

Finance Department Highlights - December

Director Comments	We are continually making progress on several fronts with electronic processes and efficiencies. The auditors are finalizing our audit report. New HR/Finance software is underway with implementation and planning.
Operational Updates	<p>Amazon and Staples are close to being ready for full rollout to the district.</p> <p>Red Rover (HR software replacing PowerSchool) and Tyler Technologies/Munis (HR/Finance software) are included in the consent agenda this month as major enhancements the district needs. With these changes, our staff will greatly benefit from efficiencies such as improved Absence/Sub management, hiring/onboarding, digital timecards/leave requests, and online access to paystubs and W-2s. Central Office staff will benefit from digital storage inside our existing software for employee files and accounts payable viewing PO, invoices, and check documents digitally.</p>
Staffing Training/ Updates	Director is attending UK's School Finance Management Institute for certification and several other Finance Officer related trainings. Sandra, Adam, and Derisa attended the KASBO Fall Conference last month and learned a number of items that we can do to improve workloads and workflows including getting signed on with Red Rover.
Collaboration	<p>We continue to work very closely with HR on potential reorganization of duties and efficiency in Munis.</p> <p>I have visited with principals/bookkeepers and will continue to do so monthly to keep open lines of communication.</p>
Upcoming Priorities	<p>Continue enhancing electronic/digital processes</p> <p>Begin draft budget preparation</p>

Student Learning

I-Ready Diagnostic Testing is coming to an end in K-8.	MAP diagnostic testing administration has completed at the High School. This is the first time this diagnostic has been utilized.	Elizabethtown High School #7 in the state.	
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The end of November and the start of December have been very busy months for our department. The release of KSA data allowed for our final analysis of the data and reflection on areas of growth and opportunity. We spent time helping our building leaders prepare to share their reflections on KSA with the board members. Our office has spent a great deal of time at the end of the month completing and submitting the Read to Achieve Grant application. This grant would provide 70,000 a piece to each of our elementary school settings to support the implementation of foundational reading skills and corresponding Tier 2 supports. We will know in February if we will receive the grant. The grant took a great deal of collaboration from multiple school and district leaders.

Academic Updates	KSA Data has been published and we had some encouraging results in our buildings. Elizabethtown High School and Helmwood Heights both made significant gains across the board. Morningside and TK Stone both had areas of improved growth. The student learning department is continuing to work on supporting the implementation of the High Quality instructional resources. We have conducted walkthroughs as a district in all of our buildings in the months of October, November and December. I-Ready and MAP data will be shared with the board on our next one pager update as the windows will have closed and been completed.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	Tk-Stone ELA teachers have begun the implementation of the HMH ELA curriculum. The provided training gave teachers the support necessary to begin this process. We will be conducting ELA walkthroughs in January to observe implementation and learn what additional support may be necessary. We are providing continued support for our UFLI implementation with multiple outside agencies supporting our teachers. On January 5th KEDC one of our partner organizations will be providing the full one day training to all of our Elementary level teachers to support the implementation of this program. Analysis of our I-Ready data is in the initial phase and the early reading tells us that we are making progress in all of our buildings.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	The University of Delaware will be returning to support our teachers in Bookworms implementation. They will be coming again in January. In preparation for this visit the district team is working with grade levels and principals to complete lesson internalization and classroom review to provide data for the University of Delaware's next visit. The UFLI pilot team met on

December 9th and initial indications support the work and progress that is taking place. A final district decision will be ready to be made by the end of January once our remaining data is collected.

Personnel Highlights - Dec 2025

- ❖ Attended KASBO (Kentucky Association for School Business Officers) in Lexington
- ❖ Began process to transition from TalentEd/Powerschools products to Red Rover for Hiring, Onboarding, Absence tracking, Substitute (beginning in January) and Time keeping (in late spring). Additionally, we are transitioning to more Tyler (MUNIS) products for Employee Access and Content Manager.

