

Finance Department Highlights - April

Director Comments	<p>We are continually making progress on several fronts with electronic processes and efficiencies. New HR/Finance software is being implemented and we are starting to see the fruits of our labor over the past several months.</p> <p>Budget season is in full swing.</p>
Operational Updates	<p>Red Rover is great overall. We added Records last month and are adding Professional Development tracking soon. PD tracking is primarily Dan, but it will have benefits across the district tracking all professional learning and lessening some manual burden on Trish at CO for admin tracking.</p> <p>Time tracking is in its second month rollout with small groups. We are working through kinks in how it shows up in reports that move over to Munis, but we were expecting that and hope to have it the way we want by July 1.</p>
Staffing Training/ Updates	<p>Director just completed UK's School Finance Management Institute for certification. We are looking for other opportunities for Finance staff to obtain more training hours beyond learning the changes we are implementing.</p>
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 beyond Central Office, specifically with our bookkeepers and other directors.</p> <p>Continue working on budgetary items in preparation of the Tentative Budget in May.</p>

Student Learning

Elementary and Middle School Principals are participating in a Math Leadership cohort to support our mathematics instructional growth leading to the implementation of Unit and lesson internalization

All students in grades K-8 will be taking the final IReady diagnostic during the last window that opens the final week of March. The High School will take the final MAP test by the end of the school year.

EHS Sophomores and Juniors took the SAT for the first time. The district was able to cover the 5,500 dollar cost for all Sophomores to have the opportunity and experience on the SAT. SAT results have been returned and the data will be used as a baseline moving forward.

Academic Updates

Progress Toward EIS Goals

We have submitted a grant for TK Stone Middle School to support Math instruction. This is a 40,000 dollar grant that will allow for additional training and support for our middle school math teachers. We will learn the outcome of the grant at the end of March. Update, Sadly we did not receive this grant. We believe this was primarily due to our lower percentage of poverty compared to the limited number of schools that did receive the grant.

The district continued its monthly walkthrough process visiting TK Stone and Panther Academy. Teams of administrators from each building visited classrooms and provided 30 second written feedback to teachers to help improve instruction and to support our admin team providing feedback.

Planning for Professional Development including the INSPIRE day is well underway as we prepare for the next school year.

The district has completed the district Professional Development plan to help support individual school professional development plans. The needs assessment associated with our Comprehensive District Improvement Plan indicated a focus on Unit and Lesson internationalization and a focus on

writing. Our district PD next year will support our schools in this process.

**Upcoming Events
& Additional
Information**

District Writing Plan Task Force – Second Meeting May 19th with building level leadership and building level teachers. We have entered into a partnership with KEDC and the Kentucky Writing Project.

District PD Day- August 6th

District INSPIRE Day-August 5th

Portrait of a Panther initiative is moving forward.

Personnel Highlights - Apr 2026

- ❖ Classified evaluations were completed by April 1st
- ❖ ExCEL Ceremony on April 3rd to celebrate Chris Appelman, Math Teacher at T.K. Stone Middle
- ❖ Attended two Job Fairs - WKU on Friday, March 13th with Josh Henderson and Campbellsville University on Mar 25th with Josh Henderson, Aaron Howell, Carla Kuhn, and Wesley Hatfield
- ❖ Co-facilitated The Leadership Challenge at the KASA Office in Frankfort, KY on March 26-27. This completed my Facilitator Training.

Operational Updates

- We also implemented Records through Red Rover. This allows us to digitally maintain important personnel files on our employees utilizing the software our staff are currently working with for absences and soon to be timekeeping.
- In our final move away from the PowerSchools School HR Products, we are moving to School Status Boost for our evaluations for the 26-27 school year. We currently use School Status for our district/school communication platform with staff and families. We were able to save a little money while offering what we anticipate being a more intuitive, streamlined evaluation process for our staff and administrators. We may also include our classified staff in our electronic evaluation system.
- We are also switching our compliance training (previously utilizing Vector Training) to Public SchoolWorks. This system is able to provide the appropriate, mandatory training in a more succinct way and maintain multi-year cycles (as allowed now through recent legislative bills).

