

Finance Department Highlights - October

Director Comments	Attending a KASBO conference with several other Finance Officers was invaluable. I learned several tips/tricks and internal controls that can help us improve processes going forward.
Operational Updates	Last month, I mentioned we would begin paying vendors through ACH/online methods. That has been a success converting a handful of vendors and employees for travel reimbursements as they come in. Last month, a district card was approved, and we decided to go with Ramp. I am impressed with the technology and ease of use of the card features with initial tests. We will begin allocating cards across schools/departments this coming month. We are in the process of demo'ing other uses of our accounting software for internal processes where efficiencies can be made across the department. KASBO ideas will also be looked into and implemented.
Staffing Training/ Updates	Director is attending UK's School Finance Management Institute for certification and several other Finance Officer related trainings.
Collaboration	We continue to work very closely with HR on potential reorganization of duties and efficiency in Munis. I will be visiting principals/bookkeepers to discuss the finalized Working Budget and begin discussions looking toward next year.
Upcoming Priorities	Enhancing electronic/digital processes Broaden purchasing options with different vendors

Student Learning

32 Teachers responded to the instructional needs survey

872 elementary students out of 918 students have made progress on I-Ready My Path in Reading

219 Tk-Stone Students have completed I-Ready My Path Math lessons in the last month.

The student learning department has conducted walkthroughs with the district and building leadership at EHS, TK Stone, Helmwood Heights and Morningside. These walkthroughs were conducted with building leadership and district leadership working together to utilize an updated walkthrough instrument. This process was designed to allow for leaders to calibrate usage of the instrument and to provide feedback for its improvement. Dr. Mike Rutherford provided feedback and coaching training to the leadership teams and conducted a learning lab at TK-Stone and Morningside allowing for our school leaders to practice what they are learning.

Academic Updates

Morningside, Helmwood Heights, and TK-Stone have all completed I-Ready diagnostic testing. The Panther Academy will complete I-Ready testing by the end of October. EHS will administer the MAP benchmark assessment to all students starting the week of October 13th. KSA results should be released to the district on October 23rd. Public release will follow in mid November.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

The Student Learning Department has been focused on supporting our learning goals through support. Currently the University of Delaware has provided coaching and support for our Elementary schools in support of Bookworms implementation. We have begun a pilot of the UFLI foundational reading skills curriculum to determine its effectiveness in order to make a possible adoption decision. This pilot is in response to feedback we received from the Kentucky Department of Education Early Literacy departments recent visit. We have begun working with small groups of teachers on a lesson internalization process to support planning and implementation of our HQIR. District walkthroughs will continue to provide information about our current practices and our focus on improved learning intentions and success criteria.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

The New Teacher meeting will take place on October 28th. EIS is in the process of applying for the Read to Achieve grant for our 3 elementary schools. This grant can provide funding for materials, training and additional supports.

Personnel Highlights - Oct 2025

- ❖ Set up a tent for the Homecoming Parade to provide a gathering place with snacks and shade for all new teachers.
- ❖ Attended the KASHRM (KY Association for School HR Managers) annual meeting where we discussed certification updates, substitute teacher trainings; Rapid Identity changes, teacher retirement basics, types of employee leaves, SB 181, and ADA.
- ❖ Attended The Leadership Challenge Facilitator Training to be able to continue this amazing leadership development with current and future administrators and leaders. Additionally, we are sending Wesley Hatfield, new Curriculum Coordinator and Travis Thompson, Assistant Principal at EHS.

Operational Updates

- Monthly New Teacher Training -
 - Rick Fisher provided two 3-hour training sessions for 1st and 2nd year new teachers on Thoughtful Education strategies on Sep 17
 - On Oct 28, we will meet with them after school at the CO Board Room for reflection on the start of their year and discussions around needed support going forward
- Certified Evaluation Appeals Committee Selection for Board Approval
 - Lisa Lenberger and Kristin Willett; Cain Alvey (Admin)
 - Chris Appelman and Greg Spears ; Travis Gay (Admin) - Alternates

Staffing Updates

Please see the Board Personnel Report

Staff Recognition

- Trevor Deneen - District, Project SEARCH Instructor
- Kimbra Gabhart - Panther Academy, Nurse
- Liz Looten - Helmwood Heights Elementary, STEM Teacher
- Audrey Binkley - Morningside Elementary, Special Education Instructional Asst.
- Ray Valentine- T.K. Stone Middle - Careers/Business Teacher
- Shay Ditto - Elizabethtown High, FRYSC Coordinator

