

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top left shows a line of yellow school buses with "SCHOOL BUS" written on the front. The bottom left shows a classroom with blue walls, desks, chairs, and various educational materials. A white diagonal line separates the two images.

# Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Accreditation Results

Kentucky Board of Education State Schools Committee

June 2024

Shannon Sparkman, Director of State Schools



Kentucky Department of  
**EDUCATION**

# CEASD: An Introduction

The Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) is a non-governmental, nonprofit, peer-administered organization of diverse educational programs committed to the highest quality of education for students who are Deaf and hard of hearing. CEASD's purpose is to ensure the continuous improvement of its member schools through effective leadership, self-study, peer evaluation, accreditation, exemplary programs and supportive services.

# CEASD Standards for Accreditations for Schools:

**Foundational Standards:** Standards addressing best practices in the components of a school that provide the foundations for quality in the education program, services and results in terms of student learning.

- Standard 1: Philosophy/Mission
- Standard 2: Governance and Leadership
- Standard 3: School Improvement Planning and Viability
- Standard 4: Finances
- Standard 5: Facilities
- Standard 6: School Climate and Organization

**Operational Standards:** Standards addressing best practices in delivering the education program, services and activities to the students.

- Standard 7: Health and Safety
- Standard 8: Educational Program
- Standard 9: Assessment and Evidence of Student Learning
- Standard 10: Student Services
- Standard 11: Student Life, Student Activities and Residential
- Standard 12: Learning Resources and Information Technology

# Kentucky School for the Deaf Results

- Accreditation Recommendation: Full Accreditation (2023-2028)
- An accredited school is an educational organization that meets all CEASD Standards for Accreditation and meets the requirements of the self-study including the development of a school improvement plan.
- 26 commendations, 36 recommendations



**CEASD**  
*Lead • Educate • Advocate*

# Positive Highlights



# Commendations

- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for improving the physical safety and accessibility of their current campus by installing state of the art security cameras, lighting, improved walkways and fencing.
- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for implementing the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) and American Sign Language (ASL) instructor program and emphasizing the importance of visual language for students, faculty and staff.
- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for a strong commitment to and the fostering of social-emotional learning activities.
- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for technology in place for learning.

# Commendations (2)

- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for having state allocations for statewide outreach and educational resource services as stated in the Kentucky Department of Education enabling statute (167.015).
- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for maximizing use of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) funds to advance and upgrade instructional technologies.
- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for exploring options on providing additional outreach service provision for Deaf and hard of hearing students statewide.
- The CEASD Accreditation Team commends Kentucky School for the Deaf for using a variety of assessment tools to measure student growth and learning, including the SLPI, which is documented in individualized education programs (IEP).

# Recommendations





# Recommendation and Status

## Recommendation:

The CEASD Accreditation Team recommends that Kentucky School for the Deaf connect with families through a communication plan from the Department of Student Life.

## Status:

\*New Director of Student Life\*

Information sent every Thursday via email and printed copy which includes:

1. Schedule of Events
2. Dorm Updates
3. Individual Student Needs
4. Behavior Updates

# Recommendation and Status (2)

## Recommendation:

The CEASD Accreditation Team recommends that Kentucky School for the Deaf increase communication with faculty and staff as it relates to updates and changes for both KSD and KDE administration.

## Status:

- Bi-weekly Directors Meetings
- Sunday Emails
- Roll Call
- KDE Staff Presence
- Trainings

# Recommendation and Status (3)

## Recommendation:

The CEASD Accreditation Team recommends that the Kentucky School for the Deaf evaluate the potential revitalization of career study options or the creation of new options.

## Status:

- New CTE program added: Advanced Manufacturing
- CTE Program to be added for the 2024-2025 school year: Engineering Technology
- KSD Media
- The Colonel Store
- Leadership programs for all levels
- Increased job exploration opportunities

# Recommendation and Status (4)

## Recommendation:

The CEASD Accreditation Team recommends that Kentucky School for the Deaf consider alternative extra-curricular activities such as STEM activities which enhance 21st Century skills.

## Status:

- Independent Living Program
- Robotics
- Archery Club
- Industrial Arts

# Recommendation and Status (5)

## Recommendation:

The CEASD Accreditation Team recommends the Kentucky School for the Deaf re-evaluate its current outreach programs and identify programming to promote long term viability.

## Status:

- Program evaluation/data analysis
- Connect with stakeholders
- Planning

# Questions?

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