

Know Your Rights!

What is the difference between professional development days, institute days and staff development days? How much self-directed time do teachers have on those days?

Institute Days

Institute Days are mandated for professional development by the State of Illinois. They are designated as entirely principal directed. The first three days of school were institute days. However, principals were directed by the Board of Education to schedule at least half of one of those days for teacher self-directed time.

QUICK GUIDE

Non-Attendance Type	Self-directed Time
Institute Days (3 in August)	0.5 days out of 3
Professional Development	Half of the Day
Staff Development	Principal & PPLC decide

The Board of Education and the Union negotiated that institute days should not be scheduled on the last day of a quarter since this time could best be used to prepare records. Institute Days were moved to the beginning and end of the year to meet the state mandate requiring these days.

Professional Development Days

Professional development days are designated by the Union contract as half principal-directed and half teacher self-directed.

Staff Development Days

The activities for staff development days are to be determined by the principal with the Professional Personnel Leadership Committee (PPLC), the committee that advises the LSC on curricular matters and the School Improvement Plan for Advancing Academic Achievement (SIPAAA). Self-directed time on those days is determined by the principal in consultation with the PPLC.

If your principal violates these guidelines...

Discuss the violation in your Professional Problems Committee (PPC) meeting. If you cannot work out an arrangement with your principal at this meeting, file a grievance. If the principal does not allow for PPLC input in staff development activities, contact the Office of Community Relations at Chicago Public Schools (773-553-1400).

This flier was produced in-house by union employees.