

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Professional staff growth and effectiveness are important to LEARN. The Board shall provide professional growth opportunities for its certified staff. The Professional Development Committee, established in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 10-220a(b), shall recommend for approval by the Executive Director professional development activities to be offered by LEARN in fulfillment of its annual obligation to offer not fewer than eighteen (18) hours of professional development activities for continuing education unit credit. The Executive Director shall determine the date and time of such recommended activities.

The Executive Director shall designate an employee as the person responsible for managing the continuing education unit program for LEARN. Subject to budgetary limitations and approval of the Executive Director, these opportunities may include:

1. Special in-service programs and workshops.
2. Released time for approved study/research.
3. Released time for school visitations and attendance at conferences.

Incentive and opportunities for professional growth shall also include an adequate professional library and assistance from supervisors.

Staff members shall be encouraged to share information and ideas by sharing evaluation of school visitations, professional and cultural reading, new teaching techniques, advanced course work, conferences, conventions, clinics, seminars, workshops, curriculum changes, new texts, travel and research to the appropriate administrator with recommendations for dissemination to other staff members.

Reports on activities engaged in during released time from regular school assignments, and activities for which expenses are received, should be submitted to the appropriate administrator for distribution to personnel concerned.

The Executive Director shall have authority within budgetary considerations to:

1. **Plan** in-service programs and workshops for the professional staff.
2. Grant permission for teachers and administrators to attend conferences and similar professional meetings and to engage in school visitations during school time and at school expense.

Policy adopted; November 12, 1992
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