

NKCES Report – January 2022

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.



CONNECT
GROW
SERVE

BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT

BELLEVUE INDEPENDENT

BOONE COUNTY

BRACKEN COUNTY

CAMPBELL COUNTY

COVINGTON INDEPENDENT

DAYTON INDEPENDENT

ERLANGER-ELSMERE INDEPENDENT

FLEMING COUNTY

FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT

GRANT COUNTY

GREENUP COUNTY

KENTON COUNTY

LUDLOW INDEPENDENT

NEWPORT INDEPENDENT

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

OWEN COUNTY

PENDLETON COUNTY

SOUTHGATE INDEPENDENT

WALTON-VERONA INDEPENDENT

WILLIAMSTOWN INDEPENDENT

Executive Director Update:

KASS Legislative Committee Meeting, January 7: Executive Director of KASS, Dr. Jim Flynn, has established recurring meetings for superintendents to discuss current bills that affect education during the legislative session.

Apptegy Zoom Meeting, January 10: Executive Director Amy Razor connected with Apptegy at the AESA Conference in November and was interested in learning more about the service. Ms. Razor met with Mr. David Rutledge and Ms. Alex DeJoy.

KY Superintendent Webcast, January 11: Executive Director Amy Razor attended the regularly scheduled monthly webcast led by the Education Commissioner, Dr. Jason Glass, and state leaders to keep informed on current topics. The group largely discussed the legislative session and the items to pay particularly close attention to.

KASS Legislative Drive In Day, January 12: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with educational leaders around the state gathered in Frankfort, KY for the opportunity to speak with legislators on topics important to the education community. The day was filled with rich and insightful conversations. We are grateful for KASA and the important role they play to make this event possible.

KASS Legislative Committee Meeting, January 14: Executive Director of KASS, Dr. Jim Flynn, has established recurring meetings for superintendents to discuss current bills that affect education during the legislative session.

KDE, Youth Mask Distribution, January 18: Executive Director Amy Razor attended a virtual meeting where KDE shared that our state has received pallets of youth face masks that they wish to distribute across the state to school districts. Education Cooperatives will work with their member districts to coordinate local distribution. Boone County School District generously allowed NKCES to hold Northern Kentucky's large shipment and districts will be instructed to pick up there.

Superintendent Purpose Retreat, January 19-21: Dr. Robb Smith, Executive Director Amy Razor and Chief Academic Officer Melody Stacy led superintendents in a recalibration retreat. The feedback was incredible and the topics of well-being and purpose were timely.

KDE Monthly Education Cooperative Director Meeting, January 24: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with other KDE Leaders and Education Cooperative Directors participated in the monthly virtual meeting

Apptegy Zoom Meeting, January 25: NKCES will be working with Apptegy to design a platform, website and, in turn, exciting services for our region in the next two months. We are ready to take our digital footprint to the next level!

KASS Legislative Committee Meeting, January 28: Executive Director Razor participated in a statewide call with Dr. Flynn. He shared updates and items of importance on this call as it relates to the current legislative session.

Deeper Learning Grant, January 31: Executive Director Razor worked along side KAEC Cooperative Directors for an extensive period of time to take The Deeper Learning Grant from an idea to reality. The cooperatives describe Deeper Learning as engaging students meaningfully in education through the use of multiple learning methods. Deeper Learning strategies include, but are not limited to, personalized learning, higher-order thinking, blended learning, project-based learning, work-based experiences, connected learning, experiential learning, and competency-based education. The Deeper Learning initiative will invest millions into school districts for professional learning, ongoing support, and additional time for educators to select and tailor strategies for their schools. Every school district in the state of Kentucky will have the opportunity to participate in this 3 year opportunity.

Special Education Update:

The NKCES DoSE Advisory Board met on January 24. The NKCES DoSE Meeting was held on January 28. Topics of discussion included KDE Updates, LEA Determinations, DirectSTEP eCourses, Special Ed Connection, Summer Learning Planning, etc.

Mrs. Becky Nixon has continued to work with the Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) and District DoSE to plan PD opportunities/Record Reviews to satisfy district Corrective Action Plans (CAP). The most desk audits were Alternate Assessment.

