

Agency of Education Update for the Advisory Council on Literacy

Presentation prepared by the Agency of
Education

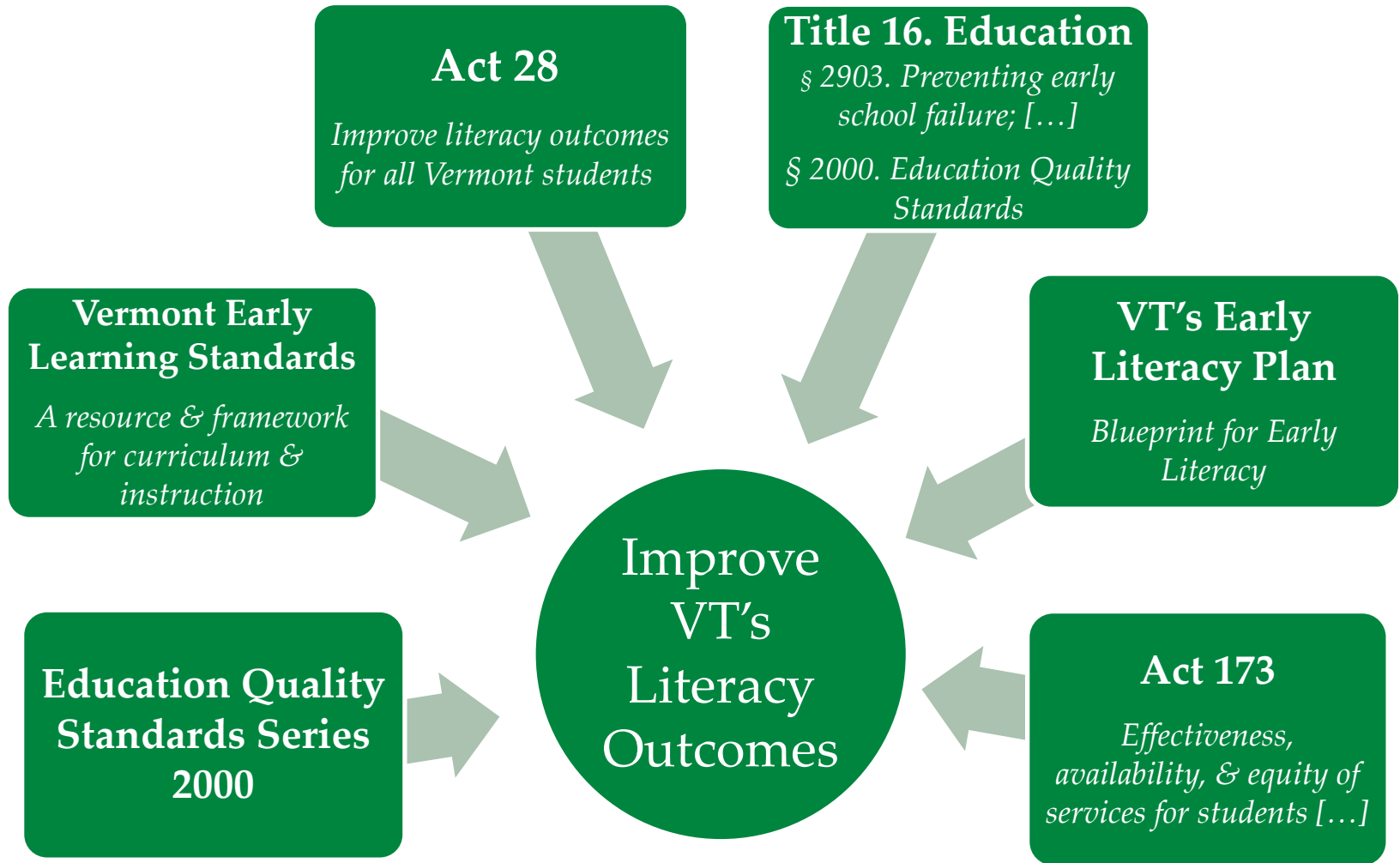
September 13, 2023

Today's Overview

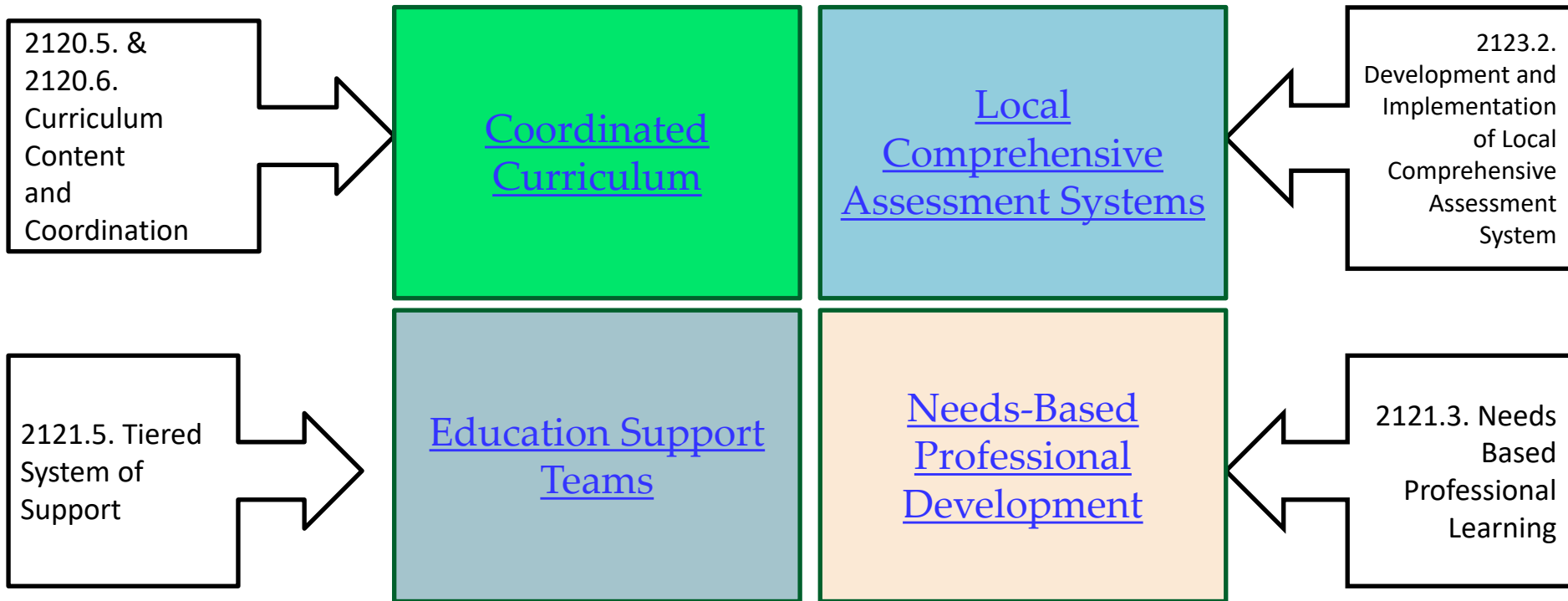
- Quick reminder about literacy policy and practice drivers: *Act 173 & Act 28*
- Updates and Opportunities to Advance Literacy in Vermont

Vermont's Policy & Practice Drivers: Existing Drivers to Support Literacy

Drivers to Improve Literacy Outcomes



The Four Levers of Act 173



Updates & Opportunities

Evidence-Based Practices Resources

What: [Newly created AOE resources](#) about evidence-based practices based on the [What Works Clearinghouse/IES Practice Guides](#):

- K-3 resources on foundational skills and comprehension
- Prekindergarten
- Adolescent literacy (coming soon)

When: Most available now on [AOE's ELA site](#)

Contact: Emily Leute (Emily.Leute@Vermont.gov), Literacy and ELA Content Specialist

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 173, Act 28, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS+EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-Accountability

Vermont Literacy Blueprint Playbook

What: AOE has partnered with [Region 1 Comprehensive Center \(R1CC\)](#) to develop the *Vermont Literacy Playbook*, a guide for implementing [Vermont's Blueprint for Early Literacy Comprehensive System of Services](#) (the Blueprint). The Playbook will contain tools and resources to support SU/SDs in developing local literacy plans and setting up systems and processes to improve and sustain literacy outcomes for system leaders.

When: Review with education stakeholders at the end of September and launch at the end of October

Contact: Jess DeCarolis (Jess.DeCarolis@Vermont.gov) Student Pathways Division Director or Emily Lesh (Emily.Lesh@Vermont.gov), Act 28 Project Manager.

