



**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1           (6) negotiate with the licensed employees of the supervisory union and  
2           school districts, pursuant to chapter 57 of this title, and with other school  
3           personnel, pursuant to 21 V.S.A. chapter 22, at the supervisory union level;  
4           provided that

5                     (i) contract terms may vary by district; and

6                     (ii) contracts may include terms facilitating arrangements between  
7           or among districts to share the services of teachers, administrators, and other  
8           school personnel;

9           (7) pursuant to criteria established by the State Board, establish and  
10           direct the superintendent to implement a plan for receiving and disbursing  
11           federal and State funds distributed by the Agency, including funds awarded  
12           under P.L. 89-10, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as  
13           amended.

14           Sec. 2. 16 V.S.A. § 269 is added to read:

15           § 269. DUTIES OF A SUPERVISORY UNION

16           (a) A supervisory union shall have sole responsibility to:

17                     (1) provide professional development programs or arrange for the  
18           provision of them, or both, for teachers, administrators, and staff within the  
19           supervisory union, which may include programs offered solely to one school or  
20           other component of the entire supervisory union to meet the specific needs or  
21           interests of that component; a supervisory union has the discretion to provide

**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1 financial assistance outside the negotiated agreements for teachers'  
2 professional development activities;

3 (2) provide special education services on behalf of the member districts  
4 and, except as provided in section 144b of this title, compensatory and  
5 remedial services, and provide or coordinate the provision of other educational  
6 services as directed by the State Board or local boards;

7 (3) provide all financial and student data management services on behalf  
8 of the member districts and serve as the districts' business office and human  
9 resources office;

10 (4) provide transportation or contract for the provision of transportation,  
11 or both in any districts in which it is offered within the supervisory union;

12 (5) procure and distribute all goods and operational services used by the  
13 member districts, including office and classroom supplies and equipment,  
14 textbooks, and cleaning materials and services;

15 (6) manage all real property owned or leased by the member school  
16 districts and keep the buildings and grounds in good repair, suitably equipped,  
17 and in a sanitary condition; and

18 (7) manage all construction projects within the supervisory union.

19 (b) A supervisory union shall submit to the board of each member school  
20 district, on or before January 15 of each year, a summary report of financial  
21 operations of the supervisory union for the preceding school year, an estimate

**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1 of its financial operations for the current school year, and a preliminary budget  
2 for the supervisory union for the ensuing school year. This requirement shall  
3 not apply to a supervisory district. For each school year, the report shall show  
4 the actual or estimated amount expended by the supervisory union for special  
5 education services, including:

6 (A) a breakdown of that figure showing the amount paid by each  
7 school district within the supervisory union; and

8 (B) a summary of the services provided by the supervisory union's  
9 use of the expended funds;

10 (c) A supervisory union may provide other appropriate services if requested  
11 by a member district, including grant writing and fundraising.

12 Sec. 3. 16 V.S.A. § 241 is redesignated and amended to read:

13 § ~~241~~ 270. APPOINTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT

14 (a) Each supervisory union or supervisory district board, with the advice of  
15 the commissioner, ~~may~~ shall employ a superintendent of schools.

16 \* \* \*

17 Sec. 4. 16 V.S.A. § 242 is redesignated and amended to read:

18 § ~~242~~ 271. DUTIES OF SUPERINTENDENTS

19 The superintendent shall be the chief executive officer for the supervisory  
20 union board and for each school board within the supervisory union, and shall:

21 \* \* \*

**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1           (6) arrange for the provision of the professional training required in  
2 subsection 561(b) of this title; ~~and~~

3           (7)(A) ensure implementation of the supervisory union-wide curriculum  
4 adopted by the supervisory union board;

5           (B) assist each school in the supervisory union to follow the  
6 curriculum; and

7           (C) if students residing in the supervisory union receive their  
8 education outside the supervisory union, periodically review the compatibility  
9 of the supervisory union's curriculum with those other schools;

10          (8) perform all the duties required of a supervisory union in section 269  
11 of this title or oversee the performance of those duties by employees of the  
12 supervisory union; and

13          (9) provide for the general supervision of the public schools in the  
14 supervisory union ~~or district~~.

