

# The Teacher Advisor

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## Special Interest Points

- DOE intends to request the State Board of Education repeal MGIC certification
- Staff reduction will require a greater utilization of the District's Web-Based System, AESOP
- State mandates changes in compensation for advanced degree supplements
- Reasons to keep your Florida Professional Certificate current

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## Changes Announced by FL DOE

Our District was notified recently that the Department of Education intends to request that the State Board of Education repeal the rule related to the Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum (MGIC) certification. In light of this pending action, the State also announced the following instructional personnel assignments that will go into effect beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

- MGIC will only be appropriate for instructional personnel assigned to courses designated as M/J (grades 6-8).
- Courses that currently (2011-2012 Course Code Directory) allow MGIC

certification taught at the elementary and high school level will not be allowed beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

- MGIC certification for Middle/Junior (M/J) courses will be appropriate only for appointments to these courses **prior to July 1, 2012.**

Therefore, if you are currently appointed to a 6-8 assignment based upon MGIC certification to teach one or more of the 4 core areas (Math, Science, Social Studies, English), **you will be appropriately certified with MGIC as long as you maintain a 6-8 assignment in any one of the 4 core areas.**

**A change of assignment (outside of the core areas) or a break in service will cause a teacher to lose this limited "grandfathering" option.**

At this time, the DOE has not announced changes for the use of MGIC to satisfy the HQ requirement needed by ESE teachers who serve students who are functioning above 6th grade level. Therefore, we will continue to follow guidance outlined in the [2011-2012 Florida Course Code Directory](#) until further notice.

### Contact Certification

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## Greater Utilization of AESOP Required Due to Reduction of HR Staff

Regrettably, as a result of staff reduction, the District HR Division no longer has staff to provide customized services in the area of substitute teacher placement.

Fortunately, our District's web-based system, AESOP, will continue to allow teachers, substitute teachers and school administration to connect in a timely manner to ensure absences are covered.

You will be receiving your AESOP Welcome Letter for this school year some time this week.

# ADVANCED DEGREE SUPPLEMENTS

## State Mandated Change in Compensation Eligibility

As a result of the passage of Senate Bill 736, Florida Statutes now address the eligibility of teachers/administrators to receive an advanced degree supplement.

### 1012.22 (1)(c) 3, Florida Statutes 2011

*3. Advanced degrees. — A district school board may not use advanced degrees in setting a salary schedule for instructional personnel or school administrators hired on or after July 1, 2011, unless the advanced degree is held in the individual's area of certification and is only a salary supplement.*

The following procedure will be followed by the District Certification Office to implement this mandate.

1. Determine employment status of individual of record on the transcript.
2. If the record is for an active teacher with seniority date prior to 7/1/2011, apply old rules (no change) for advanced degree supplement.
3. If newly hired teacher, or former teacher being reappointed after a break in service, on or after 7/1/2011, apply new rules based upon 1012.22(1)(c) 3, Florida Statutes 2011, for advanced degree supplement.
4. Print copy of teacher/administrator certificate.
5. Reference DOE Guide to acceptable majors.
6. Circle the area of certification on the copy of the certificate where the advanced degree matches.
7. If the major is not an exact match to a major listed on the DOE Guide, but the major as stated on the transcript clearly mirrors terminology that is reflective of an area of certification on the teacher's/administrator's certificate — consider the degree to be in-field.
8. If no match exists, the individual is not eligible for the supplement.
9. E-mail the teacher/administrator regarding the outcome of the evaluation.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- After July 1, 2011 supplements may be given for advanced degrees as outlined above in any certification area on the teacher's/administrator's certificate. The area of assignment is not an eligibility factor.
- Advanced degree transcripts must be reevaluated for teachers/administrators who were employed prior to 7/1/11 but subsequently had a break service on or after 7/1/2011. It is possible that a break in service will negatively impact some teachers/administrators who have separated from the District and returned on or after July 1, 2011.

### Time to renew your Florida Professional Certificate?

The District Certification Office will begin processing renewal applications in September. Currently the staff is feverishly working to on-board our new teachers and request issuance of their certificates. Please keep in mind that one of the conditions for continuance of either the Professional Services Contract or Continuing Contract, is a valid Florida Professional Certificate. Furthermore, continued employment as a teacher also requires a valid certificate for full-time teaching.