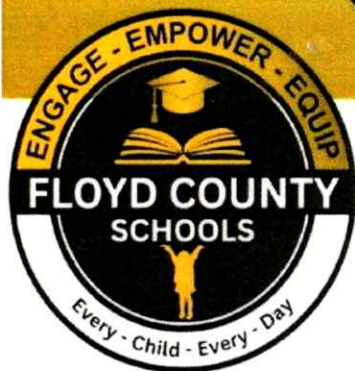




Every Child Every Day

SUPERINTENDENT
TONYA HORNE-WILLIAMS

BOARD CHAIR DISTRICT 1
LINDA GEARHEART

VICE CHAIR DISTRICT 4
KEITH SMALLWOOD

MEMBER DISTRICT 2
DR. CHANDRA VARIA

MEMBER DISTRICT 3
WILLIAM NEWSOME, JR

MEMBER DISTRICT 5
STEVE SLONE

Retroactive Approval

Consent Agenda Item (Action Item): Consider approving a Letter of Commitment and Support for the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (KEDC) CARES: Connecting Access, Resilience, Engagement, and Support (CARES) Grant.

Applicable State or Regulations:

KRS 160.290 – General Powers and Duties of Local Boards of Education

KRS 158.4416 – Trauma-Informed Approaches in Schools

KRS 156.095 – School-Based Mental Health Services and Student Well-Being

Fiscal/Budgetary Impact:

\$0 Local Cost. Participation in the KEDC CARES grant would provide grant-funded professional learning, technical assistance, implementation support, and resources to strengthen the district's trauma-informed Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). No local matching funds are required for participation.

History/Background: The Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (KEDC) is seeking federal funding through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to implement **KEDC CARES: Connecting Access, Resilience, Engagement, and Support**, a Regional Trauma-Informed MTSS Demonstration Project. If awarded, Floyd County Schools will serve as a demonstration district by strengthening trauma-informed practices, expanding behavioral health supports, implementing universal social-emotional and behavioral screening, increasing family engagement, and collaborating with community behavioral health partners to improve student outcomes. Participation will also position the district as a regional leader in developing sustainable systems of care for rural schools.

Recommended Action: Approve the Letter of Commitment and Support for the KEDC CARES Grant application.

Contact Person(s): Tessica Strong, (606)886-2354

Principal

Kathy Shepherd

Director

Tonya Horne-Williams

Superintendent

Date: 7-13-2026

The Floyd County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, sex, or disability in employment, educational programs, or activities as set forth in Title IX & VI, and in Section 504

442 KY ROUTE 550, EASTERN KY, 41622
TEL: 606.886.2354 FAX: 606.886.4550



Every Child Every Day

SUPERINTENDENT
TONYA HORNE-WILLIAMS

BOARD CHAIR DISTRICT 1
LINDA GEARHEART

VICE CHAIR DISTRICT 4
KEITH SMALLWOOD

MEMBER DISTRICT 2
DR. CHANDRA VARIA

MEMBER DISTRICT 3
WILLIAM NEWSOME, JR

MEMBER DISTRICT 5
STEVE SLOANE

Jul 2, 2026

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Re: Letter of Commitment and Support for KEDC CARES: Connecting Access, Resilience, Engagement, and Support

Dear Review Committee:

On behalf of **Floyd County Schools**, I am pleased to offer our full support for the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation's (KEDC) proposal, KEDC CARES: Connecting Access, Resilience, Engagement, and Support, a Regional Trauma-Informed MTSS Demonstration Project designed to strengthen behavioral health supports and improve outcomes for students and families in rural Kentucky.

Our district recognizes the growing impact of trauma, chronic stress, and behavioral health challenges on student learning, attendance, behavior, and overall well-being. Like many rural districts across Kentucky, we face significant barriers to accessing behavioral health services, including workforce shortages, transportation challenges, and limited availability of community resources. We believe KEDC CARES provides an innovative and sustainable approach to addressing these challenges by building stronger systems of support within schools while strengthening partnerships with families and community agencies.

