

The mission of the Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services is to strategically leverage the united voice of the superintendents and public schools as we connect, grow and serve the region with vital services as we: provide targeted support services for education professionals, enhance quality learning for students, model and support innovative instructional leadership practices...through a united voice.

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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

Southgate  
Independent

Walton-Verona  
Independent

Williamstown  
Independent

**Andy Beshear, Q&A Session with NKY Superintendents, July 30:** Executive Director Razor and NKCES Board Members met with Mr. Beshear to discuss education in Kentucky. The conversation was very insightful.

**Navigo & K-Tech, July 30:** Executive Director Razor met with Mr. Dave Fleischer to discuss K-Tech and expectations for the NKY Connector Position.

**Leadership NKY Alumni Luncheon, August 2:** Executive Director Razor was invited to attend the luncheon to show support for Dr. Karen Cheser being awarded the Ruth E. Egers Leaders of Distinction award. We are proud of Dr. Cheser's commitment to Education in Northern Kentucky.

**Ervin Dimeny, Education Cabinet, August 2:** Executive Director Razor requested a conference call with Mr. Dimeny to discuss organization of information for K-TECH.

**State Cooperative Directors Meeting, August 5:** Executive Director Razor attended the monthly Skype meeting to stay on top of current events regarding education in the state.

**Open House for President Vaidya, August 7:** Executive Director Razor and several Superintendents attended the Open House held at President Vaidya's home where she spent time talking with the President and his wife, as well as networking with other educational professionals.

**K-TECH Committee Meeting, August 8:** Executive Director Razor led the K-TECH Committee Meeting to create draft a plan and graphic. This plan will be the guiding document for the regional work. The committee's goal was to listen to the parameters of the funds and then design a program that will best meet the needs of students in the region. We will give updates to the board as the work progresses. Committee: Joe Buerkley, Kathy Burkhardt, Robb Smith, Francis O'Hara, Karin Cheser, David Rust, Amy Razor.

**NKU President's Fall Convocation:** Executive Director Razor attended the meeting to learn more about the new strategic framework, Success by Design, as well as new initiatives on campus to promote student success. Ms. Razor also met several new NKU staff members.

**Commissioner Lewis Superintendent Webcast, August 14:** Executive Director Razor, along with several Superintendents, attended the Skype Webcast where Commissioner Lewis provided updates on education in the state.

**NKY K-TECH, August 15:** Executive Director Razor and Commissioner Dimeny had a conference call to review the committee's draft plan. He was very favorable of the plan and offered refining suggestions.

**PL Consortium Meeting, August 16:** Executive Director Razor attended the PL Consortium to greet the new district representatives and to introduce the new NKCES Team members. The meeting updates and conversation focused on district needs and upcoming trainings.

**Business Service Committee Meeting, August 21:** Executive Director Razor, along with Martha Setters and Bill Bradford, attended the WIB meeting to present the Essential Skills plan for the region. The plan was well received by the WIB members and they discussed ways to support this work as we begin to create awareness as a region.

**Children, Inc and CELC Board Meeting, August 22:** This meeting was held at Collective Fuel and, as a board member, Executive Director Razor attended and was part of the merger meeting. The goal of the merger is to bring the strengths of the organizations together to better meet the needs of children in the region.

**KDE Standard Setting Committee, August 23:** Executive Director Razor attended this meeting which is the start of the standard setting process that will help determine Kentucky's new 5-star accountability system. Two additional meetings will occur Sept. 4 and 5 in Frankfort from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Using data from the 2018-2019 school year, Kentucky's accountability system will provide an overall rating ranging from 1 to 5 stars for each school, district, and the state. The star rating, along with other important education data, will be available on the [Kentucky School Report Card](#).

**NKU Dean Search Committee, August 28:** Executive Director Razor was asked to be on the search committee to select the new Dean of Education.

### **Special Education Update:**

The first DoSE meeting of the year was held on August 23rd. Topics of discussion included 2019 IEP Guidance Document, the new Guidance for Special Transportation Document, and the SDI Document, which were all recently released from KDE. The next DoSE meeting will be held on September 27th. KDE will be conducting their beginning of year training during this time from 9 to 3. Finance Directors are being asked to attend in the afternoon.

KDE is hosting a Special Education Directors Institute for all special education directors. It will be held on September 3rd and 4th at Embassy Suites in Lexington.

National CASE/NASDSE Conference is October 27-29 at the Galt House. This will be an excellent opportunity for all special education administrators.

**August 5, 2019, Transition Road Trip:** Ten educators from Boone County, Cooper, Conner, Ryle, Scott, Simon Kenton, Beechwood, and Lloyd high schools participated in tours of rehabilitation programs that specialize in transition and supported employment services. Programs included New Perceptions, Inc., Active Day, The Point, and the Covington Kentucky Career Center.

