

Act 139 Report to Vermont Standards Board  
Advisory Council on Literacy  
16 October 2024

As previously reported, the Council is transitioning from Act 28 to Act 139 directives. During this meeting, council members reviewed past practices and explored new directions.

### Updates

During the 18 September 2024 meeting of the **Advisory Council on Literacy**<sup>1</sup>, the committee met members of the AOE team and Interim Secretary Zoie Saunders, who presented an overview of the **Vermont Reads** literacy initiative and Act 139.

The AOE representatives responded to questions about the following items:

- Parental Notification
- Training and focus for learners beyond grade 3 (anticipated professional development to address adolescent literacy)
- Facilitation guides for literacy modules
- Literacy module and RFP references for evidence-based resources

The Advisory Council on Literacy is using the following checklist to identify implementation needs around Act 139:

- Time to plan implementation
- Time to implement evidence-based instruction and assessment practices
- Professional learning on evidence-based instructional practices
- Professional learning on literacy assessment and data driven decision making
- Resources on evidence-based instructional practices
- Resources on literacy assessment and data driven decision making
- Funds for professional learning
- Funds for instructional materials

*Survey results will be collected by 11/8, results will be shared at the next Council meeting on 12/4.*

The committee listed the following Evidence-Based Resources Research & Recommendations:

- National Reading Panel  
Florida Center for Reading Research  
CEEDAR Center  
Institute for Educational Sciences (IES)  
VT AOE Literacy webpage
- Instructional Practices Resources  
IES Practice Guides VT  
AOE Literacy webpage
- Instructional Programs  
IES What Works Clearinghouse (efficacy)  
Evidence for ESSA (efficacy)  
EdReports (alignment to standards & usability)  
National Reading Panel  
Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade  
Improving Reading Comprehension in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade  
Assisting Students Struggling with Reading: Response to Intervention (RtI) and Multi-Tier Intervention in the Primary Grades

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<sup>1</sup> This report is based on draft meeting minutes.

Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom and Intervention Practices  
Providing Reading Intervention for Students in Grades 4-9  
Evidence-Based Reading Instruction for Grades K-5  
What Works Clearinghouse  
Evidence for ESSA  
EdReports  
Vermont Agency of Education - Literacy

Respectfully submitted 16 October 2024  
Bill Clark