

WDEV-AM____
WDEV-FM____

WEXP-FM____

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Programs & Issues List

The Radio Vermont Group

1st Quarter 2022

January 1st to March 31st

Following is a list of major topic areas to be addressed in our news and public affairs coverage. Different items may be substituted depending upon current news events unforeseen at the outset of this quarter.

Examples of specific stories are given to help you identify if the topic fits the issue category.

Issue 1: **COVID Vaccination/Testing Efforts**

Issue 2: **COVID Restrictions**

Issue 3: **Fed COVID Money Spending**

Issue 4: **Hospital Budget Woes**

Issue 5: **Chronic Labor Shortage**

WDEV-FM and AM

Programs and Issues – 2022

The Programs and Issues in this file are “representative” of our news and public affairs efforts – but do not fully demonstrate the breadth of our reporting and our commitment to “live” local and relevant radio. Below is a summary of some of our major regularly scheduled broadcast efforts.

Monday-Friday:

Radio VT News provides extended coverage of local, state and regional news:

6:05am – 7:05am – 8:05am – 12:05pm – 4:05pm – 5:05pm

Each Newscasts is 5 to 10-minutes in length and features a variety of reports.

At 7:30AM Mon-Fri – The Morning Briefing: 10-mins of World & National News

The Morning News Service airs from 7-9am – two full hours of news, weather, sports, travel updates, commentary, interviews, plus studio and phone guests. WDEV employs our own forecaster Roger Hill who details the micro-climate of the region while watching major national weather stories and climate change. The MNS is produced by Radio Vermont News with additional world and national updates from CBS Radio News.

Radio Vermont News has developed reporter relations with WCAX-TV Channel 3 News. Monday-Friday reporter Alexandra Montgomery joins the Morning News Service with a “live” interactive update to explore stories in much greater depth than available from wire service reports.

In our “Conversation with the Editor” series, we discuss major stories from some of Vermont’s most respected weekly newspapers:

Monday: The News & Citizen (Morrisville) – Tommy Gardner, Reporter
Tuesday: The Addison Independent (Middlebury) - John Flowers, Reporter
Wednesday: The Valley Reporter (Waitisfield) –Erica Nichols-Frazier, Reporter
Thursday: The Gazette (Hardwick) – Ray Small, Publisher & Editor
Friday: The Herald (Randolph) – Tim Calabro, Publisher

Vermont Viewpoint: 9-11am

This is our newsmaker public affairs interview program. Rick Cengeri, host a show that provides detailed analysis of the news plus a Vermont perspective on world events. His guests are varied and represent a wide spectrum. During the legislative session, Ric originates his program direct from the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier (Fridays and during special event days). His program also goes mobile for events such as the Chamber of Commerce Business EXPO, the Tunbridge World’s Fair and other gatherings.

The Midday News Service: Noon-1PM

An hour-long update of the very latest news, business report, sports, weather and a variety of human interest features. This is the most comprehensive lunchtime news hour of any Vermont radio station. With the “Special Assignment” section, Radio VT News often delivers lengthy segments of news conferences or legislative debate. We are committed to providing our listeners with more than a “sound bite” service.

The Afternoon News Service: 4-5:30PM

The very latest news developments, sports and weather, perfect for the drive home. Special updated reports on the day’s breaking news stories with Calvin Cutler from WCAX-TV News around 4:05PM and at 5:05PM, VT Digger.org reports – the state’s leading on-line investigative news site.

Waterbury Roundabout (Monday) – Lisa Scagliotti, Editor

Seven Days (Tuesday) – Courtney Lamdin, Reporter

Vermont Business Magazine (Wednesday)—Tim McQuiston, Editor

Stowe Reporter (Thursday) – Tom Gardner, Reporter

Times-Argus (Friday) – Steve Pappas, Editor

Re-Broadcast of WCAX-TV News: 11-11:30pm

Since the conversion to all digital over-the-air TV broadcasts, many in our listening area told us that they missed WCAX news – no longer available to them “over the air.”

Through special retransmission agreement with WCAX News, WDEV re-broadcasts the 11pm report as a service to the public. (This is occasionally pre-empted by late-airing sporting events such as when the Red Sox play on the West Coast.)

Saturday Morning:

Similar to weekdays, WDEV is “live and local” with updated news reports including the Morning News Service from 7-8am. This hour also features “For the Birds” a program dedicated to watching and listening to birds; “The Green Mountain Club” report – with opportunities to explore VT outdoors and take advantage of guided and organized hikes around the state.

Sunday Morning:

At 6:00AM, WDEV airs CBS Radio Sunday Morning, and “The Takeout with Majhor Garrett”, a weekly news magazine show. National and International issues are explored in-depth with a variety of reporters and guests.