Operational Updates

- Began process to transition from TalentEd/Powerschools products to Red Rover for Hiring, Onboarding, Absence tracking, Substitute (beginning in January) and Time keeping (in late spring). This is a step toward more electronic features for our employees (as opposed to the paper timecards we currently use).
- We will begin utilizing more Tyler features (MUNIS) in order to provide electronic paystubs and W-2s in the 2026-27 school year. These are basic employee expectations that we will be able to provide our employees.
- Monthly New Teacher Training -
 - We brought GRREC experts to discuss strategies for Classroom/Behavior Management on Nov 19th (during ½ day training). Many new teachers stated they acquired new approaches to use in their classrooms.
- Impact Kentucky Working Conditions Survey opened to all certified staff on Nov 10th and will close December 19th. This is an opportunity for our certified staff to share their thoughts on the current climate and culture in their schools.
- Starting Student Voice Surveys: MES is completing their surveys (for students 3rd - 5th grade on all certified staff) in December. HHES, TKS, and EHS will complete theirs in January

Staffing Updates

Please see the Board Personnel Report

Staff Recognition

- Mike Sallee - District, Assistant Coordinator for Nutrition Services
- Stephanie Gay - Panther Academy, Special Education (LI) Teacher
- Kristy Pritchard - Helmwood Heights Elementary, Special Education (LBD) Teacher
- Heather Smith - Morningside Elementary, 2nd Grade Teacher
- Daniel Thorn - T.K. Stone Middle - PE Teacher
- Angela Zoeller - Elizabethtown High, Math Teacher

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- Certified Staff Absences
 - November 2025 - 227; November 2024 - 238 = 11 absences less this year
 - down 4.6% from last November
 - Currently, we have 3 certified employees on Family Medical Leave. Last year during this period, we had 4 vacancies and 1 teacher on FMLA

Upcoming Priorities

- The 2025-26 ExCEL process is starting this month.
 - Principals are seeking their school nominee.
 - Recognition dinner is scheduled for **December 3rd** at House on Helm. Invitations will be sent soon.
 - The first phase of the process is the Application Review.
- Attending KASBO Fall Conference with Finance and Payroll to extend knowledge of benefits, MUNIS, position control, etc.

Special Programs

Current # of students with IEPs	399	Current # of English Language Learners	111
Current # of gifted students	420	Current # of students in Pre-K	80

Department Highlights

Child count has officially taken place, and our number of students with disabilities ended up being 399 districtwide. We have 37 students with disabilities in our preschool programming and 362 aged 5-20. Several teachers in the district and I attended the Kentucky Exceptional Children's Conference in Louisville, where we learned several strategies and interventions to support students with disabilities. I have applied for the KYSPARK Grant, which would provide funding to the district to support transition needs for students with disabilities in grades 6-12.

Operational Updates

I want to thank Priscilla Meador, Lisa Wilson, and all special education teachers in the district for their work in preparing for December 1 Child Count. We have purchased a few programs to support social skills instruction and our low incidence teachers to support individual student needs and learning.

Staffing Updates

I would like to welcome Trevor Deneen in his new role as the teacher of the Elementary Behavior Support Program at HHES. Trevor has worked in the district for the past three years as an instructional assistant and Project SEARCH Instructor.

I would like to welcome Maddie Ford in her new role as the Project SEARCH instructor, Maddie has previously served the district as an instructional assistant in our LI programs at TK, MES, and PA.

I would also like to welcome Andrew Cole as the new instructional assistant in the LI classroom at PA.

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 meets 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 - December 2025

Tickets 11-14-25 to 12-11-25	163	Average Daily Tickets 10-14-25 to 11-13-25	8.5
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Department Highlights

The district continues to advance key technology initiatives. User accounts are now transitioning to Rapid Identity, enabling features such as self service password resets and secure off campus recovery options. Work is also complete on new devices for the TKS addition, including cameras, access points, televisions, and an interactive panel. These updates strengthen district security, improve system accessibility, and support high quality learning environments.

Operational Updates	User accounts are moving to Rapid Identity, bringing new capabilities that include self service password resets and password recovery from off campus locations. Additional features will be enabled as the rollout continues. All 8 new cameras for the TKS addition have been installed along with 3 wireless access points, two televisions, and one interactive 4K panel. These upgrades ensure full coverage and provide reliable network and instructional support.
Staffing Updates	No changes in staffing.
Collaboration	Collaboration between maintenance, operations, and technology has been key in completing the TKS addition work. The departments coordinated installation timelines, device configuration, and site access to ensure that cameras, access points, televisions, and the interactive panel were fully deployed and tested. Continued coordination with school leadership supports smooth transitions to Rapid Identity services.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	Recent upgrades continue to align with district goals related to safety, modern learning spaces, and improved digital access. The Rapid Identity migration enhances account security and empowers users with greater independence through self service tools. Completed device installations at TKS support technology rich instruction and provide consistent connectivity for staff and students. These improvements contribute to long term readiness and sustainable growth in technology infrastructure.
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 the last board meeting, we've added more than 1,000 followers on Facebook

Important Data

The post from the ExCEL banquet received more 17.5K and 18K views on Facebook.

