

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.

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Essential Work Schools Committee, February 4: Executive Director Mrs. Amy Razor led the first meeting of this working committee. This group was extremely diligent about their work together and very determined to create a useful tool. Each district is submitting current resources for each required category by March 1st.

Hamilton County Cooperative, Collaborative Planning Session, February 7: Executive Director Razor, Mr. Jon Stratton, and Ms. Diane Hatfield attending a brainstorming session with Bill Sears and his team to discuss opportunities for future partnerships to add value and services for member districts.

Leadership Excelleration Inc, Travis Nipper Meeting, February 8: Executive Director Razor met with Mr. Nipper of Leadership Excelleration to discuss current services of LEI and opportunities for future partnerships to add value and services for member districts.

NKCES Executive Council Meeting, February 11: The NKCES Executive Council meeting was held via conference call, except for Superintendent Rust who attended in person, as he was going to lead the upcoming meeting. We reviewed the agenda and upcoming topics of business.

CLAG Monthly Meeting, February 12: A presentation was given by the YMCA Director on the important aspects of wraparound services, the deficits that many students experience, and the direct impact on their ability to succeed in school without supports.

RSP Valentine's Day Lunch, February 14: Executive Director Razor attended lunch, where students had prepared the desserts. She spent time talking with the students and their caregivers to continue building relationships.

CCR Pillar Meeting, February 14: Executive Director Razor attended the CCR Pillar meeting at NKY Chamber to hear updates from the various partners.

PL Consortium Meeting, February 15: Executive Director Razor attended the PL Consortium to review upcoming opportunities and discuss the Essential Skills Work. A committee was formed to begin this work and will report back to the larger group for input. Also, Ms. Hatfield shared professional learning highlights of upcoming events.

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Children Inc, February 19: Executive Director Razor met with Mr. Rick Hulefeld and Mr. Tom Lottman to review the grant opportunity for the NKY Region. He will be coming to the next board meeting to share with districts.

KSBA Annual Conference, Louisville, KY, February 22-24: Executive Director Razor attended KSBA sessions in Louisville and had various networking meetings with superintendents and boards.

Cooperative Executive Directors' Meeting at KDE, February 25: Commissioner Wayne Lewis invited cooperative directors to his office for a meeting to discuss the vital role he sees service agencies facilitating for the region.

Backpack Full of Cash, February 27: Executive Director Razor attended the viewing of Backpack Full of Cash along with several superintendents in our region. The event was well-attended with more than 120 educators and community members in attendance.

Dr. Gene Kearns, February 28: Mr. Joe Carter with Renaissance Learning hosted this event with Boone County, Covington, and NKCES. It was a day full of learning and synergy with over 60 leaders in sessions together.

Special Education Update

DoSE Meetings: The DoSE Advisory group met on February 20 and the DoSE met at the Boone County Facilities Management offices on February 22.

State Directors Meeting: Dr. Laura Clarke and Ms. Diane Hatfield attended the state directors meeting in Frankfort on February 11-12.

Special Ed Teachers PLC: Mr. John Winslow and Dr. Laura Clarke hosted a virtual Special Ed PLC on February 20. This PLC was held at NKCES and included a web conference link so participants could join "live" or by Zoom. This session featured the four evidence-based interventions recommended by CEC's *Behavior Disorders* December 2018 issue.

State Consultant Work: NKCES consultants continued collaborative work in the areas of literacy, mathematics, behavior and low incidence. Work included reviewing Kentucky data on behavior referrals, restraint and seclusion; updating the IEP Behavior Guidance Document; sharing updated training materials for Peer Support

Networks and more.

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Positive Behavior Solutions: On February 8, NKCES hosted Reducing Problem Behaviors in Preschool Classrooms training. This training focused on supporting teachers of young children with significant behavior challenges in inclusive preschool classrooms.

VI Planning. On February 22, the Directors of Special Education met with Dr. Laura Clarke to plan for VI services for the 2019-2020 academic year. Conversation included recommendations from the VI Advisory Group (Mrs. Marinell Kephardt, Mrs. Laura Hellman, and Mrs. Esther Brady) as well as anticipated needs for the next academic year.

Professional Learning (PL) Update

February Professional Learning: NKCES supported a total of 95 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate and special education during the month of February serving 980 educators.

PL Consortium: A subcommittee was established to collaborate regarding the Essential Workplace Ethics Program. The PL Consortium also discussed possible regional opportunities and common curriculum needs.

Explicit Instruction: Explicit Instruction training is alive and well in the region. Boone County Special Educators have actively participated in 18 hours of training as well as receiving a multitude of resources this past year. In February, 210 special education teachers attended the last of the series of EI trainings. More importantly, the teachers have provided powerful examples of how their practices have changed as a result of their participation in Explicit Instruction professional learning.

