policy is designed to help employees understand prohibitions on how the student information is obtained and/or released through the Programs. Employees with the greatest responsibility for implementing and monitoring the Programs should obtain the training necessary to become fully aware of the nuances of their responsibilities.

The District is required to inform households with children enrolled in District schools of the availability of the Programs and of how the household may apply for Program benefits. However, the District and anyone employed by the district is **strictly forbidden** from **requiring** any household or student within a household from submitting an application to participate in the program. There are NO exceptions to this prohibition and it would apply, for example, to the offer of incentives for completed forms, or disincentives or negative consequences for failing to submit or complete an application. Put simply, federal law requires that the names of the children shall not be published, posted or announced in any manner.

In addition to potential federal criminal penalties that may be filed against a staff member who violates this prohibition, the employee shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Releasing Eligibility Information

As part of the district's participation in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, the district collects eligibility data from its students. The data's confidentiality is very important and is governed by federal law. The district has made the determination to release student eligibility status or information¹ as permitted by law. Federal law governs how eligibility data may be released and to whom. The district will take the following steps to ensure its confidentiality:

Some data may be released to government agencies or programs authorized by law to receive such data without parental consent, while other data may only be released after obtaining parental consent. In both instances, allowable information shall only be released on a need to know basis to individuals authorized to receive the data. The recipients shall sign an agreement with the district specifying the names or titles of the persons who may have access to the eligibility information. The agreement shall further specify the specific purpose(s) for which the

data will be used and how the recipient(s) shall protect the data from further, unauthorized disclosures.

The superintendent shall designate the staff member(s) responsible for making eligibility determinations. Release of eligibility information to other district staff shall be limited to as few individuals as possible who shall have a specific need to know such information to perform their job responsibilities. Principals, counselors, teachers, and administrators shall not have routine access to eligibility information or status.

Each staff person with access to individual eligibility information shall be notified of their personal liability for its unauthorized disclosure and shall receive appropriate training on the laws governing the restrictions of such information.

Legal References: Commissioner's Memos IA-05-018, FIN 09-041, IA 99-011, and FIN 13-018

ADE Eligibility Manual for School Meals Revised July 2012
7 CFR 210.1 – 210.31
7 CFR 220.1 – 220.22
7 CFR 245.5, 245.6, 245.8
42 USC 1758(b)(6)

Date Adopted: 04-13-2009

Last Revised: 05-13-2013

WORKER'S COMPENSATION AND SICK LEAVE

It is the intent of Fouke School District that all employees injured on the job shall receive all available compensation provided by sick leave from the school or Worker's Compensation. It is also the intent of the District that employees shall not receive concurrent compensation from both sources as required by law.

Guidelines for work-related accidents will be:

1. Appropriate and thorough investigations of accidents or incidents will be conducted following all work related injuries. Persons who may be involved in this, but not limited to these include: employee's immediate supervisor, the school nurse, emergency medical persons, the district's Personnel coordinator, and the school Superintendent.
2. All injuries must be reported immediately to the employee's immediate supervisor and the Superintendent's office. The Personnel Coordinator will complete all required forms for the district, and the injured employee will complete all required forms relevant to accident or incident to self.
3. All employees injured on the job who will receive compensation provided by sick leave from the school and Worker's Compensation must utilize the physician(s) selected by the school employees from the designated physician(s) approved and assigned by Worker's Compensation. If employee wants to be eligible for Worker's Compensation Program they must start with Worker's Compensation approved physician. In addition, at the discretion of the supervisor or superintendent, employee's whose injuries require medical attention may submit to a drug test, which shall be paid at the District's worker's compensation carrier's expense. Failure for the employee to submit to the drug test or a confirmed positive drug test indicating the use of illegal substances or the misuse of prescription medications shall be grounds for the denial or worker's compensation benefits.
4. It will be the policy of Fouke Schools to provide transitional duty jobs when possible to employees who sustain work related injuries or illnesses. Transitional duty job shall be made available according to restrictions placed upon the injured employee by the employee's treating physician. A transitional or light duty job is a temporary position designed to get an insured employee back to work. The purpose of this position is to provide a job for the injured employee, based upon his/her capabilities, until they are released by the attending physician to return to their regular job. This position is under the direction of the employee's supervisor.

