



Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children

Dear colleagues,

Last week, VTAEYC+NAEYC members received [a letter from NAEYC](#) informing us Alabama's governor forced NAEYC Governing Board member **Dr. Barbara Cooper** from her position as head of the state's Department of ECE for using NAEYC's Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) book. NAEYC is responding by asking ECEs and allies nationwide to [sign a public statement in support of DAP](#).

VTAEYC's leadership has signed on, and we ask you to sign as well. We stand behind Dr. Cooper and we stand behind the expertise of early childhood educators working for decades in partnership with families and in the best interests of our young children.

Here in Vermont, S.56 - the historic 2023 Child Care Bill - is nearing a vote in the full House. This bill represents major and much-needed relief to our workforce crisis. S.56 provides unprecedented investment in ECE compensation, in grants for recruitment and retention, and in expanding tuition assistance to families.

We need S.56 to pass to transform our ECE system today, *and* we also need to make sure this bill is a firm foundation for our future ECE profession. That means protecting language in the bill that explicitly supports our current mixed-delivery system, *which is itself* a developmentally appropriate practice.

So today I ask you to take two advocacy actions: First, to [stand up in support of the principles of DAP](#).



And second, to put those principles into action here at home. [Contact your legislators](#) with a two part message: **Please pass S.56 this session!** And: **Please ensure that S.56 preserves Vermont's current best practice mixed-delivery pre-K system.**

My best,

Sharron Harrington
Interim Executive Director



Seeking Annual Conference Workshop Proposals

VTAEYC's Conference Committee seeks proposals for the 2023 VTAEYC Annual Conference!

Do you have a workshop idea that is hands-on, creative, and sparks joyful learning? We'd love to see it!

Review details and fill out the Request for Proposals Survey here. surveymonkey.com/r/2023-Conference-RFP

Questions? Contact conference@vtaeyc.org



At National Conferences, Workforce Development Team Presents

On Building Vermont's ECE Pathways

VTAEYC's ECE Workforce Development team is on a cross-country conference trip, learning from colleagues and presenting on *Building Vermont's ECE Pathways*.

Here are (L-R) **Paula Nadeau**, **Brenda Schramm**, and **Mandi Menard** at the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® National Convening in North Carolina, where Brenda was delighted by surprise accolades for VTAEYC "when NAEYC's **Lauren Hogan** highlighted Vermont's work with Advancing ECE as a Profession in her presentation!"

The team is now presenting at the ECE Pathways to Success National Conference in California. Stay tuned for a recap when they return.



Q: How will S.56 relieve our workforce crisis?

"S.56 proposes increased CCFAP reimbursement rates to programs: we know those rates will allow child care programs to pay higher wages and increase benefits. Also included in the bill are readiness payments and grants to child care programs that would begin in July of this year."

That was **Drake Turner**, speaking during the [ECE Child Care Bill Update](#), April 6. Since that last bill briefing, the numbers continued to take shape.

Right now, S.56 includes:

- ➔ \$135+ million in additional annual funding
- ➔ \$18.8+ million in grants for recruitment, retention, facility upgrades, and more
- ➔ 38.5%+ increase in CCFAP reimbursement rates paid to programs - with an even bigger boost to family child care home-based programs
- ➔ 80%+ of Vermont's families with children under 5 who are eligible for state support will receive help from CCFAP

To contact your legislators to ask them to pass S.56 - and to urge them to protect our mixed-delivery Pre-K system - [use this form](#).

Coming Soon: New VTAEYC.org

Bookmark it! VTAEYC is excited to unveil a freshly redesigned vtaeyc.org. The updated site will be easier to navigate and full of resources and opportunities. Coming later this month!



Upcoming Events

ECE Tech Night!

Let's Grow Kids

Thurs. May 18, 6:00-7:15 pm | Zoom

Are you considering using technology in your child care business? Want to automate your attendance, enrollment forms, billing, tuition payments, parent communication and more? Not sure what platform is best for your program's needs? Join Brightwheel, Wonderschool and Playground as they each take you on a brief tour of their sites and answer your questions.

[Details and register in advance](#)

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Zoom Ahead: Pathways to AOE Educator Licensure with ECE Endorsement

Heather Duhamel

Thurs. May 18, 6:30-7:15 pm | Zoom

May's Zoom Ahead call will focus on various alternative pathway options, testing requirements, and portfolio options for early childhood educators to obtain an educator license with ECE endorsement from Vermont's Agency of Education.

[Register in advance for this meeting.](#)

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Annual Membership Meeting

Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance

May 30, 1:30-4:30 pm | Montshire Museum of Science, Norwich

Hear updates from the 2023 Legislative Agenda, learn about being a member of the Alliance, hear from the DCF Commissioner Chris Winters, and learn about a funders' view of advocacy from representatives from the

Turrell Fund and the Couch Family Foundation. All are welcome; only members of the Alliance may vote during the governance portion of the day.

[Register in advance](#)

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VTAEYC Annual Conference

Spark Creative and Joyful Learning

Mon. and Tues., Nov. 6+7 | Stoweflake Resort, in person

Forward this email to an early childhood educator
or advocate for early childhood education.

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