WDEV airs Red Sox Baseball, Norwich D3 Hockey, NASCAR racing, local stock car racing and high school basketball (boys & girls) regular-season and championship games. WDEV provide “Team Coverage” of every Town Meeting Day (March) plus coverage of Primary and General Election nights.

RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 5 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM

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 - () On-Location Report(s) () Weekly Reporter _____
 - (X) Other Local 27

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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

Radio Vermont News

Revised: Jul-21



rundowncreator

Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont > Monday ANS - 2/14/2022 > B13 Crossing Guard Shortage

Versions

3. 2/14/2022 4:56:11 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:33 ▾

00:00:33 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The City of Burlington has a shortage in crossing guards, and in some cases school administrators are having to pick up the slack.

Nearly one third of the Crossing guards jobs are sitting empty.

One crossing guard, Latasha MacDonald, tells Local 22 News that she's out early every school day, ~~ensuring that children and pedestrians get across this busy street safely.~~

(021422SOT Latasha MacDonald)

The Director of Public Works, Chapin Spencer says In some cases, the shortage has forced school officials to fill in for the guards to help ensure the safety of students.

(021422SOT Chapin Spencer)

Recently, there have been times where there hasn't been any coverage when a crossing guard cannot work.

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rundowncreator

Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 2/14/2022 › B9 Restaraunts

Versions

1. 2/14/2022 3:33:28 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:43 ▾

00:00:43 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Vermont restaurateurs say they're at a "dire tipping point" because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Unaffordable housing near work and lack of transportation are two pressures the pandemic has worsened as restaurants scramble to attract and keep workers. Another is that employees have come to expect better pay and working conditions. Plus, restaurants are paying more for food.

Covid-related closures this winter have also been costly. One survey found that during the Omicron wave, 56 percent of Vermont restaurants had closed on days they would normally be open.

In 2020, the federal Restaurant Revitalization Fund helped about 30 percent of Vermont restaurants stay afloat, but that funding has dwindled. The National Restaurant Association estimates that 4,000 Vermont jobs could be lost without further help from the federal government.

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rundowncreator

Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Wednesday ANS - 2/2/2022 › B8 Postal Employees

Versions

1. 2/2/2022 3:45:04 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:40 ▾

00:00:40 at 20 ▾ characters per second

A U.S. Postal Service worker in Montpelier made a public plea for help last month as residents complained about widespread delivery delays.

The Postal Service has had to deliver a deluge of packages since people started staying home and ordering online when the pandemic began two years ago, and Vermonters have been raising concerns about problems with the mail for months.

Among the reasons for the delays, the postal worker said, is the Postal Service's new protocol of "packages first, mail second."

The postal worker said that free Covid-19 tests are compounding the problem. Since people have been able to order the tests, first from the state of Vermont and now from the federal government, the Montpelier Post Office is dealing with volume that is almost double that before Christmas.

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rundowncreator

Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 1/27/2022 › B4 VNG Staffing at Hospitals

Versions

1. 1/27/2022 4:59:57 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:34 ▾

00:00:34 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The Vermont National Guard says its members will increase staffing support to local hospitals struggling to meet demand in the face of the recent COVID surge.

The Vermont Department of Health has asked the Guard to shift support from vaccination clinics to provide wrap-around services for local hospitals because Vermont leads the nation in vaccination rate among all eligible groups age 5 and older.

In the first months of the pandemic, the Vermont National Guard helped distribute more than 3 million meals and has since received, organized and distributed hundreds of thousands of test kits and personal protective items to medical facilities and schools across the state.

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Welcome, Leel! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont > Thursday ANS - 1/13/2022 > B2 Staffing Shortage

Versions

1. 1/13/2022 11:54:33 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:27 v

00:00:27 at 20 v characters per second

Vermont's largest hospital, the University of Vermont Medical Center, is operating under an emergency staffing plan because 422 staff members are out of work for COVID-19 related reasons.

The hospital says staff will be sent "to areas of highest need."

It says the emergency staffing plan is expected to last for several weeks and services at outpatient clinics may need to be "adjusted."

Chief Nursing Officer Peg Gagne says staff are tired.

She urged people to please get vaccinated, wear a mask, and get tested when necessary.

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Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 1/10/2022 › B11 Nurses Union

Versions

1. 1/10/2022 3:31:13 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:46 ▾

00:00:46 at 20 ▾ characters per second

A federal-and-state effort to address Vermont's nursing shortage by training new nurses has drawn criticism from a major nurses union.

Last Monday, a new proposal was announced by three Vermont officials: Sen. Bernie Sanders, Gov. Phil Scott and state Senate President Pro Tempore Becca Balint. Under the plan, Vermont would increase nurse educator salaries with the goal of attracting more of them. The idea is to expand the number of training slots for new nurses so more of them enter the workforce.

