

Administration

Professional Development/Continuing Education

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Consistent with its stated goals and objectives, the Board considers a strong staff development program to be essential to continued excellence in the School System. Staff development programs include those planned experiences which enhance both the quality of instruction and the efficiency of student learning.

A philosophy that promotes continued learning for all educators should permeate professional development programs and practices as an investment in the professional growth of future school leaders. The philosophy should specifically support different learning needs based on different experiences.

The Board supports such professional development and continuing education experiences for its staff based on the following components of its philosophy.

1. Such programs are important to maintaining the quality of staff performance.
2. Continuous professional development is a responsibility shared by all professional educators.
3. The local district has a major responsibility to see that effective programs are planned and implemented.
4. The programs shall meet the needs of educational goals as identified by the Board of Education in its Policy Manual.
5. The entire school system, including staff as well as students, benefit from programs which provide an understanding of society's values, including:
 - a. respect for and appreciation of the achievements, cultures, languages, and diversity of people the world over;
 - b. the necessity for moral and ethical conduct;
 - c. the vital need for order under the law;
 - d. the acquisition of knowledge needed to live in harmony with the environment, and actively practice conservation of natural resources;
 - e. understanding global issues and their implications.

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All teachers and staff should be offered professional growth opportunities in ways which will increase diversity and equity in the school community.

The Board will provide support for these activities through the budgetary process and the allocation of time for planning and implementation.