As Vermont works to implement an accountability system that better reflects the state’s education priorities, changes will need to be made at the state and local level. To meet these new requirements, some shifts in practice will be required of schools and SU/SDs. The most important changes requiring local-level action are described below. We have also identified recommended actions for educators seeking to share Plan information with their colleagues and community stakeholders.

**Recommended Actions**

- Update your Continuous Improvement Plan to reflect your current needs.
- Identify parts of the State Plan that will impact specific colleagues (e.g. EL and PE teachers), and share State Plan resources accordingly.
- Identify the parts of the State Plan that parents, board members, and community members should understand, and share State Plan resources accordingly.
- (SU/SDs) Determine if you want to use local or federal dollars to underwrite the assessments accepted by the AOE as proof of students’ career and college readiness.
- Develop PLPs with the understanding that a 6-year graduation rate is supported under Flexible Pathways and recognized in the State Plan.
- Build awareness of the staff and student climate survey under development. A pilot date for this survey has not yet been identified; additional guidance from the AOE will follow.

**Changes in 2017 - 2018**

**ACTION 1:** Administer Smarter Balanced assessments in 9th grade instead of in 11th grade. Beginning: Spring 2018

**ACTION 2:** Administer the NGSS-aligned Science assessment field test in 5th grade (change from 4th), and 8th and 11th grades. Beginning: Field-tested in all schools in 2017 - 2018, with limited use for accountability in 2017 - 2018 and full use in 2018 - 2019.

**ACTION 3:** Administer the new Physical Education (PE) assessment (grades to be delivered September 2017) in the 2017 - 2018 school year. Beginning: Field tested in all schools in Spring 2018, with implementation for accountability in Spring 2019.

**ACTION 4:** Build discussions around which CCR assessment(s) each student will take into grade 9-11 PLP conversations. Beginning: 2017 - 2018 school year.

**ACTION 5:** Be aware of and use the timeframes for acquisition of English language proficiency when planning supports for English Learners (EL). Beginning: 2017 - 2018 school year.