



**Act 78: Adult Education and Literacy HSCP  
Student Access Study Committee Meeting**  
December 20, 2023, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting  
Call In: 802-552-8456  
Conference ID: 762 706 239#

**DRAFT MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** Catherine Kalkstein, Central Vermont Adult Basic Education; Martine Gulick, Vermont Senate; Xusana Davis, Office of Racial Equity; Jess DeCarolis, Vermont Agency of Education; Mike McGraith, Vermont Principals' Association  
**AOE:** Suzanne Sprague, Miranda Scott  
**Others:** Marty Feltus, Joe Przyperhart, Sean-Marie Oller, Michelle Faust

Meeting called to order at 3:32 p.m. Minutes taken by Xusana Davis.

**Agenda**

1. 3:30 p.m. Call to Order, Roll Call, Amendments to Agenda
2. 3:35 p.m. Approval of December 5, 2023 Minutes
3. 3:35 p.m. Public Comment
4. 3:45 p.m. Review of Draft Proposed Legislative Changes to HSCP and ADP
5. 4:30 p.m. Vote to Approve Report Submission
6. 4:50 p.m. Public Comment
7. 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

**Approval of December 5, 2023 Minutes**

- Motion to approve: Jess DECAROLIS
- Second: Mike MCRAITH
- Vote Outcomes
  - Aye: [DAVIS, Catherine KALKSTEIN, DECAROLIS, MCRAITH]
  - Nay: [None]
  - Abstain: [None]
- Result: Minutes approved.

**Review of Committee Proposal**

- Working group members review changes made in the latest proposal draft:
  - In a previous draft, members reflected that the funding provisions still were vague. The proposed changes add funding from the General Fund to enable AOE to administer the grants to providers. General Fund dollars can be directly granted to providers.
  - Current statute lists two different ages of adulthood, which creates confusion and may be excluding learners from services. This new draft proposal would correct that so that there is only one age of adulthood for purposes of educational pathways.
  - Due to the redesignation of Section 1029 in the Flexible Pathways Initiative, there were

- two general fund lines in the budget that were called different things that were suggesting that there were two statutes governing adult education. This proposal merges the two line items as a way of cleaning up the statutory language.
- If the proposal is adopted, the state will move from 4 separate funding streams (one federal, three state) to 2 (one federal and one state).
- If the proposal is adopted, the state would convene a collaborative design team comprised of school district and AEL provider staff to inform the development of an updated common statewide assessment program, as described in 16 VSA 945.

### **Approval of Committee Proposal**

- Motion to approve and submit this proposal to the Legislature: GULICK
- Second: MCRAITH
- Aye: [DAVIS, KALKSTEIN, DECAROLIS, MCRAITH, GULICK]
- Nay: [None]
- Abstain: [None]
- Result: Proposal/report is approved and will be submitted to the Legislature.

### **Public Comment**

- Marty Feltus: Has read the most recent draft of the working group's proposal and believes the details have been improved, with a more streamlined process delineated regarding the necessary budget. Endorses the conclusions of the draft proposal. This represents a simpler and more direct way of providing services that removes the uncertainty around costs.
- Sean Marie Oller: While this draft seems more streamlined and clear, the process still sounds complex as described in the proposal. There is also confusion with how the proposed 26% will interact with an existing AEL funding formula that is in state board rules.

### **Adjourn**

- Motion to adjourn: GULICK
- Second: MCRAITH
- Vote Outcomes: All vote aye.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.