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## Vermont Agency of Education Announces Statewide Partnership with MetaMetrics Lexile and Quantile Frameworks for Reading and Math Provided Free to all Vermont School Districts

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MONTPELIER, Vt. – Vermont Secretary of Education Dan French announced today that the Agency of Education will be partnering with MetaMetrics to roll out the Lexile and Quantile Frameworks for reading and math cost-free to all Vermont school districts. Lexile and Quantile measures help educators personalize resources and instruction to support student growth in reading and math by matching student ability with text or math concepts of corresponding complexity.

“We’ve heard from many educators and school districts asking for more tools to help students with reading and math skills,” said Secretary of Education **Dan French**. “And we know why: nearly half our young learners are scoring below proficient on the Smarter Balanced Assessment in Grades 3 and 4. We’ve been looking for a way to give Vermont educators increased ability to monitor the performance of students in reading and math skills and to provide targeted supports to help them improve.”

As a MetaMetrics State Partner, Vermont will begin reporting Lexile and Quantile scores on the Smarter Balanced Assessment with the 2020 test. Vermont educators will also have free access to the [Lexile & Quantile Hub](#), an online platform that offers instructional and planning resources, including a book search, text analyzer, word lists, math skills database, Quantile teacher assistant and more.

The costs for the program will be paid by the Agency of Education using federal grant funds.

Consistent with the goals of Act 173 to provide better supports for all students, Lexile and Quantile Frameworks will be valuable in supporting students who struggle, both in the context of improving general education supports through the Educational Support Team process and in helping special education students set academic goals on their Individualized Education Programs. Since the Lexile and Quantile measures are based on equal increment scales irrespective of assigned student grade levels, they can help focus educational interventions on student growth over time.

Lexile and Quantile measures will also support Vermont’s personalized learning initiatives. For example, through the Lexile and Quantile Hub, students, parents, and educators will have access to data that reports the entry level Lexile and Quantile measures for most career fields. This will support student goal setting in Personalized Learning Plans; as students obtain a better understanding of the academic requirements of specific career pathways, they will be able to set specific academic goals to ensure they are well prepared for success.

“The Lexile and Quantile Frameworks is going to be a game changer for our career pathways efforts,” said Deputy Secretary of Education **Heather Bouchey**. “We have been working hard to increase opportunities for students to explore and prepare for career opportunities while still in high school. Using Lexile and Quantile measures will help students be better prepared for the specific careers they would like to pursue. In addition, we know that reading and math requirements for many technical careers have become more advanced and sophisticated over time. We believe the Lexile and Quantile Frameworks will be quite useful for students and educators in our regional technical centers as well.”

### **About the Lexile and Quantile Framework**

The Lexile and Quantile Frameworks place both the student and content on the same scale to match the learner with reading and math resources at each student’s ability level. The Lexile Framework for Reading matches readers to text with a scale for measuring both the reading ability of an individual and the text complexity of materials they encounter. Similar to the Lexile Framework, the Quantile Framework matches students with instructional materials by measuring the math ability of a student and the complexity of math skills and concepts, also on the same developmental scale.

As part of the agreement with MetaMetrics, the parent company of the Lexile and Quantile Frameworks, Vermont will have access to:

- Lexile and Quantile scores reported on the Smarter Balanced Assessment (beginning 2020)
- Full access to the Lexile and Quantile Hub for teachers employed by Vermont Supervisory Unions and School Districts. The hub includes:
  - resources for finding books at specific Lexile reading levels
  - a text analyzer to provide custom Lexile scores
  - the Lexile Career Database (charting reading demands for specific career paths).
  - a Math Skills database,
  - the Quantile Teacher Assistant tool,
  - the Quantile Career Database.
- the option to tie local benchmark assessment student Lexile and Quantile data to Smarter Balanced Assessment Lexile and Quantile data
- State specific Lexile and Quantile Web Content and Resources

The costs for implementing the Lexile and Quantile Frameworks will be approximately \$178,000 dollars annually, plus \$67,000 in one-time set-up costs. These will be paid by federal grant funds received by the Agency of Education, with no commitment from the General or Education funds.

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