

NKCES Report – April 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.

BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT

Executive Director Update:

BELLEVUE INDEPENDENT

Finance & Facilities Meeting, April 7: 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.

BOONE COUNTY

BRACKEN COUNTY

NKCES Team Meeting, April 11: Each month the entire NKCES team gathers to hear from leadership, learn from each other as well as strengthen our knowledge on our mission, vision and core values. Executive Director Razor led the Ripples of Leadership for the group. We spend a significant amount of time sharing updates from individuals to keep all team members “in the loop”.

CAMPBELL COUNTY

CARROLL COUNTY

COVINGTON INDEPENDENT

KAEC 501c3, April 12: Executive Director Razor worked with members of KAEC to further the efforts to gain 501c3 status based on the recommendation of Robin Kinney.

DAYTON INDEPENDENT

ERLANGER ELSMERE INDEPENDENT

Bloomboard, April 12: Executive Director Amy Razor and Chief Academic Officer Melody Stacy met with Mr. Kelly Middleton and Mr. Carter Meyers virtually to finalize an arrangement to allow NKCES to partner in the effort to inform teachers of the opportunity to change ranks at an affordable rate.

FLEMING COUNTY

FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT

GRANT COUNTY

KY Superintendent Webcast, April 12: 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.

GREENUP COUNTY

KENTON COUNTY

LUDLOW INDEPENDENT

Meeting with Erlanger/Elsmere Independent, Deeper Learning, April 14: Executive Director Amy Razor and Chief Academic Officer Melody Stacy met with the Erlanger/Elsmere leadership team to work on strategic planning for the 2022-23 school year. The team also met to discuss the Deeper Learning Initiative and how that can be incorporated into a leadership retreat for the administrators of the district. The dialogue was rich and many ideas were shared to ensure success.

NEWPORT INDEPENDENT

OWEN COUNTY

PENDLETON COUNTY

SOUTHGATE INDEPENDENT

Young Scholars Academy MOU Signing Ceremony, April 19: Executive Director Razor along with many districts in Northern Kentucky gathered at NKU to celebrate the expansion of the Young Scholars Academy to include nine more districts. We are grateful to NKU President Vaidya, Dr. Webb and Kenton County Board for opening the doors to opportunity for all N KY students.

WALTON-VERONA INDEPENDENT

WILLIAMSTOWN INDEPENDENT

Transeo Meeting, April 21: Executive Director Razor and Chief Academic Officer, Melody Stacy, met with Ken Broermann of Transeo to learn more about their work based learning platform and how it may support the work for students in Northern Kentucky.

PL Consortium Meeting, April 22: Executive Director Razor participated in the PL Consortium meeting led by Chief Academic Officer, Melody Stacy. Ms. Razor presented on the Deeper Learning Initiative and answered questions from the group.

Leadership Synergy Meeting, April 25: 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.

NKYEC Education Awards Dinner, April 27: Executive Director Razor and Chief Academic Officer Melody Stacy attend the NKYEC Awards dinner to celebrate students and educators in our region.

Work Based Learning Planning Meeting, April 28: Executive Director Razor and Chief Academic Officer Melody Stacy met with Dr. Kathy Burkhardt to discuss current initiatives to further student learning.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

April Professional Learning: NKCES supported a total of 189 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, leadership, and special education during the months of April, serving 1,655 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 April with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a March NKCES update, [NKCES CRRSA Update & State Initiatives](#), [Kentucky Reading Academies](#), PBLWorks PD Opportunities, and a district share-out with all districts reading and discussing the Deeper Learning Plans. 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 April with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a March NKCES update, Coordinator Timelines and Responsibilities for Title I, Title II, and Title IV. The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

DAC Meeting: The 21-22 NKCES DAC meetings continued in April with a collaborative meeting. Topics included a March NKCES update, DAC Monthly Webcast Topics - Discussion & Support, Read Aloud Sessions in Pearson Access Next (PAN), and an open discussion time.

Principals and Aspiring Leaders Institutes: The 2022 NKCES Principals and Aspiring Leaders Institutes have both continued to meet. 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 summer. All of them can be found at [NKCES Summer-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:

RSP is very thankful for the districts who have treated our staff to various treats and meals through the spring.

We held a career fair on 4/29 for students.

RSP will test 5/4-5/9. Thank you to the staff at NKCES and directors who are assisting us during that time.

RSP’s awards and promotion ceremony will be held on 5/18 at 12pm.

We are excited to welcome Ms. Ashley Himes into the role of Student Services Coordinator for the 22-23 school year.

English Learners (EL) Program Update:

The EL Consultants, Heather Ralphes and Daniele Novak, will continue to provide student services through the first week of May. ACCESS scores arrive on May 6th, and after that date Heather and Daniele will share ACCESS scores with the districts and will collect input for students’ PSPs.

