

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

It is the policy of the Perry Board of Education that teachers and other employees shall continue their professional growth through seminar and workshop attendance and membership in professional organizations. The board believes that it has a responsibility to provide opportunities for the continual growth of its professional staff. Such opportunities shall include, within budgetary limitation, special in-service training courses and workshops as recommended by a professional development committee and/or the board. Staff members are encouraged to seek additional and higher degrees, to obtain further certification, and to become more proficient not only in their subject area, but also in their ability to handle discipline, to motivate students, and to cope with both personal and job-related stress.

The professional development committee shall be composed of classroom teachers, administrators, and parents, guardians, or custodians of children in the district. A majority of the committee shall be composed of classroom teachers who will be selected by a designated administrator of the district from a list provided by the teachers in the school district. The administrators shall be selected by the board from a list provided by the superintendent. Parents shall be selected by the board from a list provided by the administration and the professional development committee. At a minimum, once every four years the committee shall include at least one school counselor in its membership.

When classes are dismissed for that purpose, teachers are expected to attend professional meetings or forfeit one day's pay for each day of the meeting unattended unless an emergency exists.

The principal/superintendent may authorize the attendance of teachers at educational conferences and may reimburse travel and lodging expenses. Authorization to attend shall be obtained from the principal/superintendent prior to the activity date.

**REFERENCE: 70 O.S. §3-104.2
70 O.S. §6-192, et seq.
70 O.S. §6-194
70 O.S. §6-204.2**