



CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, ASSESSMENT & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Board Report

CURRICULUM

The Kentucky Department of Education is currently completing its review and revision of the Kentucky Academic Standards for Social Studies, with final approval and implementation still pending. The proposed revisions maintain the existing emphasis on civics, economics, geography, and history while continuing to prioritize inquiry, critical thinking, evaluation of sources, and informed civic participation. The revisions appear to represent refinements and clarifications rather than a significant overhaul, with KDE reporting that 94% of the reviewed standards were approved without changes.

INSTRUCTION

New staff orientation will occur on August 3rd. This is the first piece of our staff onboarding that will occur throughout the entire school year.

ASSESSMENT

Major changes to assessment and accountability are coming for the 2026-27 school year:

- On-Demand Writing, Editing and Mechanics, and the Quality of School Climate and Safety Survey have been eliminated.

- Chronic Absenteeism has been added to accountability.

- The state and federal government measure chronic absenteeism differently. KDE has not finalized which version they will utilize.

- The federal government measures chronic absenteeism as 10% of school days missed. The state measures chronic absenteeism as 10% of instructional minutes missed.

- Kentucky's DPP group has recommended the federal measure for accountability.

- The growth model no longer compares two different grades of children on the same test year over year. The new growth model measures a student's performance year over year on Reading and Math.

- New accountability percentages have not been set yet.

- The state hopes to have a College Readiness exam in place by October for the Spring of 2027. Last year, all Juniors took the SAT. For the previous 15+ years, Juniors took the ACT. Unfortunately, this entire two year process has left schools in limbo.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Summer professional learning is in full swing:

Primary and Intermediate ELA teachers are working with Stefani Bragg and Amanda Berringer on the Science of Reading and Learning as well as completing data review.



DAYTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

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Meeting Date: July 22, 2026

Our other teams at the Intermediate, Middle, and High School levels are meeting vertically. They are working on alignment, curriculum planning, and other topics specific to their particular departments.

Our beginning of the school year trainings are now through the “Team Platform” through Bluegrass Risk Management. This has replaced Public School Works.

OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST

KDE reached out to me about participating in the state’s DAC Advisory Council. This group meets monthly to discuss and solicit feedback regarding various teaching, learning, and assessment initiatives at the state level before moves are made.

We are in the process of onboarding with Nexus AI. Nexus is an AI company that works specifically with schools to allow a platform to review data utilizing AI without potentially compromising it. The hope is that this will help provide our staff and families with an even greater holistic view of our students in an efficient manner. Training for school leadership on the platform will occur in August.