Vermont Learning Collaborative Shares Preliminary Act 170 Merger Committee Groupings

The Vermont Learning Collaborative (VTLC), the organization responsible for leading the facilitation of Vermont's district merger committee process under Act 170, today shared preliminary merger committee groupings for eighteen (18) merger study committees across the state's seven regions.

These groupings reflect a starting point, not a final decision. The preliminary merger committees are informed by the suggested groupings identified in Act 170 and were adjusted based on individual school board actions and requests. In some cases, board requests to join a different committee left a suggested group smaller than the 2000-student threshold established in the legislation; when that happened, those groups were dissolved and their member districts were reassigned to make sure every committee meets the statutory minimum.

A Brief Window for Board Feedback

A consultation and feedback period will be open from September 18 through September 23, 2026. During this period, local school board chairs may contact the Act 170 Lead Facilitator, Dave Younce, with questions or requests for clarification regarding their preliminary grouping.

The Facilitation Team intends to finalize groupings to the fullest extent possible by Friday, September 25, 2026. Any updates will be shared publicly through the same channels as this announcement.

Average Daily Membership (ADM), referenced below, is a count of resident and state-placed students who receive public-expense elementary or secondary education, categorized by the town where the student resides. The figures below represent the latest 2-Year Average ADM data provided by the Vermont Agency of Education.

Preliminary Merger Committee Groupings

Region	Merger Committee	Member Districts; ADM	ADM
Champlain Valley North	Group Seventeen	Enosburg-Richford Unified Union School District: 854 Fairfax School District: 908 Fletcher School District: 195 Georgia School District: 829 Maple Run Unified School District: 2,368 Missisquoi Valley School District: 1,823 Northern Mountain Valley Unified Union School District: 1,139	8,116
Champlain Valley North	Group Nineteen	Alburgh School District: 283 Champlain Islands Unified Union School District: 392 Colchester School District: 2,331 Milton Town School District: 1,465 South Hero School District: 222	4,693
Champlain Valley South	Group One	Addison Central School District: 1,669 Addison Northwest School District: 889 Hannaford Regional Technical Center Mount Abraham Unified School District: 1,190	3,248
Champlain Valley South	Group Thirteen	Champlain Valley School District: 3,951 Harwood Unified Union School District: 1,750 Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District: 2,564	8,265

Chittenden Central	Group Fourteen	Essex Westford Educational Community Unified Union School District: 3,528	3,528
Chittenden Central	Group Eighteen	Burlington School District: 3,385 South Burlington School District: 2,512 Winooski ID: 785	6,682
Northeast	Group Ten	Blue Mountain Union School District: 384 Cabot School District: 163 Danville School District: 289 Oxbow Unified Union School District: 613 Peacham School District: 106 Thetford Town School District: 360 Waits River Valley Union School District #36: 397	2,312
Northeast	Group Eleven	Caledonia Cooperative School District: 542 Canaan School District: 138 Kingdom East Unified Union School District: 1,675 NEK Choice School District: 326 St. Johnsbury School District: 1,021 Stannard Town School District: 7	3,709
Northeast	Group Twelve	Brighton School District: 122 Charleston School District: 116 Coventry School District: 164 Derby School District: 365 Holland School District: 61 Jay School District: 44 Lake Region Union Elementary-Middle SD: 666 Lake Region Union High School District: 321 Lowell School District: 87 Morgan School District: 44 Newport City School District: 310 Newport Town School District: 147 North Country Union High School District: 678 North Country Union Junior High School Board: 213 Troy School District: 190 Westfield School District: 39	3,567
Southwest	Group Two	Barstow Unified School District: 265 Ira School District: 43 Mill River Unified Union School District: 698 Otter Valley Unified Union School District: 1,158 Quarry Valley Unified Union School District: 990 Rutland City School District: 1,716 Rutland Town School District: 540 Slate Valley Unified Union School District: 1,220	6,630
Southwest	Group Three	Mettawee School District: 261 Readsboro School District: 65 River Valleys Unified School: 220 Searsburg School District: 23 Somerset School District: 1 Southwest Vermont Technical Center Stamford School District: 102 Stratton School District: 42 Taconic and Green Regional School District: 1,599 Wells Spring Unified Union School District: 255 Windham School District: 24 Winhall School District: 200	2,792

Southwest	Group Four	Arlington School District: 344 Mount Anthony Union High School District #14: 1,351 North Bennington Graded School District: 159 Sandgate School District: 68 Southwest Vermont Technical Center Southwest Vermont Union Elementary School District: 1,296	3,218
Southeast / VTLC	Group Five	Halifax School District: 94 Marlboro School District: 105 Twin Valley Unified School District: 372 Vernon Town School District: 297 West River Modified Union Education District: 442 Windham Southeast School District: 2,121	3,431
Southeast / VTLC	Group Seven	Athens Grafton School District: 47 Bellows Falls Union High School District: 310 Green Mountain Unified School District: 593 Ludlow-Mount Holly Unified Union School District: 319 River Valley Technical Center Rockingham School District: 443 Springfield School District: 1,184 Westminster School District: 191	3,087
Southeast / VTLC	Group Eight	Hartford School District: 1,269 Hartland School District: 400 Mount Ascutney School District: 554 Mountain Views School District: 911 Pittsfield School District: 45 Weathersfield School District: 360	3,539
Winooski Valley	Group Nine	Echo Valley Community School District: 279 First Branch Unified School District: 339 Granville-Hancock Unified District: 95 Lincoln School District: 192 Orange Southwest Unified Union School District: 806 Rochester-Stockbridge Unified District: 176 Sharon School District: 272 Strafford School District: 167 White River Unified District: 571	2,897
Winooski Valley	Group Fifteen	Cambridge School District: 310 Craftsbury School District: 177 Elmore-Morristown Unified Union School District: 762 Hazen Union School District: 253 Lamoille North MUSD and Lamoille USD: 1,434 Mountain View Union Elementary School District: 305 Stowe School District: 726 Wolcott School District: 223	4,190
Winooski Valley	Group Twenty	Barre Unified Union School District: 2,127 Central Vermont Career Center Montpelier Roxbury School District: 1,187 Paine Mountain School District: 1,008 Twinfield Unified School District: 304 Washington Central Unified Union School District: 1,299	5,925

Key Milestones Under Act 170

September 1, 2026	Lead Facilitator and Regional Facilitators contracted
September 18 to 23, 2026	Consultation and feedback period on preliminary groupings
September 25, 2026	Target date to finalize groupings
October 15, 2026	Merger committees have held first meetings
September 1, 2027	Final merger study committee reports due
September -December 2027	Agency of Education review and State Board of Education findings issued
March 2028	Possible community votes on proposed merged districts