TEACHER ACCREDITATION

Background

The Division believes in the value and importance of accreditation for secondary teachers. To be accredited means that a teacher has been granted the responsibility for determining the final mark of students in their charge in a specified level 30 (Grade 12) subject.

Procedures

- 1. Accreditation is a privilege extended to teachers who have demonstrated and continue to demonstrate a commitment to their profession and to their students.
- Successful accreditation and renewal of accreditation will be dependent upon submission of
 evidence of ongoing professional engagement and renewal particularly with respect to adherence
 to the theory and practice of the Core Curriculum including but not limited to;
 - 2.1 Coverage of the relevant curriculum
 - 2.2 Assessment and evaluation techniques
 - 2.3 Instructional strategies and the adaptive dimension
 - 2.4 Maintenance of a safe and respectful classroom environment
 - 2.5 Maintenance of a positive working relationship with students, parents, staff and administration.
- 3. Granting of accreditation/renewal of accreditation:
 - 3.1 Attendance at accreditation seminars will normally occur in July/August.
 - 3.2 Upon the recommendation of the principal and the approval of the Superintendent responsible for accreditation, teachers may receive authorization to attend accreditation seminars during the school year on the basis of the following exceptional circumstances; pressing Division need for the teacher to obtain or maintain accreditation status during the school year, or attendance at a summer seminar would impose unusual personal hardship on the teacher.
 - 3.3 Teachers apply for accreditation through their principal.
 - 3.4 Application deadlines for accreditation/renewal of accreditation are September 30th of each school year, or September 30th and February 28th of each semester.
 - 3.5 The principal forwards the application, with an attached recommendation, to the superintendent responsible for accreditation for consideration.
 - 3.6 Following approval the superintendent responsible for accreditation forwards the application to the Regional Director for Departmental approval.
- 4. Initial accreditation
 - 4.1 Teachers are not eligible to apply for accreditation privileges until they have completed a minimum of two years of successful teaching experience in Saskatchewan.
 - 4.2 Teachers may be accredited in the following subjects or subject areas: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English, and Mathematics.
- 5. Renewal of accreditation
 - 5.1 Accredited teachers are required to apply for renewal of accreditation every five years.
 - 5.2 It is the responsibility of accredited teachers to apply for renewal of accreditation in the fourth year of their accreditation cycle if they wish to maintain their accreditation.

- 5.3 Each secondary school principal will be provided with a status report on accredited teachers in their school by February 1st of each year.
- 5.4 Teachers requesting accreditation renewal are required to demonstrate appropriate professional development activities as outlined in Ministry of Education Accreditation (Initial and Renewal) Policy Procedures) in one of two ways as follows:
- 5.5 There is no requirement to attend a renewal seminar given the number of equivalent service options available.
- 6. Funding of accreditation
 - 6.1 To be eligible to receive funding for accreditation a teacher is required to obtain prior approval for funding from the Superintendent responsible for accreditation.
 - 6.1.1 Accreditation funding: July/August Seminar

Funding to a maximum of \$650.00 including:

- 6.1.1.1 Registration fee
- 6.1.1.2 Mileage and accommodation at Board rates
- 6.1.2 Accreditation funding: school year

Funding to a maximum of \$450.00 including:

- 6.1.2.1 Registration fee
- 6.1.2.2 Substitute teacher cost
- 6.1.2.3 Mileage and accommodation at Board rates.
- 6.1.3 On-site accreditation renewal:

In a school year when on-site accreditation renewal seminars are offered by the school division, the above funding guidelines would not apply.

Reference: Section 85, 87, 109, 175, 231, The Education Act, 1995

Section 30, Education Regulations

Accreditation (Initial and Renewal) Policies and Procedures

Approved: May 12, 2014