

NKCES Report – June / July 2021

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BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT

BELLEVUE INDEPENDENT

BOONE COUNTY

BRACKEN COUNTY

CAMPBELL COUNTY

COVINGTON INDEPENDENT

DAYTON INDEPENDENT

ERLANGER ELSMERE
INDEPENDENT

FLEMING COUNTY

FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT

GRANT COUNTY

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KENTON COUNTY

LUDLOW INDEPENDENT

NEWPORT INDEPENDENT

NORTHERN KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY

PENDLETON COUNTY

SOUTHGATE INDEPENDENT

WALTON-VERONA INDEPENDENT

WILLIAMSTOWN INDEPENDENT

Executive Director Update:

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA)

TEAM and More: Executive Director Razor worked with district representatives and NKCES Team members to hire our NKCES Team. Ms. Melody Stacy and Ms. Jessica Pass have been instrumental in the short weeks that they have been a part of the team. They have hired a dynamic CCRSA Team and have quickly begun the work to build the strongest team possible to provide support to districts as they meet student needs on our return to school.

Chief Academic Officer: Ms. Melody Stacy met with each NKCES Team member to learn about their aspirations for future work with NKCES to support districts and to begin building a strong culture as we transition to the next level. This is an exciting “tipping” point for our region as we grow together.

NKYEC Board Meeting, June 1: Executive Director Razor attended the meeting as a way to stay informed of community business partnerships that are being utilized to bring opportunities to the region for student impact and success.

NKCES End of Year Golf Outing and Retirement Dinner, June 2: NKCES took time to celebrate member districts following another year of strong leadership through the COVID 19 pandemic. We recognized Dr. Karen Cheser’s retirement and her contribution to education through her various roles to bring educational opportunities to students in the NKY region.

NKCES Finance/Facilities Meeting, June 3 & July 1: Each month Executive Director Razor and Ms. Angie Perkins meet to plan for future expenses and prioritize any facility needs.

Virtual Conversation with Ms. Heather Dearing, Health Cabinet, June 3: Ms. Dearing is a representative of the Lt. Governor’s office and she is working on a mental health initiative for students. As part of this plan, she would like to identify students to participate in round table discussions from our region. I requested that we have access to the information/data gathered from this effort.



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Professional Learning Consortium, June 4: Executive Director Razor attended the virtual PL Consortium meeting led by Ms. Diane Hatfield to stay current on the needs of our districts.

KY Superintendent Webcast, June 11: Executive Director Razor attended the regularly scheduled monthly webcast led by the Education Commissioner, Dr. Jason Glass, and state leaders to keep informed on the latest developments in the virus COVID 19 and the impact on state and local school districts.

NKCES Superintendent Retreat, June 9-11: Executive Director Razor led the NKCES Superintendents through a retreat entitled, “The World Needs You to Be Who You Were Made to Be”. The Executive Board, along with other superintendents, led the group in sessions on StrengthsFinder, Advocacy, PL Needs and Communities of Practice. It was an exceptional time of networking and curating ideas to move our region forward.

Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Eggs and Issues Breakfast. 6/15: Executive Director Razor attended the regional breakfast to learn more about topics prevalent in the region and to support Superintendent Garrison and Rust as they participated in a panel discussion regarding the K – 12 education in Northern Kentucky and the different strategies in place to bring students safely back to the classroom.

KASS Advocacy, June 17: Executive Director Razor attended the Superintendent Advocacy Day in Frankfort with other NKY Superintendents. During this time, Superintendent Borchers spoke to the entire state group as the lead for advocacy and Superintendent Brewer spoke as the CBE Representative. We appreciate having strong statewide leadership from our NKCES Board.

Kentucky Cooperative Directors Meeting, June 22: Executive Director Razor joined the state cooperative directors in a conversation to discuss the state’s CRRSA Funding and upcoming CRRSA Statewide Training. This training will provide the foundation for all teams as they build relationships that will enhance their future work together.

KASA Education Cooperative Director Collaboration & Conversation, June 22: KASA’s Executive Director, Rhonda Caldwell hosted a call with Cooperative Directors to share communication goals for the upcoming year and board meeting structures. NKCES will be having a new liaison for our upcoming meetings.