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 173, Act 28, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS+EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-Accountability

Online Literacy Learning Modules & LMS (I)

What: Understanding the Neuroscience of Reading, in the new online asynchronous course *Building a Strong Foundation for Lifelong Literacy Success* developed by PCG [announced](#). Will provide an understanding how the brain learns to read, universal strategies to develop literacy skills and evidence-based literacy practices.

- Module 1: conceptual models for how to teach reading based on neuro and cognitive science.
- Modules 2-6: concentrate on the needs of educators who teach or support students K-3 and 4-12.
- The learning modules will be available on the new AOE State Learning Management System (LMS), PEPPER, for all Vermont educators.

Note: LMS = Learning Management System

Online Literacy Learning Modules & LMS (II)

When: Module one will launch September 21st. Additional modules will launch every 6-8 weeks through the spring of 2024. Informational webinar for educators 9/21 from 3-4 p.m.

Contact: Jess DeCarolis (Jess.DeCarolis@Vermont.gov), Division Director or Emily Lesh (Emily.Lesh@Vermont.gov), Act 28 Project Manager.

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 173, Act 28, Act 66, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS+EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-Accountability

Early Learning Network Improvement Community

What: 6 Districts and over 80 educators participating with the goal to improve PK-3 instruction in foundational skills and formative assessment practices through embedded professional learning, coaching, and examination of student work/learning. Participating Partners include, Council of Chief State School Officers), [Dr. Sharon Walpole](#), and [Dr. Katherine Beauchat](#).

