# **Thomasville City Schools** Substitute Recruitment, Marketing & **Retention** Plan **TENATION**

# **Beginning Fall 2021 & Ongoing**

### Sample of Beginning of the Year Recruitment Efforts



Krystal Sanders @Krystal... · 6/22/21 PTEC Employment Info Session. If you missed it today join tomorrow!





What is the mission of TCS?

It is our mission in Thomasville City Schools to partner with parents, community and staff members to nurture and prepare students for success in the 21st Century. Educating the whole child and providing them with the tools needed for success in life is paramount. Expectations for a positive learning environment along with

regarding their openings. If you have any additional questions or would like more information, please contact the TCS Human Resources Department at (336)474-4200.

### Davidson Daily



#### Link to Davidson Local Article

# Thomasville City Schools Substitute Data



Number of Current Active Substitutes	<b>29</b> 3 New Substitutes this Year (1 was Immediately Hired)
Current Average Daily Fill Rate	<b>62%</b> Includes Daily Average of 10-11 Long Term/Vacancy Substitutes
Number of Active Substitutes	<b>25</b> (2020-2021) <b>30</b> (2019-2020, Pre Covid)
Number of Substitutes Hired as Full Time Employees (Aug. 2021-Present)	<b>2</b> (+2 in the Hiring Process)
Number of Substitutes Who Hold Other TCS Positions	1 Bus Driver

### TCS Substitute Forum Feedback 11.30.21

<u>Attendees</u>: 1 Substitute, 1 School Treasurer, 1 Administrator, 1 Finance Department Representative, 2 HR Department Representatives, 2 Board Members

#### **Going Well**

- Making Substitutes Feel They are Part of the Family Makes Us Happy
- Increase in Pay was a Moral Booster
- Some Administrators Connect Better With Substitutes Than Others



#### **Suggestions**

- Assure Long Term Substitutes Can Plan/Collaborate with Teammates
- Keep Substitutes in their Original Assignments
- Add a Bonus for Working a Set # of Days in a Pay Period
- Add Substitute Links on School Websites
- Pass out Flyers at Dismissal
- Experienced Substitutes Mentor New Substitutes
- Flyers: Day Cares, YMCA, Peditrication, Parks & Rec
- Generic Computer Login for Substitutes
- Maps of Buildings & Check-in Locations
- Substitute Training at Individual School Level
- Important to Remember Your Lens Determines How You Feel About the Substitute Calling System

# **TCS Substitute Survey Data** Surveys were sent to All Current TCS Substitutes. 13 were returned.

#### How do you feel about the temporary upgrades to substitute teacher pay in TCS?

- I am very grateful and thankful for the increase in pay. Thank you all for thinking of us.
- Appreciate it.
- Much Appreciated.
- It's a good steps but with the bonus the teachers got, we should have gotten something too to show your appreciation for working as well...\$1500, \$1000, or \$500 at least
- Which of the upgrades are considered temporary
- It's ok but could non certified get \$100 a day? That might draw more subs to come work.
- Greatly Appreciated
- Hallelujah

#### What are some additional steps that can be taken to attract additional substitutes teachers to TCS?

- Good plans, not always working all blocks, discipline problems in some classes
- Talk to parents who want to get more involved in the school's academic courses with the kids. It may encourage them to get interested in the field. There are also many college students that may consider working in the field as a start to employment.
- If we can get benefits like health insurance or other benefits that are offered. Also bonuses can be offered for subs now that have been with the schools a long time
- Post applications on school's websites, HR page, Citizen's of Thomasville Page, and community College page
- · Post the position on job sites like Indeed
- I think the pay should be rounded off to \$100 a day. THat would help to attract more substitutes teachers
- This a great start with the pay increase. I believe this will attract many positive and professional substitute teachers to TCS.
- Make teachers leave sub plans that are written for a sub and not themselves.
- I am in my 7th year as a sub. The last 2 years have been insane as far as behavior problems. I hear teachers and subs say they don't have to put up with this. Several current teachers I don't sub for because they don't have any control over classes. As subs we can't perform miracles.

Strongly Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree		Strongly Agree
			10
Comments: *No problems.			
I will continue to substitute teach in TCS	3?		
Strongly Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree		Strongly Agree
1			9
*I no longer live in Thomasville. *Ive been with the school for 11 years now so I will			
I am more likely to sub in TCS because			
I am more likely to sub in TCS because Strongly Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree		Strongly Agree
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# Thomasville City Schools Substitute Marketing



# make erence

SUBSTITUTE

TEACHER

PAY

INCREASES

20%

**\$100 Signing Bonus** 

\$95 per day - NonCertified \$125 per day - Certified

Apply today Scan the Code or call 336-474-4200 www.tcs.k12.nc.us

TCS is seeking outstanding indivuduals to become substitute teachers in our schools, preK-12.

