

Executive Director's Report – December 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

Fort 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 Speed of Trust, Covey: David Johnson, Executive Director of South East Central Cooperative invited me to his regional meeting to hear Stephen Covey share on the book we are using at NKCES, Speed of Trust. It was an exceptional experience and truly enhanced the learning from his book. It is my hope that we will be able to use this book as a foundation for building trust in our region.

KASS Conference: Tom Shelton and Liz Storey have reached out to NKY for presenters for the winter conference. We are excited to have 3 districts sharing the great work for students at KASS. We appreciate the leadership shining a light on NKY and these districts presenting include: Fort Thomas Independent Schools, Boone County Schools and Campbell County Schools.

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).

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. Dr. Weber and I attended the Thinking Strategies Institute in Denver on November 15 and it ranks in one of my top professional experiences. The Thinking Strategies provide a framework for students to have ownership of their learning. In the classrooms I visited, I witnessed 100% engagement and students owning the learning. It was inspiring to see the teacher as a skilled artist guiding/coaching each student to their potential. We look forward to growing this work through our regional PLCs and supporting Bellevue as they become a lab school for the Thinking Strategies Institute.

Facility Improvements at NKCES:

- Emhet Hayes has been on site and will be sharing a facilities report.
- Houston Brothers is also on site doing the work that was requested for securing the brick.

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• Small Conference Room: We have worked with American Sound to add a TV for presentations and this space will be useful as the number of meetings have increased and space to meet is needed. This is a great solution to support a group of approximately 15-20.

PL Consortium

A webpage has been added to house resources and provide easy access to our PL Consortium and also PLC members.

Thanks to everyone for building synergy in our region through our PLC process!

The PL Consortium and Regional PLCs have been added to our webpage!

To view the PL Consortium <u>Click Here</u> To view the Regional PLCs <u>Click Here</u>

A BIG thank you to Michele Augsback for creating a new webpage that provides easy access to Regional PLC Information for NKCES members!

PL Consortium LiveBinder

- For QUICK access to our PL Consortium LiveBinder <u>Click Here</u> or scan
- You can also access this information by visiting <u>www.nkces.org</u>
 Click on *Resources* (top right-hand side of the screen)
 Dropdown to *PL Consortium*
- Or you can download the FREE LiveBinders App on your mobile device and enter Binder ID: 2006469



NKCES Regional PLC Article

wcpo.com/news/insider/s...

Regional PLCs

The PL Consortium has shown an interest in the following trainings: **Regional KAGAN Workshop** (29 spots), **Regional Novice Reduction Training** (40 spots) this will take place in December, **Mindfulness Workshop**: Mrs. Razor is working on setting up a meeting date with the instructor.

Possible Opportunities: Regional Roundtable follow-up on NKY INNOVATION—the superintendents would be interested in this occurring and this was also suggested many times on the evaluations. Smart Cities dialogue on creating an eco-system for the 21st Century Learner.

Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Education Services
Amy Razor, Executive Director
5516 E Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

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- 1. Regional roundtable discussions
- 2. Fostering ongoing conversations with tools such as VOXER (ie: share one new technology in the discussion, what new technology you are using in your district and how does it impact student learning?)

Multi-day Summer Conference of engaging events to Power Up NKY as we create an awareness of critical factors in preparing the 21st Century Learner. The Region will collectively collaborate and engage in a unique and stimulating format to spark and ignite action for our Regions students.

Summer Mini-Conference: We need volunteers who will lead this committee work so if you are interested please email Michele. *A few school districts/organizations have funding to secure a keynote speaker and host a Regional PL event for each of the following topics:*

- Early Childhood
- EdTech
- Mental Health

Vander Ark Next Generation Learning Sessions:

NKCES <

The success of this event is an example of a strong professional learning product when synergy is created by our districts. "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 21st 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!

"There's never been a better time to make a difference. There's never been a better opportunity to create powerful learning environments. For young people, there's never been a better time to build an app, start a business, or launch a movement. Benefiting from two decades of strong leadership advancing "unbridled learning," Kentucky may be the state most poised for innovation. Northern Kentucky districts, in particular, are innovators with high level of regional collaboration and strong university partnerships. The region could become a national test-bed for innovations in learning." —Tom Vander Ark

Tom Vander Ark is author of Getting Smart: How Digital Learning is Changing the World, Smart Cities That Work for Everyone: 7 Keys to Education & Employment and Smart Parents: Parenting for Powerful Learning. Learn more:

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RSP Holiday Shop: Once again NKCES will be hosting the Regional School Programs Christmas Shop on Dec. 7Th. The Christmas shop provides an opportunity for students enrolled at Regional School Programs to experience the pleasure of giving back to loved ones during the holiday season.

Students will be paired with a NKCES staff member to help them choose the perfect gift for two preselected recipients. Along with selecting the gifts, students will have the opportunity to wrap their gifts and create a Christmas card. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided for student during their shopping experience.

NKCES staff have been asked to contribute however they can. Whether it be bringing in supplies for the Christmas Shop or making a monetary contribution. Last year we raised over a thousand dollars which allowed for some amazing gifts. We are hoping to meet or exceed that dollar amount to make this year's Christmas Shop even more amazing.

