

NKCES Report – February 2023

The mission of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services is to strategically leverage the united voice of the superintendents and public schools as we connect, grow and serve the region with vital services as we: provide targeted support services for education professionals, enhance quality learning for students, model and support innovative instructional leadership practices...through a united voice.

[BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT](#)

Executive Director Update:

[BELLEVUE INDEPENDENT](#)

[BOONE COUNTY](#)

[BRACKEN COUNTY](#)

[CAMPBELL COUNTY](#)

[CARROLL COUNTY](#)

[COVINGTON INDEPENDENT](#)

[DAYTON INDEPENDENT](#)

NKCES Sustainment Plan, February 1: As NKCES continues to grow and reach new heights, Executive Director Amy Razor developed a sustainment plan to ensure the health and longevity of NKCES remaining at the forefront and continuing to reach the three goals stated in the strategic plan. In an effort to gather collective input and feedback, a committee was created. The members are: Dr. Henry Webb, Superintendent Brian Robinson, Dr. Brian Creasman, Superintendent Mike Borchers, Superintendent Jeff Aulick, Superintendent Misty Middleton, and Superintendent Joe Buerkley. In summary, the committee was unanimously appreciative of the forward thinking and planning for the future. The sustainment plan itself was well received with only a few minor modifications.

[ERLANGER ELSMERE INDEPENDENT](#)

PBL Tuning Protocol, February 1: Executive Director Razor was asked to present at the Deeper Learning Conference at High Tech High. As part of the process, the PBL Team provides a tuning protocol prior to presenting.

[FLEMING COUNTY](#)

[FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT](#)

Schools to Watch, February 2-3: Executive Director Amy Razor traveled with other members of the Schools To Watch team to Mayfield Kentucky to visit Mayfield Middle School. Although this town is still recovering from the tornado that devastated the community last year, the students and staff were bright-spirited and welcoming. While there, we saw so many innovative and collaborative lessons taking place. The STW process is a great experience to learn and grow as a professional.

[GRANT COUNTY](#)

[GREENUP COUNTY](#)

[KENTON COUNTY](#)

[LUDLOW INDEPENDENT](#)

NKCES Team Meeting, February 6: CAO Melody Stacy and Executive Director Amy Razor led the monthly team meeting, which was filled with learning, surprise, and delight! The time spent together building our human capacity is incredible and a highlight each month. A specific highlight of our meeting is focusing on the professional learning standards by Learning Forward.

[NEWPORT INDEPENDENT](#)

[OWEN COUNTY](#)

[PENDLETON COUNTY](#)

[SOUTHGATE INDEPENDENT](#)

Deeper Learning Conference Preparation, February 6: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with Director of Deeper Learning, Dr. Robb Smith and PBL Works representative Ms. Charity Moran and Amanda Clark, met virtually to discuss their upcoming presentation at the Deeper Learning Conference at High Tech High. The conversation was rich and the team is excited to share how Kentucky is leading the way to Deeper Learning.

[WALTON-VERONA INDEPENDENT](#)

[WILLIAMSTOWN INDEPENDENT](#)

Schools to Watch , February 9-10: Executive Director Amy Razor traveled with other members of the Schools To Watch team to Russellville, Kentucky to visit Olmstead School. The STW experience and

working with other educators to process educational best practices is something that we hope to revive in Kentucky.

Superintendent Webcast, February 14: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with educational leaders across the state, participated in the monthly webcast delivered by Dr. Glass and his staff.

Meeting with Dr. Kathy Burkhardt, February 17: Executive Director Amy Razor and CAO Melody Stacy met with Dr. Burkhardt to discuss details regarding the Positive Action grant. The conversation was productive and ended with a plan in place to positively impact the region.

Lt. Governor Press Conference, February 21: NKCES was honored to welcome Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman to NKCES as she highlighted the recent SBMH Grant. A big shout-out to the students and staff that spoke at the press conference from Beechwood Independent, Bellevue Independent, Boone County, and Erlanger-Elsmere Independent.

