



Kenton County School District | It's about ALL kids.

# Issue Paper

**DATE:**

2/16/2026

**AGENDA ITEM (ACTION ITEM):**

Consider/Approve The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Kenton County School District (KCS D) and TradesNKY on the partnership to establish a middle school skilled trades course for the 2026-2027 school year.

**APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY:**

01.11 General Powers and Duties

**HISTORY/BACKGROUND:**

For the 2025-2026 school year, KCS D established, along with TradesNKY, an afterschool construction club for students at each middle school. Approximately 85 students participated. TradesNKY has offered a grant to KCS D middle schools to establish a construction trades course for the 26-27 school year. Each middle school will have access to the awarded Kenton County American Rescue Act (ARPA) grant funds up to \$50,000. A meeting was held with middle school principals to discuss this opportunity and all are in support of the addition of the construction trades course. All schools have available staff to fill this position. TradesNKY will utilize the grant funds to purchase tools, equipment, furniture, and materials. TradesNKY will order all items and deliver them to schools. TradesNKY will also provide curriculum, professional development, and industry resources. Within the course, topics covered will include Safety, Blueprint Reading, Carpentry, Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, and Trowel Trades. For the 2026-2027 school year, the course will be offered at the 8th grade level. The exposure to construction trades at the middle school level will help to grow this pathway in high schools. The grant funds need to be spent by December 31, 2026. These items can also be utilized for the continuation of construction clubs. TradesNKY does reserve the right to remove furniture and equipment, should KCS D choose to cease their partnership with TradesNKY. Current Individual Learning Plan data from Xello indicates there are more than 212 middle school students that have indicated an interest in a construction related career.

**FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

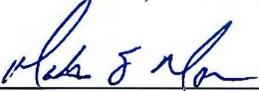
Utilizing the Kenton County American Rescue Act (ARPA) Grant, TradesNKY will spend up to \$50,000 at each middle school for the purpose of establishing a construction trades course. Schools will be responsible for future costs of the program.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

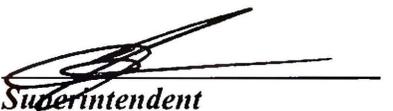
Approval to accept the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Kenton County School District (KCS D) and TradesNKY on the partnership to establish a middle school skilled trades course for the 2026-2027 school year.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

Matt Moore, Director of District Wide Programs

  
Principal/Administrator

  
District Administrator

  
Superintendent

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



Federal awarding agency: **U.S. Department of Treasury**

Pass-through entity: **Kenton County, Kentucky**

CFDA number: **21.019**

CFDA name: **Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF)**

Subrecipient: **TradesNKY, Inc. (TradesNKY)**

Sub-subrecipient: **Kenton County School District (KCS D)**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into as of March 3, 2026 (Effective Date), by TradesNKY and the Kenton County School District (hereinafter referred to as KCS D), relevant to 4 participating **Title 1 Eligible** Middle Schools, as follows:

- A. Twenhofel Middle School
- B. Summit View Middle School
- C. Woodland Middle School
- D. Turkeyfoot Middle School

### A. PURPOSE

This MOU establishes an understanding between TradesNKY and KCS D for which TradesNKY agrees to provide each participating school with its Proprietary **Build** Curriculum for Middle School, along with access to funding to fit out a classroom, purchase necessary equipment, along with one year of consumables (to a maximum of \$50,000) and sets forth the responsibilities of the parties and the terms and conditions of the partnership established.

### B. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE KCS D

- a) Each participating school will provide a suitable space for the TradesNKY proprietary curriculum to be taught (hereinafter referred to as "the Curriculum").
  - 1. Adequate classroom space that allows hands-on building activities, including level worktables and hard surface flooring.