When: 23-24 school year cohort launches 9/14/23

Contact: Lori Dolezal (Lori.Dolezal@Vermont.gov) Continuous Improvement Coach

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 173, Act 28, Act 66, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS+EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-Accountability

Family Engagement Literacy Program

What: The AOE launched an opportunity for SU/SD to focus on improving academic outcomes while strengthening family-educator relationships through [Springboard Collaborative](#). Space is available for winter 23-24 semesters for SU/SD to receive coaching and curriculum to support afterschool literacy instruction and family engagement programming. Learn more in [this announcement memo](#).

When: Complete an [interest form](#) by November 27, 2023, to participate in the winter/spring 2024 cycle.

Contact: Emily Lesh (Emily.Lesh@Vermont.gov) Act 28 Project Manager

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 77, Act 173, Act 1, Act 28, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS/EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-CIP, ESSA-Accountability

Vermont Framework for Proficiency - Professional Learning and Coaching

What: Through a contract Great Schools Partnership (GSP) will provide professional learning and coaching to leaders in schools across Vermont focused on contextualizing the Vermont Portrait of a Graduate (PoG), support community conversations to collect data to inform a local portrait and refine the Personalized Learning Planning process to showcase evidence of proficiency and growth towards the attributes of the PoG. In the winter, performance assessment development work will begin.

When: 2023 – 2024 academic year

Contacts: Pat Fitzsimmons (pat.fitzsimmons@vermont.gov) Proficiency-Based Learning Team Leader or
Erica Wallstrom (ewallstrom@greatschoolspartnership.org)

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 77, Act 173, Act 1, Act 28, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS/EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-CIP, ESSA-Accountability

Effective Use of Local Assessment Data - Professional Learning and Coaching (I)

What: Through a contract with Demonstrated Success professional learning and coaching is available to K - 12 Vermont educators and building leaders to support the effective use of data in order to improve student learning. For more details see this [overview](#).

When: September and October: Unpacking Lexile/Quantile Tools webinars; October: Implementing Professional Learning Communities workshop; January (March and April): Assessment Literacy 2-day workshop

Contacts: Pat Fitzsimmons (pat.fitzsimmons@vermont.gov) Proficiency-Based Learning Team Leader or Karen Matso at Karen.Matso@DemonstratedSuccess.com

Connections: (e.g., Education Recovery, Act77, Act 173, Act 1, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS/EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-CIP)

Effective Use of Local Assessment Data - Professional Learning and Coaching (II)

What: *The Systematic Use of Data to Improve Student Learning* course through Vermont University at Castleton is available for free to SU/SD participants through an AOE contract. There are three 6-hour in-person sessions, and nine 2-hour virtual sessions. This course includes a 3-credit option available for an additional \$150/credit. It is designed for educator teams and their leaders with the goal of building an insightful data-use culture, where all teachers and administrators regularly and collaboratively leverage a variety of assessments to improve student learning and teacher practices.

When: The course starts on October 11th and ends on May 8th.

Contacts: Pat Fitzsimmons (pat.fitzsimmons@vermont.gov) Proficiency-Based Learning Team Leader or Karen Matso (Karen.Matso@DemonstratedSuccess.com)

Benchmark Assessment Grant Round 3

What: Third round of Benchmark Assessment Grant application launched to support SU/SDs any of the following:

1. Purchase a new benchmark assessment system(s) for ELA (or math) that report Lexile (or Quantile) measures;
2. Extend the grade levels assessed with current benchmark assessment system(s);
3. Fund staff participation in the Educator Academy for Lexile Frameworks.

When: Grant applications due October 13th and award announcements are estimated for October 20th.

Contact: Pat Fitzsimmons at pat.fitzsimmons@vermont.gov

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 77, Act 173, Act 1, Act 28, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS/EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-CIP, ESSA-Accountability

Early Warning Systems – Professional Learning

What: New professional learning opportunity to assist SU/SDs in the development/expansion and implementation of Early Warning Systems (EWS) to better identify student and school/district data patterns, inform team decision-making, investment requests and student interventions, and further the development of existing layered systems of support. The training will enable districts to enhance the capabilities of existing student information systems to create a robust Early Warning System. See [Memo announcement](#) online.

When: 2023 – 2024 school year

Contact: Ryan Parkman (ryan.parkman@vermont.gov) Personalized Learning Team Program Manager

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 77, Act 173, Act 1, Act 28, Act 66, EQS-NBPL, EQS-MTSS+EST, EQS-LCAS, ESSA-CIP

AOE and Vermont Public Partnership - Summer of Possibilities and Beyond

What: Knowledge building resources and activities available through PBS Learning Media & AOE partnership. [Summer Camp Collections](#), digital collections with downloadable/printable options Included summer resources for students, including [Writing, Reading, and Storytelling](#) for grades K-5, a [Middle School Collection](#), and a [High School Collection](#). [Vermont Public's But Why](#) team has created a series of short videos for 3rd-5th grades.

When: Ongoing

Contacts: Emily Leute (emily.leute@vermont.gov) Literacy & Literacy Content Specialist or Heather Duhamel (hduhamel@vermontpublic.org)

Connections: e.g., Education Recovery, Act 77, Act 173, Act 1, Act 28, ESSA

Thank You!

Questions Welcome

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