But the proposal focuses on the future and ignores workplace conditions that triggered the crisis, according to leaders of the Vermont Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals. That group represents some 2,000 nurses at the University of Vermont Medical Center.

A spokesperson for Scott said the governor shares the union's frustrations and is open to additional proposals to address the crisis.

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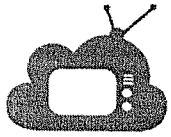
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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

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Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 10/28/2021 › B7 School Staff Shortages

Versions

1. 10/27/2021 7:29:05 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:24 ▾

00:00:24 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Hiring issues have caused major staff shortages in schools this year, so much so that many educators are doing double duty. One superintendent was even seen mowing the lawn in her district.

Alison Novak of Seven Days has more.

102721SOT Alison Novak A

Novak says some people are leaving the business because of COVID concerns, while some just think its too much pressure for not enough money.

102721SOT Alison Novak B

More on this story at Seven Days vt dot com.

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 1/6/2022 › B3 Traveling Health Workers

Versions

1. 1/6/2022 3:34:26 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:44 ▾

00:00:44 at 20 ▾ characters per second

With rising concerns about health care staff shortages and the unpre~~dictable~~ spread of Covid-19, Vermont lawmakers may extend a policy that allows retired and out-of-state health care personnel to practice in Vermont.

Before the pandemic, medical providers could not practice without a valid Vermont medical license, and the process of obtaining one can take weeks.

But when the coronavirus crisis hit Vermont in March 2020, that tight regulatory setup went out the window. Act 6 allows providers who are licensed in other states to work in Vermont and allows retirees to return to practice much faster than normal.

The law also touches many other aspects of health care, from paying for Covid-19 care to allowing pharmacists to administer nose swabs.

The law expires in March, but an informal coalition of health care advocates is pushing for a one-year extension.

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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New Text Document

A major state investigation shows many Vermonters are going months without the specialty health care they need.

For the past several years access to health care has not been keeping up with demand, and the pandemic response made that problem worse.

The report dug into why many Vermonters have to wait for months to see some medical specialists.

Ena Backus, the state's director of health care reform tells WCAX News that the Data shows neurology and dermatology patients wait the longest, sometimes over a year.

(021722SOT Ena Backus)

According to state leaders, the study does not demonstrate whether people received appropriate care within the appropriate time frame for their acuity.

The panel wants hospitals to track wait times and make the results public.

They also recommend making it easier to accept Medicaid payments, bolstering the number of physician's assistants, increasing telehealth, speeding up licensure for all medical professionals, and doubling down on shifting away from fee-for-service payments.

In the meantime, Financial Regulation Commissioner Mike Pieciak tells Channel 3 News that wait times could get longer as Vermont's demographic problem places a supply and demand crunch on specialty care.

(021722SOT Michael Pieciak)

Interim Human Services Secretary Jenny Samuelson says Vermonters might also need to lower their expectations.

(021722SOT Jenny Samuelson)

Some are already taking action to reduce wait times and woo workers. Brattleboro Memorial Hospital is sharing specialists with bigger hospitals. The UVM Medical Center announced this week it is raising wages and bonuses. And Northeastern Regional Hospital in St. Johnsbury is giving employees money for housing.

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New Text Document

The UVM Medical Center and the Union representing the hospital's nurses agreed on a 10% wage increase starting this next pay period.

The agreement comes before contract negotiations set for the coming months.

The Hospital says there is a 22% vacancy rate among nurses now, more than double what it is in an average year.

Deb Snell of the Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals tells WCAX News that about 300 traveling nurses are filling the staffing gaps at UVMMC, making more money on average than the nearly 2,000 union nurses at the medical center.

(021522SOT Deb Snell)

Nurses will also get an additional 5% increase both this October and next October, and all technical employees-- excluding imaging techs who have a separate agreement-- will receive a \$5,000 stabilization bonus.

Stephen Leffler, the president and COO of UVMMC, says the pay increases will cost the hospital over \$5 million for the rest of the fiscal year, with the retention bonuses costing around \$10 million over two years.

(021522SOT Stephen Leffler)

Snell says this translates to around a \$3-\$5 increase an hour.

Leffler adds while they are still assessing how these wages compete, he has a sense these will make them competitive in the state.

The rest of the nurses' contract will be negotiated in the spring but the wage aspect of negotiations is now complete.

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rundowncreator

Welcome, Leel! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Friday ANS - 1/14/2022 › B4 Nursing Costs

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Vermont Congressman, Peter Welch is calling on federal authorities to investigate possible price gouging with traveling nurses.

Welch signed onto a letter sent to the White House this week.

WCAX News asked Welch what the issue is, if the hospitals are willing to pay the costs.

(011422SOT Peter Welch A)

Welch was asked what measures should be taken.

