

ARTICLE 7

Professional Development Improvement

Professional ~~Development~~ **Improvement** shall be defined as:

1. Visitation to view other instructional techniques for programs.
2. Conferences, workshops, on-line/virtual learning classes, or seminars conducted by colleges, universities, the MEA and NEA and/or affiliate departments, or other ~~workshops~~ **meetings** of mutually agreed value.

Professional development must support the goals established by the District Curriculum Council and the District's strategic plan. Professional development may also be used for instructional improvement or content expertise improvement for individual teachers. District-supported professional development must be approved in advance by administration.

Reimbursement for expenses of mileage, meals, housing, registration, and materials for such ~~mutually agreed~~ **approved** conferences, workshops, and seminars shall be **aligned with the financial resources available each year for professional development.** ~~limited to \$2,500.00 at the high school level and \$2,500.00 at the elementary level for the school year. The District shall have the right to go beyond these limits at its discretion.~~ **Professional development resources will be used equitably between the elementary and secondary levels. A teacher will be apprised in advance if any cost associated with the Professional Improvement is to be paid by the teacher.**

A. **District-wide and Professional Development.** Thirty (30) professional development hours shall be conducted on the days and hours designated for that purpose on the school calendar and in Article 26, Section I. If the State-mandated number of professional development hours should change, then the parties agree to meet and bargain a modification to this Agreement to comply with the required number of hours.

~~1. The District and the Association desire to set forth their understandings and agreements regarding compliance with the professional development requirements of Section 1527 of the Revised School Code.~~

~~2. For the 2002-2003 school year and thereafter, thirty (30) professional development hours shall be conducted on the days and hours designated for that purpose on the school calendar and in Article 26, Section I. If the State-mandated number of professional development hours should change, then the parties agree to meet and bargain a modification to this Agreement to comply with the required number of hours.~~

B. Professional Business Days

1. A teacher may use two (2) days per year as professional business days. Professional business days may be used for any educational purpose, upon mutual agreement.

2. ~~The~~ **A** teacher planning to use a professional business day shall **make a request of** ~~notify~~ his/her principal at least one (1) week in advance of his/her absence.
3. ~~The~~ **A** teacher may be requested to file a written report within one week of his/her attendance at such visitation, conferences, workshops, or seminars. If a written report is requested, it shall be shared with the Board.
4. ~~Any funding for professional business days shall be done in accordance with the reimbursement policy outlined in this Article.~~ **A teacher will be apprised in advance if any cost associated with the Professional Business Day is to be paid by the teacher.**