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- Mission/Vision Statements printed and displayed - Printed and shared with each school; framed and displayed at CO and PA Board Rooms
- New Hire Surveys sent - received 10 responses
- Certified Staff Absences
 - September 2025 - 171; September 2024 - 238 = 67 absences less
 - down 28% from last September

Upcoming Priorities

- Title IX Training at GRREC scheduled for October 20th
- Presenting/facilitating part of The Leadership Challenge Workshop in Frankfort on October 23 and 24
- Prepare for upcoming job fairs for WKU and Campbellsville University

Special Programs

Current # of students with IEPs	400	Current # of English Language Learners	110
Current # of gifted students	392	Current # of students in Pre-K	83

Department Highlights

We have worked hard to ensure students are placed in their least restrictive environment to promote as much progress for each student. We recently had Larry Bell in the district speaking to Helmwood and Morningside on how staff show students that care for students, believe in them, and trust them. But also highlighting ways students know their teachers care for, believe in, and trust them. Administrators and interventionists were trained in Panorama, which is an online data platform that will allow staff to make better data-based decisions to promote student progress.

Operational Updates

Panorama roll out is occurring within the schools. All certified staff are being shown how to use the platform to make the best data-based decisions to support student growth.

Staffing Updates

We are excited to welcome back Tammy Hayes who is filling in for a maternity leave. Tammy retired at the end of last year, and has agreed to come back to support our preschool programming.

Additional shout out to TKS special education team, there have been many new students move into TK and the team has adjust to support those students without hesitation.

Collaboration

I have worked closely with the Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent, and Director of Student Services to ensure our systems and processes align to the work of others, and ensure our interventions and supports allow students to increase their ability to access the general education curriculum.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

We are continuing our work in ensuring our instruction in the special education setting and through co-teaching mets Kentucky Academic Standards. Staff are contributing a shared document to provide instructional resources for students with disabilities to enhance standards based instruction.

Upcoming Priorities

We will continue to find instructional resources that support access to the general education curriculum for students with disabilities.

Department of Technology - October 2025

Tickets 9-16-25 to 10-13-25	258	Average Daily Tickets 9-16-25 to 10-13-25	12.9
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Department Highlights

Since your last update, we have continued our work migrating to Rapid Identity and have completed the GoGuardian content filtering migration. Thanks to our new technology technician, we have been able to keep our ticket queue consistently low for the entire month. We are also finalizing the large camera project, and beginning a project that will convert our traditional fax lines to eFax, saving the district thousands of dollars per year.

Operational Updates

Rapid Identity: We are in our final stages of the transition to Rapid Identity as our unifying identity management system.
GoGuardian: Lightspeed Systems to GoGuardian Admin migration is fully complete.
TKS Network Closet Migration: We have completed the move of our main network closet at TKS to a new physical location in preparation for the new front office.
eFax: We are in the beginning stages of migrating our physical fax lines to eFax accounts, with a 90% reduction of overall costs.
Phone Upgrades: We are currently upgrading all district voice-over-IP phone back-end equipment. This will allow us to stay up to date and security-compliant moving forward.

Staffing Updates

Gabriela Horton started her role as district technology technician on September 17, 2025, and has completed her training.

Collaboration

We are in the final stages of the large camera project. 83 cameras have been installed over the last few months. This project enhances campus security and supports our shared goal of creating a safer environment for students and staff.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

Our team has restructured our procedures for project completion to make better use of time and efficiency, as we aide in projects from virtually all other departments in the district.

Upcoming Priorities

The upcoming work of the department will support district initiatives by ensuring reliable, high-quality internet access, maintaining effective content filtering for students, and keeping accounts and devices fully operational to support teaching and learning.

Communications Department

Important Data

Since Aug. 1, we've totaled more than 1,000 followers on social media.

Important Data

We recorded 41.6K content interactions on social media this school year. That's up 50 percent from a year ago.

Department Highlights

This school year, the communications department has posted 21 stories on the school website, averaging more than one per week. We've recognized principals, custodians, coaching and cafeteria workers. This has been an emphasis to write more stories this year to tell our school's story.