Monthly KDE-Led Education Cooperative Director Meeting, June 28: Executive Director Razor, along with the other state education cooperative directors, attended this virtual meeting to stay abreast of state initiatives to keep each region successful in the pursuit of student success. During this call we discussed the state’s CRRSA Funding and requested modifications to the monitoring plan. The Diversity Dashboard was also discussed during this time. KDE has requested that cooperatives support this work and assist with the rollout of the program.

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Executive Director Razor participated in the virtual meeting to learn more about this critically important topic and strategize on how to disseminate the information to districts.

NKYEC Virtual Meeting, July 12: Dr. Poe of NKYEC requested a meeting with Executive Director Razor to connect and share recent work to build partnerships and opportunities for students in Northern Kentucky.

Barnes Dennig Audit Planning Meeting, July 15: Executive Director Razor attended the meeting with NKCES Finance Director Ms. Angie Perkins to review the annual audit timeline.

AESA Summer Leadership Conference & AESA Executive Council Meeting, July 19-22: Executive Director Razor, along with members of the NKCES Board of Directors, attended the conference to hear from national speakers and make connections with leaders across the country. Executive Director Razor also participated in her first face-to-face AESA Council Meeting after being named AESA Southeast Regional Representative.

CRRSA Retreat & KASA Conference, July 27-30: Executive Director Razor kicked off the CRRSA Retreat by welcoming the states CRRSA Teams and set the agenda. The CRRSA teams spent time connecting as a state and refining their cohesive plan to address possible learning loss as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic.

Special Education Update:

Mrs. Becky Nixon attended a Consolidated Monitoring Sharing Session with the other state special education cooperatives on June 1st. Consolidated monitoring trends were shared and reviewed. Future professional development was discussed to assist districts with their corrective action plans and ongoing training to avoid any future citations.

Mrs. Nixon attended a Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS) Final Stakeholders Meeting on June 4th. NKCES has one district that was able to successfully exit CEIS status. The team reviewed the original CEIS Plan, celebrated accomplishments, and made a plan to avoid disproportionality in the future.

Mrs. Nixon and Mrs. Kim Snowball met with Dr. Anita Archer on June 15th to discuss and plan Dr. Archer's trainings that will be held in July. Dr. Archer will be sharing her expertise on Explicit Instruction with teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators who serve students with disabilities.

Mrs. Nixon met with several districts to provide support on reviewing and providing feedback on their Final Alternate Assessment Participation Reports issued by KDE. Mrs. Nixon assisted districts in writing their Root Cause Analysis and Corrective Action Plans to be submitted for KDE approval.

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Mrs. Nixon, along with other DoSE's from across the state, attended a virtual meeting with members of KDE's Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) team. The meeting focused on IDEA American Rescue Funds (ARP) funding allocations.

Mrs. Nixon, along with a few other members of the KYCASE Executive Board, conducted a training for all New DoSE in KY who were in the first, second or third year of being a DoSE on Sunday, July 16th. The new DoSE received relevant information and resources to assist them in their role. In addition, the new DoSE had an opportunity to network with other new DoSE from across the state.

Mrs. Nixon attended the KYCASE Executive Board Meeting on Sunday, July 16th. Mrs. Nixon is a member of the KYCASE Board as the State Special Education Cooperative Liaison.

Mrs. Nixon, along with a few other members of the KYCASE Executive Board, finalized the many months of planning for the KYCASE Summer Institute. The institute was held on July 19-20th. The institute topics include closing achievement gaps for students with disabilities, providing Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) and compensatory education. Members from KDE's Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) division were present on July 20th and shared data and information surrounding the State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR).

Mrs. Nixon led the NKCES Preschool Coordinators Meeting on July 21st. The Anderson County Early Childhood RTC (Regional Training Center) was present to give updates. Lots of pertinent information and resources were shared regarding early childhood.

Dr. Merissa Waddey was elected to serve as Membership Chair for KYCEC beginning July 1, 2021.

Dr. Waddey collaborated with the KYCEC Conference Coordinator to review session proposals for the November KY Exceptional Children's Conference.

Dr. Waddey attended the 2021 KYCASE Summer Institute with Mrs. Nixon to hear about statewide initiatives and KDE updates.

