

# School Safety Presentation

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Meeting of the Woodford County Board of Education  
Safe Harbor Academy  
July 22nd, 2024  
Garet Wells, Assistant Superintendent  
Kyle Norton, WCMS Assistant Principal

# Kentucky Center for School Safety Principal Mentor Program



Kern Cothran – mentor (left), Allee Adams – mentee (right),  
Principal of Mayfield Middle School

## KCSS HELPS STRENGTHEN NEW SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

KCSS is pleased to provide the Principal Mentor Program as a cost-free service to our public schools. This is the 3rd year of a service that is being welcomed throughout the state. It is a non-evaluative program designed to support districts by assigning an experienced master principal with a first year, or inexperienced, principal. Each principal will receive an array of administrative guidance and critical up-to-date school safety information and resources.

During the 2022-23 school year, KCSS provided 15 highly trained, experienced master principals to mentor 48 new principals in effectively leading their schools. Both the mentors and mentees shared information that greatly enhanced the existing program. This program is one of a kind in that the mentors have received extensive training relating to implementing the School Safety and Resiliency Act (SSRA).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

In order to participate, all principals must be recommended by their superintendent.

For more information, or to recommend someone for this program, contact:

**Jon Akers**  
KCSS Executive Director  
[Jon.Akers@eku.edu](mailto:Jon.Akers@eku.edu)

**Don't miss this free opportunity  
for your principals!**

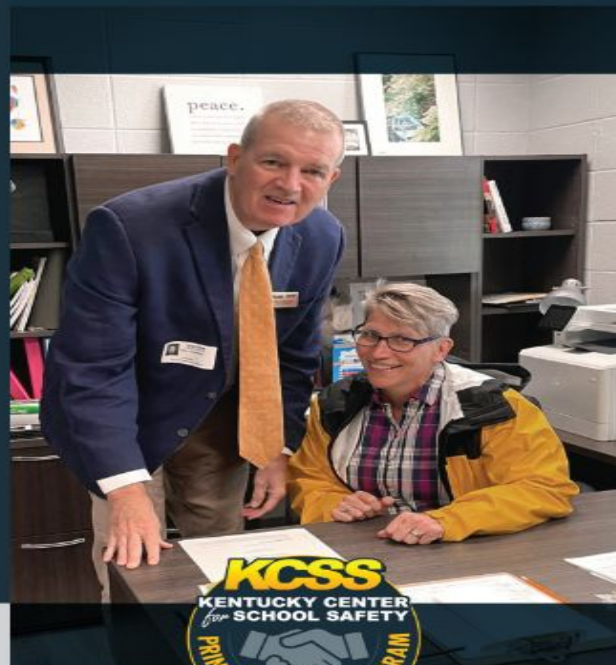


Visit the Kentucky Center for School Safety website for all of your school safety information needs.

**WWW.KYCSS.ORG**



On the cover:  
John Crawford – mentor (left), Amy Sutter – mentee (right),  
Principal of Carroll County High School



**Master Principals  
Helping New Principals**



Kim Parker-Brown – mentor (left), Diana Jackson, mentee (right), Principal of Shearer Elementary

## NEW PRINCIPAL?

- Do you have a new principal in your district?
- Do you think it would be beneficial if your new principal had a seasoned, highly skilled principal to mentor him/her throughout the year?

If so, we have good news for you!

The Kentucky Center for School Safety is pleased to offer the Principal Mentor Program which will provide guidance, assistance and resources to your new principal.

(Please read on to see what we can provide)

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MENTOR PROGRAM

We believe new principals need encouragement and guidance as they go through their first years of being principals. The Kentucky Center for School Safety, provides the Principal Mentor Program to districts at no cost.

To qualify to participate in this service, you must have a new principal who meets a few necessary requirements, such as:

- Be willing to meet in person and online/phone calls. NO activities are scheduled during school time, unless at the request of the principal mentee
- Be willing to share mobile phone number with the mentor to assist in quick communication
- Be willing to do a building walkthrough with their mentor
- Be willing to learn from a mentor, since this is a collegial activity
- Be willing to improve his/her effectiveness as a leader

This service is free to the district, as well as innumerable resources available from KCSS, including the "K-12 Principals To-Do List."



## TESTIMONIALS



**Justin Craft**  
LaRue Co. Middle School,  
Assistant Principal

*"The guidance provided by KCSS and their regional mentors has been invaluable for a brand-new administrator like me. My mentor (Kem Cothran) sends along resources and provides a listening ear as a veteran administrator for those tough scenarios that coursework and classroom experience can't prepare you for."*



**Lisa Farley**  
Raceland-Worthington Independent -  
Campbell Elementary, Principal

*"My mentor (Pat Downey) provided me with direction not only in the critical areas of school safety and preparedness, but in any topic that I asked her about. The principal mentorship has helped me as I navigated through school finance, developing school policies and handling SBDM questions, as well as my own personal growth as a leader."*



**Amy Sutter**  
Carroll Co. High School,  
Principal

*Amy was mentored by John Crawford. He said that he believes she is on her way to becoming an outstanding visionary leader.*

**John stated:**

*"Mrs. Sutter is transforming CCHS into a learning center that emphasizes internships, project-based learning, teaching real life skills and using math/science/English skills applicable to Area Technology wants and needs. She is a visionary leader that has great rapport with teachers, staff, and students. Simply put, Mrs. Sutter has CCHS on the move."*

# KCSS Principal Mentor Program Highlights

- 24-25 will be the fourth school year this program will be offered
- For new principals, assistant principals(deans)
- Previously 50 spots a year total for Kentucky
- Increased to 60 for the upcoming school year
- Tommy Grant, former WCHS assistant principal, 22-23 school year

# Tommy Grant Feedback

- “I will start by saying that my experiences with Mr. Woodyard was an excellent one.”
- “One of the greatest benefits of the mentor program was being able to access his wealth of knowledge and experience as it relates to the role of being an admin.”
- “I could text or call him at any time and he was always willing and able to return my call or text with whatever question I had.”
- “Sometimes it would be to get his opinion on something, to ask a question I did not know specifics about or to seek advice on situations with teachers/staff that I felt I needed a third party opinion on.”
- “I enjoyed that we met in person and had phone/virtual conferences as well.”
- “When he would come to the building, we would walk around and look for things to “get into” whether it was behavior related things, but mostly looking at building safety and operations, since those were two of my roles during my time there.”

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# Kyle Norton Feedback



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- Kyle Norton, current WCMS assistant principal, 23-24 school year
- Kim Ford, new Simmons administrative dean, 24-25 school year