

2013: Act 77, Flexible Pathways Initiative

became law in July of 2013 and represents the commitment of Vermont citizens, educators, and lawmakers to establish a policy-friendly environment that fosters a system of public education in which every student graduates and every high school graduate is college and career ready.

2011: Policy Research Team Final Report

a result of a study around flexible pathways and proficiency-based graduation, offered seven "Essential Recommendations," all of which find reference points in Act 77.

2009: Act 44, Flexible Pathways to Graduation

contained the first use of the phrase "Flexible Pathways to Graduation" and established the goal of a 100% graduation rate by 2020.

2007: Future of Vermont Education

identified five statewide components to be addressed: student-centered education; leadership; flexible learning environments; engaged community partners; and indicators of success.

Act 176: High School Completion

created by the Vermont legislature in 2006. The program was designed to offer a flexible pathway to graduation for those at least 16 years of age and at risk of disengaging from school.

2002: High Schools on the Move

addressed "the critical issues facing Vermont high schools" and identified 12 principles that remain at the heart of the reform effort today.

The What and Why of Act 77

Act 77 was "established to encourage and support the creativity of school districts as they develop and expand high-quality educational experiences that are an integral part of secondary education in the evolving 21st Century classroom; to promote opportunities for Vermont students to achieve postsecondary readiness through high-quality educational experiences that acknowledge individual goals, learning styles, and abilities; and to increase the rates of secondary school completion and postsecondary continuation in Vermont."

History of Act 77

Education reform in Vermont has a long and rich history. Many of the recent efforts of educators, communities and lawmakers to make meaningful change for Vermont students can be traced through several essential documents that culminated in the passage of Act 77 in 2013 and are summarized on the map to the left.