

NKCES Report – March 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:

Finance & Facilities Meeting, March 3: Each month Executive Director Amy Razor and Ms. Angie Perkins meet to plan for future expenses and prioritize any facility needs. This month we focused on the salary schedule and budgets.

KASS Legislative Committee Meeting, March 4, 11: KASS Legislative Committee Meeting: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with educational leaders around the state, joined a statewide virtual meeting with Dr. Jim Flynn who provided timely legislative session updates.

NKCES Team Meeting, March 7: Each month the entire NKCES team gather to hear from leadership, learn from each other as well as strengthen our knowledge on our mission, vision and core values. We spend a significant amount of time sharing updates from individuals to keep all team members “in the loop”.

KAEC Virtual Meeting March 7: Executive Director Razor, who is also President of KAEC, met with member cooperative directors to discuss the recent Statewide Deeper Learning applicants and hiring process.

KAEC Vision for Deeper Learning, March 8: Executive Director Amy Razor and the KAEC education cooperative directors participated in a virtual meeting with Dr. Jason Glass, Kentucky Education Commissioner. Ms. Razor presented the Deeper Learning deployment strategy and the vision KAEC has for the work. Dr. Glass shared his excitement for this project and offered some valuable feedback.

KY Superintendent Webcast, March 8: 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.

Lt. Governor Coleman HB9 virtual meeting, March 11: Executive Director Amy Razor, along with passionate public education leaders from across the state, joined in to hear from Lt. Governor Coleman. HB9 is an attack on public education and should be treated as such. Lt. Governor Coleman shared her unwavering commitment to public education and asked for all of us to let our voices be heard!

KAEC Statewide Deeper Learning Interviews, Lexington, KY, March 15,16: KAEC Executive Directors interviewed several candidates committed to creating opportunities for students in public schools. After much discussion, the 22-23 Coop Directors unanimously selected Dr. Robb Smith as the best candidate to lead the work. Dr Smith will be instrumental as a statewide partner as he leads and supports the deeper learning work. We know how dedicated and influential

Dr. Smith is to the work of NKCES and we look forward to his knowledge growing our state in this role. We are excited to be a part of building each students tomorrow every day!

HB9 virtual meeting led by Advocacy Chair, Superintendent Mike Borchers, March 17: Superintendent Borchers requested that NKCES superintendents attend a brief call so that he could share and to hear from Kentucky State Board Member, Dr. Randy Poe, regarding the current legislative session. Specifically, to discuss HB9's language which would divert public education funds to the private sector. This approach allowed for the superintendents to have open dialogue amongst colleagues and build a strategy.

Leadership Synergy Meeting, March 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.

NCERT, March 22-25: NCERT Conference provides a national forum of learning and networking to grow NKCES. Executive Director Amy Razor, along with a few Kentucky Superintendents, attended the 2022 conference and had time to network together at this event.

Deeper Learning Conference, March 29-31: Executive Director Amy Razor and key members of NKCES staff that will lead the work joined the other Kentucky Cooperative teams for the HighTech High Conference. The team will be immersed in all the incredible ways deeper learning can be integrated into everyday instruction. Our team has returned and already begun to meet and develop plans to apply the learning.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

March Professional Learning: NKCES supported a total of 193 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, leadership, and special education during the months of January, serving 1,500 educators.

NKCES Professional Learning Online Platform has proudly served more than 35,809 educators since the inception of its first online learning Google site. 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 March with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a February NKCES update, [Erikson Early Math Collaborative \(EEMC\)](#), [Orton-Gillingham Training Opportunity](#), NKIAE Update and Summer Offerings (July Workshop: <http://bit.ly/NKCESVPAJuly> and Arts Program Info: <http://bit.ly/NKIAE22>), [NKCES CRRSA Update & State Initiatives](#), NKCES March Board Updates, and a district share-out with all districts reading and discussing the article [Which Curriculum Audit is Best for Your School](#). The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

Title I & Title II Meeting: The 21-22 NKCES Title I & Title II meetings continued in March with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a February NKCES update, April Title Timelines, and a review of FY20 Funds expiring on June 30, 2022. The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

DAC Meeting: The 21-22 NKCES DAC meetings continued in March with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a February NKCES update, DAC Monthly Webcast Topics - Discussion & Support (Kindergarten Screen Updates, Career and Technical Education Updates, ACT Reminders, EOC (End of Course) State Administrations Updates and Reminders, Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) Manual, Kentucky's 2021-2022 COVID-19 Addendum), KSA District Test Window Collection, OAA Additional Resources for KSA, KAAC Nominations for DAC and BAC of the Year, KAAC Scott Trimble Workshop Call for Proposals, K Screen Ordering Window, 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](#). The first PLN for Speech-Language Pathologists was held on March 30 with leadership from Beth Davis, SLP in Beechwood Independent Schools, and Dr. Merissa Wadley.

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. We will be updating the Advisory Board on this status at our meeting on April 12th.

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.

We are working on determining dates for our end-of-the-year events and will keep districts updated when those are finalized (Awards and Promotion, etc).

We have been able to hire a new paraeducator, which will be helpful as we finish out the school year. They will start April 11th after Spring Break. As slot commitments continue to return, we are working through what our final budget will look like for the 22-23 school year.

