

**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

Kenton County

Ludlow  
Independent

Newport  
Independent

Northern Kentucky  
University

Pendleton County

Silver Grove  
Independent

Southgate  
Independent

Walton-Verona  
Independent

Williamstown  
Independent

**NKCES Building Renovation:** Business Manager Mr. Jon Stratton and Mr. Ehmet Hayes of REH met to discuss and walk through the most recent board recommendation which is improvements to the existing rooms so that they would be usable for meetings/trainings, as well as updates to the existing restrooms. A follow up meeting is scheduled for March 7th to review Mr. Hayes’s recommendations.

**Research & Development Enrichment Lab, January 17:** Executive Director Mrs. Amy Razor and Dr. Kim Weber participated in conversations with Dean Cindy Reed and Mr. Adam Helbig, who introduced the vision of the R&D Enrichment Lab. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for March 7th at which Dean Reed and Mr. Adam Helbig will present to the Superintendents.

**KASS 1<sup>st</sup> Women’s Leadership Conference-Cohort, January 19-20:** NKCES put together 30 mindfulness/wellness gift bags for each mentee selected. Mrs. Razor, along with Dr. Cheser and Dr. Burkhardt, participated as panelists. The gift bags were above and beyond what the group had anticipated, and, in many cases, these bags introduced the importance of mindfulness.

**Campbell Leadership Action Group (CLAG), January 23 -** Mrs. Razor attended a CLAG networking event with Dr. Karen Cheser, Superintendents Robb Smith and Dr. David Rust, where they connected with Campbell County business leaders, legislators, and Mayors of the cities.

**Talent Strategy Whiteboard Session, every Friday 3:30 pm -5:00 pm:** After Mr. Brent Cooper presented to NKCES on behalf of the Chamber, Mrs. Razor was appointed to be on the Talent Strategy committee to give input on behalf of the superintendents. This work is ongoing and will be shared at upcoming working sessions. There will be a special meeting held on March 23rd and representation from NKCES superintendents will be invited to give input on the current plan.

**Northern Kentucky Education Action Team (NKEAT):** Executive Director Razor, along with several superintendents, attended NKEAT to share regional and state concerns with the budget. One of the outcomes was to create a document that shared the impact the cuts would have on the classrooms/schools/districts. This was prepared by Superintendents Kathy Burkhardt, Mike Borchers, and NKCES as a united message. This document has been shared on social media, at LEAD, and with legislators, along with some local school communities.

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**Regional Schools Program Office Aide, January 26:** NKCES has partnered with RSP to connect and develop the skills of students by allowing a student to assist Lynlee Hertenberg with general office duties. The student has maintained a schedule of Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-9:45 AM. This opportunity has been in effect for a month, and has been going really well.

**NKY Education Council (NKYEC) Monetization Discussion, January 30:** Mrs. Razor took part in a conference call to discuss strategies for monetization. Items that were discussed included online curriculum, items from Action Teams and other organizations such as Navigo or Ignite for indirect.

**LEAD Advocacy Event January 31-February 1:** Kentucky School Board Association, along with the 8 regional educational cooperatives including NKCES, sponsored the LEAD Advocacy Event which took place in Frankfort, KY on January 31 - February 1. There was a great turnout from Northern Kentucky District Leaders.

**Ignite** - Mrs. Razor continues her work with Dr. Jim Detwiler, Mr. Dave Fleischer and Mr. Tim Hanner for the continued progression and development of Ignite Institute. We are currently asked to find representatives for the principal selection committee.

**NKY Legislative Forum at Fort Thomas Highlands High School, February 3:** Mrs. Razor, Dr. Weber, and our regional superintendents attended the Forum. Northern Kentucky's message was clear, concise, and with conviction on behalf of public education.