If funded, **Floyd County Schools** is committed to serving as a demonstration site for the KEDC CARES initiative. As a participating district, we will work collaboratively with KEDC and project partners to implement the Regional Trauma-Informed MTSS Framework and contribute to the development of a model that can be replicated across rural Kentucky.

Specifically, our district commits to:

- Designating district and school leadership representatives to participate in project planning, implementation, and evaluation activities.
- Establishing Trauma-Informed Student Success Centers within participating schools to serve as sustainable Tier 2 intervention hubs.

The Floyd County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, sex, or disability in employment, educational programs, or activities as set forth in Title IX & VI, and in Section 504

442 KY ROUTE 550, EASTERN KY, 41622
TEL: 606.886.2354 FAX: 606.886.4550



Every Child Every Day

SUPERINTENDENT
TONYA HORNE-WILLIAMS

BOARD CHAIR DISTRICT 1
LINDA GEARHEART

VICE CHAIR DISTRICT 4
KEITH SMALLWOOD

MEMBER DISTRICT 2
DR. CHANDRA VARIA

MEMBER DISTRICT 3
WILLIAM NEWSOME, JR

MEMBER DISTRICT 5
STEVE SLONE

- Implementing universal social-emotional and behavioral screening using the Social, Academic, and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener (SAEBRS) to identify student needs, guide interventions, and monitor outcomes.
- Identifying school-based staff to serve as Resilience Coaches who will receive professional learning and lead implementation of trauma-informed practices, intervention coordination, and family engagement efforts.
- Supporting the implementation of the Family Health Navigator model by collaborating with families and community partners to strengthen referral pathways and improve access to behavioral health and community resources.
- Encouraging participation in Family Resilience Events to strengthen relationships between schools, families, and community organizations.
- Recruiting and supporting Community Resilience Mentors, when appropriate, to increase students' access to caring adult relationships and resilience-building opportunities.
- Participating in project evaluation activities by providing requested implementation and outcome data, while ensuring compliance with all applicable student privacy requirements.
- Working with KEDC to identify strategies that sustain successful practices beyond the grant period through integration within the district's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS).

Our district values KEDC's longstanding partnership and expertise in supporting school improvement, school mental health, and Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports. We are confident that KEDC CARES will strengthen our capacity to provide coordinated, trauma-informed services while improving access to behavioral health supports for students and families.

Beyond the direct impact on our schools, we are excited to contribute to the development of a Regional Trauma-Informed MTSS Demonstration Model that will benefit rural districts across Kentucky. We believe this project represents an important investment in building sustainable systems that improve resilience, school connectedness, family engagement, and student success.

We appreciate your consideration of this proposal and strongly support KEDC's efforts to implement KEDC CARES. We look forward to partnering in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

The Floyd County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, sex, or disability in employment, educational programs, or activities as set forth in Title IX & VI, and in Section 504.

442 KY ROUTE 550, EASTERN KY, 41622
TEL: 606.886.2354 FAX: 606.886.4550



Every Child Every Day

SUPERINTENDENT
TONYA HORNE-WILLIAMS

BOARD CHAIR DISTRICT 1
LINDA GEARHEART

VICE CHAIR DISTRICT 4
KEITH SMALLWOOD

MEMBER DISTRICT 2
DR. CHANDRA VARIA

MEMBER DISTRICT 3
WILLIAM NEWSOME, JR

MEMBER DISTRICT 5
STEVE SLONE

Tonya H. Williams
Superintendent

KEDC CARES - District Commitment Form

Connecting Access, Resilience, Engagement, and Support - A Regional Trauma-Informed MTSS Demonstration Project

District: Floyd County Schools **Superintendent:** Tonya H. Williams

Primary District Contact: Tessica Strong

Title: Instructional Consultant

Email: Tessica.strong@floyd.kyschools.us

Commitment to Participate

If the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (KEDC) is awarded funding through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for KEDC CARES: Connecting Access, Resilience, Engagement, and Support, **Floyd County Schools** commits to participating as a Regional Trauma-Informed MTSS Demonstration District.