Mrs. Becky Nixon, Dr. Merissa Waddey, Dr. Laura Clarke, and Mrs. Emily Borchers continue to provide a variety of professional development trainings and conduct record reviews to satisfy district Corrective Action Plans.

Mrs. Becky Nixon attended the Kentucky Council of Administrators of Special Education (KYCASE) Executive Board Monthly Planning Meeting. The executive board is working on final plans for the New DoSE Institute on January 31, the March DoSE Institute, Summer New DoSE Institute on July 17, and Summer DoSE Institute on July 18-19.

Mrs. Becky Nixon attended the January 11 State Directors Meeting. The IDEA consultants attended their respective monthly state group meetings. Mrs. Becky Nixon continues to lead the state Low Incidence Task Group.

Mrs. Becky Nixon, Dr. Merissa Waddey, Dr. Laura Clarke, Mrs. Emily Borchers, and Mrs. Kim Snowball attended the National Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Convention, which was held January 16 - 19 in Orlando, Florida. Dr. Merissa Waddey presented a session on January 17 on Fostering Parent Partnership: Trauma-Informed Practices to Increase Family Engagement. Mrs. Becky Nixon attended the National Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) in her role as KY Special Education Cooperative Liaison for KYCASE. Dr. Laura Clarke attended the CEC Representative Assembly in her role as President Elect for Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children. Dr. Laura Clarke participated in a Council for Exceptional Children - Complex and Chronic Conditions division board meeting on January 17.

Dr. Merissa Waddey serves as Co-Chair of the Local Arrangement Committee for CEC at the Convention in Orlando and collaborated to promote the CEC Convention coming to Louisville in March 2023.

Dr. Laura Clarke and Dr. Merissa Waddey continued to provide ongoing support to the Regional Schools Program with coaching, observations, adapted materials, and visual behavior support.

CRRSA Update:

The CRRSA team partnered with 14 districts and supported 238 educators and students in Northern Kentucky this month. Some of the supports included new teacher coaching, behavior coaching, Inquiry in the KAS for Social Studies, writing initiatives, and supporting educators in taking a trauma informed approach. The team is honored to present their first regional training on KyMTSS in February, which will be followed by a Local Curriculum Design and High Quality Instructional Resources regional training in March.

As a response to the request for a collective space to highlight best practices in our region, *teachNKY collaborative* is a publication of the NKCES CRRSA team and will be published Feb 1st. Each month's edition will highlight a new topic and feature ideas along with NKY educators leading the way.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

January Professional Learning: NKCES supported a total of 147 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, leadership, and special education during the months of January serving 1,423 educators.

NKCES Professional Learning Online Platform has proudly served more than 35,809 educators since the inception of its first online learning Google site, with 706 educators completing modules in January 2022. NKCES online learning options have grown from one site with six trainings that debuted in the spring of 2020 to six sites with 125+ free online trainings as well as a variety of free online trainings and curated resources and support for educators, parents, caregivers, and substitute teachers.

The online learning platforms available at the start of the 2021-2022 academic year include:

1. Free online PD for certified and classified staff at <https://bit.ly/nkcesonlinetraining>
2. Free teaching and learning resources at the NKCES Remote Learning Teacher site: <https://bit.ly/RemLrnTchrs>
3. Free modules for Substitute Teachers: <http://bit.ly/SubstituteTeachers>
4. Free modules, resources, and recommended supports for parents and caregivers: <https://bit.ly/NKCESParent>
5. Free resources for special education teachers focused on IEP goal support: <https://bit.ly/NKCESIEPSite>
6. Free transition service supports for special education teachers: <http://bit.ly/nkcestransition>

PL Consortium: The 21-22 NKCES PL Consortium continued in January with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a November & December NKCES update, [NKCES CRRSA Update & State Initiatives](#), [Supporting English Learners with Social Emotional Learning](#), NKCES January Board Updates, and a district share-out with Erlanger-Elsmere highlighting their staff wellness work. The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion and book discussion (Blind Spots.)

