

THE KENTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION 1055 EATON DRIVE, FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY 41017 TELEPHONE: (859) 344-8888 / FAX: (859) 344-1531 WEBSITE: www.kenton.kyschools.us Dr. Henry Webb, Superintendent of Schools

KCSD ISSUE PAPER

DATE: 01/17/2019

AGENDA ITEM (ACTION ITEM):

Consider/Approve The District requests Board approval for revisions to Policies 03.123 and 03.223 – "Leaves and Absences". This is the second reading of the proposed revisions

APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY:

01.5 – School Board Policies

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

In an effort to standardize the process of employees requesting a leave of absence, as well as align the language of the certified and classified policies, the District proposes revisions to policies 03.123 and 03.223. These revisions clarify an employee's responsibilities associated with a leave of absence. The revisions also clarify the process in which the Superintendent may consider an employee's leave request once all paid leave options have been exhausted. The language of the proposed revisions has changed since the first reading to the Board at the January 7, 2019 regular Board meeting per a recommendation from KSBA's legal department. KSBA's recommended changes removed language requiring a specific District form be completed by the employee when requesting a leave of absence and modified language to ensure employees who do not follow the appropriate process of notifying the Superintendent that they will or will not return for the following school year after an approved leave ends are provided due process before their employment is terminated.

FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT: No fiscal/budgetary impact

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Kenton County Board of Education approve the revisions to Policies 03.123 and 03.223 – "Leaves and Absences".

<u>CONTACT PERSON</u>: Matt Rigg, Executive Director of Human Resources

Superintendent

Principal

District Administrator

Use this form to submit your request to the Superintendent for items to be added to the Board Meeting Agenda. Principal –complete, print, sign and send to your Director. Director –if approved, sign and put in the Superintendent's mailbox.

Kenton County Board of Education

Board Members: Carl Wicklund, Chairperson Karen L. Collins, Vice Chairperson Carla Egan Shannon Herold Jesica Jehn "The Kenton County Board of Education provides Equal Education & Employment Opportunities."

DRAFT 1/10/18

PERSONNEL

- Certified Personnel -

Leaves and Absences

APPROVAL

Authorization of leave and time taken off from one's job shall be in accordance with specific leave policy. Absence from work that is not based on appropriate leave for which the employee is qualified may lead to disciplinary consequences, up to and including termination of employment.

Leave taken without proper authorization shall result in a reduction in pay for the employee affected.

NOTIFICATION OF RETURN

Employees on leave covered by the related long term policies listed below shall notify the Superintendent in writing by April 1 of the year the leave terminates of the date of their intent to return to the school system. Employees who fail to notify the Superintendent of their return by April 1 cannot be guaranteed employment for the following school year. If an employee on leave has not contacted the Superintendent by April 1, the Superintendent may declare the position vacant and is authorized to fill the position for the following school year. Where an employee in the final year of leave fails to contact the Superintendent by April 1, to either request an extension of leave or to provide a date of return, the Superintendent may determine whether personnel action is required.

LEAVE FOLLOWING ASSAULT

The District shall provide leave with pay for employees assaulted while performing their assigned duties when the assault results in injuries that qualify the employee for workers' compensation benefits. The period of leave shall not exceed one (1) calendar year following the assault. During that period, the employee shall not experience loss of income or benefits, including sick leave, under terms and conditions set forth in KRS 161.155.

PLACEMENT UPON RETURN

Employees taking any long term leave will be entitled on return to a comparable position for which they are qualified. Placement in the same position or the same school cannot be guaranteed.

VACANCIES AND REPLACEMENTS

Individuals employed or assigned to fill vacancies created by long term leaves shall be informed of the possibility before assuming the position that, upon return of the individual from leave, <u>employment may not continuethey may not be rehired</u> or they may be reassigned to a comparable position.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Superintendent shall grant release time to employees who are summoned to appear in legal proceedings in keeping with the provisions of the contractual agreement with the local education association.

Leaves and Absences

LEAVE FOLLOWING ASSAULT

The District shall provide leave with pay for employees assaulted while performing their assigned duties when the assault results in injuries that qualify the employee for workers' compensation benefits. The period of leave shall not exceed one (1) calendar year following the assault. During that period, the employee shall not experience loss of income or benefits, including sick leave, under terms and conditions set forth in KRS 161.155.

LEAVE REQUESTS

The Superintendent may grant leave without pay provided the leave is for educational or professional purposes, or for illness, maternity, adoption of a child or children, or other disability for a period of no more than ten (10) days per school year. Requests shall be made in writing and shall be submitted to the Superintendent for approval A written request must be submitted to the Superintendent at least twenty (20) working days in advance of the intended dates of such leave. An unpaid leave request will not be considered, or granted, unless all available and applicable paid leave has been exhausted.

FMLA

Eligible employees may apply for leave under the provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

REFERENCES:

KRS 161.155; KRS 161.770 OAG 01-9; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993

Related Policies:

03.1232, 03.12322, 031233, 03.1234, 03.1235, 03.124

DRAFT 1/10/19

PERSONNEL

03.223

- CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL -

Leaves and Absences

APPROVAL

Authorization of leave and time taken off from one's job shall be in accordance with specific leave policy. Absence from work that is not based on appropriate leave for which the employee is qualified may lead to disciplinary consequences, up to and including termination of employment.

Leave taken without proper authorization shall result in a reduction in pay for the employee affected.

NOTIFICATION OF RETURN

Employees on leave covered by the related long term policies listed below shall notify the Superintendent in writing by April 1 of the year the leave terminates of the date of their intent to return to the school system. Failure to do so will render the position vacant, Employees who fail to notify the Superintendent of their return by April 1 cannot be guaranteed employment for the following school year. If an employee on leave has not contacted the Superintendent by April 1, the Superintendent may declare the position vacant and is authorized to fill the position for the following school year. Where an employee in the final year of leave fails to contact the Superintendent by April 1, to either request an extension of leave or to provide a date of return, the Superintendent may determine whether personnel action is required.

PLACEMENT UPON RETURN

Employees taking any long term leave will be entitled on return to a comparable position for which they are qualified. Placement in the same position or the same location cannot be guaranteed.

VACANCIES AND REPLACEMENTS

Individuals employed or assigned to fill vacancies created by long term leaves shall be informed of the possibility before assuming the position that, upon return of the individual from leave, their employment may not continue or they may be reassigned to a comparable position.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Superintendent shall grant release time to employees who are summoned to appear in legal proceedings arising from their course of employment. If a person is found guilty of an illegal act against the Board, the absences shall be without pay.

LEAVE FOLLOWING ASSAULT

The District shall provide leave with pay for employees assaulted while performing their assigned duties when the assault results in injuries that qualify the employee for workers' compensation benefits. The period of leave shall not exceed one (1) calendar year following the assault. During that period, the employee shall not experience loss of income or benefits, including sick leave, under the terms and conditions set forth in KRS 161.155.

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PERSONNEL

03.223 (CONTINUED) *

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Leaves and Absences

LEAVE REQUESTS

The Superintendent may grant leave without pay provided the leave is for educational or professional purposes, or for illness, maternity, adoption of a child or children, or other disability. Requests shall be made in writing and shall be submitted to the Superintendent for approval in advance of the intended dates of such leave. An unpaid leave request will not be considered, or granted, unless all available and applicable paid leave has been exhausted.

FMLA

Eligible employees may apply for leave under the provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

REFERENCES:

KRS 161.155; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993

RELATED POLICIES:

03.2232, 03.22322, 03.2233, 03.2234, 03.224

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