

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.

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

**Gaggle, October 1:** Executive Director Amy Razor and Ms. Jessica Faust met with Ms. Lisa Prescott, sales representative with Gaggle, to learn more about the student internet security product.

**K-TECH Teleconference, October 1:** Executive Director Razor participated in a teleconference call with Mr. Dave Fleischer, Navigo and Saint Elizabeth Healthcare partners to discuss K-TECH.

**Grants Consortium, October 2:** Executive Director Razor attended the monthly Grants Consortium Meeting to learn about current opportunities and stay current on regional needs.

**NCERT, October 8-11:** Executive Director Razor and several NKY Superintendents attended the Fall NCERT Conference to learn from National Leaders in Education and cutting edge educational leaders and resources.

**NKYEC Fall Meeting, October 15:** Executive Director Razor attended the fall convening to hear from local educators and business leaders, as well as to learn about current projects to improve student success.

**Children Inc. Luncheon, October 15:** Executive Director Razor attended the celebration luncheon to learn more about Children Inc's future with Cincinnati Early Learning Center as the new organization, Learning Grove.

**IDEA Meeting, Instructional Tech and Principal PLN Planning, October 17:** Executive Director Razor met with Ms. Becky Nixon, Ms. Diane Hatfield and Ms. Amelia Brown to talk through possible future partnerships with Hamilton County Education Cooperative, as well as building a foundation for a Principal PLN.

**Opera Express, October 18:** Executive Director Razor supported the collaboration of Opera Express, brought to RSP for all to enjoy.

**Professional Learning Consortium, October 18:** Executive Director Razor attended the monthly PL Consortium to communicate upcoming trainings, share resources and make needed connections.

**Superintendent Webcast, Commissioner Lewis, October 22:** Executive Director Razor, along with Superintendents across the state, participated in the webcast to hear from Commissioner Wayne Lewis as he shared his current focus for education in the state.

**State Taskforce Curriculum Development, October 23 & 24:** Commissioner Lewis requested Executive Director Razor to participate on the taskforce so that her experience and passion for student learning could be used in the development of statewide curriculum. Ms. Razor shared an overview of this meeting with all superintendents and the PL Consortium.

**State Cooperative Directors Monthly Skype Meeting, October 28:** Deputy Commissioner Amanda Ellis held the monthly statewide call to discuss teacher recruitment and the curriculum task force. She requested that Executive Director Razor share her perspective on the work of the task force with the other cooperative directors. Ms. Razor also shared information about the upcoming press conference and the importance of a higher level of commitment and providing a culture of support if we truly want to recruit teachers to the field of education.

**Statewide Press Conference, October 29:** NKCES Board of Superintendents participated in the KASS Statewide press conference to represent a united voice on advocacy issues and stress the importance of voting on November 5th. The press conference can be viewed on social media:  
[https://www.facebook.com/NKCES/videos/418189535558155/?tn-str=k\\*F](https://www.facebook.com/NKCES/videos/418189535558155/?tn-str=k*F)

**Gubernatorial Debate Event, October 29:** Superintendents, along with Executive Director Razor, attended the debate to show support for public education. This is an important representation as we continue to be a united voice for public education.

**Special Education Update:**

The October DoSE meeting was held on October 27th. Our KY-ABRI state consultant, Patty Whitney, was present to share information regarding KY-ABRI. Patty shared ways that KY-ABRI is able to support districts. She gave specifics as to what coaching would look like from KY-ABRI. Terri Ritchie from KSB shared strategies for working with CVI students. An update on the Regional IEP Task Group was given. DoSEs were reminded of their \$700 per [district conference reimbursement](#) and instructions on how to get reimbursed were given. Also, regional DoSE shared with DoSEs her recent visit to Meade County Schools. Meade County is doing great things with students with disabilities. They have very strong co-teaching models and a culture where there are high expectations for students with disabilities. Meade County is offering another opportunity for schools to visit. The next opportunity is March 10th and 11th. Spaces are filling up quickly.

The IDEA team attended the National CASE/NASDSE Conference on October 27-29 at the Galt House. Lots of learning occurred and we look forward to sharing this learning with our region.

## OVR Update

**Fall Youth Conference, Oct. 23, 2019:** Fifty high school students from seven school districts gathered at Campbell County Schools Board Training Center for our Fall Youth Conference, “**Discovering Purpose and Building Connections**”. Speaker and author Garrett Lee led this fun, activity based workshop, engaging students from Beechwood, Cooper, Ryle, Conner, Campbell County, Dayton, Highlands, Simon Kenton, and Walton Verona high schools. Each student received a copy of Garrett’s book “The Game Plan for Success”. After the event, Garrett spent time talking with students and signing books.

## Professional Learning (PL) Update

**October Professional Learning:** NKCES supported a total of 97 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, and special education during the month of October, serving 710 educators.

**PL Consortium:** The PL Consortium meets monthly on the third Friday of each month. The Consortium met on October 18 and discussion topics included K-Tech grant, manufactory month, College and Career Coaches distribution list, The Ignite Institute, and the request from EPSB for nominees to be content reviewers for education preparation programs.

**Student Numeracy Assessment Progression (SNAP):** This two-day session helps teachers develop “professional noticing” within the classroom as well as within a structured setting during an interview style setting. *“Using this tool to get a more thorough look at where each student is with basic numeracy and where I need to focus my interventions.”* –participant reflection from this month- Across the region well over 50 newly trained SNAP facilitators have used this diagnostic tool to identify strengths and struggles with our grades K-4 students.

