

Commission on the Future of Vermont Public Education Framework

The following framework is designed to articulate how the Commission is approaching the work outlined in [Act 183](#). This Framework is designed to provide structure to the Commission and satisfies the requirement for a “work plan to formalize the process through which the Commission shall seek to achieve its final recommendations.”

Guiding Principles

This framework was developed consistent with the Commission’s guiding principles, which serve as a set of overarching understandings that guide the decision making of the Commission.

The Commission has organized its work into four overarching elements. These elements overlap and intersect; separating the work is to provide clarity and organization about the Commission’s approach.			
Communication & Engagement	Education Finance System	Governance, Resources & Administration	Education Delivery System
<p><i>Design and propose a public outreach plan for Commission, to include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Identifying existing events/opportunities that can be used to share and engage on the Commission’s work</i> ● <i>The development of a “toolkit” for engagement for member use at other events</i> ● <i>A framework for engagement sessions that may be added to the Commission meetings as they rotate around the state</i> ● <i>Drafting a process for the Public Comment 2025 period</i> <p>Timeline & Approach: Subcommittee convened in August 2024 Recommendations and decision making by full Commission</p>	<p><i>Propose recommendations regarding cost containment strategies in the short term and the entire education finance system in the long term, so that the full commission can provide preliminary financial recommendations to the General Assembly by December 2024 and more formal recommendations by December 2025.</i></p> <p>Timeline & Approach: Subcommittee convened in August 2024 Draft recommendations for Full Commission discussion and consideration by October 2024 Preliminary recommendations: December 2024 Formal recommendations: December 2025 Recommendations and decision making by full Commission</p>	<p><i>Propose recommendations regarding the structure of the Agency (and whether an agency or department structure is prudent), whether changes need to be made to the composition, role and function of the State Board, and what roles, functions, or decisions should be a function of local control and what roles, functions, or decisions should be a function of control at the State level</i></p> <p>Timeline & Approach: Full Commission work Steering Group organizes/facilitates for agenda planning purposes Recommendations and decision making by full Commission Work is ongoing and phased, with initial knowledge building beginning immediately</p>	<p><i>Propose recommendations regarding “the physical size and footprint of the education system,” workforce development, the role of tuition programs (including designation, therapeutic schools and “the legal and financial impact of funding independent schools and other private institutions”, and the role of public schools - “whether Vermont’s vision for education shall include the provision of wraparound supports and collocation of services”</i></p> <p>Timeline & Approach: Full Commission work Steering Group organizes/facilitates for agenda planning purposes Recommendations and decision making by full Commission Work is ongoing and phased, with initial knowledge building beginning immediately</p>

The Commission operates with three standing subcommittees:			
	Steering Group	Communication & Engagement	Education Finance System
Charge	<p><i>(Required in statute)</i> <i>"The steering group shall provide leadership to the Commission and shall work with a consultant or consultants to analyze the issues, challenges, and opportunities facing Vermont's public education system, as well as develop and propose a work plan to formalize the process through which the Commission shall seek to achieve its final recommendations."</i></p>	<p><i>Design and propose a public outreach plan for Commission, to include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Identifying existing events/opportunities that can be used to share and engage on the Commission's work</i> ● <i>The development of a "toolkit" for engagement for member use at other events</i> ● <i>A framework for engagement sessions that may be added to the Commission meetings as they rotate around the state</i> ● <i>Drafting a process for the Public Comment 2025 period</i> 	<p><i>(Required in statute)</i> <i>Propose recommendations regarding cost containment strategies in the short term and the entire education finance system in the long term, so that the full commission can provide preliminary financial recommendations to the General Assembly by December 2024 and more formal recommendations by December 2025.</i></p>
Timeline	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Flexible timeline/workplan to be determined by the Group</p>	<p>Subcommittee convened in August 2024</p> <p>Workplan to be determined by the subcommittee & adopted by the Commission; detailed calendar of work will be communicated but is understood to be flexible</p>	<p>Subcommittee convened in August 2024</p> <p>Preliminary recommendations: December 2024</p> <p>Formal recommendations: December 2025</p> <p>Detailed calendar of work will be communicated but is understood to be flexible</p>
Content Expertise	<p>6 members to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 Appointees of the Administration ● 2 Appointees of the Senate Committee on Committees ● 2 Appointees by the House Chair of the Commission 	<p>Requires expertise in facilitation, equitable community engagement and information sharing</p>	<p>7 members to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School business official ● Superintendent ● Administration (2) ● School Board Association ● Legislative (2) <p>Utilize consultants as needed</p>
Approach	<p>Agenda planning & organization of Commission work</p>	<p>Subcommittee with consultant (subcommittee will draft a scope of work)</p>	<p>Subcommittee identified by the Steering Group</p>