Professional Development Standards for NJ Educators

CONTEXT STANDARDS

Context standards address where learning occurs — the organization, system, or culture — and the organization's responsibilities to ensure results for both adults and students.

1. **Learning communities:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students organizes adults into learning communities whose goals result from clear, coherent, strategic planning, aligned with school and school district goals, that is embraced and supported by the school district's governing body and by all levels of the school system.

2. **Leadership:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students requires skillful school and school district leaders who develop a school culture of shared leadership that fosters continuous improvement, supported by intellectual and financial commitment.

3. **Resources:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students requires time and resources to support adult learning and collaboration.

PROCESS STANDARDS

Process standards address how the system organizes learning opportunities to ensure adults acquire the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to affect student learning.

4. **Data Driven:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students uses disaggregated student data to determine adult learning priorities, monitor progress, and help sustain continuous improvement.

5. **Research-based:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students informs teaching, learning, and leadership using the best available interpretations of relevant knowledge, including empirical research.

6. **Evaluation:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students uses multiple sources of information to guide improvement and demonstrate its impact.

7. **Design:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students uses learning strategies appropriate to the intended goal.

8. **Learning:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students applies knowledge about adult learning and change.

9. **Collaboration**: Professional Development that improves the learning of all students provides educators with the knowledge and skills to engage in collegial collaboration and learning that is job-embedded and supported by sufficient time.

CONTENT STANDARDS

Content standards address what educators must understand and be able to apply to ensure students learn successfully.

10. **Equity:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students prepares educators to hold high expectations for the achievement of all students and to support their academic, social, emotional, and physical development in a safe, orderly, and supportive learning environment.

11. **Quality Teaching:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students deepens educators' subject matter and pedagogical content knowledge, supports the use of research-based instructional strategies to assist students to meet and exceed the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and prepares them to use various assessments to modify and improve instruction.

12. **Family Involvement:** Professional Development that improves the learning of all students empowers educators with knowledge and skills to work effectively with family and community partners.