

NKCES Report – October 2024

Our mission at NKCES: We connect, grow, and serve our community of educators.

BEECHWOOD INDEPENDENT

Executive Director Update:

BELLEVUE INDEPENDENT

School CEO Conference, September 30 - October 3: Dr. Amy Razor gathered with school leaders from across the country to gain instrumental knowledge to enhance outreach efforts and foster stronger connections with school communities.

BOONE COUNTY

BRACKEN COUNTY

CAMPBELL COUNTY

Education Cooperative Executive Director Meeting, October 4: Dr. Amy Razor joined the other Executive Directors, along with members of KDE, to discuss current events taking place on the educational landscape in Kentucky as a whole, as well as to report highlights from each Cooperative's region.

CARROLL COUNTY

COVINGTON INDEPENDENT

DAYTON INDEPENDENT

ERLANGER-ELSMERE INDEPENDENT

Superintendent Webcast, October 10: Dr. Amy Razor joined other education leaders from across the state to hear from Dr. Robbie Fletcher and his team on critical issues as well as statewide initiatives.

FLEMING COUNTY

FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT

KWEL Update, October 14: KASA Executive Director, Dr. Rhonda Caldwell, hosted a virtual check-in meeting for the female cooperative leaders to discuss the annual KWEL forum events and gather feedback from the group to ensure a successful gathering.

GRANT COUNTY

GREENUP COUNTY

KENTON COUNTY

Cheye Calvo, CEO EducateNKY: Mr. Calvo requested a meeting with Dr. Amy Razor. The goal of the meeting was to share the strategic plan for the work of EducateNKY.

LEWIS COUNTY

LUDLOW INDEPENDENT

MASON COUNTY

Finance Meeting: Each month, Dr. Razor meets with the finance director, Mrs. Angie Perkins, to keep abreast of finances and plan for future expenses. This month's focus has been wrapping up a successful audit and preparation to share with the Board of Directors. We also met about long-term goals and the sustainability plan for NKCES.

NEWPORT INDEPENDENT

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

OWEN COUNTY

Professional Learning Consortium, October 18: Dr. Amy Razor joined the PL Consortium meeting to keep informed of current work being done around the region.

PENDLETON COUNTY

SOUTHGATE INDEPENDENT

WALTON-VERONA INDEPENDENT

Synergy Team Meeting, October 29: Each month the NKCES leadership team gathers to participate in a book study, the current book is The Art of Possibility which has stretched our thinking as a team. Additionally, there are departmental updates and planning for future events.

WILLIAMSTOWN INDEPENDENT

Facilities:

Building Update: As our organization grows, we find it more challenging to host larger groups at NKCES as space is limited. The parking lot is an area of concern and we are seeking bids to resolve this issue. As part of the Arts In Mind project, an outdoor arts and professional learning center is being installed to meet the needs of learners. The center will be outside between the modulars and the

Synergy Room exterior wall. Work has been ongoing, weather permitting, on the stage and surrounding outdoor space. We are working with Wessel Landscaping to finalize design ideas.

Professional Learning (PL) Update:

October Professional Learning: NKCES supported 85 professional learning opportunities focused on academics, culture and climate, leadership, and special education during September, serving 1,747 educators.

Professional Learning (PL) Consortium: The 24.25 NKCES PL Consortium continued in October with a collaborative meeting. Topics included [NKCES IDEA/SERTAC Update](#), [NKCES Learning and Empowerment Update](#), and planning for the monthly district share-outs. The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

Title I & Title II Meeting: The 24.25 NKCES Title I/Title II Consortium continued in October with a collaborative meeting. Topics included Comparability Report Due Nov. 1, 2024, Consolidated Monitoring Districts ([Consolidated Monitoring Reports 23-24](#)), [Declaration of Participation - Anticipated outreach](#) (November 1 - Mail Out, November 18 - Due to Us), Follow-up with the Diocese - [Confidentiality Agreement](#), and Revised [Title I Handbook](#). The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) Meeting: The 24.25 NKCES DAC Consortium in October with a collaborative meeting. Topics included Senior ACT - Fall Optional Test, AKSA, WIDA/ACCESS, K Screen/Brigance Updates, Accountability Data - Tentative Timeline, [KSA Released Items](#), [Scott Trimble Workshop \(Oct. 24 & 25\)](#), and [2023 Assessment Data on Websites](#). The meeting ended with a member-led PLC discussion.