Title I & Title II Meeting: The 21-22 NKCES Title I & Title II meetings continued in January with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a November & December NKCES update, Celebrations and Successes, [Notification of Tentative Census Poverty and Hold Harmless Percentages](#), Requirement to display publicly the [Office of Inspector General \(OIG\) Hotline contact information](#), Coordinator Timeline Information, and an open discussion time.

DAC Meeting: The 21-22 NKCES DAC meetings continued in January with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a November & December NKCES update, DAC Monthly Webcast Topics - Discussion & Support (End-of-Course Updates, ACT Trainings Reminders), and an open discussion time.

NKCES is honored to offer a variety of professional learning opportunities this winter. All of them can be found at [NKCES Winter-at-a-Glance](#).

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 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:

We have had to shift staffing in order to provide a teacher in each classroom, and we are still looking to hire paraeducators.

Administration is beginning to draft testing schedules and will be in contact with partnering districts should a need arise for proctors.

The next Regional Alternative Program Meeting will be held on April 20th, in person, hosted by Rise Academy in Boone County.

Mix 94.9 reached out and asked if they could provide lunch for our staff as a pay it forward from another client (Papa Johns). This will occur in February.

One of our community partners, The Bridge Church, raised and donated \$12,000 to RSP to go towards a dream of a playground for RSP.

We are working on our draft 22-23 calendar.

English Learners (EL) Program Update:

The EL Consultants, Heather Ralphes and Daniele Novak, have been administering ACCESS testing to our EL students in our EL Program districts. The ACCESS testing window ends on February 18th.

NK Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

On January 8th, Mr. Joe Bertucci led teachers from our arts integration program in a 3-hour planning workshop focused on implementing units that connect the arts with social studies and SEL.

On January 20th, Mr. Bertucci collaborated with Heather Hicks from NKAGE to lead January's NKCES Visual & Performing Arts PLN meeting focused on *Gifted and Talented in the Arts*.

Mr. Bertucci is collaborating with members of the NKIAE Steering Committee and project partners, including the Harris Media Company and Visionaries + Voices, to plan implementation of the new *Assistance for Arts Education* Grant. He is also collaborating with Alissa Paasch from The Carnegie to prepare a presentation for the Kennedy Center's Partners in Education virtual conference, to be held February 8-9.

Mr. Bertucci observed two lessons and provided feedback to the Arts Integration Team at Lindeman Elementary.

Grant Consortium Update:

Grant opportunities provided this month

- [Preschool Partnership Grant Request for Applications; Preschool Partnership Grant Questions and Answers](#), due March 11, Intent to Apply due February 11
- [SEL in Action](#), due March 14
- [Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Behavioral Health Care Support](#), due April 19
- [Migrant Education Program](#), due April 20

Grants in Progress

NSF: Racial Equity in STEM Education Dr. Laura Clarke, Dr. Merissa Waddey, and Ms. Emily Borchers continue to work toward an application for Increasing Racial Equity for BIPOC Students and English Learners with Disabilities in Advanced Credit STEM Courses. Due in March.

Grants in implementation

Professional Development for Arts Educators

Assistance for Arts Education

Project Prevent

Strategic Prevention Framework, EES

Positive Action

Full Service Community Schools

Strategic Prevention Framework, NKISP

Noteworthy update: NKISP welcomed a new coordinator Ms. Michelle Klein, who will work closely with Dr. Kristen Haddad on strategies to support students as they make early decisions about substance use and related issues.

Grants Pending

Read to Achieve

Food Service Equipment

21st CCLC

Grant News

NKCES Educator Wellbeing Student Design Challenge: Vicki Dansberry and other staff of Grants Consortium projects reviewed district proposals which all were very exciting ideas for creating staff wellness spaces. CRSSA staff will announce the award soon.

Getting to Know Districts New to the Grants Consortium: Vicki will visit or meet by zoom with representatives of districts new to the group so efforts can be tailored to meet their needs and maximize benefits to all members.

Out of School Time Contacts: Many thanks to district representatives who provided information about out-of-school-time contacts. This invitation will help NKCES staff include them in a Professional Learning Network designed to support summer and after school programming.