

Read Vermont: *Implementation of Act 139*

Vermont Advisory Council on Literacy

December 4, 2024

Prepared by the Vermont Agency of Education (AOE)

Outline for Today's Overview:

- Read Vermont and Implementation of Act 139
- Professional Learning Opportunities
- Act 139 Updates on Screening and Notification

Read Vermont

WHAT

Comprehensive statewide initiative dedicated to improving literacy outcomes for Vermont students

WHY

Provide a shared vision and priorities to ensure equity and cohesion.

HOW

Leveraging and braiding multiple funding sources to focus on Read Vermont priorities

VISION

Every child can read by third grade and adolescent readers are prepared for college or career.

HOW: Read Vermont Priorities

- 01 Professional Learning**

Launch high-quality synchronous virtual, in-person, or hybrid high-quality professional learning opportunities for all PK-12 educators and leaders.
- 02 Job-Embedded Coaching**

Intensive and personalized job-embedded coaching for elementary schools (K-3) in six to twelve Vermont SU/SD over one year. Interested schools must apply and be determined based on the highest need.
- 03 Literacy Learning Network**

Develop a network of leaders and educators engaged in a facilitated learning series to elevate learning and sharing among peers across the state.
- 04 Guidance Documents and Resources**

Issue a series of guidance documents and resources for SU/SD around Act 139 implementation and evidence-based practices.
- 05 Family and Caregiver Engagement**

Develop resources to support educators when engaging with families and caregivers

Read Vermont Updates

- September 25: [Read Vermont Launch Webinar](#)
- October 8: Read Vermont Local Capacity Building Webinar
- October 25: Published [Screening and Notification FAQ](#)
- October 31: Published [Resources for Parents and Guardians](#)
- November 1: Published [Screening and Notification Guidance](#)
- November 7: Screening and Notification Q&A Session
- November 13: Workshop Series Launched
- Ongoing: Contractors to support local, state, and family/caregiver capacity building

Act 139 | Literacy

- 1. Kindergarten- third grade reading assessment and intervention**
- 2. Literacy Professional Learning**
3. Advisory Council on Literacy
4. Agency of Education Literacy Position
5. Expanding Early Childhood Literacy Resources (Department of Libraries)
6. Revisions to § 2903 to ensure all students learn to read by 3rd grade

Professional Learning and Job-Embedded Coaching

01

Professional Learning

Launch high-quality synchronous virtual, in-person, or hybrid high-quality professional learning opportunities for all PK-12 educators and leaders.

02

Job-Embedded Coaching

Intensive and personalized job-embedded coaching for elementary schools (K-3) in six to twelve Vermont SU/SD over one year. Interested schools must apply and be determined based on the highest need.

Professional Learning Available

- **Virtual Workshop Series:** Interactive virtual workshops designed to support educators and leaders who serve students in PK-12 and beyond in understanding and implementing evidence-based instructional practices to improve literacy outcomes
- **Asynchronous Literacy Modules:** Six asynchronous modules for both grades K-3 and grades 4-12, based on the body of evidence that informs effective reading instruction, now including Facilitator Guides
- **Job-Embedded Coaching:** Free, intensive, personalized support for at least 100 PK-3 educators and 40 educational leaders/administrators in Vermont elementary schools, from January 2025 through February 2026

Guidance Documents and Resources

04

Guidance Documents and Resources

Issue a series of guidance documents and resources for SU/SD around Act 139 implementation and evidence-based practices.

Screening: Parent or Guardian Notification

- [Requirements and Recommendations on Screening Notification for Parents and Guardians](#) outlines requirements and provides recommendations on the substance and form of parent or guardian notification required by Act 139
- [Template Notification Letter](#)

Screening: What to Expect from the AOE

- **What:** Issuance of Guidance on universal reading screeners as required in Act 139. Guidance will review screeners for:
 - Technical adequacy
 - Attention to linguistic diversity
 - Administrative usability
 - Valid measures of the developmental skills in early literacy (i.e., phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension)
- **When:** On or before Jan. 15, 2025

Next Steps

- Q&A on Act 139 Implementation: December
- PL Workshop Series on Comprehension: 12/11
- EPP Convening: 12/13
- State Literacy Plan Overview: 12/31
- First round of Coaching: Jan
- Issue Screening Guidance & Legislative Report: 1/15

Questions?

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[Read Vermont list serv](#)