EL Update: The EL Program Consultants are working in each of the program's eight member districts for a minimum of three hours every week. This time is spent working with students and providing professional development to teachers and administrators. This has enabled the consultants to cultivate strong working relationships in each of the districts and to personalize training to best meet their needs. As always, the EL Program Consultants continue to help districts by attending trainings about new legislation and completing required paperwork to keep the districts in compliance with federal and state regulations.

Currently, the EL Program is gearing up for ACCESS testing. Due to the staffing level this year, the EL Program Consultants are able to complete all of the testing for the member districts. This results in a significant timesavings for staff in each district.

In the future, the EL Program would like to provide, on-going, job-embedded SIOP (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol) training to teachers. Ideally, we hope to provide teachers with a small stipend and a SIOP Manual, as well as PD hours. We will be seeking input from our member districts about this and all other aspects of our program. The EL Consultants would like to thank our member districts for their support!

Representing the Region for November/December:

- ✓ Thinking Strategies Institute
- ✓ TSI Visits with Erlanger and Boone
- ✓ Innovation Meeting with Executive Council and Adam Helbig
- ✓ Meeting with community member during superintendent meetings to seek input on possible project
- ✓ Met with Adam Helbig about innovation in NKY/EDTech
- ✓ AESA Conference in Georgia
- ✓ KASS Conference

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IDEA Update

<u>Explicit Instruction</u> Anita Archer, author of Explicit Instruction, will be presenting at Gateway Community College on January 5-6, 2017. NKCES received a grant from KDE to offer this timely training that is intentional instruction for Novice Reduction. The targeted audience will be special education teacher, co-teaching team and administrators.

Explicit Instruction is a systematic, direct, engaging, and success oriented and has been show to promote Achievement for all students. This highly practical and accessible training gives the tools to implement explicit instruction in any grade level or content area.

We are excited to offer this wonderful opportunity where the audience will understand, "how well you teach equals how well students will learn".

NKAGE

The NKAGE Leadership Symposium will be Thursday December 8, 2016 at Thomas More. The keynote speaker will be Tori Murden-McClure; the first woman to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Breakout sessions will be presented by teachers of gifted students from across Northern Kentucky. The day begins at 9:00 and will conclude at approximately 12:00. There will be approximately 260 gifted middle school leadership students in attendance.

Grant Consortium Update

IES Research-Practitioner Partnership (RPP) will be announced in July 2017.

Math Achievement Fund was awarded to Covington (two awards), Ludlow, and Newport (two awards.) They will be able to pay for interventionists for primary math. This will be \$50,000 each for four years, so a total of \$250,000 a year or \$1,000,000 over the four years for Grants Consortium schools. Congratulations! 21st CCLC is in KDE's hands. Vicki has not heard if she will be on the review team but if she is she will be out of the office Dec. 14-16.

<u>Upward Bound</u> was submitted for Bellevue, Dayton, Ludlow and Newport schools.

Read to Achieve is underway, due January 13. Contact Vicki for assistance.

<u>Computer Science for All (Research Practitioner Partnership</u>) is a new research opportunity that would support preparation of teachers in the areas of computational thinking and computer science for high school, and for K-8 would support development and scaling of instructional materials that integrate computer science and computational thinking into classrooms. This grant would require a strong relationship with a research institution. After discussion, the group felt districts are not positioned for success for this grant and it will not be pursued unless a researcher approaches us with significant support.

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<u>Project Lead the Way</u> is available, not through KDE, but through Council on Postsecondary Education and Toyota. Contact Vicki.dansberry@nkces.org for more information.

Grant News

- Title IV money through KDE: Vicki's contact in Washington was not able to provide a Kentucky contact as we discussed at last month's meeting.
- Sandy Ortman-Tomlin is the new grants leader at Gateway CTC. She will be attending our meetings so we can all find places where we can support each other. She mentioned a suicide prevention grant they are working on, and several ideas arose for collaboration, specifically with regard to Youth Mental Health First Aid and the substance abuse prevention coalitions. Trauma Informed Care training will also be available. Grants Consortium members can contact Sandy at sandra.ortman-tomlin@kctcs.edu.
- Anna Marie Tracy offered Youth Mental Health First Aid sessions to any district that is interested. This training should be offered to any adults working with youth: coaches, instructional aids, teachers, etc. All goals of her grant have been met, but the resources continue to be available. She has provided the training for all staff in some districts. Contact her at annamarie.tracy@boone.kyschools.us to arrange a training or for more information.
- Discussion about Work Ready Skills Initiative grants arose. Boone County Schools, NKU, Freestore Foodbank, Brighton Center and the Enzweiler Building Institute were invited to submit full applications as finalists for opportunities that could bring as much as \$10,000,000 to the region. Gateway is a partner in several of these proposals.

NEXT GRANT MEETING

January 4, 2017, 10:30 am, Erlanger-Elsmere Board of Education, 500 Graves Ave, Erlanger KY