

## **Act 48 and Professional Development for Teachers 2020-2021**

Each school year, there are eight District in-service days in the Northampton Area School District. Of the eight in-service days in the school calendar, five are devoted to staff development for teachers. **The staff development days are 6 hours in duration. They begin at 8 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. All other in-service days start and end at the elementary and secondary regular start and end times.**

During the **2020-2021** school year, the **staff development in-service days** are as follows:

1. August 25, 2020 – 6 hours of building staff development
2. August 26, 2020 – 6 hours of District staff development
3. October 12, 2020 – 6 hours of District staff development
4. November 25, 2020 – 6 hours of District staff development
5. February 12, 2021 – 6 hours of District staff development

**In addition to the five in-service staff development days, there are three in-service days that do not count toward Act 48. These days start and end at the regular elementary and secondary start and end times. There is one day devoted to District Welcome and building beginning-of-the-school-year faculty meetings (8/24/2020); one day is devoted to Teacher Day in the Room to prep for the beginning of the school year (8/27/2020), and one day is devoted to the end-of-the-school-year Records Day (6/7/2021).**

**Faculty Meetings:** During the 2020-2021 School year, faculty meetings will be one hour in duration so that professional development sessions can also be held during faculty meetings. There are eight (8) faculty meetings for each building; however, some of those faculty meetings will be building communication faculty meetings. Therefore, **of the eight (8) faculty meetings, only some will be used for professional development and will count toward Act 48 hours during the 2020-2021 school year.**

**Act 48 Potential in District Hours:** Each school year, teachers have the potential to earn approximately 30 to 34 Act 48 hours during staff development in-service days and faculty meetings. Therefore, over a five (5)-year period, teachers have the potential to earn approximately 150 to 170 Act 48 hours. Please keep in mind, however, that at times these in-service days may be needed for non-Act 48 eligible uses or for travel time as needed for session locations for special circumstances, which may require a change of prescheduled training activity times.

***From PDE – Roll Over Hours from Act 14: If, during a professional educator’s five-year compliance period under this section, a professional educator satisfactorily completes continuing professional education credits or hours in excess of the number of credits or hours required, any excess continuing professional education credits or hours satisfying the requirements of this section that are completed during the final two years of a professional educator’s five-year compliance period up to a maximum of fifty (50) hours of continuing professional education programs, activities, or learning experiences, or any combination of collegiate studies, continuing professional education courses or other programs, activities, or learning experiences equivalent to a maximum of fifty (50) hours, shall be credited to the professional educator’s continuing professional education record for the next succeeding compliance year.***

In addition to the District in-service and faculty meeting staff development hours, teachers can also earn Act 48 hours in the District through the following means:

- Curriculum/Assessment work and/or preparation for staff development presentations by pre-approval of the Director of Curriculum and Instruction or Curriculum Supervisors

- In-district staff development opportunities including but not limited to School-wide Positive Behavior Support Core Team Planning, Olweus Core Team Planning, Teacher Induction Activities, Crisis Management Building Team Training, technology and software training, program review, and District data retreat

Teachers can also earn Act 48 hours through the following means:

- Approved college courses (teachers must request credit upload to PDE from the college bursar's office)
- IU and PaTTAN training opportunities
- Online Learning Opportunities offered through the Pennsylvania Department of Education and SAS (PDE courses are free to PA certified teachers) - <http://www.pdesas.org/> Then, click on Login at the top of the page and login. Then, go to PD center in the drop down.
- Approved educational training providers such as the Bureau of Education and Research (BER) and the National Council of Teachers Conferences

**Teachers should continually keep track of their Act 48 hours to be certain to attain the minimum 180 Act 48 hours required of teachers during their five-year window.**

**Please be aware that CPETracker keeps track of only those Act 48 hours earned within our District and IU20.** To see the full record of a teacher's Act 48 hours, teachers must login to the Online Act 48 Professional Education Record Management System (PERMS) website at <https://www.perms.pa.gov/screens/wfpublicaccess.aspx>

Teachers who have further questions regarding Act 48 hours should visit PDE's website at <https://www.education.pa.gov/Documents/Teachers-Administrators/Act%2048-PERMS/FAQ%20Act%2048%20Continuing%20Professional%20Education%20Requirements.pdf>