

REPORT FROM THE PREK-16 COUNCIL'S EXPANDED LEARNING TIME WORKING GROUP

Vermont Legislature
House and Senate
Education Committees
January 21, 2015



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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SUPPORTS & RESOURCES

- ▶ PreK-16 Council
- ▶ Marjorie Zunder, Committee Staff
- ▶ Karen Scott and Erin Schwab, Vermont Afterschool
- ▶ Statewide Database of Programs
- ▶ National Conference for State Legislatures (NCSL)- Grant for data project; NCSL staff support and technical assistance; partnerships with other states



WITNESS TESTIMONY

- ▶ John Fischer, Deputy Commissioner, Vermont Agency of Education
- ▶ Reeva Murphy, Deputy Commissioner, Child Development Division, Department for Children and Families, Vermont Agency of Human Services
- ▶ Brooke DeBonis, Principal, Mettawee Community School, West Pawlet
- ▶ Todd Rivver, Principal, Albany Community School
- ▶ Julie Peterson, Director of School Age Programs, Greater Burlington YMCA
- ▶ Kate Toland, UNBOUND Director and Social Studies Teacher, Peoples Academy, Morrisville
- ▶ John Castle, Superintendent, North Country Schools Supervisory Union, Newport
- ▶ Jay Nichols, Superintendent, Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union, Enosburg
- ▶ Ellie Mitchell, Director, Maryland Out of School Time Network
- ▶ Margaret MacLean, Member, Vermont State Board of Education, and Lead Trainer at the Rural School and Community Trust
- ▶ Emanuel Betz, 21st Century Community Learning Centers State Coordinator, Vermont Agency of Education
- ▶ Derrick Lambert, Child Nutrition Advocate, Hunger Free Vermont

- ▶ 24% percent of Vermont's children, grades K-12, are currently enrolled in Expanded Learning Opportunities.
- ▶ Of those not currently in programs, 33% or 22,000 children and youth would participate if more programs were available and accessible.

