



LETTER OF COMMITMENT

2021 - 2022

I. Statement of Purpose

The Kentucky Innovative Learning Network (KY ILN) is a partnership between local school districts and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to provide a space for sharing innovative educational strategies, improving local learning systems through travel and partnership opportunities, and leveraging the power of school districts to create a future of learning in Kentucky that is student-centered and personalized. The KY ILN leverages KDE's relationships with national networks and peer states to advance new models of learning that can best prepare all students for postsecondary success and transform our education system. In addition, the KY ILN is committed to four core network pillars: learner-centered education, collaboration, equity, and authentic learning opportunities.

II. Mutual Commitments

Benefits of joining the KY ILN

KDE believes that the greatest benefit of participation in the KY ILN is the chance to network with other Kentucky districts, as well as schools and organizations outside of the state, to share best practices and learning. In addition, KDE commits to the KY ILN districts by providing:

- Ongoing technical assistance, support, and continued coordination from KDE and its partners.
- Support for the identification, evaluation, and dissemination of best practices to KY ILN districts and more broadly.
- A platform to showcase educational innovation already happening within Kentucky schools
- Access to national educational partners and their resources
- Access to sources of funding to support student-centered implementation whenever possible; for example, the Travel Fund Grant (available only to KY ILN participating districts) facilitates out of state travel to visit exemplary school models.



Expectations for members

Participating districts indicate a commitment to the work of the KY ILN, which can be demonstrated by:

- Making an effort to have representatives attend monthly video calls and discuss topics of interest.
- Making an effort to send representatives to in-person events.
- Being available to other local districts as a resource.
- Participating in other KY ILN initiatives as opportunities arise; this may include participating in work groups, contributing to educational research efforts, or other projects.
- Ensuring the Core Four Pillars of the KY ILN (learner-centered education, collaboration, equity focus, and authentic opportunities) are used to serve students across the state

III. Contact Information

District name:

Boone County Schools

Superintendent name and email address:

Mr. Matt Turner; matthew.turner@boone.kyschools.us

KY ILN point of contact name, title, and email address:

Bill Hogan, Director of Innovation; bill.hogan@boone.kyschools.us



IV. District Plan

Reflecting on the previous year, how has your district worked to create a system of ***learner-centered, collaborative, equitable, and authentic opportunities*** for all students?

Boone County Schools is committed to create a standards based grading system district-wide in five years. Our work this past year has focused on continuing that work with schools across the district. Many of our schools are developing in IC SBG frameworks so parents receive reports about student learning in relation to standards rather than the old system of grading. As we all know when you take negative grading practices out of the system it makes the system more equitable for all students.

Boone County Schools are also committed and have spent the year working with Solution Tree around PLC's. PLC's are the driver for a collaborative working culture with deep conversations around what standards mean and how students can demonstrate mastery of a particular standard.

Mr. Turner introduced to the Teaching and Learning Committee the idea of Competency Based Education. One of the main facets of CBE is the equity of the work. CBE will deepen our ability to offer an equitable educational experience for all students.

Looking ahead to the current school year, how does your district plan to continue supporting a system of ***learner-centered, collaborative, equitable, and authentic opportunities*** for all students? Please name 2-3 points of action.

Boone County Schools will begin the process and end of year complete the process of creating a new five year strategic plan. In this plan we will be developing a Profile of a Graduate, Key Performance Indicators for the district. In the development of the plan the work we have been working with the KY-ILN will be interwoven into the plan to ensure that our district continues to provide an equitable system of education for all students.

Boone County Schools are committed to the work of the Learning Labs through KDE. This work will give us the knowledge base to move towards and accountability model that lends itself to measure the skills and knowledge of competencies. It will also drive the work of authentic opportunities for our students to demonstrate their knowledge in skills in a way that fits their learning and passions. While this work will take several years we are excited to begin the journey.

We also plan to engage with districts like Shelby, Logan, and Jefferson as they continue to lead the way in innovative ways to engage learners in their learning. A collaborative culture begins at the top of the organization and we must model that collaboration as leaders. We are committed to learning from our KY partners in the work.



V. Agreement

This Letter of Commitment (LOC) establishes a partnership between the Kentucky Department of Education and the named district, effective for the current school year (if signed between June 1 and December 31) or for the current and the next school year (if signed between January 1 and May 31).

KDE and KY ILN districts agree to the principles and commitments described above, and agree to work together in good faith to advance both collective and district commitments, with the intent that this work will be sustained and scaled over the longer term. It is mutually understood that this agreement in no way restricts the district from participating in similar activities with other organizations.

Amendments to the innovation priorities may be made at any time by agreement of the parties, and either party may terminate the agreement through written notice. Early termination may result in the loss of the supports outlined above.

Required Signatories

KY ILN participating district, superintendent or designee

Date

7/14/2021

Sarah Snipes, KY ILN Program Consultant,
(KDE designee)

Date

Return this Letter of Commitment via email to:

Sarah Snipes

KY ILN Program Consultant
Kentucky Department of Education
Office of Continuous Improvement and Support
Division of Innovation

Sarah.Snipes@education.ky.gov