

Create time

FOR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



What are your criteria for deciding how to schedule time for professional learning?

Some of the criteria you might use are these:

- Enables all teachers in a grade level or department to meet together every day / once a week / once a month.
- Does not adversely impact one group of teachers.
- Conforms to existing starting and finishing times for students.
- Minimizes district expenses for substitute time.
- Does not inconvenience parents.
- Provides students with enrichment/remediation opportunities before or after school.
- Enables the district to use its existing transportation schedule.
- Requires some / significant support from volunteer parents and other community residents.
- Provides consistency among all schools in the district.

1. Write each of your criteria in the boxes across the top of this chart.
2. Use this chart as you read the articles in this issue of *JSD* and learn about how other schools and districts have provided time for professional learning. Identify the strategies that each school or district used to create time for professional learning, how much time they created, and whether each approach meets the criteria that you've established.
2. Re-create this chart individually or with a group that is exploring options for professional learning in your school or district.
4. Finally, write a recommendation based on the information you have collected.

Recommendation: _____

By creating time for professional learning in this way, this school/district would impact the following in this way:

Budget: _____

Parents: _____

Transportation: _____

Before- and after-school activities (including sports): _____

Other schools in the district: _____

Teachers: _____

By creating time for professional learning in this way, this school/district would impact the following:

Accomplish these goals with the extra time: _____

Achieve these changes in student learning: _____

Source: Adapted from *Collaborative Professional Learning in School and Beyond: A Toolkit for New Jersey Educators*, by Joellen Killian. Oxford, OH: NSDC, 2006.

Criterion #1:	Criterion #2:	Criterion #3:	Criterion #4:	Criterion #5:
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

School/ district	Strategy	How much time created?					