

PreK-12 Education Systems – Process Overview (3/15/14)

1. 2014 General Assembly declares that on **[July 1, 2020]**:
 - a. SUs will cease to exist
 - b. all districts (except interstate) are realigned into Expanded Districts

2. 2014 General Assembly identifies “Essential Components” of Expanded Districts
 - a. broad principles / criteria (similar to “pure” RED)
 - AOE develops indicators to measure compliance by **[January 1, 2015]**
 - b. availability of waivers to the size criterion of 1,250 ADM / 4 districts (#6 below)

3. Legal / Fiscal Work Group
 - a. analyzes AND develops menu of lawful options intended to address many issues including school choice; tax rates; representation / voting; uniform data / accounting; etc.
 - b. in order to inform waivers (#6) during voluntary realignment (#4) & Statewide Plan (#5)
 - c. reports to General Assembly by **[January 1, 2015]** for review and any legislation

4. Voluntary realignment of districts **[now through July 1, 2017]**
 - a. districts create plan / articles of agreement
 - i. availability of waivers from K-12 operating model (#6 below)
 - b. follow union school district formation process (also “pure” RED process) **PLUS**:
 - i. preliminary application **[7/1/15]** – SBE reviews each individually & as a group
 - ii. final application – only if submitted preliminary application
 - c. SBE gives prelim and final approval only if no current district stranded
 - d. electorate approves articles of agreement by **[July 1, 2017]**
 - e. (districts currently exploring REDs go through this prelim/final process as well)

5. Design Team (“DT”) **[July 2014 through June 2020]**
 - a. 9 members appointed by Speaker, CoC, and Gov in collaborative process to ensure broad diversity of knowledge/experience/opinions in Vt education & communities
 - b. Statewide Plan for districts not voluntarily realigned
 - i. informed by public engagement; monitoring of voluntary process; AOE indicators (#2); work of Working Group (#3); and waiver process (#6 below)
 - ii. approval through the formal rulemaking process, which requires:
 - I. public comment
 - II. SBE adoption
 - III. LCAR process

6. Waivers – work on this element will also inform design of Statewide Plan
 - SBE develops criteria / process (informed by Working Group (#3)) by **[May 1, 2015]**
 - i. 1,250 / 4 district (#2 above)
 - ii. K-12 operating (#4 above)