

Flexible Pathways Update

House Education Committee

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Agency of Education

Overview of Student Pathways Division

- 6 Teams:
 - 21CCLC (summer and afterschool programs)
 - Adult Education & Literacy
 - Career Technical Education
 - Proficiency-Based Learning
 - Personalized Learning
 - Tech Education
- 22 Staff – 19 program/3 admin

Student Pathways: Legislation/Statute

State

- Act 51 (2015)
- Act 69 (2017)
- Act 77 (16 VSA §941-946)
- Act 173
- Act 189 (2018)
- Title 16 Chapters 23, 37, 39

Federal

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
- Title IX (Ed Amend 1972)
- Section 504 (Rehab. Act 1973)
- Titles II & III of ADA
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Perkins IV & Perkins V
- Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Student Pathways: Grants & Contracts

Grants:

- \$25,000,000
- 134 grant agreements drafted, approved and managed

Contracts:

- \$1.2 million
- 22 contracts written and managed

Student Pathways: Reporting

- 4 Federal reports
- 3 divisional databases/data collections
- 2 surveys
- 2 legislative reports

Student Pathways: Collaboration and Support

Committee, Council, Work Groups:

- Over **35** state or federal professional committees, councils and working groups:
 - Technical or personnel support
 - Many of them legislatively created/mandated

TA/Professional Learning for the field:

- Over **100** presentations, trainings, site visits, convenings, and network support
- Over **700** students, through interviews, surveys, focus groups and site visits informed our work

Designing for ACCESS – OPPORTUNITY – EQUITY

Why are flexible pathways to graduation important to publicly-funded Vermont learners?

Educational equity means that every student has access to the **resources and educational rigor they need** at the **right moment** in their education, whatever their race, gender/identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, language, disability, family background, or family income may be. (Adapted from CCSSO, *Leading for Equity*)

Act 77: The Flexible Pathways Initiative to Secondary School Completion

“To encourage and support the creativity of school districts as they **develop and expand high quality and educational experiences** that are an integral part of secondary education in the evolving 21st Century classroom... [and] **to identify and support secondary students who require additional assistance to succeed in school and to identify ways in which individual students would benefit from flexible pathways to graduation...**”

What are Flexible Pathways in VT?

- Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- Dual Enrollment (DE)
- Early College (EC)
- Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO)
- High School Completion Program (HSCP)
- Virtual/Blended Learning (VL)
- Work-Based Learning (WBL)

Personalized Learning: 5 Essential Elements

- Personal Relationships
- Learner Profiles
- Proficiency-Based Progression
- Flexible Pathways
- Student Agency