**Northern Kentucky University Alumni Reception and Award Ceremony, February 9th:** Mrs. Razor attended the Alumni Reception and Award Ceremony with Superintendent Alvin Garrison, Dr. Weber, and Ms. Stephanie Turner. The event was spectacular with many opportunities to connect with fellow alumni and community members. Mrs. Razor met and connected with the new President of NKU and has an upcoming appointment to meet with him and Superintendent Smith.

**School Safety - A Sandy Hook Perspective, February 21:** Mrs. Razor connected with Mr. Thom Jones, General Manager of NaviGate Prepared through NCERT; as a result of that connection, NKCES was able to bring to school leaders, SROs and Local first responders an event focused on school safety. Guest speaker, Ms. Allisa Parker, told her story about the loss of her daughter in the Sandy Hook School shooting. A special thank you to Superintendent Kelly Middleton and Newport High for allowing us to use their auditorium to ensure space was available to all who could attend.

**LEI Consulting - Diane Egbers, February 22:** Superintendents from our region participated in a meeting facilitated by Ms. Diane Egbers to discuss regional goal setting. The meeting was very productive and there were a lot of great outcomes. A doodle poll will be sent out to set a follow up meeting with Ms. Egbers that will take place next month.

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**NKYEC Summit Review, February 27:** Executive Director Razor attended a review of the Summit outcomes along with regional representatives and other superintendents. Outcomes will be shared at our next meeting.

### **Special Education Update:**

**Directors of Special Education (DoSE) Meeting:** NKCES hosted the February DoSE meeting. Topics of discussion focused around current legislation, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) updates, NKCES updates, and professional learning for summer 2018 and the 2018-2019 school year. DoSE provided feedback around their districts' professional learning focuses for special educators. Additionally, those who were not able to attend were offered a make-up skype session.

**Alternate Assessment Participation Guidelines:** KDE has revised the Alternate Assessment Participation Guidelines. Training modules are to be completed by DoSE, ARC Chairpersons, and special education teachers. The training requires the completion (and passing) of a quiz. NKCES is offering professional learning for ARC teams on the use of the participation guidelines.

**Critical Area of Need:** Our region, the state, as well as the nation are experiencing critical shortages for educators who work with students with sensory impairments. Specifically, teachers of the visually impaired are severely limited. NKCES currently employs a teacher of the visually impaired, but our region is in desperate need of more. NKCES along with DOSE are working to reach out to organizations and local teachers to begin recruiting services to our area.

**Legislation-** There are currently three bills the DoSE are actively reviewing.

3-5 year old IDEA Evaluation Timeline: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/18RS/SB102/bill.pdf>  
(Passed Senate)

Dyslexia Bill: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/18RS/HB187/bill.pdf>

Dyslexia Trust Fund: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/18RS/HB367/bill.pdf>

### **Professional Learning (PL) Update:**

**NWEA:** NKCES worked alongside NWEA to present Leadership Assessment Summit on February 20 at the St. Elizabeth Training and Education Center. Campbell County leaders did a showcase presentation on "A Systematic Approach to Formative Assessment."

**Problems of Practice (POP) Tour:** NKCES is connecting Walton Verona Middle School math educators with Bellevue Middle School math educators to learn more about PEBC in action. Math teachers will be participating in the lab classroom experience through observing Thinking Strategies in practice as well as the pre-brief and debrief component.

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**Explicit Instruction:** NKCES is excited to announce a second Explicit Instruction Professional Learning session will be held on March 22.

**Dreamfest:** A partnership between NKAGE, NKU and NKCES to provide 644 students identified as gifted in grades 4 -8 the opportunity to attend a variety of sessions presented by community and business partners, district educators, NKU and NKCES.

**Professional Learning Communities (PLCs):** The NKCES team is working together to intentionally increase the impact of Regional Professional Learning Communities on the instructional practices of educators. A feedback form for all participants is being developed and goals have been set to help move our PLCs toward more robust implementation of an authentic PLC model.

