

Executive Director's Report – November 2016

5 year Vision: NKCES will be a trusted partner with local school districts and the learning community to research and apply innovative 21st Century practices by leveraging resources, developing strategic alliances and inspiring powerful leadership while providing exemplary customer services to districts, communities & our students.

Beechwood Independent

Bellevue Independent

Boone County

Bracken County

Campbell County

Covington Independent

Dayton Independent

Erlanger-Elsmere Independent

Ft. Thomas Independent

Gateway Community & Technical College

Ludlow Independent

Newport Independent

Northern Kentucky University

Pendleton County

Silver Grove Independent

Southgate Independent

Walton-Verona Independent

Williamstown Independent KASS Conference: Registration is now open for the KASS Winter 2016 Conference! The Conference is December 4-7th, Griffin Gate Marriott Resort & Spa, Lexington. REGISTER HERE

Tom Shelton and Liz Storey have reached out to NKY for presenters for the winter conference. A request went out to all districts to help NKY shine and we are excited to have 3 districts turning in proposals to present which include: Fort Thomas Independent Schools, Boone County Schools and Campbell County Schools.

Audit Report: We had the exit interview for our audit with Mr. George Sparks at Barnes Dennig and I am very pleased with the results. The auditor will be at the November board meeting to share an overview of the draft audit, as he does not anticipate anything will change.

OECD: Rob Johnson, NWEA, is flying a presenter in for our OECD panel discussion and luncheon. This tool provides a Pisa-like assessment and school reports. This event was held at the CHNKY and we had several districts attend from our region, a few from other KY Districts and also Greater Cincinnati. We are glad to organize and provide this opportunity for our NKY region free of charge.

NISL: The fourth session of NISL was held at Boone County's Ralph Rush Training center with our NKY Cadre of Principals. It is my understanding that attendance was down for this session. We look forward to continuing to support this work.

OTUS and other Student Platforms: Several of our districts are looking at online platforms for student learning. OTUS held an online webinar for our NKY districts and is offering a free trial for this school year to interested cooperative members.

Summer Mini-Conference: We have 3 districts/organizations that are interested in holding a one-day conference in June. The PL Consortium is working with NKYEC and NKU to look at possibilities to bring these three opportunities together as one event to make the learning experience even stronger for schools, business and community members (more information to be shared after the November PL Consortium meeting).

FRYSC: I met with Director Melissa Goins of FRYSC to discuss our current MOA for services and possible enhancements.

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Thinking Strategies Institute: Several districts have visited Bellevue to see Thinking Strategies (PEBC) in action. This is the work we incorporated (along with Explicit Instruction) to be unified as a cooperative and also the work that was shared as a framework for effective core instruction at the Novice Reduction Training. PEBC works directly with teachers, school leaders and administrators throughout Colorado and nationwide, to provide professional learning that cultivates highly effective K-12 educators to elevate student growth and achievement. I will be attending the Thinking Strategies Institute in Denver on November 15 with Dr. Kim Weber. We look forward to growing this work in our region.

Facility Improvements at NKCES: Executive Committee will be meeting to discuss the next steps in the facility plan, and will report out on preliminary plan at the December meeting.

PL Consortium: Please click <u>LiveBinder</u> using the KEY: **NKCES** to visit our LiveBinder site to find our PLC Meeting Agendas and updates. The next PLC Meeting is scheduled for November 18th in NKCES Meeting Room I, located on the first floor of the administrative offices.

The PL Consortium is lengthening their meeting time so that they can also have time to network together on common areas, share resources and plan together. We have created a Live Binder for easy access to all flyers and resources from our meetings. The PLC's that are currently meeting continue to be an effective time for networking and sharing resources—the possibilities are tremendous!

KDE Request: Associate Commissioner Amanda Ellis requested my attendance on behalf of the districts at a meeting to discuss successful strategies for recruiting and retaining minority educators in the state. Leo Calderon, NKU Professor, will be sharing his expertise and success in this area with KDE and Dean Reed.

Maintenance Position: NKCES Maintenance/Custodian is currently out on medical leave and recovering from surgery due to a work related accident. We are hopeful that he will be released to come back to work after his doctor visit on November 8th. The Custodian from RSP has been taking on extra duties to cover the administrative building in his absence.

Media Contacts: We are sending regional and NKCES topics/awards/stories of interest to the local papers to share the great things occurring in NKY. WCPO has already reached out to cover a few of the items shared for our region/NKCES.