(011422SOT Peter Welch B)

National Nurses United, the nation's largest union and professional association of registered nurses, held a National Day of Action on Thursday.

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New Text Document

State regulators said no Wednesday to a hefty increase in service charges at Rutland Regional Medical Center.

Green Mountain Care Board members voted 4-1 to deny the request for a midyear increase in those rates, citing concerns about the burden the increase would impose on small businesses and privately insured Vermonters.

Board members said much of the hospital's projected deficit for the current fiscal year involves one-time costs, such as retention bonuses and the higher costs of hiring temporary staff.

Green Mountain Care Board Chair Kevin Mullin tells WCAX News the regulators denied the request because a midyear adjustment isn't appropriate unless it's an emergency, and he argues Rutland Regional isn't there yet.

(033122SOT Kevin Mullin)

Claudio Fort, the hospital's chief executive and president, said without the increase, there could be cuts in services and the hospital could default on its loan payments.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 3/31/2022 › B10 Clinic Closes

Versions

1. 3/31/2022 4:59:25 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:41 ▾

00:00:41 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The closing of a Burlington clinic that evaluates children for developmental disabilities could make it tougher on families who have already had a hard time finding these kinds of resources.

The Child Development Clinic on Cherry Street has been run by the Vermont Department of Health for more than 60 years.

It will be closing its doors, and now families are being directed to the UVM Medical Center.

At the height of its work, the clinic was evaluating as many as 400 children annually, but in recent years they have seen fewer than that. The clinic provided evaluations for children with neurodevelopmental delays and also tested children for intellectual disabilities, genetic disorders, learning disabilities, and ADHD.

The Health Department says it's examining the gaps in these types of services.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 3 (See Cover Sheet)

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Note: RVNN = WDEV, WLVB and WEXP (simulcast news 5:00 Length)

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 - () Public Affairs Program () Interview / Caller Participation
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 - () Public Affairs () Vermont Viewpoint Show (WDEV 9-11)
 - () On-Location Report(s) () Weekly Reporter _____
 - Other Local 22 _____

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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

New Text Document

Governor Phil Scott and his administration are asking state lawmakers to remove some recent changes they have made to next year's budget.

The concerns have to do with changes to how Vermont's federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act will be used.

Lawmakers in the House reallocated \$90 million dollars ~~in federal funding from the American rescue plan Act~~, and Adam Greshin, the Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Management, ~~says~~ their plans don't align with the administration's long-term vision. *Full's Local 22 News*

(012822SOT Adam Greshin).

The administration is particularly concerned about what spending could be omitted from the final budget if the \$90 million dollars goes elsewhere.

(012822SOT Adam Greshin B)

th The House did not support several of the initiatives the Governor put forward, including \$5 million to Vermont Housing Finance Agency for a program focused on creating housing for moderate-income homebuyers.

RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 3 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT X RVNN-7AM _____ RVNN-8AM Y

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- () Weekly Reporter _____

Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

Untitled

\$50 million in financial help is available for homeowners who have fallen behind on mortgage and utility payments.

And unlike other packages, people can use it for past-due property taxes, too, dating all the way back to the beginning of the pandemic.

Maura Collins, the executive director of the Vermont Housing Finance Agency tells WCAX NEWS Applicants will have to prove financial hardship from the pandemic and there's a \$30,000 cap per household.

(012522SOT Maura Collins)

The Vermont Housing Finance Agency granted just under \$10 million to 900 Vermonters last year in a previous package. This time, they expect this money to help about 3,000 families.

There are caseworkers to walk people through the application process and legal assistance to help people get out of debt.

You can apply at vermonthap.vhfa.org. A Homeowner Assistance Program information hotline is open Monday through Friday, at 833-221-4208.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 3 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM

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- () Public Affairs
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Free to someone in need: Hospital bed, electric, fully adjustable, side rails, wheels with mattress, in good condition

Item(s):
Freebie
WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

To: TradingPost <TradingPost@radiovermont.com>
From: Marie C Boutin <[your-email]>
Town: Williamstown
Phone: 8024335876

Radio Vermont News
Marie C Boutin <wordpress@wdevradio.com>
Revised: Jul-21

Trading Post Submission



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Radio Vermont › Tuesday ANS - 1/25/2022 › B7 Homeowner Grants

Versions

1. 1/25/2022 2:23:18 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:38 ▾

00:00:38 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Vermont homeowners who need help covering their housing costs can apply for up to \$30,000 in relief from the state government.

According to Gov. Phil Scott's office, the state is now accepting applications for its Homeowner Assistance Program, a \$50 million fund meant to provide assistance to Vermonters facing economic hardships due to the pandemic.

Applicants can receive grants up to \$30,000 to help cover overdue mortgage payments, utility bills, property taxes and property association fees.

