

Team: Commissioner and Student Support Team

Discussion Topic: Responsiveness to Instruction

Alignment with Goals:

Discuss the implementation of Responsiveness to Instruction (RtI) at Wolcott Elementary school. The school is one of four DOE supported pilot schools for this initiative.

SBE 2008 Focus Topic: Goal III, Objective A

Statutory Authority: Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004: identification of students with specific learning disabilities

Background Information:

The 2004 reauthorization of IDEA prohibited states from requiring the use of a discrepancy model for identifying students with specific learning disabilities. RtI is the alternate model that the Office of Special Education Programs is proposing. Student Support Team consultants have supported four Vermont schools in piloting this model as one of several statewide initiatives regarding RtI. Wolcott Elementary School implementing RtI during the 2006 – 2007 school year.

Purpose of Discussion:

The school board chair for Wolcott Elementary School initiated this discussion. The purpose is to give a brief overview of RtI initiatives in general and to share one school's experience using RtI.

Cost Implications: Funds to support this initiative; department staff time

Staff Available: Richard H. Cate, Commissioner
Karin Edwards, Director, Student Support & Safe and Healthy Schools
Janna Osman, Learning Disabilities Consultant