

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

KY Superintendent Webcast, September 1,8,15,22,29: Weekly in September, Executive Director Razor attended a webcast led by the Education Commissioner, Dr. Glass, and other key state leaders to keep informed on the latest developments in the virus COVID 19 and the impact on state and local school districts.

K TECH Meeting, September 2: Executive Director Razor met with Shellie Baker and Diane Hatfield to learn more about the current work and what next steps are to further impact the region and create opportunities for our district's students.

NKYES Board of Directors Meeting, September 2: Executive Director Razor attended the meeting virtually to stay abreast of current and future work being done that brings business opportunities to NKY school districts.

Gallup Strengthsfinder /NKCES Discussion, September 8: Executive Director Razor was invited by KDE to a virtual discussion with Gallup Strengthsfinder to learn more about the product and how KDE has found value in the resource. Executive Director Razor shared the resource with the NKCES Superintendents and many are interested in learning more about a future partnership.

SimplifiAP Demo, September 11: The NKCES Operations Team attended a virtual product demo of an online purchase order system. NKCES continues to look for ways to create efficiencies and pilot products that our member districts could potentially benefit from. The product was well received and will be further vetted by NKCES.

KAEC Virtual Meeting, September 11: Executive Director Razor met with the state cooperative directors to discuss the upcoming annual retreat, as well as other topics pressing topics on a state and local level.

NKCES Team Retreat, September 17, 18: The NKCES Team spent time connecting via a virtual social emotional keynote delivered by the talented Tamara Konrade, Director of Inspired Leadership with ESSDACK. The Team also enjoyed fellowship together outdoors and finished day 2 with updates from the HR and finance.

KSBA 2020 Virtual Fall Regional Meeting, September 21: Executive Director Razor, along with many Superintendents from our region, attended this event to learn from state leaders how to have effective boards as well as other topics important to our state.

KAEC Retreat, Lexington, KY September 24, 25: As President of KAEC, Executive Director Razor delivered a rich program and expanded the audience to include Education Cooperatives' executive boards. Executive Director Razor extended an

invitation to the new Education Commissioner, Dr. Glass, who engaged with the group in conversation regarding the future of education in Kentucky and the importance of sharing the good that is happening

in districts, in schools and in classrooms. It's also important to note that this event was intended to take place in Louisville, KY but in less than 24 hours was moved to Lexington, KY due to a state of emergency.

NKY College and Career Connect Conversation with Learning Grove, September 30: Executive Director Razor and Dr. Karen Cheser were invited to attend a virtual meeting with several Learning Grove members of leadership to discuss the recent departure of Ms. Lorraine O'Moore. The leadership team from Learning Grove was interested in hearing NKCES's thoughts on the position and how it could be tailored to better meet the goals of bringing opportunities to students in NKY.

NKCES Superintendent Virtual Connect Call, September 30: Executive Director Razor led many of the NKCES Superintendents through a call to discuss the current impact of COVID 19 on their districts. This call was once weekly and moved to monthly once the majority of the districts started with in-person instruction.

Special Education Update:

The NKCES DoSE meeting was held on Friday, September 18th. Sylvia Starkey and Tania Sharpe from KDE's Office of Special Education and Early Learning attended to discuss Alternate Assessment and Indicator 13. DoSE submitted their questions via a Google Survey. The questions were sent to Tania and Sylvia in advance so that they could come prepared with answers.

KDE has begun their Indicator 13 data verification. We are supporting the districts that were selected so that they can submit their items in a timely manner.

Our VI services are up and running. Our instructional assistant, Karen Costello, has been visiting schools and meeting with students and teachers. In addition, she is creating lots of Braille materials for students.

The New Teacher Academy "kick-off" occurred on September 23rd. Thirty seven teachers attended. The virtual "kick-off" was recorded for registered participants. This year's New Teacher Academy will consist of up to 8 credit hours of asynchronous learning that teachers will have access to for the entire year.

