

February 7, 2023



Dear Alison,

We're continuing to celebrate [School Board Recognition Month](#) here at the VSBA! On Thursday, February 9 at 3:00pm, the Vermont House of Representatives will recognize Vermont's school board members with the reading of a resolution. We invite all school board members to attend this reading. If you plan to be there, please let us know you are attending so that we can connect with you and thank you for your service.

If you missed last week's webinar "How School Boards Can Support Student Achievement and Close Gaps," we wanted to make sure you know the recording and handouts are available on the [homepage of our website](#). The webinar had rave reviews from participants! Supporting student achievement and closing gaps is what being a school board member is all about. Based on the feedback from this webinar we are planning ways to provide more of this type of resource to members in the future.

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HOT TOPICS

Leading for Educational Equity Curriculum Pilot, March 6, 4-7pm

VSBA recently hired a curriculum writer to adapt Leading for Educational Equity Curriculum for use in Vermont. We need a few volunteers to pilot this curriculum for us in Montpelier on Monday afternoon/evening, March 6. There is no charge to participate, and dinner will be provided. [Click here if interested.](#)

BIPOC Affinity Group Meeting on Friday, March 3, 3:30-5 pm

VSBA is launching our first Affinity Group, and this is exclusively for BIPOC School Board Members. The first meeting will be by Zoom and explore what direction and guidelines the participants want to establish. Bonnie Johnson-Alex, a well-respected Vermont administrator and experienced facilitator, will help get the group off to a great start. Affinity Groups are spaces where individuals can relate with each other, share ideas and suggestions, and receive mutual support to help them do their work. We know how important it is to provide support for BIPOC teachers and administrators. We believe it is also valuable for school board members. If you or one of your fellow board members meet the criteria and would like to participate in this group, please [click here](#) to be added to our contact list. We will reach out to you personally with more information.

VSBA Seeks Director of Board Services

VSBA has a job opening for a Director of Board Services. Please see the [VSBA home page](#) for the job description and more information about the application process.

GOVERNANCE TIPS

Supports for Good Governance

By the time of adoption, Vermont's new Governance Standards will be well vetted by board members, administrators, state policy makers, and the general public. They will not be the be all, end all of good governance, but they will provide an essential starting place. Be thinking about the three main areas—Priorities, Protocols, and Processes. Consider:

1. Are your board's priorities clear, shared, and known throughout the district?
2. Do you have a recently reviewed or adopted written board operating protocol that supports the board's work?
3. Are your board's processes clear, predictable, and known throughout the district?

Reflection and attention to these three foundational areas of governance will keep your board focused on the things that matter most.

EQUITY

Black History Month Series Hosted By Office of Racial Equity and Vermont Human Rights Commission

The State of Vermont Office of Racial Equity and the Vermont Human Rights Commission are providing a 28-day series to commemorate Black History Month. It's not too late to sign up! Every day in February, they are sharing one event, quote, resource, fact, or activity that spotlights the greatness of the Black community, and you can win some raffle prizes along the way!

Sign up using this form: [2023 BHM E-Mail Sign-Up](#).

SAVE THE DATE



3/2/23 Webinar

The New 2023 School Board: Onboarding New Board Members and Reorganizing the Board Noon - 1:00pm

Town Meeting Day is coming quickly. You will walk away from this webinar with knowledge and materials to ensure your district has the best practices for onboarding and working well with new members and reorganizing your new board.

This webinar is open to all central office staff as well as school board members.

[REGISTER HERE](#) FREE WEBINAR

3/3/23

BIPOC Affinity Group Meeting 3:30 - 5:00pm

For more information [see above](#). If you or one of your fellow board members meet the criteria and would like to participate in this group, please [click here](#) to be added to our contact list. We will reach out to you personally with more information.

3/6/23

Leading for Education Equity Curriculum Pilot 4:00 - 7:00pm

For more information [see above](#). We need a few volunteers to pilot this curriculum for us in Montpelier on Monday afternoon/evening, March 6. There is no charge to participate, and dinner will be provided. [Click here if interested.](#)

If you have any thoughts about the VSBA Weekly Updates, please let us know. We always welcome your feedback.

Thank you for your dedicated service as school board members. **What you do makes a difference!**

Sincerely,

Sue Ceglowski
VSBA Executive Director



Our mailing address is:
2 Prospect St, Suite 4, Montpelier, VT 05602

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).