
EXTENDED CONTRACT UPDATE

JULY 25, 2009

The State Department of Education has notified us that our 2009-2010 Extended Contract budget will be funded at only 62% of the October 2008 amount. We have been told that Extended Contract is being funded solely by stimulus funds, which are only available through the fiscal year 2011. There are no guarantees that this program will continue beyond this year. As the Extended Contract budget changes, the activities we are able to offer will also change.

Extended Contract funds are available for extended work time for teachers and administrators based on an approved plan submitted by the system representing a needs assessment completed through the TCSP (Tennessee Comprehensive Planning Process). Tennessee Code Annotated **49-5-5209** states that, "Appropriately licensed educators with career level II and III status shall be given priority of opportunity to participate in extended contract activities. When extended contract positions cannot be filled by career level II and III educators, other educators may be used."

Level II and III teachers will be offered a contract opportunity in an approved activity. Career Level II and III teachers should not assume that the activity offered will be the same activity that was offered in the previous year. Extended Contract activities are determined by need, the district's TCSP plan, and evidence of success. Teachers who are level II and III can choose to decline the extended contract activity offered. If this activity is declined no other extended contract activity will be offered as stated in TCA **49-5-5211**, "Any career level II or career level III teacher who declines the duties thereof shall not receive the state salary supplement authorized in parts 50-55 of this chapter."

Teachers who have previously worked an Extended Contract activity, but were not level II or III teachers should not assume there are any extended contract activities available at this time. As the 2009-10 program is developed and approved by the state, any additional contracted opportunities will be made available to teachers in the county through an application process and selection will be based on teacher certification, Highly Qualified status, and experience. If additional teaching opportunities through extended contracts are available, the application will be posted on the district's website.