



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
Independent

Silver Grove
Independent

Southgate
Independent

Walton-Verona
Independent

Williamstown

NKCES Update:

Team Kick-off: Our NKCES team kick-off was held on August 22 & 23 at the Aloft on the Levee and provided a time for our team to build synergy as we developed relationships so that, together, we can accomplish the mission of NKCES as we connect, grow and serve the region. Mrs. Razor shared the “brutal facts” financially and then the plan for moving forward which includes utilizing KPC, effective use of indirect and budgeting for planned events throughout the year by team members. The day also provided time for each team member to focus on their individual “why” they serve at NKCES as each member created a vision board to keep them focused on their mission. We can’t wait to see what positive results will occur in the 2017-18 school year as we all grow together.

NKCES Board-PL Consortium-DoSE Council: As we shared at the retreat, we are at a point as a region that we would like to align our professional learning goals among the 3 groups in a more effective way under the superintendent leadership. We know that each group has unique needs but to effectively “move the needle” of progress for students in NKY we need to be aligned in our efforts and resources as much as possible. We would like to have a convening to set common regional goals for the NKY Graduate and in turn for our focus on Professional Learning for building our human capacity. We have the list of common themes from the end-of-the-year interviews from each district that will serve as a starting point to this conversation. This is an exciting place to be as a region!

Audit- Our audit is concluded onsite and the auditors will be scheduling a time to present the report to the board at the October or November meeting.

Ignite- As we have shared in previous meetings, a regional meeting is being planned that will provide an opportunity for you to learn more about the opportunities this space will provide for students to learn and create in the region and also a time for you to ask questions as we build goals for the region. The estimated timeline for this meeting is October.

NISL Trainer: One of the trainers for the region can no longer be trained and we are in search of one other leader to be a trainer for NISL. This commitment would include being trained as a trainer and then spending the 2018 school year training the group of principals. This is a benefit to your district as the trainer fee will be covered.

Thomas More Tailgate Event-Please see flyer for event!

Special Education Update:

The DoSE met on August 31st for their monthly meeting. Among many topics, DoSE specifically reviewed the Determinations Letter all districts received as well as the Alternate Assessment Waiver. Through survey and advisory council feedback, the DoSE will begin some new opportunities with professional learning (modified book studies) and instructional spotlights. Additionally, throughout the year, districts will host DoSE meetings and have opportunities to showcase work happening in the districts.

The new RTC Director, Alyssa Welding, and NKCES are collaborating on meetings and trainings related to preschool. We are excited about this partnership. The leadership meeting will be on September 19th in Lexington. Registration is through the RTC.

The region will move forward with work related to Trauma Informed Care. This is in partnership with KDE and UK. We look for the NKY TIC Team to offer trainings in the region. More to come on this work soon.

PL Update:

With schools gearing back up for the 2017-2018 school year, professional learning experiences have been in full swing. The NKCES supported districts in the region with in-house professional learning academies as well as regional training experiences. The Research and Innovation Symposium in Education (RISE) and the Early Childhood Symposium were two events that showcased regional synergy. In both these events, partners from across the region collaborated to provide high-quality professional learning experiences for educators and administrators.

In September, a variety of professional learning opportunities are coming to the region. To highlight a few: KDE has partnered with NKCES for Novice Reduction Trainings. KASA is providing a training for principals on working with SBDMs. The New Teacher PLC kicks off this month, and KAGAN Tour returns. Please check out www.nkces.org or the TOP 10 to register!

RSP Update:

RSP carried out their first Service Learning Project. We collected water and other needed items for Hurricane Harvey Relief efforts; partnering with George Fern Expo Company in Cincinnati, who picked up all items and shipped them to Texas. Students wrote cards/letters to people in Houston as well. This project was very quickly put into motion, and the outcome was nothing short of incredible. Thank you to all donations provided by district partners as well!

New RSP staff are settling in nicely.

Grandparent's lunch was held on September 12th.

RSP has re-focused our school-wide PLC meetings, and we held our first one of the year.