The program is managed by the Vermont Housing Finance Agency and funded through the federal American Rescue Plan Act. Scott's office said it is expected to continue for several years to alleviate long-term, pandemic-related economic turmoil.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 3 (See Cover Sheet)

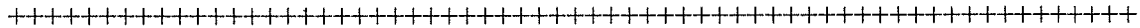
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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Friday ANS - 1/21/2022 › B2 370 Million

Versions

1. 1/21/2022 2:02:18 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:38 ▾

00:00:38 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The Vermont House gave preliminary but unanimous approval on Thursday to a \$358 million plan to spend tens of millions on housing, one-time bonuses for frontline workers, and a one-time payment required to seal the deal on a tentative proposal for pension reform.

The budget adjustment act is usually a sleepy affair, passed in the opening weeks of the legislative session, that makes minor tweaks to the current year's annual budget. Larger policy debates are reserved for the budget, which gets hashed out in the waning days of each annual session.

But with the state flush with federal cash -- and under pressure to spend quickly as both labor and housing shortages come to a head -- this year's budget adjustment bill, H.679, is a different story.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 3 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM X

Note: RVNN = WDEV, WLVB and WEXP (simulcast news 5:00 Length)

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Abu Dhabi issues law on divorce, inheritance for non-Muslims

- Special Report/ Ballot AP Radio News (Network)
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- Public Affairs Program Interview / Caller Participation
- VT Digger Reporter WCAAX Reporter
- On-Location Report(s) Weekly Reporter
- Other AMS Confluence

Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00
Published On 7 Nov 2021 00:5

Description or Script: Sudan security forces fire tear gas at anti-coup protesters
Attached or on Reverse side

Source: Al Jazeera and news agencies
Related
key officials are still detained.
Radio Vermont News
New Text Document
Revised: Jul-21

Untitled

-- Gov. Phil Scott laid out a budget plan Tuesday that he says will invest a record \$7.7 billion without raising taxes. In fact, the governor says it will return money to taxpayers.

011822SOT Phil Scott A

--The wide-ranging financial blueprint addresses workforce woes, housing and leftover federal funds.

The governor called for big investments in career technical centers, initiatives for retirees and internships through the Department of Labor.

011822SOT Phil Scott B

Among the proposals, he wants to add \$1 million to the state's internship program, assisting employers with wages and supporting workers in learning new skills. Another \$1 million would go to VSAC's Advancement Grants, which help adults enroll in training programs for careers like nursing, EMTs, line workers and web programmers. It also calls for \$2.7 million to pilot a workforce network in six communities. If it works, Scott says it should be expanded statewide.

--The governor is calling for \$15 million in budget adjustment to keep more nurses in Vermont. Another \$18 million in existing funds would help train, retain and recruit health care and mental health workers.

--Among other things, Scott says the budget fully funds the state's retirement obligations with a total payment of \$394 million.

To help Vermonters with housing needs, the budget proposes \$15 million to encourage the construction of homes for middle-income Vermonters. Another \$25 million would go to VHIP, to help transform rundown or vacant units. It also invests another \$105 million for affordable, mixed-income housing.

011822SOT Phil Scott C

--The governor proposed tax cuts focused on middle-income Vermonters, retirees and young workers. He says the package will help tens of thousands of Vermonters keep more of what they earn. There are tax credits for nurses and child care workers. And the governor proposed exempting military families' retirement from state taxes.

--The governor says a \$90 million surplus in the education fund can provide property taxpayers with a rebate on what they overpaid, proposing returning \$45 million to Vermonters this year.

RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 3 (See Cover Sheet)

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 1/10/2022 › B12 Liheap Money

Versions

2. 1/10/2022 11:36:47 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:33 ▾

00:00:33 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The Low Income Heating Assistance Program, or LIHEAP, will have its funding more than doubled this year.

The normal appropriation per year is around \$3 billion, but a big push by congress, has brought the program an additional \$4.5 billion from the American Recue Plan.

Vermont Congressman Peter Welch tells NBC5 the extra money is coming at an appropriate time.

(011022SOT Peter Welch)

Vermont is receiving \$26.6 million from the American Rescue Plan for LIHEAP. Added to the \$18.9 million in annual appropriation, \$45 million is now available to help families pay their heating bills.

About 39,000 people in Vermont use LIHEAP money every year to heat their homes.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 2 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Radio Vermont > Tuesday ANS - 1/11/2022 > B4 Mask Bill

Versions

1. 1/11/2022 3:06:36 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:42 ▾

00:00:42 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Democratic leaders in the Legislature have not been shy about criticizing Gov. Phil Scott's response to the pandemic since variants have sent the state's case and hospitalization numbers skyrocketing.

And, in the days and weeks leading up to the 2022 legislative session, they vowed to take action.

Yet one week into the session, no new proposals for mitigating the spread of the virus had made it onto the agenda in key committees.

