

**DOE Weekly Field Memo – October 21, 2009**

**From the Vermont Department of Health:**

- H1N1: Vaccine Delay
- H1N1: School Vaccination Clinic Materials; Multi-lingual Resources; Community Flu Forums

**From the Department of Education:**

- Developing a Statewide Strategic Education Plan
- Kindergarten Readiness Survey for 2009-2010
- Facility Renovation Grant and Loan Opportunities for Public School Districts
- Professional Development: Evidence-Based Interventions for Basic Reading Skills: What Really Works
- Professional Development: Vermont Professional Development Network Meetings for School Counselors
- Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS) Guide for Parents
- Efficiency Vermont: School Fundraiser with Energy Lesson

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- Vermont 3.0 Innovation Jam For Students

**From the Vermont Teacher Diversity Scholarship Program:**

- Vermont Teacher Diversity Scholarship Program Applications Due

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**From the Department of Health:**

**H1N1: Vaccine Delay**

**Audience: Superintendents, Principals, School Nurses**

A number of school based H1N1 clinics will need to be postponed due to a delay in nationwide production of the H1N1 vaccine. We are currently working to determine which schools will be affected. Additional information will be distributed tomorrow to the schools that will need to be postponed. We recognize this is an inconvenience and appreciate your patience.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your local health department district office.

Contact: Vermont Department of Health at (802-863-7200) or [www.healthvermont.gov](http://www.healthvermont.gov).

**H1N1: School Vaccination Clinic Materials; Multi-lingual Resources; Community Flu Forums**

**Audience: Superintendents, Principals, School Nurses**

The Vermont Department of Health school vaccination clinic materials, including consent forms and posters, are now available online at <http://healthvermont.gov/panflu/schools.aspx>. In addition, materials translated into several languages are also available for schools communicating with multi-lingual students, parents and community members. View these materials at

<http://healthvermont.gov/panflu/multilingualresources.aspx#schools>. Several more community Flu Forums are being held across the state. View the complete schedule of forums at

[http://www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/flu/flu\\_forums.aspx](http://www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/flu/flu_forums.aspx).

Contact: Vermont Department of Health at (802-863-7200) or [www.healthvermont.gov](http://www.healthvermont.gov).

DOE Contact: Jill Remick at (802) 828-3154 or [jill.remick@state.vt.us](mailto:jill.remick@state.vt.us)

**From the Department of Education:**

**Developing a Statewide Strategic Education Plan**

**Audience: All**

The Vermont State Board and Department of Education are in the process of updating their statewide strategic plan for education. Work is underway to develop a strategic plan that: 1) reflects current practice and views, 2) assures that all students graduate from high school competitive in a global economy, and 3) integrates the tenets of Transformation (See

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/transformation.html>). We encourage all Vermonters to have a discussion in your community, with colleagues, students, school boards, and business and industry associates, and share your thoughts with us at: [edplan@list.education.state.vt.us](mailto:edplan@list.education.state.vt.us).

A brochure, *Developing a Statewide Strategic Education Plan*, can be printed and shared during those discussions, is available at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/board/schedule.html#packet>.  
Contact: Carol King at (802) 828-5101 or [carol.c.king@state.vt.us](mailto:carol.c.king@state.vt.us)

### **Kindergarten Readiness Survey for 2009-2010**

#### **Audience: Superintendents, Elementary Principals, Kindergarten Teachers**

The Department of Education and the Agency of Human Services (AHS) request the support and assistance of superintendents, principals and kindergarten teachers in completing the Kindergarten Readiness Survey. This annual data collection enables the department/agency to monitor Vermont's progress toward the outcome of "all" children are ready for school. This year, the survey will be conducted online using Survey Monkey. Due to concerns raised by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) about protecting child level data online, neither the department nor AHS are asking teachers to provide any identifying information about themselves or their students; only that teachers enter the AHS district in which their school is located. **The deadline for completing the online survey is November 30, 2009.** Visit [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_earlyed.html#readiness](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_earlyed.html#readiness) to view the complete memo, a letter for kindergarten teachers, and the link to the survey.

Contact: Manuela Fonseca, (802) 828-3850 or [manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us](mailto:manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us)

### **Facility Renovation Grant and Loan Opportunities for Public School Districts**

#### **Audience: Business Managers, Principals, Superintendents, School Boards**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Office has funds available to grant or lend to public school districts for the renovation of school buildings in rural areas. Increased funding through ARRA has made unprecedented levels of funding available. For more information and application instructions, visit [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_construction.html#resources](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_construction.html#resources) or contact Deborah A. Maguire, Community Programs Specialist, USDA Rural Development, 89 Main St., City Center, Montpelier, VT, 5602 or (802) 828-6024.

Contact: Cathy Hilgendorf (802) 828-5402 or [cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us](mailto:cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us)

### **Professional Development: Evidence-based Interventions for Basic Reading Skills: What Really Works – Nancy Mathers, Ph.D**

#### **Audience: Principals, Special Education Administrators, Superintendents, Parents, all Educators**

The Vermont Council for Exceptional Children-Annual Conference is being held at the Killington Grand on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

For more information visit: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#evidence>.