Department Highlights

We continue to produce stories about our story district. We've written about our KSA test scores, naming the pool after Dr. William Godfrey, Morningside Elementary's writing conferences and Special Education Day, pointing out all the team does. We saw 5.4K new users on our website during that time.

Operational Updates

We're taking a new approach this year, focusing on the stories and people of the district. We have produced 41 stories on our website this school year. We continue to focus on telling the EIS story, highlighting traditions, people and accomplishments.

Staffing Updates

We haven't added anyone to the department.

Collaboration

The Communications Department works closely with Superintendent Mullins and Travis Gay when inclement weather hits. We've already had to use one snow day. Our snow posts received more than 24K views on Facebook and Instagram. We worked with Cain Alvey on the Special Education story to highlight their work.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

The Communications Department has studied our numbers closely this year. We are ahead of last year's statistics in views, content interactions (up 37.2%), visits (up 15.8%) and follows (up 9.9%). On Instagram, we are ahead of last year in views, reach (up 48.3%), content interactions (up 100%) and visits (up 73.7%).

Upcoming Priorities

The Communications Department will be focused on helping the Elizabethtown Educational Foundation and the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame in upcoming weeks. We are going to roll out a campaign for each one in the new year.

Transportation			
Important Data	We transport approximately 1200 students daily on regular routes.	Important Data	Additional daily runs: 16 students to/from Larue County; 3 students to/from the Hospital (Project Search); 4 JROTC/Math from EHS to TKS
Department Highlights			
<p>Operational Achievements & Implementation: We have successfully deployed a suite of technologies that streamline the driver experience and enhance student safety:</p> <p>Turn-by-Turn Navigation (Wayfinder): We have fully integrated Wayfinder across our daily routes. This is a critical tool for retention, as it reduces the stress for new drivers and substitutes who may not be familiar with specific streets, allowing them to focus on the road and student safety. Electronic Inspections (Zonar): We have moved away from paper logs and fully integrated the electronic pre-trip and post-trip process through Zonar. This ensures verifiable compliance and immediate reporting of mechanical issues. Real-Time Ridership: We are currently actively tracking real-time ridership on select routes to gather data on capacity and utilization.</p> <p>Current Pilots & Future Outlook: Moving forward, we are expanding our capabilities to increase transparency for families and support our extracurricular activities:</p> <p>Parent Communication (Stopfinder): We have officially started the pilot for Stopfinder. This app will eventually allow parents to track buses in real-time and receive alerts, significantly reducing call volume to the district office and increasing parental peace of mind.</p> <p>Out-of-District Navigation: We are beginning a pilot for turn-by-turn navigation specifically for out-of-district trips (athletics and field trips), ensuring our drivers have professional-grade routing even when driving in unfamiliar territories.</p> <p>These integrations mark a significant shift in how EIS Transportation operates, prioritizing safety, data-driven decisions, and a supportive environment for our drivers.</p>			
Operational Updates	<p>Turn by turn navigation is fully operational on all routes through Wayfinder. Stopfinder training and test students have started. Student ridership is being piloted on several buses with HS and TK students.</p> <p>Piloting turn by turn navigation for field trips and out of district trips.</p>		
Staffing Updates	Short 4 full time drivers, 2 currently in training for full time positions.		
Collaboration	Continued conversations around improving field trip communication and scheduling.		
Progress Toward EIS Goals	Transportation continues to advance systems and processes to support our students, families and district.		

Upcoming Priorities

We are working to be more safe, efficient and progressive. We want the best experience for all of those that are impacted by our transportation department. We will be rolling out Stopfindr, our communication and real time tracking application to parents and guardians shortly after the return from Winter Break.

Nutrition Services

Important Data	<u>DC information:</u> Free & Reduced: 43.76% Paid: 56.24%	Important Data	<u>November 2025 Participation:</u> Breakfast - 48% Lunch - 73% 20,109 Breakfasts Served 30,271 Lunches Served
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Department Highlights

November saw a year over year increase in USDA reimbursement for our district by close to \$20,000. This is a great stat as it shows participation remains steady for breakfast and lunch and with the introduction of a great new menu item at EHS, this will help continue this trend.