Staffing Updates

Please see the Board Personnel Report

Staff Recognition

- Jamie Nall - District, Food Service Manager @ Elizabethtown High
- Laura Rogers - Panther Academy, Preschool Teacher
- Sarah Pike - Helmwood Heights Elementary, School Nurse
- Sharon Morris - Morningside Elementary, Instructional Assistant
- Raylene Richardson - T.K. Stone Middle, Instructional Assistant
- Tim Hinkle - Elizabethtown High, Social Studies Teacher

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- Staff Absences - this is a change in information due to the switch to Red Rover which tracks ALL absences, not just certified teachers.
 - March absences - 568 total (including classified and admin)
 - 289 filled, 72 unfilled, 197 no sub required
 - Fill rate - 79.81%
 - Currently, we have 7 certified employees on Family Medical Leave.

Upcoming Priorities

- Attending a virtual meeting on Apr 13 to partner with Patriots to Education. This is a national, non-profit organization that works specifically to connect veterans, retirees and military spouses to school districts. They are beginning to reach out to Kentucky now focusing on districts close to Fort Knox and Fort

Campbell.

- *Attending KEDC April Board Meeting on Apr 15 in Lexington*
- *Attending in-person SBDM Coordinator training on April 22 in Frankfort, KY*
- *Final staffing allocations are due to schools by May 1st.*
- *Attending Kentucky Association School Business Officials (KASBO) conference on May 6-8. This conference offers sessions on school finance and human resources. I have been asked to present a session on Onboarding for Success.*
- *We are planning our Teacher Appreciation event (week of May 4-8)*
- *We are beginning the planning of our Professional Learning for the summer. This includes Admin training and Retreat, KASA Annual Leadership Institute, and staff PD for the 26-27 school year.*

Special Programs

Current # of students with IEPs	407	Current # of English Language Learners	108
Current # of gifted students	468	Current # of students in Pre-K	86

Department Highlights

Mr. Lockwood, Mrs. Hatfield, Ms. Wilson, and I recently attended Solution Tree's RTI at Work Workshop in Salt Lake City. We took a great deal of information from this workshop that will greatly benefit students of all ability levels and school staff. We look forward to continuing this work over the summer and ensure our interventions best support student needs.

Project SEARCH held its annual Skills Assessment Day, finding 6 students to participate in the program next year. Further, for post-secondary training for students with disabilities I met with the Bridge Academy at ECTC, which will be an excellent opportunity for students with disabilities at EHS.

Operational Updates

Continued review of MTSS procedures and practices to enhance interventions across the district.

I am beginning preparations for staff training on IDEA compliance and supports to allow teachers to focus more of their time on instruction.

Staffing Updates

Continued praises to all of our team, for their tireless work in supporting all students and remaining compliant with state and federal legislation.

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.

Communications Department

Important Data

The videos posted the last 30 days had 7.4K views, up 124 percent from the previous 30 days.

Important Data

Our interactions on Instagram were up 51.1 percent from the previous 30 days. We had 2.8K content interactions in the last 30 days.

Department Highlights

It's been a successful stretch for the Communications Department. Our coverage of the ExCEL award ceremony was outstanding. The post with the students talking about Mr. Appelman was viewed more than 5K times. Our posts of the ExCEL ceremony had 19K views and our traffic on our website and social media was the largest of 2026. The only posts that have attracted that much attention were Coach James Haire being inducted into the KHSAA Hall of Fame and Homecoming Week in the fall.

Operational Updates

Mr. Mullins has asked for more videos in the 2026-27 school year and we've been working on a major marketing campaign to address this. The plan includes five or more videos each month. Several of the videos will be a documentary style to highlight the stories of Elizabethtown Independent Schools.

Staffing Updates

We haven't added anyone to the department.

Collaboration

The Communications Department continues to work with other departments to tell our district's story. We have posted several job opportunities on social media with the help of Derisa Hindle. We continue to work with the principals at each school to find out what's going on in their buildings.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

The Communications Department has studied our numbers closely this year. On Facebook, we have had 4.2M views, 69.6K content interactions and 206.4K visits, while adding nearly 1,100 followers. On Instagram, we have had 2.4M views, 48.4K reach, 30.4K content interactions and 25.6K visits this school year.

