

Student Learning

Elementary and Middle Schools have completed I-ready testing for the school year. We have been reviewing our I-ready scores and have seen an increase in projected proficiency in Reading in grades 3-8. Grades K-2 all showed growth over the 2024-2025 school year.

All testing grades levels 3-12 have completed KSA testing. All buildings did a great job of preparing, motivating and encouraging students to do their very best during testing. The last week has been filled with celebrations of academics and good faith efforts.

EHS has completed testing for KSA as well as several AP and Dual credit exams.

Academic Updates

Progress Toward EIS Goals

We have finalized the process for adoption of a High Quality Instructional Resource for Language Arts at the high school for grades 9-12. The department went through a process to review, trial and rate multiple options for materials that will support the needs of our students. They have recommended the adoption of HMH Into Literature which is also currently in use at TK Stone middle. Teachers will receive training over the materials and process in early [July](#)

TK Stone will receive a 15 station career and pathway exploration lab from Paxton and Patterson. This lab was made possible with the utilization of our Supplemental CTE funds from the 25-26 and 26-27 school year along with a portion of board funding. These lab experiences are tied directly to our existing pathways that our students will be able to access once they are in high school. This early exposure will give students hands-on activities to investigate and learn more about the pathways while still in middle school.

	<p>The district has secured training in July and Early August to onboard our new teachers to our Reading and Math programs at the Elementary and Middle School. These opportunities will give existing and new teachers the support they will need to successfully deliver high quality instruction. This is part of a cycle that we are building with anticipation that we will have the capacity in the near future to provide those trainings utilizing our own staff. This process is necessary to ensure the consistency and quality of our instructional practices over time as our staff changes.</p> <p>District staff recently attended a training focused on the implementation of RTI. This is a long process that will help drive our instructional practices and ensure that all students continue to grow and find success. The framework of this work will begin this summer with district and school administration. This process will be a multi year process that will be embedded in all of the work that we are doing as a district to provide coherency and consistency instructionally. I am attaching a link to an article that our leaders have been reading that helps explain the why behind our work. Opportunity Makers Article</p>
<p>Upcoming Events & Additional Information</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>District PL Day May 26th- Begin Essential Standards work for 26-27 school year to support RTI.</p> <p>District PD Day- August 6th</p> <p>District INSPIRE Day-August 5th</p> <p>Portrait of a Panther initiative is moving forward.</p>

Personnel Highlights - Apr 2026

- ❖ Certified evaluations were completed by April 30th
- ❖ Attended KASBO (KY Association of School Business Offices) conference with Adam Hinton and his finance team. This conference offers professional learning on finance office/HR topics. Additionally, I presented a session on "Onboarding for Success: Supporting Educators from Day One to Day Won" in which I highlighted the amazing work we (especially Nora) do to welcome our new hires to our Panther family.
- ❖ Met with Patriots to Education, 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. We have a virtual job fair scheduled for June 10th from 4:00 to 5:30pm.
- ❖ Attended in-person SBDM Coordinator training on April 22 in Frankfort, KY which is required for me to train our district SBDM members.
- ❖ Final staffing allocations were submitted to schools by May 1st for sharing with SBDMs.

Operational Updates

- We are beginning to send out annual forms and contracts 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.
- We are continuing to move to School Status Boost for our evaluations for the 26-27 school year. We plan to 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

- Carole George - District, EHS Athletic Directors Admin Assistant
- Bethany Diniz - Panther Academy, Kindergarten Teacher
- Kristina Pfeiffer - Helmwood Heights Elementary, Library Media Specialist
- Brooke Pennington - Morningside Elementary, 1st Grade Teacher
- Amanda Baker - T.K. Stone Middle, Instructional Assistant SpEd (LI)
- Ellen Dodson - Elizabethtown High, English 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.
 - April absences - 642 total (including classified and admin)
 - 309 filled, 82 unfilled, 238 no sub required
 - Fill rate - 78.99%
 - Currently, we have 8 certified employees on Family Medical Leave.

Upcoming Priorities

- *We continue planning 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.*
- *Attending Franklin Covey Leadership Training as a district on May 28*
- *Virtual Job Fair through Patriots to Education on Jun 10*
- *Attending The Leadership Challenge Rally in Chicago on Jun 16-19 as a guest of KASA*

Special Programs

Current # of students with IEPs	408	Current # of English Language Learners	121
Current # of gifted students	490	Current # of students in Pre-K	90

Department Highlights

I am working closely with Mr. Lockwood, Mrs. Hatfield, and Ms. Wilson to restructure our intervention systems to identify essential standards in each grade level and content area. We will have a professional learning day on May 26 with teachers to identify essential standards.

