

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD**

Statutory Authority: 14 Delaware Code, Section 122(d) (14 **Del.C.** §122(d))

**FINAL**

**REGULATORY IMPLEMENTING ORDER**

**1598 Delaware Professional Development Standards**

**I. SUMMARY OF THE EVIDENCE AND INFORMATION SUBMITTED**

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, seeks the consent of the State Board of Education to adopt regulation 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1598 Delaware Professional Development Standards. The Department of Education has encouraged the adoption of this regulation in order establish State-wide expectations for professional development and to meet the Delaware *Race To The Top* pledge of ensuring that all professional development and supports are effective, by creating a statewide professional development certification system for professional development, measuring student and participant outcomes, and continuously improving programs. This regulation sets forth the standards for educator's professional development in Delaware.

Notice of the proposed adoption of the regulation was published in the *Delaware Register of Regulations* on May 1, 2011. The Publication invited written comments. Written comments were received from the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens who expressed concern about the lack of explicit charter school references and the use of the terms 'adult' and 'educator'. The Professional Standards Board took notice of these concerns, but determined that a change was not necessary. The Board notes that the standards are adopted verbatim and amending the terms would be inappropriate.

**II. FINDINGS OF FACTS**

The Professional Standards Board and the State Board of Education find that it is appropriate to adopt this regulation to comply with changes in statute.

**III. DECISION TO ADOPT THE REGULATION**

For the foregoing reasons, the Professional Standards Board and the State Board of Education conclude that it is appropriate to adopt the regulation. Therefore, pursuant to 14 **Del.C.** §1205(b), the regulation attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is hereby adopted. Pursuant to the provision of 14 **Del.C.** §122(e), the regulation hereby adopted shall be in effect for a period of five years from the effective date of this order as set forth in Section V. below.

**IV. TEXT AND CITATION**

The text of the regulation adopted shall be in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and said regulation shall be cited as 14 **DE Admin. Code** 1598 of the *Administrative Code of Regulations* of the Department of Education.

**V. EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDER**

The effective date of this Order shall be ten (10) days from the date this Order is published in the *Delaware Register of Regulations*.

**APPROVED BY THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2011**

Kathleen Thomas, Chair

Lori Hudson

Michael Casson

Chris Kenton

Joanne Christian

David Kohan

Samtra Devard

Jill Lewandowski

Stephanie DeWitt

Wendy Murray

Marilyn Dollard

Whitney Price

Karen Gordon

Shelley Rouser

Cristy Greaves

Jacque Wisnauskas

IT IS SO ORDERED the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011.

**Department of Education**

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D., Secretary of Education

Approved this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011.

**State Board of Education**

Teri Quinn Gray, Ph.D., President

Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President

G. Patrick Heffernan

Barbara B. Rutt

Gregory Coverdale

Terry M. Whittaker, Ed.D.

James L. Wilson, Ed.D.

**1598 Delaware Professional Development Standards**

**1.0 Content**

The National Staff Development Counsel (NSDC[, 2001]) Standards for Staff Development connect professional development and student learning, and acknowledge that all educators have a responsibility to learn in order to improve student performance.

In accordance with 14 Del.C. §1205(b), the NSDC [2001] Standards are adopted as Delaware's Professional Development standards. The NSDC Standards shall serve as the foundation for professional development for Delaware educators.

**2.0 Context Standards**

2.1 Professional Development that improves the learning of all students:

2.1.1 Organizes adults into learning communities whose goals are aligned with those of the school and district.

2.1.2 Requires skillful school and district leaders who guide continuous instructional improvement.

2.1.3 Requires resources to support adult learning and collaboration.

**3.0 Process Standards**

3.1 Professional Development that improves the learning of all students:

3.1.1 Uses disaggregated student data to determine adult learning priorities, monitor progress, and help sustain continuous improvement.

3.1.2 Uses multiple sources of information to guide improvement and demonstrate its impacts.

3.1.3 Prepares educators to apply research to decision making.

3.1.4 Uses learning strategies appropriate to the intended goal.

3.1.5 Applies knowledge about human learning and change.

3.1.6 Provides educators with the knowledge and skills to collaborate.

**4.0 Content Standards**

4.1 Professional Development that improves the learning of all students:

4.1.1 Prepares educators to understand and appreciate all students, create safe, orderly, and supportive learning environments, and hold high expectations for their academic achievement.

4.1.2 Deepens educators' content knowledge, provides them with research-based instructional strategies to assist students in meeting rigorous academic standards, and prepares them to use various types of classroom assessments appropriately.

4.1.3 Provides educators with knowledge and skills to involve families and other stakeholders appropriately.

**14 DE Reg. 1187 (05/01/11)**

**15 DE Reg. 77 (07/01/11) (Final)**