**Middle School Science PL:** NKCES partnered to provide two free Middle School Science PL opportunities. Kimberly Klein, Middle School Science teacher from Walton Verona, presented a session on Earth Science on February 27. Ella Bowling and Amber Carter from CINSAM will present “Spring Into Science” on March 26.

**Regional Synergy and PL Consortium:** The PL Consortium continued the discussion around creating a list of regional model educators from across the region. As this list evolves, through the work of the PL Coordinators, it will highlight regional resources that enhance collaboration. In March, a variety of professional learning opportunities are coming to the region. Please check out the Top 10 or [www.nkces.org](http://www.nkces.org) to register!

**Title I and Title II:** The Title I & Title II Coordinators are working together to promote efficient and effective collaboration with private schools as it relates to Title I and Title II funds.

**Regional Schools Program (RSP) Update:**

RSP has started the early testing schedule process. We will be looking into if we will need any additional staff to assist again this year. (Thank you again to Bellevue for their assistance last year.) We have applied again for Alternative Program of Distinction; the application was due 3/6/18. I will keep everyone posted when we hear if we are selected as a finalist or not. We have opened up a partnership again with UK extension office with Mr. D. J. Scully. He has come out once to start an ongoing project on recycling caps to be turned into a bench for RSP. He has two additional visits scheduled this spring.

RSP welcomed a visitor from the Professional Football Players Mothers Association to read to our students for Read Across America Day. We held our family Valentine’s Lunch in February with a great turnout. The Campbell County Fire Department is looking to do a training for their staff during our spring break, to utilize our facility and provide safety feedback to our program as well.

We have a tentative date for our Awards and Promotion Ceremony: 5/24/18; as soon as we have it set for sure, that information will be shared to all. Requests have been sent to the Advisory Board for slot intents for the 18-19 school year.

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### **English Learners (EL) Program Update:**

The EL Program Consultants completed ACCESS testing in all of the districts that receive direct services. Direct services have resumed in the districts. ACCESS rosters are being updated in SDRR and data validation will be completed in WIDA AMS. Our Regional EL PLC met on February 23rd and will meet again on March 23rd. Our next SIOP Professional Learning opportunity will be held on March 6th and will feature Kacie Browning, ELL Teacher Specialist for Campbell County Schools.

### **NKY Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):**

NKIAE is our newest program through the Professional Development for Arts Educators grant from US Department of Education. NKIAE is currently accepting applications from schools in the Grants Consortium that have 50% or higher Free and Reduced Lunch Rates to participate in a Professional Learning program for Arts Integration. Information and applications have been sent to principals and arts teachers in eligible schools. Project Director Joe Bertucci and the Steering Committee are planning the kick-off summer workshop, scheduled for July 16 - 20, 2018.

### **Grant Consortium Update:**

**Professional Development for Arts Educators:** This will be the last entry under the Grants Consortium for this project, since NKIAE is now up and running with Mr. Joe Bertucci at the helm. Welcome, Joe! Ms. Diane Hatfield will be advising this project in her role as the NKCES Professional Development Coordinator.

**21<sup>st</sup> CCLC:** Pending announcements in early March.

**McKinney Vento Homeless Education:** Submissions were made by Erlanger-Elsmere, Covington, and Newport, and a multi-district proposal was submitted for Bellevue, Southgate, and Dayton. Announcements are pending, no date announced.

**CARA Grant for Drug Free Communities Coalitions:** announcement pending, no date announced.

**Striving Readers:** Four proposals were submitted: Dayton, Bellevue, Williamstown, and Southgate. Congratulations to these districts for persevering through this proposal. Announcements pending in April.

**Duke Energy Foundation:** Two proposals were submitted on behalf of the entire region. One would provide support for a technology PLC; the other would support coordination of workplace readiness education. We received excellent community support for this! Announcement pending, no date announced.

### **Grant News**

**Comprehensive School Safety Initiative:** A team from NKCES is exploring the possibility of collaboration with Research Triangle Institute for this research grant from the US Department of Justice.

## NKCES Report – March 2018

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