

# PreK Update

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# Act 166 – Universal PK

## State Board Role

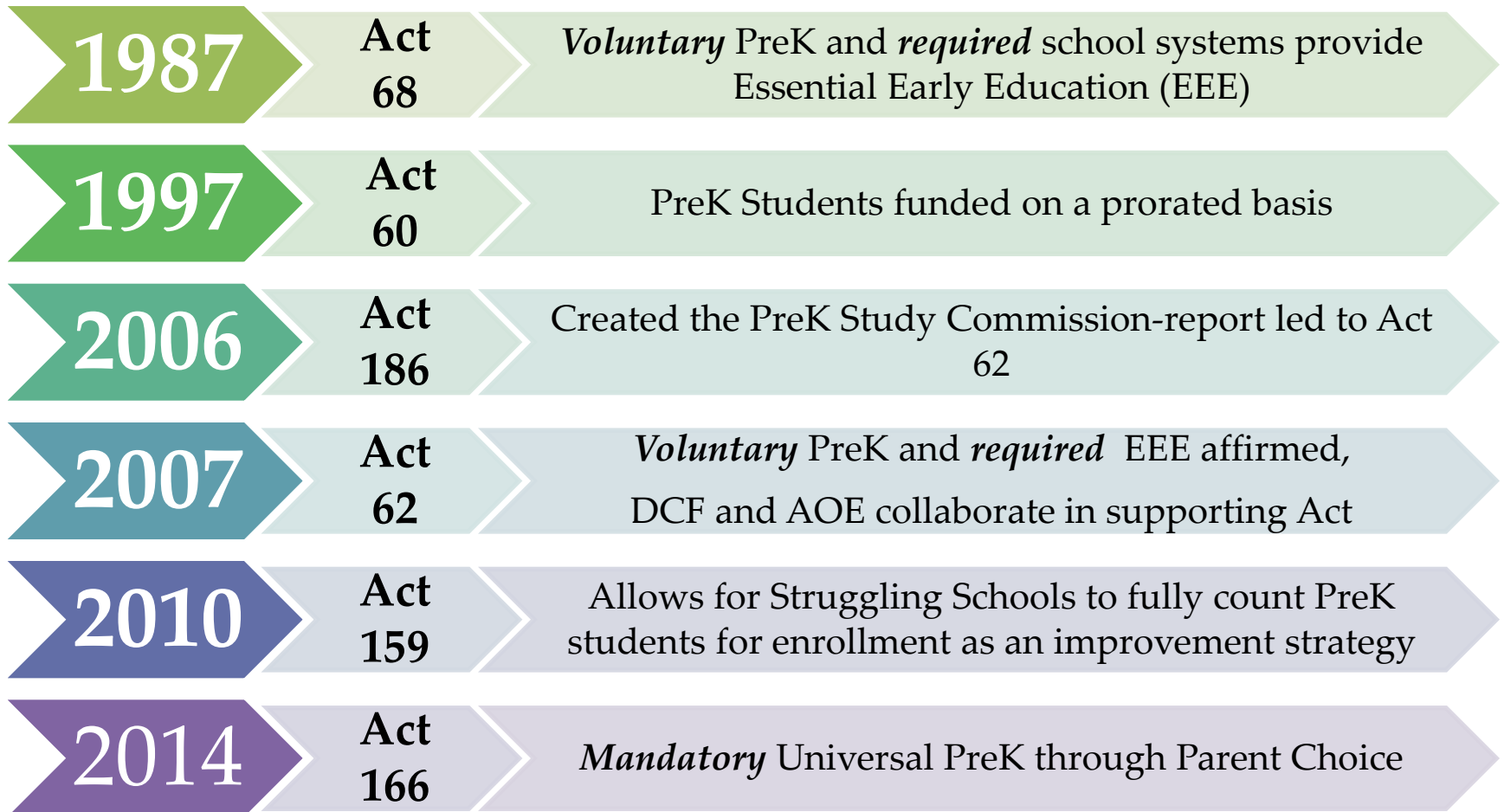
- Policy deliberation and guidance
- Develop and maintain rules to support implementation of state statute

## Board Interest

- Equity
- Sustainability



# Progression of PreK



# The Purpose of Act 166

To provide young children in Vermont with opportunities to reach their full growth and developmental potential through voluntary universal access to high quality prekindergarten education.