SCAN ME

You'll Enjoy:

- Awesome students & helpful staff Flexible Schedule
- Your Choice of Schools & Subjects Competitive Pay
- Making a Difference for Students!



### Invitation to Make a Difference in **BULLDOG NATION**

#### Posters shared on job boards around the Nation:

- **Thomasville Pediatrics** •
- Thomasville Public Library ٠
- Thomasville City Schools •
- Workforce Development Office
- Goodwill Industries •
- Davidson Davie Community College
- Salvation Army
- Thomasville Area Chamber of Commerce







### BULLETIN INSERT FOR LOCAL CHURCHES TO SHARE...

Shared via the November 21st Publication of **"News of the Nation"** to all faculty & staff

members (Requesting Their Assistance in Recruiting Great People)



Exciting News in Bulldog Nation!

The TCS Board of Education is investing in Substitute Teachers! Join us in a new campaign to welcome new folks who will work to grow and nurture our students.

Let your friends and families know about this exciting opportunity & help grow Bulldog Nation!



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Shared via the Thomasville Area Chamber of Commerce Social Media Sites beginning the first week in December 2021



### **Plans to Continue the Work:**

- Plan to post hiring options for regular employment (teachers, bus drivers, etc.) and substitute teacher opportunities to the following job boards in January 2022:
  - Career Builder
  - Zip Recruiter
  - LinkedIn
  - Glass Door
  - Snag a Job
- Home Sporting Events: Announcements made during games/matches, posters at entrances/ticket area, make flyers available
- Create Substitute Teacher Recruitment Video



## Thomasville City Schools Substitute Retention



### **Calling Systems Price Comparisons**

	Front Line	RedRover	SubFinder Express Currently Using
Implementation + Year One	\$6,300 + \$9,397= <b>\$15, 697</b>	\$1000 + \$3500= <b>\$4,500</b>	<b>\$2,502.23</b> (2021)
Year Two	\$9,867	\$3,500	This amount will increase with changes
Year Three	\$10,360	Increase Based on Consumer Price Index	in staff. We are charged per user and cannot delete users once they leave TCS.

### **Calling Systems Comparisons**

	Front Line	RedRover	SubFinder Express	
Substitute Notification for Job Openings	Automated Phone Calls, Mobile App, or Select Jobs Via Computer	Text Messages, Push Notifications, Automated Phone Calls, Mobile App, or Select Jobs Via Computer	Automated Phone Calls, Mobile App, or Select Jobs Via Computer	
Substitutes Accepting Jobs	Must Accept All Days of a Multiple Day Job	Can Accept One Day of Multiple Day Job	Must Accept All Days of a Multiple Day Job	
Sign In	Unique Sign-In for this System	Teachers Can Use TCS Google Sign-In	Unique Sign-In for this System	
Integration with LINQ	Currently Available	Waiting on LINQ Support to Integrate	Currently Available	
Web Based- Additional Software Needed	YES - NO	YES - NO	YES - NO	
Alerts	Not Available	HR Can Be Alerted When Employee is Absent a Chosen Number of Days for Possible FMLA or Extended Leave Approvers receive an alert on their mobile device and/or email notification, is configured to their preference	Not Available	
Unique Features		Can be used to Assign Class Coverage & Record Extra Duties Option to pay subs daily/weekly		
Approval Level	One Level- Goes to the School Administrator	Approval Levels Can be set for different types of absences	One Level- Goes to the School Administrator	

## **Calling Systems Comparisons**

Front Line	RedRover	SubFinder Express
Link to <u>Presentation and</u> <u>Pricing</u> Provided by Frontline	Link to <u>Brief Overview,</u> <u>Pricing, and Next Steps</u> <u>Including References</u> provided by RedRover	Multiple Attempts Have Been Made to Contact SmartFind Express to Schedule a Presentation & to Obtain Information About Extending Our Current Contract.



