
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT 2009-10

This year the VSTA Professional Development Committee continued working to support school and individual teacher Professional Development. School Pro-D Chairs met throughout the year to share ideas and resources, problem solve, and do long range planning. The Committee focused on important issues such as effective communication with Administrators, school Pro-D issues, and Self-Directed Pro-D. In addition, current funding policies and the need for more PD funding for TOC's was examined. The importance of professional accountability and meeting the Pro-D needs of the whole school staff were also significant topics of discussion this year.

In November Jane Turner from the BCTF gave a workshop on effective communication with administrators, which the PD chairs found beneficial.

The process of revising the VTF/VSB Handbook with the VSB and VESTA is currently under way. Reviewing the handbook, which serves as a guideline for teachers, PD chairs, and administrators, has been a useful exercise. Hopefully the revised and more user-friendly format will be completed soon.

The Joint-Planning session was cancelled this year, so school PD Chairs continued their school PD days and planning on their own.

An important goal for next year would be to encourage all schools to attend the District committee meetings on a regular basis. The meetings provide a forum to share ideas and speakers, ask and answer questions, and learn new ways of providing effective Pro-D in our schools.

The VSTA Pro-D Committee advocates on behalf of all teachers and supports the important work of school Pro-D teams.

Brin MacIntyre, Chairperson
VSTA Pro-D Committee