

DOE Weekly Field Memo – February 9, 2012

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From the Department of Education:

EARLY EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Audience: Superintendents, Special Education Administrators, Curriculum Coordinators, Elementary School Principals

Deadline: Friday, March 16th

The Early Education Initiative (EEI) 2012-2013 grant application materials are now posted on the Department of Education website. Letters of Intent are due March 16 and the full proposal is due April 23. Remember that all proposals must be developed through a collaboration of at least one school district and one community program (includes Head Start). As in previous years, funding for Early Education Initiative grants is contingent upon state legislative approval which we may not know until April or May. The EEI grants are to provide early education opportunities to 3-5 year old children who are “at risk.” Click [here](#) to access the application materials.

Contact: Manuela Fonseca at (802) 828-3850 or manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us.

2012 FREE & REDUCED ELIGIBILITY REPORT

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, Business Managers

The 2012 Free and Reduced Price meal data for Vermont has been released and continues to show an increased number of students in our programs eligible for free and reduced price meal benefits. Lunch counts for this school year have also reflected this increase with a higher percentage of free and reduced price meals served. With respect to the number of sites or programs, an additional 18 sites or schools are now meeting the 50% eligibility criteria. While these sites are serving more free and reduced price meals, it also means that more schools and sites may be eligible for funding when funding sources use the 50% Free and Reduced eligibility criteria, including sponsorship of open sites summer feeding programs to support summer schools and enrichment programs. Click [here](#) to view the full 2012 report.

Contact: Laurie Colgan at (802) 828-5153 or laurie.colgan@state.vt.us.

SAVE THE DATE: INNOVATIVE PRACTICES FOR 22ND CENTURY HIGH SCHOOLS STRAND: VPA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY {July 31st – August 2nd}

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, School Leadership Teams

The work we do now to transform educational practices impacts our current learners and generations to follow. During this strand, a few Vermont high schools will share their experiences of implementing flexible pathways, personalized learning plans, proficiency-based graduation requirements, and other innovative

practices. School teams from the Vermont League of Innovative Schools and other high school, middle school, and elementary school teams are encouraged to attend. DOE personnel will be contacting the registered participants to discuss the learning needs of each team, to design a meaningful strand that will provide expertise and time for a team to plan for implementing an innovative practice or next practices. Contact: Meg Powden at meg.powden@state.vt.us or (802) 828-0262.

LOCAL/REGIONAL STANDARDS BOARD GRANT AWARD DOCUMENTS

Audience: Superintendents, Local/Regional Standards Board Chairs/Co-Chairs, Business Managers

Over 90% of the Local/Regional Standards Board (L/RSB) Grant Award Documents have been forwarded to Superintendents for their signatures. Many of these have been returned to the Department of Education (DOE) Finance Office signed by Superintendents. Please ensure that once your district office receives the L/RSB Grant Award Document that it is signed and returned to the DOE Finance Office so that grant amounts may be distributed.

Contact: Deb Giles at (802) 828-1370 or deborah.giles@state.vt.us.

Other News:

NOROVIRUS UPDATE

Audience: All

In 2012 so far, the Vermont Department of Health has received seven reports of outbreaks of acute gastrointestinal illness in institutional settings. Outbreaks have been reported in several settings, including long-term care facilities, a correctional facility and a college. Three outbreaks have been confirmed to be caused by norovirus. Tips to prevent the spread of norovirus: Practice proper hygiene, Ill people should not prepare food for others, Clean and disinfect contaminated surfaces, Wash laundry thoroughly, Cohort ill people, Report outbreaks by calling (800) 640-4374.

Contact: Brett LaRose at (802) 865-7734 or brett.larose@state.vt.us.

TURKISH CULTURAL PROGRAM

Audience: High School Teachers

Deadline: Saturday, March 24th

Come learn about Turkey, at the crossroads of civilizations for millennia and today an emerging economic power and important broker between Europe, the Middle East and beyond. The Vermont Council on World Affairs is pleased to announce an exciting program for all high school teachers in Vermont. Continuing education credits may be available. Space is limited to 20 teachers.

Contact: James Cross at (802) 383-6633 or jcross@champlain.edu.

RTI SURVEY

Audience: Principals

Deadline: Monday, February 20th

Thank you to those of you who have completed the Rtl Survey. Well over half of you have responded! We really appreciate your support. We are making a final email request for you to complete the survey. Please click [here](#) and complete the survey by February 20th.

Contact: George Salembier at George.salembier@uvm.edu or Katharine Shepherd at Katharine.shepherd@uvm.edu.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BY THE MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, School Counselors, School Nurses, School Social Workers, Child Care Providers

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) will be offering three FREE trainings this spring for educators and professionals to reach out in a support network to the children and families affected by military service.

These trainings are open to guidance professionals, school administration and other caring adults interested in learning more about the military child. Please mark your calendar:

- **Living in the New Normal Institute: Helping Children Thrive in Good and Challenging Times**, March 26-27, 2012 Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor Hotel, 25 Cherry St., Burlington, VT.
- **Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute**, March 28-29, 2012, Courtyard by Marriott Burlington Harbor Hotel, 25 Cherry St., Burlington, VT.
- **Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Institute**, April 4-5, 2012, St. Albans Elk's Lodge, St. Albans, VT.

Contact: Myriam Virella at (254) 953-1923 or myriam.virella@militarychild.org.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent. In addition, the DOE Weekly Field Memo is [archived](#) on the Department of Education website. For information which is three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, Communications Director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

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