

NKCES Report – February 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.



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BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT

BELLEVUE INDEPENDENT

BOONE COUNTY

BRACKEN COUNTY

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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:

Young Scholars Academy (YSA) Virtual Meeting, February 2: Amanda Dempsey scheduled a meeting with districts involved in the YSA work to review details and provide a Q & A session prior to the board meeting. Executive Director Amy Razor helped facilitate this meeting.

Apptegy Zoom Meeting, February 3: Executive Director Amy Razor is working with her team to transition to Apptegy. This tool will provide an exceptional platform for social media, our webpage, and most importantly, effective communication for our region. 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, February 7,11: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with educational leaders around the state, join a state-wide call with Dr. Jim Flynn who provided timely legislative session updates.

Deeper Learning Work Sessions, February 8,9: Executive Directors and key staff are participating in work sessions to prepare for the launch of the Deeper Learning Grant.

AASA Conference, February 16-18: AASA Conference provides a national forum of learning and networking to grow NKCES. Executive Director Amy Razor, along with several NKCES Superintendents attended the 2022 conference and also had time to network together at this event.

Leadership Synergy Meeting, February 21: As a step forward in developing our leadership team, Executive Director Amy Razor and Chief Academic Officer Melody Stacy meet monthly with key leadership prior to our team meetings. This time provides effective two-way communication and is a critical step as NKCES continues to grow.

KY Superintendent Webcast, February 22: 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 key items.

Deeper Learning Grant, February 22: Executive Director Amy Razor worked alongside 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 three-year opportunity.

KDE Monthly Education Cooperative Director Meeting, February 28: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with other KDE Leaders and Education Cooperative Directors, participated in the monthly virtual meeting with state leaders.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

February Professional Learning: NKCES supported a total of 175 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, leadership, and special education during the months of January, serving 1897 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 5944 educators completing modules in February 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 February with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a January NKCES update, [NKCES CRRSA Update & State Initiatives](#), NKCES February Board Updates, and a district share-out with all districts sharing upcoming PD plans and initiatives. 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 February with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a January NKCES update, ESEA Conference Sharing, GMAP, American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth Funds, and an open discussion time.

DAC Meeting: The 21-22 NKCES DAC meetings continued in February with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a January NKCES update, DAC Monthly Webcast Topics - Discussion & Support, Regional BAC/DAC meeting and an open discussion time.

Principals and Aspiring Leaders Institutes: The 2022 NKCES Principals and Aspiring Leaders Institutes have both kicked off and will continue to meet through May. Participants have taken the Working Genius assessment and are conducting personal reflection on how this impacts their work and personal lives. A book study on *The Eight Paradoxes of Great Leadership*, time for feedback on ideas and challenges, as well as requested agenda topics have all made for an energetic and purposeful time together.

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 Wadley 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 collaborative environments focused on collective learning. Our [21-22 NKCES Regional PLNs and dates can be found here](#).

Regional School Programs (RSP) Update:

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

Mrs. Turner is continuing conversations and meetings regarding the SRO needs and agreement for RSP. The next Regional Alternative Program Meeting will be held on April 20th, in person, hosted by Rise Academy in Boone County.

The DoSEs in the region have “adopted” RSP to provide some treats for our staff (breakfast, lunch, treat bags, etc). This has already been so wonderful and the staff have really enjoyed it. Thank you districts!

English Learners (EL) Program Update:

The EL Consultants, Heather Ralphes and Daniele Novak, completed ACCESS testing in all EL Program districts and have resumed regular EL student services. The ACCESS testing window has been extended until March 11, so ACCESS testing will need to be completed for any new students who enroll before that date. The next NKY EL PLN has been moved to March 5th and will be in person at the Erlanger branch of the Kenton County Public Library.

NK Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

The NKIAE Steering Committee met twice in February to develop resources and professional learning for the new project funded by the Assistance for Arts Education grant. Information will be shared with districts on March 1.

NKIAE hosted Kennedy Center Teaching Artist Danny Clay in a virtual workshop titled “Playbook: Performance Games for Coordination and Collaboration in the Classroom.”

Joe Bertucci partnered with Alissa Paasch (The Carnegie) to present a professional learning session in The Kennedy Center’s national Partners in Education virtual convening. The session, titled “Developing Collaborative Relationships for Arts Integration,” highlighted work from the past four years.

Mr. Bertucci observed and provided feedback on an Arts / SEL lesson at Lincoln Elementary School.

