



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAMS

Richard H. Cate
Commissioner of Education
Vermont Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

Dear Commissioner Cate:

On June 18, 2007 the Vermont Department of Education (VDOE) submitted an addendum to the revised State highly qualified teacher (HQT) plan. The addendum provides the 2006 HQT data by district and school and an analysis of the implications of the most recent data on the progress toward meeting the 100 percent HQT goal and the state's equity plan. Thank you for submitting the addendum and accompanying data tables.

The U.S. Department of Education concurs with the analysis presented by VDOE. VDOE must continue to work with the schools indicated in the addendum on making progress toward having 100 percent of the classes taught by highly qualified teachers. During the next monitoring review of the Title II, Part A program and the HQT provisions, the monitoring team will specifically ask for the progress made by these particular schools.

In addition, the equitable distribution data shows that, at present time, poor and minority students are not being taught at higher rates than other students by inexperienced or unqualified teachers. While these data make it unnecessary for VDOE to formulate an equitable distribution plan at this time, VDOE must review the data on an annual basis to determine if there are changes in the data that would necessitate an equitable distribution plan. If such change occurs, VDOE is required to formulate a plan and submit it to the Department. The VDOE must keep records of these data and analysis on file for the monitoring team to examine during future monitoring reviews.

We will post the addendum to Vermont's state plan on the Department's Web site. We look forward to continuing to work with you in implementing Vermont's HQT plan. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Coplin at 202-260-3828 or via email at julie.coplin@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Butler".

James Butler
Group Leader, Teacher Quality Programs Group

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