NK Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

Mr. Joe Bertucci continued meetings with representatives from each district to share information about the new arts resources and professional learning available. Districts were asked to identify schools for participation in the AIM Program by April 11.

Mr. Bertucci collaborated 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. The report was submitted on 04/15/22.

Mr. Bertucci and members of the NKIAE Steering Committee met with various partners to plan summer masterclasses for arts educators and our upcoming video series supporting arts education.

NKIAE celebrated the culmination of our 4-year Professional Development for Arts Educators Grant by organizing and funding student field trips to The Children’s Theatre of Cincinnati and The Cincinnati Shakespeare Company and an event for teachers at Music Hall. Teachers from 11 districts attended the event.

CRRSA Update:

The CRRSA team provided professional learning opportunities on a trauma informed approach to teaching and continued to support districts in on-going professional learning such as math interventions, new teacher coaching and compassion resiliency. The team led the NKY MTSS Community of Practice with participants from across the region.

The Social Emotional Learning Specialists (SEL) have been working on a statewide collaborative project around the KyMTSS Tiers of SEL supports and the Learning Acceleration Specialists (LAS) across the state have been working together on the learning acceleration process.

The teachNKY collaborative website entered into its third month of publication, this month highlighting positive behaviors. Next month’s topic will be focusing on adult SEL.

Special Education Update:

The NKCES DoSE Advisory Board met on April 18th. The NKCES DoSE Meeting was held on April 22nd. Topics of discussion included annual determinations, Indicator 8 Parent Involvement Survey, The KDE Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) Retreat, etc.

Ms. Becky Nixon attended The KDE Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) Retreat on April 11th and 12th. The Cooperative Special Education Directors along with the OSEEL Staff discussed OSEEL’s North Star and their eight priority areas, 2022-2023 IDEA Proposals, reviewed regional and state special education data and discussed plus/delta around monitored activities.

Ms. Becky Nixon held a final meeting with districts involved in NKCES Visual Impairment Program. Discussions were held regarding services and program costs for the 2022-2023 school year.

Ms. Becky Nixon, Dr. Laura Clarke, Dr. Merissa Waddey and Ms. Emily Borchers attended the LRP Institute in Louisville, KY on April 25-27. They attended sessions specific to current legal findings in special education litigation.

The special education team conducted a series of compliance record reviews in districts across the region and provided compliance trainings specific to student participation in Alternate Assessment.

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 serves as Local Implementation Chair with the National Council for Exceptional Children and participated in a 2023 CEC Convention planning meeting on April 18th. Next year’s National Convention will be held in Louisville.

Ms. Becky Nixon attended the Kentucky Council of Administrators for Special Education (KYCASE) planning meeting on April 26th. The KYCASE Executive Committee continued its planning for the KYCASE New DoSE Institute and the KYCASE Summer Institute which will be held in Lexington, KY on July 17-19th.

Drs. Laura Clarke and Merissa Waddey concluded the Alternatives for Exclusionary Discipline series for administrators on April 21st. The focus for the final session was on Alternative Discipline Menus and an analysis of disproportionate disciplinary data.

Dr. Laura Clarke participated in multiple planning meetings with the KY Council for Children with Behavior Disorders (CCBD) board to plan the 2022 Behavior Institute, which will be held on June 16-17 in Louisville, KY. Dr. Clarke, Dr. Merissa Waddey, and Ms. Misti Carr will be presenting sessions at the conference. Dr. Clarke worked with the KY CEC Board on planning for the national CEC Legislative Summit and the summer leadership meeting.

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 collaborated with Michelle Klein of NKISP to provide training for administrators and SROs titled *SROs and Vaping Prevention* on April 20th. We had 18 SROs and administrators from across the Commonwealth.


Grant Consortium Update:

Grant Awards:

- **Food Service Equipment** (Dayton, Greenup County (3 awards))
- **Read to Achieve** (Kenton County and Walton Verona)
- **21st Century Community Learning Centers** (Bellevue, Campbell County, Covington (2 awards), Erlanger-Elsmere, Kenton County (2 awards), Newport (2 awards))

Grant opportunities

-  Mentoring for Children Impacted by Opioids and Other Drugs
-  OJJDP Children Exposed to Opioids or Violence
-  ITEST, COPS HIRING, SPORTS4LIFE
-  PEEP

-  eir, spf, sober truth
- [Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities \(WORC\): A Grant Initiative for the Appalachian and Delta Regions](#)
(Fleming and Greenup only)

Grants in Progress

- Javits Grant Review

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

NSF Racial Equity for STEM Learning
AESA NSF
Preschool Partnership Grant
Support Teacher Engagement and Professional Pipeline (STEPP) Grant

Grant Reports

Assistance for Arts Education, April 15
Project Prevent, May 16
FSCS, May 31
Positive Action, July 30

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!