

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

**RSP Advisory Meeting, February 4:** Executive Director Razor attended the advisor meeting to support the work of Principal Turner and the districts.

**Phone2Action Webinar:** As lead of the Advocacy Committee, Superintendent Borchers brought the Phone2Action product to the forefront sharing its capabilities with the team. On behalf of the Superintendents, Executive Director Razor attended a conference call with a representative from the Phone2Action team to learn more about the product and understand exactly how it worked. It is clear that this is a valuable product and would streamline the advocacy process when we share out information with the public. We will be partnering with KASA to provide access to this tool.

**NKCES Superintendent Coverage in Frankfort during Legislative Session, February 6:** Executive Director Razor spent the day in Frankfort, KY with several other Superintendents and pro-public education supporters to speak to legislators and keep apprised on topics being discussed relative to public education.

**National Board Recognition Ceremony, February 11:** Executive Director Razor was invited to attend the National Board Recognition; she extended the invitation to NKCES Regional Special Education Director, Becky Nixon, who attended in her place. Ms. Nixon was grateful for the opportunity and spoke very highly of the event as well as those teachers being recognized, especially those from our region.

**Lunch Meeting with Learning Grove, Executive Director, Rick Hulefeld, February 13:** Mr. Hulefeld requested to meet with Executive Director Razor to discuss the NKY Connector and ongoing work in the region.

**Telephone Conference with Deputy Secretary Benton, February 18:** Executive Director Razor participated in a productive conversation with Deputy Secretary Benton regarding K Tech. She was able to obtain the critical support needed in order to begin the process of hiring a career coordinator to begin the work of connecting students with meaningful opportunities in the healthcare space.

**Learning Grove Meeting, February 18:** Executive Director Razor took part in a conference call with Lorraine with Navigo to discuss expectations for the upcoming PL Consortium meeting.

**NKYES Winter Council Meeting, February 19:** Executive Director Razor, along with many Superintendents from our region, attended this event to show support for the students and the work highlighted in the region, as well as see the work being done

to connect business to education.

**KSBA Annual Conference, February 20-23:** Executive Director Razor attended the annual KSBA Conference in Louisville, KY. She heard from education leaders, including several superintendents from our region, who led sessions on a variety of important topics. Executive Director Razor also took this opportunity to network and build relationships.

**Milken Award Winner Ceremony at Scott High School, February 26:** Executive Director Razor was invited to attend this very special event. The recipient of the award was Ms. Laura Cole and it was presented as a surprise to her. The entire school staff and student body were in attendance as she received the award. The ceremony was a celebration of ALL teachers and encouraged students to consider education as a rewarding profession.

### **Special Education Update:**

I attended the National CEC Conference along with three of the consultants. It was a great conference. We received many great resources and information that we are already sharing with the region.

In addition, I attended the National CASE Executive Board Meeting held during the National CEC Conference. KYCASE received recognition for the growth of its members.

Preliminary discussions began with OSEEL staff regarding next year's budget proposal. IDEA funding for each of the co-ops is expected to be approximately the same as this year. In addition, they stated it is too early to tell if we will get any additional funding to spend for this year's budget cycle.

We held our first VI meeting to discuss districts' plans to utilize the VI services from NKCES. Several districts indicated they will need to utilize these services. We will schedule another meeting to look at the budget once we have heard from all districts.

We held the CASE virtual conference at NKCES. Attendees heard National speaker, Ben Springer. He is the author of *Happy Kids Don't Punch You in the Face*. In addition, those who attended received his book. Attendees also heard from a well known special education attorney, Julie Weatherly. She discussed this year's case law surrounding special education especially as it relates to child find, both evaluations and re-evaluations, IEP's, LRE, etc. We have received good feedback from this conference.

### **OVR Update**

**OVR Proposal:** At the state directors meeting, OVR administrators shared plans for expanding the scope of services that can be provided to eligible students and guidelines for creating budget proposals for 2020 – 2022. On Feb. 17, NKCES submitted the first draft of this proposal to OVR for review.

*NKCES is hosting the following learning opportunities for OVR eligible high school students:*

**April 16: "Gateway to the Future" College Fair Expo Audience:** OVR eligible high school students on diploma track. Involvement Fair - Students will learn about programs, services, admissions, and connect with students attending Gateway. Keynote Presentation - Rohan Murphy.

**April 22: Tour of Toyota Manufacturing: Georgetown, KY:** Audience: As spots are limited, this day long experience is specifically for students with an expressed interest in careers in the automotive industry. OVR eligible high school students on diploma track or alternative assessment may register.

**April 29: Transition Fair at Receptions: Audience:** OVR eligible high school students and their families. Students on diploma track and alternative assessment welcome. Vendors will include a mix of local businesses, transition/rehabilitation programs, postsecondary institutions, apprenticeship programs, and family resources. Following the fair, participants may choose one of two keynote presentations: Dr. Blake Brandes and Dr. Laura Clarke

### Professional Learning (PL) Update

**January Professional Learning:** NKCES supported a total of 80 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, and special education during the month of February, serving 856 educators.

**PL Consortium:** The PL Consortium meets monthly on the third Friday of each month. The Consortium met on February 21 and discussion topics included an update from Lorraine O'Moore on the College and Career network, upcoming professional learning opportunities including World Maker & Inventor Expo on March 28, and the and KDE Standards training on March 31.