KYCEC's New Teacher Academy has also been sent out to districts. Our very own Merissa Wadley is in charge of this event. This training will be virtual and will begin with a "kick-off" on November 18th from 7:00-8:00. Following the "kick-off" event, participants will complete on-demand, asynchronous modules from the choice board. Participants will receive more than 6 hours of professional development designed with new teachers in mind. In addition, they will receive a one-year subscription to Early Career Professional Basic Membership in CEC, a "swag bag" of goodies and door prizes, and ongoing professional development and networking through PLN's led by KYCEC Board Members and experienced professionals.

Both of these New Teacher Academies will provide the hours that new teachers are required to receive as a result of being Emergency and Probationary.

The LI, Math, and Literacy Task Groups have collaborated on Alternate Assessment Targets. Math is complete. They have developed a google site for educators to access with videos. Each video highlights a progression of the Kentucky Academic Standards that were selected for Alternate Assessment. Videos contain a brief introduction to each standard in the progression along with supporting information such as connections to the Standards for Mathematical Practice, sample tasks, potential misconceptions, etc.

OVR Update

Pre-ETS workshops: During August and September, Transition Specialist Linda Lane sent out surveys and met with special education teachers and directors to identify service needs, invite collaboration, and promote one-to-one and small group Pre-ETS learning opportunities during the 2020-21 school year. Students from Dayton High School participated in the first of a series of Self-Advocacy and Career Exploration activities in September. Erlanger-Elsmere, Boone County, RISE alternative school, Simon Kenton, Covington, and Bellevue are submitting referrals and are anticipated to begin workshops in October.

Transition PLN: Oct. 20, 2020 3:30-4:30 p.m. This quarterly PLN is open to middle and high schools that work with students in need of transition support. Content will create awareness of available resources and offer strategies to build capacity.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

September Professional Learning: NKCES supported a total of 127 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, and special education during the month of September serving 1,221 educators.

NKCES Professional Online Platform has proudly served more than 21,092 educators from NKY and beyond since the inception of this platform. Both certified and classified trainings can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/nkcesonlinetraining>

PL Consortium: The PL Consortium met on September 25 discussion topics included an update from Shellie Baker, K-Tech Coordinator and Lorraine O'Moore on the College and Career network and upcoming professional learning opportunities including Vanessa Mosley and Michael Young from Inspiring Service shared information about the Study Hall platform, a free virtual platform to connect students learning virtually with volunteers to provide just-in-time tutoring services. Kris Jarboe, KDE EILA and Professional Learning Consultant, joined our meeting to share KDE resources and field questions.

DAC Consortium: NKCES was excited to host the inaugural DAC Consortium on September 15 prompted through a grassroots movement from districts. The willingness to connect and support each other was very much evident at this first meeting.

IEP Training for New Teachers & Administrators: This 3-hour virtual training was attended by 10 special education teachers and related service providers new to the field and representing three of our Northern KY districts. The participants engaged in practice activities using interactive tools and breakout sessions, and they asked wonderful questions related to the students they currently serve. Participants reported that they appreciated the embedded Q & A time, as well as the focus on student strengths. Participants want to learn more about related services, and they would like additional opportunities to practice this information.

Culturally Responsive Teaching and Anti-Racism: On September 15, Dr. Laura Clarke partnered with Dr. Damien Sweeney from KDE to facilitate NKCES's first PLN for Culturally Responsive Teaching and Anti-Racism. At the meeting, 40 administrators, counselors, and educators shared current district practices and began to formulate questions to guide regional work to develop resources for training and instruction. The NKCES Online Learning website now has three modules specific to culturally responsive teaching and anti-racism, in addition to three modules focused on trauma informed care and one module to support students' social emotional learning needs in changing times.

The Foundations for Learning to Read in LI Classrooms: Thirty-one educators coming from Boone, Kenton, Fort Thomas, Dayton, Walton-Verona, Erlanger, Southgate, Pendleton, Covington, and Campbell County School districts joined in on this session that was offered in July and again in September.

Amelia Brown and Laura Clarke coupled the content knowledge from *The Foundations for Learning to Read* series with activities and resources to practice those skills successfully with students in low-incidence classrooms.

