

Gallatin County Schools

Wallace Central Office Building
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Warsaw, KY 41095

Received
7/7/14
efc

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“Maximizing Student Learning & Achievement”



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April 30, 2014

Dear Gallatin County Board of Education;

As an agriculture educator I am required by law (KRS 157.360) to work a 240 day, 12 month contract. Extended days makes up 55 of my contract days where I conduct supervised agricultural experience visits with students, chaperone and participate in FFA activities, attend professional development, update curriculum, maintain facilities, and participate in community events and activities with students.

During the 2014-2015 school year I have the privilege of teaching a Family Consumer Science; Principles of teaching. This class requires a teacher with five years of experience, a master's degree, and Career and Technical Education Certification. The class will be a key component in a new Family and Consumer Science career pathway, Fundamentals of Teaching. With the addition of this pathway students will have more opportunities in career pathways and become College and Career Ready. During the 2014-2015 school years, I will continue to teach Agriscience twice a day, Landscaping, Greenhouse, and Principles of Ag. All of these classes are necessary to complete Agricultural Career pathways. I will also continue to serve as the Advisor to the FFA Chapter.

I am requesting a deduction in my 240 day calendar by 10 days because I will not be teaching a complete agriculture education schedule. Principles of Teaching is not an agriculture class, therefore students in this class will not have the opportunity to be in FFA or have a SAE project. I will continue to offer the same number of agriculture courses with landscaping and Floral design on a rotation every other year. I have submitted a proposal for use of 45 extended days for 2014-2015.

I understand by requesting a deduction of contract days that I will be deducted 10 days of salary. If this position returns to a full time agriculture teaching position the 10 days will be added back to the contract to accommodate an increase in FFA members and SAE student project visits. Please see the attached documents for further explanation of the state law and a projected use of 45 extended days during the 2014-2015 school year.

Thank You for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Katie Howell

Katie Howell
Gallatin County High school
Agriculture Teacher/ FFA Advisor

*Reviewed and approved Roxann Booth
GCHS Principal*

**Kentucky Department of Education
Agriculture Education Extended Employment Plan
July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014**

Teacher: Katie Brown Howell
 School: Gallatin County High School
 District: Gallatin County

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<u>Task</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Days Requested</u>
Supervise agriculture programs of students 20 days minimum	Assist in the development and growth of SAE programs of agriculture students	14
Supervise student FFA activities 10 days minimum	Provide guidance in leadership development, holding of meetings and practices in preparation for Career Development Events, attendance at state and national FFA-related functions	15
Planning, implementation, and evaluation of county fair	Teachers works with appropriate groups to plan and conduct local/county fairs to support agriculture and youth activities	2
Cooperate with agriculture agencies and organizations	Enhance agriculture education by working with local, regional, state, and/or national agencies and/or organizations	1
Participate in Professional Development activities 3 days minimum	Improve technical knowledge and remain up to date on topics impacting agriculture and education	5
Revise curriculum and secure up-to-date teaching resources 5 days maximum	Regularly revise curriculum to reflect changes in industry and needs of students	4
Maintain agriculture education facilities 5 days maximum	Keep all agriculture facilities in working order and improve as needed	4
Supervise student YFA activities <i>(Only applicable if an Adult Agriculture program is in place)</i>	Involve YFA members in activities to encourage continuous improvement	0
Total Days Requested		45

Request by: Katie Howell
 Teacher

Approved by: _____
 Superintendent

KRS 157.360, Section (11), (a), which states that: ***“Instructional salaries for vocational agriculture classes shall be for twelve (12) months per year.”***

Pursuant to KRS 157.360, teachers of Agriculture must be 12 month employees and work a “year round” schedule, in order to provide a comprehensive program that meets the needs of the agricultural community by allowing teachers to carry out duties of supervision and instruction of student’s experience programs in agriculture, supervision of student leadership development activities, and other duties as stated in KRS 157.360 (11).

Agricultural education programs should never have less than one full time agriculture teacher. This is best practice so that the teacher has the ability to provide a comprehensive program of agricultural education for the community . Also, any reduction of an existing agriculture teacher, in multi-teacher departments, from full time status should occur only due to decreases in student enrollment in the agricultural education program.