Representing Region for October:

- ✓ Action Team 3 to discuss updates and goals for the rest of the year
- ✓ Silver Grove's meeting with KDE

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- ✓ Dean Reed meeting to discuss upcoming projects
- ✓ Pre-K Works Meeting
- ✓ Meeting with community member during superintendent meetings to seek input on possible project
- ✓ Met with Adam Helbig about innovation in NKY/EDTech
- ✓ KDE Meeting on NKU's Campus with Leo Caldren
- ✓ Dean's Development Council

Vander Ark Next Generation Learning Sessions: The Smart Cities Workshop with Tom Vander Ark kicked off with 2 face-to-face sessions and a Voxer book study. The region is excited and ready for the November 8th workshop. The workshop provides school/district teams the opportunity to beginning drafting a student-focused plan for developing 21st Century skills.

The success of this event is an example of a strong professional learning product when our districts create synergy. "Smart Schools: Focus on Next Generation Learning Series" is a unique learning experience that provides an opportunity to strengthen your knowledge and partnerships as active learners, as we work together to prepare our students as 21^{st} Century Learners. It's not too late to register for the keynote speaker, Tom Vander Ark, author of Smart Cities who will be speaking at NKU on November 8th. The cost of \$200.00 includes all three workshops, online curriculum, e-book, soft copy of book and lunch on the final day. The power of this event lies within the participants—it's not too late to register for this event to help make NKY~TheBestPlaceToLearn! A special thanks to the planning committee for their extra support in making this event a success!

NKCES Grants Consortium

Meeting Speaker: Dan Dunlap, WAVE foundation described extensive services available to schools in Kentucky. Contact Dan at ddunlap@wavefoundation.org or 859-815-1442 to arrange for penguins, sharks or other animals to visit your school in lessons designed in alignment with science standards.

Grant Reports from Districts: Linda Alford explained some funding she will be receiving from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to support work with students with disabilities' transitions. Projects will begin in December.

Grant Status

IES Research-Practitioner Partnership (RPP): Announced in December **KDE RTTT EC Homeless:** on hold. Will update when there is news, but this will be dropping off our summary until then

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Math Achievement Fund: Paul Baker reported that reviews had been conducted last week. We project late December announcements.

21st CCLC: in development at several districts, due Nov 17.

Upward Bound: in development with River City districts. Some districts also are working with NKU on a proposal, due Nov 28.

Grant News

Upward Bound Math/Science Grant: The RFA for this grant should be announced in the next month or six weeks. Districts should begin thinking about how they could participate if they want to.

Title IV money through KDE: At last week's project director meeting for counseling grants, it became clear the targeted grants (such as PEP and ESSC) will no longer be available. The group discussed other options and the fact that the US Dept. of Education will be funneling money through the states for Title IV and we need to keep an eye on how that money will be distributed. Vicki Dansberry said that the project officer for ESSC was going to send names of state contacts. Others said they would look into it through district contacts with the state. It would be good to get information about this as soon as possible. The group discussed the need for districts to work with their foundations for fundraising.

Youth Mental Health First Aid: Anna Marie Tracy announced that there are ongoing Youth Mental Health First Aid trainings and all districts are invited to contact her to arrange participation. The group also discussed options for a conference to be held next year.

NEXT MEETING: December 7, 10:30 am at Erlanger-Elsmere Board of Education

NKCES Report from Regional Special Education Director

Better Conversations

We are gearing up for Tricia Sklyes to continue NKCES coaches series with *Better Conversations* on December 15-16, 2016 at Gateway Community & Technical College, Florence from 8:00AM -3:30PM. Jim Knight, author of this book reveals why and how true dialogue will improve professional performance, job satisfaction, and classroom instruction. Together with the Reflection Guide, the two books provide a brilliant, scaffolder professional learning experience on a topic central to learning, and central to life.

Explicit Instruction

NKCES has received a grant from KDE, to have Anita Archer, author of <u>Explicit Instruction</u> on January 5-6, 2017 at Gateway Community College & Technical College, Florence from 8:30AM -3:30PM. This highly practical and accessible training gives <u>Special Education Administrators and Special Education teachers</u> the tools to implement explicit instruction in any grade level or content area. The authors are leading experts who provide clear guidelines for identifying key concepts, skills, and routines to



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teach; designing and delivering effective lessons; and giving students opportunities to practice and master new material. Sample lesson plans, lively examples, and reproducible checklists and teacher worksheets enhance ones learning experience.

Middle School Leadership Symposium

NKAGE will offer a leadership symposium led by Tori McClure, President of Spalding University in Louisville, Ky. on December 8, 2016 at Thomas More College from 9:00AM-12:00PM. Tori has previously worked with Muhammad Ali, first woman and first American to row solo and unassisted across the Atlantic Ocean, an accomplished mountaineer and has completed major climbs on several continents. She is best known for her book, <u>A Pearl in the Storm</u>.

This will be an exciting time for many of our gifted students in the region to experience. Slots have been allocated to the participating schools due to space and effectiveness.

Activity Log Comparison chart October 2015 to October 2016