When an employee is injured and misses work, sick leave will be charged to the employee. If Worker's Compensation subsequently pays for any of the days missed, the employee shall reimburse the District and the sick leave shall be reinstated.

Employees who are absent from work in the school district due to a Workers' Compensation claim may not work at a non-district job until they have returned to full duties at their same or equivalent district job; those who violate this prohibition may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. This prohibition does NOT apply to an employee whose has been cleared

by his/her doctor to return to "light duty" but the District has no such position available for the employee and the employee's second job qualifies as "light duty".

Cross Reference: 8.5—CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES SICK LEAVE
 8.12—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT
 8.23—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

Legal References: Ark. Workers Compensation Commission RULE 099.33 - MANAGED
 CARE
 A.C.A. § 11-9-102
 A.C.A. § 11-9-508(d)(5)(A)
 A.C.A. § 11-9-514(a)(3)(A)(i)

Date Adopted: 8-10-2009
Last Revised: 07-14-2014
Last Revised: 07-11-2015
Last Revised: 06-20-2016

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL SOCIAL NETWORKING AND ETHICS

Definitions

Social Media Account: a personal, individual, and non-work related account with an electronic medium or service where users may create, share, or view user-generated content, including videos, photographs, blogs, podcasts, messages, emails or website profiles or locations, such as FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn, MySpace, Instagram.

Professional/education Social Media Account: an account with an electronic medium or service where users may create, share, or view user-generated content, including videos, photographs, blogs, podcasts, messages, emails or website profiles or locations, such as FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn, MySpace, Instagram.

Blogs are a type of networking and can be either social or professional in their orientation. Professional blogs, approved by the principal or his/her designee, are encouraged and can provide a place for staff to inform students and parents on school related activities. Social blogs are discouraged to the extent they involve staff and students in a non-education oriented format.

Policy

District staff are encouraged to use educational technology, the Internet, and professional/education social networks to help raise student achievement and to improve communication with parents and students. However, technology and social media accounts also offer staff many ways they can present themselves unprofessionally and/or interact with students inappropriately.

It is the duty of each staff member to appropriately manage all interactions with students, regardless of whether contact or interaction with a student occurs face-to-face or by means of technology, to ensure that the appropriate staff/student relationship is maintained. This includes instances when students initiate contact or behave inappropriately themselves.

Public school employees are, and always have been, held to a high standard of behavior. Staff members are reminded that whether specific sorts of contacts are permitted or not specifically forbidden by policy, they will be held to a high standard of conduct in all their interactions with students. Failure to create, enforce and maintain appropriate professional and interpersonal boundaries with students could adversely affect the District's relationship with the community and jeopardize the employee's employment with the district.

Staff members are discouraged from creating personal social media accounts to which they invite students to be friends or followers. Employees taking such action do so at their own risk and are advised to monitor the site's privacy settings regularly.

District employees may set up blogs and other professional/education social media accounts using District resources and following District guidelines to promote communications with students, parents, and the community concerning school-related activities and for the purpose of supplementing classroom instruction. Accessing professional/education social media during school hours is permitted.

Staff are reminded that the same relationship, exchange, interaction, information, or behavior that would be unacceptable in a non-technological medium, is unacceptable when done through the use of technology. In fact, due to the vastly increased potential audience digital dissemination presents, extra caution must be exercised by staff to ensure they don't cross the line of acceptability. A good rule of thumb for staff to use is, "if you wouldn't say it face-to-face in a group, don't say it online."

Whether permitted or not specifically forbidden by policy, or when expressed in an adult-to-adult, face-to-face context, what in other mediums of expression could remain private opinions, including "likes" or comments that endorse or support the message or speech of another person, when expressed by staff on a social media website, have the potential to be disseminated far beyond the speaker's desire or intention.

This could undermine the public's perception of the individual's fitness to interact with students, thus undermining the employee's effectiveness. In this way, the expression and publication of such opinions, could potentially lead to disciplinary action being taken against the staff member, up to and including termination or nonrenewal of the contract of employment.