Dr. Waddey led two sessions of School Resource Officers & Students with Disabilities in partnership with Kentucky Autism Training Center (KATC). The session targets school administrators and SROs, and we plan to offer additional sessions in the future.

Dr. Waddey collaborated with Joe Bertucci to offer Increasing Accessibility In the Arts & Increasing Accessibility Through the Arts. This project was made possible through a grant from

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the Kennedy Center and included 5 hours of PD and a free adaptive tools kit for each participant.

Dr. Laura Clarke participated in the KY CEC Board meeting on June 5. Dr. Clarke is the vice president for the organization.

Dr. Clarke supported the Kentucky Council for Children with Behavior Disorders (KY-CCBD) bi-annual Behavior Institute July 16-17. This year, the institute was held online and Dr. Clarke presented "Culturally Responsive Teaching" to the group.

Dr. Clarke participated in the Council for Exceptional Children's annual advocacy summit July 20-21 which was held online this year. Key points for advocacy for the organization include supporting teacher recruitment and retention and supporting early childhood and social emotional learning needs of all students.

Dr. Clarke participated in the Council for Exceptional Children's Complex and Chronic Conditions division's monthly executive team meeting on June 30. Dr. Clarke is the Advocacy and Professional Development Chair for this division.

NKCES hosted Dr. Anita Archer in our region to share her expertise in Explicit Instruction to teachers, Instructional Coaches and Administrators. Her mantra of "Every Day in Every Classroom, Students READ, and WRITE, and SPEAK," in partnership with "To increase students' motivation (their desire to engage in lessons and put forth effort to learn), students must experience success and see the value in what they are learning" targets one of the goals of the sessions, Opportunities to Respond. Participants walked away with tools to INTENTIONALLY create equal opportunity for students to respond across all levels of diversity using a systematic Explicit Instruction. Explicit Instruction Middle & High School session was July 19 & 20 and Explicit Instruction Elementary School was July 21 & 22.

OVR Update

Equine Intensive June 1-4, 2021: Students from Scott, Boone County, and Ryle high schools participated in this four day work-based learning experience at Lookout Hills Farm in Burlington, KY. Students learned how to properly care for, walk, and ride show horses and about careers in horse and stable management. In addition, students were responsible for grooming horses and making them show-ready. Veterinarians from Wolfe Equine Services demonstrated routine health checks for horses and dogs.

OVR Reporting and Wrap Up: All student activity and budget reports for the 4th quarter were completed and sent to OVR Administrator, Dorothy Jenkins.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

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June/July Professional Learning: NKCES supported a total of 114 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, and special education during the month of June/July serving 1238 educators.

NKCES Professional Learning Online Platform has proudly served more than 27,676 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 21.22 NKCES PL Consortium will kick off in August with monthly meetings on the calendar through June. A survey was sent out to Consortium members to gather feedback on ensuring this collaborative time is as impactful as it can be.

Title I & Title II Meeting: The 21-22 NKCES Title I & Title II meetings will kick off in August with monthly meetings on the calendar through June.

NKCES is honored to have offered a variety of professional learning opportunities this summer. All of them can be found in [Summer at a Glance](#). Some of the offerings are highlighted below:

- [TEACCH July 27, 28 & 29 & August 3 & 4](#)
- [Lauren Enders - AAC Bootcamp for Administrators July 13](#)
- [Dr. Maggie McGatha, K-12 Everything You Need for Mathematics Coaching July 15 & July 29](#)

Parent Resources: Mathematics Coach Kim Snowball created two parent online modules, [Financial Literacy](#) and [A Day at Dollar General...Learn While Shopping](#). Literacy Coach Amelia Brown created two parent online modules, [Building Your Child's Vocabulary: Tips for Preschool Families](#) and [Building Your Child's Vocabulary: Tips for Elementary Families](#). Professional Learning Coach Merissa Waddey created two parent online modules [Cultivating Readers](#) and [A Parent's Guide to Growth Mindset](#) All of these parent modules are located on the [Parent Support Site](#).

