

Executive Director's Report – April 2017

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

Ludlow Independent

Newport Independent

Northern Kentucky University

Pendleton County

Silver Grove Independent

Southgate Independent

Walton-Verona Independent

Williamstown

<u>Operations:</u> This month has provided its' share of challenges since we have operated with only 2 of the 4 operations staff members. However, the entire NKCES Team has responded positively and is working diligently to support the work in front of us in any way that they can.

- We are currently working on assessing the procedures, systems and current structure and will be sharing a draft structure this month (April).
- We will also be sharing draft budgets for ESL, IDEA, RSP and Operations.
- Salary Schedules will be shared for your review

<u>#NKY~TheBestPlaceToLearn Committee</u>: This committee continues to meet and has held three sessions. The group shared information at our last board meeting and it was decided by the board that they would like the committee to develop this plan more as it was well received by the group. Included in the discussion will be a regional effort to promote the exceptional learning experiences that are occurring in NKY classrooms and shine a positive light as a region.

We continue to participate with KSBA, KASA, KASS and KEDC in the #LoveKYschools Campaign. Please share your great ideas on twitter and Facebook so that everyone can see what is occurring in NKY. We also had a booth at both the girls and boys Sweet sixteen tournament to promote our public schools. NKCES Team members were able to attend and represent our region to hand out shirts and promote our public schools in NKY and the state. Recently, we had another opportunity to purchase the #loveKYschools t-shirts and sold them at Edcamp. They sold out immediately and we began taking orders. It is a great testament to the dedicated teachers and sense of pride we have in our NKY community.

<u>Toyota Update:</u> Dave Fleischer, Senior Toyota Manager, hosted the unveiling of the new STEAM school in Boone County. The school will have a strong focus on STEAM education as well as innovation. Additionally, this regional school is open to students in both Northern Kentucky Region and Greater Cincinnati. On March 17, 2017 Governor Bevin and Secretary Heiner joined the celebration and presented Boone County Schools with a \$6.8 million Workforce Readiness Grant, which will be used to help fund the critical building renovation for this project. Thank you to those who were able to attend as it is an exciting opportunity for all of us in the region.

<u>Thomas More College</u>: President Armstrong has requested information through Christy Petroze about becoming a more active partner with the NKCES. Mrs. Razor personally reached out to President Armstrong and sent an "intent to participate" letter. The NKCES looks forward to hearing back from President Armstrong and the opportunities the partnership will bring to the region.



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<u>Creating a Stronger Foundation</u>: After the facility discussion at February meeting, I met with Joe Wind and he is working with me to create a business strategic plan to share in April/May. This plan will provide an outline to include:

- improvements to the facility in phases
- possible staffing to enhance support to district and leverage collective resources
- projected costs and possible ways to generate revenue

<u>Children, Inc. Board:</u> Children, Inc. Board has invited Executive Director, Amy Razor to serve as a member of their board. Mark Silbersack will be attending our April 12th board meeting to give an overview on what is involved with being a Children, Inc. Board Member.

<u>INspired Leadership:</u> INspired Leadership training is available for you and your leadership team on June 7 and 8. It is a one day training and there will be a total of 40 seats available on a first come-basis. In talking to the PL Consortium we have set a non-member rate and a member rate. *We have also been asked to set a rate that would include a web-based coaching package https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-yREOs_E8PzRkJOMjhKXzR6S3c/view

WHO? Superintendents and/or your curriculum leader(s)/DoSE

WHAT? The Inspired Leadership training will provide tools as a leader to recognize catabolic and anabolic energy in the work place (positive and negative energy) and promote an empowered collaborative culture (flyer attached). The cost of the training is \$200 (which includes a personalized assessment and full day of training to utilize your personal results). * Feel free to contact Mike Borchers if you would like to know a superintendent's opinion on the benefits of the trainings.

WHY? With the everyday stresses in education, it is more important than ever to protect one of our most important resources—our human capacity. This training focuses on the importance of productive energy in the work place and gives you individual results related to your own leadership capacity and tools to enhance your current culture. If the majority of our superintendents are able to attend the one day training, we will be purposeful in continuing to apply the learning experience in INspired Leadership at the retreat in June. We are hopeful that we will be able to utilize our "team score" at the retreat and apply the results/strategies in our work.

<u>Early Childhood Symposium:</u> A regional committee met to discuss the focus of the Early Childhood Symposium as well as the beginning planning stages. The Symposium will be on August 25th at the St. Elizabeth Training Center in Boone County. The committee will be meeting in the near future and details are forthcoming.

<u>2017 Retreat Update:</u> This year's NKCES Board Retreat will be Thursday, June 15th and Friday, June 16th. Planning has begun and the location will be Embassy Suites by Hilton Louisville Downtown. More details to follow.



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<u>Mindfulness Workshop:</u> On Wednesday, May 3rd Cathy Sacco, fine artist and educator in mindfulness will be offering a three hour mindfulness introduction at NKCES. The targeted audience for this training is guidance counselors and instructional coaches. Participants will explore the benefits of mindfulness for adults and students through the exploration of research and Neuroscience.

<u>IDEA Update:</u> April 3, 2017 began Dr. Weber's role as Regional Director of Special Education. This month will be the first DoSE meeting under her leadership. Mrs. Razor and Superintendent Borchers will attend this meeting to connect Dr. Weber and the DoSE as they continue to focus and work as partners to support educators and students in the region.