15 Sec. 5. 16 V.S.A. § 242a is redesignated to read:

16 § ~~242a~~ 272. Internal Financial Controls

17 Sec. 6. 16 V.S.A. § 563 is amended to read:

18 § 563. POWERS OF SCHOOL BOARDS; ~~FORM OF VOTE IF BUDGET~~

19 ~~EXCEEDS BENCHMARK AND DISTRICT SPENDING IS ABOVE~~

20 ~~AVERAGE~~



**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1           (6) Shall have discretion to furnish instruction to pupils who have  
2 completed a secondary education and to administer early educational  
3 programs.

4           (7) May relocate or discontinue use of a schoolhouse or facility, subject  
5 to the provisions of sections 821 and 822 of this title.

6           (8) ~~Shall~~ Subject to the duties and authority of the supervisory union  
7 pursuant to subdivision 263(a)(3), shall establish and maintain a system for  
8 receipt, deposit, disbursement, accounting, control, and reporting procedures  
9 that meets the criteria established by the State Board pursuant to subdivision  
10 164(15) of this title and that ensures that all payments are lawful and in  
11 accordance with a budget adopted or amended by the school board. ~~The~~  
12 ~~school board may authorize a subcommittee, the superintendent of schools, or~~  
13 ~~a designated employee of the school board to~~ The superintendent shall examine  
14 claims against the district for school expenses and draw orders for such as shall  
15 be allowed by it payable to the party entitled thereto. Such orders shall state  
16 definitely the purpose for which they are drawn and shall serve as full authority  
17 to the treasurer to make such payments. ~~It shall be lawful for a school board to~~  
18 ~~submit to its treasurer a certified copy of those portions of the board minutes,~~  
19 ~~properly signed by the clerk and chair, or a majority of the board, showing to~~  
20 ~~whom, and for what purpose each payment is to be made by the treasurer, and~~

**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1 such certified copy shall serve as full authority to the treasurer to make the  
2 payments as thus approved.

3 \* \* \*

4 (14) ~~Shall provide, at the expense of the district, subject to the approval~~  
5 ~~of the superintendent, all text books, learning materials, equipment and~~  
6 ~~supplies. [Repealed.]~~

7 \* \* \*

8 Sec. 7. 16 V.S.A. § 426(c) is amended to read:

9 (c) The treasurer shall pay out of such money, orders drawn by or upon the  
10 authority of the ~~board of school directors~~ superintendent. If ~~he or she~~ the  
11 treasurer does not pay any such order on demand the holder thereof may  
12 recover the amount from the town school district with interest from the time of  
13 such demand. Moneys so received by the town school district may be invested  
14 and reinvested by the treasurer, with the approval of the board of school  
15 directors.

16 **NOTE: There may be other sections that need to be amended to clarify SU's**  
17 ***role as business office and treasurer's more limited role.***

18 Sec. 8. REPEAL *[to be filled in once all decisions are made about which*  
19 *sections to include]*

20 *[add to EFFECTIVE DATE Section] Secs. \_\_\_\_\_ shall apply to academic*  
21 *years 2015–2016 and after.*



**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1 Sec. 10. 16 V.S.A. § 267(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) ~~Supervisory~~ In addition to the joint agreements required in subsection  
3 261a(b) of this title, supervisory unions, or administrative units not within a  
4 supervisory union, in order to provide services cooperatively, may at any  
5 annual or special meeting of the supervisory unions, by a majority vote of the  
6 directors present and eligible to vote, enter into a joint agreement to provide  
7 joint programs, services, facilities, and professional and other staff that are  
8 necessary to carry out the desired programs and services.

9 Option #2:

10 Sec. 9. SUPERVISORY UNION SERVICE REGIONS

11 On or before January 1, 2015, the Secretary of Education shall establish  
12 supervisory union service regions, each of which shall be a group of  
13 supervisory unions that jointly provide the services required by 16 V.S.A.  
14 § 261a(b).

15 Sec. 10. 16 V.S.A. § 261a(b) is amended to read: *[amend if include Secs 1-7]*

16 (b) ~~Virtual merger. In order to promote the efficient use of financial and~~  
17 ~~human resources, and whenever legally permissible, supervisory unions are~~  
18 ~~encouraged to reach agreements with other supervisory unions jointly to~~  
19 ~~provide any service or perform any duty under this section pursuant to section~~  
20 ~~267 of this title. Agreements between supervisory unions are not subject to the~~  
21 ~~waiver requirement of subdivision (a)(8) of this section. Agreements shall~~

**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1 ~~include a cost benefit analysis outlining the projected financial savings or~~  
2 ~~enhanced outcomes, or both, that the parties expect to realize through shared~~  
3 ~~services or programs.~~ The supervisory unions in each supervisory union  
4 service region, as established by the Secretary, shall jointly provide the  
5 services required under the following subdivisions of subsection (a) of this  
6 section:

7 (1) subdivision (a)(5) (professional development);

8 (2) subdivision (a)(8)(A) (goods and operational services);

9 (3) subdivision (a)(8)(E) (transportation); and

10 (4) subdivision (a)(8)(G) (other appropriate services).

