

Act 28 Report to Vermont Standards Board  
Meetings Summary  
Advisory Council on Literacy  
14 May 2024

**Note:** This report summarizes two meetings of the Advisory Council on Literacy: [27 March 2024](#) and [1 May 2024](#). It includes an attachment labeled *A Roadmap for Teaching Evidence-based Reading*.

**27 March 2024 Meeting**

**Updates 27 March 2024**

Agency of Education (AOE) Representatives provided updates on professional learning opportunities and grant funds for school systems; proficiency based learning; Early Learning Network Improvement Community.

Council Chair provided an overview of the proposed Senate Education bill S.204, including sections on Findings, K-3 Grade Reading Assessments & Interventions, Parental Notification, Written Report on Screeners, Reading Instruction, Approved Independent Schools, Literacy Professional Learning, Results-Oriented Program Approval, Advisory Council on Literacy, Literacy Position (at AOE), & Report on Expanding Early Childhood Literacy Resources. The House Education committee is considering this bill.

**Data Collection/Assessment**

Review of evidence-based recommendations from research and the input from Council representatives.

- VPA, VTCLA, VSLA & VTNEA prefer to have school systems collect their own data.
- VSBA & Literacy Community prefer to have school systems share data (broad proficiency data) & screening information (name of screener).
- VSBA, VISA & VCSEA are still gathering information.

Questions remain about the purpose of the data collection, connection of the data to instruction & decision making, consistency of data, capacity of systems (school & state), and logistics.

**1 May 2024 Meeting**

The Advisory Council on Literacy has completed its work and awaits plans related to the literacy bill. Other reports may be forthcoming over the summer.

The 1 May 2024 meeting included the following items:

- Literacy Updates
- Data collection
- Future Council work

- Wrap up Act 28 Council Work

During Public Comment, the committee received *A Roadmap for Teaching All Students to Read*, which the chair will send to Council members.

### **Literacy Updates**

Council members felt that they shared common goals even within their different viewpoints. Resources, such as PD modules and the Alaska Playbook, exist that contain similar types of research and evidence. We share common ideas and have few differences.

Reading instruction is an on-going process, with pieces of literacy work (training, advocacy, resources) fitting together. The work aims to improve student learning, with ideas, research and resources shared among members.

Discussion of Literacy Bill S. 204. See [Carmoli note](#) for resolution.

### **Recommendations**

#### ***Data Collection Selections:***

- 67% No Data - SU/SDs collect & use their own data
- 22% Screening Data & Screening Information - SU/SDs would share their screening data & name of screener/s
- 11% Screening Data - SU/SDs would share their screening data

Data collection represents a possible focus for the Council (if the work continues).

- 56% Adolescent Literacy
- 33% Writing
- 11% Early Literacy Development

The Council voted by majority to approve these selections as recommendations that will be included in the final report.

### **Future Council Work**

- Members remain willing to continue the work of the Council.

### **Wrap up Act 28 Council Work**

- Chair Carmolli shared the collected comments about the Council's accomplishments & possible areas for future work for the Council to accomplish. There was widespread agreement that the Council raised awareness of the need, research, resources, and professional learning opportunities.
- Council members noted appreciation for the work the AOE is doing to provide resources and training to teachers across the state.

- The Council agreed that the tasks should fit the purpose, and be achievable within the allotted number of meetings.

**Literacy Bill S.204 Update:**

- The bill passed the Senate Education Committee, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and then passed the House Education Committee.
- The Senate reviewed the passed versions side-by-side, which will be used for the Conference Committee's discussion

**Public Comment Resource:**

A literacy brief was shared with the Council (see attachment).

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Respectfully submitted 14 May 2024  
Bill Clark