

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top left portion shows several yellow school buses parked in a lot, with the word 'SCHOOL BUS' visible on the front of one. The bottom left portion shows a classroom with blue walls, decorated with colorful balloons and framed pictures. There are several white desks and chairs arranged in the room.

# Portrait of a Learner & Local Laboratories of Learning

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# Update



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**89 districts have developed or are currently developing a local  
Portrait of a Learner in their communities**

**Based on Portrait of a Learner Status Survey & Input from Deeper Learning Co-Op Teams:**

***As of 9/6/2023***

*Finalized set of competencies: 59 districts*

*Developing a set of competencies: 30 districts*

*Considering development: 18 districts*

*Not considering development: 5 districts*

*Unknown status: 62 districts*

\*Includes Model Lab and KSB/KSD

# Trends



Across Local Laboratories of Learning (L3s), we see several trends in their design considerations that are connected specifically to local Portrait of a Learner efforts including:

## **Integration of Graduate Profile into Curriculum**

There's a significant emphasis on seamlessly embedding local competencies within a Portrait of a Learner into the curriculum. The aim is to align the day-to-day learning experiences with the desired outcomes and skills that students should achieve by the end of their educational journey.

## **Stakeholder Understanding and Alignment with the Graduate Profile**

It's clear that not just having a "Profile of a Graduate", but also ensuring that all stakeholders (including staff, students, parents, and the wider community) understand, appreciate, and work towards it, is a priority.

## **Assessment Aligned with Competencies and Portrait of a Learner**

There's a push towards creating assessment methods that not only evaluate academic knowledge but also assess the broader competencies outlined in local Portraits of a Learner

# Meeting Districts Where They Are

When asked in our Portrait of a Learner  
Implementation Survey,

71% of responding districts indicated that  
guidance for measuring competencies would  
be most helpful to their current or next steps of  
implementing their local Portraits



**Developing Competencies, Performance Outcomes  
and Indicators for a Portrait of a Learner**

**Guidance Document**

Kentucky Department of Education  
Office of Continuous Improvement and Support  
Division of Innovation  
Updated July 2023

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Visit the webpage →

<https://education.ky.gov/school/innov/Pages/Portrait-of-a-Learner.aspx>

A screenshot of the "Kentucky Portrait of a Learner" frequently asked questions page. The header includes the title "KENTUCKY PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER" and a navigation bar with icons for people, gears, and a map. The main content area is titled "FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS" and contains several questions and answers regarding the purpose and creation of the Portrait of a Learner. The footer includes the Kentucky Department of Education logo and the page number "1".

**KENTUCKY PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER**

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please feel free to share this document with students, families, and community members who are seeking additional information about the Portrait of a Learner purpose, process and next steps.

**Q. WHAT IS A PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER?**

A Portrait of a Learner is an agreed-upon set of school- or district-level aspirations for what every learner will know and be able to do when they leave school. That exit may happen at the end of elementary school, middle school, high school graduation or at any other checkpoint along the way. The Kentucky statewide PoL identifies the skills students need to be prepared for an ever-changing world that is driven by technology, human interaction and innovation. This portrait gives school leaders and teachers the framework to design instruction in a way that promotes real-world competencies and job readiness.

**Q. WHY CREATE A PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER FOR KENTUCKY?**

Now, more than ever, learning experiences must not be just about mastering challenging academic content. They also must be more intentional about fostering communication, collaboration, adaptability and other skills our students need to thrive.

Kentucky's accountability system needs to provide a more comprehensive picture of what student success means. The Kentucky Portrait of a Learner (PoL) will help do this by serving as a more balanced measure, demonstrating a student's growth and achievement and ensuring their readiness for civic life, career or college.

**Q. WHO WAS INVOLVED IN CREATING KENTUCKY'S PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER?**

In 2019, a group of districts with existing local PoLs worked together as the [Kentucky Competency Education and Assessment Consortium](#) to compare local competencies and create a model that represented common skills across multiple communities.

In May of 2022, a state-level Portrait of a Learner (PoL) subcommittee of the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) met for the first time to begin creating a statewide PoL for districts to adopt as their own or to serve as a model for districts in the creation of their own local portraits. This subcommittee was guided by the work of the Kentucky Competency Education and Assessment Consortium districts to develop the skills/dispositions identified for the PoL.

- The subcommittee included five KBE members and other education partners, including one postsecondary faculty member, a student and four representatives of the Kentucky Coalition for Advancing Education (KCAE). The four members from the coalition represented parents; business owners and community members; teachers; and school/district administrators.

The subcommittee collectively decided what a globally competitive student should know and be able to do when they graduate from high school in Kentucky. In October 2022, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approved a statewide PoL. This portrait represents an important promise to the children of Kentucky and communities in the Commonwealth.

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## Portrait of a Learner FAQs

INNOVATION

### Current District Portrait of a Learner

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Prior to KBE approving Kentucky's PoL, many districts had their own Portraits of a Learner or Graduate in place and others may have been considering or developing a local PoL or Graduate to meet the needs of their communities. The state's PoL was developed and approved for districts to adopt as is or utilize as a starting point for a district to develop their own version customized to meet local needs.

Access and explore locally-developed Portraits of a Learner from districts across Kentucky. Districts can complete the [Local Portrait of a Learner Implementation Survey](#) or email [Sarah.Snipes@education.ky.gov](mailto:Sarah.Snipes@education.ky.gov) if interested in being added to the collection.

[Allen County](#)

[Bardstown Independent](#)

[Barren County](#)

[Boone County](#)

[Breckinridge County](#)

[Bullitt County](#)

[Burgin Independent](#)

[Campbell County](#)

[Carlisle County](#)

[Carverna Independent](#)

[Casey County](#)

## List of Current Portraits in Districts

# Other Resources