

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Board of Education of Litchfield Public Schools recognizes the importance of a strong professional development program to provide a planned, on-going and systematic series of activities designed to maintain, enrich and/or improve the skills, knowledge, abilities, and attitudes needed by educators to meet their responsibilities.

The goal of the professional staff development program is to improve the student learning experience through enhancing the skills of the educators. Special emphasis shall be made to prepare teachers and other school personnel to better meet the needs of students.

The Superintendent is charged with planning and operating a professional staff development program to meet this goal which will also be in compliance with the statutes and/or regulations of the State of Connecticut as they may be revised from time to time. The Board will provide financial support within budgetary limitations for the approved program.

The Board or designee shall establish a professional development committee, consisting of certified employees, including their union representatives, and other school personnel the Board deems appropriate. The duties of the committee shall include, but not be limited to, the development, evaluation and annual updating of a comprehensive local professional development plan for certified employees of the District. Such plan shall (1) be directly related to the educational goals proposed by the Board pursuant to C.G.S. 10-220(b), and (2) on or after July 1, 2011, be developed with full consideration of the priorities and needs related to student outcomes as determined by the State Board of Education, and (3) provide for the ongoing and systematic assessment and improvement of both teacher evaluation and professional development of the professional staff members of the Board, including personnel management and evaluation training or experience for administrators.

- Legal Reference:
- Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-27 International studies, exchange program.  
Advisory committee.
  - Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-220a (amended by PA 04-227, PA 08-160 and June 19 Special Session, Public Act No. 09-1) In-service training.  
Professional development committees. Institutes for educators.  
Cooperating teacher program, regulations.
  - Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-153b Selection of teachers' representatives.
  - Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-226f Coordinator of intergroup relations.
  - Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-226g Intergroup relations training for teachers.
  - Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-145b Teaching certificates.

Litchfield Public Schools

- Policy Adopted: November 9, 1982
- Policy Revised: February 25, 1986
- Policy Reviewed: October 1, 1998
- Policy Revised: February 15, 2012
- Policy Revised: November 20, 2013