

3.4 -- QUALITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The professional development activities of the Van Buren Public Schools will represent a coordinated set of planned learning activities for teachers and administrators that are standards-based and continuous. The purpose of professional development is to improve teaching and learning in order to facilitate individual, school-wide, and system-wide improvements designed to ensure that all students demonstrate proficiency on state academic standards.

The Van Buren School District will involve teachers and administrators in the design, implementations and evaluation of their professional development offerings to create an annual plan for professional development that meets the objectives of the National Staff Development Council and shall comply with the rules of the Department of Education.

To best meet the needs of the district and of individual schools, principals may apply to the Office of the Superintendent to trade selected contracted professional development days for off-contract days under the following conditions. Traded days:

1. are not student contact days,
2. are not in conflict with required district professional development or meetings,
3. are pre-approved by the Superintendent,
4. are in alignment with the school's collaboratively designed professional development plan as described in the ACSIP, and
5. present opportunities for professional development not available during the scheduled calendar professional development days.

No additional stipend or compensation above the contract will be made to the employee who participates in a traded contracted professional development day.

Reference ACT 83 of 2003

Approved by Board of Education 10/14/86

Amended by Board of Education 06/07/04