Five Critical Levels of Professional Development Evaluation

Evaluation Level	What Questions Are Addressed?	How Will Information Be Gathered?	What Is Measured or Assessed?	How Will Information Be Used?
1. Participants' Reactions	 Did they like it? Was their time well spent? Did the material make sense? Will it be useful? Was the leader knowledgeable and helpful? Were the refreshments fresh and tasty? Was the room the right temperature? Were the chairs comfortable? 	• Questionnaires administered at the end of the session	• Initial satisfaction with the experience	• To improve program design and delivery
2. Participants' Learning	• Did participants acquire the intended knowledge and skills?	 Paper-and- pencil instruments Simulations Demonstrations Participant reflections (oral and/or written) Participant portfolios 	• New knowledge and skills of participants	• To improve program content, format, and organization
3. Organization Support & Change	 What was the impact on the organization? Did it affect organizational climate and procedures? Was implementation advocated, facilitated, and supported? 	 District and school records Minutes from follow-up meetings Questionnaires Structured interviews with participants and district or school administrators 	• The organization's advocacy, support, accommo- dation, facilitation, and recognition	 To document and improve organizational support To inform future change efforts

	 Was the support public and overt? Were problems addressed quickly and efficiently? Were sufficient resources made available? Were successes recognized and shared? 	• Participant portfolios		
4. Participants' Use of New Knowledge and Skills	• Did participants effectively apply the new knowledge and skills?	 Questionnaires Structured interviews with participants and their supervisors Participant reflections (oral and/or written) Participant portfolios Direct observations Video or audio tapes 	• Degree and quality of implementation	• To document and improve the implementation of program content
5. Student Learning Outcomes	 What was the impact on students? Did it affect student performance or achievement? Did it influence students' physical or emotional wellbeing? Are students more confident as learners? Is student attendance improving? Are dropouts decreasing? 	 Student records School records Questionnaires Structured interviews with students, parents, teachers, and/ or administrators Participant portfolios 	 Student learning outcomes: Cognitive (Perfor- mance & Achievement) Affective (Attitudes & Dispositions) Psychomotor (Skills & Behaviors 	 To focus and improve all aspects of program design, implementation, and follow-up To demonstrate the overall impact of professional development

Guskey, T. R. (2000). Evaluating Professional Development. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.