

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Continuing professional growth and increasing effectiveness on the part of the entire staff are essential for the success of educational programs and school operations. The continual professional growth of all staff members on an individual basis and through planned in-service programs will be encouraged. Such opportunities may include, within budgetary limitations, special in-service courses and workshops, summer study grants, school visitations, and attendance at professional conferences and meetings.

The superintendent will work with other school districts, local colleges and universities, and the South Dakota Department of Education to provide in-service education for teachers. The Administration shall on a regular basis:

1. Conduct an assessment of in-service education needs for teachers.
2. Review/Develop criteria for effective in-service education activities.
3. Review/Develop travel and professional leave policies.
4. Develop a calendar that includes days for in-service education.
5. Review/Develop a cooperative relationship with agencies that provide in-service education.
6. Establish an in-service education committee composed of teachers and administrators.
7. Identify resources for in-service education.
8. Assess the effectiveness of in-service education activities in relation to district goals.

The superintendent will have authority to approve release time for conferences and visitations, and reimbursements for expenses, provided such activities are within budget allocations. The Board may authorize without loss of pay, teacher attendance at an annual professional association meeting.

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Amended: February 11, 2008