Substitute Teacher YouTube Channel: Our collection of videos made just for substitute teachers includes everything from classroom management strategies and the ABCs of supporting students with disabilities, to what to do with extra time. Check out these great supports for elementary and secondary substitutes.
<https://bit.ly/JustForYouSubstituteTeachers>

Professional Learning Networks (PLNs): PLNs provide opportunities for educators to grow professionally in a collaborative environment focused on collective learning. Our [21-22 NKCES Regional PLNs and dates can be found here](#).

Regional School Programs (RSP) Update:

RSP's first day of school for students is August 11th, 2021.

The first Regional Alternative Program Meeting will be held on October 20th, 2021.

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RSP and NKU will resume a more traditional partnership with Dr. Missy Jones' students. We are grateful for this collaboration.

We are welcoming a new Crisis Intervention Counselor, Ms. Amber Hill. She previously interned in our program for 2 years, and she has experience working in the mental health field.

We are thankful for our continued partnership with Hickory Grove; they came in and assisted with some summer housekeeping that was needed to help prepare for the school year.

English Learners (EL) Program Update:

The EL Consultants, Heather Ralphes and Daniele Novak, received districts' ACCESS scores on July 14th. Daniele will complete the Title III application in GMAP when it becomes available.

Heather and Daniele look forward to meeting with teachers, parents, and administrators in August to review districts' responsibilities to English Learners and their families, ACCESS scores, and students' PSPs.

NK Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

Mr. Joe Bertucci and Dr. Merissa Waddey partnered to offer a second round of the Arts & Accessibility workshops developed through a contract with the Kennedy Center's VSA Program. The workshops offered up to 5 hours of professional learning for arts, general, and special educators.

Mr. Bertucci and the NKIAE Steering Committee led the 2021 Arts Integration Workshop July 19 - 22. More than 40 teachers from twelve teams, eleven schools, and eight districts gathered to learn about arts integration and develop units integrating the arts with social studies and social emotional learning.

Grant Consortium Update:

Grants in Progress

NSF: Racial Equity in STEM Education Drs. Laura Clarke and Merissa Waddey from NKCES and Dr. Dusty Columbia Embury from Wright State University were approved to submit a full proposal for this research grant to increase participation in and completion of Dual Credit and Advance Placement for BIPOC and EL students with disabilities. If you have, or someone from your district has, interest in being part of the planning team, let Vicki know. The grant is due October 15.

Innovative Approaches to Literacy Dayton has agreed to serve as fiscal agent for a grant involving Dayton, Southgate, and the Grants Consortium's newest member, Fleming County Schools. The plan is well underway and will be submitted by August 11.

In implementation

Innovative Approaches to Literacy: Both grants are working toward completion in September. Reviewer opportunities are open for this year.

Professional Development for Arts Educators: NKIAE held the workshop for arts integration with social studies and social emotional learning. See report above for more details.

Project Prevent: Kerry McHugh and her team are integrating project efforts in Erlanger and

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Covington.

Strategic Prevention Framework: Dr. Kristen Haddad and Ashleigh DuBois will be happy to come to any GC district to provide training on topics of alcohol and vaping prevention. CATCH MY BREATH vaping prevention trainings took place on June 8; June 22 they provided an Instructional Assistant training session on the topic of how to recognize when students are vaping. On July 27 they conducted the first annual virtual summit. They also led a training at the national Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America conference and are preparing a potential training for the Kentucky Prevention Network. Their grant report was submitted by the June 30 deadline.

Positive Action: Dr. Kathy Burkhardt, the new project coordinator, is in touch with Bracken County, Dayton, Erlanger Elsmere, Ludlow and Southgate schools. Curriculum is being ordered and first trainings have been scheduled. This report was submitted before the July 31 deadline.

GEER II for FRYSC: Twenty Grants Consortium schools will receive \$100,000 each for FRYSC efforts to respond to COVID related issues. Congrats to the FRYSC grant writers!

McKinney Vento Homeless Education: ALL THREE proposals from Grants Consortium school districts were funded!

Congrats to Newport, Covington, and Dayton (for Dayton, Bellevue, and Southgate) homeless coordinators for tenacious good work!

Pending

KDE Comprehensive Literacy

Assistance for Arts Education

IMLS American Rescue Plan Library Grant