KSBA Conference and KAEC Winter Retreat, February 23-25: Executive Director Amy Razor participated and helped facilitate the winter retreat for KAEC. The focus of this time is to highlight collaborative opportunities, continue united discussions, and continue formalizing our work together through a joint powers of agreement or MOA.

Lt. Governor Presser, February 27: Executive Director Amy Razor joined several Northern Kentucky Superintendents, student representatives, teachers and parents at the Life Learning Center in Covington, KY to support the Lt Governor and her steadfast support of public education.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

February Professional Learning: NKCES supported 191 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, SEL, culture and climate, leadership, and special education, serving 2,186 educators.

PL Consortium: The 22.23 NKCES PL Consortium continued in February with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a NKCES IDEA Update ([NKCES Special Education Trainings Just 4 You, Anne Beninghof - March 23rd 9:00-12:00](#)), a NKCES Learning & Empowerment [Update](#) ([DL Speaker Series](#)), and a January NKCES update. The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

Title I & Title II Meeting: The 22.23 NKCES Title I/Title II Consortium continued in February with a collaborative meeting. Topics included Title II ([Title II Timeline of Activities](#)), Title I [Title I Coordinator's Year at a Glance](#), [ESEA Conference - Hybrid - Feb 1-4, 2023](#), [Declaration of Participation](#), ([FY2024 Declaration of Participation Notification](#)) and Title I District Consolidated Monitoring Checklist Review & Discussion. The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) Meeting: The 22.23 NKCES DAC Consortium continued in February with a collaborative meeting. Topics included DAC February Webcast. The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

Professional Learning Networks (PLNs): PLNs provide opportunities for educators to grow professionally in collaborative environments focused on collective learning. Check out our [22.23 NKCES PLN Dates here](#).

Special Education Update:

The NKCES DoSE Advisory Board met on February 10th. The NKCES DoSE Meeting was held on February 24th. Topics of discussion included Indicator 8 Parent Survey, Phoenix slots, various audits being conducted by Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL), etc. We continued the Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) book study with the DoSEs. Brandon Releford and Katie Lanham from The Zembrodt Education Center at The Point ARC were present to discuss the various programs available for students.

Mrs. Becky Nixon led the Special Education Regional Technical Assistance Center (SERTAC) State Directors Meeting on February 14th. OSEEL was present and shared updates and upcoming important dates.

Mrs. Amanda Bell and Dr. Merissa Waddey continued the partnership with the KY Autism Training Center (KATC) to support two regional training sites.

The SERTAC team participated in OSEEL's SERTAC/RTC Winter Symposium in Frankfort on February 23, 2023. All SERTAC, RTC, and OSEEL staff reviewed the latest compliance and discipline data and had opportunities to work in regional and statewide groups for data-driven planning.

Mrs. Becky Nixon attended the Kentucky Council of Administrators of Special Education (KYCASE) officer monthly board meeting on February 28th. The committee continued planning for the March 23rd Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) session for administrators. In addition, the committee continued planning for the KYCASE New DoSE Institute and the KYCASE Summer Institute, which will take place July 16-18, 2023.

The SERTAC team attended their respective monthly state group meetings on February 28th. Mrs. Becky Nixon continues to lead the state Low Incidence Task Group.

The SERTAC team continued to provide coaching and support for teachers and administrators across the region.

Dr. Merissa Waddey continued to serve as the Local Arrangement Chair for the 2023 CEC Convention & Expo coming to Louisville March 1st-4th, 2023.

Learning and Empowerment Team:

The Learning and Empowerment team worked with more than 400 educators and students and engaged in work with every NKCES district this month.

The CRRSA team partnered with 17 districts and served 290 educators and students in Northern Kentucky. The Learning Acceleration team led professional learning on MTSS, LETRS, Writing Across

the Content Areas, Differentiation and Education as a future career. The Social Emotional Learning team led Behavior Supports, SEL Integration, Trauma Informed Practices and more. Both teams participated in the monthly statewide CRRSA meetings and continued work on an SEL Implementation Guide and MTSS Academic supports.

