



iZone Faculty Meeting Questions and Answers

1. When is the deadline to complete the iTeacher Qualification Form?

All certificated staff who wish to remain at the current school should complete and submit the *iTeacher Qualification form* by April 2, 2012.

2. How long will the screening process take?

We will begin qualifying teachers and instructional staff as soon as individual iTeacher Qualification forms are received, and we will communicate to you and your principal. We will process the *iTeacher Qualification forms* as efficiently as possible.

3. Can teachers who put in for a voluntary transfer, but don't find another position, stay at the current school?

Yes, all teachers are permitted to put in for voluntary transfers every year. Many do and then ultimately end up staying in their position. This is no different. However, to remain at an iZone school you must complete the iTeacher qualification process. Be sure to submit the *iTeacher Qualification form* by April 2, 2012 because the transfer cannot be guaranteed.

4. What happens if I do not fill out the form?

All certificated must complete and submit the form by April 2, 2012 if they would like to qualify to work in any iZone school. Those who wish to find positions outside of the iZone may do so without completing the screening process.

5. Is there a way that teachers can receive verification that their qualification form has been received?

You will receive an email confirming receipt.



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6. Are teachers from other zones being recruited to teach in these schools and will they need to be iTeacher qualified?

Teachers who wish to stay are encouraged to demonstrate their intent to do so by starting the process of getting qualified. Once leadership knows how many teachers want to stay at the iZone, they will begin filling open positions. All teachers who teach in iZone schools will need to be iTeacher qualified.

7. What about instructional coaches?

All certificated staff should work to become iTeacher qualified.

8. How do support staff get qualified?

Information about the qualification process for support personnel will be forthcoming and will be communicated through your principal.

9. If TEAM data is not available until the end of the year, how should teachers complete the qualification process now without that information?

If a teacher has an effect score from 2010-11, he or she may use that score under 1a on the *iTeacher Qualification form*. If the teacher did not teach in a tested area last year, he or she should answer 1c.

10. Can iZone teachers apply to work at other schools in the iZone on question #5 of the iTeacher Qualification form?

You may express that request there, but decisions on adding teachers at iZone schools will be decided by the leadership.



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11. Do we as current iZone teachers take precedence over other teachers who apply as new iTeachers?

Qualified iTeachers currently at Innovation Zone schools who wish to remain will receive preference.

12. Is there one reform approach being used at all iZone schools?

There is not one approach. All work will be done within the context of each school in conjunction with the leadership team. The iLeaders and iTeachers program is a part of each iZone school's strategy.

13. Who is making decisions about what happens in these schools? MNPS employees or the state?

Innovation Zone staff are working on plans and communicate regularly with the Tennessee Department of Education. The iZone is an MNPS entity.

14. Is the contract the same or different?

There is no contract. The interim procedures are in effect unless amended for iZone schools. By the end of the 2012-13 school year, all of the teachers in iZone schools will be iTeachers. Those who do not qualify now should be working on specific plans to qualify before then.

15. Is there any monetary advantage to remaining in the iZone?

iZone schools participate in merit pay programs through the Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) program or a program using the TIF strategic compensation models. iTeachers also work extra days in the summer prior to the start of school, and most iZone schools include extended days and years. Specific benefits and information about compensation will be provided for each school in the next few weeks.



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16. Is the iZone teacher position 12 months?

iTeacher positions are 10 month positions, however there will be a one week training prior to the start of the 2012-2013 school year.