NKU partnership continues with students from NKU coming later this month for their first visit to the program. They will have 4 visits total.

Administration is working closely with the new SRO on continued safety improvement for the school.

Our activities committee is gearing up for a Career Day in October and a fall festival in early November.

Currently have 3 students attending the Day Program at NKHBA again.

EL Program Update:

On August 1, Daniele Novak attended the English Learners' Criteria Standard Setting Meeting at KDE. The group made recommendations which, if adopted by the state, would revise the exit criteria for ACCESS. The current exit score of 5.0 was reached by only a small percentage of students throughout WIDA states, and is above the level of proficiency required by other Kentucky assessments.

The EL Program Consultants are testing new incoming students with the W-APT and the new WIDA Online Screener, developing Program Service Plans, and are meeting with teachers and administrators to go over our English Learners' PSPs.

The EL Program Consultants developed a series of professional development sessions based on SIOP. These can be attended as a series or as individual sessions. Each session has advance readings and follow-up assignments to ensure application of new strategies in the classroom. The first session is on 9/26. Sign-ups will be available soon on our website: www.nkces.org.

Grant Consortium Update:

Grant Reports from Districts: Paul Baker reported that Newport is in the running for some funds from the Greater Cincinnati Foundation to support its Newport Promise scholarship program; he also said they are waiting to hear from Kroger about some funding for food pantry. He is working on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables grant from KDE. Kati Newsome noted that Dayton Schools will match any Target Field Trip grants received by their teachers (see Grant Brief, August 21, 2017 for info about Target Field Trip grants.)

Grant Status

[OJJDP Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative](#) – Pending (Sept. 30)

[Prevention of Opioid Misuse in Women](#) – Pending through drug prevention coalitions

[Professional Development for Arts Educators](#) – Pending (Sept. 30)

[Home Depot](#) – Regional Schools Programs is planning; Bellevue has submitted

[EE/SG/WT ESSC](#) – No Cost Extension is approved to allow these programs to continue work in their counseling programs through this school year.

Work Ready Skills – Amy Razor and Vicki have been in discussion with Tim Hanner and Rick Hulefeld (Navigo/Children, Inc) and others about building a program to support a career readiness program through NKCES in partnership with Navigo/Children, Inc. This program would provide a connector/coach to bridge the worlds of education, employers, and higher education entities to address disconnects that currently exist. Vicki is looking for funding. Districts were invited to join the planning if they are interested. For more info, contact Vicki.

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables – Only Covington and Newport are eligible this year in our region. They have the information to apply and were encouraged to contact Vicki as needed.

Grant Strategies

Theme of the month – Workforce Readiness. Vicki distributed Grants Briefs and asked districts to contact her before applying since these particular funders really rely on relationships.

KCEWS data – Vicki demonstrated this excellent data resource.

UC research grant presentation – Jordan Castleberry described an opportunity for kindergarten teachers to contribute to research about teaching writing in kindergarten.

Grant News

County OJJ Fiscal Incentive Fund Collaborations – Rhonda and Mary brought information about funding being announced through counties for preventing youth juvenile justice involvement.

Crisis Text Line – Vicki presented a YouTube video and handouts about this text line that is saving lives among youth and adults. We discussed NKCES spearheading a state campaign to publicize this text line and getting data about what needs are being presented. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOtFDsC8JC0> . Deneen pointed out that all middle and high school staff and students must receive suicide prevention training and this would be a great place to publicize the crisis text line... other ideas included listing the textline number (741741) on the back of student id cards, putting flyers in halls and restrooms, etc.

NKY ASAP grants review – Vicki participated in this review that will provide funding for treatment programs. She plans to encourage a grant workshop among these entities for next year.

Lights On 21st CCLC – Coordinators of 21st Century Community Learning Centers are working on an advocacy campaign to let the community know the value of the programs, a particular focus since this critical funding is rumored to be endangered at the Federal/State levels. Tom Haggard shared details of the campaign (e.g., regional advocacy calendar; talking points for advocacy)