



Artifact 5
VDC Agreement Letter

Vermont Appendix A - Optional Attachments

Vermont Data Consortium
250 Main Street, Suite 202
Montpelier, VT 05602
November 18, 2009

Armando Vilaseca
Commissioner of Education
Vermont Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620

Dear Commissioner Vilaseca:

The purpose of this letter is to outline an agreement between the Vermont Data Consortium (VDC) and the Vermont Department of Education regarding the role of the VDC within the LDS project. The VDC recognizes that it plays a major role in the project due to its unique combination of technical expertise and strongly cultivated relationships with Vermont districts. Half of Vermont supervisory unions/districts are currently members of the VDC, and over the past five years the VDC has worked with 80% of all Vermont districts on data-related issues. These distinctive attributes will allow the VDC to support all Vermont school districts during the expansion of the EDW as well as during the implementation of a statewide student information system and associated toolsets.

A project of this scope will require a number of services which the VDC is confident we can provide. Since 2004, the partnership between the Vermont Data Consortium and the Vermont Department of Education has conceptualized, implemented, maintained and expanded the Education Data Warehouse – arguably the most successful statewide education technology initiative to date. Given the established track-record of success, we strongly believe that the goals of the project are very attainable.

From assisting in gathering local system specifications to data migration to ongoing support using the new reporting and analysis tools, the VDC is well prepared to do the work this project requires. In fact, it is the only educational organization in the state that regularly collaborates with all levels in the system - schools, districts, Education Service Agencies and the Department of Education - on data, reporting, analysis and school improvement issues. The VDC wholeheartedly supports the paradigm shift that the LDS project is introducing, and we look forward to being a leading participant in the project implementation.

Sincerely,

Bill Kimball

Bill Kimball, Chair
Vermont Data Consortium Board of Directors
www.vermontdata.org