Accessing social media websites for personal use during school hours is prohibited, except during breaks or preparation periods. Staff are discouraged from accessing social media websites on personal equipment during their breaks and/or preparation periods because, while this is not prohibited, it may give the public the appearance that such access is occurring during instructional time. Staff shall not access social media websites using district equipment at any time, including during breaks or preparation periods, except in an emergency situation or with the express prior permission of school administration. All school district employees who participate in social media websites shall not post any school district data, documents, photographs taken at school or of students, logos, or other district owned or created information on any website. Further, the posting of any private or confidential school district material on such websites is strictly prohibited.

Specifically, the following forms of technology based interactivity or connectivity are expressly permitted or forbidden:

Privacy of Employee's Social Media Accounts

In compliance with A.C.A. § 11-2-124, the District shall not require, request, suggest, or cause a current or prospective employee to:

1. Disclose the username and/or password to his/her personal social media account;
2. Add an employee, supervisor, or administrator to the list of contacts associated with his/her personal social media account;
3. Change the privacy settings associated with his/her personal social media account; or

4. Retaliate against the employee for refusing to disclose the username and/or password to his/her personal social media account.

The District may require an employee to disclose his or her username and/or password to a personal social media account if the employee's personal social media account activity is reasonable believed to be relevant to the investigation of an allegation of an employee violating district policy, or state, federal or local laws or regulations. If such an investigation occurs, and the employee refuses, upon request, to supply the username and/or password required to make an investigation, disciplinary action may be taken against the employee, which could include termination or nonrenewal of the employee's contract of employment with the District.

Notwithstanding any other provision in this policy, the District reserves the right to view any information about a current or prospective employee that is publicly available on the Internet.

In the event that the district inadvertently obtains access to information that would enable the district to have access to an employee's personal social media account, the district will not use this information to gain access to the employee's social media account. However, disciplinary action may be taken against an employee in accord with other District policy for using district equipment or network capability to access such an account. Employees have no expectation of privacy in their use of District issued computers, other electronic device, or use of the District's network. (See policy 8.22—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL COMPUTER USE POLICY)

Cross Reference: 8.22—CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL COMPUTER USE POLICY

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 11-2-124

Date Adopted: 06-24-2013

Last Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL VACATION

The Fouke School District will provide all 12 month employees who have completed at least 12 months of employment with 10 days paid vacation each year. A new 12 month employee will have no vacation time until the second contract year. Employees who have completed 10 continuous years of employment as a 12 month employee will be provided with a 15 day paid vacation each year.

The vacation of an employee who does not complete his or her contract term due to termination, resignation or retirement will be calculated on a pro-rata basis based on the whole months of employment that the employee did complete by being actively at work or on paid leave. If more vacation was taken than was earned on a pro-rata basis, then appropriate deductions will be made from the last paycheck.

All vacation time must be approved, in advance to the extent applicable, by the superintendent who shall consider the staffing needs of the district in making his/her determination. If vacation is requested, but not approved, and the employee is absent from work in spite of the vacation denial, disciplinary action will be taken against the employee, which may include termination or nonrenewal.

Unused vacation days will not cumulate from year to year, with the exception of a career maximum of five days of vacation, which can be reserved for retirement. Except for the unused carryover days reserved for retirement, any positive unused vacation balance in excess of the maximum five retirement reserve days at the end of the fiscal year for a continuing employee or upon resignation or termination of the contract or upon retirement is defined by Arkansas Teacher Retirement system, will be converted into sick leave days and added to the sick leave balance, subject to district policy concerning the maximum number of sick leave days that may be accumulated.

Employees who retire, as retirement is defined by Arkansas Teacher Retirement and who consequently permanently leave the employment of the Fouke School District due to retirement may take their accumulated vacation retirement reserves prior to their last day of employment, subject to the approval of the superintendent, or may cash out the retirement reserve at their current daily rate of pay.

Date Adopted: 05-17-04

Last Revised: 08-11-08

Last Revised: 05-13-2013

DEPOSITING COLLECTED FUNDS

From time to time, staff members may collect funds in the course of their employment. It is the responsibility of any staff member to deposit such funds they have collected daily into the appropriate accounts for which they have been collected. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for determining the need for receipts for funds collected and other record keeping requirements and of notifying staff of the requirements.

