

Little Rock School District
Certified Personnel Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
Zoom

Called to Order at 5:04 p.m. by Chair LaKeitha Austin

Present: LaKeitha Austin, Shani Baker, Tracy Barbarotto, Heather Blockett, Jennifer Croft, Nancy Fancyboy, Gladys Godley, Teresa Knapp Gordon, Antonette Henderson, Julie Hunt, Etoyi Jones, Jenna Jones, Cathy Koehler, Katie LaBerg, Betty Larry, Michelle Mills, Liz Morris, Kristy Mosby, Ryan Parson, Megan Prettyman, Holly Richards, Robert Robinson, Tina Ross, Bonita Rowe, Randy Rutherford, Rhonda Smith, Shelly Stacker, Twyla Tate, Emily Vaughn, Michele Walls, Tonia Weems, Doris Wesson

Absent with Notification: Sandy Lasley, Michelle Mills, Jennifer White

Motion to Set the Agenda with Flexibility

Moved – C. Koehler Seconded – N. Fancyboy

Vote For: 32 (Unanimous)

Motion Carried

Motion to Accept the Minutes from May 10, 2021 Meeting with Corrections

Moved – T. Knapp Gordon Seconded – D. Wesson

Vote For: 32 (Unanimous)

Motion Carried

Elementary School Day Hours Extension: Chair Austin shared that she had been contacted prior to the meeting by district-level administration and they were withdrawing the proposal for the 2021-2022 school year. A committee comprised of parents, administrators, and teachers will be formed next year to explore and make a recommendation on this.

Certified Personnel Policy Manual Section 3 Revisions:

LRSD Attorney made revisions to Section 3 based on new state law. At the bottom of page four there are two paragraphs that say they apply to the 2023-24 school year and that doesn't look correct. R. Robinson will speak with him about this. Question: What is the law if changing policy due to law changes? Need to

make sure it doesn't have to go through PPC process. We want to make sure we are following the law re: procedure for updates

Concerns:

Contracts: Received my contract today (5/27/21), with the same stipulations of it needing to be returned by the 10th of June.

Contact Robert Robinson if you are in this situation. Arkansas Law states you have 30 days from receiving the contract.

LRSD Buildings:

Central Wrestling is, and has been, using the Southwest Middle School Gym which is why people have seen LRSD workers there.

Henderson Middle School will now house Curriculum and Instruction and the Elementary (K-6) virtual academy.

The IRC building will continue to house Safety and Security and Athletics is moving there.

Romine Elementary is becoming a Pre-K.

At this time the fate of Dodd Elementary is unknown.

Professional Development:

Why are 6 hours of technology PD still required? It seems pointless now b/c so much of what we do heavily involves technology, and it would make more sense to incorporate it into other PD's. Although it is often a part of other PD's, it is not always easy to "count" it as technology PD when it's submitted for approval.

This is an Arkansas Department of Education requirement. LRSD is currently seeking a waiver.

End of the Year Concerns:

Displaced Certified Staff: Only 3 teachers last time checked. LRSD will honor July 1st deadline date for voluntary transfers. Voluntary transfers start now. This also applies to movement between county districts. Recommendation for this info to be sent out. In the past, this only applies to lateral moves, not vertical ones.

Teacher Pay Scales (Salary Committee Update):

Committee is continuing to meet throughout the summer. **Still working on both classified and certified pay scales.**

Question: What is holding back from releasing schedule for next year? Goal is for it to be comprehensive package to hit goal in 3 years. Further explanation was provided to the Certified PPC. Request that the Salary Committee send out an update to all LRSD employees with the details provided to the PPC. The teachers on the committee are all on the PPC and agreed to bring this up at their weekly meeting. Thanks you LaKeitha Austin, Teresa Knapp Gordon, Kristy Mosby, and Megan Prettyman for your time and representing all.

Pre-School Professional Development Calendar:

What was sent out has changed, but Chair Austin Lakeitha hasn't received the update. When she does, she will share with the PPC so they may share with staff at their buildings.

Summer PD Hours:

These hours do NOT have to be district PD, as long as the PD you do is approved and you don't receive additional compensation for it you can count it for the 12 hours. Must be completed by Saturday, July 31st.

Certified Sick Leave Bank Proposal:

The proposal is based on Springdale School District's policy with minor alterations to fit LRSD needs. The Sick Leave Bank is completely run by certified staff who have donated a day for the bank. The proposed policy could serve as a template for the Classified PPC to develop a policy. The policy will be shared with them. *Moved by Teresa Knapp Gordon and seconded by Liz Morris that the Certified PPC adopt the Sick Leave Bank document as a Personnel Policy Proposal to be shared first with the Classified PPC in order them to develop a policy proposal and then both be submitted to the LRSD School Board as Personnel Policy Proposals concurrently.*

Vote For: 32 (Unanimous)
Motion Carried

Chair Austin thanked Committee members Cathy Koehler, Michelle Mills, Ryan Parson, Shelly Stacker, and Doris Wesson.

Next Certified PPC Meeting: Monday, July 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: C. Koehler

Adjournment: 6:02 p.m.