



JOINT APS/ATF LETTER  
**Professional Day Pilot Year 2  
Cohort 3 Opportunity**

August 4, 2022

To: Principals and Educators Interested in the Professional Day Pilot  
From: Amanda DeBell, APS Associate Superintendent, Learning Zone 3  
Ellen Bernstein, ATF President  
Re: Professional Workday Pilot Cohort 3 2022/2023

Are you interested in project-based learning, but need more time to learn and plan? Do you want to implement grading for equity, infuse Social-Emotional Learning in your planning, or create a more student-centered educational experience? These exciting focus areas and more can happen when the adults have more planning and collaboration time in their workday.

Last school year, we maxed out our budget capacity for the Professional Day Pilot with 600 participants who used this opportunity to reimagine schooling. About 100 of last year's participants are now working in schools that have an 8-hour day (TOPS), so they are no longer eligible for the pilot.

This gives more of you a chance to join us! We invite you to seize this opportunity to rethink "typical" schooling to achieve a more equitable, student-focused education system, and to pursue bold initiatives that will help all our kids thrive.

Participants are asked to use collaboration and professional learning time to co-develop practices. If you and a team of colleagues at your site are interested in joining Cohort 3, we are holding an informational session. This meeting is also for those who may be interested in joining the team from their school who started in year 1.

**Mandatory meeting for sites/participants that are interested**

Thursday, August 18, 2022

4:15-6:00

Berna Facio Professional Development Building

Attendees from your school must include, but are not limited to,  
the Principal, Instruction Council Chair and Fed Rep(s)

We jointly believe, over the next two years through this pilot, we can demonstrate that by providing more adult time, our professional practices will be enhanced in ways that positively impact student learning outcomes.

APS and ATF created the guidance below for the 5 additional hours a week:

- One day a week for **Collaboration** with a minimum of 30 Collaborative Time meetings for the year (15 for the semester).

- This is time for a team of educators committed to working together and collaborating in ongoing processes of collective inquiry and action research with a focus on improving teaching and learning.
- One day a week for **School Leadership or Professional Learning Time**.
  - School Leadership includes building school culture, visioning, district/state mandates, and site-based goal setting and implementation.
  - Professional learning needs should be addressed at the school level in conjunction with school goals and individual adult learning needs.
- One day a week for **Committee Time** such as department meetings, Instructional Council, SAT, or other committees.
- One day a week for **Professional Duties Time** that is self-directed and based on the individual needs of the staff, family communication, grading, entering data, mandatory paperwork, etc.
- One day a week for **Planning and Preparation Time** can be self-directed or collaborative.

The time differential for pilot participants is \$5,000 for the entire year. Educational Assistant participants are paid at their hourly rate.

Participants can work as a school, a grade-level or subject cohort, or in other configurations. You might decide to focus on a single practice, or a combination of practices, that you collectively believe are essential in shaping student-centered schooling.