

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR 2010 AND BEYOND

All students have equal access to wide variety of programs

All students will reach their potential and enjoy the trip

The Commissioner of education will have authority to enforce state law and regulations and the authority to waive certain rules and regulations to allow districts to meet students educational needs in flexible ways. The department will have the responsibility of sharing models of excellence with other schools. District superintendents will also be responsible for getting best practices implemented in their schools.

There will be one superintendent for each technical/vocational area. There will also be a CFO specially certified in educational funding and spending. There will be one budget for each of these areas. (Think global budgeting for education) The superintendent and principals will figure out the staffing for each school in that district on a yearly basis. (Think flexibility)

Each district will have a board made up of one member from each school. Simple majority rules.

Principals will be responsible for the running of their schools and will make decisions affecting their schools. Budgeting is done on the district level. There will be local school boards that deal with the educational programs and advancement of those programs in their school.

Schools with high rates of low income families and English as a second language families will receive specific additional block grants to provide services to these children to allow them to perform at their appropriate grade level as rapidly as possible.

All schools will have free meals for all students and will have healthy foods and meals.

Schools with a high number of students performing below grade level will receive special attention and develop plans to close those gaps, or suffer financial penalties. (Like higher local property taxes) This will apply to high schools with high drop out rates as well.

The Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning has worked well. We need to keep it in place.