Operational Updates

We're taking a new approach this year. Instead of waiting for teachers to say they're doing something special, the communications department is visiting each classroom in the district, starting last week. We've received plenty of positive feedback from classroom visits on social media.

Staffing Updates

We haven't added anyone to the department.

Collaboration

The Communications Department continues to set up visits with individual schools. We also worked personnel to deliver the Inspire Excellence to staff members. We worked with Director of Student Services Travis Gay for safety measures that are upcoming. We continue to work with groups to tell the district's story.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

The Communications Department is working to tell the story of the EIS district. We're watching analytics on each social media post to see what people are most interested in. We're also keeping an eye on our number of followers. We've topped more than 7.9K followers on Facebook. We have added 3.5K followers since I took over.

Upcoming Priorities

The Communications Department will be attending a fall conference at Eastern Kentucky University. We also have two one-day virtual meetings to help with telling our story. We're working on a social media campaign to focus on students, teachers and alumni.

Nutrition Services

Important Data	<u>DC information:</u> Free & Reduced: 38.94% Paid: 61.06%	Important Data	<u>September 2025 Participation:</u> Breakfast - 48% Lunch - 77% 23,208 Breakfasts Served 37,402 Lunches Served
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Department Highlights

In September we had a Homecoming Game menu in all schools which was overall a success. Participation was also up in September. Breakfast participation rose 11% year over year and Lunch participation rose 9% which is very exciting news.

Operational Updates	Household Income Form Processing completed 9/30/2025. Popularity of the 2nd chance breakfast at EHS has brought us to opening a 2nd line during this period to get the students out quicker. Participation has grown to 39% after a slow start in August! We are dealing with equipment repair issues and are actively recruiting a new Preventative Maintenance company for 2026 that will hopefully reduce some repair costs.
Staffing Updates	We currently have 27 active employees in Nutrition Services with 2 Monitor vacancies at HHES/MES and a Worker vacancy at EHS. This number includes Director and Asst. Director. We are also advertising for an Assistant Nutrition Services Coordinator to replace Mike Sallee.
Collaboration	I will be working with Rex Hanson on capturing Household Income Forms from families that did not turn them electronically or on paper applications. Thank you to the EIS Maintenance crew for being quick to action with any issue that has come up in our kitchens. These guys keep us going!
Progress Toward EIS Goals	
Upcoming Priorities	Menu development continues for the School Breakfast Program. Looking to add more protein options to provide better service to students with allergy concerns, as well as add variety to breakfast choices.

Attendance Update

Important Data

Attendance Aug/Sep

Important Data

 Attendance Trends 25/26

Department Highlights

2023 ADA 93.76%, 2024 ADA 93.79%

2025 ADA Running Total - (8/12-9/30) 95.50%

August 25 96.95%, August 24 96.90% +.05%

September 25 95.55%, September 24 94.68% +.87%

Attendance Champions

August - Morningside
September - TK Stone

Truancy

As of Fall Break 6 students in the district with 6 or more absences

Collaboration

At 10/12 Attendance Meeting MES had 0 students with 3 or more absences

Progress Toward EIS Goals

WE know that excellence is a choice and we will go above and beyond to inspire others and create great outcomes for the people we serve.

Our admin team, attendance clerks, front office staff, FRYSC, mental health providers, SRO's, classroom teachers and classified staff are all choosing to make EIS schools and classrooms are welcoming, safe, supportive and positive environments students want to be present at and thrive in.

Upcoming Priorities

Continue to work with outside providers such as Central Kentucky Community Action for (PEM) and the Hardin CO Justice system for TDP. Having attendance conversations in middle and high RTB meetings

Elizabethtown High School

Enrollment	745	Average Daily Attendance	94.62%
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School Highlights

We've had a strong start to October! Our fall sports seasons are wrapping up, and we've enjoyed some wonderful senior night celebrations for soccer, volleyball, and other fall teams. The girls' soccer team finished as regional runners-up, while the boys brought home the district championship—congratulations to both teams on great seasons! This week, volleyball kicks off its postseason play, and we're excited to cheer them on.

Academically, things have also gone well. The first nine weeks wrapped up on Friday, October 17, and it's been a productive and positive start to the school year.

