

TEACHER AIDES/PARAPROFESSIONALS

The Governing Board favors the use of paraprofessionals and considers them to be members of a professional team dedicated to the best interests of students. By relieving teachers of duties that do not require professional training, noncertificated persons allow teachers to dedicate their skills, knowledge and efforts primarily to teaching. Paraprofessionals also can help teachers to provide individualized student instruction and an enriched educational program.

The District shall employ paraprofessionals in those classes where they will provide the greatest benefit to students, taking into consideration such factors as large class size, student age group and teacher workload.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all paraprofessionals have appropriate training and supervision. Paraprofessionals hired after January 8, 2002, who work in a program supported by Title 1 funds, must demonstrate they have met all requirements under the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Paraprofessionals are expected to be courteous, discreet, cooperative and dependable, to employ high ethical standards as they work with students, and to respect school rules, District policies and administrative regulations.

The Board recognizes the need for qualified teaching staff and encourages paraprofessionals to seek opportunities leading to a teaching credential. The District shall support these efforts to the extent possible, particularly as they relate to obtaining bilingual or special education credentials.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

45340-45349 *Instruction aides, especially*

45344 *Duties and qualifications*

45344.5 *Required passing of basic skills proficiency examination by instructional aides*

45347 *Instructional aides as classified employees*

45350-45354 *Teacher assistants*

45360-45367 *Teacher aides, especially*

45361.5 *Required passing of basic skills proficiency examination by teacher aides*

69619-69619.3 *California school paraprofessional teacher training program*

Policy

adopted: February 24, 1997

revised: July 11, 2006

CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

San Juan Capistrano, California