Staff that use any funds collected in the course of their employment for personal purposes, or who deposit such funds in a personal account, may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Date Adopted: 06-11-2012

Last Revised:

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL WEAPONS ON CAMPUS

Firearms

Except as permitted by this policy, no employee of this school district, including those who may possess a “concealed carry permit,” shall possess a firearm on any District school campus or in or upon any school bus or at a District designated bus stop.

Employees who meet one or more of the following conditions are permitted to bring a firearm onto school property.

- He/she is participating in a school-approved educational course or program involving the use of firearms such as ROTC programs, hunting safety or military education, or before or after-school hunting or rifle clubs;
- The firearms are securely stored and located in an employee’s on-campus personal residence and/or immediately adjacent parking area;
- He/she is a registered, commissioned security guard acting in the course and scope of his/her duties.
- He/she has a valid conceal carry license and leaves his/her handgun in his/her locked vehicle in the district parking lot.

Possession of a firearm by a school district employee who does not fall under any of the above categories anywhere on school property, including parking areas and in or upon a school bus, will result in disciplinary action being taken against the employee, which may include termination or nonrenewal of the employee.

Other Weapons

An employee may possess a pocket knife which for the purpose of this policy is defined as a knife that can be folded into a case and a utility blade or blades of less than three (3) inches or less each. An employee may carry, for the purpose of self-defense, a small container of tear gas or mace which for the purpose of this policy is defined as having a capacity of 150cc or less. Employees are expected to safeguard such items in such a way as to ensure they are not possessed by students. Such items are not to be used against students, parents or other school district employees. Possession of weapons, knives or self-defense items that do not comply with the limits contained herein, the failure of an employee to safeguard such items, or the use of such items against students, parents or other school district employees may result in disciplinary action being taken against the employee, which may include termination or nonrenewal of the employee.

Employees who are participating in a Civil War reenactment may bring a Civil War era weapon onto campus with prior permission of the building principal. If the weapon is a firearm, the firearm must be unloaded.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 5-73-119
 A.C.A. § 5-73-120
 A.C.A. § 5-73-124(a)(2)

A.C.A. § 5-73-301
A.C.A. § 6-5-502
A.C.A. § 5-73-306

Date Adopted: 05-13-2013
Last Revised: 06-24-2013
Last Revised: 07-14-2014
Last Revised: 05-11-2015

**WRITTEN CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN PROCUREMENT
WITH FEDERAL FUNDS**

For purposes of this policy, “Family member” includes:

- An individual's spouse;
- Children of the individual or children of the individual's spouse;
- The spouse of a child of the individual or the spouse of a child of the individual's spouse;
- Parents of the individual or parents of the individual's spouse;
- Brothers and sisters of the individual or brothers and sisters of the individual's spouse;
- Anyone living or residing in the same residence or household with the individual or in the same residence or household with the individual's spouse; or
- Anyone acting or serving as an agent of the individual or as an agent of the individual's spouse.

No District employee, administrator, official, or agent shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by Federal funds, including the District Child Nutrition Program funds if a conflict of interest exists, whether the conflict is real or apparent. Conflicts of interest arise when one or more of the following has a financial or other interest in the entity selected for the contract:

1. The employee, administrator, official, or agent;
2. Any family member of the District employee, administrator, official, or agent;
3. The employee, administrator, official, or agent’s partner; or
4. An organization that currently employs or is about to employ one of the above.

Employees, administrators, officials, or agents shall not solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to sub-agreements including, but not limited to:

- a) Entertainment;
- b) Hotel rooms;
- c) Transportation;
- d) Gifts;
- e) Meals; or
- f) Items of nominal value (e.g. calendar or coffee mug).

Violations of the Code of Conduct shall result in discipline, up to and including termination. The District reserves the right to pursue legal action for violations.

