



Advisory Council on Literacy

December 4, 2024, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting
Call In: 1-802-552-8456
Conference ID: 675 994 845#
[Click here to join the meeting](#)

[No. 28. An act relating to improving prekindergarten through grade 12 literacy within the State.](#)

Members: Gwen Carmolli, Vermont Curriculum Leaders Association, Chair; Emily Lesh, Agency of Education; Catherine Delneo, Vermont State Librarian; Bill Clark, Standards Board for Professional Educators; Bev Davis, Associate Executive Director, Vermont Superintendents Association; Darren McIntyre, Vermont Council of Special Education Administrators; Beth O'Brien, Vermont Principals' Association, Vice Chair; Don Tinney, Vermont National Education Association; Catherine Campbell, Maple Run School District; Jennifer Farnsworth, Essex-Westford Educational Community Unified Union School District; Tonya Girouard, Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District; Cynthia Gardner-Morse, Community Member; Ana Russo, Vermont Agency of Education; Sandra Cameron, Vermont School Boards Association; Susan Gray, Vermont Independent Schools Association; Michael Flannagan, Community Member; Charley Gunkel, Community Member; Rommy Fuller, Norwich University; Stacie Shields, University of Vermont

AGENDA		Meeting Link
<p>MEETING GOALS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hear Act 139 & literacy updates ● Understand priority needs for Act 139 implementation 	<p>Attendees: Chair: Gwen Carmolli Note Taker: T Meeting information: December 4, 3:00-5:00, online</p>	
<p>NORMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Listen thoughtfully & assume positive intentions ● Ground statements in evidence ● Honor the agenda 	<p>DECISION MAKING PROCESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gather Information & Input ● Deliberate & prioritize ● Vote <p>Note: <i>due to timing for Act 28 final report the Council will only gather & share input on Act 139 priority needs</i></p>	

TIME	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES & NOTES

3:00	25	Council Work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome & Updates ● Review norms ● Roll Call & share - Name, role, and share a highlight from recent literacy instruction or learning
3:25	5	Approve Meeting Minutes - DRAFT September Minutes (Motion & Vote)
3:30	10	Public Comment Brief comment/s - up to 2 minutes, respectful - Thank you!
3:40	40	Literacy Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hear AOE literacy updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Professional Learning Opportunities ○ Act 139 & Guidance on Parental Notification ○ Literacy Modules ● Questions - each member may ask up to 1 clarifying
4:20	30	Task - Highest Need for Act 139 Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Share input on needs - each constituency group will be invited to share input & highlights
4:50	10	Wrap Up

Agreed Upon Evidence Practices & Resources

Evidence-Based Assessment Practices for K-3

Screening

- *Screen for potential reading problems at the beginning & middle of the year (IES Practice Guide - RTI)*
- *Use screening assessment to find students needing extra help, follow up with assessment & review of strengths & weaknesses to plan intervention (CEEDAR K-5 Reading)*

- Use screening tools to determine which students are at risk for reading difficulties (Moats, 2020)

Monitor Progress

- Regularly monitor the progress of students at risk (IES Practice Guide - RTI)
- Monitor the progress of tier 2 students at least once a month (IES Practice Guide - RTI)
- Use frequent ongoing assessment to provide information about instruction & effectiveness of the instruction (CEEDAR K-5)

Outcome assessment

- Use outcome assessment to determine achievement of expected levels of performance (CEEDAR K-5)

Evidence-Based Instructional Practices from IES Practice Guides for K-3

Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade

- Teach students academic language skills, including the use of inferential and narrative language, and vocabulary knowledge.
- Develop awareness of the segments of sounds in speech and how they link to letters.
- Teach students to decode words, analyze word parts, and write and recognize words.
- Ensure that each student reads connected text every day to support reading accuracy, fluency, and comprehension.

Improving Reading Comprehension in Kindergarten Through Third Grade

- Teach students how to use reading comprehension strategies.
- Teach students to identify and use the text's organizational structure to comprehend, learn, and remember content.
- Guide students through focused, high-quality discussion on the meaning of text.
- Select texts purposefully to support comprehension development.
- Establish an engaging and motivating context in which to teach reading comprehension.

Assisting Students Struggling with Reading: Response to Intervention (RtI) and Multi-Tier Intervention in the Primary Grades

- Screen all students for potential reading problems at the beginning of the year and again in the middle of the year.
- Provide time for differentiated reading instruction for all students based on assessments of students' current reading level.
- Provide intensive, systematic instruction on up to three foundational reading skills in small groups to students who score below the benchmark score on universal screening.
- Monitor the progress of tier 2 students at least once a month.
- Provide intensive instruction on a daily basis that promotes the development of the various components of reading proficiency to students who show minimal progress after reasonable time in tier 2 small group instruction.

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](#)
[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](#)