

DOE Weekly Field Memo – November 2, 2011

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From the Department of Education:

[Act 58 Meeting for Simplifying Act 62 of 2007](#)

Audience: All

The Department of Education (DOE) and the Department for Children and Families (DCF) were tasked by the Legislature to review the statutes and rules regarding prekindergarten education programs offered by and through school districts in order to determine ways in which the regulation of these programs can be simplified. This is to be done in consultation with specific groups and the general public to meet the deadline for recommended changes due to the House & Senate Education Committees by January 15, 2012.

To accomplish this goal, the following meeting has been scheduled:

Wednesday, November 9, 2011 from 9:00 to 12:00, at the Labor Relations Board, Room 2, located on 13 Baldwin Street in Montpelier. This second meeting will focus on reviewing the suggestions submitted and discussing which to include as recommendations in the final report. Go to:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/mainnew.html#act_58.

Contact: Manuela Fonseca, Early Education Coordinator, Department of Education at (802) 828-3850 (manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us) or Jan Walker, Director Workforce Development and Quality Enhancement, Child Development Division at (802) 241-2198 (jan.walker@ahs.state.vt.us).

[Important Compliance on E-RATE](#)

Audience: Technology Education Coordinators

Recently Technology Coordinators received instructions via email on how to stay in compliance in E-RATE. Technology Coordinators are required to create E-RATE plan before starting the 470 Process. This means the current plan, 2009-2012, will be out of date by the time the E-RATE year begins (after July 1, 2012). One important change will be that the DOE will not be accepting single school-based plans. Please approach technology planning as a supervisory union-wide endeavor and submit one plan that addresses all schools in the SU. See the instructions from Peter Drescher's email for more information.

Contact: Peter Drescher at (802) 828-5149 or peter.drescher@state.vt.us

[Press Release: Vermont Shows Gains in Grade 8 Reading and Math](#)

Audience: All

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment of 4th and 8th grade students, released the statewide performance results from the 2011 assessment in Reading and Math today. Vermont 8th grade students posted gains in both Reading and Math this year. Fourth grade students fell back from the levels they experienced in 2009. To view the complete press release, go to: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/press_releases.html#naep2011.

Contact: Challis Breithaupt, NAEP Coordinator, at (802) 828-5892 or challis.breithaupt@state.vt.us

REQUIRED: Teacher and Principal Evaluation Surveys

Audience: Superintendents, Principals

The Vermont Department of Education is required to report information on teacher and principal evaluation practices and results for every public school in Vermont as part of receiving The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. All principals and superintendents should have received a link to a survey asking for information on teacher and principal evaluation systems on September 30, 2011. The survey was due October 14, 2011. Thank you for supporting us in this data collection.

If you have not received the link to the surveys or for further information contact Glenn Bailey at (802) 828-2141 or glenn.bailey@state.vt.us

2010-2011 Not-HQT Data

Audience: Superintendents, Principals and Special Education Directors

Each superintendent will shortly receive a mailing containing 2010-2011 not-HQT data for each LEA and school within their supervisory union. These reports will also include the names of the teachers and classes behind these numbers. It is essential that you review these reports carefully with your principals and special education directors for accuracy and report any corrections to Glenn Bailey (828-2141) by **November 16, 2011**. The department will be reporting LEA and school-level not-HQT data on its Web site in early January, and the information reported must accurately reflect the status of your schools and educators.

Superintendents are also responsible for ensuring that LEA and school-level educator quality data (including the number and percentage of core classes taught by teachers who were not HQT for their assignments) gets publicly reported locally via means such as their Town Reports.

Contact: Glenn Bailey at (802) 828-2141 or glenn.bailey@state.vt.us

Other News:

Vermont Rowland Fellow Transformation Diigo

Audience: Department of Education Staff, School Administrators, Teachers, Future Teachers, Parents, and anyone else involved/interested in improving the educational experience and outcomes of Vermont students

Jason Finley, Rowland Fellow in '09, has created a space where all Vermont educators can share information, collaborate, and keep a repository of resources relating to Transformation. Go to

http://groups.diigo.com/group/rowland_foundation.

Contact: Jason Finley at jfinley@rnesu.org

Infectious Disease Bulletin

Audience: Principals, School Health Professionals

The *Infectious Disease Bulletin* from the Vermont Department of Health can be viewed at:

<http://healthvermont.gov/pubs/IDB/index.aspx>

For questions & comments, please contact Patsy Kelso at (802) 863-7240

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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