**EDUCATION QUALITY TEAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

The Agency of Education provides a **statewide system of support for continuous improvement** by:

* training and support for applying an improvement science approach to continuous improvement planning;
* guiding the administration of comprehensive needs assessments and implementing continuous improvement plans;
* differentiating support and monitoring of continuous improvement plans; and
* organizing and managing systems of Networked Improvement Communities (NICs) in which schools can test and revise improvement theories, as well as share promising practices.

**Theory of Action**

If we provide evidence-based, differentiated technical assistance, resources, and professional learning opportunities to Supervisory Unions and Supervisory Districts based on a coherent, education quality and continuous improvement framework, then we will build statewide capacity, equity, internal accountability and improve educational outcomes for all.

We have been in the process of maximizing the quality of internal infrastructure and processes in order to better support the needs of our local education agencies (LEAs) and schools. Our Education Quality Team (formerly School Effectiveness) is committed to providing evidence-informed, differentiated technical assistance, resources, professional learning opportunities, and support to local education agencies, based on a coherent education quality framework for continuous improvement. Our goal is to build statewide capacity, equity, internal accountability, and improve educational outcomes for all. Collectively, with other newly formed Agency of Education teams, we are integrating our [Education Quality Standards (EQS)](http://education.vermont.gov/documents/state-board-rules-series-2000), as well as the new federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) standards for equity, to best support LEAs and schools.

**Education Quality Reviews (EQR)** help assess the degree to which the Education Quality Standards (EQS) are being addressed in Vermont schools, identify best practices and to support the continuous improvement of our schools.

We will assess implementation of EQS through two reviews:

* Annual Snapshot Review
* Integrated Field Review

**Pilot Program:** The Agency of Education is working to pilot both the Annual Snapshot Review and Integrated Field Review to help inform the final process for Education Quality Reviews.

In case you missed Secretary Holcombe’s memo on our staffing changes: <http://education.vermont.gov/memos/edu-memo-aoe-staff-realignment>

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|  | Education Quality | |
| **ESSENTIAL SUPPORTS FOR VERMONT’S EDUCATIONAL QUALITY STANDARDS**  **2125** Continuous Improvement Plan **2126** System for Determining Compliance with EQS | | |
| Technical Assistance and Support | | |
| The Vermont AOE believes that a continuous system of improvement, informed by data and on-going professional growth contribute to improved student outcomes and high-quality schools.  **OUR TEAM SUPPORTS INTEGRATED FIELD REVIEWS (IFR) BY:**   * leading and supervising review teams and ensuring the fidelity of the process; * providing technical assistance related to the IFR report findings; and * organizing and managing the appropriate professional learning and support for all areas in the report, in collaboration with essential AOE teams.   **OUR TEAM LEADS A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF SUPPORT FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT BY:**   * training and support for applying an improvement science approach to continuous improvement planning; * guiding the administration of comprehensive needs assessments and implementation of continuous improvement plans; * differentiating support for and monitoring of continuous improvement plans; * organizing and managing systems of Networked Improvement Communities (NICs) in which schools can test and revise improvement theories, as well as share promising practices; and * assisting school systems in leveraging federal dollars through:   + implementing the school improvement grant application and approval process;   + guiding the development and implementation of comprehensive support and improvement programs, and targeted support and improvement programs, as described in Every Student Succeeds Act, as well as monitoring the implementation and impact;   + organizing and coordinating the support system, in collaboration with other AOE teams; and   + facilitating sessions at the Annual CFP Conference. | | |
| Key Resources | | |
| * **Education Quality and Continuous Improvement Framework**-Our quality improvement framework and statewide system of support for education quality and continuous improvement. * **Continuous Improvement Plan Template**-Essential components for the comprehensive needs assessment and continuous improvement plan. * **EQS Research and Resources Companion Document**-A companion to EQS, including success criteria, guiding questions, research, and resources to support effective implementation of EQS components | | |
| Key Staff | | |
| * Josh Souliere, Assistant Director * Donna Stafford, Education Quality Manager * Lori Dolezal, Education Quality Manager * Jesse Roy, Education Quality Coordinator | | * Vacant, Education Quality Coordinator * Vacant, Education Quality Coordinator * Vacant, Education Quality Coordinator |
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