Operational Updates	<p>Smart Mouth Pizza introduced at EHS on 12/4/25. It has been a huge hit with students and our lunch participation is going in the right direction. We have sold 400 pizzas daily since launch and we are making adjustments to ensure everyone can enjoy daily.</p> <p>Our Annual Holiday meal was a success as students across the district enjoyed traditional favorites including our new turkey recipe. It was great having families join us in some locations as well!</p>
Staffing Updates	<p>We are currently holding our staffing level at 29 active employees in Nutrition Services with 1 Worker vacancy at EHS. This number includes Director and Asst. Director. We have one employee who will not be returning after Christmas break and we will not replace that position due to low participation numbers at the school.</p>
Collaboration	<p>Thank you to the maintenance department for removing large equipment out of the high school and also coordinating new electrical work to accommodate our brand new pizza oven.</p> <p>Thank you to school administrators for giving me time with students for our Student Nutrition Leadership Councils at all sites. The students are excited about contributing to menu choices and giving feedback on new menu items. HHES and MES have had their meetings already with PA and TKS scheduled for next week!</p>
Progress Toward EIS Goals	
Upcoming Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are currently evaluating equipment in HHES and PA and researching if new equipment is going to be needed due to depreciation. We are continuing to have maintenance issues with older equipment across the district. - Menu changes are coming for the spring semester with new LTO's and special themed days. January will be our first Super Bowl menu!

Elizabethtown High School

Enrollment

745

Average Daily
Attendance

93.32%

School Highlights

We are proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our Panthers. This Fall, our school has been recognized as a US News and World Report Gold Status High School, which is the highest distinction possible by US News and World Report. We also were listed at the 7th highest performing high school on last year's state accountability, which is a testament to the quality of teachers and students we have at Elizabethtown High School.

At Elizabethtown High School, we remain fully committed to ensuring every learner receives a world-class education each and every day. We will continue to push forward, uphold our high standards, and honor the Tradition of Excellence that defines EHS.

Academic Updates

1. Mid Term Exams at the end of the 2nd quarter.
2. We have completed our first MAP testing in Math/Reading and are looking at what we are doing well and what needs improvement.
3. We have/will track at risk students for graduation. We have ongoing meetings with parents/guardians with the child to help them graduate. Last year, this was very successful.

Staffing Updates

We have one opening for an instructional assistant in our LI classroom due to a retirement by Theresa Smith effective in February.

Community & Family Engagement

All after-school events are posted on Eventlink, and athletic schedules can be found on the KHSAA website. Our social media accounts also list important events for our stakeholders to know.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

As we analyze KSA data, we feel confident our trajectory is moving upwards as a school. Our MAP and SAT practice work shows we are improving students towards mastery everyday.

Upcoming Events & Additional

- End of 2nd Quarter December 19.
- Band Christmas Concert 12/16 6 PM @ EPAC
- Holiday Break December 27-January 4, 2026.

TK Stone Middle School

Enrollment	539	Average Daily Attendance	95.93%
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School Highlights

Christmas Toy Drive- students are donating toys for children in need
 Kindness Campaign- STLP has initiated a Kindness Campaign to promote a positive and kind school community.
 Ms. Jennifer Weaver's class has been building bicycles for disabled children with Bullmoose Brothers Bicycles.

Academic Updates	December 1-12 iReady Testing
Staffing Updates	None
Community & Family Engagement	December 8: Christmas Chorus Concert Toy Drive with Big M Chevrolet Bicycles with Bullmoose Brothers Bicycles
Progress Toward EIS Goals	Academic Performance Committee created a Wildly Important Goal for TKS- For every student to experience one year of growth in Reading and Math every year. Each department developed a plan of implementation. 12 Powerful Words began this week. Schoolwide focus on C-E-R writing focus (Claim, evidence and response). Continuing instructional work in PLCs focusing on standards based instruction and assessments, creating engaging, student-centered lessons. iReady Testing
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	December 12: Christmas Pajama Dance 3-5 December 12 & 13: Drama Club Performance 7:00PM December 15: Christmas Band Concert