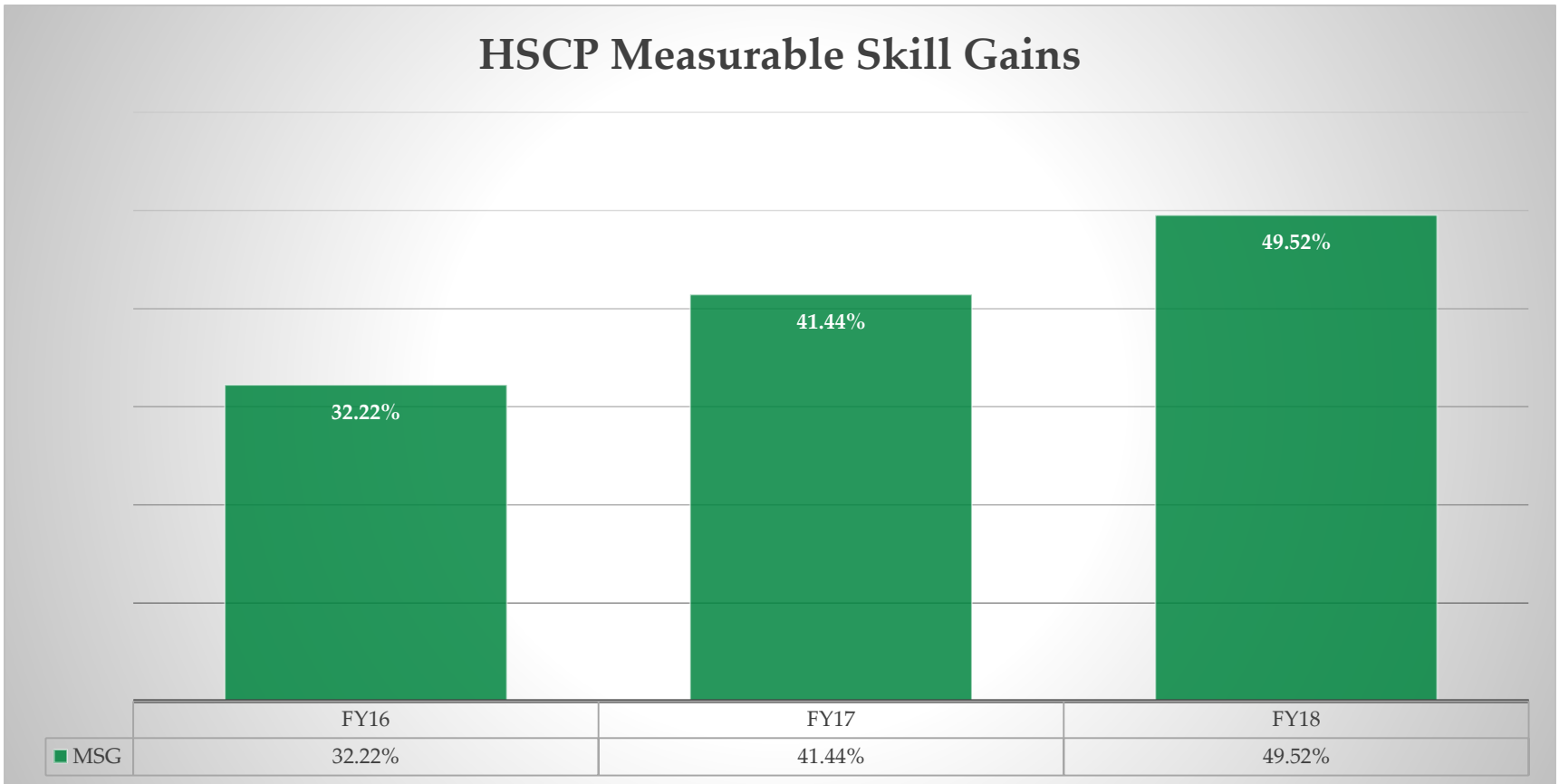
Flexible Pathways: AEL and High School Completion Program

16 VSA §943

- Created in 2006 to provide disengaged learners with educational services of the scope and rigor needed for the attainment of a high school diploma.
 - Vermonters who are at least 16 years of age and do not have a high school diploma are eligible for the program
- Adult Education and Literacy Providers co-construct personal learning plans with students and local high schools. PLPs outline the plan to meet the high school's requirements for diploma.
 - AEL providers are plan managers, monitoring and evaluating the student's progress. When all the requirements in the PLP are met to the schools' and AEL providers' satisfaction, the student is enrolled in school and awarded a diploma.

High School Completion Program Measurable Skill Gains

HSCP Measurable Skill Gains



High School Completion Program

HSCP Funds Distributed



**“I wanted [my kids]
to know they could . . dream.”**

“I came to CVABE wanting my high school diploma, but with no goals. I had two kids and wanted to be someone for them, who they could look up to. I wanted them to know they could stay in school and dream. I have three kids now and am just about to get my diploma. Next year I’m going to college to get my Child Development Certificate, and then I want to work to help children. If it wasn’t for CVABE I wouldn’t have pushed myself. They helped me a lot.”

~Casey



Lt. Governor Zuckerman and a student at CVABE’s graduation in June 2017.

Testimonial and photo from CVABE published material.

Flexible Pathways: Early College & Dual Enrollment

16 VSA § 946. Early College Program

Program available to eligible, state-funded Vermont high school seniors tuition-free where they can earn both a high school diploma and complete a year of college at the same time.