# Act 166 Basics

- Beginning in Fall 2016, all School Districts are mandated to *offer* prekindergarten options—
  - *Enrollment and participation* is a family choice.
  - Publicly-funded prekindergarten services can be in schools and prequalified community-based programs (homes and centers).
  - The state tuition rate paid on behalf of children attending prekindergarten in private community-based programs is \$3092.
  - Prekindergarten is defined as 10 hours per week, 35 weeks per year (“school year”).
  - Children must be at least 3 years old by the date established by the school for Kindergarten entry.

# How has PreK enrollment changed?

**Finding:** Enrollment in PreK has increased by 1,826 students since SY15.

**Table 1: Enrollment in PreK from 2014-15 (no Act 166) to 2015-16 (Partial Implementation of Act 166 and Expansion Grant)**

School Year	Enrollment
2014-2015 (October Census)	6,281
2015-2016 (October Census)	7,326
2016-2017 (October Census)	8,107
<i>Change in October Census Enrollment (2014-15 to 2016-17)</i>	+1,826
Additional 2016-17 PK/EE records reported in Secondary Data Collection (SDC)	771

(2016-2017 students identified in the Fall Public School Census)

# How has PreK enrollment changed in terms of poverty?

**Finding:** the distribution of students in terms of Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility has not changed in the first year of Act 166 implementation

**Table 2a: Enrollment in PreK and Free and Reduced Lunch Participation**

School Year		PreK		K-3	
		Not Eligible FRL	FRL Eligible	Not Eligible FRL	FRL Eligible
2015-16	#	5,089	2,237	13,425	10,657
	%	69%	31%	56%	44%
2016-17	#	5,569	2,538	13,195	10,323
	%	69%	31%	56%	44%

(2016-2017 students identified in the Fall Public School Census)

# How has PreK enrollment changed in terms of special education status?

**Finding:** the distribution of students in terms of eligibility for special education has not changed much in the first year of Act 166 implementation.

**Table 2b: Enrollment in PreK and eligibility for special education**

School Year		PreK		K-3	
		No IEP	IEP	No IEP	IEP
<b>2015-16</b>	#	6,165	1,161	20,643	3,439
	%	84%	16%	86%	14%
<b>2016-17</b>	#	6,941	1,166	20,144	3,374
	%	86%	14%	86%	14%

(2016-2017 students identified in the Fall Public School Census)



# How has PreK enrollment changed in terms of student race/ethnicity?

**Finding:** the distribution of students in terms of race/ethnicity has not changed much in the first year of Act 166 implementation.

**Table 2c: Enrollment in PreK and Race/Ethnicity**

School Year		PreK		K-3	
		Caucasian	Non-Caucasian	Caucasian	Non-Caucasian
<b>2015-16</b>	#	6,767	559	21,869	2,213
	%	92%	8%	91%	9%
<b>2016-17</b>		7,451	656	2,1294	2,224
		92%	8%	91%	9%

(2016-2017 students identified in the Fall Public School Census)

# Where are students participating in PreK?

**Finding:** Students are enrolling in SU/SDs in PreK in generally the same rates in which they enroll in grades K-3.  
 Note: This is not where students *receive* services.

