

Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Place: Agency of Education, Room 304

Address: 219 North Main Street, Barre, VT 05641

Date: November 6, 2018

Present:

Peter Amons, VASBO; Ric Reardon, Castleton University; Jay Nichols, VPA; Marty Strange, Randolph; Tammy Kolbe, UVM; Nicole Mace, VSBA; Jeff Francis, VSA; Amy Knight, St. Michael's College; Jeff Fannon, VT-NEA; Dan French, AOE
Agency Staff: Emily Byrne, Brad James, Suzanne Sprague
Others: Toby Howe, MMR/St.J./BBA; Patti Komline, VISA

Call to Order/Introductions:

Chair Kolbe called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. She asked for introductions. Nichols made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the October 11th meeting. Richardson seconded. The motion passed. Mace abstained because she was not present at the meeting. Chair Kolbe reviewed the meeting's agenda and asked if there were any recommended changes. There were none.

Chair Kolbe led discussion on preliminary staffing indicators. After a lengthy discussion, the Task Force agreed to preliminary staffing indicators which match Federal definitions. The Task Force discussed and agreed to begin with the following ratios:

1. SU/SD staff (School district staff on Appendix B)
2. School Staff and then further broken out by
 - a. Principals and assistant principals
 - b. General education teachers, excluding prekindergarten teachers and CTE teachers
 - c. Special education teachers

The Agency of Education will gather various data for discussion at the next meeting.

Chair Kolbe led discussion on the impact on staff to student ratios due to student enrollment in independent schools and how it may affect staff to student ratios in public schools. Discussion followed on what data to use when considering the charge which included public school enrollment data, district data around schools that operate choice and districts that do not, number of students that tuition to public or independent schools and using 2017 data because 2018 data is incomplete. The Agency of Education will gather various data and present calculations for continued discussion at the next meeting.

Due to time constraints, Chair Kolbe asked to table the discussion on the strategies for addressing other aspects of the Task Force's charge. The Task Force agreed. Chair Kolbe reviewed the agenda items for the next meeting which is scheduled for November 30th. She said

the Task Force will focus on reviewing the data and information provided by the Agency of Education and additionally, will make concrete decisions on what will be included in the report. Secretary French is reviewing the option to request an extension on the report's due date to the General Assembly.

Kolbe adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Suzanne Sprague.