- © Students must get permission from their high school principal in order to participate
- © Students apply for admission to one of 7 colleges offering the Early College program
- © Student must enroll in courses full-time for both the fall and spring semesters
- © Students must un-enroll from high school and re-enroll at the end of spring semester to get their high school diploma
- © Students pay for textbooks, lab fees, materials fees, and any other costs associated
- © Courses must satisfy high school graduation requirements

Partnering Institutions: Early College Program

- Castleton University
- Norwich University
- Community College of Vermont
- Goddard College
- Johnson State College – Northern VT University
- Vermont Technical College
- Lyndon State College – Northern VT University

16 V.S.A. § 944. Dual Enrollment Program

(a) Program creation. There is created a statewide Dual Enrollment Program to be a potential **component of a student's flexible pathway**. The Program shall include college courses offered on the campus of an accredited postsecondary institution and college courses offered by an accredited postsecondary institution on the campus of a secondary school. The Program may include online college courses or components.

Types of Dual Enrollment in Vermont

Dual Enrollment Program – Act 77



Allows VT residents who are juniors and seniors and are **publicly funded high school students** access to 2 college credit bearing courses while receiving high school and college credit.

Fast Forward Program – Carl D. Perkins



Allows VT residents who are enrolled in state approved Career Technical Education (CTE) programs to get high school and college credit for 2 college courses taught at regional CTE centers.

Partnering institutions in the Dual Enrollment Program

Dual Enrollment & Fast Forward Partnering Higher Education Institutions

Bennington College	Marlboro College
Castleton University	New England Culinary Institute
Champlain College	Norwich University
College of St. Joseph	St. Michael's College
Community College of Vermont* 	SIT Graduate Institute
Goddard College	Southern Vermont College
Green Mountain College	Sterling College
Johnson State College – Northern VT University	University of Vermont
Landmark College	Vermont Technical College* 
Lyndon State College – Northern VT University	

What does the research say?

The benefits of Dual Enrollment

- WWC Intervention Report [summary](#) on DE Programs:
- Five studies of dual enrollment programs involving a total of 77,249 high school students
- Medium to large evidence (positive) was found for the following student outcome domains:
 - Degree attainment (college)
 - College access and enrollment
 - Credit accumulation
 - Completing high school
 - General academic achievement in high school

Only 12% of dually enrolled students did not go on to college by the age of 20

(according to National Student Clearinghouse Research Center 2017 report)

At-a-glance Data Review

The AOE developed an internal Dual Enrollment platform which was launched Spring 2018.

- Prior to AOE Platform: 4,947 approved vouchers spanning 6 semesters
- Since AOE Platform launch: 4,920 approved vouchers spanning 3 complete semesters and part of Spring FY19.

Flexible Pathways: Work-Based Learning

16 VSA §941

Work-based learning experiences involve student interactions with industry or community professionals in real, virtual, online, or simulated work environments that expose learners to postsecondary options, provide opportunities for skill development and proficiency attainment, and allow students to reinforce and deepen their school-based learning.

Work-Based Learning

- Secondary students can participate in a progression of WBL experiences as part of their personalized learning plan to secondary school completion.
- WBL experiences can occur in middle schools, high schools and CTE centers.

At-a-glance Data Review

Over the last two years the AOE has:

- Established a learning collaborative of over 80 WBL professionals
- Developed a self-paced course where educators learn about promising practices
- Increased # of licensed WBL Coordinators by 32%

Future Forward

- Case Studies in Inequities: Closing gaps and solving statutory conflicts to ensure our most vulnerable students have access
- Creative Problem Solving: Investing in novel approaches to addressing geographic and transportation barriers
- Student Pathways Focus: Developing non-regulatory tools so schools can communicate opportunity

Flexible Pathways: Career and Technical Education

16 VSA §1541a.

Responsibility of local boards in sending districts (a) A school board of a sending district that offers public education in grade 11 or 12 shall:

- 1. provide students enrolled in grades 11 and 12 with a genuine opportunity to participate fully and to benefit from career technical education

Where is it?

- Career technical education is provided statewide through 15 service regions.
- Each service region is served by a technical center(s) and/or comprehensive high school(s).
- School districts and independent high schools are assigned to a technical education service region.

Who may participate?

In Vermont, a person is entitled to enroll in and complete a CTE program if the following criteria are met:

- The individual is a **Vermont resident of any age;** and
- The individual is **at least in the 11th grade in a graded school, or is at least 16 in a non-graded situation;** and
- The individual **does not have a high school diploma;** and
- The individual applies, meets admission requirements and is accepted.

