



Welcome to the Professional Preparation and Development Committee.

If you are getting this packet, you have expressed interest in this committee as a new member, an interested stakeholder, or because you are considering becoming a new member.

This packet contains our mission and purpose statement, a description of our relationship to the Building Bright Futures State Council, recent meeting minutes, and a diagram of the relationship of this committee to the Northern Lights Career Development Center.

A little history...

The Professional Preparation and Development (PPD) Committee formed after Vermont's first Early Childhood Work Group retreat in 1992. At the time, visionary leaders wanted to bring together the groups, activities, and resources that supported the array of services and programs delivered to children, their families, and the adults who work with them. The PPD Committee's initial charge was to examine the issues and current state of early childhood professional development in Vermont. Recognizing the strengths and talents we shared was the first step; quickly the committee identified that limited coordination of professional development opportunities, limited knowledge across settings, and limited number of people who had individual professional development plans (IPDPs), were issues to address.

Major accomplishments...

Over the years, PPD committee members have worked hard to develop tools, products, and systems to support the professionals who work with young and school-age children, and their families in Vermont. Some notable accomplishments are The Vermont Guide to Early Childhood Careers, first edition; Planning Your Professional Growth, first edition; and the conceptual framework and RFP for Vermont's first statewide professional development system, the Northern Lights Career Development Center.

A note about Afterschool...

In the early years, the PPD Committee focused primarily on *early* childhood professional development. Realizing that child care and education in Vermont are services that children from birth to school age relied upon, we acknowledge our responsibility to the Afterschool professionals who work with school age children in a variety of settings across the state. While some professional needs are different, both the early childhood and Afterschool professionals deserve thoughtful, high quality, accessible professional development opportunities within a coordinated system to do their best work. We strive to be inclusive of both early childhood and Afterschool professionals.

Meeting information and contact people ...

PPD meetings are held five times a year and are usually from 9:00-3:00. Meeting dates are determined for the year and reminders are sent out via email, and in minutes. Agendas are prepared and distributed in advance of the meetings. Agenda topics are identified collectively by meeting attendees. Feel free to contact PPD facilitator, Jennifer Knauer, with questions: 802.355.4468 / jenknauer@gmail.com.

