

Fall River Joint Unified School District
Board Policy 4131
Staff Development

Personnel

The Governing Board believes that, in order to maximize student learning and achievement, certificated staff members must be continuously learning and improving their skills. The Superintendent or designee shall develop a program of ongoing professional development which includes opportunities for teachers to enhance their instructional and classroom management skills and become informed about changes in pedagogy and subject matter.

The Superintendent or designee shall involve teachers, site and district administrators, and others, as appropriate, in the development of the district's staff development program. He/she shall ensure that the district's staff development program is aligned with district priorities for student achievement, school improvement objectives, the local control and accountability plan, and other district and school plans.

The district's staff development program shall assist certificated staff in developing knowledge and skills, including, but not limited to:

1. Mastery of subject-matter knowledge, including current state and district academic standards
2. Use of effective, subject-specific teaching methods, strategies, and skills
3. Use of technologies to enhance instruction
4. Sensitivity to and ability to meet the needs of diverse student populations, including, but not limited to, students of various racial and ethnic groups, students with disabilities, English language learners, economically disadvantaged students, foster youth, gifted and talented students, and at-risk students
5. Understanding of how academic and career technical instruction can be integrated and implemented to increase student learning
6. Knowledge of strategies that encourage parents/guardians to participate fully and effectively in their children's education
7. Effective classroom management skills and strategies for establishing a climate that promotes respect, fairness, tolerance, and discipline, including conflict resolution and hatred prevention
8. Ability to relate to students, understand their various stages of growth and development, and motivate them to learn

9. Ability to interpret and use data and assessment results to guide instruction
10. Knowledge of topics related to student health, safety, and welfare
11. Knowledge of topics related to employee health, safety, and security

The Superintendent or designee may, in conjunction with individual teachers and interns, develop an individualized program of professional growth to increase competence, performance, and effectiveness in teaching and classroom management and, as necessary, to assist them in meeting state or federal requirements to be fully qualified for their positions.

The district's staff evaluation process may be used to recommend additional staff development for individual employees.

The Board may budget funds for actual and reasonable expenses incurred by staff who participate in staff development activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide a means for continual evaluation of the benefit of staff development activities to both staff and students and shall regularly report to the Board regarding the effectiveness of the staff development program. Based on the Superintendent's report, the Board may revise the program as necessary to ensure that the staff development program supports the district's priorities for student achievement.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

41530-41533 Professional Development Block Grant
 44032 Travel expense payment
 44259.5 Standards for teacher preparation
 44277 Professional growth programs for individual teachers
 44325-44328 District interns
 44450-44468 University internship program
 44570-44578 Inservice training, secondary education
 44580-44591 Inservice training, elementary teachers
 44630-44643 Professional Development and Program Improvement Act of 1968
 44700-44705 Classroom teacher instructional improvement program
 45028 Salary schedule and exceptions
 48980 Notification of parents/guardians: schedule of minimum days
 56240-56245 Staff development; service to persons with disabilities
 99200-99206 Subject matter projects

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 Scope of representation of employee organization

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

13025-13044 Professional development and program improvement

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6319 Highly qualified teachers
 6601-6702 Preparing, Training and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD DECISIONS

United Faculty of Contra Costa Community College District v. Contra Costa Community College District, (1990) PERB Order No. 804, 14 PERC P21, 085

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Governing to the Core: Professional Development for Common Core, Governance Brief, May 2013

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

State Board of Education Guidelines and Criteria for Approval of Training Providers, March 2008

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING PUBLICATIONS

California Standards for the Teaching Profession, 2009

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education, Professional Development: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd>
California Subject Matter Projects: <http://csmp.ucop.edu>
Commission on Teacher Credentialing: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov>

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