At-a-glance Data Review

- For the first time in a decade we met our federal Perkins performance measures.

YEAR	TOTAL # STUDENTS	FEMALE	MALE	NON-WHITE	IEP	NON-TRAD FEMALE	FF
2018	3397	41%	59%	8.5%	18.7%	11.7%	18.3%
2017	3620	40%	60%	7%	19.1%	12.3%	14%

Future Forward

- Perkins V: 5-year plan due in April to USDOE
- CTE Pilots and Career Pathways: Scaling opportunity with intention
- Student Pathways Focus: Greater coherence and collaboration across the K-12 systems and CTE regional centers to ensure educational equity

Flexible Pathways: Expanded Learning Opportunity

16 VSA §941

ESSA Title IV-Part B

Purpose:

Dynamic educational programming open to all in centers including academic and varied enrichment choices, food, and programming across the curriculum during before school, afterschool, and summer. Program examples: tutoring, STEM, structured physical activity, arts, literacy, community service, chess, theater, cooking, community newspaper, rowing, dog sledding, Spanish, robotics.

At-a-glance Data Review

What	How	Annual average results
Local Implementation	Schools with 600 community partners deliver programs	5 year competitive investments K-12 programming 100 centers at high needs schools
State Support System	Agency of Education Staff Contract with Vermont Afterschool Competitions, Safety, Technical Assistance, Site Visits, Reporting, Evaluation, Data, e-grant system, Accountability and support, best practice, sustainability	Annual competitions and amendments Professional development activity Peer reviewed site visits Grants management and oversight Statewide evaluation plan Youth Program Quality Assessments
Investment Highlights	Integration with school day systems Leverage other funding sources to sustain High quality programs for k-12 Supporting working families	37% total staff licensed teachers 6 million from other cash funds 80% report “using their skills” 35 child care centers built in recent past
Results	Serving the neediest, serving them well	13,000 served , 6000 regular attendees Youth served 60% low income statewide Youth served 19% IEP statewide Regular attendees attend school +3 days

Flexible Pathways: Educational Technology and Virtual Learning

Innovation and Infrastructure

- Open Education Resources (OER):
 - developed partnership with OER Commons, gathering online resources through a growing online community to support instruction
- VT Lottery Partnership:
 - Grant program started with Lottery funding to provide Makerspaces to 2 schools in VT on an annual basis

Innovation and Infrastructure

- 3DVermont:
 - History/Architecture/Technology program whereby schools develop models of key community buildings and compete for prizes/recognition in late March. Annual competition in its 5th year.
- ISTE Standards adoption/implementation:
 - State Board adopted standards for student use of education technology

At-a-glance Data Review

- 198 schools report using PLP platforms
- 165 schools now have 1:1 computing in multiple grades
- 260 schools report fiber connectivity (which is superior) as opposed to DSL or Cable
- Over 60% of computing devices in VT schools are Chromebooks
- Almost 200 schools now take part in Hour of Code activities annually

How are we doing?

Common Data Project

New England Secondary School Consortium

Measure	2013 All Students	2017 All Students	Difference
4-Year High School Graduation (2015)*	86.6%	89.1%	+2.5%
6-Year High School Graduation (2015)**	90.5%	91.2%	+0.7%
High School Dropouts (2017)	9.6%	8.1%	-1.5%

Vermont in 2017:

Compared to New England Colleagues

- Highest 4-year graduation rate (89.1%)
- Highest 4-year grad rate for ED (81.2%)
- Highest 4-year grad rate for SWD (76.5%)
- Highest 4-year grad rate for males (88%)
- Highest 4-year grad rate Hispanic students (89.8%)

Vermont in 2017:

Compared to New England Colleagues

- Highest 6-year grad rate for students (97.3%)
- Highest 6-year grad rate for ED (83.6%)
- Highest 6-year grad rate for ELL (90.7%)*
- Highest 6-year grad rate for SWD (83.2%)
- Highest 6-year grad rate for female (93%)
- Highest 6-year grad rate for Black (91.7%)*, Hispanic (96.5%)*, and Native American (93.9%)*
- Highest college completion rate (69.9%)

Thank You Questions?

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