



Wisconsin Mathematics Council
Position Statement
Professional Development in Mathematics Education
(Approved January 24, 2009)

The Wisconsin Mathematics Council (WMC) supports the NCTM Standards for the Professional Development of Teachers of Mathematics; which advocates for:

- experiencing good mathematics teaching
- knowing mathematics and school mathematics
- knowing students as learners of mathematics
- knowing mathematical pedagogy
- developing as a teacher of mathematics
- teachers role in professional development

WMC Position

The Wisconsin Mathematics Council believes that professional educators must continually engage in professional development activities that address contemporary research and practices in mathematics with respect to pedagogy, curriculum, assessment, and technology.

Professional development activities need to:

- actively engage all teachers in developing an understanding of mathematics, pedagogy, and students
- allow adequate time, and furnish support for teachers to explore, practice, refine, apply, and reflect on new ideas, techniques, and practices
- reinforce the instructional and assessment strategies that meet the needs of all students.
- provide teachers adequate time and financial resources to share and critique ideas with colleagues, and to draw on the knowledge and perspectives of others as reflective and analytical members of a professional community
- support the culture of every educational institution
- provide opportunities to participate as part of contractual time
- be a significant part of a professional development plan
- meet the diverse needs of all educators
- include membership and participation in local, state, and national conferences, workshops, online resources, and courses
- create vibrant support networks for teachers at the local, state, regional, and national levels
- be ongoing

The Wisconsin Mathematics Council has a responsibility to:

- promote and provide professional growth opportunities for those involved in mathematics education
- focus attention of all mathematics educators on contemporary issues dealing with teaching and learning of mathematics
- promote activities that recognize the achievement and contributions of mathematics programs
- mobilize political initiatives that affect positive change in mathematics education