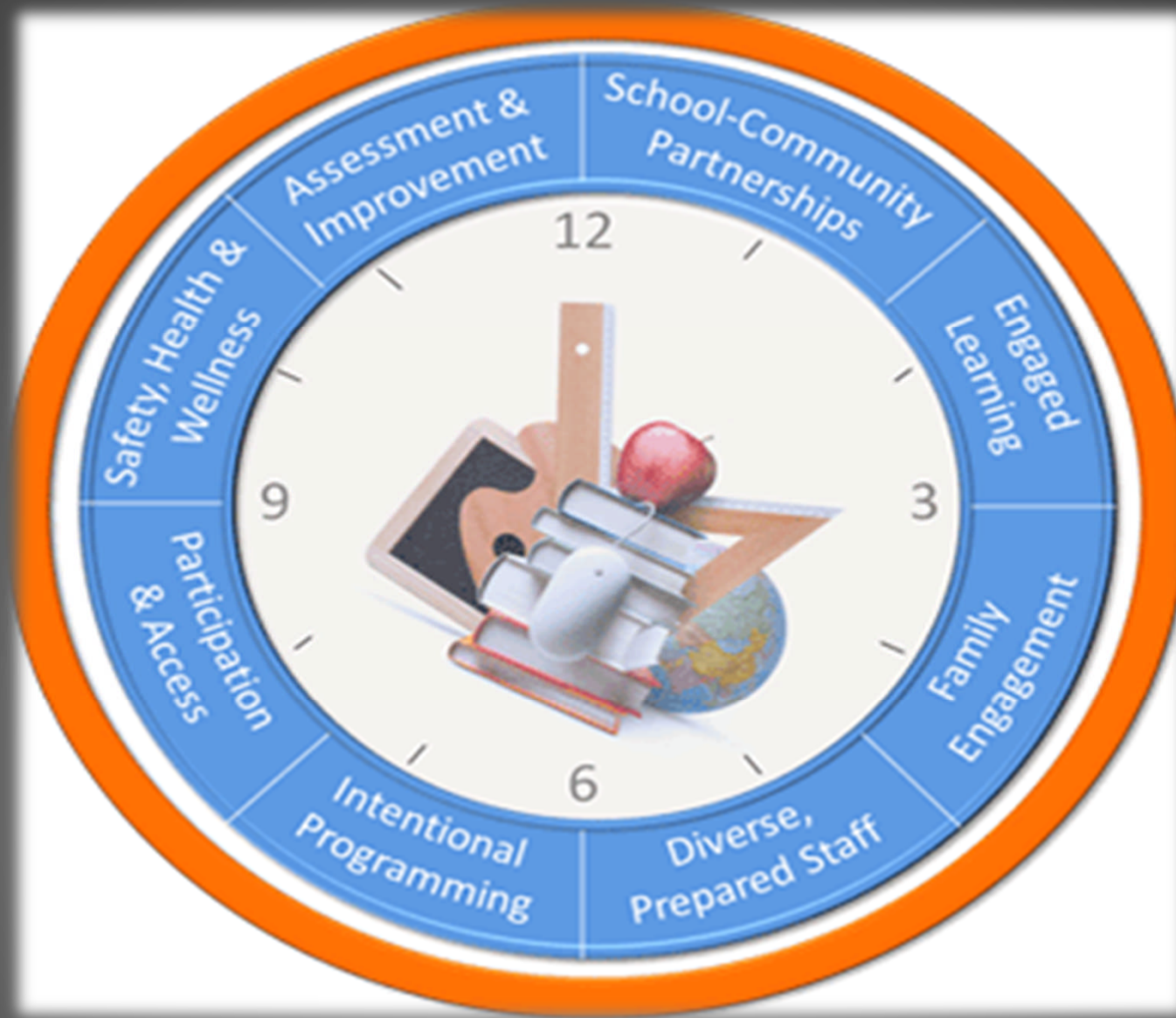


DEMAND IS HIGH; COST OF DOING NOTHING IS EVEN HIGHER

- ▶ More than 22,000 chances for bad choices, dangerous behaviors, or falling behind in school each and every day.
- ▶ More than 22,000 lost opportunities every day to help these children and youth reach their full potential.



Defining an Effective Program



IMMEDIATE RELEVANCY TO LEGISLATURE

- ▶ Supports Vermont's Vision for Education-learning that is flexible, personalized, and proficiency-based
- ▶ Makes visible the learning that happens in informal settings and outside the school day.
- ▶ Provides key strategies for addressing the Achievement Gap (Opportunity Gap)
- ▶ Provides schools with additional strategies and avenues for learning at a critical time when being asked rethink what we do, how we do it, and what it costs.



CONNECTIONS TO LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- ▶ Cannot fully understand what opportunity looks like throughout the state unless we intentionally, explicitly, and systematically look at Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELOs).
- ▶ Implementation of the Education Quality Standards
- ▶ Continuity of Leadership in Schools
- ▶ Ensuring a Stable, Efficient, and Responsive System
- ▶ Systematic and Reliable Funding is Needed

Extended vs Expanded Learning

- ▶ Extended Day or Extended Year- adding time onto the school day or days onto the school year; all students participate; generally run by teachers; often the delivery model or the offerings are similar to regular school day
- ▶ Expanded Learning- choice is important; students are making different choices and doing different things; can use time and place differently; can focus on specific needs; attendance is not mandatory; relies on a variety of staff models and types, as well as community partners and community-based educators.

FINDINGS: EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

- ▶ Keep children and youth healthy and safe
- ▶ Inspire learners
- ▶ Help working families
- ▶ Support Vermont's Vision for Education



FINDING I: KEEP KIDS HEALTHY & SAFE

- ▶ 3-6pm are peak hours for risky behaviors
- ▶ Programs provide supervision and role models
- ▶ Also provide nutritious snacks and meals and opportunities for physical activity



FINDING 2: INSPIRE LEARNERS

- ▶ Programs build Personal, Social, and Academic Skills
- ▶ Help address Summer Learning Loss and the Academic Achievement Gap



