

POLICY ON TEACHER CERTIFICATION**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS**

That the Chicago Board of Education adopt the policy on teacher certification.

POLICY TEXT:**Introduction**

The Chicago Board of Education ("Board") recognizes that the delivery of high-quality education to all Chicago Public Schools ("CPS") students necessitates having well-trained, fully certified teachers working in every classroom in the district. To ensure that its teachers are prepared to offer students effective instruction, the Board is committed to the proposition that all full-time teachers in the district must meet the requirements for a standard Illinois teaching certificate set forth in the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/21-0.01 to 5/21-27. The following policy is designed to promote the excellence and professionalism of all full-time teachers in the city's schools.

I. Certification of Full-Time Basis Substitute Teachers

In addition to appointed teachers, the CPS teaching force includes full-time basis ("FTB") substitute teachers. A majority of the FTB teachers in the district have earned one or more of the standard Illinois teaching certificates required for appointed teachers.

Pursuant to this policy, all FTB teachers must satisfy the School Code requirements for a standard Illinois teaching certificate within **two years** after being hired as a FTB. This two-year requirement shall not apply to FTBs teaching in such areas as special education and/or bi-lingual education where statutes or Board policy impose different time limits for earning the requisite teaching certificates. The two-year requirement also shall not apply to CPS teachers working as day-to-day substitutes.

II. Authorization For Release of Teacher Certification Test Information

As another means to ensure professional qualifications of its full-time teachers, the Board shall require that all applicants for CPS teaching positions sign a consent form authorizing the Illinois State Board of Education ("ISBE") and/or the State Teacher Certification Board ("STCB") to release to the Board any and all information regarding the number of times it administered the Illinois test of basic skills to the applicant. Additionally, the consent form shall authorize the ISBE and/or STCB to release to the Board any and all information concerning subject matter tests administered to the applicant.

Legal References: 105 ILCS 5/14C-8; 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Act); 34 CFR 300.136.

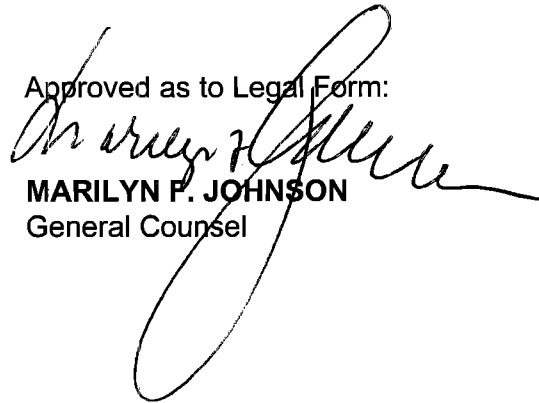
Approved for Consideration:


BARBARA EASON-WATKINS

Respectfully submitted,


ARNE DUNCAN

Approved as to Legal Form:


MARILYN F. JOHNSON
General Counsel