SNAP Math Training: NKCES is committed to empower our regional Special Education Teachers and Instructional Coaches in Early Numeracy through SNAP (**S**tudent **N**umeracy **A**ssessment **P**rogressions) training. This past January and February we partnered with Beth Miracle-Meiman to bring SNAP training to the region. This a two-day course that provided professional development in administering and analyzing concise, diagnostic, individual assessment in early numeracy. Topics included number words and numeral identification, structuring, and addition and subtraction strategies. This formative assessment system provides a way to track individual and group performance and enables teachers to differentiate instruction based on the results. SNAP is most appropriate for pre-kindergarten through first grade classroom and special education teachers.

Teachers and Instructional Coaches from across the region are celebrating this training powerful in helping strengthen their own understanding of Early Numeracy as well as tools to move student forward.

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Unlocking Student Talent with Dr. Gene Kerns: On February 28, 81 administrators gathered from across the region to learn from the talented Dr. Gene Kerns.

Reducing Problem Behaviors in the Preschool Classroom: 61 preschool educators gathered on February 8 to learn strategies to create behavioral success in the early childhood classroom.

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs): During the month of February several PLCs met including: Special Education, Physical Education, Arts and Humanities, and English Learners. PLCs provide opportunities for educators to grow professionally in a collaborative environment focused on collective learning.

The **Arts and Humanities PLC** met on February 7, with a focus on Theatre Education. Topics included technology tools and resources for the theatre classroom, engaging reluctant learners, and strategies to interpret and deliver text.

Physical Education PLC: A mighty group of regional educators have been meeting this year to increase their student impact. The Regional PE PLC has stayed curious while sharing ideas with a focus on student centered learning and growth of individuals through reflection and communication. They are a powerful voice in our region as they encourage students to stay active, engaged, and connected while continuing to actively search for new ideas and stay connected with other communities throughout the state.

Regional Schools Program (RSP) Update:

Ms. Vicki Dansberry has submitted an ArtsWave grant to assist with our funding of “Mindful Movement” at RSP, as well as integrate the arts through NKIAE next school year. Four of our teachers will attend the summer training and implement next school year.

A drafted school calendar was shared at the Advisory Board meeting and with Dayton.

RSP and TLC will host our 2nd Regional Collaborative Alternative Program Meeting on 3/14/19, here at RSP. We are looking forward to coming together again and developing a stronger plan for the future of collaborative meetings like this for the region.

RSP held Valentine’s Lunch for families with a great turnout. Spring conferences are 3/15/19 from 12:00-3:00pm.

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We are working on our testing schedule and once finalized, as in the past, we will reach out to our partners if additional testing proctors are needed. We have been so grateful to staff from districts and NKCES that have assisted us in the past when needed.

From what I have seen on KDE's website, Alternative Program of Distinction applications will not be invited in the Spring. It currently states they have moved it to the Fall of 2019. I will keep watching for updates.

English Learners (EL) Program Update:

Our program finished up ACCESS testing in all the districts, and we have resumed direct services to students. The EL PLC was held on February 22nd. We discussed testing issues and resolutions, and we shared our reasons for choosing to work with English Learners and why we enjoy our profession. Over 100 educators have registered for our upcoming conference, Kagan for ELLs, which will be held at Gateway on March 5th and 6th.

NKY Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

In the month of February, we observed lessons integrating the arts with ELA at Grandview Elementary, Collins Elementary, Taylor Elementary, and Tichenor Middle School. Tichenor Middle School also took students on a field trip to the Contemporary Arts Center, and Project Manager Mr. Joe Bertucci helped integrate theatre into an ELA classroom at Dayton High School.

On February 28, teachers participated in a guided tour and professional learning session at the Cincinnati Art Museum.

Our Steering Committee met on February 5 to begin plans for our 2019-20 Program: Integrating the Arts with Math. As of March 4, 18 teams at 16 schools (representing 9 districts) have applied for this program. Click for [more info](#).

Grant Consortium Update:

21st Century Community Schools – Pending. Awards are expected end of March or beginning of April

Food Service Equipment – Pending

CS 4 ALL – Submitted for Erlanger-Elsmere and Dayton with NKU

ArtsWave – Submitted for Regional Schools Program and Erlanger-Elsmere

Stop Act – Due March 22

Strategic Prevention Framework – Due March 29

Education Innovation and Research – Due April 2

NKCES Report – February 2019

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Full Service Community Schools – Due April 15

PDAE – NKIAE: Teams are registering

IAL – Implementation underway

Grants Consortium meeting for April will be April 17, 1:00 pm at the co-op first floor meeting room.