



Kentucky Innovation Lab Network

LETTER OF COMMITMENT

I. Statement of Purpose

The Kentucky Innovation Lab Network (KYILN) is a partnership between local school districts and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to provide a space for sharing innovative strategies and learning about ways to transform our education system. KDE participates in the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Innovation Lab Network and is committed to working with a set of peer states, as well as a group of leading districts within Kentucky, to advance new models of learning that can best prepare all students for success in the 21st century.

This **Letter of Commitment (LOC)** establishes a partnership between the Kentucky Department of Education and Schools for the current school year (if signed between June 1 and December 31) or for the current and the next school year (if signed between January 1 and May 31).

II. Background and Beliefs

The KYILN is grounded in six critical attributes of educational innovation identified by the CCSSO ILN:

1. Fostering world-class knowledge, skills
2. Student agency
3. Personalized learning
4. Performance-based assessment
5. Anytime/anywhere opportunities
6. Providing comprehensive systems of learner support

In addition, the KYILN is committed to state priorities:

- Build the capacity of districts to implement systems of personalized learning, including teacher and leader competencies for personalized learning
- Pilot new assessment structures that incorporate performance assessments and a competency based approach to assessment
- Work with districts to develop local accountability measures

III. Mutual Commitments

Benefits of joining the KYILN

KDE believes that the greatest benefit of participation in the KYILN is the chance to network with other Kentucky districts, as well as schools and organizations outside of the state, to share best practices and learning. In addition, KDE will commit to the KYILN districts in the following ways:

1. Ongoing technical assistance, supports, and continued coordination from KDE and its partners.
2. Support from KDE for the identification, evaluation, and dissemination of best practices to KYILN districts and more broadly.
3. Access to CCSSO and its resources, including a chance to attend CCSSO convenings.
4. The opportunity to join KYILN or CCSSO initiatives; for example, districts may join a personalized learning study group.
5. Access to sources of funding to support personalized learning implementation whenever possible; for example, KDE expects to establish a grant to facilitate cross-country travel to visit exemplar school models, available only to applicants who are members of the KYILN.

Participation criteria

By signing this LOC, districts indicate a commitment to the work of the KYILN, including some of the following practices:

1. Districts will make an effort to send representatives to an annual convening. *The next scheduled convening will be held on November 16-17, 2017 in Corbin, KY.*
2. Districts will make an effort to have representatives on monthly calls.
3. Districts agree to be available to other local districts as a resource.
4. Districts will participate in at least one of the KYILN or CCSSO initiatives during the school year. Examples may include: joining a personalized learning study group; contributing to educational research efforts; giving feedback on a glossary of transformative educational terms; or other projects that may arise.
5. Each participating district will submit an annual report that highlights 2-3 district specific policies and/or practices. The focus of these reports should emphasize approaches that move toward vastly improved levels of student learning and success through redesigned systems.

IV. District Plan

Contact information:

Within the framework of the priorities outlined in this LOC, please identify 2-3 points of action for your district level plan. (Your annual report will be a summation of these points of action.)

V. Agreement

KDE and KYILN districts agree to the principles and commitments described above, and agree to work together in good faith to advance both collective and district commitments. This agreement is effective for the current school year (if signed between June 1 and December 31) or for the current and the next school year (if signed between January 1 and May 31), with the intent that this work will be sustained and scaled over the longer term. It is mutually understood that this agreement in no way restricts the district from participating in similar activities with other organizations.

Amendments to the innovation priorities may be made at any time by agreement of the parties and KYILN districts may terminate the agreement through written notice. Early termination may result in the loss of supports outlined above.

Required Signatories



KYILN Participating District, Superintendent/Designee

8/4/17

Date:

Kentucky Innovation Lab Network, KDE Designee

Date:

Return this Letter of Commitment via email to:
Kristina Catanese
kristina.catanese@education.ky.gov

Or via mail to:
Kentucky Department of Education
Division of Innovation and Partner Engagement
c/o Kristina Catanese
300 Sower Blvd
Frankfort, KY 40601