

Act 28 Report to Vermont Standards Board
14 September 2023
Summary of 13 September 2023 Meeting of
Advisory Council on Literacy

Items included in the 9/13/23 Advisory Council on Literacy meeting included:

- Development of a strategy for turnover and retention of teachers (recruiting)
- State-wide core required literacy curriculum
- Emphasize “no unfunded mandates.”
- Selection of assessments for screening and support
- Support for higher education institutions to graduate highly prepared teachers
- Alignment with ESSA guidelines
- Curation of diverse cultural literature

Literacy assessment results

- Literacy data collection: How are all students doing across the state? What does the evidence say? Support literacy instruction and implementation resources.

Overview from Emily Lesh (AOE)

- Literacy policy and practices: Act 28 and Act 173. Levers for continuous improvement across content areas: Coordinated curriculum, local assessment, education support teams, and needs-based assessment.
- Vermont Literacy Playbook should be published in October 2023.
 - All learners, all content areas: Separate tracks for K-3 and 4-12 levels.
- Online literacy learning modules in development through Public Consultation Group (online courses). How the brain learns to read.
 - Module 1 released 9/21/23 in webinar
- Vermont statewide learning management system: Pepper
- Early Learning Network Improvement Community
 - Third year of working with literacy experts: Six districts and 80 educators participating in SY 2024.
 - Mill River Site visit
 - Evidence-based practices
- Family Engagement Literacy Program (Springboard Collaborative)
- Framework for Proficiency: Great Schools Partnership
 - Development of Portrait of a Graduate with more coherence and equity toward a unified vision
 - Proficiency-based learning team to develop consistency in proficiencies across the state
 - Districts are interpreting proficiency in multiple ways with graduation requirements ranging from six to 135 options across the state.
- Demonstrated Success contract is ongoing to coach districts in use of data. A Lexile webinar is scheduled.
- Summer of possibilities: Work with PBS Learning Media on literacy programs.

Respectfully submitted 14 September 2023
Bill Clark