The Deeper Learning team worked with districts to support district plans and provide professional learning. They worked with over 65 educators on Deeper Learning. Specialist Tai Faulkner attended a national conference on Innovative Schools. The team looks forward to hosting an in-person workshop for teachers in March featuring Dr. Karin Hess. They participated in PBL Learning Walks, statewide Deeper Learning meetings and trainings and the UK Next Gen Leadership cohort. The team is excited to begin releasing information on the NKY Deeper Learning Summit happening June 14th and 15th in Covington.

Mr. Henry Astudillo, NKCES DEI Specialist, continued to partner with KDE, Engage 2 Learn and Boone and Kenton County Schools on Equity Playbook coaching. He worked with 4 districts this month and used the Equity Dashboard to guide the Four Step Problem Solving Process.

Mr. Joe Bertucci attended The Kennedy Center's Partners in Education convening, with a focus on building and supporting partnerships between schools and arts organizations. In partnership with The Carnegie, NKIAE provided free tickets to a matinee performance of *Singin' in the Rain*, with a post-show Q&A session, for high school theatre groups. The second season of our elementary *Arts Express* video series completed filming, and plans are underway for our summer workshop. 33 schools from 18 districts have joined the second cohort of our *Arts In Mind* program. Mr. Bertucci has provided resources and training to support those schools as they begin the Comprehensive Arts Planning process. Current participants are continuing to receive arts materials and funding for arts experiences.

Northern Kentucky Institute for Strategic Prevention is Implementing Too Good for Drugs with Beechwood every other week and planning the regional Youth Summit with various school and community partners scheduled for October 24th at NKU. They are designing a self-paced module on best practices in substance use prevention and suicide prevention. The team is leading a regional grant effort on vape device disposal. The team also published their first quarterly newsletter and is working with Erlanger-Elsmere Schools Young Ambassadors to incorporate student voice in future prevention efforts, specifically the youth summit.

The CEO II Program in partnership with KEDC, WKEC, and Bloomboard held regular meetings this month with participants. The program is considering a new cohort starting in March. The next scheduled cohort will begin in July.

The Early Literacy CEO II Program in partnership with KEDC and WKEC started this month with participants from across NKY. Teachers participating in LETRS professional learning signed up for our program to earn a rank change upon completion of the program. Mentors and participants met for the first time this month to discuss the learning from LETRS Unit 1&2.

Grant Consortium Update:

Collaborative Grants Newly Implementing: Trauma Informed School Services implementation has begun. Ms. Michelle Klein will be the Project Director and she is working with the NKCES team to hire the project staff. The School Based Health Services grant received approval for positions and posted them. Applications are now open.

Grants available for application: [Sober Truth on Prevention of Underage Drinking \(STOP act\)](#) Due March 3. \$60,000 X 4 years. Open to DFC coalitions, but if districts are fiscal agents, schools can be the applicant. Former DFC fiscal agents also can apply; [Calming Space2023](#) due March 2; [Crumb Rubber due Apr 3](#); **Kentucky Opioid Abatement Funding.** Always available for substance abuse prevention needs.

Pending applications: Energy Grants Concept letters submitted by Covington, Campbell County, Erlanger, and Bellevue.

Please Note: April meeting will be April 20 online, 10 AM

Regional School Programs (RSP) Update:

RSP had Dental Smiles return in February to treat additional students.

Mrs. Turner met with the RSP Standing Committee regarding current procedures and programming. The committee reviewed drafted procedures and adjusted recommendations for the board.

We are continuing to recruit for our 2 openings in our Challenge Program.

Administration is working on our draft testing schedule and will share any potential requests for assistance with proctors as needed (and as we get closer).

We will be looking to finalize our end of the year Awards and Promotion Ceremony soon and will share the date and time once it is finalized.