Some Covid-related matters have kept lawmakers busy of late. The first bill passed by both chambers would allow municipalities to carry over their pandemic-era Town Meeting Day practices for another year. And the House and Senate health committees are discussing how to expedite legislation that will extend a host of regulatory flexibilities adopted in March 2020 for medical providers and insurers.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 2 (See Cover Sheet)

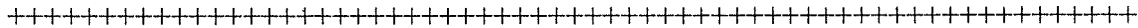
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Note: RVNN = WDEV, WLVB and WEXP (simulcast news 5:00 Length)

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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You haven't made any changes to the script.

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 1/6/2022 › B3 Mask Mandate Bill Introduced

Versions

1. 1/6/2022 3:58:46 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:31 ▾

00:00:31 at 20 ▾ characters per second

It's just the beginning of a new legislative session, but Vermont House lawmakers have already introduced a statewide mask mandate bill.

The bill would require everyone ages five and up to wear a mask or cloth face-covering inside public spaces in the counties the CDC has deemed high or substantial transmission.

Some of the exceptions include physical and mental disabilities and work-related.

The bill outlines how this would be regardless of vaccination status and would take effect once it becomes law.

~~Advertisement~~

The bill has only been introduced, which means there are several steps to go.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 1/6/2022 › B3 Remote Council

Versions

1. 1/6/2022 3:33:40 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:43 ▾

00:00:43 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The Burlington City Council plans to meet remotely until further notice, in response to a ~~record shattering~~ spike in Covid-19 cases across Vermont.

The change was made Monday by council President Max Tracy in consultation with Mayor Miro Weinberger.

Councilors have been meeting in a hybrid format since last summer, allowing councilors and members of the public to attend in person at City Hall or via videoconference. Before the hybrid format, pandemic-era meetings were held fully online.

But now a fully remote meeting is not legal since Vermont is no longer in a state of emergency, Tracy said. To comply with the state public meeting law, officials plan to set aside a conference room in City Hall where members of the public can sit and watch the remote meeting, though all of the councilors except Tracy are supposed to tune in remotely.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 3/31/2022 › B13 School Masks

Versions

1. 3/31/2022 3:44:18 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:39

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Vermont's top education official sent a terse email to a school superintendent whose district reimposed its mask mandate this week.

Faced with rising cases of Covid-19, administrators in the Washington Central School District reimposed the mask mandate starting Monday. The decision drew swift criticism from the secretary of education.

Emails show that the education secretary urged the superintendent to drop the mask mandate shortly after she made her announcement, and sarcastically suggested she probably was better-informed than the state Department of Health.

The district includes six schools in East Montpelier, Berlin, Plainfield, Worcester and Middlesex. The mask mandate extends through ~~Friday~~ *today* and school officials say they will discuss an extension.

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ISSUE 2 (See Cover Sheet)

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Thursday ANS - 3/31/2022 › B13 Gray Has COVID

Versions

1. 3/31/2022 3:43:24 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:20

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Vermont Lieutenant Governor Molly Gray has tested positive for COVID-19.

Gray released a statement Thursday morning saying that she is isolating and quarantining at home consistent with CDC guidelines. She said she is fully vaccinated and boosted.

Gray was in Washington Tuesday for a meeting of lieutenant governors from across the United States and also met with Vice President Kamala Harris.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 2/21/2022 › B16 Harwood District Masking

Versions

1. 2/21/2022 7:19:02 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:16 ▾

00:00:16 at 20 ▾ characters per second

While some schools around the state are moving to make masks optional following winter break, officials in the Harwood district will take at least a week to wait and see.

Lisa Scagliotti of the Waterbury Roundabout has more.

022122SOT Lisa Scagliotti A

More on this story at waterbury roundabout dot org.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

Radio Vermont News

Revised: Jul-21

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The winner of the 2021 Nobel prize for outstanding work in the field of economics will be announced Monday. Unlike the other Nobel prizes, the economics award wasn't established in the will of Alfred Nobel. It was set up by the Swedish central bank in his memory in 1968, with the first winner selected a year later. It is the last prize announced each year. Last year's prize went to two Stanford University economists who tackled the tricky problem of making auctions run more efficiently.



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Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 1/31/2022 › B7 College Vax Req

Versions

1. 1/31/2022 7:02:32 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:37 ▾

00:00:37 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Champlain College, Middlebury College, Norwich University and Saint Michael's College have all required students to get a COVID-19 booster shot this spring semester.

Joining that list is UVM. As of Monday, all students are required to be boosted.

The original required date was Feb. 1, but administrators moved it up to the top of the week, as students head back to class from the weekend.

Students who are not yet eligible for the booster are required to get it within 14 days of eligibility.

