

DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES

~~The Central Community School Board shall strive to assist personnel in adjusting to their positions and performing their duties satisfactorily.~~

With the exception of lay-offs caused by programmatic changes, budget cuts, staff reorganizations, and/or other personnel actions reducing numbers of employees, no Central Community School Board employee shall be dismissed except as provided below by state law and this policy. ~~Any school employee shall be dismissed by the Superintendent or by the School Board, in accordance with statutory provisions, upon final conviction of or pleading *nolo contendere* to certain crimes enumerated in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §15:587.1 and/or any other felony offense.~~

CRIMINAL OFFENSES

The Superintendent, on behalf of the School Board, shall dismiss:

1. An administrator, teacher, or substitute teacher upon final conviction or submission of plea of *nolo contendere* to any felony offense, in accordance with statutory provisions for dismissal applicable to the employee.
2. An administrator, teacher, or substitute teacher who is found to have submitted fraudulent documentation to the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) or the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) as part of an application for a Louisiana teaching certificate or other teaching authorization.
3. An administrator, teacher, or substitute teacher who is found to have facilitated cheating on any state assessment as determined by BESE.
4. Any other school employee if such employee is convicted of or pleads *nolo contendere* to crimes enumerated in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §15:587.1, except La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §14:74.

The Superintendent shall notify the State Superintendent of Education of any employee's dismissal for the criminal offenses above no later than thirty (30) days after such dismissal.

In addition, employees ~~may be dismissed~~ shall be subject to removal for failure to properly report arrests for certain offenses enumerated in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:16.

ABANDONMENT OF POSITION

If an employee is absent for ten (10) or more days without explanation or approved leave,

the School Board may consider the job as abandoned and the employee may be terminated, unless the employee can provide acceptable and verifiable evidence of extenuating circumstances. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for determining acceptability of evidence of extenuating circumstances.

CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES

Non-tenured Teachers

The Superintendent may terminate the employment of any non-tenured teacher after providing such teacher with the written reasons therefor and providing the teacher the opportunity to respond. The teacher shall have seven (7) days to respond, and such response shall be included in the teacher's personnel file. The Superintendent shall notify the teacher in writing of his/her final decision. The teacher shall not be entitled to a hearing before the School Board.

Within sixty (60) days of such notice, the teacher may seek summary review in district court of whether or not the Superintendent's action was arbitrary or capricious.

Tenured Teachers

A tenured teacher ~~with tenure~~ shall not be removed from office except upon written and signed charges by the Superintendent or his/her designee of poor performance, willful neglect of duty, incompetency, dishonesty, immorality, or of being a member of or contributing to any group, organization, movement, or corporation that is by law or injunction prohibited from operating in the state of Louisiana, and then only if furnished with a copy of such written charges and given the opportunity to respond. Dismissal of a teacher with tenure shall be governed by the provisions for discipline of tenured teachers with tenure as included in policy, F-9.14, Employee Discipline.

Contract Appointees

Personnel who have entered into promotional employment contracts with the School Board, pursuant to La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:444, may be removed from their positions by non-renewal of their contracts or by termination of their contracts. Contracts may be non-renewed by the School Board for any of the following reasons:

1. The Superintendent has recommended against renewal of the contract based on an evaluation of the employee's performance;
2. The failure to offer a new contract is based on a cause sufficient to support a mid-contract termination;
3. The position in question has been discontinued; or

4. The position in question has been eliminated as a result of district reorganization.

In a non-renewal situation, the employee shall not be entitled to a hearing before the School Board.

For *mid-contract termination* of promotional employment contracts, the employee shall ~~receive~~ have the right to written charges and a hearing before a disciplinary hearing officer in the manner provided in La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §17:443 ~~conducted in accordance with hearing procedures adopted by the School Board~~. A contract may be terminated if the employee is found guilty of being incompetent or inefficient or is found to have failed to fulfill the terms and performance objectives of his/her contract, or other reasons provided for by state law.

NON-CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES

School Employees

All employees of the system whose dismissal is not governed by the provision of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. ' ' 17:441-446, or by the provisions of La. Rev. Stat. Ann. ' ' 17:491-494, shall be subject to dismissal upon the written recommendation by the Superintendent to the School Board. Such employees shall not be entitled to a hearing before the School Board.

Revised: July, 2014

Revised: October, 2018

Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. ' ' 13:3204, 15:587.1, 17:15, 17:16, 17:81.5, 17:442, 17:443, 17:444, 17:492, 17:493, 17:493.1; La. Code of Civil Procedure, Art. 2592; Rouselle v. Plaquemines Parish School Board, 633 So2d 1235 (La. 2/28/94); Board minutes, 10-14-13, 8-11-14.