



Advisory Council on Literacy
 October 12, 2022, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Approved Meeting Minutes

Present: Gwen Carmolli, Vermont Curriculum Leaders Association, Chair; Susan Gray, Vermont Independent Schools Association; Martine Gulick, Vermont School Boards Association; Cynthia Gardner-Morse, Community Member; Don Tinney, Vermont National Education Association; Beth O'Brien, Vermont Principals' Association, Vice Chair; Emily Leute as a proxy for Secretary French, Agency of Education; Jacqui Kelleher, Vermont Agency of Education; Bev Davis, Retired Superintendent, Vermont Superintendents Association; Bill Clark, Standards Board for Professional Educators; Michael Flanagan, Maple Run School District; Jen Farnsworth, Essex-Westford Educational Community Unified Union School District; Katie Campbell, Maple Run School District; Susan Koch, Montpelier Roxbury School District

AOE Staff Present: Suzanne Sprague, Meg Porcello, Pat Fitzsimmons, Katie McCarthy, Lori Dolezal and Emily Lesh

Others: Ellen Thompson, Mary Grace, Ellen Cairns (presenter)

AGENDA		Meeting Link
<p>MEETING GOALS: Develop an understanding of statewide literacy initiatives Review the subcommittee's work to develop recommendations for the literacy blueprint</p>	<p>Attendees: Chair: Gwen Carmolli Note Taker: AOE Representative Time: October 12, 2:00-4:00 Format: Online meeting</p>	
<p>TO PREPARE FOR THIS MEETING, PLEASE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review September Meeting Minutes ● Review Subcommittee work (see end of the agenda) 		
<p>NORMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listen thoughtfully & assume positive intentions ● Ground statements in evidence ● Stick to the protocol ● Begin and end on time 	<p>DECISION MAKING PROCESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gather Information & Input ● Deliberate ● Prioritize ● Vote 	

TIME	ACTIVITIES & NOTES
------	--------------------

Time	Min	Activities and Notes
2:00	15	<p>Council Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome – the meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Future meetings will be 3:00-5:00 ○ Gwen welcomed Michael Flanagan to the Council representing the literacy community ● Confirm notetaker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emily Leute will take notes today; will move to a rotation for Council members to take notes ● Roll Call & share - Share 1 literacy assessment you/your organization uses & how you use the data
2:15	5	<p>Approve Meeting Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Change role of Bev Davis to reflect current role ● Approved
2:20	10	<p>Hear Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gwen received two questions
2:30	30	<p>Hear & Discuss AOE Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hear AOE Updates (Jess DeCarolis & AOE Team) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation from September’s meeting is now on the Council’s webpage on the AOE website ○ Lori Dolezal gave update on Early Learning Networked Improvement Community (NIC) for literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focusing on PK-3 this year, spreading and scaling work from last year ▪ Focused on data-driven evidence-based practices ▪ Working with national partners, including subject-matter experts providing professional development ▪ Lori can send along literature about the NIC and continuous improvement approach ○ Gwen announced change of state summative assessment ● Brief Questions – Up to 1 question per member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interest in the modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Potential to use for micro credentials? https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/professional-learning/micro-credentials ○ Jacqui noted FoRT-Foundations of Reading Tests - really helpful in providing practice. Practice really lead to growth

		in achievement. Jacqui- Special Edu rule changes coming with guidance and tools https://education.vermont.gov/student-support/vermont-special-education/rule-changes
3:00	30	<p>Hear & Discuss ROPA Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hear AOE Updates (Ellen Cairns & AOE team) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Results Oriented Program Approval ○ Reviews and approves Educator Prep Programs (EPPs) ○ Five ROPA standards, which include the Core Teaching Standards, specific endorsements competencies, completion of the Vermont Licensure Portfolio, and passage of required licensure tests (Praxis Core and Praxis II) ○ 7-year cycle w/Annual Reports ○ Review teams made up of educators and administrators from the field, a faculty member from another EPP, a VSBPE member, and the AOE ROPA Coordinator ○ Collaborative approach that allows for creativity and innovation ● Brief Questions – Up to 1 question per member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Broad questions from last meeting: varied response, one school had less adherence to evidence-based practices ○ Bill Clark: How is the literacy factor being incorporated in the pre-service training? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There isn't really an alignment; an EPP could get ROPA approval and not be strong in teaching literacy because the ROPA standards are broader and more high level; every candidate needs to pass ROPA standards (even if they are not going to be teaching literacy) ○ Beth O'Brien: Has been involved in portfolio review process PK-12 teachers; Common Core says all teachers are literacy teachers, but even middle and high school ELA teachers are not really teachers of reading and writing (more content specialists); needs to be a change so that they understand the progression of skills more fully <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Process for that change would be the endorsement revision process ○ Susan Gray: Is there a national governing body overseeing what VT does with regard to the standards? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No, there is not a specialized professional association (SPA) ▪ VT institutions do not go through that national process ▪ However, when endorsements get revised, they do look at national standards to share with revision team;

		<p>many endorsement revisions are taken from those national revisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Don Tinney: Some EPPs do require a specific number of credits in teaching literacy; can we make a recommendation to the standards board to add requirements to an endorsement? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gwen: Endorsements are not the Council’s area, but professional learning could fit into one of the Act 28 tasks as a support for supervisory unions/districts ○ Gwen Carmolli: Gave a presentation about the Council and the blueprint for a Special Ed literacy course at St. Mike’s for students with provisional licenses or working on an additional endorsement for Special Ed ○ Cynthia Gardner-Morse: Which Praxis tests does ROPA require? Not all of them do a good job prepping teachers to teach reading; we want teachers to feel successful so that they stay in the profession <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any “educator” endorsement requires Praxis Core (equivalent of the SATs or ACTs) – reading, writing, and math skills knowledge (not how to teach those things); almost all endorsements require Praxis II in the content area ▪ We are looking for alternate ways for teachers to show their knowledge and skills (not just passing a test) ○ Gwen Carmolli: reminder about asynchronous literacy modules AOE is developing
3:30	20	<p>Hear & Discuss Subcommittee Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Share subcommittee resources (Gwen & Subcommittee members) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gwen provided overview PPT ○ Susan Gray: a lot of researchers are saying code is meaning (as opposed to code vs. meaning) ● Brief Comments - Up to 1 comment per member
3:50	10	<p>Wrap Up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work on data ○ Closer look at recommendations ○ Adjust to 3:00-5:00 schedule <p>The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.</p>

Resources referenced:

<https://nepc.colorado.edu/publication/science-of-reading>

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Certification/Alerts/updatedjune2014.pdf>

<https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/professional-learning/micro-credentials>

<https://education.vermont.gov/student-support/vermont-special-education/rule-changes>
<https://cedar.education.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/IC-Literacy-multiple-severe-disabilities.pdf>