CRRSA Update:

The CRRSA team partnered with 14 districts this month to provide professional learning including KyMTSS, New Teacher Support, Purposeful Play PLC, Math PLC Coaching, Compassion Resiliency Training, Data-Based Instructional Grouping, Writing Across the Content, and more. Looking ahead to March, the team will be holding a regional workshop on Designing High Quality Local Curriculum and will partner with KDE to provide a regional workshop on the Equity Dashboard. The team will provide a virtual Spring refresher on Science, Social Studies, Math, and Reading and Writing Standards next month.

As a response to the request for a collective space to highlight best practices in our region, *teachNKY collaborative* was developed as a digital publication by the CRRSA team and was released this month. Teams across NKCES and teachers from multiple districts contributed to this month’s topic of SEL in Daily Instruction.

The SEL team continued work at the state level to develop a statewide SEL framework, while the LAS Coaches collaborated with other teams across the state on instructional practices, curriculum development and learning acceleration.

Special Education Update:

The NKCES DoSE Advisory Board met on February 17. The NKCES DoSE Meeting was held on February 25. Topics of discussion included collaboration with The Point, RSP Supports and Services, ARC Meeting Process Agendas, VI services, etc.

Mrs. Becky Nixon attended the RSP Advisory Board Meeting. Rich discussion was held and updates given regarding all topics related to RSP. Our NKY School Districts have begun supporting RSP by providing breakfast, lunch, or goodie bags to teachers. This idea was created during a DoSE Meeting as a way to provide support during these short-staffed times and given the fact RSP does not have their own PTA. On behalf of RSP, we THANK YOU!

Mrs. Becky Nixon attended the NKCES MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) training that was hosted by the CRRSA Team. She was present to answer any questions related to special education.

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 recent desk audits were Alternate Assessment. Mrs. Becky Nixon and Dr. Laura Clarke have worked with districts to review and assist with the districts' preliminary reports.

Mrs. Becky Nixon led the NKCES Preschool Coordinators Meeting on February 2. Topics discussed included GMAP, Preschool Partnership Grants, Child Find, etc. As a result of the meeting, Mrs. Becky Nixon has worked to create a [Regional Preschool flier](#) to support districts with Child Find.

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 continues to work with the Kentucky Council of Administrators of Special Education (KYCASE) Executive Board. The Executive Board has finalized plans for the KYCASE Spring Institute. This year's topic is Inclusive Leadership's Role in Attracting, Preparing and Retaining an Effective and Diverse Workforce. In addition, she is working with KYCASE to plan the Summer New DoSE Institute on July 17 and Summer DoSE Institute on July 18-19.

Dr. Laura Clarke participated in the KY CCBD Board Meeting on February 19, which included planning for the 2022 Behavior Institute. The Behavior Institute will be held on June 16-17 at the Galt House in Louisville, KY. Dr. Clarke is helping organize speakers and sessions to support educators and administrators in current trauma informed and evidence based strategies to decrease challenging behaviors in the classroom.

Mrs. Becky Nixon attended the February 8 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.

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

Dr. Merissa Waddey and Dr. Laura Clarke kicked off the Alternatives to Exclusionary Discipline Series for Administrators on February 17th. Future sessions will be held March 10, April 21, and May 12, 2022.

Grant Consortium Update:

Grant opportunities

- [Preschool Partnership Grant Request for Applications; Preschool Partnership Grant Questions and Answers](#), due March 11
- [SEL in Action](#), due March 14
- [International Learning Network Travel Fund](#), due March 25
- [Javits Gifted and Talented](#), due April 4
- [Drug Free Communities Support Program](#), due April 11
- [Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Behavioral Health Care Support](#), due April 19
- [Support Teacher Engagement and Professional Pipeline \(STEPP\)](#), due April 21
- [Build Back Better potential opportunities](#), dates TBD

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.

NSF: Racial Equity in STEM Education

[AESA NSF](#) [AESA NSF Slides](#)

SEL in Action

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

Grants Pending

Read to Achieve

Food Service Equipment

21st CCLC

Grant News

NKCES Educator Wellbeing Student Design Challenge: Congratulations to Ninth District School, the awardee!

Getting to Know Districts New to the Grants Consortium: Vicki and Michelle are visiting the new districts to discuss systems in place and benefits available.

Duke Energy Build Back Better grants: Vicki and Michelle, along with a large number of superintendents, met with representatives of Duke Energy about funding expected to come through this infrastructure program. More info to come as it develops. Duke expressed a strong desire to partner significantly with school districts interested in this funding.