All District personnel involved in purchases with Federal funds, including child nutrition personnel, shall receive training on the Code of Conduct. Training should include guidance about how to respond when a gratuity, favor, or item with monetary value is offered.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-24-101 et seq.
Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Ethical Guidelines
And Prohibitions For Educational Administrators, Employees, Board
Members And Other Parties
Commissioner’s Memo FIN 09-036
Commissioner’s Memo FIN-10-048
Commissioner’s Memo FIN 15-074

2 C.F.R. § 200.318
7 C.F.R. § 3016.36
7 C.F.R. § 3019.42

Date Adopted: 05-11-2015
Last Revised: 06-20-2016

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL BUS DRIVER END of ROUTE REVIEW

Each bus driver shall walk inside the bus from the front to the back to make sure that all students have gotten off the bus after each trip. If a child is discovered through the bus walk, the driver will immediately notify the central office and make arrangements for transporting the child appropriately. If children are left on the bus after the bus walk through has been completed and the driver has left the bus for that trip, the driver shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

Date Adopted: 07-14-2014

Last Revised:

4.

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL REPRESENTATION AGREEMENT

With mutual agreement of the Board of Directors, the Classified Personnel Policy Committee and the majority of the classified personnel of the district, the classified personnel will be represented by the personnel policy committee of classified employees until which time the classified personnel committee has developed its policies.

Date Adopted: 09-08-03

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES-DEFINITION AND CLASSIFICATIONS

A classified employee shall be defined as an employee of a public school who is not required to hold a teaching license issued by the State Board of Education.

For the purpose of organizing, developing and reviewing personnel policies these job area classifications will be represented by non-management from:

- 1) Instructional/pupil support aides
- 2) Building level clerical and secretarial
- 3) Central office clerical and secretarial
- 4) Maintenance/operation
- 5) Food service
- 6) Transportation

Additional representatives may be added but no more than three (3) administrators, one (1) that may be the Superintendent of schools.

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL POLICY COMMITTEE

The Fouke School District agrees to comply with the provision of Act 1780 of 2003 in establishment of its employee personnel policies.

Committee Eligibility, Election, and Duties/Responsibilities

There will be one representative from each job classification:

1. Aides and Paraprofessional
2. Clerical, secretary, and bookkeeping
3. Maintenance, operation, and custodians
4. Food Service
5. Transportation

Additional representatives may be added but there shall be no more than three (3) administrators on the committee, one (1) of which may be the superintendent of schools.

The classified personnel committee members shall be elected by a majority of the classified employees voting by secret ballot. Exclusively the classified personnel shall conduct the election. After the initial election of the new CPPC, a chairperson will be elected from the group and will serve two (2) years. The chairperson will conduct the subsequent elections of the CPPC. The chairperson will be responsible for developing a calendar of meetings, meeting agendas, and conducting the meeting. A secretary will be elected from the CPPC each year to record meetings minutes and distribute these promptly to members of the board and post at all worksites.

The personnel policies of the school district in effect at the time a classified employee's contract is entered into or renewed shall be considered to be incorporated as terms of the contract and shall be binding upon both parties unless changed by mutual consent.

Any amendments to personnel policies adopted during the term of such contract shall become effective the following July 1. However, these amendments may take place immediately with mutual consent.

Either the committee or the board of directors may propose new personnel policies or amendments to existing policies, if the proposals by the board have been submitted to the committee at least ten (10) working days prior to presentation to the board.

The committee shall present its proposed policies or amendments to existing policies to the board of directors. After presentation to the board, final action shall take place no later than the next regular board meeting.

The board of directors shall have the authority to adopt, reject, or refer back to the committee on personnel policies for further study and revision, any proposed policies or amendments to existing policies that are submitted to the board for consideration.

Each classified employee being employed by a school district for the first time shall be given a copy of the district's personnel policies at the time of his/her employment. A digital copy will be provided to an employee or an online copy that is accessible in Internet.

Each classified employee or administrator who was employed before the adoption of the policy shall be given a copy of the district's personnel policies at the time of his or her contract is renewed or extended.

Each classified employee or administrator shall be furnished a copy of any amendments to the personnel policies within thirty (30) days after approval of the amendments of the board of directors of the district.

Legal Reference: Act 1780, 2003

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003

Date Revised: 08-10-2009

CONTRACTS

An employee shall have thirty (30) days from the date of the receipt of his or her contract for the following school year in which to return the contract, signed, to the office of the Superintendent. The date of the receipt of the contract shall be presumed to be the date of a cover memo, which will be attached to the contract.

