



**Board Meeting:** 5.13.24

**Title:** Request for Additional District Professional Calendar Day on the 2024-25 Calendar

**Type:** Discussion

**Presenter(S):** Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning

**Description:** Professional development is crucial for educators as it ensures they stay current with best practices, provides time for learning new standards and resources, and creates collective efficacy across the district. Collective efficacy fosters collaboration, leading to more supportive, positive, and effective learning environments for each and every Edina student and staff member. By investing in professional development, we are investing in the quality of education students receive, ultimately leading to improved academic outcomes and a more engaging, inclusive school experience for all. Currently the Edina 2024-25 calendar has 5 Professional Development Days, 3 of which are not aligned with conferences. These 3 days are labeled “Professional Development Days” and are district lead with strong collaboration with site administrators.

As we look ahead with a variety of stakeholders and across departments over next year and beyond, there are many topics that are critical to provide professional development for at every level of the Early Learning - 12 system. We are specifically implementing READ Act Legislation professional development. Although the READ Act does align closely with our district priorities some of the legislative requirements are limiting our flexibility and tightening our deadlines. Thus we are requesting to add an additional “Professional Development Day” for the 2024-25 school year.

**Recommendation:** There is no recommendation at this time.

**Desired Outcomes for the Board:** Review in detail, have questions prepared, and provide feedback on the content provided. This discussion will be brought back to the board for action at the June 10th board meeting.

As we look ahead with a variety of stakeholders and across departments over the next three years, there are many topics that are critical to provide professional development for at every level of the Early Learning - 12 system. This will ensure excellence for each and every Edina student.

In addition to on-going training such as annual mandated trainings, specific trainings for license renewal, continued CoGAT implementation training, learning on technology advancements/AI, specific training to support the need of students with IEPs, 504 training, and Social and Emotional Learning, there are three **main areas** that these topics fall into:

1. Strategy Plan A: Advance Academic Growth and Readiness
  - a. PreK-12 Comprehensive Literacy Plan
  - b. Curriculum Reviews specific to ELA (in various stages depending on level) and Social Studies (in exploration) and Math (beginning exploration in 24-25 or 25-26)
  - c. K-5 STEAM
2. Strategy Plan B: Ensure and Equitable and Inclusive Culture
  - a. Culturally Proficient School Systems
3. Strategy Plan C: Foster Positive Learning Environment and Whole Student and Staff Wellness Support
  - a. Social and Emotional Learning
  - b. Adult Wellness

We are also implementing READ Act Legislation professional development. Although the READ Act does align closely with our PreK-12 CLP some of the legislative requirements are limiting our flexibility and tightening our deadlines.

The READ Act professional development that Edina has chosen is LETRs. In 2024-25 approximately 220 staff will be participating in the LETRs training. LETRs consists of 2 volumes of training; each volume consisting of 4 units. The total hours of professional development for the 8 units is 136. Each unit includes one 6-hour full group session and 10 or 12 asynchronous independent hours of learning.

- For the 2024-25 we have 3 District Allocated Professional Development days, with these days and an addition of either a summer or August Workshop choice for teachers we are able to fit in each of the necessary 6 hour full group sessions for volume 2.  
*\*\*Note: Most staff are in this place and we have plans in place for staff that still are working on volume 1.*

Unfortunately, this leaves no additional professional development time. Our proposal is that we add an additional district professional development day on the calendar in April, 2025. This timing would allow us to create intentional professional development on other targeted topics that were mentioned above. For example, this could allow all elementary staff to engage in spring STEAM and/or ELA curriculum resource professional development. Both STEAM and ELA curriculum resources will be new to implementation in the fall of 2025-26. The additional

day will also allow us to continue to build upon the 6-12 CLP focus areas such as literacy across content areas and intervention systems. Another example would allow for Early Learning - 12 professional development on CPSS. As we learn more about READ Act requirements and continue planning with all stakeholder input and across departments this spring, we would enter 2024-25 with a specific and aligned topic for the proposed additional professional development day. The proposed timing with an additional day in April, would also allow us to adjust if we end up having multiple snow days earlier in the year and need to recapture a student contact day. We are and will remain committed to ensuring that Edina students are in school accessing learning as a priority.

Currently, the following districts are adding district professional development days to their 2024-25 calendar in order to fully implement the READ Act:

<b>District</b>	<b>Additional Days</b>
Burnsville	5
Lakeville	5
Byron	4
Minnetonka	3
West St. Paul	3
Big Lake	2
Independent District 728	2
Wayzata	0