As a participating district, we understand that KEDC CARES is designed to strengthen trauma-informed systems of support through collaboration among schools, families, behavioral health providers, and community partners while developing a model that can be replicated across rural Kentucky.

Our district commits to partnering with KEDC to implement project activities, participate in evaluation efforts, and contribute to the long-term sustainability of the project.

District Commitments

Our district agrees to:

The Floyd County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, sex, or disability in employment, educational programs, or activities as set forth in Title IX & VI, and in Section 504

442 KY ROUTE 550, EASTERN KY, 41622
TEL: 606.886.2354 FAX: 606.886.4550



Every Child Every Day

SUPERINTENDENT
TONYA HORNE-WILLIAMS

BOARD CHAIR DISTRICT 1
LINDA GEARHEART

VICE CHAIR DISTRICT 4
KEITH SMALLWOOD

MEMBER DISTRICT 2
DR. CHANDRA VARIA

MEMBER DISTRICT 3
WILLIAM NEWSOME, JR

MEMBER DISTRICT 5
STEVE SLONE

- ☐ Designate a district project lead to coordinate implementation and serve as the primary contact with KEDC.
- ☐ Identify school-based staff to serve as Resilience Coaches who will participate in project training and implementation.
- ☐ Establish or strengthen a Trauma-Informed Student Success Center within participating schools to support Tier 2 interventions.
- ☐ Participate in universal social-emotional and behavioral screening using SAEBRS (or an approved equivalent if applicable) to identify student needs and guide interventions.
- ☐ Utilize screening and implementation data to support continuous improvement and project evaluation.
- ☐ Collaborate with KEDC's Family Health Navigators to strengthen referral pathways and connect students and families to behavioral health and community resources.
- ☐ Encourage participation in Family Resilience Events and other family engagement activities.
- ☐ Collaborate with community partners to strengthen local systems of care.
- ☐ Participate in professional learning focused on trauma-informed practices, resilience, behavioral health, and Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS).
- ☐ Participate in project meetings, implementation coaching, and evaluation activities throughout the grant period.
- ☐ Work collaboratively with KEDC to identify strategies for sustaining successful practices beyond the grant period.

The Floyd County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, sex, or disability in employment, educational programs, or activities as set forth in Title IX & VI, and in Section 504.

442 KY ROUTE 550, EASTERN KY, 41622
TEL: 606.886.2354 FAX: 606.886.4550



Every Child Every Day

SUPERINTENDENT
TONYA HORNE-WILLIAMS

BOARD CHAIR DISTRICT 1
LINDA GEARHEART

VICE CHAIR DISTRICT 4
KEITH SMALLWOOD

MEMBER DISTRICT 2
DR. CHANDRA VARIA

MEMBER DISTRICT 3
WILLIAM NEWSOME, JR

MEMBER DISTRICT 5
STEVE SLOANE

District Collaboration

Our district understands that participating demonstration sites may also:

- Pilot innovative trauma-informed practices.
- Participate in implementation coaching.
- Host demonstration site visits for other districts.
- Share successful strategies and lessons learned.
- Contribute to the development of the Rural Trauma-Informed MTSS Toolkit.
- Participate in advisory meetings and Communities of Practice.

Statement of Commitment

Our district recognizes the growing behavioral health needs of students and families and is committed to strengthening trauma-informed systems of support within our schools. We believe KEDC CARES provides an opportunity to improve student well-being, increase family engagement, strengthen partnerships with community agencies, and build sustainable systems that improve outcomes for children and youth.

Pending grant award, we are committed to actively participating in the implementation and evaluation of KEDC CARES and supporting the development of a Regional Trauma-Informed MTSS Demonstration Model that can benefit school districts throughout Kentucky.

Superintendent Signature: _____

Date: Jul 2, 2026

District Project Lead: Tessica.Strong

Title: Instructional Consultant

Email: Tessica.strong@floyd.kyschools.us

The Floyd County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, sex, or disability in employment, educational programs, or activities as set forth in Title IX & VI, and in Section 504.

442 KY ROUTE 550, EASTERN KY, 41622
TEL: 606.886.2354 FAX: 606.886.4550