

Advisory Council on Literacy  
Meeting  
February 2024



**We are an advisory council with a focus on increasing literacy achievement & closing achievement gaps for all Vermont students**



## Updates

### Norms

- Listen thoughtfully & assume positive intentions
- Ground statements in evidence
- Stick to the protocol
- Begin & end on time

### Reminders

- Members represent themselves/their constituencies, chair represents the council's collaborative work and agreements
- Decisions are rooted in requirements & evidence-based resources
- Each member brings expertise & commitment to improve literacy outcomes for all students

*Notetaker needed -  
thank you!*



## VT Requirements

<b>§ 2902</b>	Tiered system of supports and educational support team
<b>§ 2903</b>	Preventing early school failure; reading instruction
<b>EQS Rule 2000</b>	Manual of Rules and Practices
<b>Act 28 (2021)</b>	An act related to improving prekindergarten through grade 12 literacy with the state
<b>Act 73</b>	An act related to enhancing the effectiveness, availability, and equity of services provided to students who require additional support



## Evidence-Based Resources

<b>Research &amp; Recommendations</b>	National Reading Panel Florida Center for Reading Research CEEDAR Center Institute for Educational Sciences (IES) VT AOE Literacy webpage
<b>Instructional Practices Resources</b>	IES Practice Guides VT AOE Literacy webpage
<b>Instructional Programs</b>	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*

*Teaching Reading Is Rocket Science, 2020*



## Share

Name

Role

Literacy assessment or data collection that is useful in your role



## Updates

*Note:  
Slightly adjusted  
agenda today -  
minutes & public  
comment will be  
at the end of  
the meeting*

### Council

- Meetings in March & May
- Gathering input for our final recommendations
- Requested continuation of the Council
- Supporting General Assembly efforts to improve literacy outcomes & working to align proposed bills with existing requirements

### General Assembly

- 8 proposed bills in House & Senate Education
- Testimony & drafts on S.204 (screening for dyslexia characteristics & follow-up support) and S.303 (literacy PD, Advisory Council on Literacy & Imagination Library)

### VT AOE

- Released 2023 VTCAP results
- Preparing 2024 VTCAP
- Supporting SU/SD Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) & Local Literacy Plan development
- Providing assessment literacy training to use screening assessments & lexile levels to plan supports & PD needs

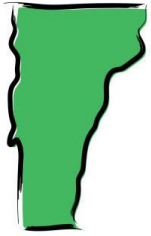


## Spring Task

Last task!

Act 28 Task	Progress
Review literacy assessments and outcomes, and provide recommendations to continuously improve and sustain literacy improvements	Completed by the Council annually 2021, 2022, 2023 ✓
Provide recommendations on updates for Section 2903 of Title 16 (16 V.S.A. §2903), and support implementation and maintenance of the statewide literacy plan	Completed by the Council 2022 ✓
Provide recommendations for services to school districts on the implementation of the statewide literacy plan, and staffing needs at the Agency of Education to provide school districts' supports	Completed by the Council 2023 ✓
Provided recommendations for best practices in literacy instruction for tiers 1, 2, and 3, within a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) to improve and sustain literacy proficiency	Completed by the AOE as resources, reviewed by the Council 2023 ✓
Provide recommendations for collecting literacy-related data that informs instructional practices, teacher professional development, and literacy assessments	Task for the Council Spring 2024





## VT Assessment Requirements

- Develop & implement a Comprehensive Local Assessment System to assess state standards & local proficiencies (*EQS*)
- Develop & implement a system of assessment with screening, benchmarks, diagnostic & formative assessment (§ 2902, *VT mtss Field Guide*)
- Conduct statewide assessments VTCAP/VTAA, ACCESS (*state accountability plan*)



## Evidence-Based Resources

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## Evidence-based Recommendations

### 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)



## Evidence-based Recommendations

### Monitor Progress

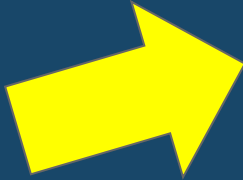
- Regularly monitor the progress of students at risk (IES Practice Guide - RTI)
- Monitor the progress of tier 2 students at least once a month (IES Practice Guide - RTI)
- Use frequent ongoing assessment to provide information about instruction & effectiveness of the instruction (CEEDAR K-5)

### Outcome assessment

- Use outcome assessment to determine achievement of expected levels of performance



## Evidence-based Recommendations



“Outcome assessment is used to determine whether students have achieved expected levels of performance after a given period of time. These assessments are usually conducted once each year to measure mastery of grade-level objectives. Classrooms, schools, districts, and states are compared using the results of outcome assessments.”



## Gather Input

*What outcome data for grades K-3 does your organization recommend?*

**None** - SU/SDs monitor their own data

**Screening Performance Data** - Screening performance data

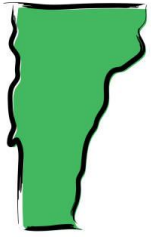
**Screening Performance Data & Screening Information** - Screening performance data & name of screener/s



**Your Task -  
Due March 27**

**Gather input on the outcome data your organization recommends collecting. Send your input to Gwen before the March meeting**

**We will review the input in March & vote on the recommendation in April**



## Minutes

Motion  
Second  
Discussion  
Approval

All in favor of approving the minute say **YES**

All opposed to approving the minutes say **NO**





## Public Comment

Please keep comments brief & respectful

**Thank you for your comments!**

*~ 2 minutes is a general guideline to allow for several comments*



*Thank you!*