

Timeline of Activities Related to Expanded Learning Opportunities in Vermont

2013-2014

House & Senate Education Committees both included language in the Misc. Ed Bill that charged the PreK-16 Council with creating an Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Working Group to “review and evaluate issues of equity in and access to Vermont’s Expanded Learning Opportunities, including afterschool and summer programs” (H.876). Unfortunately, the Misc. Ed. Bill was not enacted that year, but the PreK-16 Council decided to do this work anyway, given that the legislature had intended to make the request.

- House Bill: [https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2014/Docs/BILLS/H-0876/H-0876%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20\(Unofficial\).pdf](https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2014/Docs/BILLS/H-0876/H-0876%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20(Unofficial).pdf)
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- Senate Amendment: [https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2014/Docs/BILLS/H-0876/H-0876%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20\(Unofficial\).pdf](https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2014/Docs/BILLS/H-0876/H-0876%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20(Unofficial).pdf)
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ELO Working Group meets for six months and creates the report, “Every Hour Counts: Vermont Students Succeed with Expanded Learning Opportunities.”

- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/gf73kkjtx1r45j5/Every%20Hour%20Counts-%20December%202014.pdf?dl=0>

Vermont Afterschool receives a grant from the National Conference of State Legislatures to support the work of the ELO Working Group, particularly around data and mapping.

- <http://www.vermontafterschool.org/resources/map/>

Another product the ELO Working Group was a comprehensive Return-on-Investment (ROI) study. The methodology behind the Vermont ROI study has since been replicated by several other states.

- <http://bit.ly/1FECz4R>

2015-2016

Increasing access to afterschool and summer learning programs is supported by:

- Vermont's Child Poverty Council
 - <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/GENERAL-311855-v1-2015-Vermont-Child-Poverty-Council-Report.pdf>
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- Working Vermonters Caucus
 - <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ss9brwedv4thezw/After%20School%20Leg%20Working%20trs%20Caucus.docx?dl=0>
- Vermont Early Childhood Alliance
 - <https://vecaa.org/legislative-agenda/2016/2016-legislative-agenda-0>
- Voices for Vermont's Children
 - <http://www.voicesforvorkids.org/2016-legislative-wrap-up/>
- Hunger Free Vermont
 - <https://www.dropbox.com/s/l72ycoz83hmeuz/hunger%20free%20vt.pdf?dl=0>

Rep. Mrowicki introduces bill (H.391) to create the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Special Fund

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2016/Docs/BILLS/H-0391/H-0391%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

House Education committee directs the Vermont Agency of Education and afterschool advocates to work together on the language in H.391. After revisions, both the VT Agency of Education (John Fisher and Jill Remick) testify in favor of the bill as do the afterschool advocates.

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2016/WorkGroups/House%20Education/Bills/H.391/H.391~Rebecca%20Wasserman~Strike-All%20Amendment~5-7-2015.pdf>

House Education Committee creates the ELO Special Fund in Misc. Ed bill (H.480) and charges the ELO Working Group under the PreK-16 Council with developing recommendations for how the fund should be set up and administered.

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2016/Docs/ACTS/ACT048/ACT048%20As%20Enacted.pdf>
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ELO Working Group meets for 6 months, including participation from the VT Agency of Education (Tom Alderman and later Heather Bouchey) and creates the report, "Closing the Gap in Vermont: The Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Special Fund."

- <http://bit.ly/2F2Flog>

The ELO Working Group also creates a second report at the direction of the PreK-16 Council called, "All Learning Counts: How Expanded Learning Opportunities Support Flexible, Personalized, Student-centered, and Proficiency-based Learning in Vermont."

- <http://bit.ly/2COxIFm>

2017-2018

Hunger Free Vermont once again supports the ELO Special Fund request:

- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/i5rttm41bnpcoh6/2017%20Hunger%20Free%20Vermont%20FY18%20State%20Budget%20Recommendations.pdf?dl=0>
- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/WorkGroups/House%20Education/Afterschool%20Programs/W~Marissa%20Parisi~AMP%20up%20Afterschool~1-18-2017.pdf>

Voices for Vermont's Children supports the ELO Special Fund request:

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/WorkGroups/House%20Education/Afterschool%20Programs/W~Carlen%20Finn~Regarding%20funding%20for%20the%20Expanded%20Learning%20Opportunities%20Special%20Fund~2-16-2017.pdf>

The Vermont Childhood Poverty Council names funding for afterschool and summer learning in the ELO Special Fund as a top priority.

- 2017: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/GENERAL-318903-v1-Vermont-Child-Poverty-Council-2016-Annual-Report.pdf>
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- 2018: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/WorkGroups/Vermont%20Child%20Poverty%20Council/W~Katie%20McLinn~Vermont%20Child%20Poverty%20Council%20Annual%20Progress%20Report%202017~1-4-2018.pdf>
 - p.7
- Handout presented to legislators about Poverty Council Priorities, Jan 2018: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ksz9qjuif9b9m3x/one%20pager%20Vermont%20Child%20Poverty%20Council.pdf?dl=0>

Rep. Diane Lanpher introduces H.270 to recognize one of the priorities of the Vermont Childhood Poverty Council, which she co-chaired, and to implement the recommendations of the ELO Working Group on the structure, priorities, and administration of the ELO Special Fund.

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0270/H-0270%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

House Education Committee takes up H.270, marks it up, and recommends \$1 million in the ELO Special Fund in March 2017.

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/WorkGroups/House%20Education/Bills/H.270/H.270~James%20DesMarais~Draft%20No.%201.1,%203-15-2017~3-16-2017.pdf>

Vermont Afterschool is invited to present at a national conference held in Detroit on work in the state of Vermont to expand access to afterschool and summer programming. Other states are interested in the reports from the ELO Working Group as well as the structure outlined in H.270.

- https://www.dropbox.com/s/6sxxwt54qbq742c/SAN16_NationalNetworkMeeting_3-24.pdf?dl=0

Erik Peterson from the Afterschool Alliance in Washington, DC, testifies in House and Senate Education Committee. Erik shares that other states are looking at Vermont's model in H.270 as an example for others to follow. He also shares that his organization is using Vermont's Return on Investment (ROI) study from the ELO Working Group as the model for doing a similar study at the national level.

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/WorkGroups/House%20Education/Afterschool%20Programs/W~Erik%20Peterson~Powerpoint%20-%20Afterschool%20and%20Summer%20Learning%20Programs%20Broaden%20Opportunities~2-16-2018.pdf>

House Education Committee includes ELO Special Fund in its memo to the Appropriations Committee.

- <https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/WorkGroups/House%20Appropriations/FY2019%20State%20Budget/12.%20Policy%20Committees/DR18-0457~House%20Education%20Committee~FY2019%20Budget%20Response~2-16-2018.pdf>

National foundations express a commitment to funding a one-year fellowship position in Vermont to help move this work forward through the ELO Special Fund and H.270. The proposed fellowship position would also have a focus on informal STEM learning and making connections between afterschool programs and career technical education initiatives and regional technical centers.

- Commitment letter:
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/kkpek3rtc7mkkln/STEM%20Fellow%20Letter.pdf?dl=0>
- Potential job description for a fellow:
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/4gjl4favdd36vi6/Fellowship%20in%20Informal%20STEM%20Learning%20DRAFT.pdf?dl=0>