Failure of an employee to return the signed contract to the office of the Superintendent within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the contract shall operate as a resignation by the employee. No further action on the part of the employee, the Superintendent, or the School Board shall be required in order to make the employee's resignation final.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-17-1506

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003

PAID BREAKS

For those classified employees working more than twenty (20) hours per week, Fouke School District will provide two (2) paid, fifteen (15) minute breaks during each regular work day. The contract day will not be extended to provide for the breaks.

Legal Reference: Act 1752 of 2003

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003

COST OF LIVING SALARY INCREASE

A full-time classified employee shall not receive an hourly rate of compensation less than six dollars and twenty-five cents (\$6.25) per hour.

Beginning July 1, 2003, and each year thereafter, the minimum hourly rate shall be increased by a percentage increase of the consumer price index.

Legal Reference: Act 1773 of 2003

Date Adopted: 09-08-2003

EXCESSIVE LEAVE

To qualify for excessive leave the employee is required to present a doctor's statement substantiating the reason for the absence. The superintendent will make the decision whether an excessive leave request will be approved or denied. Upon return to work from a grant for excessive leave, the full amount of pay for a contract day shall be deducted from the full time school employee's salary for additional absences.

In case of an extended illness when all accumulated sick leave and personal leave have been used a maximum of thirty (30) additional days may be granted to a full time school classified school employee provided the following conditions are met:

1. The full time classified school employee or an immediate family member (employee's spouse, child, parent, in-law, or any other relative in the same household) is being treated for a problem that will require extended care.
2. The classified employee has no remaining accumulated sick leave or personal leave.
3. The classified employee must have one (1) year experience in District to be eligible for a maximum of ten (10) days per school year.
4. The classified employee must have two (2) years experience in District to be eligible for a maximum of twenty (20) days per school year.
5. The classified employee must have three (3) years experience in District to be eligible for a maximum of thirty (30) days per school year.

These additional days will not be granted for pregnancy unless personal complications to the mother or newborn arise which would be certified by a physician.

The employee's salary will be reduced by the cost of the substitute for the additional days granted.

Date Adopted: 03-08-04

Date Revised: 10-09-06

BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

Employees may be granted bereavement leave for deaths in their immediate family according to these conditions:

1. Bereavement leave consisting of three (3) days will be granted if pertaining to family in the household, children, parents, grandparents, in-laws, and/or siblings whose burial is within a 500 miles radius.
2. Bereavement leave consisting of five (5) days will be granted if pertaining to family (specified in #1) whose burial is beyond a 500 mile radius.
3. Bereavement leave as a representative of the school will be granted at the discretion of the respective principal.
4. Bereavement leave not covered in the immediate family will be charged to sick leave.

Date Adopted: 05-17-04

EMERGENCY LEAVE

Emergency leave will be granted by the principal and superintendent in the case of critical, unforeseen and unavoidable situations requiring the staff member's immediate presence. No reduction to sick leave or charges for substitutes will be levied.

Date Adopted: 05-09-83

Date Revised: 07-12-05

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL RETIREMENT POLICY

The District will pay retiring classified employees, one time only, at the rate of substitute teacher's daily pay per day for sick leave accumulated with the Fouke School District at the highest rate of substitute pay at employees effective retirement date.

The district will pay 12 month employees accumulated vacation retirement reserves according to Vacation Policy # 8.38.

Date Adopted: 05-17-04

Date Revised: 01-08-07

Date Revised: 08-11-08

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

The Fouke School District may have available budget appropriations for financial reimbursement for advanced study for classified staff members. Tuition reimbursement will be granted for qualified applicants as long as budgeted monies are available. Money appropriated will be divided among approved applicants, not to exceed amount spent.

A Principal, Superintendent, and Classified Personnel Policy Committee Chairperson will review applications and decide who will receive the available funds.

When reviewing tuition reimbursement applications, priorities to be considered will include:

1. Applicants seeking college credit to meet a specific need within the Fouke School District.
2. Advanced education that has some relevance to present employment.
3. Money appropriated will be divided among approved applicants with a minimum of \$100, not to exceed amount spent; excessive approved applicants will be limited by the following criteria 1. Prior allocations 2. Seniority.
4. Money appropriated for tuition reimbursement each year will be divided into two (2) semesters.