Academic Updates	During our instructional day on October 13th, EHS teachers developed benchmark assessments, which will be standard indicators on how students are mastering the standards taught thus far this year.
Staffing Updates	Attached is the link to our list of new staff members—click HERE to view. We are continuing our Panther Tracks Program for new teachers monthly, which allows us to focus time on needed discussion items to keep our new teachers thriving.
Community & Family Engagement	All after-school events are posted on Eventlink, and athletic schedules can be found on the KHSAA website. This fall, we have several FAFSA workshops, and community engagement activities planned through FRYSC for our community partners.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	EHS staff are actively developing new mission and vision statements that align with the broader EIS mission and vision. As this important work moves forward, we will begin seeking input from our stakeholders to ensure the final mission and vision truly reflect the values and aspirations of our entire school community.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	• October 24th, 1st 9 weeks report cards are released. • Nov. 6th, School Picture Retakes • Nov. 7th, Early Release Day • Basketball seasons begin • 10.20-Thanksgiving Break we will be doing MAP testing and CERT SAT practice testing.

TK Stone Middle School

Enrollment	540	Average Daily Attendance	95.55%
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School Highlights

We won our first monthly attendance competition! TKS is the place to be!

Jennifer Weaver's STEM class partnered with Heartland AMBUCS to build adaptive tricycles for children with disabilities.

Chris Appelman's Algebra I students welcomed Erin Hahn, Communications and Project Coordinator at Central Kentucky CCommunity Foundation for a special lesson on fundraising to assist with the class's real life math project.

Ray Valentine's Book Buddies project continues to empower middle school students to share their love for reading with elementary students.

Academic Updates	iReady data, combined with teacher input and classroom assessment data was used to move students in and out of intervention classes. Duwan Jackson has begun working three days a week as our ESS daytime teacher to assist with Math and Reading interventions. PLCs analyzed projected KSA data and developed a plan for improvement, based on standards based instruction, high quality assessments, intervention strategies, and engaging instructional strategies.
Staffing Updates	ESS Daytime Waiver- Duwan Jackson
Community & Family Engagement	Jennifer Weaver's STEM class partnered with Heartland AMBUCS to build adaptive tricycles for children with disabilities. Chris Appelman's Algebra I students welcomed Erin Hahn, Communications and Project Coordinator at Central Kentucky CCommunity Foundation for a special lesson on fundraising to assist with the class's real life math project. Dow Manufacturing field trip. Ray Valentine's classes welcomed a speaker from Altec
Progress Toward EIS Goals	Continuing instructional work in PLCs Intervention training
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	October 22: Parent Night- FBI Special Investigator presents on Internet Safety October 30: Fall Band Concert November 19: Student Showcase

Morningside Elementary

Enrollment	468	Average Daily Attendance	96.08%
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School Highlights

- A 4th grade enrichment group that worked with Mrs. Baxter created a Google slide show that reads books and red words to students. They created this as a resource for our EL students to use during independent station time!
- We had our first "house" color day before fall break. Students dressed in their house color and then sat with other students in their house at lunch. Students enjoyed making new friends that they normally don't get to talk to.

Academic Updates

- All of our students have completed the fall fluency benchmark assessment. Data is still being entered but the data that has been reviewed has shown a high number of students meeting the fall fluency benchmark. This shows that the daily choral and partner reading that is taking place in our Bookworms curriculum is helping students with their fluency skills.

Staffing Updates

- Mrs. Reeves, our new 2nd grade teacher has been an amazing addition to our staff. The team is working well together and the transition of students to her class has gone very smoothly.

Community & Family Engagement

- Our fall festival was a huge success! We offered an hour before the festival started for our special needs students to attend so that they could enjoy the games without being overwhelmed-their families really appreciated this.
- Our third grade team is having a parent night next week "The Day in a Life of a Third Grader" where they will rotate parents through stations to show them what students do in various parts of their academic day.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- An instructional focus this year has been to see learning targets posted in every classroom. We have all teachers doing this and students know what they are learning in the lesson.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- We will have our family Thanksgiving lunch on November 20th. This happens during our fall Bookfair and is a great parent involvement event.

