

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Special Education Directors, Leadership Teams
FROM: Daniel M. French, Ed.D., Secretary of Education
SUBJECT: VTmtss Field Guide 2019 Release
DATE: October 24, 2019

The Agency of Education has released the [Vermont Multi-tiered System of Supports \(VTmtss\) Field Guide 2019](#). These updated guidelines present a framework for school leadership to improve and expand existing systems to ensure equitable outcomes for all students.

While retaining the five components and ten principles of the 2014 version of the Field Guide, this edition emphasizes the role of the school district in supporting its schools' improvement and expansion of their VTmtss. In addition, this edition includes a discussion of social and emotional learning, a section addressing decision-making for continuous improvement, intentional connections to Education Quality Standards and legislative policy, and vignettes of five Vermont schools' application of The VTmtss Framework to address a priority need.

Please share the link to the [VTmtss Field Guide 2019](#) with members of your staff.

What is The VTmtss Framework?

The VTmtss Framework uses a systemic approach to decision-making that can be used to focus, integrate, and align existing school improvement efforts with any new strategies that are adopted. The VTmtss Framework supports the design of a coherent system so that the knowledge, information, and expertise already embedded in a school system can be brought to bear on problem-solving and decision-making for equitable outcomes for all students.

The Agency of Education has determined that a well-functioning VTmtss Framework is critically important to realize the goals of the Education Quality Standards and Act 173. The VTmtss Field Guide 2019 is the foundational resource for leadership teams to consult to inform continuous improvement conversations.

Resources and Technical Assistance Available

The Agency of Education's VTmtss Team supports Vermont school systems in effectively implementing The VTmtss Framework. If your school is interested in Technical Assistance from this team, please visit the VTmtss webpage to fill out a [VTmtss Technical Assistance Request Form](#) or contact Tracy Watterson, VTmtss Program Manager, at tracy.watterson@vermont.gov