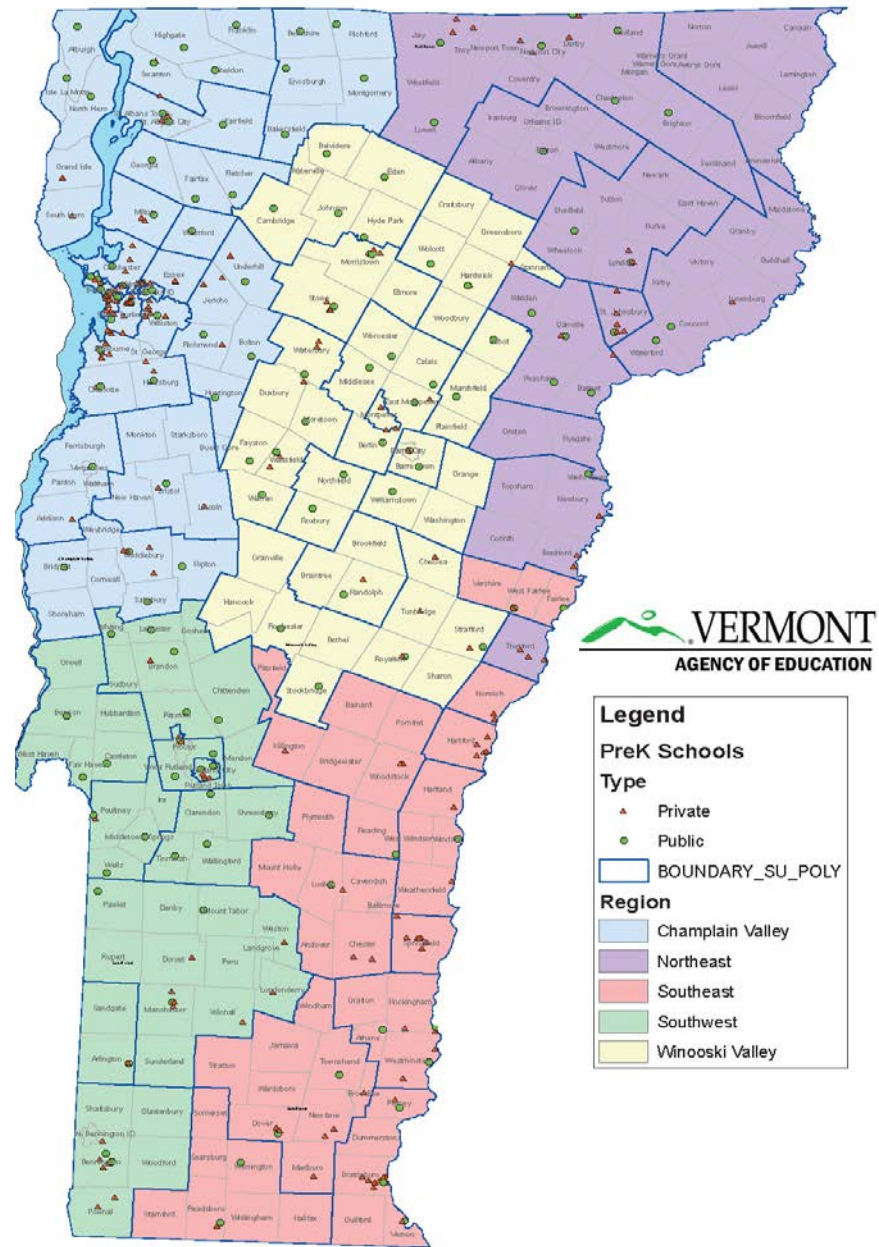
**Table 3: Enrollment in PreK**

**by Supervisory Union/Districts Region in 2016-17**

Grade Level	Champlain Valley		Northeast		Southeast		Southwest		Winooski Valley	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>PreK</b>	3,598	44%	877	11%	1,155	14%	1,193	15%	1,284	16%
<b>K-3</b>	9,513	41%	2,668	11%	3,395	14%	3,404	15%	4,538	19%

(2016-2017 students identified in Fall Public School Census)

# Where are students participating in PreK?



# What are the pre-qualified programs?

**Finding:** The majority of programs are 4 and 5 Star Programs.

**Table 4: Program Quality for Pre-Qualified Programs for Act 166**

	Quality Level			
	NAEYC Accredited or 5 Stars	4 Stars	3 Stars/ App.plan	<i>Total</i>
%	54%	36%	10%	
Public Provider	81	47	12	<i>140</i>
Private Provider	105	76	21	<i>202</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>33</b>	<b><i>342</i></b>

# What are the pre-qualified programs in 2016-2017?

**Finding:** The majority of programs are 4 and 5 Star Programs.

**Table 4: Program Quality for Pre-Qualified Programs for Act 166**

	Quality Level		
	NAEYC Accredited or 5 Stars	4 Stars	3 Stars/ App.plan
<b>%</b>	51%	38%	11%
<b>Public Provider</b>	76	48	14
<b>Private Provider</b>	113	90	27