11 **[add to EFFECTIVE DATE Section]** Secs. \_\_\_\_\_ shall take effect on July 1,  
12 2014 and shall apply to academic years 2015–2016 and after.



**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1 Secretary of Education, pursuant to criteria established by the State Board of  
2 Education, determines that the district failed to comply with *[what?? e.g.:*

- 3 • *statutory requirements relating to the proper roles and*
- 4 *responsibilities of supervisory unions and school districts*
- 5 • *any provision of state or federal law*
- 6 • *etc.]*

7 *[effective date – applies beginning in what fiscal year?]*

8

9

10

11

\* \* \* Supervisory Union Consolidation \* \* \*

12

## Sec. 12. SUPERVISORY UNION; ADJUSTMENT OF BOUNDARIES

13

Pursuant to the authority granted it in 16 V.S.A. § 261, the State Board shall  
14 regroup the supervisory unions of the state to create no more than a total of 20  
15 supervisory unions statewide. The existing supervisory unions shall be  
16 dissolved and all new supervisory unions shall be fully operational no later  
17 than July 1, 2019.



**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1 or supervisory union to provide assistance in the classroom and who is not  
2 employed as a licensed teacher or to provide assistance in the delivery of  
3 special education services.

4 \* \* \*

5 Sec. 15. 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6) is amended to read:

6 (6) "Education spending" means the amount of the school district budget, any  
7 assessment for a joint contract school, technical center payments made on  
8 behalf of the district under subsection 1561(b) of this title, and any amount  
9 added to pay a deficit pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1523(b) which is paid for by the  
10 school district, but excluding any portion of the school budget paid for from  
11 any other sources such as endowments, parental fund raising, federal funds,  
12 nongovernmental grants, or other state funds such as special education funds  
13 paid under chapter 101 of this title, or any funds used to employ a person to  
14 provide assistance in the classroom and who is not employed as a licensed  
15 teacher or to provide assistance in the delivery of special education services  
16 pursuant to subdivision 4029(a)(2) of this title.

17 \* \* \*

18 **[add to EFFECTIVE DATE Section]** Secs. \_\_\_ – \_\_\_ shall take effect on July 1,  
19 2014 and shall apply to budgets for the 2015–2016 academic year and after.



**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

1        (c) Receipt of an Enhanced Grant under this section shall not preclude a  
2        district from receiving extraordinary services reimbursement or special  
3        education expenditures reimbursement under 16 V.S.A. §§ 2962–2963.

4        (d) On or before January 15, 2015 [and later date?], the Secretary shall  
5        submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Education, the House  
6        Committee on Ways and Means, and the Senate Committee on Finance  
7        regarding the results of the pilot project and any recommendations for  
8        legislative action.

9        (e) This section is repealed on [date].

- 10            • *Should something be added about how groups of districts will be*  
11            *selected? (e.g., based on estimated savings? based on who is*  
12            *currently the highest spending and so would be best served by*  
13            *reducing costs? based on who is not using best practices already?)*
- 14            • *The AOE draft uses the words “up to 50%” – will the percentage*  
15            *be based upon the amount of savings?*
- 16            • *Will the payment be made based on what they project they will*  
17            *save? or after the fact based on how much they actually do save*  
18            *(up to 50%)?*
- 19            • *Is this available for multiple years? Or just one year? If multiple,*  
20            *then is it available to the same groups of districts or different*  
21            *districts each year?*

**[not yet reviewed by editorial staff]**

- 1           • *Does there need to be an appropriation to cover this? If this is*  
2                     *going to be paid from ed property taxes raised statewide, then do*  
3                     *you need to think about the timing so that tax rates are set so that*  
4                     *they accommodate the additional cost? or can that detail be*  
5                     *addressed by the process and procedures and schedule the*  
6                     *Secretary sets up to run this?*
- 7           • *[add to effective date section = passage]*

