## Vermont State Board of Education

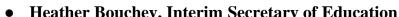
# Report to the House Education Committee

January 12, 2024



## State Board Membership

- Jennifer Deck Samuelson, Chair (2020 2/28/2026)
  - Chair, Winhall School Board; Attorney at Law
- Tammy Kolbe, Vice Chair (2021 2/28/2027)
  - UVM Associate Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; Principal Researcher at American Institutes for Research
- **Mohamed Diop** (2023 2/28/2029)
  - Director, Multilingual Learner Programs; Winooski School District
- **Grey Fearon** (2023 6/30/2025)
  - Student Member
- Kim Gleason (2019 2/28/2025)
  - Former Chair, Essex Westford School District; former Treasurer, VSBA; Substitute Teacher, Essex Westford School District
- Lyle Jepson (2021 2/28/2027)
  - o Former teacher; former Principal, Fair Haven Union High School; former Director, Stafford Technical Center
- Tom Lovett (2021 2/28/2027)
  - Teacher and former Head of School, St. Johnsbury Academy
- Jenna O'Farrell (2019 2/28/2025)
  - Former teacher, Assistant Principal, and Principal, St. Johnsbury School
- **Richard Werner** (2022 2/28/2024)
  - Chair, Windham Central Supervisory Union; Chair, River Valleys School District
- **Aaliyah Wilburn** (2023 6/30/2024)
  - Student Member





### **Board Activities**

# 12 monthly meetings 5 special meetings

#### 2200 Updates Committee

7 Meetings

Jennifer Deck Samuelson, Chair Kim Gleason Tom Lovett

#### **EQS Updates Committee**

19 Meetings

Kim Gleason & Tammy Kolbe, co-Chairs Mohamed Diop Grey Fearon Rich Werner

#### 2200 Approvals Committee

7 Meetings

Tom Lovett, Chair Lyle Jepson Jenna O'Farrell

#### **Secretary Search Committee**

11 Meetings

Jennifer Deck Samuelson, Chair Lyle Jepson Jenna O'Farrell



## Current Issues Facing the SBE

- ❖ Implementing the principles and goals of Act 1 (2019) via Education Quality Standards (Rule Series 2000) and Independent School Approvals (Rule Series 2200)
  - ➤ Together, rules affect almost every student, teacher, and staff member in Vermont
- Insufficient Resources to Meet Workflow Demands
  - ➤ FY24 SBE budget: \$70,708
  - ➤ Board members earn \$6.25/hour or \$50/meeting
  - ➤ Must hire independent legal counsel



## Legislative Requests

- ❖ Clarification of Act 1 (2019):
  - ➤ What was General Assembly's intent?
  - $\triangleright$  Example: Act 1 §1(b)(1): "Ethnic group' means:
    - (A) nondominant racial and *ethnic groups* in the United States, including people who are Abenaki, people from other indigenous groups, people of African, Asian, Pacific Island, Chicanx, Latinx, or Middle Eastern descent; and
    - (B) groups that have been historically subject to persecution or genocide" (emphasis added)
- Resources for SBE
  - ➤ Dedicated legal counsel
  - > Stipend for Board members



## **Future Considerations**

What is the General Assembly's view of the role of the SBE?

