

**Agency of Education  
Updates  
AOE Update**

**Census Based Funding Advisory  
Committee  
January 7, 2019**

# Act 173 Rulemaking Team Update

**Judy Cutler - Lead**

**Alena Berube, Tom Faris, and Chris Kane**

# Progress to date

- **CIFR – continuing discussions regarding the Agency’s internal process related to MFS and how to address MOE requirements through the rules.**
- **Independent School Rules – discussions clarifying the Agency’s immediate work regarding IS rules.**
  - **Sequencing of rulemaking for approval and funding**

# Progress to date

- **Census-based Funding Rules:**
  - **Exploration of existing fiscal monitoring and processes currently conducted by the Agency;**
  - **Started drafting new allowable expenditure rules:**
    - 1) allowable SPED expenditures;**
    - 2) other allowable expenditures**

# Upcoming work

- **SPED Director roundtable re: allowable costs; service plans; and preliminary innovations**
- **Continue drafting census-based funding rules**

# Technical Assistance & Professional Learning (TAPL) Team Update

**Tracy Watterson-lead**

**Tom Faris, Lori Dolezal, Tonya Rutkowski,**

**MC Moran and Kate Rogers**

## Possible Approaches to Differentiated Supports to SUs; (general and special education)

- **Collaborative AOE team support to SUs who have schools that are eligible for comprehensive support**
- **Equity gap/common problems of practice-based Networked Improvement communities (NIC)\* for schools who are eligible for equity support**
- **Develop a variety of resources to “...assist supervisory unions to expand and improve their delivery of services to students who require additional supports...” (Act 173, section 12)**

# Possible Tools to Use in Evaluating TAPL Outcomes

- **Annual Snapshot**
- **Continuous Improvement Plans**
- **CFP investments & fiscal monitoring reports**
- **IFR Report**
- **MTSS Survey**
- **Spec Ed monitoring activity; LEA Determinations Rubric**
- **effectiveness of current grants & contracts**
- **other surveys and interviews (based on changes implemented)**



# 173 Program Team Update

**The 173 Program Team is an internal AOE quality control measure with focus on reducing duplication of effort internally and externally:**

- Surfacing and aligning existing work, protocols and procedures, etc. in service to implementation of Act 173**
- Leveraging/repurposing existing work, protocols/procedures, and teams/personnel**
- Develop a responsive internal team that can deploy supports to 173 implementation effort**

# Update: 173 Budgetary Tool

- **AOE has developed a tool that shows how the transition to the Census based funding model will impact individual LEAs.**
  - **Based on assumptions and estimates, all subject to change**
- **Will be released to business managers and superintendents this week so that they have a better ability to project the changes locally**

# Proposing Legislative Changes

- **AOE has been closely reviewing the language in Act 173 to determine if legislative changes are necessary.**
- **The following Sections and language proposals are requested by AOE**

## Sec. 5 Amendment to 16 VSA §2942

- **Update to the definition of student who struggle is too restrictive**
  - **The definition restricts which students qualify as needing additional support, the intent of the law is to support all students when their needs require it. This update to the definition ensures that all students will receive additional support when they are struggling to learn.**

# Sec. 5 Amendment to 16 VSA §2961

- **Update the definition of Long Term Membership to be more specific.**
  - **“ Long-term membership” of a supervisory union in any school year means the average of the supervisory union’s average daily membership over *the most recent* three school years *for which data is available*.**
- **Update the denominator calculation of the “Uniform Base Amount”**
  - **Change the denominator from 2019/2020 ADM to LTM;**
    - **Align calculation of the Uniform Base amount with the numerator**
    - **Needed to meet the intent to level off state support for special education**

## Sec. 5 Amendment to 16 VSA §2967

- **Change reference to publishing costs to funding**
  - **The state will no longer be collecting services plans and will not be able to publish costs. The state will be able to publish the calculation by SU of the census grants and other state special education appropriations under current law.**

## Sec. 5 Amendment to 16 VSA §2975

- **Create an unusual circumstance funding mechanism and appropriation**
  - **A change is needed to provide a calculation and an appropriation to make funds available for unusual special education costs annually.**

## Sec 17 Transition

- **Current Language not withstands the requirement to do service plans for FY 2021.**
  - **Update requires the submission of information necessary for IDEA reporting that was historically collected through the service plan. This is necessary for compliance with IDEA.**