<u>PEBC Thinking Strategies Institute (TSI) Facilitator Lab's:</u> NKCES has partnered with Bellevue Independent Schools and the Public Education & Business Coalition to support the development of a Thinking Strategies Institute in Northern Kentucky. Amy Razor, Kim Weber, Wendy Hertzenberg, and Michele Augsback have all attended the Thinking Strategies Institute in Denver and have participated in a series of facilitator trainings. On March 29th, 30th, and 31st Bellevue Independent Schools completed their first round of internal lab visits. NKCES staff members facilitated four classroom visits during the internal labs and will continue to support the ongoing work happening to prepare for the 2017-2018 institute.

<u>EdCAMP - NKCES' Role in EDCAMP:</u> EdCampNKY took place at Lloyd High School on Saturday, March 25, 2017. Michele Augsback, NKCES literacy coach, joined action team 2 to support the planning of the event. NKCES partnered with Boone County Education Association and the Northern Kentucky Educational Council to provide breakfast for the participants. NKCES team members assisted with transitions, giveaways, board sessions, and facilitating sessions. Mindfulness activity cards, Regional PLC information, and #loveKYschools shirts were provided to participants at the NKCES booth.

"Save the date": March 24 2018 for EdCampNKY

<u>Novice Reduction:</u> Dr. Weber met with 2 KDE representatives on the Novice Reduction work. The KDE is offering a 'deeper dive' into the strategies that were presented over the course of the 2016-2017 school year. The offerings include 3 new session. Mrs. Augsback and Dr. Weber will work with the PL Consortium and DoSE to begin planning for these sessions as well as opportunities for follow-up this coming summer and fall.

Regional Education Laboratory (REL): SRI International was recently awarded the research contract for REL Appalachia. Ms. Dansberry and Dr. Weber met virtually with the project directors from SRI in an effort to reach out and begin building a relationship with the REL. Dr. Weber encouraged their participation in the NKCES Board Meetings and hopes to find a date in the near future for them to connect. It is exciting to think about the research to practice grant opportunities that are available. The NKCES region is a prime location for these partnerships.

<u>New Teacher Academy:</u> March wrapped up our last session with the New Teacher Academy participants. At this session teachers received a resource of choice as well as completed a survey to inform the Academy for next

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year. Thank you to the committee members for your time in planning as well as those joining the committee for next year's Academy. It is exciting to see so many in the region support our newest educators!

<u>Transition Events:</u> Linda Lane, College and Career Readiness Trainer through the OVR Agreement, is working on 2 exciting regional events for April. Regional DoSE and teachers have been contacted and are currently in the process of planning schedules and registering students for these events.

- 1. High School Transition Forum on April 19th at Gateway
- 2. Middle School Transition Forum on April 26th at Receptions

EL Program Report: The EL Program has been working with districts to provide input regarding the EL students' testing accommodations for K-PREP. We have also been in contact with KDE in order to gather information regarding the changes in the cut scores for ACCESS 2.0 and the move to an online screener for grades 1-12 so that we can assist districts with the interpretation of the 2017 scores and be prepared to test incoming students next school year. Our program attended the Title III/EL End-of-Year training in order to review Title III obligations and to prepare to complete our GMAP Application. Our program also participated in the Northern Kentucky EL PLC book study for the text *Advocating for English Learners* with Dr. Diane Staehr Fenner. This meeting with EL educators throughout the region helped inform our efforts to advocate for EL students. In an attempt to maximize efficiency, we distributed information about upcoming tasks to Title III coordinator via email in lieu of a meeting. After receiving feedback from Title III coordinators, we plan to offer an optional meeting next year to better meet the needs of each district. We appreciate and welcome your feedback. It helps us to know how to support you best in working with your English Learners. Thank you.

Grant Consortium Update: The April meeting has been moved to April 19.

March activity summary:

- Erlanger-Elsmere/NKU: Computer Science for All editing support provided
- OJJDP Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative submitted (involves Newport, Covington, Boone County, Regional Schools Program)
- Editing assistance, planning support, or information provided for:
 - o Durr Rural Technology grant
 - o Aetna Foundation grant
 - o Kentucky Health Department/Substance Abuse Prevention grant
 - o HHS Homeless grant
 - o SAMHSA Opioid Prevention grant
 - o Scripps Howard grant
 - o 21st CCLC, Read to Achieve, and Math Achievement Fund grants
- Presentation at Dreamfest
- Northern Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy (NKY ASAP) strategic planning participation
- Kenton County Alliance sustainability planning and executive board participation
- Elementary and Secondary School Counseling project direction issues
- Info sent about 10 grants open to school/district applications
- Ongoing communication with district representatives about grant issues



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Exciting News: Our Elementary and Secondary School Counselors at Lindeman Elementary in Erlanger-Elsmere Schools created and evaluated a college-and-career readiness unit for fifth grade students. The result was published by the flagship journal in school counseling, The Professional School Counseling Journal.

NEXT MEETING: May 3, 2017, 10:30 am at Erlanger-Elsmere Board of Education, 500 Graves Ave, Erlanger KY 41018

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 Click Here

To view the Regional PLCs Click Here

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 www.nkces.org
 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