Professional Learning Networks (PLNs): PLNs provide opportunities for educators to grow professionally in collaborative environments focused on collective learning. [2024.25 NKCES PLN Dates](#).

NKCES is honored to offer a variety of professional learning opportunities. All of them can be found in our [Professional Learning Catalog](#).

Special Education Update:

NKCES team officiated with the Northern Kentucky Special Olympics Unified bocce ball tournament. Several NKCES staff joined forces with the Kentucky Unified Sports to officiate the Northern Kentucky unified bocce ball tournament at Town and Country. This opportunity provided enough officiating coverage to support this event and also allowed the NKCES team to connect with student athletes across the region.

A group of regional preschool directors recently met to discuss strategies for problem-solving using the Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool (TPOT). The discussion focused on how the TPOT can be used to assess classroom practices and identify areas for improvement in supporting children's social-emotional development. Directors shared experiences, challenges, and solutions in implementing the tool, emphasizing its role in enhancing teacher practices and promoting positive behaviors in preschool settings. Through collaboration, the directors worked to better understand the TPOT's potential in guiding effective interventions and improving overall classroom quality.

NKCES SERTAC team members are working with Learning and Empowerment to plan the Chronic Absenteeism cohort. The training will be a cohort model to address interventions for students with or at risk for chronic absenteeism. Participants in this cohort will be in school or district teams and will learn strategies for creating supportive school environments, implementing interventions and analyzing current policies and procedures for addressing school attendance.

The SERTAC team worked with the trauma informed school supports team to host make-and-take. This make-and-take was an opportunity for school counselors to get together and brainstorm ideas to provide trauma informed supports in their buildings. They also went through stations of building and creating hands-on resources to use with students. These resources could be used for students in crisis or consistent interventions.

The October DoSE meeting highlighted Project Search. This program is an internationally recognized program, dedicated to building a workforce that includes people with disabilities. It includes businesses and partnerships that are beneficial for not only the potential employee, but also employers. In conjunction with Northern Kentucky University, interns are placed in real world job based situations, with support of a special education teacher to build skills necessary for that job.

Learning and Empowerment Team:

Northern Kentucky Institute for Arts Education (NKIAE):

In October, Mr. Joe Bertucci reviewed quarterly reports from schools and districts participating in the Arts In Mind program and began initial planning for the fourth cohort of AIM. Mr. Bertucci met with partners from The Carnegie and Pones to plan the fourth season of our *Arts Express* video series, supporting elementary dance and theatre instruction and integration. He also met with NKAGE to share these resources and discuss opportunities for partnership supporting students identified as gifted/talented in the arts. Mr. Bertucci worked with Alissa Paasch (The Carnegie) and Kim Thomson (Boone County Schools) to develop a session for The Kennedy Center's Partners in Education Convening, and with project evaluator Dr. Joan Ferrante to prepare the grant's annual performance report.

Northern Kentucky Institute for Strategic Prevention (NKISP):

This month, the NKISP team attended the Kentucky Prevention Network conference in Lexington, KY. The team packed and delivered Red Ribbon Week supplies to 50 schools across the region. They started planning and taught one of the Vaping Education lessons for 158 student-athletes at Fleming County High School. This month's NKISP Institute meeting had guest presenters Kathleen Roberts and Elizabeth Nettles of the Community Coalition Alliance in Florida. The team hosted NKY Regional Youth Summit (376 students attended from 33 schools, 17 districts), and attended the Prevention First Coalition Academy at Great Wolf Lodge conference center.

