

# Kentucky Department of Education

## Priority Schools Kentucky's Success Stories

Kentucky Board of Education  
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# Priority Schools Under Unbridled Learning

Three Cohorts of Priority Schools exist:

- **Cohort 1** - Persistently Low-Achieving (PLA) schools are the lowest 5% of Title I or Title I-eligible schools that failed to make their adequate yearly progress (AYP) goal under NCLB or had a graduation rate of 60% or under for three (3) consecutive years. The first cohort of 10 PLA schools was identified in 2010-11.
- **Cohort 2** - In 2011-12, under the new system, KDE was required to identify the next 5% of lowest-performing schools in the state as Priority Schools as part of its USED flexibility waiver. The second cohort consisted of 12 Priority Schools.

# Priority Schools Under Unbridled Learning

Three Cohorts of Priority Schools exist (cont'd):

- **Cohort 3** - In 2012-13, the third cohort of 19 Priority Schools was identified. This brought the total to 41 Priority Schools.

**Current Total** - With the closure of one Priority School and the exiting of another this year, 39 exist for the 2013-14 school year.

# List of Priority Schools Under Unbridled Learning

Caverna High School	East Carter High School	Fleming County High School
Leslie County High School*	Greenup County High School	Hopkins County Central High
Lawrence County High School	Knox County High School	Lee County High School
Metcalfe County High School	Sheldon Clark High School	Livingston Central High
Fern Creek High School	Newport High School	Pulaski County High School
Valley High School	Christian County High School	Perry Central High School
Shawnee High School	Doss High School	Franklin -Simpson High
Western High School	Seneca High School	Bryan Station High School
Western Middle School	Waggener High School	Trimble County High School
Frost Middle School	Iroquois High School	Lincoln County High School
Fairdale High School	Southern High School	Knight Middle School
Dayton Middle & High Schools	Olmstead North Middle	Myers Middle School
Stuart Middle School	Westport Middle School	Thomas Jefferson Middle
Monticello Independent**		

\* Exited by meeting regulatory criteria

\*\* Merged with Wayne County Schools in 2012-13

# Highlights of Progress from 2012-2013 Testing

- Of the original 41 schools that were previously identified in the **bottom 5%** of schools in the Commonwealth:
  - 6 schools scored in the Distinguished category
  - 8 schools scored in the Proficient category
  - 19 schools were categorized as Progressing (met annual measurable objective (AMO), student participation rate for all groups, and graduation rate goal) in addition to their classification as Distinguished, Proficient or Needs Improvement

# Highlights of Progress from 2012-2013 Testing

- 11 of 41 schools had Overall Scores above the state average
- 36 of 41 schools met their Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)
- 21 of 41 schools achieved their College and Career Ready (CCR) targets
- 4 schools made the Rewards category of High Progress, which requires a school to be in the top 10% of improvement in all schools

# Highlights of Progress from 2012-2013 Testing

- Of the 8 Proficient schools, 4 were also identified as Progressing
- Of the 27 schools categorized as Needs Improvement, 15 were also identified as Progressing
- 11 schools had an Overall Score above the state average
- 8 schools had Achievement scores above the state average
- 9 schools had Gap scores above the state average
- 13 schools had Growth scores above the state average
- 29 schools had 10% or greater increases in their percentile rank than the previous year

# Hub Schools

- Two of our Priority Schools have been named Hub Schools – Franklin-Simpson and Pulaski County High Schools
- These schools have made extremely high levels of progress; both rated Distinguished (top 10%) in the last state assessment
- Hub schools are
  - Regional models that showcase best or promising practices based on data and results to share with other schools in their region.
  - Recognized for their work in improving student learning and building core processes for sustainability
  - Producing exponentially more students that are college and career ready
  - Hubs of learning activity for teachers, leaders and students



# Hub Schools

- Hub Schools were initially intended to provide assistance to Focus Schools, who have greater numbers of students in the achievement gap, but are serving as resources for all schools in the region.
- Hub schools have taken a systems approach to their work, putting systems in place that will assure that the positive changes being implemented are lasting
- To date, 217 educators have made 52 visits to the Hub schools to learn from their successes

# How did these achievements happen?

- Outstanding leadership and diligent work by teachers, principals, students and parents
- High levels of support from the district central office and community
- KDE assistance from Education Recovery Staff (One Education Recovery Leader, two Education Recovery Specialists – Literacy and Math)

# Additional Results from 2012-2013 Testing

- While we celebrate the successes of these schools, we continue to have schools that are in need of continued assistance:
  - 5 schools had Overall Scores lower than the previous year.
  - 12 schools had 6% or less increases in percentile rank than the previous year. Of these schools, 6 had no gain and 3 had decreases in their percentile ranking.
  - These 12 schools were lower-performing across multiple measures, and failed to make state averages across several categories.

# Current Education Support for Priority Schools

- State General Funds from different sources have been used to support the work of the Education Recovery staff in Priority Schools.
- However, no state funds are currently appropriated to support this important and highly successful intervention program.

# What is Needed to Continue Improvement in Low-Performing Schools

In order to continue the transformative work with Kentucky's lowest-performing schools, the Kentucky Board of Education approved for the Kentucky Department of Education to request:

- \$3.4 million for FY 15
- \$4.77 million in FY 16
- Totals of \$8.17 million for both years

Without these funds, the level of work that is making a difference for students in these schools will not be possible.

KBE/KDE Budget Priority	Description	FY 15*	FY 16*	Total*
1	<b>SEEK Funding</b> An increase in the current SEEK funding (\$3,827 per pupil) to restore base funding to FY09 levels (\$3,866 per pupil), or higher.	\$60,000,000	\$90,000,000	\$150,000,000
2	<b>Flexible Focus Grants</b> Restore Professional Development, Safe Schools, Extended School Services, Textbooks (hardcopy and digital) and Preschool to FY08 Levels.	\$61,000,000	\$61,000,000	\$122,000,000
3	<b>Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase current bandwidth capacity to enhance the learning experience of all students (\$5.8M a year).</li> <li>Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) funding to support state technology shared services to all school districts (\$3.1M a year).</li> <li>Debt service for Instructional Device Replacement funding (desktops, laptops and mobile devices for students) (\$11.4 M a year to support a single \$50 M bonded project).</li> </ul>	\$20,300,000	\$20,300,000	\$40,600,000
4	<b>College and Career Readiness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 additional teachers and new equipment for State Area Technology Centers (\$3.1M a year).</li> <li>Kentucky Occupational Skill Standards Assessments (KOSSA) used to measure technical skill attainment (career readiness) of students upon completion of a technical program (\$240,000/FY 15 and \$264,000/FY16).</li> <li>Additional funding for Local Area Vocational Centers (\$3.3 M a year).</li> <li>ACT/WorkKeys assessments (\$1,115,500 a year).</li> </ul>	\$7,755,500	\$7,779,500	\$15,535,000
5	<b>District Turnaround Support</b> Funding to assist schools and districts in need of school improvement and turnaround, especially in persistently low achieving schools (\$3,400,000/FY15 and \$4,770,000/FY16).	\$3,400,000	\$4,770,000	\$8,170,000
6	<b>KDE Facilities</b> Capital Projects - Significant facility needs at Kentucky School for the Deaf, Kentucky School for the Blind and FFA Camp.	\$17,104,000	\$0	\$17,104,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$152,455,500</b>	<b>\$183,849,500</b>	<b>\$336,305,000</b>

\* All these numbers are estimates and may be revised through the budget process.

# Kentucky Department of Education

## Questions?