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

**August Professional Learning:** NKCES supported a total of 33 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, and special education during the month of August, serving 558 educators.

**PL Consortium:** The PL Consortium meets monthly on the third Friday of each month. We kicked off the school year with our first meeting on August 16. Check out the [NKCES Fall At a Glance](#) for a listing of upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities.

**10% Model:** NKCES coaches provided several PL sessions under the newly launched 10% model. These sessions included K-12 educators from three member districts and a regional session. Educators participated in a Deep Dive into Mathematics and Reading and Writing Standards as well as Reading in the Content Areas.

**No Limits EDU Podcast:** This summer NKCES launched its own podcast! There are two goals of this podcast endeavor. Goal 1: To offer professional learning that is without time, geographical, or financial constraints for educators. (Thus the name of the podcast); Goal2: To build the capacity of educators in our region by featuring them as the experts in their field and interviewing them regarding a range of EDU topics. We are currently four episodes in, with well over 237 listeners. 63% of those listeners are from our Northern KY region; 12% are from other parts of Kentucky; and 25% are from other states, Canada, and Ireland.

The podcast is housed on its own website: <http://nolimitsedu.buzzsprout.com/>, and is also now featured on Google Podcasts, Stitcher, and iHeart Radio.

**The Structured MSD Classroom:** NKCES partnered with Angela Buschle to bring to the region The Structured MSD Classroom, where teachers were engaged in learning within a structured MSD classroom. Angela shared her expertise in systematic and intentional structures that have been put in place to support student learning. Teachers were able to build 4 task boxes to take back to their own classrooms that were designed for the highest level of learning but also flexible enough to differentiate as needed to meet individual needs.

**Professional Learning Networks (PLNs):** Our PLNs will begin again in September and will include: School Counselors, Instructional Coaches, Physical Education, Autism Spectrum Disorder/Low Incidence, Homeless Coordinators, Arts and Humanities, English Learners, Special Education, Regional Alternative Program, and Media Specialists. PLNs provide opportunities for educators to grow professionally in a collaborative environment focused on collective learning.

**Regional School Programs (RSP) Update:**

RSP hosted their first Back to School Open House on August 6th, and we were very excited to have families in the building! Our first day back for students was August 8th, 2019.

RSP's first advisory board meeting will be October 8th, 2019 at 9am.

RSP is looking for a yoga instructor or company to bring Trauma Informed Yoga to the school once a week. We received a grant to assist us in this process!

RSP has opted into a free program to come train our staff in a program called OLWEUS. It is a bullying prevention program. The training for staff will take place in January and we will implement it after our training. If anyone is interested, there is a grant to cover the training currently.

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

Heather Ralphes is our new EL Consultant, and she comes to our program with many years of experience working with English Learners. She has helped to ensure that services to the districts in the EL Program have continued seamlessly through the transition and we are glad to have her on board.

Both consultants are continuing to meet with administrators, teachers, and parents to go over the students' Program Service Plans (PSPs), which need to be implemented within the first 30 calendar days of school. They are also working with the Title III Coordinators in the EL Program Title III Consortium to create the 2019-20 EL Plan. After PSPs are in place, the EL Consultants will begin working with EL students in the schools.

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

Teachers from 17 schools and 9 school districts across our region are working to implement the arts-integrated units they developed at our summer workshop.

Arts Integration teams are reconvening this month at one of two follow-up workshops offered (September 7 or September 21). Joe Bertucci is working with teachers to design instruction that helps students grapple with and express understanding of math concepts through the arts. Joe has already observed arts-integrated lessons at Boone County High School and Southern Elementary.

Teachers will have continued opportunities for professional learning throughout the school year.

**Grant Consortium Update:**

**Grant Status**

Computer Science 4 ALL – pending for Erlanger and Dayton with NKU, October 1

Strategic Prevention Framework – **awarded** to Erlanger Elsmere, \$300,000 a year for five years!

Education Innovation and Research – pending for Newport, Bellevue, Dayton, Williamstown, Pendleton County, Bracken County (together), October 1

Full Service Community Schools – pending for Erlanger Elsmere (3 grants proposed)

NKY ASAP – pending for Regional School Programs Project Yoga, finalist, sent to state for review

Youth Engagement in Sports – pending, Erlanger-Elsmere, October 1

Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented –pending, all GC districts, October 1

Project Prevent – pending, Erlanger-Elsmere and Covington (together), October 1

Next meeting October 2, 8:30 am, NKCES first floor meeting room