

# Agenda

## Vermont 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission

### School and Teacher Outreach Committee

January 5, 2026 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Eric. Martha, Rich Strum, Elsa Gilbertson, Phil Holland, Jonathan Clark, Meghan Hill Batholomew, Jonah Spivak, Meg Mallory

#### LINKS & RESOURCES:

- [CTE- rubric](#)

#### NOTES:

##### I. Welcome and Introductions

- Jonah: Jonathan Clark will be filling in for Kathy Delneo. He will be officially a member of the committee.

##### II. Changes to Agenda

##### III. Approval of October Minutes

- Rich motions approval, Elsa Seconds. Minutes Pass

##### IV. Public Comment

##### V. Old Business

- VASS- conference update
  - Great, overall
  - Several complaints about a couple presenters just trying to sell books. Never had that issue before. Need better vetting mechanisms
    - Tyler Alexander
  - Have not met as VASS board
  - 250th didn't get super high marks
  - Students very nervous
  - Misnamed because of lack of 250th connection
  - Relied on educator (first year teacher)
  - VT Public was supposed to be helping them
- VT Public
  - 1) Google doc of the VT Public/CTE video project rubric: DRAFT Vermont 250th CTE Video Rubric - Google Docs. Also attached above. Hopefully,

you can open one of them, but let me know if you can't. Much was developed by PBS but several of us worked on the 'content' lens.

- 2) Vermont Public/ 250th / AOE Press release: (went out November 14)
- 3) Vermont Public updates of 250th funding:

Timeline check:

July 2025

Toolkits sent to participating programs – complete

August 8, 2025 Project Kick-off Meeting with CTE Instructor

Vermont Public 12:00-1:00 and ZOOM

365 Troy Ave Colchester, VT with Lunch from City Market - complete

By September 2025

Vermont Public will ensure teachers and CTE programs have all submission guidelines and are empowered by a unified question and a clear timeline. - complete

By October 2025

Vermont Public will coordinate workshops and opportunities for student collaboration with our Vermont Public production and video teams (news/journalism)- ZOOM or timelines for visit & office hours - complete

On November 20, 2025

Student and Instructor session at the Vermont Alliance for the Social Studies Conference with Vermont Public - complete

November - Press Release

Adjusted participation noted in press release - complete

By January, 2026

Updated rubric- all stakeholders

By February, 2026

ADD History Lessons: Office Hours

Story arch Q & A - include multiple perspectives

Declaration of Independence and 250th themes

By March, 2026

Opportunity to share with Vermont Public and history consultant for strength-based feedback and suggestions ahead of final edits.

By Friday, April 1, 2026

Submission Deadline

Each video will be high quality and 3-5 minutes in length/horizontal

By June 1, 2026

All videos will be edited and ready for broadcast distribution and shared with a national

audience in partnership with American Public Television.

\*Possible community showcase event at Vermont Public or structured as part of the broadcast special (2026 in Colchester and perhaps 2027 Bennington)

- Martha: shared that she and Izzy own an issue with money. Half went to the Ken Burns, which was not anticipated.
- Jonah: says that it may be a benefit disguised as an issue.
- 4) VT Public Office Hours for CTE Teachers/students- looking for our expertise! Wednesdays from 10-11 -beginning January 21.
- Jonah: History expertise and background is missing for these students. Students and teachers may need office hours to get guidance and support from us (content experts). It would be great if committee members could be available to support.
- Martha has shared that she has connections to history experts
- Elsa: Concerned about lack of “history” with really now and future focus, which may miss the point
- Meg Mallory: Suggested a link of topics and examples for 250th related prompt. Also concerned about lack of knowing what kids are needing and not being able to prepare.
- Jonah: thinks having individual topics is a really good idea
- Martha: Asking for folks to do homework with ideas. Martha will send out prompts

Each CTE program will decide to participate based what is best for their group, of course but I will send them a weekly invite and ZOOM link:

Heather Duhamel (she/her) is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

CTE- rubric; share/office hours

- Phil: Concerned about the Copyright element: Most or all footage was recorded by the producing team, with full ownership. Some footage acquired, with documented permission. Most or all still images were taken by the production team. Some still images acquired, with documented permission Will send a suggested edit.
- Martha will bring this up to Heather at Vermont Public
- Jonah willing to be a part of the meeting.

Art Project-Eric

- 250th Art Exhibition PD Day, 12/18/25, in Brattleboro at the River Gallery School
- 5 Educators attended from CTE, K-8, K-5, 6-8, PreK-8

Potential Collaboration with Congresswoman Balint’s 2026 Congressional Art Show and the Vermont 250th Art Exhibition

- Eric: Send Jonathan Clark the 250th Art Exhibition Blurb, cc. The rest of the team as well. He will share with libraries

Monday, March 2nd, seeking any volunteers who would be available to help hang the 250th Art Exhibition at the Vermont Statehouse

- Meghan Hill B. Willing to help. Keep her in loop
- Meg Mallory available
- Jonah: If he can dovetail lobbying in Montpelier with setting up, he would love to make that work

## VI. New Business

### Gibb Smith Publishing

- Martha pointed to Abenaki Curriculum (not actually a curriculum, more like a C3 inquiry framework)
- Martha is asking if any folks would like to be put in contact to be Vermont History Experts
- Meghan H.B thinks someone at museum could support
- Elsa: Depends on what they want. Her organization always willing to share information
- Meg M. Also willing

### K-8 Framework- VT resource request

- Martha: Not easy to share because it is by individual grade. They are PDFs so not super easy to give feedback
- Looking for resources that could get dropped in
- Martha will share with everyone

### State Board of Education

- AOE has sent recommendations
- State board has until July 2027, but we hope they will make the decision in 2026 to give schools time to plan
- AOE recommending 3.0 Credits of History
- Hope this will have downstream effects to support K-8 Social Studies.

Jonah: 250th asking for more money from the legislature.

- Jonah: Commission ends December 2027

## VII. Adjourn

Next Meeting: TBD

Future Agenda:

- Flow of History w/Izzy
- Teacher highlight
- Project updates