

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

### Background

Learning is a lifelong process. Accordingly, the District is committed to supporting the efforts of staff to improve their professional skills. In addition to personal growth, staff development activities focus on curriculum development, curriculum implementation strategies, strategies to create a positive school climate, communications skills and instructional techniques.

The District recognizes the advantages of staff development programs and believes that professional development is a shared responsibility of the individual, the staff, administrators, professional associations and the District.

### Procedures

1. Inservice priorities will be identified on a yearly and long-term basis in consideration of identified Alberta Education priorities and District expectations.
2. Local school professional development activities will be identified by the school administration and staff.
3. School councils may have input on needs and criteria for staff development.
4. The District supports professional development by providing staff development days and decentralized funds to schools to support staff development programs and activities.
5. Financial allocations in budget will include an annual sum to support District-wide inservice needs.
6. Inservice and professional development funds will be used to defray the following expenses:
  - 6.1 Honoraria.
  - 6.2 Registration fees.
  - 6.3 Subsistence and travel costs.
  - 6.4 Substitute costs, where applicable.