IMPROVING LITERACY IN VERMONT



- NAEP Scores Remain Flat
- Science Shows Us the Way
- We Know What to Do

THE PROBLEM

45% OF VT STUDENTS GRADES 3-5 DID NOT SCORE "PROFICIENT" IN READING---DMG REPORT

TEACHERS FEEL "ILL-EQUIPPED" TO HELP ---VT DIGGER

THE COST \$320,000,000



- Special Education in VT
- Avg/IEP Student: \$23,359
- Total # IEP Students: 12,844
- Est total Reading IEPs: 10,000

THE SOLUTION

- Brain Science Matters
- fMRIs show how children learn
- We can identify the 40% who will struggle



- Explicit, structured language alone aligns with brain science
- ALL children benefit, and
- Children in the lowest 20th %ile, those most at-risk SUCCEED with this method

Together We Can Ensure Literacy!

State Government

State Agency of Education

Local School Districts

Stern Center Colleges, Universities



Blanche Podhajski, Ph.D., President, Stern Center for Language and Learning, April 17, 2018