School-Based Mental Health (SBMH) and Trauma Informed Services in Schools (TISS):

The Northern Kentucky Institute for Empowerment (NKIE) includes the School-Based Mental Health (SBMH), Trauma-Informed School Supports (TISS), & Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) grant work within the NKCES member districts. This month's work for the SBMH & TISS grants has been focused on participation in federal grant monitoring meetings, meeting with districts to assist with decision making for implementation of the SBMH & TISS grants along with providing finance guidance/processes for 2024-2025, planning for upcoming professional learning events, collaborating with other mental health organizations to plan upcoming professional learning events for educators in our region, assisting with mental health events in districts, conducting trainings in schools around the region focused on SEL/trauma/mental health, finishing delivery of SproutBoxes and/or Calm Corners throughout the region,

conducting committee grant meetings, participating in Career Fairs at KY Colleges for recruitment efforts, drafting grant reports for monitoring purposes, conducting trainings for the Mental Health Professionals hired in districts, facilitating professional learning events, collaborating with Character Strong to conduct a regional training at NKU, delivering Red Ribbon Week supplies to schools, attending the NKY Education Council Fall Convening, exhibiting at the KCA State Conference for recruitment and marketing purposes, participating in virtual meetings with other SBMH Grant Directors and the Lt. Governor's Chief of Staff for future collaborative work, planning an additional Youth Summit for the northeastern member districts, & conducting the NKY Youth Mental Health Summits at NKU for our member districts.

Learning Acceleration:

The Learning Acceleration team designed over 175 Sproutboxes focusing on Instructional Practices to include the topics of feedback, increasing rigor, collaborative learning, and questioning. These boxes served educators across all 23 districts. The Learning Acceleration team partnered with the IDEA team to present educators with 2.5 days of training by UFLI (University of Florida Literacy Institute) along with High Quality Instructional Resources training with administrators and the kickoff of each content specific High Quality Instructional Resources cohort. The Learning Acceleration team served over 400 educators throughout the region.

Grant Consortium Update:

District Grants News

- LaShawnda Simpson (Newport) attended a two-day Grants4Schools grant training in Lexington that she found valuable. The group discussed Vicki attending for the future to pick up new information to share with the group or to be able to recommend the training for other schools.
- Kerry McHugh (Erlanger-Elsmere) described the application she submitted to the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation Classroom Resources grant.

Grants available

- [Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy Grant](#) Amount varies by district size, due December 18.
- [Reading Diagnostic and Intervention Fund](#) \$40,000 for Tier 2 and 3 intervention, due November 26.
- [21st Century Community Learning Centers](#) \$150,000 (new) or \$100,000 (continuation), declining in Years 4 and 5, due December 3. Must have 50% or more Free and Reduced Lunch rate.
- [Baseball Youth Development](#) Up to \$5,000 for improvements. List of specific items is included. Several programs available. Apply anytime.
- [Teaching Art Together](#) Artist fees for residencies up to \$320 per day, 1-10 days. Use [Teaching Artists Directory](#) to select artists. Due Nov 1.
- [TranspARTation](#) Arts field trips to specific KY list of locations. Transportation only. Due Nov. 1. \$2.00 per mile per bus.

Collaborative Grants Pending

- **NOT AWARDED: Strategic Prevention Framework-Partners for Success**
 - Homeless Coordinators; Covington/Erlanger
- **NOT AWARDED: School Based Mental Health**
- Education Innovation Research Expected Dec. 31.

Multi-District Grants in Implementation

- NK Institute for Strategic Prevention
- NK Institute for Arts Education
- Project Prevent

- Trauma Informed School Services and School Based Mental Health Services

Grant Tips and News

- Vicki attended the Grants Professionals Association conference October 28 - November 2.
- Cincinnati Library search and proposal writing trainings: [Cincinnati Public Library Foundation Online and Grant Writing training](#). Vicki and Kerry participated in two sessions this week and found particular value in the one called Virtual Class: Grants Research Lab. The information applies to 501 c 3 organizations, so your affiliated organizations would be most likely to benefit if you can work closely with them.
- Coming soon: <https://snapdragonbookfoundation.org/application/>. Looking forward to this opportunity to provide books for classroom libraries or media centers. Coming out in November.
- District trainings: Vicki is available to provide targeted training to staff who might be interested in writing grants. Training will be tailored to your staff needs.

Regional School Programs (RSP) Update:

- RSP is gearing up for all of our holiday events (Thanksgiving baskets, Holiday baskets, etc.)
- RSP held Trick or Treating for students on 10/31.
- Fall Festival put on by NKU will be on November 1st.