

Coop notes

Kentucky House Resolution 43 Declares Oct. 9 PANDAS and PANS Awareness Day

The Kentucky House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 43 on March 24. The resolution declares Oct. 9, 2022, to be Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) Awareness Day. Both PANDAS and PANS can create the sudden onset of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder in children.

[The resolution, which can be read here](#), is to be shared with public and private schools, elementary school teachers and parents.

CDIP Continuation of Learning Plan Diagnostic (NTI Application) Due

This is a reminder that Phase IV of the Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) diagnostics for the Continuation of Learning Plan (Non-Traditional Instruction) is due by May 1.

Your CDIP can be found via login to Cognia for completion. If you have any questions about the NTI application, please [email Steven Kissinger](#).

Scholarship opportunities

The Kentucky Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) will award \$2,500 scholarships to eligible Kentucky high school students with disabilities to attend any two- or four-year postsecondary education organization or training program.

Up to two scholarships will be awarded per Kentucky school district. These nonrenewable scholarships will be paid directly to the institution of postsecondary education upon the recipients' official admission acceptance.

Nominees must:

1. Be a high school senior or grade 14 student intending to enroll in postsecondary education/training program;
2. Have an Individual Education Program (IEP); and
3. Have obtained Postsecondary Readiness through career or academic readiness.

The application with postsecondary readiness status, age, and address may be completed by anyone, and must be signed by guidance counselor and superintendent. OSEEL will only pay the scholarship directly to a student's postsecondary enrollment organization upon receipt of letter of acceptance. Direct payments to students will not be authorized. Selection criteria for the two students will be determined by and should be established by the district. [Nomination forms](#) must be received by OSEEL no later than April 11.

Help KDE tell your story on how your district is using ARP and ARP ESSER funds

Kentucky received \$2 billion total in ARP ESSER funds; nearly \$1.4 billion in March 2021 and more than \$600 million in August 2021. Help KDE tell the stories from your districts on how you are using the funds

to help students and families. We are working with the U.S. Department of Education and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) to share these stories that showcase **data, examples** and **impact**.

A page will be created on the KDE website that will host stories from across the state on ARP/ESSER funding – hoping it will be a one stop place for people to read about all the great things we are doing with this funding. You will soon start to see stories on different ways KDE is using its funding in a variety of ways.

If you have had media coverage or would like us to share what you are doing with others, [please use this Google form to let us know!](#)

Launch of Kentucky Reading Academies

Announcing Kentucky's first-ever state-wide Reading Academies for K-5 educators!

A child's ability to read is a critical predictor of both educational and lifelong success. Kentucky's youngest readers must have every opportunity to develop their literacy skills, but as our schools tackle unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, teachers must have unprecedented support.

In response to this critical need, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has a new, exciting partnership to bring the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) professional learning (PL) to educators across the Commonwealth. This course of study was specifically chosen because of its demonstrated success on a national scale in bringing significant increases in literacy achievement. The Kentucky Reading Academies will offer comprehensive no-cost professional learning in three phases starting in Fall 2022, beginning with up to 2,400 K-5 educators.

Click here to join us for a live informational webinar on April 18 at 4:00 p.m. ET to learn more!

For questions about the Kentucky Reading Academies, please contact KDE's Chief Academic Officer, Micki Ray, via email at micki.ray@education.ky.gov.

HB 563: Nonresident student policies

The Kentucky General Assembly passed HB 563 during the 2021 regular session, and it became law on June 29, 2021. The bill specified that districts must adopt policies regarding the terms under which the district shall allow enrollment of nonresident students by no later than July 1, 2022.

Policies and any subsequent changes must be filed with KDE no later than 30 days after its adoption, said Matt Ross, a KDE policy advisor in the OFO.

KDE recommends that any district-adopted policy contain a method to: annually determine the capacity for enrollment of nonresident students at each school within the district; a method for accepting nonresident student applications for enrollment; criteria for enrolling and assigning nonresident students to schools within the district; and a method of determining enrollment when capacity is insufficient to enroll students who apply.

Support Education Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK) funds are the primary source of funding for school districts, and beginning July 1, once a nonresident student enrolls in a school district, they are accounted for the same as resident students for SEEK funding purposes.

KDE will be releasing non-regulatory guidance on HB 563 that will include information on how the bill impacts interscholastic athletics and tuition.

HB 678: An act Relating to Public Schools and Declaring an Emergency

Hb 678 establishes a permissive two-year pilot project for school districts that allows them to start construction projects, use capital outlay funds or enter into lease agreements without prior approval from KDE.

Districts still are required to follow all applicable laws and regulations. Districts that opt in must continue to submit required forms for record-keeping and data purposes. The bill also requires KDE to approve or deny District Facility Plans and property requests within 30 days of submission.

KDE supports HB 678 and was involved in its development.

Kentucky Department for Public Health School Health Branch

Following updates on where the state stands regarding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Connie White, M.D., deputy commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Public Health (DPH), informed superintendents that DPH has established a School Health Branch.

DPH created the branch through a grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for public health workforce development, White said. The School Health Branch will work alongside KDE and support the department's school health work.

Save the Date: 2022 Persistence to Graduation Summit

Join the Kentucky Department of Education's Division of Student Success for the 2022 Persistence to Graduation Summit on **June 28-29** at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Louisville.

This experience will bring together education professionals from across Kentucky to share innovative strategies for student support from elementary through high school that empower students to graduate high school and transition successfully to their next chapter. This experience will better prepare districts and schools to meet student needs in our contemporary environment.

Engaging and interactive sessions will be hosted by facilitators from across the state, including:

- Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities
- Safe and Supportive Learning Environments
- Effective Use of Education Technology
- Student Transition and Re-engagement Strategies
- Alternative Education

Registration for the summit will be available at no cost to participants through Title IV, Part A funding. Additional registration details will be coming soon. For more information, [email Sara McIntosh](#).

April Is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

National Child Abuse Prevention Month, also known as Child Abuse Prevention Month in America, is an annual observance in the United States dedicated to raising awareness and preventing child abuse. April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the United States since 1983.

In 2021, Kentucky's Cabinet for Health and Family Services [reported more than 38,862 calls](#) of suspected abuse or neglect. Of these calls, 21,464 children were found to be in substantiated need of services.

One of the most important roles adults have is to ensure the safety of children. [Signs of abuse](#) are not always easy to detect.

KRS 620.030 requires any person who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child is neglected or abused shall immediately report to an authorized agency and maintain confidentiality. The role of the school is not to investigate the claim. If you suspect abuse or neglect, [this link will guide you through the steps of how to report](#) the incident.