Helmwood Heights

Enrollment - 461

ADA - 96%

School Highlights

- *Darian Parker is our nominee for ExCEL - we celebrated her recently at a district function at the House on Helm*
- *We are celebrating the Christmas Season on Dec. 11 with our families from 5:30-7 - Come on out if you can, you all are more than welcome. Our 4th grade will be singing and our grade level teams will have various activities.*

Academic Updates

- *Taking the iReady Diagnostic this week - excited to see the results and plan with our teams for the spring*

Staffing Updates

- *Hired Trevor Deneen (EHS Alum) to be our EBD Teacher.*

Community & Family Engagement

- *We are celebrating the Christmas Season on Dec. 11 with our families from 5:30-7 - Come on out if you can, you all are more than welcome. Our 4th grade will be singing and our grade level teams will have various activities.*
- *We are taking our students to the State Theatre next week to see a movie - its an annual tradition.*

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- *Our teachers continue to participate and EXCEL in the UFLI Pilot - they are loving it.*
- *We continue to meet with our PLCs regularly to discuss data on unit assessments and plan next steps*

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- *Christmas Night @ Helmwood on Dec. 11th - Family Engagement*
- *Staff Christmas Party @ Impellizziers on Dec. 12th - Paid for by Dr. Saifullah*
- *Baptist Health Hardin is paying for a staff meal catered by El Acapulco on Dec. 17th*
- *I am cooking for the staff on Dec. 19th - smoking 2 Boston Butts and the staff is bringing in sides*

Morningside Elementary

Enrollment

464

Average Daily
Attendance

School Highlights

- We have started a weekly "principal challenge" using Blooket to review various skills such as math facts. This is optional for students to complete at home and if they successfully complete it, they earn house points.
- We had our first student house leader meeting this week. Our 5th grade student leaders from each house met with admin to discuss ideas for building an even stronger sense of community at MES.

Academic Updates

- Our students are currently completing the winter iReady assessment. The first review of this data shows some great gains for most students.
- Our committees have been working to identify key vocabulary words for each content area across all grade levels to ensure consistency in the language we are using with students.
- 5th grade students just completed their second on demand practice. We had many adults come to help conference with students as they finished writing so that the students could receive immediate feedback on their writing and improve it before it is scored by their teacher.

Staffing Updates

- None

Community & Family Engagement

- We had a fantastic turnout for our Merry Morningside family event this past week. Students were able to play games, listen to a story, and make numerous crafts with their families.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- Second grade teachers are participating in professional development related to their UFLI pilot. We have met with other teachers from our district to share what is working and what areas we need to work on. We also met with Alison Gregory from KDE to learn more ways to successfully implement UFLI.
- All certified staff will participate in UFLI training on January 5th.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- We are taking a school-wide field trip to the State Theater on Wednesday, December 17th. The students and staff enjoy this trip every year thanks to the support of our PTO.

Panther Academy

Enrollment	K - 181 PS - 78	Average Daily Attendance	92.17%
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School Highlights

Wen hosted over 300 parents and family members at our annual Thanksgiving Day lunch. On December 1, the entire school participated in our annual "Hanging of the Greens" at PA to kick off the holiday season. Taylor Donahue is the ExCEL nominee for Panther Academy and was recognized on December 3.

Academic Updates	The staff reviewed district KAS data and reviewed school data to determine next steps in our CSIP process.
Staffing Updates	Andrew Cole was hired as a special education assistant to replace Maddie Ford, who took another job in the district.
Community & Family Engagement	The EHS Beta students visited the kindergarten classes at Panther Academy to read with the students and help them create a craft on November 23.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	The staff continues to review the HQIRs and standards to align the curriculum documents to guide instruction.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	Kindergarten students are currently completing iReady winter benchmark testing, which will enable the sharing of those scores with the Board next month.

Valley View

Enrollment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 in PRIDE Program • 2 in Middle School Program • 5 in High School Program • 3 in Home Hospital 	Average Daily Attendance	ADA: 87.56
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School Highlights

One student received approval for a hardship graduation so she could work full time to help pay bills at home.

Academic Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming mid-year meeting with Edmentum on Jan. 5th
Community & Family Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two of our students attended the "Shop With A Cop" with Shay Ditto of FRYSC.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. We are piloting an Engineering course with one of our students.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRIDE students will be attending a field trip to ECTC on Dec. 15th