Professional Learning Networks (PLNs): Our PLNs in September included: NKAGE, Media Specialists, Instructional Coaches, Homeless Coordinators, Culturally Responsive Teaching, Community Learning Center, 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’s first week of hybrid schedule began 9/28/20! We could not be more ecstatic to have students back in our building. Thank you to our partnering districts and Advisory Board for ongoing collaboration during our planning and preparation for the return of students to in-person.

RSP is continuing our partnership with NKU, even though they cannot participate in our building as they have the past few years. Principal Turner did a virtual tour, and the students from NKU have begun a pen pal activity with RSP students.

RSP officially welcomes our new SRO, Officer French; now that we are back with in-person instruction. Officer French is committed not only to safety, but equally as important, building relationships with students, staff, and families and is passionate in ensuring that takes place at RSP. (Our previous SRO accepted a new position in a different police community, as it was the best choice for his family).

English Learners (EL) Program Update:

The EL Consultants have been meeting with teachers and parents to review the EL students’ Program Services Plans and to set up weekly services. On September 11th, they co-hosted the NKY EL PLN with Nichole Neuhard of Erlanger-Elsmere Schools and discussed ways to meet the needs of our EL students virtually and in person with participants throughout the region. Both NKCES EL Consultants are now working with students both virtually and in person, depending on each district’s needs and schedules.

NKY Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

On September 12 & 19, Mr. Bertucci led current teacher participants in virtual workshops to continue learning and planning units that integrate the arts with science. The workshop included both synchronous and asynchronous sessions and modeled virtual tools and strategies focused on teacher collaboration, student participation, the creative process, and assessment. Mr. Bertucci also met individually with arts integration teams at Lindeman Elementary, Southgate School, and Williamstown Elementary to develop their unit plans.

Mr. Bertucci met with the director of Kentucky’s Governor’s School for the Arts to support participation from our region, led the regional Visual/Performing Arts PLN meeting on September 24, and created and promoted a regional social media campaign to celebrate National Arts in Education Week, September 13 - 19.

Grant Consortium Update:

Membership: Kenton County Schools has decided not to participate in the Grants Consortium this year.

Kentucky Incentives for Prevention (KIP) Survey: Vicki Dansberry has been in discussions with REACH of Louisville about what will happen with the survey this year. The survey will be delayed until October 2021.

Mental Health America Survey: Vicki and Jessica Faust of NKCES described some school needs for PPE to Mental Health America in response to a survey they sent out to agencies and organizations. We requested face masks, money for sanitation supplies, and funds for plexiglass for NKCES rooms.

Grants in implementation

Vicki reported progress on grants she is working with in implementation: Innovative Approaches to Literacy; Professional Development for Arts Educators; Strategic Prevention Framework (EES); Project Prevent; Northern Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy; Full Service Community Schools; Regional Strategic Prevention Framework; District Grants. The group discussed progress on these current grants, including progress toward hiring staff for the new Strategic Prevention Framework grant.

Reports coming due: Reports for all Federal grants are due within the next three months, and they are underway. Vicki noted we will reach out to districts as data are needed for these reports. The group discussed possible alternatives to K-PREP for measurement, and each grant will continue to brainstorm ways to report progress when usual measures are not available.

Grants Pending

VSA Kennedy Center Professional Development Program
 Bureau of Justice Assistance
 Drug Free Communities (Erlanger and Bracken)
 National Endowment for the Arts

Training Schedule

Vicki will provide the following training to district staff each month online. Please let interested staff know. An email provided the link to all grant representatives and superintendents. If anyone else needs the link, email vicki.dansberry@nkces.org.

October 6, 10:00 am: Overview/Grants Consortium Benefits

November 10, 10:00 am: Needs Section

December 1, 10:00 am: Program Section

January 5, 10:00 am: Project Management/Organization Capacity Section

February 2, 10:00 am: Evaluation Section

Additional training by request: SAM.gov, Grants.gov, eRA Commons, g5, etc. and common Federal Forms; Where does grant data come from?; Various roles in grants development and management; HELP! This grant is overwhelming me!; User selected topics.

Next meeting October 6; November meeting moved to November 10 due to elections on the usual date.