To: State Board of Education
RE: Act 46 Implementation Project, Status Report
Date: November 17, 2015

The Act 46 Implementation Project is a collaboration of the Vermont School Boards Association, the Vermont Superintendents Association, and the Vermont School Boards Insurance Trust. The Project was initiated as the result of separate consultations that representatives of the VSA, VSBA, and the Agency of Education held with officials from thirty-seven supervisory unions immediately following the enactment of Act 46.

Those initial consultations highlighted the need to support school systems contemplating action under Act 46. In early August, VSA, VSBA, and VSBIT commenced the Act 46 Implementation Project in an effort to respond to that need. Consistent with the VSBA's historic role in supporting improved education governance, the Project offers consultant services to school boards that are working toward operating structures reflecting state priorities under Acts 46, 153, and 156. The scope of the work required by Act 46 is significant and necessitated the collaboration of the three Associations. The Project provides resources and related services to districts and aims to coordinate the efforts of the Associations with the Agency of Education.

The Project monitors Act 46 implementation efforts in supervisory unions across the state.

- Based on current understanding, eleven supervisory unions are pursuing an accelerated merger. Of those, to the best of our knowledge, five will vote on Town Meeting Day, two will vote in April, and the remainder will vote in June.
- We anticipate up to four additional supervisory unions will vote on Town Meeting Day to form Regional Education Districts (RED) or RED variations.
- We believe there are 28 study committees that have been formed under Chapter 11 of Title 16.
- We are aware of a significant number of districts and/or supervisory unions that are discussing mergers across SU lines.

Currently, the Project supports twenty-one study committees.

- Six of these are exploratory studies to help committees understand their options under Act 46.
- Fifteen committees are working toward unification votes in 2016.
- The Project works with twelve consultants including retired administrators and school board members.

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VSA, VSBA, VSBIT