

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE REVIEW ITEM

Topic: AdvanceKentucky Annual Update

Date: December 2025

Held In: ☐ Full Board ☐ State Schools ☒ United We Learn

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION:

To provide the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) with an annual update reviewing the progress and outcomes of AdvanceKentucky (AdvanceKY) programs over the past year.

AdvanceKY, an initiative of the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC), began in 2008 as one of the initial six states to partner with the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) to replicate the College Readiness Program (CRP). Under this partnership, AdvanceKY's initial focus was to expand access to and success in Advanced Placement (AP) math, science and English coursework in Kentucky's public high schools with a particular focus on expanding and increasing access to all learners. Due to the success of the program, and in collaboration with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), AdvanceKy has expanded its services to include middle school math (Access to Algebra) and computer science support (Computer Science Initiatives).

With the addition of the Access to Algebra program in 2016, middle school students receive similar programmatic elements modeled after the successes of the AP initiative (described above). The program acts as an academy to help address math performance in middle schools across Kentucky with a renewed focus on expanding access to high school algebra for students in grade 8. Due to resources received from the *Kentucky Numeracy Counts Act* (HB 162 (2024)), AdvanceKY has increased the number of schools served and expanded professional development opportunities to more schools across Kentucky, including a new mentoring program to support teachers who are either new to the profession or new to teaching math.

Computer Science Initiatives began by becoming the Code.org Regional Partner for Kentucky in 2016 and then went on to direct the professional development for the Kentucky Computer Science (CS) Expansion Initiative. This initiative, created by a collaboration between the College Board, Code.org, KDE and AdvanceKY, dramatically increased the number of computer science classes offered in Kentucky's middle and high schools. In coordination with the KDE, efforts continue to expand access to additional CS courses and opportunities in grades K-12.

AdvanceKY receives contributions through federal, state or foundation funds since 2008. The 2024-2026 state budget allocated \$1.9 million in general funds each year. Additionally, AdvanceKY has received an additional \$1 million per fiscal year from the Numeracy Counts Fund (codified under KRS 158.843).

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| Category: | <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Workforce Diversity | <input type="checkbox"/> Portrait of a Graduate Partnerships | <input type="checkbox"/> Racial Equity |
| Commitment | <input type="checkbox"/> Student-Centered Accountability System | <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District |
| Support | | | |