Helmwood Heights

455-Enrollment

ADA - 98.98

School Highlights

- Raised \$18k in our Fall Festival by our wonderful PTO! Huge turnout
- 3rd-5th Grade participated in the KEDC AI Mobile Lab at EHS the week of Oct. 14th - They thoroughly enjoyed it!
- Livy Clark Donahue - Student of the Month
- Larry Bell came to Helmwood and led our staff in building relationships with our students - very, very good session

Academic Updates

- Our staff used our two Sept. Early Release Fridays to work with Morningside teachers on curriculum mapping/unit development/learning intentions and targets. Our staff also focused on writing during ER and this weeks faculty meeting. We are analyzing our writing plan, setting non-negotiables for grammar and a common graphic organizer across grade levels. Our conversations were very productive. Darian Parker also presented to our staff a strategy on questioning, which was a good reminder for our people on deeper questioning and discussion.

Staffing Updates

- I am happy to report that Kevin McDaniel, our longtime custodian has returned after having some health problems. He is glad to be back.
- Our PASS IA, Curtina Frazier, resigned and we have hired a replacement - Ava Steenberg

Community & Family Engagement

- As stated earlier, we had a great turnout for our Fall Festival, raising over 18k to benefit our students, staff and school!
- This past PL day, we conducted parent teacher conferences across all grade levels and was greatly attended by our parents.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- I met with district leadership this week to receive feedback and discuss next steps for our Bookworms coaching.
- Our UFLI Phonics pilot is going quite well. Our 1st-2nd grade teams have embraced it and I am also happy to report that I have received a great deal of feedback from parents who are

	loving our new program.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	• <i>We are currently conducting our annual Pick a Date and Donate Calendar Fundraiser - all monies raised will go to fund field trips and other climate/culture events for our students.</i> • <i>We are also having a Accelerated Reader contest called the Spooktacular Reading Contest. This is our first year doing AR, and our students have checked out 5,285 books, have passed 3,134 AR Tests, and have read over 20 million words. The feedback I have received from parents is 100% positive - they are telling me that their kids are loving reading at home and are excited about it!</i>

Valley View

Enrollment	• 14 in PRIDE Program • 3 in Middle School Program • 8 in High School Program • 3 in Home Hospital	Success Criteria	• 8 students have completed the PRIDE Program • 2 students successfully transitioned back to home school
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School Highlights

• One of our former students was accepted into Job Corps • One student transitioned back to their home school	
Academic Updates	• All of our students who have been enrolled with us for at least a month have completed at minimum ½ credit toward their credit requirements
Staffing Updates	• We are scheduled for a PD with Edmentum to discuss new course and pathway offerings.
Community & Family Engagement	• Shay Ditto with FRYSC has been extremely helpful with providing clothes for our students in need. • Titus Sublett with Creative Counseling was recognized by The News Enterprise as "Monday's Man" for his work with students.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	• Our students now have access to courses through our online learning platform, Edmentum, that more closely align with career/technical interests and pathways. There is a new "Trade Prep" option being offered by Edmentum that we are looking into.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	• A representative from Fishbach will be meeting with our students to discuss potential jobs.

Panther Academy

Enrollment	K - 182 PS - 74	Average Daily Attendance	174.57
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School Highlights

We enjoyed having many family members visit our school during the lunch and book fair event. Kindergarten students completed their first benchmark assessment with iReady. Students enjoyed learning about and showing their Panther Pride by participating in EHS Homecoming Week Spirit Days the last week of September.

Academic Updates	Brigance Update: 48% of PA's kindergarten students scored ready for kindergarten while 7.7% of the students scored ready with enrichment iReady Fall Scores: • Reading - 27% of the kindergarten students scored early/on grade level, 9% of the students scored mid/above grade level • Math - 14% of the kindergarten students scored early/on grade level, 9% of the students scored mid/above grade level
Staffing Updates	One of our preschool IAs requested a leave of absence to care for her infant child. Another IA resigned to focus on her college work and goals. Michelle Schlosser and Madeline Mattinlgy were hired to replace those two positions. Golden Paw Awards: • Brittany Collings - creating engaging learning tasks for students • Helen Goderis - always helping with a smile on her face • Maddie Ford - working with some of the neediest kids with calmness • Kim Hartlage - going above and beyond daily
Community & Family Engagement	The EHS medical pathway students helped the kindergarten students learn about germs.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	The kindergarten staff continues to work on learning intentions and success criteria to ensure learning is aligned with standards while utilizing the HQIRs. The Bookworms Coach shared a tool to use that will allow staff, as well as the principal, to review our instructional practice with this resource.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	On October 23, Panther Academy will host a Title 1 Trunk or Treat Night so families can visit, learn and have fun at school.