April and May are very busy times for all special programs as reports and compliance documents come due. I want to praise everyone in special programs for the diligence and organization as they complete those reports.

Operational Updates	<p>Continued review of MTSS procedures and practices to enhance interventions across the district.</p> <p>I am beginning preparations for staff training on IDEA compliance and supports to allow teachers to focus more of their time on instruction.</p>
Staffing Updates	<p>Continued praises to all of our team, for their tireless work in supporting all students and remaining compliant with state and federal legislation.</p>
Collaboration	<p>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.</p>
Progress Toward EIS Goals	<p>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.</p>
Upcoming Priorities	<p>We will continue to find instructional resources that support access to the general education curriculum for students with disabilities.</p>

Communications Department

Important Data

Our views on Facebook totaled 308.3K the last 30 days, which is up 15.3 percent from the previous 30 days.

Important Data

We've climbed to 8.5K followers on Facebook. We've added more than 1,200 followers this school year, which is up from the previous two years.

Department Highlights

We've had a successful month in the Communications Department. Some of our most viewed posts were delivering our April Inspire awards to teachers and our Students of the Month. We posted the first week of May honoring our staff for Teacher Appreciation Week. We went out with Mr. Mullins to deliver T-Shirts that we're a big hit with our staff. Our post from the Hardin County Youth Leadership had one of the largest reach for the month. We also attended the JROTC Cadet Ball which was a big hit with our followers. Our most shared post from the month was the we were in school on Oaks Day.

Operational Updates

Mr. Mullins has emphasized the need to expand video content for the 2026-27 school year, and the Communications Department is developing a comprehensive marketing plan to support this goal. The plan includes producing at least five videos per month, with several featuring a documentary-style approach designed to highlight the stories, people, and impact of Elizabethtown Independent Schools.

Staffing Updates

We haven't added anyone to the department.

Collaboration

The Communications Department continues to partner with departments across the district to tell the EIS story. In collaboration with Derisa Hindle, we've shared multiple job opportunities on social media to support recruitment efforts. We also remain in regular communication with building principals to highlight what's happening in each school and ensure those stories are being shared with our community.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

The Communications Department has studied our numbers closely this year. On Facebook, we have had 4.5M views, 74.4K content interactions and 216.3K visits, while adding nearly 1,200 followers. On Instagram, we have had 2.6M views, 50.3K reach, 33.2K content interactions and 27K visits this school year.

Upcoming Priorities

The Communications Department is developing The Den, the district's official storytelling platform focused on video and digital content for the upcoming school year. The Den will serve as the central hub for capturing and sharing the everyday stories of Elizabethtown Independent Schools, highlighting students, staff, and community moments in a more engaging and visual way. This initiative is designed to expand our reach, strengthen our connection with families, and bring the EIS experience to life through consistent, high-quality storytelling.

Transportation

Important Data	We transport approximately 1200 students daily on regular routes.	Important Data	Additional daily runs: 16 students to/from Larue County; 4 students to/from the Hospital (Project Search); 3 JROTC/Math from EHS to TKS; 27 students home from Panther Place
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Department Highlights

Operational Achievements & Implementation: We have successfully deployed a suite of technologies that streamline the driver experience and enhance student safety: **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. **Current Pilots & Future Outlook:** Moving forward, we are expanding our capabilities to increase transparency for families and support our extracurricular activities: **Parent Communication (Stopfinder):** We have officially sent out email invites to parents/guardians **for Stopfinder**. This app will 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. **Out-of-District Navigation:** We currently have two tablets 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. **Red Rover:** Absence, vacancy (and eventually time) tracking system to improve efficiency and communication within our department and with the Central Office. These integrations mark a significant shift in how EIS Transportation operates, prioritizing safety, data-driven decisions, and a supportive environment for our drivers.

Operational Updates

Turn by turn navigation is fully operational on all routes through Wayfinder. Our substitute drivers have all been impressed with the system. It has greatly improved the ease of the route and the safety for everyone involved. Stopfinder invites have been sent out to parents/guardians. Student ridership has been implemented on the Special Needs Routes (driver entering the data). Continued work on integrating the student ridership cards for all others. Our goal is to be using student ridership for all bus riders by 2026/2027 school year. We now have a turn by turn navigation system for field trips and out of district trips.