Upcoming Priorities

The Communications Department will be focused on our marketing campaign for video for the upcoming school year and getting that approved by Mr. Mullins. This is something that will be a major focus moving forward. We want to expand our reach on social media and video could help us do that.

Nutrition Services

Important Data	<u>DC information:</u> Free & Reduced: 40.96% Paid: 59.04%	Important Data	<u>March 2026 Participation:</u> Breakfast - 52% Lunch - 72% 25,738 Breakfasts Served 39,732 Lunches Served
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Department Highlights

In March, we saw our best month financially this school year with increased breakfast and lunch participation boosting revenue. EHS had 49% breakfast participation, which is 20% higher than at the start of the school year! We also had a great National School Breakfast Week in March and introduced new menu items to breakfast and lunch. The students are enjoying the variety!

Operational Updates

- Summer Feeding (SFSP) planning is in full swing for 2026. We have been given approval to distribute multi-day meal boxes at a distribution site in Etown. We are not allowed to do so at an EIS school site due to USDA regulations. We have sent surveys to parents to find out the best time for pickups and are awaiting results.
- We will discontinue the bus route for summer feeding due to logistics of the SFSP which require us to force children to eat in the vicinity of the bus. Families will be able to however pick up multi-day meal boxes which will provide breakfast AND lunch for 7 days! The pick-up day will be once weekly throughout the summer.
- Summer Feeding training for Community Sponsors will take place on 4/29 and staff will receive training in May.

Staffing Updates

We have 1 monitor vacancy at HHES. We have 29 active employees in Nutrition Services. This number includes Director and Asst. Director.

Collaboration

- We will be reaching out to the Transportation Dept. and Maintenance Dept. to discuss and collaborate on a few SFSP logistics in order to set ourselves up for success.
- Thank you to the Principals for allowing us to meet with students on our Student Nutrition Leadership Councils. We've had great dialogue from the students this year.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

Upcoming Priorities

Along with summer feeding, we are menu planning for BTS, finishing out the year strong with our staff and focusing on retaining our crews for the next school year.

Elizabethtown High School

Enrollment	725	Average Daily Attendance	93.26%
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School Highlights

We are proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our Panthers. This past 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.

In January, EHS was recognized as a College Board Advanced Placement Honor Roll School, a distinction that is not given lightly. This award is given to schools who have high numbers of students who complete AP courses/exams and high exam pass rates.

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. We will be transitioning to a 7 period day at EHS for 2026-27.
2. Scheduling meetings begin in March.
3. State SAT scores showed our composite average scores were above state average.
4. KSA Assessments begin in May

Staffing Updates

New Hires: Jimmy Johnson - Chemistry, Amy South - English. Positions still to fill: Social Studies, Engineering, Biology, Registrar. There are a few extra service positions to hire.

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
Information**

- *April 25th, Prom*
- *May 18th = Yearbook Dedication, Senior Lunch, Decision Day*
- *May 20th = Senior Walk*
- *Graduation Saturday May 23rd 10 AM.*

TK Stone Middle School

Enrollment	535	Average Daily Attendance	93.35
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School Highlights

We celebrated Chris Appelman who was selected as the 2026 Excel Award winner for EIS. This was an awesome ceremony where community leaders, teachers, parents, and students attested to the dedication and passion Chris Appelman puts into creating engaging and high quality instruction for TKS students.

Academic Updates	We completed our Spring iReady testing in Reading and Math.We are excited about the growth of our students and using this testing data to inform instruction and end of the year review as we close in on KSA. Teachers are goal setting with students and leading students in KSA prep activities.
Staffing Updates	Math and Special Education Teacher positions open.
Community & Family Engagement	April 23-24: Drama Spring Production 6pm Visual Arts Showcase 5-6pm
Progress Toward EIS Goals	PLC work continues to focus on instructional work and assessment data. IReady testing will begin March 25th.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	April 23-24: Drama Spring Production 6pm Visual Arts Showcase 5-6pm April 30: 8th Grade Formal 6-8 April 27: 5th Grade Instrument Night 4-6pm May 4-8: KSA Testing

Morningside Elementary

Enrollment

471

Average Daily
Attendance

School Highlights

- We had several teachers receive EEF grants that will support instructional initiatives in their classrooms.