~~However, even with these extra precautions, that doesn't change the circumstance.~~

Students who aren't vaccinated need to get tested every week, along with wearing a mask at all times, even if that mandate gets lifted during the semester.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 1 (See Cover Sheet)

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Note: RVNN = WDEV, WLVB and WEXP (simulcast news 5:00 Length)

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Radio Vermont > Wednesday ANS - 1/19/2022 > B2 Mask Mandate Extensions

Versions

1. 1/19/2022 4:52:21 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:19 ▾

00:00:19 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Several towns Tuesday extended their mask mandates another 30 days.

Vermont lawmakers passed a bill recently allowing municipalities to create their own masking rules on a temporary basis.

Those towns need to reevaluate their mandates every 30 days.

The five towns extending the requirement are Brattleboro, Essex, Williston, South Burlington, and Richmond.

save

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 1 (See Cover Sheet)

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Note: RVNN = WDEV, WLVB and WEXP (simulcast news 5:00 Length)

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WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Friday ANS - 1/21/2022 › B2 Brattleboro Masks

Versions

3. 1/22/2022 4:05:43 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:34 ▾

00:00:34 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Brattleboro was the first town in Vermont to enact a mask mandate back in November. Now they are changing the language to reflect the latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance. That means cloth coverings don't qualify anymore.

People in public spaces will have to wear a surgical mask or an N-95 mask. That's for everyone except kids under the age of 5. The select board is required to review the rule at least 45 days after it was put in place and again at least every 30 days after that.

The latest CDC guidance recommends people "wear the most protective mask that fits well and that they will wear consistently." The best is an N-95 mask.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 1 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X **WCVT** X **RVNN-7AM** X **RVNN-8AM**

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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side



rundowncreator

Welcome, Lee! [\[Log Out\]](#)

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Wednesday ANS - 1/12/2022 › B2 School Testing Guidance

Versions

1. 1/12/2022 4:23:34 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:40 ▾

00:00:40 at 20 ▾ characters per second

Vermont's health and education leaders are making changes in COVID mitigation strategies at schools.

The Scott Administration says certain testing tools are not as effective against the omicron variant, so schools will end contact tracing and PCR surveillance testing, and shift the responsibility from the school to the home.

Education Secretary Dan French acknowledged recent criticism that the change in strategy in schools is "abrupt", but the Test-to-stay program was no longer effective, and contact tracing in K through 12 schools will stop.

(011222SOT Dan French B)

The Scott Administration says parents will get a response notification with testing recommendations depending on the student's vaccination status. All this comes as Vermont expects cases to increase into January but slow down by February.

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RADIO VERMONT GROUP

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE 1 (See Cover Sheet)

WDEV-AM/FM X WCVT RVNN-7AM RVNN-8AM

Note: RVNN = WDEV, WLVB and WEXP (simulcast news 5:00 Length)

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Length :30 :60 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side



rundowncreator

Welcome, Lee! [Log Out]

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Wednesday ANS - 1/19/2022 › B2 COVID Totals

Versions

1. 1/19/2022 4:55:23 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:45 ▾

00:00:45 at 20 ▾ characters per second

The Vermont Department of Health today is reporting 715 cases of COVID-19 for Monday. Cases on Sunday were 806, on Saturday were 2,217 and on Friday were 1,722. The record daily high was set January 7, with 2,975 cases of COVID-19. Reported cases tend to run higher as the week goes along as people get tested and the labs report their results.

Hospitalizations today set another record with 116. ICU stays, which also had been elevated, were 26. The one-day record there was set December 7, 2021, (31). Hospitalizations and ICU visits had not surged even as cases have more than tripled the previous couple of weeks, but are on the rise the last week.

State officials have been concerned by the impact on the health care system. Already, the University of Vermont Medical Center has gone into emergency staffing mode.

There were two additional deaths reported today for a statewide total of 499.

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Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 1/31/2022 › B15 Masks to Schools

Versions

1. 1/31/2022 5:00:07 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:50

00:00:50 at characters per second

Vermont plans to send over 100,000 KN95 masks to schools over the coming weeks in an effort to mitigate the spread of Covid-19, the state's top education official said Thursday.

In an email to superintendents and independent school heads, Vermont Secretary of Education Dan French said the state plans to distribute about 110,000 of the masks alongside Covid-19 rapid tests to school districts and supervisory unions around the state.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have said KN95s are among the most effective types of face coverings in preventing the spread of the virus.

V-T Digger reports Agency of Education spokesperson Ted Fisher said the distribution may be a one-time event. State officials have secured those masks now, he said, but may not be able to do so in the future.

Fisher says The masks are adult-sized -- meaning they may not fit younger students, but likely will fit staff members, high school students and at least some middle school students.

