



# Key Commitments in Professional Learning: Confronting the “Opportunity Myth”

October 3, 2019

# Applicable Statute

- ▶ KRS 158.6453 (2) (j) directs that:
- ▶ The Department of Education shall provide or facilitate statewide training sessions for existing teachers and administrators on how to:
  1. Integrate the revised content standards into classroom instruction;
  2. Better integrate performance assessment of students within their instructional practices; and
  3. Help all students use higher-order thinking and communication skills.



# Four Key Commitments to Close Gaps and Boost Achievement

- ▶ Teachers who hold **HIGH EXPECTATIONS** for students and believe they can meet grade-level standards
- ▶ Consistent opportunities to work on **GRADE-APPROPRIATE ASSIGNMENTS**
- ▶ **STRONG INSTRUCTION**, where students do most of the thinking in a lesson
- ▶ **DEEP ENGAGEMENT** in what students are learning



# Phase 1: *KAS* Leadership Meetings



- ▶ In March, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff hosted regional meetings for district and school leaders to:
  - assist districts with planning for implementation of the statewide **expectations** established in the newly revised *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS)*;
  - build knowledge and capacity around the depth and rigor of the standards and the alignment to **grade-appropriate assignments**; and
  - provide resources to support improved practice and **strong instruction** around the grade-level standards.





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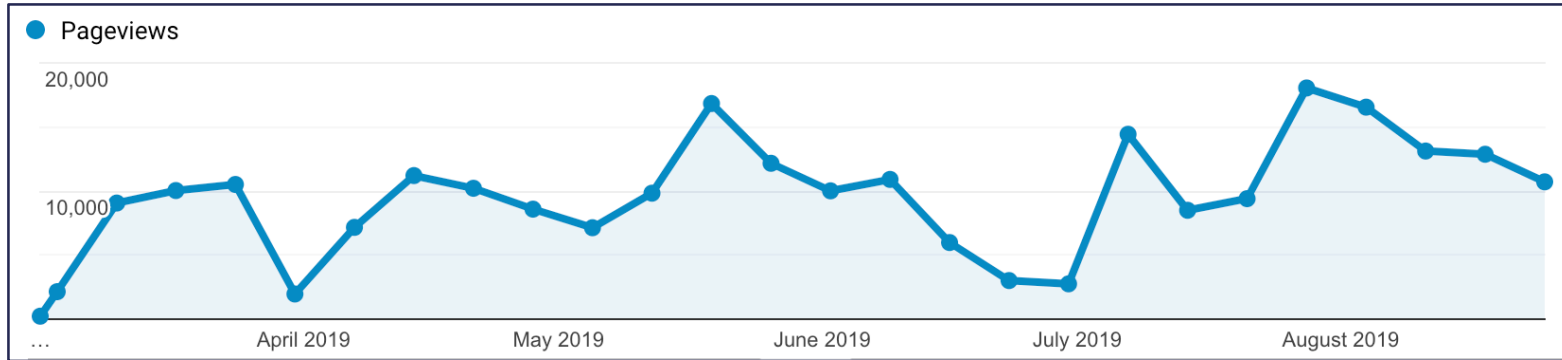
# Kentucky Academic Standards

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# KYstandards.org Page View Analysis



- ▶ 253,413 visits to KYstandards.org since the soft launch on March 1, 2019

# Phase 2: Standards Rollout Webcast Series



## ▶ Weekly Webcasts – April 18-May 30, 2019

- Establishing District and School Teams
  - ✓ Collective Vision and **High Expectations** for each and every student
- Getting to Know the *KAS* Modules
  - ✓ **Teacher Expectations**
  - ✓ **Grade-Appropriate Assignments**
  - ✓ **Strong Instruction**
  - ✓ **Student Engagement in grade-level content**
- Aligning Curricula, Grade-level Assignments and Common Assessments (**all four key commitments**)



# Phase 3: Getting to Know Your *KAS*

## Learning Lab Regional Conferences



- ▶ Regional conferences for teachers, school and district leaders as well as post secondary staff to engage with the newly revised *KAS*
- ▶ Led by national partners and state education program consultants
- ▶ Sessions focused on the four key commitments: **high expectations, grade-appropriate assignments, strong instruction and student engagement**

# *Model Curriculum Framework*



- ▶ Per KRS 158.6451, the framework aids districts and schools in developing effective curricula designed to foster student achievement.
  - Introduction: The Role of Standards in Curriculum
  - Curriculum Design
    - Planning and Professional Learning
    - Developing the Curriculum
    - Implementing and Evaluating
  - Curriculum Implementation
    - The Role of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
    - Balanced Assessment
    - Instructional Best Practices

# Phase 4: Professional Learning Series – Fall 2019

## ▶ High Expectations

- *Opportunity Myth* Research Findings
- Why PLCs? Webcast
- Gaining Clarity through PLCs Webcast
- Mock PLC Virtual Workshop



# Phase 4: Professional Learning Series – Fall 2019

## ▶ **Grade-Appropriate Assignments**

- Assignment Review Protocols
- Alignment Tools Webcast
- Using Alignment Tools Virtual Workshop
- Student Work Library
- Content-Specific Discovery Tasks
- Instructional Materials Alignment Rubrics



# Phase 4: Professional Learning Series – Fall 2019



## ► **Strong Instruction** where students are **Deeply Engaged**

- *Model Curriculum Framework* Update
- Content-Specific Professional Learning Modules
- *Clarity for Learning* Book Study
- Standards Resources Webcast
- *Characteristics of Highly Effective Teaching and Learning* (CHETL) Content Area Updates
- Professional Learning Grants
- Virtual Coaching Opportunities