Academic Updates

- We had 114 students in 3rd-5th grade make All A Honor Roll for the 3rd Nine weeks. We had 85 students make All A and B Honor Roll!

Staffing Updates

- We have started interviewing candidates for our teaching positions and we are excited about our candidate pool.
- Heather Paulsen and Sharon Billings will be our new interventionists next year.

Community & Family Engagement

- We had a great turnout for our annual Art Night. Students and families were able to see artwork from this year, hear musical performances, and paint ceiling tiles to be displayed in our school.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- We are working on our professional development plan for next year. We are allowing each teacher to choose at least 6 hours of PD on their own that aligns with their professional development goals. School PD will be related to our HQIRs.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- Field Day, May 15th
- Awards Day, May 18th

Helmwood Heights Elementary

Enrollment - 456

98% Attendance
Rate

School Highlights

- *Art Showcase Night was April 16th - A complete Success - Huge Turnout*
- *Career/Vehicle Day is April 17th*
- *Volleyball Banquet was April 14th*
- *Father Daughter Dance was March 27th - Over 100 people attended our first ever dance!*

Academic Updates

- *Our School Focus Groups are in full swing as we prepare for the KSA Test. All certified staff are working with our tested groups to ensure they are prepared for the exam*
- *5th Grade conducted a practice On Demand Writing Test prior to spring break.*

Staffing Updates

- *Rori Campbell, 2021 Etown Graduate, has been hired as a new teacher - she'll be in either 2nd, 3rd or 4th grade*

Community & Family Engagement

- *Father Daughter Dance was March 27th - Over 100 attended - PTO did an outstanding job catering it and hosting our 4th and 5th Grade Girls and Dads*

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- *KSA Testing - May 4-8*
- *5th Grade to Kentucky Kingdom - May 18th*
- *Awards Day is May 20th @ the EPAC*

Panther Academy

Enrollment

PS - 77
K - 185

Average Daily
Attendance

89%

School Highlights

Pre-registration for the 2026-27 school year started on March 17. At the current time, we have 70 students preregistered for kindergarten.

Academic Updates

Preschool instructional assistants are learning about The Pyramid Model through ongoing professional learning with Carla Kuhn.

Staffing Updates

New hires, recognitions, professional developments that have occurred, etc...

Community & Family Engagement

March 30 - April 2, our kindergarten students hosted a performance, *The Tortoise and the Hare*, for their families. An art showcase of artwork that each class had completed throughout the year was displayed for families to review as well.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

Teachers continue to learn and work towards full implementation for UFLI next school year. The kindergarten teachers received a mini-grant for the purchase of magnetic letter mats to use during whole group instruction next school year.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

PTO is sponsoring a field trip to the Louisville Zoo for our kindergarten students on April 24.

Attendance

Important Data

Sickness continues to be an issue

Important Data

[Link](#)

Department Highlights

Mid year attendance update - 8/12/25 to 4/16/26 93.73%
8/13/24 to 3/7/25 93.87%

0.14% decrease

Attendance Champion

March Attendance Champion - Helmwood 93.46%
March - EHS 92.21%
TKS - 93.35%
MES - 92.55%
HH - 93.46%
PA - 87.78%

Truancy 6 Or more unexcused

EHS - 43 (11 are 18 years old +)
TKS - 19
MES - 12
HHES - 17
PA - 4
VV - 8

Collaboration

We continue to work across departments and community resources to find opportunities to support students.

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. Expand TKS/EHS Truancy Prevention

Valley View

Enrollment	22 in PRIDE Program 7 in Middle School Program 11 in High School Program	Average Daily Attendance	20.68 ADA 40.79 ADM
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School Highlights

- Our PRIDE students peer reviewed a video for Helmwood Heights STLP regarding the dangers of vaping.

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

- *Mrs. Miller from EHS worked with our students who are planning on returning to EHS in the Fall. They discussed scheduling and course programs for next year.*

Community & Family Engagement

- *Titus Sublett and Isaiah Sublett are working with students on completing job applications and interview skills. Two more of our PRIDE students have gotten jobs—the rest are working on interview skills and developing resumes and references.*

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.*

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- Current juniors/third year students are working to potentially enroll in technical programs for the Fall Semester.