

**Activities****PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOLS: DEFINITION AND FUNCTIONS**

The Board recognizes that professional development schools are shared and equal collaborations between schools, colleges and universities, school districts and professional organizations for the purpose of enhancing student achievement. These collaborations are intended to establish environments of shared responsibility where learning opportunities for adults and children are integrated, individual and institutional renewal are augmented, and the process of continuous improvement in teaching and learning at all levels is enhanced. Professional development schools enhance student achievement by:

1. providing opportunities for the development of innovative programs and strategies;
2. providing opportunities for district educators to interact with college and university faculty and staff in order to enhance the continuing education of instructional personnel and improving the teaching profession;
3. providing a vehicle for research studies and examination of best practices in teaching and learning;
4. involving the school system, colleges and universities, school districts and professional organizations in efforts to improve pre-service teacher preparation programs and clinical teaching experiences; and
5. providing ongoing professional development consistent with the Professional Assessment and Comprehensive Evaluation System (PACES).

Specific Authority: 230.22(2); 230.23(22) F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 231.01; 231.0861; 231.087(1); 231.29; 231.36(1)(b); 236.0811 F.S.; 6A-4.0084 FAC

**History: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

New: 12-12-01