**Conceptual Building Blocks (CBB) of Fractions:** Two full days of learning for teachers of grades 3-5 took place across the region. One of the Boone County participants wrote on her feedback, *“The learning I had these past two days has changed my whole mindset when it comes to concrete manipulatives and showing my students many representations of a fraction. I can’t say enough how glad I am that I signed up for this.”* Throughout the sessions there were countless AHAs that ranged from the power of using manipulatives to reach a conceptual understanding to developing a deeper understanding of the content standards within a vertical perspective. This was an engaging two days of loving fractions instead of fraction fear.

**Discover Kagan: Unleash the Power of Engagement:** On October 22 forty-nine administrators from across the region learned the keys to student engagement. Vern Minor provided an interactive session about the critical importance of instruction in closing the achievement gap.

**Implementing Inquiry Practices with the Kentucky Academic Standards for Social Studies:** The evening of October 22, twenty-eight educators from across the region gathered to analyze the inquiry practices in concert with the disciplinary concept standards for the newly adopted Kentucky Academic Standards for Social Studies. The training included an opportunity to explore inquiry practices and a wealth of related resources.

**High Leverage Practices in the Math Classroom:** On October 21, middle and high school special education and general education educators attended this training to learn strategies to focus on high-leverage practices for math classes serving students with mild to moderate disabilities. This session focused on components of explicit instruction, vocabulary, and scaffolding.

**The Foundations for Learning to Read:** The objective of *The Foundations for Learning to Read* workshop is to equip educators with a deep knowledge of phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, and phonics while also allowing time and resources to practice activities that will help build these skills in students. This workshop has been offered and filled twice already in July and on October 1. Due to high interest, there will be another session offered on December 4th: <https://conta.cc/2nxmHkX>

**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.

The latest podcast was released on October 4 entitled The Benefits of Co-Teaching, featuring Dr. Laura Clarke, special education consultant and college professor. She shared how co-teaching is "*a present on top of a present*" by increasing the intensity of instruction and thereby increasing student achievement and engagement.

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

**Professional Learning Networks (PLNs):** Our PLNs in October included: Physical Education, NKAGE, Visual and Performing Arts, and Special Education. PLNs provide opportunities for educators to grow professionally in a collaborative environment focused on collective learning.

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

RSP had a site visit on October 10th from KDE for Alternative Program of Distinction. The visit went well and we should hear about possible next steps around mid-November.

We held our first round of conferences for families on October 16th, and we held Donuts with Grownups on October 24th.

Our two classified staff have officially retired, and we are diligently looking to fill those positions.

RSP has met with the staff at Mix 94.9 to begin their annual "Pack the Pantry" event, which helps our program to fill and deliver food baskets to our families prior to the holiday break. Kroger has decided to provide a gift for all students at RSP this holiday season as well.

NKCES is once again going to provide a holiday shop for RSP students on December 6th, and they are currently accepting donations. We will collect donations in our office as well. This event is one of our most heart-felt events of the year, and we are so thankful for the NKCES team!

Our next RAP (Regional Alternative Program) meeting is scheduled on December 11th from 4:00-5:30pm, location TBD, but most likely at another program in the region.

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

The EL Consultants have been providing direct services to the EL students in the districts. They have also placed orders for ACCESS testing materials. They have been working with Nichole Neuhard, EL Consultant at Erlanger-Elsmere, to plan the November 8th PLN which will feature the Kentucky Coalition for English Learners Webinar: EL Student Data, during which PLN members will learn about and discuss ways to analyze EL student data.

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

Joe Bertucci, Vicki Dansberry, and Lauren Hess, along with Teacher Leaders Rita Grant (Boone County High School) and Julie Qualls (Grandview Elementary) attended the U.S. Department of Education's national *Arts in Education* Conference October 24-25, to convene with fellow grantees and learn best practices in arts education and arts integration.

Mr. Bertucci, along with Teacher Leaders Amanda Greenwald (Miles/Lindeman Elementary) and Katie Lynch (Ockerman Elementary) attended the Kennedy Center's national *Arts & Special Education* Conference October 27-28, to learn best practices in diversity, equity, and inclusion in and through the arts.

Mr. Bertucci observed collaborative, arts-integrated units at Newport Primary, Boone County High School, Arnett Elementary, and Dayton High School. Mr. Bertucci also attended a unit-planning meeting at Sixth District Elementary, and a performance of the Cincinnati Opera Express at RSP.

Mr. Bertucci and Ms. Dansberry are currently working with the grant's evaluator, Joan Ferrante, on the annual report, due to the federal government on November 8.

**Grant Consortium Update:**

**Grant Status**

Strategic Prevention Framework: Awarded to Erlanger Elsmere, \$300,000 a year for five years, total \$1.5 million! They are hiring a school psychologist and a school counselor and jobs are posted.

Full Service Community Schools – not awarded

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

Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented –not awarded

Project Prevent – Awarded to Erlanger-Elsmere and Covington, \$4.95 million over 5 years for prevention of violence. They will be hiring a project coordinator, school psychologist, and two board certified behavior analysts/school counselors.

District/schools grants in progress or submitted include: David Herriman Fund at Greater Cincinnati Foundation; Artswave/Arthur Daniels Midland fund; Andrew Lloyd Webber Classroom Resources; 21st CCLC; and KDE Academic Standards (KAS) Implementation Professional Learning Mini grant

**Grant News:**

PDAE Conference: Joe Bertucci, project coordinator, Vicki Dansberry, project director, and three others (two teachers and the arts integration coach) attended this very beneficial conference. They will incorporate learnings into their work through the NKIAE project.

Vicki will be at the national Grants Professionals Association conference November 5 to 9 which made it necessary to reschedule the November meeting. See date below.

**Next meeting:** November 20, 8:30 am, NKCES first floor meeting room

**Extended training topic:** Needs Section, 10:00 to 12 noon.