Staffing Updates

At the end of the current school year, our department will be short 3 full time bus drivers and 1 full time special needs monitor. Positions are currently being advertised. We have 6 staff members that work full time in other departments in our district that are substitute bus drivers, but we are always in need of substitute drivers.

Collaboration

Continued conversations around improving communication in the areas of student transportation changes, bus changes/delays and field trip communication and scheduling. We will continue working with District Technology and Nutrition Services for possible student ID badges that will have multiple uses to include bus ridership.

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 rolled out Stopfinder, our communication and real time tracking application to parents and guardians during the week of 1/19/26. Red Rover (absence and vacancy tracking system) has been implemented and training has been provided.

Nutrition Services

Important Data	<u>DC information:</u> Free & Reduced: 42.00% Paid: 58.00%	Important Data	<u>April 2026 Participation:</u> Breakfast - 55% Lunch - 74% 21,017 Breakfasts Served 31,271 Lunches Served
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Department Highlights

In April, we saw our best month for breakfast participation this school year. Once again EHS had an increase and had 52% breakfast participation, which is very good for a HS! We hope to carry this momentum at all schools into 2026-27 with more offerings and promoting our program the best we can.

Operational Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summer Feeding (SFSP) 2026 begins on June 1 and will run until July 24th this year. We will distribute multi-day meal boxes at a distribution site in Etown. (Quality Inn Suites) So far we have over 350 students signed up to pick up meals every Tuesday during the summer. - We will also serve meals at EHS and MES for congregate meal walk-ins and any students participating in summer programming at those locations. Panther Academy will have summer feeding for the Get Ready Camp in June. - We also provide meals for community sites in our area including the American Legion Water Park, Etown Summer Camp, Sky's The Limit Trampoline Park, Victory Martial Arts, the Girl Scouts of America and First Christian Church. - The Mobile Bus route for summer feeding will be discontinued in 2026.
Staffing Updates	<p>We will enter the summer with 1 vacancy at HHES for a Nutrition Assistant, 1 Monitor at HHES and 1 monitor at MES. We currently have 29 active employees in Nutrition Services. This number includes Director and Asst. Director.</p>
Collaboration	<p>- Thankful for the Transportation Dept. and Maintenance Dept. for helping our summer feeding program this year. The maintenance crew will help us move our temporary freezer to our distribution location on Tuesdays and transportation will provide us with the Prowler when it's available.</p>
Progress Toward EIS Goals	<p></p>
Upcoming Priorities	<p>NSLP Application is complete for 26-27 and we are in full swing for Summer Feeding. Next school year is an Administrative Review year with KDE/SCN for our program so we will also be planning and preparing for that throughout the summer.</p>

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 are finished with KSA testing and AP testing.
2. We are completing finals this week.
3. We will have 193 graduates in this year's class.

Staffing Updates

New Hires: Jimmy Johnson - Chemistry, Amy South - English. Registrar, Kim Wilcox
Positions still to fill: Social Studies, Engineering, Biology, Health Science, and English. 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**

- *Monday May 18th Senior Decision Day 1:00 PM*
- *Senior Walk May 20th (all schools)*
- *Graduation Saturday May 23rd 10 AM.*

TK Stone Middle School

Enrollment	532	Average Daily Attendance	96
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School Highlights

It has been a busy month with KSA testing and end of the year activities. Our girls soccer team won the championship in Brandon Parsons' head coaching debut.

Academic Updates	We successfully completed KSA testing!
Staffing Updates	Math (Kellie Naseman), Special Education (Eli Brown), Social Studies (Robert Robey) and English Language Arts (Natalie Sloan) Teacher positions filled.
Community & Family Engagement	Awards Day at TKS is May 21st Spring Chorus Concert May 14th 9th Grade Celebration sponsored by PTO May 15th
Progress Toward EIS Goals	Writing Plan Meeting May 19th Identifying Priority Standards for Interventions May 26th Adding an intervention and enrichment period to the schedule for 26-27 school year.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	Senior Walk May 20 Awards Day May 21 (8th @8:30, 7th @ 10:00, 6th @ 11:00)

