

WHAT: Act 1: Where Are We and What Does it Mean for School Boards?

WHEN: Thurs 1:00

WHERE: Garden View

Chelsea Myers

Vermont Superintendents Association, Associate Executive Director

Chelsea (she/her) is the Associate Executive Director of the Vermont Superintendents Association (VSA). She joined VSA in 2018 after completing her MEd in Education Policy and Management at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Prior to her graduate studies, Chelsea taught middle and high school science. Chelsea is a published author in the field of Educational Neuroscience from her time working at the University of California, San Francisco's brainLENS. Her research focused on early literacy acquisition, stereotype threat, and the development of social and emotional skills. Chelsea is happy to be back in her home state of Vermont close to family and working with dedicated and talented education leaders. She enjoys hiking, kayaking, finding the best restaurants, and learning about health and wellness.

Amanda Garces

Vermont Human Rights Commission, Policy, Education & Outreach Director

Amanda Lucía Garcés (She/Her/Ella) is the Director of Policy, Education and Outreach for the Vermont Human Rights Commission (HRC) and the Chair of the Act.1 Working Group. She is also a Montpelier-Roxbury School Board member and a Board member of the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators (VSBPE). She is the founder of the Education Justice Coalition of Vermont who led the movement to pass Act 1, the Ethnic Studies and Social Equity Working Group. Amanda is from Colombia and loves dancing salsa and experiencing the world with her kids.

Flor Diaz Smith

Washington Central Supervisory Union, Board Chair

Flor Diaz-Smith grew up in Guatemala City and is an architect and interior designer. She believes that education is a human right and devotes a lot of time to learning and understanding how to support all kids and how to have a stronger, more inclusive public education and childcare system. A strong public education is the basis of our democracy and the key to successful communities. Flor has served on several boards that support public education; she is currently the Vice President of the VSBA and the co-chair of Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council. She resides with her family in East Montpelier.