

A Few Guidelines for the Professional Development that Qualifies for Michigan Legislative Requirements

Does your planned professional development serve the purpose of increasing student learning?

Yes. WorldStrides programs are designed to improve student learning. Specific goals include
 1) to become more comfortable working with parents in school communities. By increasing communication, teachers and parents become partners in improving the work of students;
 2) to learn new ways to incorporate critical thinking and inquiry into daily lessons
 3) to develop new ways to teach students about the world they live in. Hands-on learning is often the best way to teach students. Participating on this trip teaches teachers how to grow and develop in this area.

Does your planned professional development align with your school improvement plan?

Yes. Our school improvement plan focuses on reading, writing, and higher order thinking skills for students. A WorldStrides trip is a wonderful opportunity for me to learn how to incorporate critical questions into my lesson plans. To prepare for this trip, I am provided with an abundance of resources from WorldStrides about the sites I would be visiting with my students. I began to incorporate the lessons into my planning and I gradually became more comfortable with my students asking LOTS of questions.

Is your professional development planned, ongoing, and intensive?

This is definitely an on-going, planned, and intensive project. My initial preparation has involved a lot of reading and planning, working with the WorldStrides staff and parents to find ways to best communicate our educational goals and objectives. I then spent a great deal of time reading and researching the sites we would visit, and I made a presentation to my staff about how to develop inquiry-based, experiential lesson plans into their curriculum and teaching methodology.

Does the district in some way, such as time or cost, support this activity?

The great news about a WorldStrides trip: there is no-cost to me. While learning, I can participate for no money. I planned my trip to coincide with or Spring Break, so there is no additional time outside of class. The benefits, however, are definitely worth it.

Examples of Activities	Does it Qualify as Professional Development Under Section 1526? (PD Days for New Teachers)	Does it Qualify as Professional Development Under Section 1527? (PD Days for All)
Staff Meetings	No	No (Unless the meeting is planned around topics of student learning, instructional strategies, or curricular content)
Curriculum Development Meetings. School Improvement Committees	Yes (If you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)	Yes (If you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)

Examples of Activities	Does it Qualify as Professional Development Under Section 1526? (PD Days for New Teachers)	Does it Qualify as Professional Development Under Section 1527? (PD Days for All)
Study Groups, Action Learning, Lesson Study, Study of Student Work	Yes (If you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)	Yes (If you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)
Parent-Teacher Conferences	No	No
Athletic Coaching Clinics	No	No
Teacher Planning Time Other than Team Planning Time	No	No
Records Day	No	No
Conferences/ Workshops On-site	Yes (If it is relevant to the new teachers' classroom needs) (unless it is already being counted under 1527)	Yes (If you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)
Conferences/ Workshops at Off-site Location	Yes (If it is relevant to the new teachers' classroom needs) (unless it is already being counted under 1527)	Yes (If you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)
Sessions Dedicated to Qualifying for NCA Accreditation	Yes (If it is addressed in a PDP)	Yes (If you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)
University or College Class	Yes (If the district pays for it or provides release time and it is relevant to the classroom needs of the new teacher)	Yes (If the district pays for it and you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)

Examples of Activities	Does it Qualify as Professional Development Under Section 1526? (PD Days for New Teachers)	Does it Qualify as Professional Development Under Section 1527? (PD Days for All)
Mentoring of the New Teacher	Yes (In the case of the new teacher being inducted or mentored)	Yes (In the case of the veteran teacher providing formal mentoring)
Student Teacher Supervision or Cooperating Teacher to a Student Teacher	N/A (Teachers in their first 3 years in the teaching profession do not usually serve in this role.)	Yes (If the district pays for it, and you can respond affirmatively to the questions shown above)

Office of Professional Preparation Services
Michigan Department of Education

For information about Section 1527, Professional Development, contact Cheryl L. Poole at 517 241 4546 or PooleCL@michigan.gov

For information on Section 1526, Induction and Mentoring, contact Dr. Bonnie Rockafellow at 517 373 7861 or RockafellowB@michigan.gov

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