 **FMPSD Professional Learning for 2014-2015**

**Professional Learning:** The FMPSD Blueprint Committee defines professional learning as **ongoing, collaborative work with other members of an instructional team** in order to develop knowledge, skills and understanding to improve learning for ALL involved (staff and students).

**versus**

**Professional Development:** Acquisition of skills and knowledge at the teacher/educator level. Usually one session, led by a facilitator with subject knowledge. Learning may or may not extend beyond end of session.

**Professional Learning Fridays 2014-2015:**

* chart identifying all dates for professional learning is in the shared folder titled **Information for Leaders-Professional Learning** [**https://docs.google.com/a/fmpsd.ab.ca/drawings/d/1E0pBzQOlv\_fkM02syqXXo2wSbIm8PbCqFNP4Yhfu0EI/edit**](https://docs.google.com/a/fmpsd.ab.ca/drawings/d/1E0pBzQOlv_fkM02syqXXo2wSbIm8PbCqFNP4Yhfu0EI/edit)
* dates highlighted in green are **REQUIRED** days for educational assistants
  + Sept. 12 and 26 (full days School Based)
  + Oct. 10 (early dismissal- 4 hours District Collaboration)
  + Nov 28 (full day System Common Message Day)
  + Jan. 16 (full day School Based)
  + April 17 (full day School Based)
  + June 5 (full day School Based)
* All educational assistants are expected to attend PD day on Jan 30.
* CUPE instructional staff are required to attend seven days **or**  thirteen days (refer to chart) <https://docs.google.com/a/fmpsd.ab.ca/drawings/d/1E0pBzQOlv_fkM02syqXXo2wSbIm8PbCqFNP4Yhfu0EI/edit>
* **January 30 will remain a Professional Development day as in previous years.**
  + ATA staff will attend the Joint PD day
  + CUPE instructional staff will attend a PD day organized by Student Services and Supervisor of Support Staffing

**School based collaborative learning:**

* the instructional staff consists of administrators, teachers and educational assistants who work together to support students’ growth and achievement
* instructional staff will meaningfully collaborate in professional learning
* instructional staff members determine their focus of the professional learning by examining the school’s annual results report and the alignment to support district and provincial goals and initiatives
  + think big picture - what piece of the puzzle does your learning focus represent?
* instructional staff members will collaboratively determine the professional learning function and establish a form or structure that will support the learning function
  + **Form** follows **Function**
* school leadership teams are responsible for monitoring attendance and reporting/sharing results
* schools sharing a common focus may want to explore ways for instructional staff members to engage in cross school collaboration

**District Based Collaborative Learning:**

* there are two half days and one full day for district-based collaborative learning
  + November 7
  + December 19
  + May 15
* district days are for collaborative teams across the district to meet and deepen learning around topics identified by them.
* topics need to align to district and provincial goals and initiatives but outside of the school focus
* sign in sheets are required for district collaborative days
* sign in sheets will be collected at District Office and uploaded onto Employee Connect
* reporting on a Google Form will be completed and shared with the Senior Leadership Team and the Board of Trustees
* one area to be finalized is the method to develop collaborative teams across the district. The IT Department will work with the Education Department to develop a format to facilitate this process
* **System Common Message Day November 28**
* Senior Leadership Team will determine area(s) of focus and learning for this day
* All instructional staff across the district will hear the same message either in district groups or school groups

**Joint Collaboration Day with FMCSD**

* FMPSD ATA will meet with FMCSD ATA to continue conversations and deepen learning regarding the message from George Couros on January 30 (Joint PD Planning Committee will recommend format in consultation with ERLC and Senior Leadership Teams from each district)
* CUPE instructional staff attending all 13 days will meet to continue conversations and deepen learning from the EA PD day on January 30.

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**School Leaders**

* provide instructional leadership for school based inclusive professional learning teams (Administrators, ATA, EAs)
* identify and share the school’s professional learning plan
* embed learning for all instructional staff
* meaningfully engage in collaborative professional learning
* track results and outcomes of your staff’s professional learning

**Teachers**

* consider professional learning plan
* consider areas of learning focus for district professional learning
* meaningfully engage in professional learning

**Educational Assistants**

* by October 1, 2014, indicate intentions: seven or thirteen day professional learning days
  + the required seven days include 4 school based and 3 district collaborative days
* consider areas of learning focus for district professional learning (share ideas with school LAC teacher or principal)
* meaningfully engage in professional learning