**IEP Training for New Teachers and Administrators:** We hosted a group of 10 new staff, including 8 brand new special educators and 2 brand new assistant principals. We provided each participant with the new Compliance IEP Record Review document, as well as the IEP Guidance Document, and we walked through how to develop data-based present levels, effective and measurable annual goals, and to align our specially designed instruction to all other components of the IEP. Participants had time to work through examples, as well, to apply what we learned. Feedback included, *"Because of today's training, I feel inspired to be brave and take my leadership role."*

**Special Education Teachers "Make and Take" for Behavior Supports:** We hosted 15 special education teachers and instructional assistants, which is the highest attendance we've had for this PLN this year. We briefly reviewed research-based strategies for *antecedent-based interventions*, and then participants had more than an hour to move through stations creating visual support for each behavior strategy. We created behavioral momentum cue cards, visual prompt picture cards, and visual meters, just to name a few! One participant remarked, *"This is the BEST PD EVER!"* as she cut and assembled visual prompts for her students.

**The Journey to an Amazing, Earth-Shattering Co-Teaching Classroom:** NKCES developed this three-hour training to address co-teaching needs specific to middle and high school classrooms. We had a packed house for this event, and participants learned about how to implement Specially Designed Instruction in the general education setting, which evidence-based practices can positively impact student math achievement, and how to plan for successful co-teaching. Participant comments included: *"Thank you for developing a PD that finally meets my needs as a high school math teacher."* *"Because of today's training, I feel inspired to utilize new SDI strategies in my classroom and make my co-teaching planning time non-negotiable."*

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

### Regional School Programs (RSP) Update:

RSP Valentine's lunch was held 2/11/20 with a great turnout of attendance.

Yoga has begun at RSP. Our first official date was 2/21/20, and she'll be coming every Friday that we are in session this school year. This is funded through a grant, and we are looking into some certifications for our staff to also be trained in classroom yoga as well.

Principal Turner and Mrs. Cornett co-hosted the 3rd Regional Alternative Program meeting on 2/26/20 with Lorie Duffy at TLC in Covington.

Spring conferences will be held on 3/13/20.

We are already starting drafts for testing time, we will keep everyone posted; thank you to districts and staff from NKCES who have assisted us in the past when needed.

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

The EL Consultants have resumed their regular schedules in the schools. On Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, the EL Program held a PD session, Differentiation for ELs, during which they shared strategies for working with English Learners. This group will reconvene on March 9<sup>th</sup> and teachers and instructional coaches will share how they implemented the strategies with students and other teachers. The EL PLN met on February 28<sup>th</sup> at the Erlanger branch of the Kenton County Public Library. We are looking forward to co-hosting the SIOP Train the Trainer Institute with Boone County Schools, which will take place March 23-26 at Ignite. This will be led by CAL (the Center for Applied Linguistics), a nationally recognized research organization and training provider in the field of English language acquisition.

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

In February, Mr. Joe Bertucci observed and supported arts-integrated units at Boone County High School, Tichenor Middle School, Grandview Elementary, Ockerman Elementary, Lindeman Elementary, Sixth District Elementary, Howell Elementary, RSP, and Lincoln Elementary.

Along with Vicki Dansberry and our project evaluator Joan Ferrante, Mr. Bertucci provided a grant update to the federal project officer.

Mr. Bertucci met with the NKIAE Steering Committee and Ella Bowling from CINSAM to begin planning the 2020-21 Program: Integrating the Arts with Science.

Along with representatives from The Carnegie and Boone County Schools, Mr. Bertucci attended the Kennedy Center's Partners In Education Annual Meeting, to plan professional development for our region's arts educators.

On February 25, Mr. Bertucci led the regional Visual/Performing Arts PLN meeting.

NKIAE is now accepting applications for the 2020-21 Program: Integrating the Arts with Science. Previous participants have the option to continue their learning in arts integration with ELA and math. Information has been sent to principals of eligible schools. Funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the program is available to members of the NKCES Grants Consortium with 50% or higher FRL rates.

### **Grant Consortium Update:**

**March is National Grants Professionals Month**, a great time to recognize the work of all those who contribute to the success of grant-funded projects. We cannot overstate the value of the critical support

of your grants representatives. Thank you for your thoughtful assignments of staff and input on grant projects.

**Grant Status****In development:**

Strategic Prevention Framework: Grants are in development in Williamstown, Pendleton County, Bellevue, Bracken County, Covington, and potentially Boone County, along with the regional proposal. \$300,000 per year x 5 years. Due March 6

**Awards:**

Striving Readers Supplement: Awarded to Southgate and Williamstown (2). \$12,000 per award.

KDE Academic Standards (KAS) Implementation Professional Learning Mini Grant: Awarded to Bellevue, Kenton County, and Fort Thomas. \$10,000 per award

KYILN Travel Grant: Awarded to Boone County. \$2,500

**In implementation:**

Innovative Approaches to Literacy: In implementation. BV:~ \$990,000+ per year X 3 years. EE: \$750,000 per year X 3 years. Conference call with Washington Program Manager, Coordinators and Evaluator expanded on report already submitted. Our Program Manager was quite impressed with the districts' progress!

Professional Development for Arts Educators: In implementation. \$375,000. Conference call with Washington Program Manager, Coordinator and Evaluator expanded on report already submitted. Our Program Manager enjoyed hearing about the exciting projects in place in your schools.

Project Prevent: In implementation, Erlanger-Elsmere and Covington. ~\$1,000,000 per year X 5 years. Initial call with Washington Program Manager covered expectations and plans to date.

Strategic Prevention Framework: In implementation, Erlanger-Elsmere: \$300,000 X 5 years. Initial call with Washington Program Manager covered expectations and plans to date.

PNC and NKYASAP: In implementation, RSP. Together, \$10,000

ArtsWave/Archer Daniels Midland: In implementation, NKIAE. \$5,000.

**Pending:**

Horizon Fund: Pending notice about full application. Proposal would support PLNs and podcasts

District/schools grants submitted and pending: 21st CCLC

**Next meeting:** April 1, 8:30 am, NKCES Connect Room