English Learners (EL) Program Update:

The EL Consultants, Heather Ralphes and Daniele Novak, are providing student services in the EL Program districts each week. The next NKY EL PLN is scheduled for April 29th and will be in person at the Erlanger branch of the Kenton County Public Library. ACCESS scores will be available on May 6th. Daniele and Heather will meet with the Title III Coordinators to review this data, and they will then begin meeting with teachers to review ACCESS and other student data to develop the students' PSPs.

NK Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

Mr. Joe Bertucci met with representatives from 20 districts to share information about the new five-year Arts Project. Districts are asked to identify schools for participation by April 11.

Mr. Bertucci observed and provided feedback on a Dance / Social Studies lesson at Arnett Elementary. Teachers in the current Arts Integration program are completing their 40 hours of professional learning and submitting post-assessments and surveys.

Teachers from five districts participated in this month's Visual & Performing Arts PLN, focused on Assessment in the Arts. NKIAE teachers toured the Cincinnati Ballet's new Center for Dance and participated in a dance integration workshop led by the Ballet's Director of Education.

Mr. Bertucci met with project partners Pones, Inc and Harris Media Co to plan the instructional videos included in the new arts program. Mr. Bertucci is collaborating with project evaluator Dr. Joan Ferrante to complete the first report to the U.S. Department of Education on our Assistance for Arts Education grant.

CRRSA Update:

The CRRSA team has partnered with 17 NKY districts this month to serve more than 200 educators in professional learning. The team provided thirteen large group professional learning opportunities and eight follow-up coaching experiences. The team's efforts this month focused on equity, curriculum development, MTSS supports, Kentucky Academic Standards, and Compassion Resiliency Training.

The Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Learning Acceleration Specialists (LAS) have been working on statewide collaborative projects around SEL support and the learning acceleration process.

The teachNKY collaborative website entered into its second month of publication, this month highlighting differentiation. Next month's topic will be promoting positive behaviors.

Special Education Update:

The NKCES DoSE Advisory Board met on March 21st. The NKCES DoSE Meeting was held on March 25th. Topics of discussion included collaboration with RSP Supports, Emergency/Probationary final requirements, Indicator 8 Parent Involvement Survey, Child Find, etc.

Dr. Laura Clarke attended the March 8th 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, literacy support, and visual supports for behavior.

Dr. Merissa Waddey participated in the KYCASE Spring Institute on March 9-10, titled *Solve the Teacher Shortage: Attract, Prepare & Retain Effective Special Educators*. Highlights and strategies will be shared with our regional DoSEs at the April DoSE meeting.

Dr. Laura Clarke worked with KY CEC on planning for the YES I CAN awards for 2022 and with the KY Council for Children with Behavior Disorders (CCBD) board on planning the 2022 Behavior Institute on June 16-17 in Louisville, KY. Dr. Clarke and Dr. Merissa Waddey will be presenting sessions at the conference.

Dr. Laura Clarke attended the spring Preschool meeting hosted by KDE and the Anderson County Early Childhood Regional Training Center (RTC). Updates and requirements were shared regarding early childhood.

Dr. Laura Clarke and Dr. Merissa Waddey participated in the KYCEC Executive Board meeting on March 12th. Dr. Clarke serves as President-Elect and Dr. Waddey serves as Membership Chair and President of the Pioneers division.

Mrs. Becky Nixon and Dr. Merissa Waddey kicked off our first SLP (Speech/Language Pathologist) PLN on March 30th. We look forward to growing this PLN for SLPs to have an opportunity for networking and a platform for sharing evidence based practices, resources and strategies.

Dr. Merissa Waddey is collaborating with Dr. Kristen Haddad and Michelle Klein of NKISP to provide training for administrators and SROs titled *SROs and Vaping Prevention*. This trauma-informed training to be held on April 20th addresses SB8 requirements while also responding to KY behavior data regarding disciplinary removals for vaping.

Grant Consortium Update:

Grant opportunities

- [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
- [Project AWARE](#), due May 2

- [Build Back Better potential opportunities](#), dates TBD

Grants in Progress

- [Project AWARE](#)
- [Support Teacher Engagement and Professional Pipeline \(STEPP\)](#)

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
Preschool Partnership
International Learning Network Travel Fund

Grant Reports

NKISP, March 31. Submitted March 30
Assistance for Arts Education, April 15
Project Prevent, April 30
FSCS, May 31

Grant News

Getting to Know Districts New to the Grants Consortium: Vicki and Michelle are wrapping up visits to the new districts to discuss systems in place and benefits available. If any district has new staff who would like to learn more about the Consortium, let us know!

RC Durr Foundation: Beechwood and Fort Thomas are discussing a partnership for this funding.

Javits Grant Review: Vicki has been invited to participate as a reviewer for this funding that supports gifted and talented education. We are hoping to write this grant next year; this will be helpful to support a future application.

Pendleton County Student Grant Team: Information was requested to support a team of students to write grants to fund peer mentoring activities.

State Family Engagement Grant Review: Vicki has been invited to apply to review this Federal grant that is only open for application to states.

Meeting Change: This month's meeting is changed to April 19, 8:30 a.m. due to spring break schedules.