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X) Other VT Daily Chronicle

Length :30 (:60) 2:00 5:00

WDEV Talk Show Segments (run from 10-mins. to one hour)

Description or Script: Attached or on Reverse side

New Text Document

A first-grade student at the Academy School in Brattleboro was vaccinated for Covid-19 against the expressed will of his parents.

Windham Southeast Supervisory Union Superintendent ^{mark} Speno revealed that information publicly in a letter to parents on Tuesday.

Vermont Daily Chronicle asked Governor Phil Scott about it at Tuesday's press conference, and the Governor denied knowing anything about it, and Secretary of Education Dan French said he was contacted by The New Hampshire Commissioner of Education to quote "alert me that he had heard a rumor about this."

In the letter Interim Superintendent Mark Speno said that during a recent vaccination clinic for children ages five and up, a mistake was made. A student whose parents did not consent to vaccination was mistaken for a student whose parents did consent.

Speno added "The Health Department has worked to evaluate its procedures to ensure that this does not happen again. Thankfully, we are not aware of any harm to the student because of this mistake."

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GOVERNORS PRESS CONFERENCE

--As Vermont COVID case counts continue to hit record highs, Vermont health officials Tuesday outlined their shift to a new strategy that jettisons contact tracing and embraces rapid testing.

State health officials say the high number of cases has made it impossible to continue contact tracing, because of both the highly contagious nature of the omicron variant and the shorter incubation period. Now, the state says it's up to infected individuals to alert close contacts.

Here's Health Commissioner Dr. Mark Levine

011122SOT Dr. Mark Levine A

--Governor Phil Scott says the state on Wednesday at 10 a.m. will activate a new website that will allow Vermonters to order rapid tests online. He says the tests will be a key tool to address the fast spread of the omicron variant. There will be 250,000 kits available initially and there will be a limit of two per household.

--Vermont forecast models suggest daily case numbers could more than double through the rest of January. Hospitalization rates remain elevated but stable for now.

For the second week, a number of schools have opted to shut down because of staffing shortages. Education Secretary Dan French says districts will be required to make up these days just like a snow day.

011122SOT Dan French A

He says districts will be able to apply for a waiver for those days.

With such high infection numbers combined with the changes in test reporting, Vermont health officials have scrambled over the --last several days to track infection numbers. Officials say various glitches in the reporting system mean the state's online dashboard won't be updated until Wednesday at the earliest.

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Radio Vermont News

Revised: Jul-21



Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Monday ANS - 1/10/2022 › B3 COVID Tests Child Care Centers

Versions

1. 1/10/2022 3:42:13 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:33 ▾

00:00:33 at 20 ▾ characters per sec

The state of Vermont is going to be providing free rapid COVID-19 tests to the state's regulated child-care centers.

The "Tests for Tots" program, which was announced Friday, is designed to allow the center to test children and staff when a positive COVID-19 case is detected at their program.

It's a spinoff of the "Test to Stay" program that has been an important tool in Vermont's K-12 schools.

Governor Phil Scott says the program will decrease the burden of contact tracing for child care program staff, while limiting the impact of quarantines on children, their families, and staff.

Child care providers can enroll in the program immediately.

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You haven't made any changes to the script.

Script Editor

Radio Vermont › Tuesday ANS - 11/30/2021 › B5 Test to Stay

Versions

1. 11/30/2021 3:56:51 PM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:24 ▾

00:00:24 at 20 ▾ characters per second

One of the ways that Vermont is trying to keep kids in school during the pandemic is through the test-to-stay program, which allows students to test if they've been identified as a close contact of a COVID case.

As long as they test negative, they can remain in school and not need to miss time by quarantining. The state says about 9,000 school days have been saved thus far.

Calvin Cutler of WCAX has more.

113021SOT Calvin Cutler C

More on this story at wcax dot com.

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New Text Document

Vermont's teachers' union is calling Friday's decision to end contact tracing and surveillance testing a "demoralizing blow" to anyone involved in the state's school system.

In Saturday's statement, the Vermont chapter of the National Education Association, criticized the Agency of Education's abrupt decision amid record-breaking case counts and school closures.

Previewing the policy shift in an email to local school officials Friday, Secretary of Education Dan French promised more guidance early this week and framed the change as an opportunity to relieve educators' already overburdened workloads.

The state Agency of Education's new approach appears to shift the burden of "test-to-stay," a regimen in which close contacts of positive cases take daily rapid tests before the beginning of class, from school staff to the family members of students.

The union denounced what they called the state's ever-changing, "tone deaf shifts in safety guidance, saying "The secretary of education decided to commemorate one of the most chaotic weeks ever in Vermont schools by yet another Friday night announcement of yet another abrupt COVID policy shift."

The teachers' union called for more tools to mitigate the spread of Covid-19, including rapid tests — a sore subject after teachers and students returned from their winter break to find that many of the rapid tests given to schools by the state Agency of Education last fall expired in late December, according to local school officials.