### SubFinder Express User Feedback

#### **School Treasurers/Bookkeepers School Administrators Positives Positives** • The Teachers are responsible for entering their absences but • Alleviates a person having to manually make back-to-back calls to substitutes we have to ability to make changes when necessary • The ability to create vacancies and enter substitutes for Shows when substitutes are and are not available. vacant position Can be very user-friendly when properly trained • The fact that the System notify the Bookkeepers and Admin Allows a teacher to identify the substitute they want to have by email when an absence is created or changes are made and the system will start calling with that individual first • System allows the school to 'rank' the order that substitutes in the system will be called in **Negatives** Negatives Not having the ability to make changes to the substitute • When an available substitute can't be added because it says availability, *i.e BL.*.*His Treatments sometimes change during* it's beyond their work hours even when you manually adjust the Holidays and if he is available to Sub on Tues & Thurs, the school times. we CAN'T enter him in SubFinder • System doesn't offer schools a way of seeing which substitutes are working in other buildings in the district. In order to know, schools must call each other directly.

### SubFinder Express User Feedback

### Teachers

### **System Administrators**

#### **Positives**

- I can report an absence any time of day or night without calling someone
- I can put multiple days in at a time.
- When I know that I am going to be absent and I have time to use SubFinder to create an absence, it is fine to use

#### **Negatives**

- Log in doesn't work sometimes it just spins, you have to restart your computer
- Jobs that are multiple days usually don't get picked up so I have to put them in as separate days
- Time consuming having to wait on the prompts and listen for the right code (when using phone)
- If you mess up your entry there is no way to undo it.
- It can be difficult to use at times because remembering the access code and password when you need an emergency absence can be frustrating
- Remembering to use the Subfinder system and then use Timekeeper to request an absence is hard to remember at times, I wish Subfinder and Timekeeper were linked together so when you request an absence it automatically goes to Subfinder rather than submitting an absence in two different places

#### **Positives**

- Some Teachers and Substitutes Like It
- Better Option than Staff Members Calling Substitutes and Receiving Calls from Employees Who Will be Absent

#### **Negatives**

- The system is often unavailable for use during the work day
- Reports are Difficult to Download and Run
- System Representatives Have Not Been Responsive to Request for Information
- When Help Tickets are Submitted for Problems it Typically Takes a Few Days to Receive a Response and Longer to Have it Resolved. Responses are Emails Often Referring You to the Online Guides.
- We Cannot Delete Users and Have to Continue to Pay for Their Accounts
- Very Few Updates in the Past Three Years

### **References for Frontline**

We contacted individuals who have used or are currently using Frontline.

I thought it was really good from the admin side. I never used it as a teacher but the reporting was really good and the ability to match subs and vacancies was very nice. The admin dashboard was easy to use. The biggest issue I recall was sometimes assigning subs to jobs (our treasurer would do that often) was difficult because subs could choose preferred schools and our school wasn't on the preferred list, it was hard to search for them.

Dr. Chris Kennedy Used as an Administrator in Johnson County Easy to use. I've used it in Davidson and Johnston Counties. I like that I can create a preferred sub list. I can never figure out how to put in a name when a sub has agreed in advance to take an absence but I can work around it.

Teacher Davidson County Schools

Let me stress that I did not use the system frequently. It was literally only a couple of times. However, I remember it didn't seem to be user friendly. The steps to enter an absence did not make sense to me. It seemed difficult.

Kelli Scruggs Used in Guilford County as School Treasurer

### **References for Red Rover**

Good afternoon Ms. Everette,

I don't think I could say enough good things about Red Rover (RR). Their customer service and support are truly top-notch. From the get-go – I felt valued as a customer. Implementation was so easy and took us no time at all - we bought in late July and were live (with time to spare) when school started in early August. It's easy for all to use – district admin, site admin, teacher, and subs. The RR team listen to customers and implement suggestions when/if feasible – which is quite often. In fact, they are continually enhancing the system and host frequent webinars, etc.

Lastly, our fill-rates have increased which is amazing considering we're still in a pandemic.

I hope this helps your decision-making process. If you need more information, please do not hesitate to call me at 520-696-5111.

Happy Holidays!

John Hastings Human Resources Manager Amphitheater Public Schools 701 West Wetmore Road Tucson, Arizona 85705 RedRover Provided References Because They Have Not Currently Fully Implemented the System in a NC School District.

"Used Frontline and switched because it was a big production to change anything in Frontline to fit our system."

"Red Rover is open for set up for different roles for an individual."

"We can control employees changes and the input of absences."

"Easy to use."

We had a summer onboarding and were ready for start of school."

"Our secretaries love it. It is so easy to use that you can figure out what you don't know. Even we have any problems you click on the chat feature and they answer immediately & fix it."

Lisa Ross Nebo School District, Utah