Helmwood Heights

Enrollment - 450

Average Daily
Attendance - 430

School Highlights

- *Ellie Yates - Student of the Month*

Academic Updates

- All students have completed the Spring iReady Exam with very promising preliminary results!!!! More on this next month
- All Students have completed the KSA Test

Staffing Updates

- Currently have 1 teacher opening, hope to hire it on May 15th
- Will have 1 IA opening in June

Community & Family Engagement

- Talent Show - May 14th - very successful - 21 act performance at the EPAC - Packed House!!!!
- Field Day on May 15th - open to the parents
- Took a phone call from Chris Denham (EPD) - he wants to use Helmwood as a base for the area neighborhoods for 2-3 cookouts this summer - just to feed kids. I told him I was for it, and would help anyway possible.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- We are hoping that our hard work will lead to significant growth on the KSA Exam.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- All Board Members are invited to attend our Awards Ceremony on May 20th at TKS beginning at 9:30 with 1st Grade.
- 5th Grade Award Ceremony is at 9:30 on May 21st at Helmwood

Morningside Elementary

Enrollment

473

Average Daily
Attendance

School Highlights

- Our first grade students had their Derby parade on 5/1; our school nurse was the lead jockey.
- Testing buddies helped decorate our school to motivate our 3rd-5th graders. Our students are ready to "Blast Off to Success on KSA"
- We have had over 130 students request summer packets for this summer so they can review skills they have learned this year. This will help reduce the summer slide.

Academic Updates

- Our 3rd-5th grade students have completed iReady testing.
- 1st and 2nd grade are currently iReady testing.
- Mrs. Goodman and Mrs. Henderson visited every 3rd-5th grade class last week to go over test taking reminders and to help motivate our students to show what they know!

Staffing Updates

- All of our classroom teaching positions are filled for next school year. We are excited to have 5 teachers with 2 or more years experience and one new teacher joining us.

Community & Family Engagement

- Our field day is 5/15; we already have a large number of families signed up to attend.
- Awards day is 5/18 and we are expecting a great turnout for this as well; we have a lot of student accomplishments to recognize.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- Our admin team met to work on our 30/60/90 day plan which will take us through the end of the summer. We have mapped out several ideas and processes for next school year.
- We have shared professional development dates and topics with our staff. All staff have at least 6 hours of choice for their PD; it will be approved by admin. We are hoping this helps teachers grow in areas that they feel they need the most help in.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- 1st grade play 5/12@6:00
- Field Day, May 15th
- Awards Day, May 18th

School Name

Enrollment	PS - 77 K - 185	Average Daily Attendance	91%
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School Highlights

Preschool students will finish their year on May 14. Those students moving into kindergarten next year have done transition visits to kindergarten classes. Kindergarten students visited the school they will attend for 1st grade as part of our transition activities: MES on May 6 and HHES on May 13.

Academic Updates

The kindergarten students completed their last iReady benchmark assessment the week of May 5.
In reading, students progressed from 9% on or above grade level to 60%. 31% are approaching grade level, with 9% below grade level.
In math, students progressed from 8% on or above grade level to 60%. 17% are approaching grade level, with 23% below grade level.

Staffing Updates

For the 2026-27 school year, we have 3 instructional assistant positions to hire: 2 kindergarten and 1 preschool. Cheryl Morris will be joining our staff as a preschool assistant, also.

Community & Family Engagement

On May 1, kindergarten hosted the annual Kindergarten Derby at the EHS track for parents and families to watch and attend. The Science Center visited the school and did center rotations on May 8.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

Professional learning plans are being discussed and developed to align with school and district goals for the upcoming school year.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

Kindergartens will be recognized for a successful completion of their year for Kindergarten Graduation on May 21 at the EHS gym

Valley View

Enrollment	21 in PRIDE Program 8 in Middle School Program 11 in High School Program	Average Daily Attendance	20.44 ADA 40.70 ADM
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School Highlights

- 11 of our students are on track to return to their home school by the beginning of the 26-27 year.

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 will have at least one teacher representing Valley View at the Alternative Education Summit in Lexington this summer.*

Community & Family Engagement

- *All of our current PRIDE students who have been enrolled for at least a month have applied for and been hired for jobs.*

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

- Valley View Graduation is May 19 at the Panther Academy Board Room. We have 19 students graduating. Of those 19, we have 13 students participating in our graduation ceremony.