

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**CODE D-2
(Mandatory-SU)¹**

Policy

It is the policy of the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union and its member districts to support the important connection between educator professional development and improved student achievement and assure that professional and para-professional staff members acquire and maintain the knowledge and skills needed to contribute effectively to the achievement of the goals and strategies articulated by the school action plan.

Principles to Guide Professional Development

Professional development programs sponsored by the supervisory union or member districts will be directly linked to student performance goals identified in the annual action plan.

The superintendent or designee will oversee a professional development system that is characterized by the following:

1. its primary focus is on improved student learning and achievement
2. it is based on current, documented research findings
3. it provides structure and substance that allow continuity
4. it focuses on content and curricular needs as well as teaching methodology
5. it includes the needs of all who contribute to the education system
6. it is developed and directed by professional educators

Implementation

The superintendent or designee will base annual and multi-year professional development programs on an analysis of student performance data, best-practices research, state and local standards compliance and the district action plan priorities.

The superintendent or designee will report at least annually to the Supervisory Union Board on the Supervisory Union's professional development program, with an emphasis on its relationship to student achievement goals.

Ira School District: Since the Ira School District does not operate a school at any level, it is the policy of the Ira School District to revert back to the Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union Policy should a situation arise needing action.

Legal Reference(s): 1 V.S.A. §§ 310 et seq. (Open Meeting Law)
16 V.S.A. § 165 (a)(4) (Public School Quality Standards)
16 V.S.A. §§1981 et seq. (Labor relations - professional staff)
21 V.S.A. §§ 1721 et seq.(Labor relations)
16 V.S.A. §261a(5) (Duties of supervisory union boards)
Vermont State Board of Education Rules §§2120.4, 2120.5

Cross Reference: Board Member Education (B1)
Board Goal-Setting and Self-Evaluation (B2)

Educator Supervision & Evaluation (D4)
Fiscal Management and General Financial Accountability (E1)
Local Action Plan (G8)

	Date Adopted	Replaces Policy
Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union	5/19/08	None
Ira Town School District	9/8/09	None
Middletown Springs Town School District	5/22/09	3/6/96
Poultney Town School District	1/20/09	4/1996
Tinmouth Town School District	6/8/09	3/11/96
Wells Town School District	4/22/09	5/23/96