FINDING 3: HELP WORKING FAMILIES

- ▶ Vermont parents value programs and report high rates of satisfaction
- ▶ 81% of Vermont parents say that Expanded Learning Opportunities give working parents peace of mind
- ▶ Vermont parents listed program cost as one of the major obstacles to participation



Vermont ranks 51st in the nation for having the lowest level of low-income children in Expanded Learning Opportunities

FINDING 4: SUPPORT VERMONT'S VISION FOR EDUCATION

- ▶ Vermont's Education Quality Standards
- ▶ Learning can happen anytime, anywhere
- ▶ Flexible, personalized, and proficiency-based



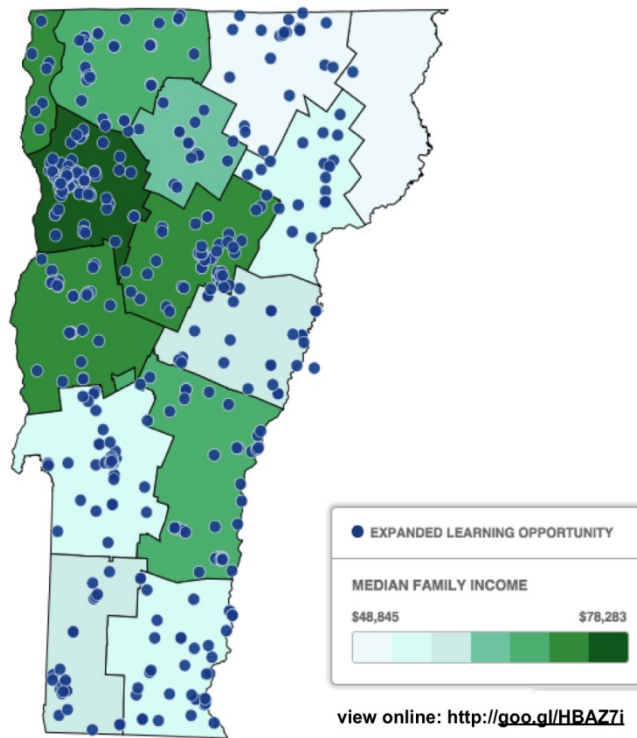
VERMONT'S ELO PROGRAMS

- ▶ 458 Expanded Learning Programs
- ▶ 264 are licensed programs
- ▶ 121 receive 21st CCLC funding
- ▶ 257 are run by schools, school districts, or supervisory unions
- ▶ 43 are operated by a YMCA
- ▶ 21 are associated with a Boys & Girls Club
- ▶ 85% are located in public school buildings



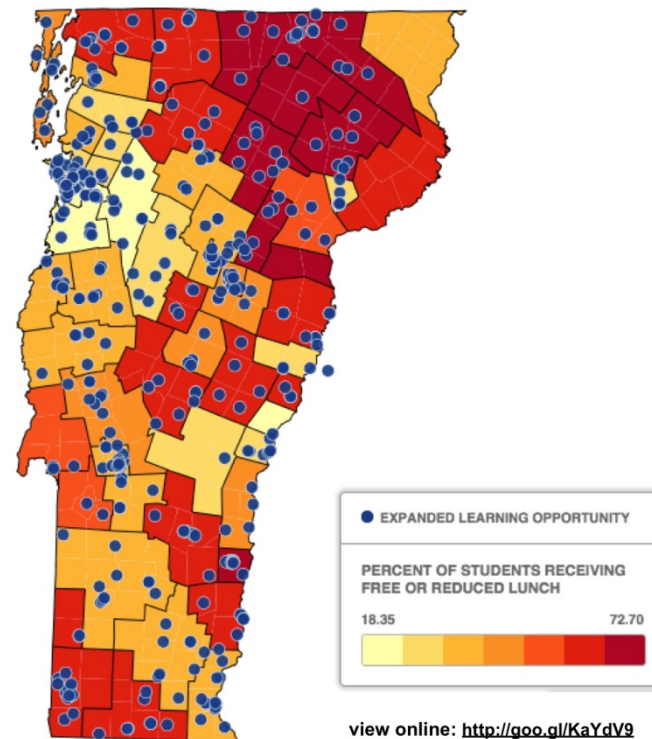
MAPPING PROJECT

Expanded Learning Opportunities: Locations and Median Family Income by county



- Median Family Income is from 2010 US Census Data.
- Locations of Expanded Learning Opportunities were gathered by Vermont Afterschool, Inc. between 2010 and 2014.