Applications will include the following information:

1. Personal data
2. Statement of educational goals of the staff member
3. Statement of the benefits of the study course
4. A receipt from the educational institution for reimbursement (may include one three hour course and related expenses such as books and labs)
5. A copy of satisfactory grades (minimum C) in the course issued after completion of the course
6. The applicant agrees to remain employed with the Fouke School District for a minimum of one year (1) following the completion of the course work.
7. The applicant agrees to repay the Fouke School District the total amount of reimbursement if he/she should leave the district before the end of 1 year or does not complete the course.

Applications must be submitted by September 30th and January 31st. Approved applications will receive reimbursement in November and March.

Date Adopted: 12-12-05

Date Revised:

APPLICATION FOR TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Applicant's Name _____

Name of educational institution _____

Name of course _____

Amount of tuition and related expenses _____
(Attach receipts for which you would like to be reimbursed)

Brief statement of how this course will benefit you and Fouke School District:

I am working toward a:

Certification	Yes	No
Associates	Yes	No
Bachelor	Yes	No

I understand I will work for the Fouke School District for 1 year or I will repay the money.

Applicant's Signature

Date

PAYMENT FOR UNUSED SICK LEAVE

At the end of the contract period, the District will pay certified and classified employees at the rate of one-third (1/3) lowest teacher substitute daily pay for any unused sick leave days received for the current year. The employees will continue to add these paid days to their sick leave accumulation total.

An employee who has been employed by the District five (5) years or longer, and dies by natural causes, disease, or accident, the estate of the employee will be paid, at the rate of substitute teacher's daily pay per day for sick leave the employee has accumulated up to their death.

Date Adopted: 07-09-07

CLASSIFIED SABBATICAL LEAVE

Requests for educational leave of absence must be in writing to the Superintendent or his/her designee at least sixty (60) days prior to the date in which the leave shall begin.

Educational leave requests must verify enrollment in a post secondary institution. Leave without pay may be granted but shall not exceed one (1) year.

An employee on extended contract who is required by the state or district to do additional work toward certification may be granted educational leave during the summer months or regular school term for a period of not more than one (1) year.

Educational leave will be recommended to the Board when a classified employee, according to district and state standards, is available for hire for the employee requesting leave. Upon the employee's return, he/she will be reinstated in a position for which he/she is qualified if a position is available.

Date Adopted: 09-11-07

CLASSIFIED LEAVE FOR CHILD REARING

Leave may be granted to any full-time employee for purposes of rearing his/her child under the age of two (2). Application for leave shall be made available from the central office and must be submitted to the Superintendent at least six (6) weeks prior to the planned departure date. Leave will be granted when a person in the employee's assigned work area is available for hire.

Leave may be granted for a semester, two (2) semesters, and/or the balance of the current semester and the two (2) succeeding semesters.

Salary will not be paid during the leave. The employee may continue health insurance in the District plan at the employee's own expense. Upon return to the District the employee shall be re-instated in a position for which he/she is qualified. The District must be notified at least a semester prior to desired date of return.

Date Adopted: 09-11-07

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL EMPLOYMENT & ORIENTATION

All prospective employees must fill out an application form provided by the District, in addition to any resume provided, all of which information is to be placed in the personnel file of those employed.

If the employee provides false or misleading information, or if he withholds information to the same effect, it may be grounds for dismissal.

All new personnel to the district will participate in an orientation session(s) planned/provided by the district.

Date Adopted: 09-11-08

Last Revised:

SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYEES

Any Fouke School District employee who will be absent from work shall be responsible for notifying his/her immediate supervisor. The supervisor shall be responsible for contacting the substitute for the position.

Selection of substitutes for all personnel (certified and classified) shall be made from a list of applicants with preference given using the following criteria:

- 1) Highly qualified for the position
- 2) Residents of the district
- 3) Participation in district's training/orientation for substituting

All substitute employees will be paid at least the minimum of the current minimum wage per hour and will be reviewed annually. Current rates of pay will be attached to the district's salary schedule.

Approved: 09-11-08

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL ACCOMMODATION PURCHASES

The Fouke School District is often able to purchase items at lower prices because of its status as a public institution or because of a favorable bidding process. Staff, Board of Education members, and community persons are prohibited from purchasing items for personal use through any of the District's accounts or established funds.

Date Adopted: 07-14-2014

Last Revised:

