

# SOUTHWEST VERMONT SUPERVISORY UNION

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Early Education Department  
March 23, 2017

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# The Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union

- SVSU is comprised of 5 Districts – Bennington, North Bennington, Shaftsbury, Woodford, Pownal
- 2016-17 is the first year of Universal Pre K Implementation
- Bennington has a strong community of supports for young children and families – The team includes Children's Integrated Services, Sunrise, SVSU, the Building Bright Futures Council, BCCCA to provide continuity of care.
- Families in our region face challenges including:
  - a 79.17 percent poverty rate
  - an increase in children referred to early childhood mental health services
  - Increased numbers of children in DCF placements under the age of 6 2014-2017.



## The SVSU Early Education Program

*SVSU Early Education Program*

*Mission:*

*Children and families are the heart of our mission. Center and community based services are provided through direct services, consultation, and collaboration. We create and promote nurturing, inclusive, and developmentally appropriate learning experiences for young children.*



# SVSU Early Childhood Education Program

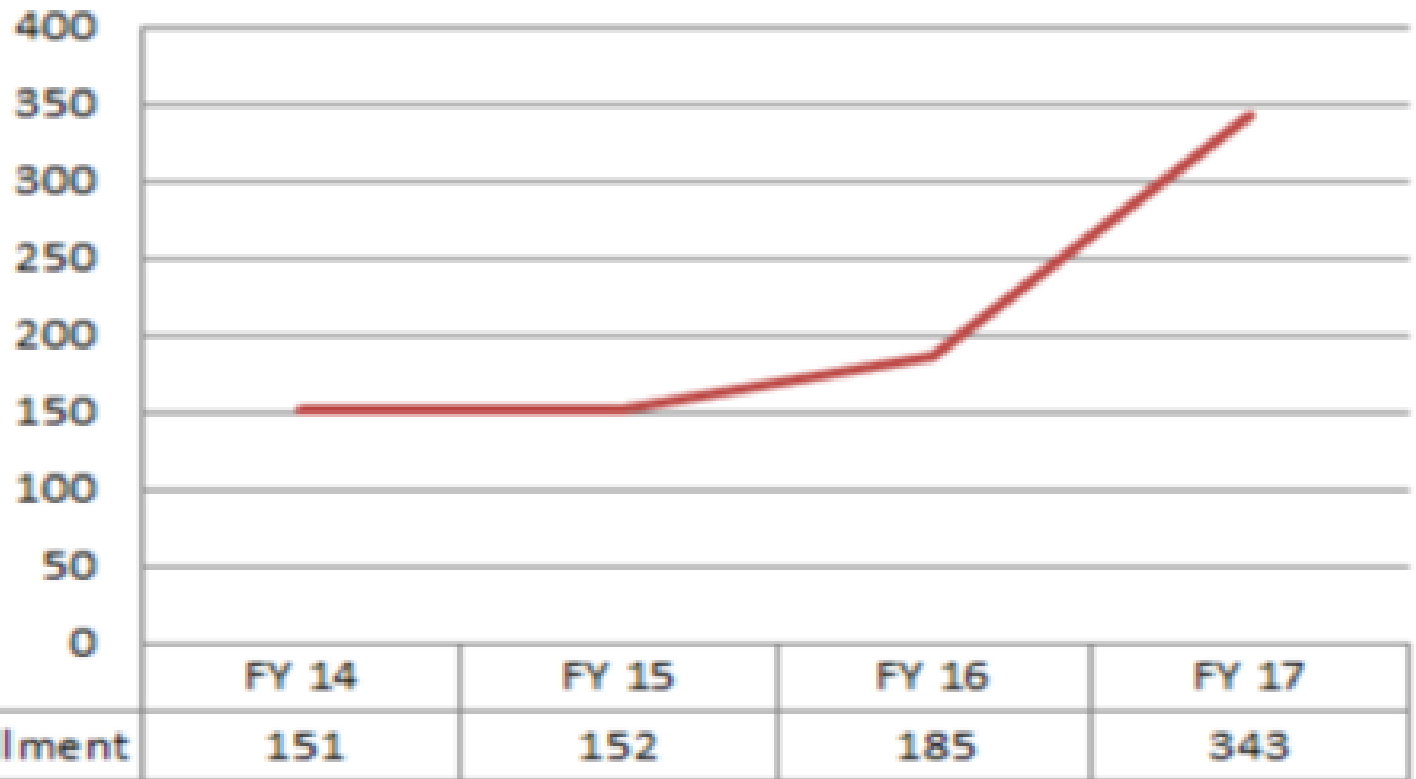
Provides a number of supports and services to maximize children's potential:

- Professional Development for Pre K Partners and regional childcare providers.
- Partnership with 16 Programs to allow children to access Pre K in their home communities.
- Mentor teacher support for programs working to achieve a 5 star rating and prequalification.
- Early Childhood Special Education Services
- Child Find and Regional Developmental Screenings
- Coordinated transition to Kindergarten
- Educational Support Team resources for students at risk



# Changes in Pre K Enrollment 2014-2017

## PreK enrollment 2014-2017



# 15-16 Ready for Kindergarten Data

SOUTHWEST VERMONT SU	Demographic Group	Percent of Students	Average Total Score	Percent Ready
	All Students	++	70.73	68.23%
	Boys	57.29%	68.98	61.82%
	Girls	42.71%	73.09	76.83%
	Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible	79.17%	69.32	65.79%
	Not Free and Reduced Lunch Eligible	20.83%	76.13	77.50%
	Attended Publically Funded PreK	65.10%	73.98	74.40%
	Did Not Attend Publically Funded PreK	34.90%	64.69	56.72%

- The 2015-16 Data shows the benefits of Pre K for those students who attended – 56% ready for those who did not attend pre K, 74% ready for those who did attend Pre K.
- Pre K is essential to level the playing field for students in poverty to be ready to learn in kindergarten.

# Implications of the VT LEG #323013 v. 6

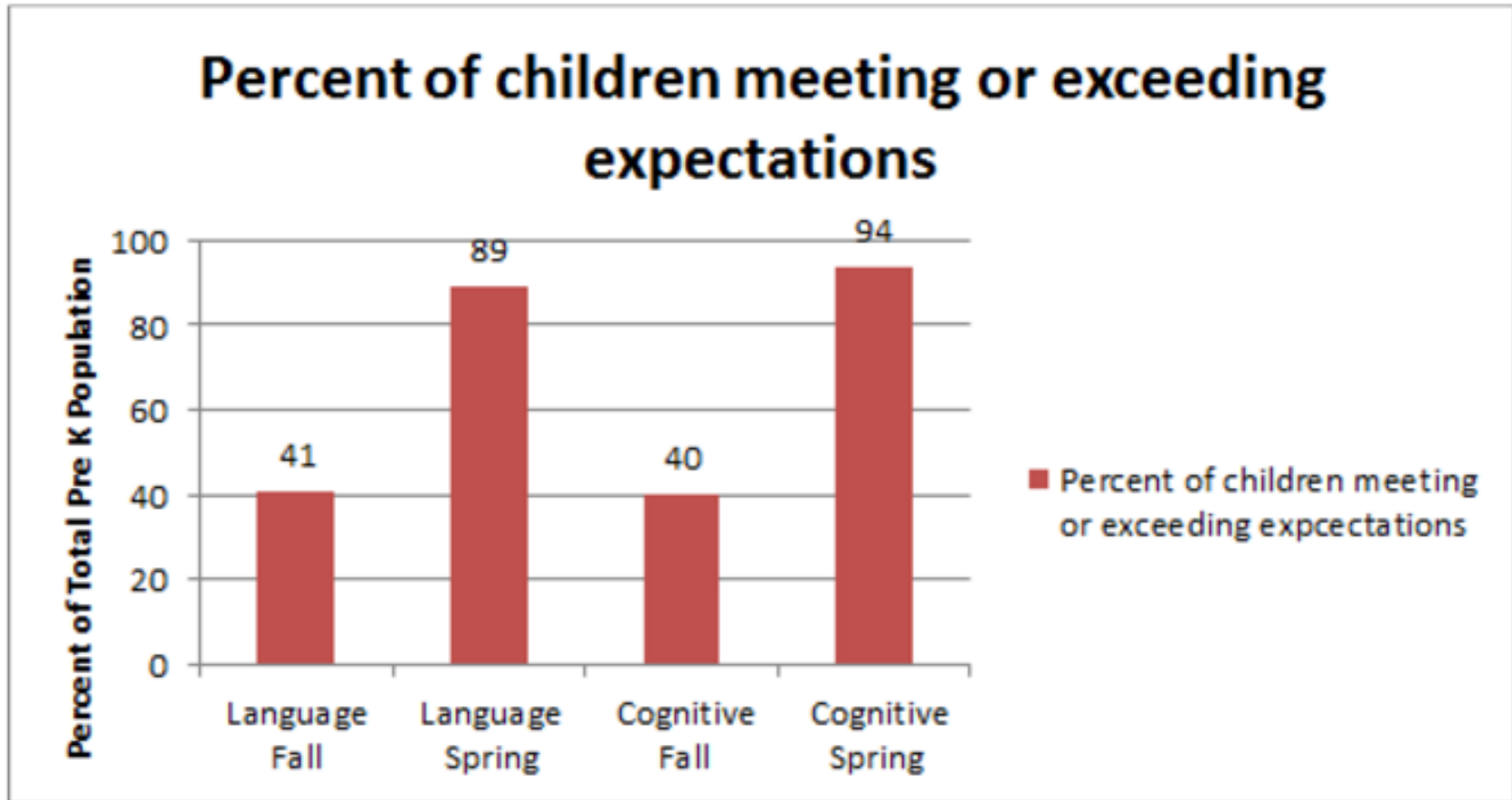
- Reduction of 300+ Pre K seats in the SVSU
  - 365 students currently enrolled, 62 seats available in the district-run Pre K program, 303 seats currently provided in private partner programs.
- WSESU (Windham Southeast) would lose the ability to provide public pre k to 279 children who are now receiving it through partnerships.
- Springfield would face a Reduction of all 75 Pre K seats.
  - Springfield does not have a school based Pre K Program and relies on private partnerships for all of their Pre K.
- Reduction of 90% of Pre K seats in Windsor Southeast SU (Hartland, Windsor, Weathersfield and West Windsor).
  - Currently 134 students are enrolled in Pre K; the majority of which are enrolled in private community based programs.

# Additional Implications

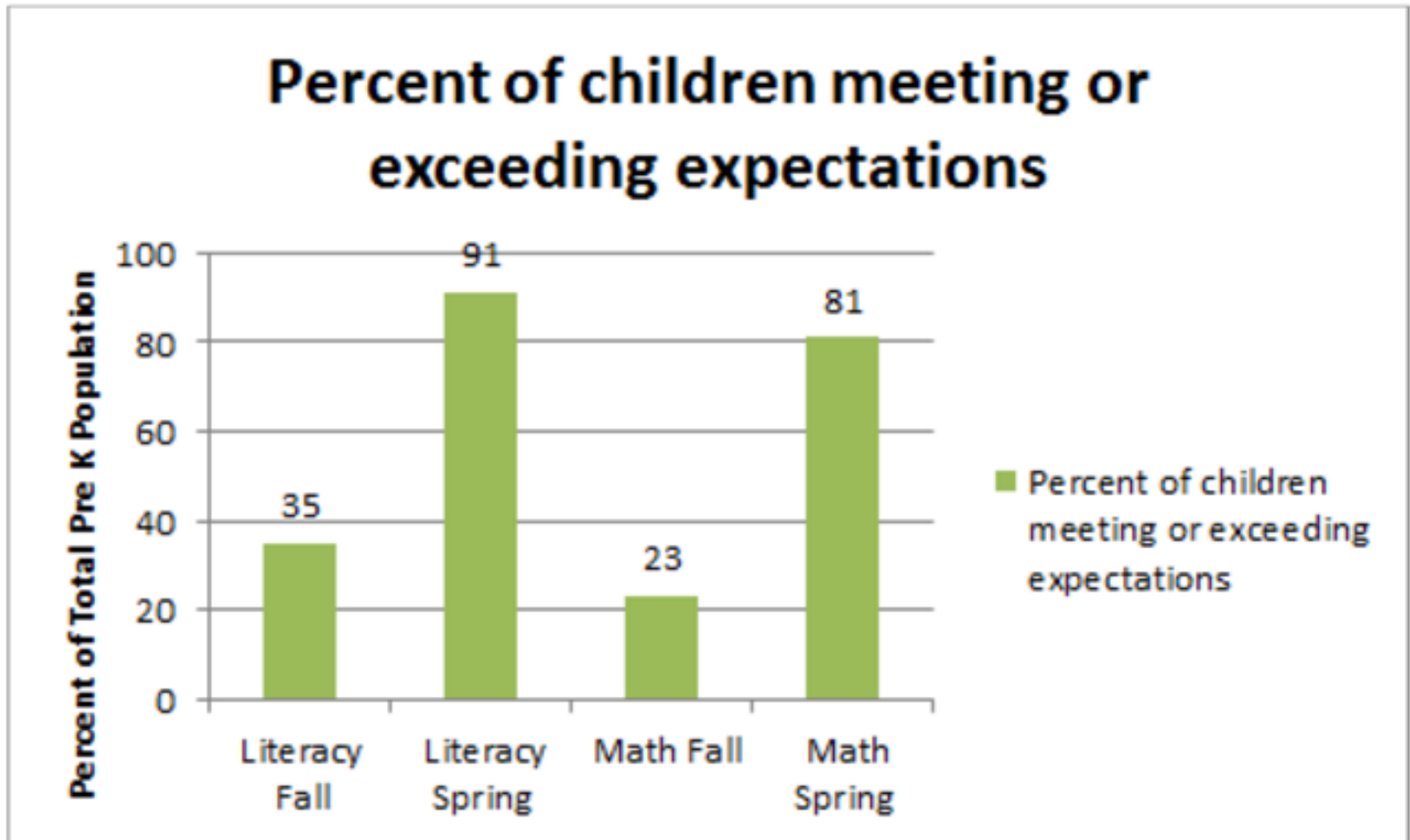
- Reduction of ADM counts (ADM is average daily membership, which is used to determine the homestead tax rate), resulting in a potential increase in the SVSU tax rate due to the significant decrease in equalized pupils in the 17-18 school year.
- Currently there are 215 students enrolled in Pre K for 2017-18. We would have to un-enroll 153 students and cap 2017-18 enrollment at 62.
- Reduction in force of SVSU mentor teachers who currently support private Pre K settings.



# The Impact of Pre K in the SVSU 2015-16 TS Gold Results



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# Thank you for your work in support of our Youngest Learners

Access to Pre K has been shown to have long reaching impacts on student achievement and adult success. Access to Pre K is positively correlated with: student high school graduation rates, lower rates of special education identification, higher standardized assessment results in reading and math in elementary school, and higher earnings potential in adulthood.

Thank you for your support of Pre K access.

*Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, Early Learning, Later Success: The Abecedarian Study, 2006. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina.*

*Schweinhart, L.J., 2004. The High/Scope Perry Preschool Study through Age 40, Ypsilanti, MI: High/Scope Educational Research Foundation.*