Conference questions contact: Mary Barton at (802) 875-4159 or [mbarton@ludl.tds.net](mailto:mbarton@ludl.tds.net)

DOE Contact: Sabine Baldwin at (802) 828-0183 or [sabine.baldwin@state.vt.us](mailto:sabine.baldwin@state.vt.us)

### **Professional Development: Vermont Professional Development Network (VPDN) Meetings for School Counselors**

#### **Audience: School Counselors, Technical Education Guidance Coordinators, Student Service Directors, Principals, Superintendents**

VPDN meetings for school counselors provide information and resources from the Department of Education and other partnering agencies in a supportive environment. The goal of these meetings includes creating opportunities for PreK-12 school counselors to consult, collaborate, and receive professional development on ways to improve student services. Links to register and the agenda are available at: [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#counselors\\_vpdn](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#counselors_vpdn).

Contact: Andrew Hudacs at (802) 828-3892 or [andrew.hudacs@state.vt.us](mailto:andrew.hudacs@state.vt.us)

### **Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS) Guide for Parents**

#### **Audience: Principals, Special Education Administrators, Superintendents, Parents**

The Vermont Family Network (VFN) works with the Vermont Department of Education to bring families information about PBS and the many benefits for children and schools. PBS is a decision-making framework that guides selection, integration, and implementation of the best evidence-based practices for improving academic and behavioral outcomes for all students. This guide provides information for parents about PBS, with specific examples of how parents and families can participate in this process. To view the PBS Parent Guide visit:

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_spед/parents.html#pbs](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_spед/parents.html#pbs).

Contact: Kathleen Kilbourne at (800) 800-4005, ext. 244 or [kathleen.kilbourne@vfn.org](mailto:kathleen.kilbourne@vfn.org).

DOE Contact: Carol Randall at (802) 828-0553 or [carol.randall@state.vt.us](mailto:carol.randall@state.vt.us)

### **Efficiency Vermont: School Fundraiser with Energy Lesson**

#### **Audience: Principals and Science Teachers at Middle and High Schools served by Green Mountain Power**

Schools located in Green Mountain Power's service territory will be given the opportunity to raise money, save energy and raise community awareness about the benefits of energy efficiency through the sale of energy efficient CFL bulbs, with their schools keeping a portion of the proceeds.

Visit [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm\\_construction.html#cf](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_construction.html#cf) for more information. Please

contact Morgan Hood at Efficiency Vermont at 1-888-921-5990 ext. 1171, or e-mail

[schoolfundraiser@veic.org](mailto:schoolfundraiser@veic.org) to learn more about how your school can participate.

Contact: Cathy Hilgendorf at (802) 828-5402 or [cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us](mailto:cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us)

#### **From the Department of Labor:**

### **Vermont 3.0 Innovation Jam For Students**

#### **Audience: All**

The Vermont 3.0 innovation Jam is being held at the Sheraton Hotel Monday October 26 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you are planning on attending with students, please contact John Young at

[John.Young@state.vt.us](mailto:John.Young@state.vt.us). The hotel has a strict policy against outside food being brought in, so we are asking school groups to either please work this around your attendance times or eat lunches on the bus either in the Sheraton parking lot or in transit. There will be a place where kids can keep their coats and back packs. For more information, visit <http://vermont3.com/>.

Contact: John Young, Burlington Resource Center, Vermont Department of Labor, at (802) 652-0307 or [John.Young@state.vt.us](mailto:John.Young@state.vt.us)

#### **From the Vermont Teacher Diversity Scholarship Program:**

### **Vermont Teacher Diversity Scholarship Program Applications Due**

#### **Audience: Guidance/Student Support Staff, Teachers, Principals**

Friday, November 6th is the deadline for the fall selection round for the Vermont Teacher Diversity Scholarship Program (VTDSP). The VTDSP accepts applications twice yearly, with deadlines on the first Fridays in April and November. There are seven selection committees statewide, and applicants should submit an application based on the area in which they live or work. An application can be completed online or downloaded at [www.vtdsp.org](http://www.vtdsp.org). The VTDSP is a non-profit loan forgiveness program that supports students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds who want to enter the teaching profession. Since its formation in 2001, the VTDSP has selected nearly 30 candidates, 10 of whom are now teaching in public schools around the state. VTDSP scholars may earn up to \$4,000 in loan forgiveness for each year they teach in a public school, with a maximum of \$12,000 over 3 years.

Contact: Jim Woodard, Executive Director, at (802) 540-1021 or [info@vtdsp.org](mailto:info@vtdsp.org)

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#### **Weekly Field Memo is Online!**

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at

[http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field\\_memo.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html). Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or [jill.remick@state.vt.us](mailto:jill.remick@state.vt.us).

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at:

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

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.