



Gazette File Photo 1990

What's at stake?

PLANNING PERIODS ACCORDING TO STATE LAW

(WV Code 18A-4-14)

-Every teacher employed for more than 1/2 the class periods of the regular school day shall be provided at least one planning period within each school day to be used to prepare for the instruction of pupils.

-For grades where the majority of the student instruction is delivered by only one teacher, the planning period shall be no less than forty minutes.

-No teacher may be assigned any responsibilities during this period.

-Administrators may not require a teacher to use planning periods to complete duties beyond instructional planning, including administrative tasks and meetings



PLANNING PERIODS

Decades ago, teachers did not have a dedicated instructional planning period to prepare lessons for their students.

In fact, educators in many states still don't have one. Thanks to the efforts of union members and leaders, planning period provisions were added to WV Code 18A in 1980 and have been strengthened over the years.

Why is this relevant now? Many of our younger members don't remember the fight for long-ago earned rights like a planning period. After the past few years of legislative attacks on public

education, it's more critical than ever to know exactly just how far we've come and unfortunately, the rights and benefits we stand to lose. We can't forget that rights won in 1980 can be taken away by future legislatures.

That's why it's more important than ever to stand together as professionals and fight for our rights and what's best for our students. A strong union starts with strong membership.

Join AFT-WV now; we are stronger when we are together. Become a member at www.aftwv.org.