

## **Standard 7**

### **Educators engage in career-long learning.**

I feel as though it is fundamentally important that I continue to grow as a person, leader, and teacher throughout my educational career. Remaining stagnant in my knowledge and skills is not beneficial for me and, moreover, not beneficial for my students. I expect to grow just as I expect my students to grow. In terms of professional development, I need to consistently update my technical skills and competencies such as subject knowledge, planning/structuring lessons, managing the learning process, and transferring knowledge. If I can do this, I can foster a modern learning environment that addresses the needs of my students in the present society. For example, if I did not include technology in my classroom as a teacher today, I would be sure to search of how I can achieve this to stimulate my growth as a professional while contributing to the contemporary 21<sup>st</sup> Century mindset.

I think that growing personally is just as important as professional development. I need to consistently focus on personal skills and competencies such as managing my work life balance, my personal efficiency, and my ability to connect, build rapport and inspire students. To do this, I feel as though student feedback is of the utmost importance. Honest insight into my teaching style is uncovered through these comments and I can use them to move forward and truly grow.

Finally, I feel as though collaborating with the school I work at is crucial in developing the educational system as a whole. If all of the teachers in the school can focus during a professional development day on the same concept, then we can foster a consistent, yet well-rounded, academic environment for students to thrive in.

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