

Copley-Fairlawn City Schools

Local Professional Development

Professional Development Standards

Professional development is required for continued licensure for all educators and administrators. To be of high quality, professional development is guided by the learning needs of all students, includes accepted theory on the learning needs of educators and incorporates a planned progression for improvement on a continuing basis. A professional development plan that fulfills the licensure renewal requirements is based on the needs of the educator, the students, the school, and the school district in which the educator is currently employed. An educator/staff member wishing to renew a professional or associate license must receive the approval of his or her Local Professional Development Committee for an Individual Professional Development Plan that includes the following requirements to be completed during the five year period following the issuance of the license to be renewed:

1. Six semester hours of coursework related to classroom teaching and/or the area of licensure; or
2. Eighteen continuing education units (one hundred and eighty contact hours) or other equivalent activities related to classroom teaching and/or the area of licensure as approved by the Local Professional Development Committee of the employing school or school district.
3. Coursework or continuing education units or other equivalent activities may be combined.

The sections listed below are based on the areas that the State of Ohio considers when evaluating entry year teachers. The Local Professional Development Committee will also use these criteria for license (certificate) renewal. All professional development requirements related to licensure field including semester hours, continuing education units or other equivalent activities, must be concentrated in at least one of the following ten areas when establishing goals for Individualized Professional Development Plans:

- a. Subject Matter - Increase the knowledge of subject matter to create effective learning experiences for students or area of responsibility
- b. Student Learning - Increase the understanding how students learn and develop to create opportunities for student academic development
- c. Diversity of Learners - Increase the knowledge of the differences in how students learn and how to apply techniques to accommodate such diversity
- d. Planning Instruction - Improve planning of instruction based on knowledge of subject, students and curriculum goals and models
- e. Instructional Strategies - Improve the design and implementation of instruction that encourages each student to develop critical-thinking, problem-solving and decision-making skills
- f. Learning Environment - Improve the learning environment by encouraging active, engaged learning, positive interaction and self-motivation for all students
- g. Communication - Increase the understanding and use of a variety of communication skills including verbal and nonverbal techniques, technology, and media to increase effectiveness
- h. Assessment - Improve the use of formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate student progress of district progress
- i. Reflective Practice - Analyze past experience and pursue individualized growth opportunities to improve professional performance for increased student learning
- j. Student Support - Increase the knowledge of how to work with parents, family members, school colleagues and community members to support student learning and development
- k. Legal Responsibilities - Increase the knowledge of legal responsibilities as it pertains to area of licensure and its