- b) Each participating school will identify one or more teachers/instructors to teach the Curriculum.
  - 1. Teachers/Instructors will complete Professional Development (facilitated by TradesNKY) during the summer of 2026 (and each summer thereafter while the TradesNKY curricula are being implemented within participating schools.
  - 2. Teachers/Instructors will ensure that students do not operate power tools until they have successfully completed their safety training and signed their safety agreements.
  - 3. Teachers/Instructors will connect with other TradesNKY teachers/instructors for shared learning and support - TradesNKY will coordinate this collaboration effort.
- c) KCS D will charge one or more staff members with the responsibility of coordinating the implementation of this Curriculum/program.
  - 1. KCS D will use the TradesNKY curriculum as provided
- d) The district coordinator(s) will provide data to TradesNKY to include (but not limited to):
  - 1. Number of students participating (per curriculum grade) each semester
  - 2. Pre- and post-Curriculum test results
- e) The district coordinator(s) will liaise regularly with the TradesNKY Executive Director to address challenges and concerns timely, and to celebrate achievements and outcomes.
- f) The KCS D will not share the Curriculum with any other school or district outside of the participating Kenton Co. Middle Schools
- g) Funding Allocation: Each participating school will have access to the awarded ARPA funding for one-time start-up costs that include converting classrooms and providing equipment and one year of consumables – please note the following:
  - 1. SUBRECIPIENT will purchase equipment, furniture, and consumables on behalf of the participating schools based on submitted funding requests.
    - i. Participating schools will give at least 2 weeks’ notice when requesting consumables – to ensure timely delivery.
  - 2. The COUNTY shall verify all documentation received prior to disbursing Funds under this Agreement and may request additional documentation, if needed.
  - 3. SUBRECIPIENT will retain any equipment purchased with CSLFRF funding through December 31, 2026, and provide an inventory log to COUNTY on that date.
  - 4. Unless otherwise requested by the pass-through entity, equipment and furniture purchased with this CSLFRF funding will remain within the

participating school after 12/31/26 once skilled trades instruction continues in partnership with TradesNKY

5. TradesNKY, as the SUBRECIPIENT and owner of this furniture, tools and equipment, reserves the right to **transfer ownership** of some/all of this furniture and equipment to the host school after grant end to be utilized in continued skilled trades instruction and education in partnership with TradesNKY
  6. TradesNKY, as the SUBRECIPIENT and owner of this furniture, tools and equipment, reserves the right to **remove** this furniture and equipment should any of the participating KCSD schools choose to end this skilled trades instruction and education, and/or cease their partnership with TradesNKY
- h) The district coordinator(s) will liaise with the TradesNKY Executive Director to plan and execute program expenditure (as iterated in i above)
- i) As the funding must be depleted by 12/31/26, KCSD must not submit expenditure requests after November 30, 2026
1. Monies not depleted will be returned to the pass-through Entity
- j) KCSD will permit TradesNKY's marketing and communications team/partners to visit on occasion (**with prior approval**) to take pictures, make videos, and talk with the staff and students
1. These marketing and communications materials will be shared via TradesNKY's marketing and social media outlets
  2. These marketing and communications materials will be made available to KCSD to share accordingly
- k) Each participating school will ensure that participating students have signed a media release form.

### **C. RESPONSIBILITES OF TRADESNKY**

- a) TradesNKY, as the SUBRECIPIENT and the subject of monitoring by Kenton County will be the fiscal agent for this funding allocation
  1. This will include responsibility for all financial management and reporting responsibilities as required by the pass-through entity
- b) TradesNKY will assist the district coordinator(s) and school staff with planning and kitting out the allocated instructional space
  1. This will include purchasing the necessary furniture, equipment, and (one year of) consumables timely
- c) TradesNKY will provide the (proprietary) Curriculum to each participating middle school.

- d) TradesNKY will provide Professional Development during the Summer break to the teaching staff implementing the Curriculum – school leadership and other interested staff are welcome to attend
- e) TradesNKY will provide start-up and ongoing support to school staff
- f) TradesNKY will liaise regularly with the district coordinator(s) to monitor progress and address concerns and challenges timely
- g) TradesNKY will coordinate a Teacher/Instructor Support Network for (regional) participating schools
- h) TradesNKY will assist participating schools with identifying local businesses to engage with for support with implementing the program
  - 1. This support may include work-based learning opportunities such as guest speakers, site visits, skills training, community projects, etc.

#### **D. TERMINATION**

##### **End by Mutual Agreement:**

This MOU may be terminated by mutual written agreement of the parties.

##### **End by unilateral termination with notice:**

Either party may terminate this MOU with 30 days' written notice by email or mail

- 1. With respect to school scheduling, TradesNKY will not terminate this contract during the active school year

##### **Obligations after termination (RE: Furniture, tools & equipment):**

As per B. h) 5 & 6 above

##### **Expiration Date:**

This MOU will remain in effect until ended by mutual agreement or unilateral termination. However, access to funding through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) will end on 12/31/26

This Memorandum of Understanding is a voluntary agreement between the parties and is not intended to create any legally binding obligations. It reflects the good-faith intentions of the parties and does not constitute a contract or enforceable commitment.

Please sign and return this MOU agreement by

**SIGNED AND ACCEPTED:**

This \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

TradesNKY, INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNED AND ACCEPTED:**

This \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Kenton County School District

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_