Expanded Learning Opportunities: Locations and Low Income Students by supervisory union

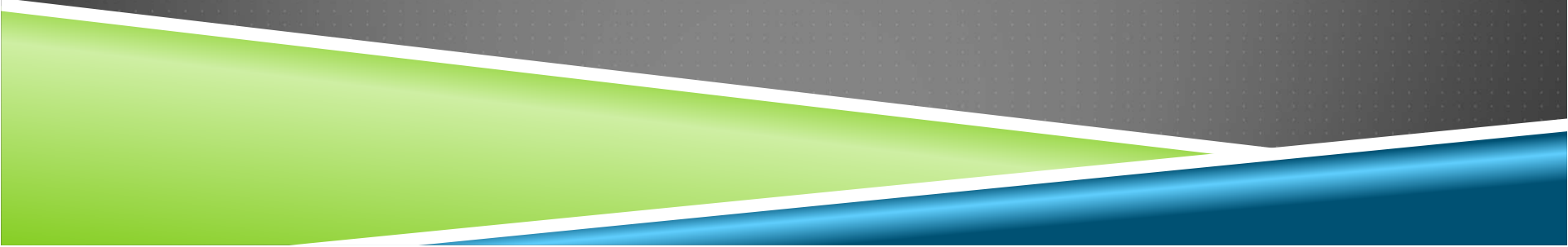


- Locations of Expanded Learning Opportunities were gathered by Vermont Afterschool, Inc. between 2010 and 2014.
- Free and Reduced Lunch Data is for the 2012-13 school year, obtained from the VT Agency of Education Child Nutrition Programs Annual Statistical Report: http://education.vermont.gov/documents/EDU-Child_Nutrition_2013_Eligibility_Report.pdf

RETURN ON PROGRAM INVESTMENT

- ▶ The average cost of providing quality Expanded Learning Opportunities in Vermont is \$2318/student
 - ▶ 15 hours per week during the school year and 6 weeks in summer
 - ▶ Cost varies depending on location, level of programming, and size
- ▶ For every dollar invested in quality Expanded Learning Opportunities, Vermont sees a return of \$2.18 in long-term savings and benefits.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ Focus on access
 - ▶ Connect to existing systems and initiatives
 - ▶ Recognize learning in different settings
 - ▶ Utilize data and metrics
 - ▶ Leverage different funding sources
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RECOMMENDATION #1

- ▶ Develop systems, partnerships, and funding strategies to ensure access to Expanded Learning Opportunities in every community



RECOMMENDATION #2

- ▶ Incorporate Expanded Learning Opportunities in VTAOE's Balanced Accountability System in order to measure access, quality, and integration with school systems



RECOMMENDATION #3

- ▶ Recognize Expanded Learning Opportunities as schools move towards proficiency-based graduation requirements



RECOMMENDATION #4

- ▶ Include data on student participation in Expanded Learning Opportunities, and associated student outcomes, in state data systems and projects



RECOMMENDATION #5

- ▶ Explore every possibility to leverage federal programs to help working families access Expanded Learning Opportunities for children up to age 16.



THOUGHTS

QUESTIONS?



EXAMPLES OF MAPPING INFO

- ▶ <http://goo.gl/KaYdV9> - The basemap is an outline of the state with each supervisory union outlined and shaded according to the percent of free/reduced lunch students in it. You can hover over any SU to see its name and the percentage of f/r lunch students (from 2012-13 AOE data).
- ▶ goo.gl/HBAZ7i - The basemap is an outline of the state with each county outlined and shaded according to median family income (from 2010 census data). You can hover over any of the counties to view the exact median family income.
- ▶ http://www.vermontafterschool.org/partnerships/vt_21c_evaluation/ – Mapping program for 21C evaluation data (2012-2013)