**Professional Learning**

Professional learning is an ongoing activity and a shared responsibility. Administration will provide professional learning to all teachers based on school goals and individual goals. Learning that is based on school goals will be provided to all staff. Learning that is connected to individual goals will be more differentiated.

Our staff has expertise in many areas of content knowledge and pedagogical practices. As such, various staff members will be utilized to deliver professional learning activities to their colleagues. If you believe you have strength in a particular area, then please let administration know, so that we can all capitalize on this knowledge and skill.

Monday afternoons from 2:40 to 4:00 are designated as professional learning times. For the 2015-2016 school year, P.S. 111 will engage in cycles of study around **running records**, **conferring** & **small-group instruction (including guided reading)**, **math content** (based on the major learning of your grade and decided by the grade team), and **fostering student discussion** in the classroom (in all content areas).

In addition to Monday afternoons, administration will send teachers out of the building for workshops and visits to other schools (such as Showcase School visits). We will also provide opportunities for teachers to engage in peer observations of each other. Lesson study, an activity highlighted as a strength in 2014-2015, will continue for the 2015-2016 school year.

While administration will work hard to provide professional learning to all staff, it is also the responsibility of each individual staff member to further his or her own learning. It is an expectation that teachers will actively search for opportunities to attend workshops and visit other schools and teachers to study effective/highly effective practices; not just during working hours, but also outside of work hours. Danielson 4E refers directly to teachers developing professionally. NYSED also has a requirement that teachers engage in professional development throughout their career. Please let administration know of opportunities for professional development so we can discuss them. Please also inform administration any time you attend a workshop outside of school hours (including webinars).

New teachers must maintain a log of their professional learning as it will need to be submitted to the state for certification. All Monday afternoon workshops may be included in this log, as can visits to other schools (i.e. for Showcase School visits).